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### 'Anti-National' Literature

## LG Orders Audit Of Educational Institutions

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday ordered a comprehensive audit and inspection of educational institutions across Jammu and Kashmir to check the availability and circulation of books and literature containing alleged anti-national, separatist or objectionable content.

Chairing a high-level meeting of senior officers, Sinha reviewed action taken over the circulation of such literature in educational institutions and directed authorities to put in place an effective mechanism to prevent its procurement, distribution and availability.

The directive covers universities, government and private colleges and schools, as well as public and private libraries.

Heads of institutions will be required to affirm within a specified period that no such material is available on their premises, while the institutions will also undergo comprehensive audits and inspections.

Officials briefed the Lieutenant Governor about the recovery of books allegedly glorifying separatism and said those responsible for procuring, approving or circulating such literature would face strict legal consequences.

Sinha also directed authorities to examine websites and



digital repositories of universities and higher educational institutions and immediately remove any objectionable material found there.

He further ordered the formulation of a comprehensive Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) governing the procurement of books and academic material for schools, colleges and universities.

The proposed SoP will provide for a screening mechanism, including periodic random scrutiny by a panel of eminent educationists, intellectuals and senior officers, to ensure that material promoting anti-national or separatist narratives does not enter educational institutions.

Warning against lapses, the Lieutenant Governor said heads of institutions would be held personally responsible for any violation.

Sinha said educational institutions must | [More on P6](#)

## Make Amarnath Yatra A Benchmark For Spiritual Tourism: LG Sinha

» Says It Must Celebrate Local Economy, Culture and Heritage » Over 1.13 Lakh Yatris Pay Obeisance At Holy Cave

Observer News Service

Srinagar: More than 1.13 lakh pilgrims have performed darshan at the Amarnath cave shrine so far, as Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday reviewed the ongoing pilgrimage and directed officials to ensure the safety, security and hassle-free movement of devotees.

Chairing a high-level meeting here, Sinha asked senior officials to ensure that pilgrims are properly registered and assisted by officers on the



ground. "Our goal is to make this pilgrimage a truly memorable experience for everyone and ensure they have access to the best possible amenities.

Safety, security and hassle-free darshan of Baba Barfani must remain our top priority," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Sinha said the Amarnath Yatra was a matter of

"immense pride" and deeply intertwined with the aspirations and spiritual consciousness of the nation.

"It reflects India's enduring civilisational heritage and showcases the country's unique soft power to the world. This sacred yatra is a cherished tradition and also an integral part of our national identity," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor urged all stakeholders to work in close coordination to make this year's pilgrimage "truly historic" and set | [More on P6](#)

### Online Task Scams

## Police Warns Against 'Easy Money' Trap

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir Police has cautioned the public against falling victim to online task scams, warning that fraudsters often use small initial payments to gain the confidence of unsuspecting victims before cheating them of larger sums.

In a cyber safety advisory shared on its official social media handle, the police said, "The first payment isn't your profit. It's the beginning of the scam."

According to the advisory, such scams typically begin by asking people to like products, rate websites or complete simple online tasks in exchange for money. To build trust, fraudsters may initially allow victims to withdraw a small amount before persuading them to | [More on P6](#)

## MeT Predicts More Rain, Warns of Flash Floods

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Meteorological Centre Srinagar has forecast light to moderate rain and thundershowers at many places across Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, with heavy rain and brief intense showers likely at a few places in the Jammu division, particularly during late night and early morning hours.

Many areas of the Kashmir division are also likely to receive light to moderate rainfall, with brief intense showers at isolated places.

The weather office predicted light to moderate rain and thundershowers at many places on July 9 and 10, accompanied by brief | [More on P6](#)



Vehicles make their way along a winding mountain road near Kargil, cutting through Ladakh's stark and rugged terrain. KO Photo By Abid Bhat

## J&K No Longer Identified With Conflict: BJP Chief Says Article 370 Abrogation Major Catalyst for Change

Observer News Service

Jammu: BJP president Nitin Nabin on Tuesday said Jammu and Kashmir had undergone a transformative change since the abrogation of Article 370 and was now identified with development, peace and its rich cultural heritage rather than conflict.

Nabin, who cut short his maiden two-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir due to official commitments, said the BJP would continue to discharge its responsibilities both as a political organisation and the principal opposition in the Union Territory by consistently raising issues



concerning the people.

"After considerable effort and struggle, we succeeded in freeing Jammu and Kashmir from Article 370, which has become a major catalyst for change in the lives of the people here," Nabin told reporters in Jammu.

He said | [More on P6](#)

## Flash Floods Wreak Havoc In Doda, Highway Blocked

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Flash floods triggered by heavy rainfall wreaked havoc in the Thathri area of Doda district early Tuesday, damaging houses, shops and vehicles, blocking the Doda-Kishtwar National Highway (NH-244) and disrupting normal life, even as authorities gave differing accounts on whether the rain-related incident was a cloudburst.



No loss of life or injuries were reported.

The latest incident was the

third such rain-related episode to hit the twin districts of Doda and Kishtwar in the past two days following incessant rainfall over the mountainous Chenab Valley region.

Officials said heavy rain lashed the upper reaches of Thathri around 1.15 am, triggering flash floods that carried huge boulders, mud and debris into the town.

Several residential houses and commercial establishments suffered | [More on P6](#)

## No Right To Promotion Or Creation of Posts: HC

Rejects Challenge To Vacancy-Based Promotion Policy

M Ahmad

Srinagar: Observing that courts cannot interfere in executive policy on cadre restructuring or direct the creation of posts merely because employees face stagnation in service, the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh dismissed a petition filed by a retired government driver challenging a provision of SRO 28 of 1996 that makes promotions subject to the availability of vacancies.

Dismissing a writ petition filed by a retired driver, Mohammad Yaseen Khan, challenging the promotional structure under SRO 28 of 1996, a bench of Justice Shahzad Azeem noted that the petitioner had already been granted three financial upgradations during service and had failed to establish that the absence of a functional promotion caused him any financial loss before his retirement on March 31, 2025.

The court observed that while an employee has a constitutional right to be considered for promotion under Articles 14 and 16, there is no vested right to promotion itself.

The Court held that

promotion depends on statutory rules, availability of vacancies, eligibility and administrative policy.

"It is settled law that limited promotional avenues or cadre restructuring are executive/policy matters and Courts do not strike down rules, merely on the ground of stagnation or direct for creation of posts or grant of functional promotions, unless violation of Articles 14 and 16 of the Constitution is writ large, but that is not the case here," the court said while dismissing the by Khan who had sought to strike down a provision in SRO 28 of 1996 that made promotions subject to the availability of vacancies.

The petitioner, appointed as a driver in 1989, contended that after completing the prescribed five years of service in the feeder grade, he should have been automatically promoted to the next higher post of Chauffeur. He argued that making such promotion contingent upon the availability of posts was arbitrary and unconstitutional.

The government opposed the plea, stating that the petitioner had already received three in-situ financial upgradations under | [More on P6](#)

### Instagram Ad Row

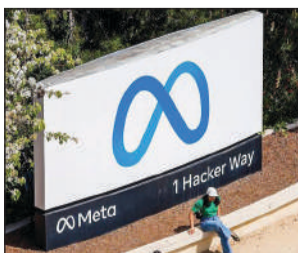
## Meta Details AI-Led Child Safety Crackdown Says 1.6 Lakh Accounts Removed in India in Six Months

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Meta on Tuesday published a detailed blog outlining its efforts to combat child sexual abuse material across its apps, citing AI-powered detection, ad review systems and large-scale enforcement actions, days after the government issued a notice to the social media giant over reports of Instagram advertisements promoting such content.

Terminating child exploitation as a horrific crime, Meta said it works aggressively every day to fight this kind of abuse on and off its platforms.

"We're aware of recent news



reports about Instagram ads in India that violated our policies against child exploitation. And we want to be clear: we take these concerns seriously, we never want this content on our platforms, and we're committed to improving our efforts to combat it," it noted.

Meta said it was categorically

inaccurate to suggest that it knowingly and deliberately targets ads featuring children to people based on an inappropriate interest.

"Quite the opposite; we use technology to identify accounts that have shown potentially suspicious activity related to children, and we automatically removed over 4 million of these accounts last year," Meta said.

Meta said it has strengthened AI-powered enforcement against child exploitation, with newer systems covering languages spoken by 98 per cent of people online.

Last year, it automatically removed | [More on P6](#)

## Hunt For Two LeT Terrorists Enters Day 4 In Shopian

Security Forces Maintain Tight Cordon, Seal Escape Routes

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: A massive search operation to track down two local Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorists entered its fourth day in south Kashmir's Shopian district on Tuesday, with security forces resuming combing operations after an overnight pause, officials said.

The searches resumed at daybreak after being suspended overnight as joint teams of the Army, Jammu and Kashmir Police and Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)

maintained a tight cordon around the Meemandar area.

The two terrorists were first spotted by surveillance cameras on July 3 in a dense orchard spread across an area comprising seven villages, officials said.

Several columns of security forces have been deployed in the area and four villages had been cleared by Monday evening.

The terrorists, identified as Latif and Zakir, allegedly opened fire on Army personnel as the forces closed in on their location, triggering an exchange of fire, officials said.

The Army's specialised counter-insurgency formation, Victor Force, has deployed additional | [More on P6](#)



To place an advertisement  
**CALL +91-194 2502327**  
Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)  
No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

## ASF ENTERPRISES

Sale and Services of Computers 2nd. Floor Munir  
Manzil Regal Chowk Srinagar (J&K) ,  
Ph.0194-24 77949, 9419001176, 9419776235



Sale and Sendee of Laptops. Desktops. Printers,  
Photocopiers. Faxes, CCTV Cameras, Security  
System and Refilling of all Types of Cartridges,  
Toners Registered Government order Suppliers.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

While travelling from my home at Madina Enclave, Rawalpura, Srinagar, to Rangret, I lost my Emergency Certificate bearing Number: X1182642 issued on 19-05-2026. I need to apply for the duplicate certificate. If someone has any objection, he will contact the concerned quarters / police station within 5 days after which no claim shall be entertained.  
Shaan U Zaman, S/O: Din Mohd Bhat  
R/O: House No: 122, Madina Enclave Rawalpors Srinagar.

jvd

## PUBLIC NOTICE

I have changed my name from Ab. Hamid (old name) to Peerzada Abdul Hamid (new name). In future I will be known as PEERZADA ABDUL HAMID (new name). If anybody is having any objection he/she may contact General Manager Ranbir Govt Press, Jammu within seven days from this publication. After seven days no objection will be accepted.  
Peerzada Abdul Hamid  
S/O. Ghulam Mohi ud Din Peerzada  
R/O. Poshwani Pattan,  
Dist. Baramulla Kashmir

jm

## NORTHERN RAILWAY

**E-TENDER NOTICE**  
The Deputy Chief Engineer/BR/Workshop, Northern Railway, Jalandhar Cantt, for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open-tender under Single Packet System for the under noted work:-  
S. No. 1: Tender Notice No.: OT-18-JRC-2026  
Name of work : Casting of PSC slabs from 3.05m to 12.2m based on approved drawings in the PSC Yard of Bridge Workshop, Jalandhar Cantt.  
Approx Cost : Rs. 3,22,92,668.52  
Earnest Money : Rs. 6,45,900.00  
Date of opening : 27.07.2026  
Bidding start date on IREPS : 13.07.2026 to 27.07.2026  
Cost of tender form : 0  
Completion period of work : 12 Months  
Date & Time for submission of Tender and opening of tender : Up to 15:00 hrs. on dates shown against each and opening of tender thereafter at 15:00 hrs. on same date.  
Website Particulars where complete details of Tender can be seen & downloaded : The detailed e-tender notice is available on Northern Railway website i.e. [www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in) and tender document is available on [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)  
No.: 80-W/30/Bridges/Invitation Dated: 04.07.2026 2302/2026  
**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

## PUBLIC NOTICE

My Son's name has been wrongly written as MOHAMMAD ZEY-AAN SOFI S/O ZAHOOR AHMAD SOFI bearing Registration No B-2023 : 1- 05261000410 in his Date of Birth certificate while his correct name is MOHAMMAD ZAIN SOFI S/O ZAHOOR AHMAD SOFI which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he / she may file his/her objection in the office BDO WAGOORA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained  
Name...ZAHOOR AHMAD SOFI  
F/O ...MOHAMMAD ZAIN SOFI  
R/O... BANDIPAYEEN KALANTRA

fko

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**The electricity connection with consumer ID:0204040018591 registered in the name of Firdous Nazir Pakshival to be transferred in favour of Mohd Iqbal Mir, S/o Mohd Hussain Mir R/o Ali Pora New Bota Kadal. If anybody has any objection, he/she may contact concerned department within 7 Days after that no objection shall be entertained.**

Media Line Advt

## Public Notice

I, Shakeel Ahmad Zargar, S/o Noor Mohammad Zargar, R/o Mukhdoom Pora, Nowshera, Srinagar, Kashmir, hereby give notice that I intend to correct the date of birth of my son, Zamin Shakeel Zargar, in his Aadhaar Card from 14-10-2015 (incorrect) to 07-08-2015 (correct).  
If any person has any objection to the proposed correction, he/she may submit the same before the concerned authority within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which, it shall be presumed that no objection exists, and the correction shall be carried out accordingly.  
Shakeel Ahmad Zargar  
S/o Noor Mohammad Zargar  
R/o Mukhdoom Pora, Nowshera, Srinagar, Kashmir  
Mobile No.: 8491963801

inf

## Public Notice

I hereby inform the general public that my name has been incorrectly recorded in my Aadhaar Card as Shakeel Ahmad, whereas my correct name is Shakeel Ahmad Zargar, S/o Noor Mohammad Zargar, R/o Mukhdoom Pora, Nowshera, Srinagar, Kashmir.  
I have applied to the concerned authority for correction of my name in the Aadhaar records.  
If any person has any objection to the above-mentioned correction, he/she may submit the same before the concerned authority within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which, it shall be presumed that no objection exists.  
Shakeel Ahmad Zargar  
S/o Noor Mohammad Zargar  
R/o Mukhdoom Pora, Nowshera, Srinagar, Kashmir  
Mobile No.: 8491963801

inf

## Public Notice

It is informed for the information of general public that I Nasir Saleem Bhat s/o Ali Mohammad Bhat R/o Tilgam Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla have applied for renewal of my fertilizer license bearing licence no.CA0B/FL/2018-19/1337 granted on 25/08/2018 before the office of chief agricultural officer Baramulla. In this regard if any person having any objection for renewal of said certificate he/she may contact to office of chief agricultural officer Baramulla within 07 days from the publication of this notice after that no objection shall be entertained.  
Nasir Saleem Bhat  
S/o Ali Mohammad Bhat  
R/o Tilgam Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla

fko

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The mother's of my son namely Farhan Firdous has been wrongly written as Nowsheba Bagam while the correct mother's name is Nawsheena Akhter. Now I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them inn the office of the Principla Dubai Grand International School within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.  
Firdous Ahmad Reshi  
F/o Farhan Firdous  
R/o Pariswani Kawarhama

bmg

## PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Laleeya Akhter, D/o Ab Salam Wani, R/o Matipora, Tehsil Singhpora, District Baramulla, J&K (UT), hereby inform the general public that my name has been wrongly recorded in my Aadhaar Card (No. XXXX XXXX 2808) as Lali Bano instead of my correct name Laleeya Akhter.  
I have applied for correction/publication in the Government Gazette (Govt. Ranbir Press, Jammu). If any person has any objection to this name correction, they may submit the same to the concerned authority within the prescribed period. Otherwise, the name Laleeya Akhter shall be treated as my correct and valid name for all official purposes.

fko

## OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Necessary Correction/change in address in data to the License No.JK-0120030070709 issued in favour of MOHAMMAD IRFAN BHAT Parentage JOHN MOHAMMAD BHAT  
Whereas an application has been recieved by one MOHAMMAD IRFAN BHAT Parentage JOHN MOHAMMAD BHAT wherein he claimed that the Name has been wrongly recorded in the records of Driving Licenses as IRFAN HUSSAIN Parentage JAN MOHAMMAD Which needs to be changed as MOHAMMAD IRFAN BHAT Parentage JOHN MOHAMMAD BHAT  
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.

Assistant Regional Transport officer  
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

## CORRECTION NOTICE

It is hereby notified that my daughter's *mother's name* has been erroneously recorded in the Municipal records (Birth Certificate) as "Shafeeqa" instead of the correct name "Shafiq." The same is proposed to be corrected accordingly.  
If any person has any objection to this correction, he/she may submit the same to the Srinagar Municipal Corporation within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained after the expiry of the stipulated period.  
Ghulam Jeelani Bhat  
Father of Fajr Jeelani  
Resident of Zadi Masjid, Sakidafar, Safa Kadal, Srinagar

inf

## NOTICE

It is hereby informed that in my J&K Bank account bearing No 0005040100057737 my name has been incorrectly recorded as Shafia Bashir .However, my correct name, as per my Aadhaar Card is Shafee Bashir. 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 Zoonimar Srinagar within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice. No objections will be entertained after this period.  
Shafee Bashir  
W/o: Khurshed Ahmad Hafiz  
R/o: ZoonimarKokerbagh Srinagar

ab

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my Aadhaar Card bearing Adhaar No 3082 3470 3819 Now I want to change my name from SHE-HZADA (Old Name) to DILSHADA (New Name). In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he or she may approach the concerned authorities within a period of seven days. After that, no objection shall be entertained.

Name:- DILSHADA  
W/O:- ABDUL MAJEED PAUL  
R/O:- NARKARA, BUDGAM Jammu And Kashmir- 190018

inf

## Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub... issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth..  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Ayesha Showkat D/o Mehraj Ud DinTali R/o Hanjiwera payeeen Tehsil Pattan district baramulla with verified date of birth 06/02/2023 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.  
Sd  
fko Naib Tehsildar Pattan

## Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub... issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth..  
**PUBLIC NOTICE...**  
The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Ayesha Showkat D/o Showkat Ahmad pandith R/o Nangerpora mughama Tehsil kunzer district baramulla with verified date of birth 06/07/2021 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.  
Sd  
fko Naib Tehsildar Pattan

## Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub... issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth..  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Arsha Javed D/o Javed Ahmad Tili R/o Poshwani Tehsil Pattan district baramulla with verified date of birth 07/07/2021 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.  
Sd  
fko Naib Tehsildar Pattan

## Office of The Executive Engineer, Water Works Division Srinagar

Exchange Road near BSNL Office  
Telephone No: 0194-2452047

NOTICE INVITING TENDER  
e-NIT No. 19/WWD/Sgr/Civil of 2026-27; Dated 07.07.2026

For and on behalf of the Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Executive Engineer, Water Works Division Srinagar invites e-tenders on percentage rate basis from reputed and resourceful A-Class Contractors/Firms/Companies registered with JKPWD/JS/CPWD/Railways or any other state Government for "Revamping of 6.80 MGD Water Treatment Plant Alusteng including replacement of Filter Media", approved under City Sustainable Infrastructure Fund to SMC (Capex Budget 2026-27). The bidding process shall be completed online in two cover system with Cover 1st consisting of Qualification Criteria, Tender fee, Bid Security, General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications etc. Cover '2nd' shall consist of Financial Bid (BOQ) in the prescribed format.

Sr No	Name of work	Estimated Cost (Lacs)	Cost of Bid document (Rs)	Earnest money (Lacs)	Bid Validity	Time of Completion of work (days)
1	2	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Revamping of 6.80 MGD Water Treatment Plant Alusteng including replacement of Filter Media	55.00	1500/-	02% of the estimated cost	90 days	90 Days

Tender Inviting Authority: Executive Engineer, Water Works Division Srinagar.  
Tender Opening Authority (TOA): Executive Engineer, Water Works Division Srinagar.  
Head of Account: City Sustainable Infrastructure Fund to SMC (Capex Budget 2026-27)  
Position of Funds: Available with Competent Authority

Key/Critical Dates:	
Publish Date (Online)	07.07.2026
Document Download Start / End Date	08.07.2026 To 22.07.2026 4:00PM
Bid Submission Start Date	08.07.2026 10:00 AM
Bid Submission End Date	22.07.2026 4:00 PM
Date and time of Bid opening (Technical Cover)	23.07.2026 4:00 PM in the Office of Tender Opening Authority (TOA) i.e., Executive Engineer, Water Works Division Srinagar.

No. WWD/Sgr/CC/2202-12  
DIPK-2957/26  
Dated:- 07.07.2026

Executive Engineer,  
Water Works Division Srinagar.

## OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER GENERATION DIVISION USHP-II, KANGAN

EXTENSION NOTICE-II

Due to Nil response of the following e-Nit for the below mentioned works, published by this office is hereby extended up to 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026.

S.No	e-NIT No & Date	Title	Bid Submission End Date	Opening Bid Date
1.	e- NIT No. USHP-II/GD/02 of 2026-27 & Dated: 03/ 06 /2026	SITC of 145kv, SF6, 2500A Bus Coupler Switchgear including C&R panel and allied accessories in the outdoor yard of Power House including retrofitting of foundation at USHP-II, Kangan.	17-07-2026	20-07-2026

Executive Engineer  
Generation Division USHP-II, Kangan

No: USHP-II/GD/331-36  
DIPK-NB-991/26 Dated: 07/07/2026

## Office of the Horticulture Information and publication Officer Kashmir, Rajbagh Srinagar

Tele: 0194-4552394, e-mail:-hort-information@jk.gov.in

Subject: Open Auction of Unserviceable items/Dead stocks.

## OPEN AUCTION NOTICE

It is to inform that, Horticulture Information and Publication Office Kashmir Rajbagh Srinagar is going to conduct an Open Auction of dead stock/unserviceable items lying in the stores of this office on 15-07-2026, 11:00 AM in presence of the committee constituted for the purpose at Horticulture Complex Rajbagh Srinagar. Accordingly, all the interested persons/parties are informed to participate in the said open auction proceedings on the scheduled time and date.

The terms & conditions shall remain as under:  
 • The successful bidder has to deposit the full amount of the auction on spot.  
 • The successful bidder shall not be allowed to lift the material from the office/spot till full amount of the bid is remitted.  
 • The committee reserves the right to accept or reject the offer of the bidder without assigning any reasons.  
 • Payment of auction will be accepted in the form of cash and not in the form of cheque.  
 • The successful bidder shall have to lift the material within 02 days of the auction. In case of failure of lifting the material within the stipulated time period the Department shall not be responsible for any loss whatsoever.  
 • Any other suitable condition (if any) in the interest of Government shall be communicated to the successful bidder on the date of auction on spot.  
 For further details and clarification with regard to the open auction the interested bidders can visit the office of the undersigned during office hours before the auction date.

(Dr Azfar.B.Nanda)  
Horticulture  
Information and Publication Officer  
Kashmir.

DIPK-2946/26  
dated: 07-07-2026

## Mandeep Kaur Reviews Green Campus Initiatives at SKUAST

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a strategic move to foster sustainable development and urban ecological balance, Commissioner Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Department, Mandeep Kaur visited the Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K) to evaluate the University's pioneering Green Campus initiatives.

The Commissioner Secretary was accompanied by Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Faz Lul Haseeb. The delegation conducted an on-site inspection of the university's comprehensive sustainability ecosys-

tem and technology remains at the forefront of the institution's growth.

During the session, Mandeep Kaur appreciated university's proactive approach towards environmental stewardship. She highlighted the intent to replicate the successful green models, particularly water conservation and waste recycling mechanisms, established at SKUAST-K across various other government initiatives and public sector projects.

"The work being done here at SKUAST-K serves as a vital, replicable blueprint for our future urban planning. By integrating these scalable green practices such as effective STP management and comprehensive plastic waste reduction



tem. The visit highlighted SKUAST-K's successful implementation of a zero-waste campus model, which included advanced rainwater harvesting systems, Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) and plastic waste management protocols.

Following the tour, an exclusive meeting was convened by Commissioner Secretary with Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, Professor Nazir Ahmad Ganai, alongside senior officers from the university. The discussions centered on finalizing a comprehensive roadmap to further strengthen and scale these green campus objectives, ensuring that the integration of nature, resource conserva-

tion and technology remains at the forefront of the institution's growth.

into wider government projects, we aim to create more resilient, energy-efficient and environmentally conscious public spaces across the region", maintained the Commissioner Secretary.

The University leadership reaffirmed its commitment towards providing technical expertise and knowledge support to the Urban Development Department, ensuring a collaborative effort in achieving long-term sustainability goals. The roadmap discussed today marks a significant step towards institutionalizing green governance and promoting sustainable development as a core pillar of public infrastructure.

child health, encouraging positive health-seeking behaviour, and supporting nutritional needs during pregnancy and after child birth.

The Department reiterated its commitment to extending the benefits of welfare schemes to every eligible beneficiary through sustained awareness campaigns and outreach programmes across the district.

Similar registration and awareness drives will continue to be organised at healthcare institutions and community centres to ensure maximum coverage under PMMVY.

The Department expressed gratitude to the administration and staff of SKIMS Medical College & Hospital, Bemina, for their support and cooperation in the successful conduct of the drive.



## Srinagar Localities Face Acute Water Scarcity

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A prolonged disruption in the drinking water supply has triggered widespread public concern across Batmaloo and several adjoining localities of Srinagar, with affected families urging the administration to take immediate corrective measures to restore the essential service.

People living in Magarmal Bagh, SD Colony, Iqra Colony, and neighbouring areas said the shortage has persisted despite repeated representations to the concerned authorities. They alleged that their grievances have remained largely unaddressed, leaving thousands of households to struggle for potable water on a daily basis.

The continuing disruption, they said, has caused significant hardship, particularly for women, children and senior citizens, who are bearing the brunt of the crisis amid the prevailing summer conditions.

Seeking urgent intervention, the aggrieved public appealed to the Jal Shakti Department to restore regular water supply without further delay. They also requested the department to deploy water tankers to the affected lo-

### 40% Srinagar's Drinking Water Used for Lawns: HUDD Secretary

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Nearly 40 per cent of Srinagar's drinking water is being used to irrigate lawns and gardens, prompting the government to push for the reuse of treated wastewater for non-drinking purposes, Housing and Urban Development Department (HUDD) said on Tuesday.

Speaking to reporters in Srinagar, HUDD Commissioner/Secretary Mandeep Kaur, as reported by KNO said the government is working to rationalise the city's water supply network while ensuring adequate wa-

ter availability across Srinagar.

"There are two aspects to water supply: availability and rationalisation. While water is being supplied, the rationalisation of its distribution in Srinagar is still lacking," she said.

Kaur said one of the city's biggest challenges is that the same potable water supply is used for both household consumption and irrigation of lawns and gardens. "In most cities, untreated or raw water is supplied separately for irrigating lawns and gardens. That infrastructure is currently missing in Srinagar," she said.

Public grievances are addressed promptly and effectively.

Describing access to safe drinking water as a fundamental public necessity, the people urged the administration to treat the matter with urgency and provide immediate relief to the affected localities.

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

**AIRPORTS**  
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

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

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

**PRAYERS**

FAJR 3: 41  
ZUHR 12:35  
ASR 5: 35  
Magrib 7: 49  
ISHA 9: 29

**HIJRI CALENDAR**  
22 Muharram  
1448

### This Day In History

- 1709 - Battle of Poltava; Russians defeat Swedes, end of Swedish empire as a major power
- 1716 - Great Northern War: Battle of Dynekilen, a Danish-Norwegian force under Peter Tordenskjold trapped and defeated a similar Swedish force.
- 1792 - France declares war on Prussia
- 1796 - US State Department issues 1st US passport
- 1862 - Theodore R Timby is granted a US patent for discharging guns in a revolving turret, using electricity.
- 1943 - 4th day of battle at Kursk: Gen Model uses last tank reserve
- 1943 - British air raid sinks U-232
- 1943 - US invasion fleet passes Bizerta Tunisia
- 1944 - British troops march into Caen, Normandy
- 1950 - Gen Douglas MacArthur named commander-in-chief, UN forces in Korea
- 1963 - US bans all monetary transactions with Cuba
- 1966 - US airline strike (until Aug 19th)
- 1968 - Israeli-Egyptian artillery duel along Suez Canal
- 1969 - US troop withdrawal begins in Vietnam
- 1972 - US sells grain to USSR for \$750 million
- 1975 - US President Gerald Ford announced he'll seek Republican presidential nomination
- 1975 - Quake damages over 2,000 temples in Pagan Burma, 20-foot-high seated Buddha of Thandawgya decapitated
- 1978 - Pioneer-Venus 2 Multi-probe launched to Venus
- 1979 - Voyager 2 takes 1st ever photo of Jupiter's satellite Adrastea (J14)
- 1986 - NASA establishes Safety, Reliability Maintain & Quality Assurance
- 1989 - Carlos Saul Menem becomes President of Argentina
- 1989 - USSR performs nuclear test at Eastern Kazakh/Semipalitinsk USSR
- 1994 - Space shuttle STS-65 (Columbia 17), launches
- 1997 - NATO invites Poland, Hungary & Czech Republic to join
- 2003 - Sudan Airways Flight 39, with 116 people on board, crashes in Sudan; the only survivor is a two-year-old boy who subsequently dies as a result of his injuries.
- 2011 - Space Shuttle Atlantis is launched in the final mission of the U.S. Space Shuttle program.
- 2012 - Roadside car bomb kills 14 civilians in Afghanistan's Kandahar Province

## SWD Organises Registration Drive under PMMVY

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Social Welfare Department (SWD), SANKALP-HEW Srinagar, organised a special registration and awareness drive under the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) at SKIMS Medical College & Hospital, Bemina, with the objective of facilitating enrolment of eligible pregnant women and lactating mothers under the flagship maternity benefit scheme.

The drive witnessed active participation from officials of SANKALP-HEW Srinagar, healthcare professionals, and beneficiaries visiting the hospital. Dedicated registration counters and awareness desks were established to assist eligible women with on-the-spot registration, verification of documents, and dissemination of information regarding the benefits and eligibility criteria of PMMVY.

During the programme, beneficiaries were sensitised about the importance of early registration of pregnancy, regular antenatal care, institutional delivery, child immunisation, and timely availing of maternity benefits under the scheme. The officials also guided beneficiaries on the application process and addressed their queries to ensure hassle-free enrolment.

Speaking on the occasion, the officials of SANKALP-HEW Srinagar emphasised that the PMMVY aims to provide financial assistance to eligible pregnant women and lactating mothers, thereby promoting improved maternal and

**Beneficiaries were sensitised about the importance of early registration of pregnancy, regular antenatal care, institutional delivery, child immunisation, and timely availing of maternity benefits under the scheme**

child health, encouraging positive health-seeking behaviour, and supporting nutritional needs during pregnancy and after child birth.

The Department reiterated its commitment to extending the benefits of welfare schemes to every eligible beneficiary through sustained awareness campaigns and outreach programmes across the district.

Similar registration and awareness drives will continue to be organised at healthcare institutions and community centres to ensure maximum coverage under PMMVY.

## OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER- SRINAGAR

Nodal Officer Mission Shakti  
Old Sectt, Srinagar-190001

Subject: Selection Lists for Engagement of Data Entry Operator (DEO) and Multi-Tasking Staff (MTS) under District Hub for Empowerment of Women (DHEW), Mission Shakti, Srinagar, reporting thereof.

Whereas, Advertisement Notice vide No. DSWOS/Sch/2026/65-70 dated 15-04-2026 was issued for engagement against the posts of Data Entry Operator (DEO) and Multi-Tasking Staff (MTS) under the District Hub for Empowerment of Women (DHEW), Mission Shakti, Srinagar; Whereas, a total of 41 applications were received in response to the said advertisement, out of which 15 applications were received for the post of Data Entry Operator (DEO) and 26 applications for the post of Multi-Tasking Staff (MTS); Whereas, all applications received within the stipulated time frame have been scrutinized and evaluated in accordance with the prescribed eligibility criteria, and the applicants have been found eligible for consideration against the respective posts; Whereas, the lists of eligible candidates for the posts of Data Entry Operator and Multi-Tasking Staff were issued for calling of objection/claim regarding eligibility candidature by this office vide no. DSWOS/Sch/2026/493-97, Dated: 24-06-2026 and no objection/claim has been received in this regard till due date.

Whereas, on the basis of marks of academic qualification, the final merit lists are prepared and consequently provisional selection lists for the posts of District Hub for Empowerment of Women Srinagar are hereby appended to this notification. The provisionally selected candidates shall have to join before District Social Welfare Officer Srinagar within a period of ten days from the date of publication of this notification.

- At the time of reporting, candidates have to produce following original documents:
- Original degree certificates/ marks cards/DOB Certificates and other relevant documents.
  - Original experience certificates (in case of DEO)
  - ID proof/Address proof.
  - Medical fitness certificate
  - NOC from concerned quarters (DIC & Employment)
  - Character Certificate issued by concerned department
  - Affidavit on prescribed format duly attested by First Class Judicial Magistrate to the effect that candidate shall have no claim/ right for the permanent absorption or regularization under the scheme in the department and is not working in any Government/ Semi- government Department/ Agency.

The selection is provisional subject to following conditions:

- The engagement is purely temporary/contractual in nature, initially up to 30-09-2026, or until the scheme is reappraised/approved by the 16th Finance Commission. The engagement may be extended subject to satisfactory performance, continuation of the scheme, and availability of funding from the Ministry/Government.
- The temporary/contractual engagement is liable to be terminated if the performance of the engaged candidate is found to be unsatisfactory, as assessed by the District Level Committee headed by the District Magistrate/Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar.
- The provisional selection list is subject to verification of the authenticity and genuineness of the documents submitted by the selected candidates from the respective issuing authorities/organizations. If any adverse report is received regarding the documents on the basis of which the selection has been made, the engagement shall be cancelled ab initio, legal/penal action shall be initiated under the relevant rules/laws, and the resultant vacancy shall be filled by operating the waiting list.
- The selection list is provisional and shall remain subject to the outcome of any writ petition(s), if pending, before any court of law.

Annexure "A" (Data Entry Operator)			
S.no	Name of the Applicant	Total Points (Educational Points) out of 100	Status
1.	Huzaif Ahmad Mir S/o Manzoor Ahmad Mir R/o Housing Colony Bemina	83.4	Selected
2.	Mubashir Yaseen S/o Mohd Yaseen R/o Syedpora Eidgah	78	Waiting

Annexure "B" Multi-Tasking Staff			
S.no	Name of the Applicant	Total Points out of 100	Status
1.	Nowsheeba Shafi D/o Mohammad Shafi Dar R/o Ganie Mohalla Soura	91.8	Selected
2.	Zuhaib Ahmad S/o Mushtaq Ahmad Shah R/o Bagh-I-Mehtab Bypass	89.80	Waiting

S/d  
District Development Commissioner  
Srinagar

No: DSWOS/Sch/2026/570-74  
DIPK-2937/26  
Dated: 07.07.2026

إِنَّا لِلّٰهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

## فاتحہ خوانی

یہ تجر نہایت دکھ اور افسوس کے ساتھ دی جاتی ہے کہ  
زوار راجا علی محمد، ساکن گلشن علی، شامیار،  
بروز اتوار، 5 جولائی 2026 اس دار فانی سے  
انتقال کر گئے۔

اس سلسلے میں مرحوم کی اجتنابی فاتحہ خوانی  
بروز جمعہ، 8 جولائی 2026 صبح 6:00 بجے،  
ان کے آبائی مقبرے میں واقع گلشن علی، شامیار  
ادا کی جائے گی۔

بعد ازاں مجلس ترحیم مرحوم کے گھر، مسجد شاہ ولایت،  
گلشن علی، شامیار کے نزدیک - دن بھر بدستور جاری رہے گی۔

**سوگواران**  
پراڈو: غلام محمد راجا  
فرزند: راجا نذیر علی، راجا بشیر علی، راجا نصیر علی،  
راجا سفیر علی  
پسران مرحوم غلام معنی الدین راجا

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# What Kashmir's Census Missed

A house-listing survey turned into something closer to a confession booth, and what I heard should trouble anyone who calls education a solution on its own.



Dr. Mushtaq Rather



### KO VIEW

## Kashmir's Widening Waistline

A doctor at Government Medical College Srinagar put it plainly to a local reporter recently: diabetes in Kashmir is turning into an epidemic.

The numbers back him up.

The sixth National Family Health Survey, conducted through 2023 and 2024, found that 13 percent of women and 11.3 percent of men across Jammu and Kashmir now live with high blood sugar or take medicine to control it. Four years earlier, those figures sat at 8.7 percent and 8 percent.

Beyond a gentle drift, it is a jump, and it tells you something has changed in how this region eats, moves, and ages.

Blood pressure tells the same story. Among women, elevated readings climbed from 20 percent to 25 percent in just one survey cycle. Obesity moved even faster, with more than a third of women in Jammu and Kashmir now classified as overweight or obese, up from under 30 percent before.

Walk into a government hospital in Srinagar today and you will hear doctors describe something they rarely saw a decade ago: patients still in their twenties coming in with blood pressure numbers that used to belong to their parents.

The city and the village are not experiencing this the same way. Urban Kashmir holds the heavier load, with 17 percent of urban women and close to 15 percent of urban men showing elevated blood sugar, compared with roughly 12 percent and 10 percent in rural areas.

Cities brought convenience, and convenience brought its own cost: less walking, more processed food, and longer hours indoors.

None of this happened overnight, and none of it happened by chance.

Diets across the valley have shifted toward packaged snacks and sugary drinks that barely existed in local markets a generation ago. Screens have replaced outdoor play for a lot of children. Winters spent indoors, already long in Kashmir, now stretch further as home entertainment keeps people seated.

Add in an aging population, since NFHS-6 also shows the share of Kashmiris over 60 climbing toward 12 percent, and you get a population more exposed to chronic illness at exactly the moment its habits have grown more sedentary.

What happens next depends on choices that have little to do with hospitals.

A cardiologist can manage a heart attack after it happens. Preventing one means safer roads for walking, sports fields that survive municipal budget cuts, school canteens that serve something better than fried snacks, and primary health centers equipped to catch high blood sugar before it becomes a crisis.

Kashmir built its reputation for medical care around treating what already went wrong.

The next test is whether it can get ahead of what hasn't happened yet.

I signed up as an enumerator for the House Listing Operation expecting spreadsheets instead of confessions.

The job asked me to walk a single block in Kashmir, punch demographic details into an app, and move on.

But it became something else entirely.

The app's demand for precision meant one visit rarely settled anything.

I returned to the same doorsteps again and again, checking names, ages, and occupations against what the software wanted.

Those repeated returns wore down the wariness of strangers. Families who barely nodded on the first knock began, by the third or fourth, to talk about their children, their debts, and their fears.

As an educator myself, I steered those talks toward the subjects I know best: schooling, joblessness, and money running out.

A theme surfaced again and again in the settled households of my block. Parents described selling land, skipping meals, and borrowing from relatives to push a son or daughter through college.

The payoff, in case after case, was a graduate sitting at home with no job and no prospect of one.

"We educated him," one father told me, his voice breaking. "Now he just stays confined to his room, staring at the walls."

His son's confinement was not only physical.

Parents described watching bright children sink into depression, convinced their degrees had been worthless.

Meanwhile, mothers and fathers well past their working years kept scraping together what little they had left to keep the household running.

The house-listing form recorded a name and a date of birth, but it could not record the silence that had shadowed that home.

My sharpest encounter came with a family camped temporarily in the block, having travelled from Vail-Nagbal, a remote hamlet in south Kashmir.

Eight people lived in that shelter: two parents and six children. The father worked alone in a local orchard, the sole earner for the household.

Poverty had already taken its toll.

Two of the oldest children had left school to help him, one physically, one by finding whatever paid work a teenager could manage.

Given the family's finances, the four younger children stand a real chance of following the same path out of the classroom.

Still, when I sat with the youngest of them, something in their eyes refused to match the bleakness of the tent they lived in.

Bisma told me, without a flicker of doubt, that

**A theme surfaced again and again in the settled households of my block. Parents described selling land, skipping meals, and borrowing from relatives to push a son or daughter through college. The payoff, in case after case, was a graduate sitting at home with no job and no prospect of one.**

she would become a doctor. Faizan wanted to join the IPS. Mehran, more reserved than the other two but just as firm, said he planned to become a District Commissioner.

Children with that kind of intellectual fire

were describing careers that demand years of stable schooling, tutoring, and money their family plainly did not have.

The gap between their ambition and their circumstances was staggering.

I could not log their details and walk away.

I filmed a short video of their living conditions and their ambitions and posted it online. It spread fast, crossing 250,000 views within days, drawing comments from strangers moved by three children they had never met.

The attention gave this one family a moment of visibility, but it did nothing to close the gap that produced their situation in the first place.

Bisma, Faizan, and Mehran are typical cases rather than rare ones.

Lakhs of children throughout the country hold the same mixture of ambition and disadvantage, the same drive without the resources to act on it.

They cannot break out of poverty through will alone. Education without support around it is a promise with no way to keep it.

Government departments count these children with forms like the one I filled out.

But counting them changes nothing on its own.

A census can log a name, an age, and an occupation. It cannot log a father's collapsed voice or a child's certainty about a future she has no clear road toward.

If the state and the rest of us treat that uncertainty as someone else's problem, the cost lands on Bisma, on Faizan, on Mehran, and on the lakhs of children like them whose dreams outpace the systems meant to support them.

That failure will define the next generation of this region far more than any spreadsheet ever could.

*The author is an educator and columnist from Mattan, Anantnag. He can be reached at*



Naveed Gull

## The Real Report Card

A curriculum built to produce well-rounded citizens has instead produced a generation trained to pass exams and abandoned to face everything else alone.

One hundred and sixty-eight thousand children in Jammu and Kashmir, between the ages of ten and seventeen, are caught up in drug use.

That figure comes from recent estimates, and it should stop any parent, teacher, or administrator cold.

These are not troubled teenagers drifting at the margins of school life. Many sit in classrooms five days a week, filling in answer sheets, moving through a system built to measure almost nothing about how they are actually coping.

India has written some of the most thoughtful education policy on the planet. The National Policy on Education, drafted in 1986 and revised in 1992, promised schooling that built character alongside knowledge.

The National Curriculum Framework of 2005 said the same thing in different words.

The National Education Policy of 2020 went further still, and its Section 4.35 states plainly that assessment exists to track a learner's growth over cognitive, emotional, and physical development rather than simply to hand out ranks.

The National Curriculum Framework for School Education, released in 2023, built entire curricular goals around empathy, self-awareness, and the ability to read one's own emotions.

On the page, this is a system designed to raise capable human beings, but the classroom

tells a different story.

Marks still decide everything, so teaching still aims at numbers. Students memorize, reproduce, and move on.

A child can top mathematics and science and still fall apart when a friendship ends, a college rejection lands, or an exam goes badly.

Nothing in daily instruction prepares them for that moment, because nothing about daily instruction rewards it.

Science supplies the clearest proof of the gap between paper and practice.

Laboratory work exists on the timetable, but practical exams have become a formality in many schools, with full marks handed out regardless of what a student can actually do with a beaker or a microscope.

Students who ace exams often cannot run a basic experiment on their own. Decades of that failure show up on the global stage.

Since independence, no scientist working in India's research system has won a Nobel Prize in the sciences.

An education system built to crack exams rarely produces the originality that breakthrough discoveries demand.

The human cost runs deeper than lost prizes, and it runs through the whole country rather than one region.

Over 13,000 students took their own lives in a single recent year. National surveys have found that one in seven school students has already ex-



perimented with psychoactive substances.

Set that beside the Jammu and Kashmir figure, and the same story emerges, one that no policy document has managed to touch: schools built almost entirely around test performance are failing, on a mass scale, to build the emotional footing that keeps young people alive.

Ask why, and the answer has little to do with a shortage of ideas. But ask a school leader about the National Curriculum Framework's competencies, and many cannot name them.

Teacher training programs still center almost entirely on subject content, leaving socio-

emotional learning as an option squeezed into a workshop once a year.

Many schools still have little or no counselling support. Morning assembly, once meant to bring students together and encourage mindfulness, has become a routine of announcements, a prayer and the school bell.

Teachers who try to build something better run into overloaded syllabi, administrative demands, colleagues wedded to old methods, and an exam calendar that punishes any detour from drilling for tests.

None of this is abstract when a set of national board exams triggers a wave of anxiety, as the recent NEET paper-leak controversy showed.

Students who had spent years studying watched a single administrative failure threaten everything, and many had no tools beyond raw endurance to manage the fallout.

A system that measures success by rank alone leaves its highest achievers with the least practice at handling setback.

Fixing this will take better-trained school leaders, teachers who value emotional growth as much as academics, and counselling as a regular part of school life.

Above all, schools must be judged by the people they produce instead of the marks they churn.

India has a clear vision for its children. Turning that vision into action is now the real test.

The stakes are high in Jammu and Kashmir, with tens of thousands of children entering drug use before they reach adulthood.

A generation is being handed diplomas and left to fend for itself against everything a diploma cannot solve.

The policies already say what needs to happen. What remains is making it true in a single classroom, then the next one, until it is true everywhere.

*The author teaches at the Government Model Higher Secondary School Kokernag. He can be reached at naveedgull428@gmail.com.*

# Dowry Is Back in Kashmir

Dowry may have disappeared in name, but a new system of costly expectations is pushing marriage out of reach for ordinary Kashmiris.



Suhail Gaznavi

Kashmir has spent two generations fighting dowry, and it has largely won that fight. Grooms now refuse gold, families reject cash gifts, and brides' parents no longer feel compelled to bankrupt themselves feeding dozens at a wedding feast. Religious scholars preached against the practice, civil society organized around it, and the culture, slowly, listened. That victory is real and it should be counted. But something has crept in behind it, unnoticed because it wears a different name, and it is doing to Kashmiri marriage what dowry once did: pricing ordinary people out of one of the most basic transitions a life can hold. Men now marry into their late thirties, while women, once wed as teenagers or in their early twenties, increasingly wait until their thirties as well. Talk to families in Srinagar or Anantnag or Baramulla and a common story emerges. A son finishes his degree. He studies for a government exam for two or three years, because a government job remains the only form of employment anyone still trusts. He fails, or passes and waits for a posting. He takes contractual

work in the meantime, low-paying and impermanent, and postpones any thought of marriage until the ground under him feels solid. Meanwhile his sister pursues a career of her own, delaying marriage on her own terms, wanting a foothold before she accepts a life built around someone else's household. None of this happens in isolation. Unemployment, prolonged education, and the collapse of confidence in any job that isn't government-issued have combined to push the average age of marriage upward region-wide. That much is a story about the economy. The more troubling story is about what marriage itself now demands, independent of a couple's readiness or affection for one another. A proposal today rarely gets serious consideration unless the groom already holds secure employment, a respectable salary, and either a house or the money to build one. Separate accommodation has become an unwritten precondition, as though newlyweds sharing a home with parents were a mark of failure rather than a normal beginning. Add to this the price of gold, which has climbed high enough that even families who have sworn off dowry as a principle still find themselves expected to furnish jewelry, modern interiors, attached washrooms, and household goods that would have seemed extravagant to their own parents. None of it is called dowry. All of it functions like dowry's successor. And this is the part of the debate Kashmir has been reluctant to have honestly. Decades of public attention rightly focused on what grooms' families demanded of brides. But today, a parallel and less examined burden falls on the groom's side: the expectation that a man cannot



**“DECADES OF PUBLIC ATTENTION RIGHTLY FOCUSED ON WHAT GROOMS' FAMILIES DEMANDED OF BRIDES. But today, a parallel and less examined burden falls on the groom's side: the expectation that a man cannot be considered marriageable until he has already built the financial life a marriage is supposed to help him build.”**

be considered marriageable until he has already built the financial life a marriage is supposed to help him build. Whether that expectation is fair or unfair counts for less than the fact that it exists, widely, and that it is delaying marriages by years. None of this is an argument

against women's ambitions or independence. Women have earned the gains they have made in education, career, and self-determination, and no honest accounting of Kashmiri marriage should suggest otherwise. The point is narrower and harder to dismiss: financial expectations

on men have grown just as inflexible as the old expectations once placed on women's families, and a society that congratulates itself for defeating one form of transactional marriage should not pretend a second form isn't taking its place. The consequences reach past any single household.

Postponed marriages mean postponed families, postponed emotional stability, and, for many young people, years spent anxious about a milestone that once came easily. A society watching thousands of educated, capable young adults remain unmarried into their late thirties because of housing costs and gold prices owes itself an honest look at whether its expectations still fit the economy it actually has. The people who fought dowry successfully, including scholars, teachers, and activists, are the same people who should now turn their attention here. Awareness campaigns that once targeted cash and jewelry demanded of brides need a companion effort aimed at the elaborate, expensive standard of readiness now demanded of grooms. Lawmakers and community leaders might reasonably ask whether reforms are needed to check this newer set of expectations the way earlier reforms checked dowry. The goal isn't to open a new front in a gender argument. It's to make marriage affordable again for people who have already done everything society asked of them. Marriage was never supposed to be a test of a bank balance. Its foundation is mutual respect and shared commitment rather than the square footage of a house or the weight of gold on a bride's wrists. Kashmir dismantled one system of financial gatekeeping around marriage through collective effort. It can dismantle this one too, but only once it stops mistaking a new problem for an old, solved one.

— The author is an advocate at the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, and can be reached at [suhailad13@gmail.com](mailto:suhailad13@gmail.com).

# Hypocrisy Begins at Home

From white lies to public virtue and private compromise, the lessons children learn shape the moral future of society.



Ikkz Ikbal

“Abbu, you always tell me to speak the truth... then why did you lie to the customer today?” That single question from a seven-year-old froze the room. The father looked away, the mother tried to change the topic, and silence filled the space like shame. The child didn't just ask a question. He exposed a wound we've learned to hide: the gap between what we preach and what we practice. Modern psychology calls it Cognitive Dissonance, the unease we feel when our actions betray our beliefs. In simpler words, it's the unrest of the soul when the tongue and heart move in opposite directions. This conflict plays out every day in the valley. A teacher encourages honesty yet helps students cheat in exams. A trader condemns corruption but manipulates the scales for profit. A father scolds his son for lying but lies ten times a day himself. Each contradiction chips away at something sacred: integrity. Over time, this dissonance becomes normal. We stop feeling wrong. The conscience that once whispered has gone silent. And that silence is the



**“We talk of reforming systems in Kashmir, but the real system in need of reform is the self. A nation that refuses to face its reflection cannot change its destiny. The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said, ‘The strongest among you is the one who controls himself when angry.’”**

real moral crisis. Centuries before psychology gave it a name, Islam diagnosed it with clarity: “O you who believe! Why do you say that which you do not do?” (Surah As-Saff: 2-3) Faith, in its essence, is not what we say but how we live. But somewhere,

we separated belief from behaviour. We begin our dealings with Bismillah and end them with deceit. We call bribery “chai paani.” We reject dowry in public but accept it in private. We condemn corruption in speeches but defend it in our homes. We have replaced conscience with

convenience. “Times are tough.” “Everyone does it.” “It's just a small thing.” These phrases soften the guilt until we feel nothing. But a sin justified is a sin repeated. Psychologists say that when faced with this conflict, we try to escape through three doors: we justify the

wrong, redefine morality, or shift the blame. These are survival tricks of the mind, but they slowly kill the soul. Islam offers a cure: Tazkiyah an-Nafs, or self-purification. It begins with Tawbah, sincere repentance, followed by Muhasabah, the courage to ask, “Did my actions today reflect my words?” It grows through Sohbat-e-Saliheen, the company of those who make us want to be better. Our children are watching our lives. When they see us twist truth for comfort, they learn that deceit is normal. And soon, they too will lie easily, without hesitation or guilt. That is how hypocrisy becomes heritage. When dishonesty becomes culture, truth becomes rebellion. And when hypocrisy becomes habit, sincerity becomes rare. We talk of reforming systems in Kashmir, but the real system in need of reform is the self. A nation that refuses to face its reflection cannot change its destiny. The Prophet Muhammad said, “The strongest among you is the one who controls himself when angry.” Today, perhaps the strongest is the one who admits: I am not who I pretend to be. The kid's innocent question was a reminder from a still-pure heart before it learns to lie like ours. Our downfall began when faith became speech and virtue became slogan. To rebuild, we must restore alignment between what we say, believe, and do. That harmony is humanity. And in that honesty lies peace, with God, others, and ourselves.

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# Banks' Body Can't Blacklist Lawyers for Alleged Negligence: SC

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: In a significant verdict, the Supreme Court on Tuesday held that banks and the Indian Banks' Association (IBA) cannot put the advocates in the "caution list" merely on allegations of professional negligence. Reinforcing the independence of the legal profession, a bench of Justices P S Narasimha and Alok Aradhe held that blacklisting lawyers amounted to an impermissible encroachment upon the statutory disciplinary jurisdiction of the Bar Councils.

"We direct the Bar Council of India to constitute a team of senior and junior lawyers as well as experts in the field of establishing academic institutions for considering, discussing and evolving the idea of establishing National Legal Academy (for lawyers).

"We hope and trust the BCI will rise to the occasion and

reflect on all these issues and inform the court of its decision," Justice Narasimha, who authored a 41-page judgement, said.

The verdict clarified the scope of judicial review under Article 226 of the Constitution and held that writ petitions are maintainable against the IBA as now the Article is not confined merely to statutory authorities or instrumentalities of the State falling within Article 12 and the expression "any person or authority" has consistently received a "wider and more liberal interpretation".

The judgment rejected the Allahabad High Court's view that a writ petition was not maintainable because the IBA is not "State" under Article 12.

"In the present case, where the allegation against the appellant pertains solely to negligence, the inclusion of his name in the Caution List is unsustainable.

In view of the above discussion and analysis, we hold that the respondent Bank and IBA cannot include the name of the appellant in the Caution List. Consequently, we direct them to remove the appellant's name from the Caution List with immediate effect," it directed.

The bench said the alleged allegations of professional negligence or misconduct on the part of the appellant-advocate, even if true, fall within the exclusive jurisdiction of the disciplinary authorities contemplated under the Advocates Act.

"Independence of the legal profession is as important as independence of judiciary. In fact, their interdependence from the executive and the legislature is the foundation of the rule of law and democracy," it said.

The principle of self-regulation has historically been regarded as the defining feature of independence of the legal



profession, it said.

"If the Bank is of the opinion that the appellant is guilty of professional negligence or misconduct in discharge of legal duties as an advocate, the appropriate remedy is to place the relevant material before the competent State Bar Council to take necessary action under the Advocates Act," it said.

The bench, however, said the concerns expressed by banks and financial institutions regarding diligence, quality and reliability of legal opinions

furnished by advocates cannot be ignored. The duties of the State Bar Councils and the BCI extend beyond merely processing individual complaints, it said.

Having regard to the importance of maintaining public confidence in the institution of lawyers, it is desirable the BCI undertakes a comprehensive performance audit of the disciplinary mechanisms administered by it and the State Bar Councils, the bench said.

"We direct the BCI to constitute a committee and seek an objective assessment of its duties of self-regulation of professional conduct and discipline, consider the report and file an affidavit of the action proposed/taken," it said.

The verdict also dealt with the duty of lawyers in reducing pendency cases and said there was a "compelling need" to kindle among advocates a deeper and

a renewed sense of bond and shared responsibility for timely disposal of cases.

"There is no dispute that mounting pendency of cases across District Courts, High Courts, and the Supreme Court poses one of the greatest challenges to the justice delivery system in India. The constitutional courts have rightly assumed responsibility for addressing this problem, and judges at all levels remain deeply concerned about delays and arrears. Yet, pendency continues to be viewed almost exclusively as a judicial responsibility," it said.

This approach overlooks a fundamental reality that the Bar is not merely a stakeholder but an equal institutional partner in the administration of justice, it said.

"Despite frequent references to the Bar and Bench as the 'two wheels of the chariot of justice', the Bar is seldom called upon to

share responsibility for reducing delays and improving efficiency. A paradigm shift is necessary. Tackling pendency must become a collaborative mission of the Bench and the Bar..." it said.

The dispute arose after Canara Bank removed lawyer Ajay Viji from its panel following allegations that a legal opinion furnished by him in 2015 negligently failed to detect earlier sale transactions relating to a mortgaged property.

The bank subsequently recommended his inclusion in the IBA's Caution List under the category of "Third Party Entities Involved in Fraud", with remarks that he had provided a "wrong legal opinion" and acted negligently, thereby exposing the bank to financial risk.

The top court observed that the allegations against the advocate related only to negligence and did not involve fraud, collusion or criminal misconduct.

## CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

### LG Orders Audit

remain centres of learning, nation-building and constitutional values and asserted that there would be "zero tolerance" for attempts to mislead or radicalise students through objectionable literature.

The meeting was attended by Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary Power Development Department Ashwani Kumar, Principal Secretary Home Chandraker Bhatti, Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor Mandeep K Bhandari, Additional Director Intelligence Bureau Pankaj Thakur, ADGP CID Nitish Kumar and Commissioner Secretary School Education Ram Niwas Sharma.

### Make Amarnath

a benchmark for spiritual tourism across the country.

"Such a collective effort can create a model that inspires similar pilgrimages nationwide," he said.

Sinha also appealed to devotees to experience local hospitality and the richness of Jammu and Kashmir's traditional arts and crafts during the pilgrimage.

"By supporting and promoting local products, we can ensure that the pilgrimage becomes not only a profound spiritual experience but also a meaningful celebration of the local economy, culture and heritage," he said.

During the meeting, the Lieutenant Governor reviewed the operations of the Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board's 24x7 Control Room at Lok Bhavan, established for the smooth conduct of the pilgrimage.

He also took stock of arrangements along the yatra routes, deployment of security personnel, functioning of langars and queue management systems at different junctions and the holy cave.

Largest Batch of 8,815 Pilgrims Leaves Jammu

The largest batch of pilgrims so far this year, comprising 8,815 devotees, including 31 foreign nationals, left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here on Tuesday for the annual Amarnath Yatra amid tight security.

More than 93,000 pilgrims have paid obeisance at the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine in the south Himalayas during the first four days of the pilgrimage, with the number expected to cross the one-lakh mark later in the day.

Officials said the sixth batch comprised 5,831 men, 2,193 women, 31 children, 598 sadhus, 131 sadhvis and 31 foreign nationals.

Of the total, 3,989 pilgrims travelling in 181 vehicles left for the Baital base camp in Ganderbal district, while 4,826 devotees in 182 vehicles proceeded towards the traditional Pahalgam route in Anantnag district. The convoy comprised 363 vehicles.

With Tuesday's departure, a total of 34,829 pilgrims have left the Jammu base camp for Kashmir since the pilgrimage commenced on July 2.

The Bhagwati Nagar base camp reverberated with chants of "Bam Bam Bhole", "Har Har Mahadev" and "Jai Barfani Baba Ki" as devotees set out on the pilgrimage. Many pilgrims expressed satisfaction with the arrangements made for the smooth conduct of the Yatra.

Tuesday's convoy was the largest since the start of the pilgrimage, surpassing the previous highest batch of 6,721 pilgrims that left on Sunday.

A total of 5,794 pilgrims had departed on Monday, while 4,812 left the base camp on July 4.

The 57-day pilgrimage to the holy cave shrine is scheduled to conclude on August 28, coinciding with Raksha Bandhan.

Meanwhile, the Jammu and Kashmir administration has urged unregistered devotees planning to undertake the pilgrimage to defer their journey for a few days as all registration slots have been booked till July 9 amid an unprecedented rush.

Officials said only registered pilgrims would be allowed to proceed towards Kashmir, while unregistered devotees would be stopped at designated checkpoints until fresh registration quotas become available.

### Police Warns

invest or deposit larger sums, which are eventually lost.

J&K Police urged people to remain vigilant and avoid engaging with unknown individuals or platforms promising quick and easy earnings through online tasks. The department also advised the public to verify the authenticity of such offers and immediately report suspicious activities to the concerned authorities.

The advisory forms part of the police's

ongoing campaign to spread awareness about cyber fraud and protect people from emerging online financial scams.

### MeT Predicts

intense heavy showers at a few locations. Similar conditions are expected on July 11 and 12, with isolated heavy rainfall.

The MeT department warned of heavy rainfall and brief intense showers at a few places on July 7 and 8 and again on July 11.

It also cautioned about the possibility of flash floods, landslides and mudslides at vulnerable locations in the Chenab Valley and Pir Panjal range and advised people to stay away from streams, nullahs and landslide-prone areas.

### No Right To Promotion

SRO 14 of 1996 and that his non-promotion was solely due to the absence of a vacancy in the lone post of Chauffeur in the cadre.

Relying on the Supreme Court's ruling in State of Odisha v. Sreepati Ranjan Dash, the Court observed that employees have no vested right or legitimate expectation to compel the government to fill vacancies through promotion, particularly during cadre restructuring.

The Court also referred to the Supreme Court's decision in Union of India v. Ilmo Devi, reiterating that High Courts exercising jurisdiction under Article 226 cannot direct the government to create posts, sanction vacancies or formulate service policies.

Rejecting the challenge to the note appended to Rule 1 of SRO 28, the Court held that the petitioner had failed to demonstrate any discrimination or violation of constitutional guarantees under Articles 14 and 16. It observed that the rule had been applied uniformly across departments and that stagnation in a small cadre, by itself, does not render a service rule unconstitutional.

Holding that long stagnation may be a hardship but not a ground for judicial rewriting of service rules, the Court upheld the validity of the condition making promotions subject to the availability of vacancies.

### Flash Floods

partial damage as mudslides and debris engulfed the area.

A number of vehicles parked along the roadside were buried under mud and rocks, while locals claimed that some vehicles were swept away into the Chenab River.

However, officials said the exact number of vehicles affected and the overall extent of the damage were yet to be assessed.

The flash floods also blocked the Doda-Kishtwar National Highway at Thathi after debris accumulated on the road, disrupting vehicular movement. The district administration, police and other agencies launched clearance operations, with restoration of the highway taken up on priority.

An official present in the affected area said the heavy rain began suddenly during the early hours, prompting security personnel to alert everyone.

"After a short while, debris accumulated behind our building, piled onto the roof and broke through it, causing water to gush inside the barracks. There has been no loss of life or injuries. Government property has suffered significant damage, but our weapons, ammunition and personnel are safe as they were evacuated in time," the official said.

He said rescue teams assisted local residents and were assessing the damage to determine the next course of action.

"The losses run into crores of rupees. Massive boulders and heavy debris have rolled down from the hills, and clearing them will take a long time. The road towards Kishtwar is likely to remain blocked for at least the next two days," he added.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, who was closely monitoring the situation, spoke to Doda Deputy Commissioner Krishan Lal and directed the district administration to ensure immediate relief and assistance to affected families and expedite restoration work.

"Spoke with the DC, Doda to assess the situation following the cloudburst in the Thathi region. While several houses and shops have suffered damage, fortunately, no casualties or injuries have been reported," Sinha said in a post on X.

The Lieutenant Governor said he had directed the Deputy Commissioner to expedite restoration work, including the clearance of NH-244.

Union Minister Jitendra Singh also said he was in regular touch with the Deputy Commissioner after receiving reports of a

cloudburst in the Thathi region.

"I am keeping in regular touch with the Deputy Commissioner after receiving reports of the cloudburst in the Thathi region, which has caused substantial damage to property and road connectivity. However, there has been no loss of life," Singh said.

He said the administration had promptly swung into action and was taking all possible measures to provide relief and restore damaged infrastructure.

"My office remains in constant touch," the Union Minister added.

Deputy Commissioner Doda Krishan Lal, however, said the rain-related incidents in the district were caused by heavy rainfall and cautioned against describing them as cloudbursts.

"Following the rainfall this morning, there was a minor hill slope slide in the Prem Nagar area of Thathi tehsil. Mud and debris accumulated on the road, but it was cleared in the morning itself and traffic was restored," Lal said.

He said heavy rain also brought stones and mud onto roads in Chiralla tehsil and along the Bagna link road, but the affected stretches were cleared.

The Deputy Commissioner appealed to people not to panic or spread rumours.

"It is incorrect to describe such incidents as cloudbursts. These are episodes of heavy rainfall, which often cause mud and small stones to come down from hill slopes in hilly districts. The administration remains fully alert and responds immediately wherever such situations arise," he said.

Lal urged people to verify information through the District Control Room or the district administration before believing or sharing it.

The incident came a day after flash floods triggered by incessant rainfall damaged the Doda-Kishtwar highway near the under-construction 540-MW Kwar Hydroelectric Power Project.

Meanwhile, the India Meteorological Department said no rainfall was recorded at most weather stations between 8.30 am and 5.30 pm on Tuesday, though Gulmarg received 0.4 mm of rain.

During the previous 24 hours ending at 8.30 am, Katra recorded the highest rainfall at 39.6 mm, followed by Gulmarg at 8.8 mm, Banihal at 5.5 mm, Kukernag at 2.8 mm, Pahalgam at 2.2 mm, Qazigund at 2 mm and Batote at 1.7 mm. Jammu received 0.2 mm, while Srinagar and Baderwah recorded trace rainfall.

Jammu was the hottest place in the Union Territory on Tuesday, recording a maximum temperature of 37.9 degrees Celsius, 2.5 degrees above normal.

### Hunt For Two

personnel to seal all possible escape routes through the thick orchard foliage. The area has also been illuminated to facilitate operations during the night.

Officials said dense foliage during the summer months provides natural cover, making surveillance difficult and allowing trapped terrorists to exploit blind spots in security cordons.

According to security records, both terrorists are residents of south Kashmir's Kulgam district. Zakir has reportedly been associated with the LeT since 2024, while Latif joined the outfit last year.

Shopian has historically served as a key transit corridor connecting south Kashmir with central Kashmir and the Pir Panjal range.

Officials said that while foreign terrorists were increasingly being used to carry out attacks, containing local operatives remained crucial to disrupting logistical networks and breaking the cycle of local recruitment.

### J&K No Longer

Jammu and Kashmir was projected before the world in a "very different light" until a few years ago but had witnessed a change following decisions taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"Today, Jammu and Kashmir is seen as an integral part of India and as a region moving on the path of development, identified with peace and its rich cultural heritage," he said.

Nabin said the Modi government had been consistently working to revive the region's heritage and culture and present it before the world.

He said the youth and women of Jammu and Kashmir, who were earlier "viewed through a different lens", were now carving out their own identities and achieving success through hard work and determination.

The BJP chief said the Centre's efforts to strengthen tourism had begun to positively impact the lives of people, while opportunities extended to women had instilled a sense of dignity and self-confidence among different sections of society.

Nabin said the BJP had an important role to play in Jammu and Kashmir, both as the principal opposition in the Union Territory and through the party-led government at the Centre.

"In both capacities, we are committed to strengthening the people of Jammu and Kashmir, ensuring their development, and preserving and promoting the region's rich culture and heritage," he said.

"As the opposition in Jammu and Kashmir, our legislators and party workers will remain vigilant and continue to raise issues concerning the people," Nabin added.

The BJP president, who arrived in Jammu on Monday afternoon on his first visit to the Union Territory after assuming the party's top post, cut short his scheduled two-day tour and returned to New Delhi on Tuesday.

He skipped a scheduled pilgrimage to the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine in Reasi district and a youth convention due to a change in his programme.

J&K BJP MLA and spokesperson R S Pathania said Nabin returned to Delhi owing to official commitments. The party did not give an official reason for the schedule change, though party insiders said pressing organisational engagements required his presence in the national capital for an important meeting.

During his visit, Nabin attended a series of organisational programmes and chaired a joint meeting of the BJP's sitting and former legislators at the party headquarters in Trikuta Nagar.

Pathania said the meeting focused on strengthening the BJP's presence in Jammu and Kashmir, reinforcing its "nationalist ideology", deepening people's trust in the party and addressing issues including security in Jammu.

Nabin was initially scheduled to hold separate meetings with district and city leaders, elected representatives and former legislators. However, following the change in his programme, the interactions were merged into a joint meeting that lasted around one-and-a-half hours.

Earlier in the day, Nabin visited the RSS headquarters, Keshav Bhawan, at Amphalla and met senior Sangh functionaries. He also paid tributes to Bharatiya Jana Sangh leader Prem Nath Dogra at Dogra Chowk before proceeding to the BJP headquarters.

Nabin said it was a privilege to visit Jammu and Kashmir during the 125th birth anniversary of Bharatiya Jana Sangh leader Syama Prasad Mookerjee.

He said the J&K BJP unit had been working to implement the schemes and programmes of the Modi government while keeping the party's organisational activities "active and dynamic".

Pathania described Jammu and Kashmir as the BJP's "ideological cradle", saying the party's foundation was rooted in the movement for "Ek Pradhan, Ek Nishan" and the sacrifice of Mookerjee.

Nabin said the people of Jammu and Kashmir had extended their support to the BJP and asserted that party workers would continue to serve them with dedication and a spirit of public service.

### Meta Details

over 4 million suspicious accounts and 36 million pieces of child exploitation content globally. In India, AI tools helped remove 1,60,000 accounts in the past six months for posting suspicious links linked to exploitative activity.

It further said that before the cases were brought to its attention, its enforcement systems had already identified and disabled several of the violating ads and the accounts behind them.

"Our subsequent investigation led to additional action, including removing further ads, disabling accounts, and blocking URLs linked to policy-violating content," it pointed out.

The Menlo Park, California-headquartered technology giant Meta owns popular social media platforms Facebook, Instagram, and WhatsApp.

"We have advanced AI detection tools set up to identify when individuals post suspicious off-platform links in coordination with other signals indicating child exploitative activity. In the last six months alone, this led to the removal of 1,60,000 accounts in India," Meta said.

Government sources told PTI that Meta's

official response to Saturday's notice is awaited.

The government's focus will be on the corrective measures and action taken by the company to address all the concerns, they added.

Last week, the government issued a stern notice to Meta on Child Sexual Exploitative and Abuse Material (CSEAM) in paid advertisements on Instagram.

MeitY (Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology) ordered Instagram to disable all ads and content promoting and facilitating access to CSEAM, and has also demanded a detailed explanation within seven days.

The action came after IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw directed MeitY officials to summon Meta over Instagram ads allegedly promoting child sexual abuse material.

The regulatory scrutiny from the ministry came amid a BBC report that alleged Meta's recommendation algorithm had been promoting videos containing child sexual abuse material, exposing serious gaps in the safeguards.

The BBC investigation had also allegedly found advertisements of this nature appearing on Facebook and Instagram, despite Meta's advertising policies explicitly prohibiting nudity and sexually explicit content.

Instagram is alleged to have shown paid advertisements with terms like 'rape video' and 'child video', which directed users to Telegram channels where such content was reportedly on sale.

In Tuesday's blog post, Meta said its advertising review process combines automated systems with human reviewers to detect and remove policy-violating ads, while acknowledging that no system can catch every violation.

Ads are screened before they run and remain subject to continuous review and re-review, with users also able to report suspected violations, according to the company.

Meta said it monitors advertiser behaviour in addition to individual ads, and may reject ads or restrict advertiser business accounts, ad accounts, pages and user accounts found violating its policies.

The social media firm pointed out that it continues to strengthen its ad review systems and enforcement to keep bad actors off its platforms and better protect users.

"We're committed to keeping bad actors off our platforms and are constantly evolving our systems to stay ahead of them. Protecting people who use our platforms remains at the centre of how we build and enforce our advertising standards," it said.

Highlighting its zero-tolerance approach to the issue, Meta said it has detailed and robust policies against child nudity, abuse, and exploitation, which include the sharing or soliciting of child exploitation imagery, inappropriate interactions with teens, and the sexualisation of minors.

"As noted in our Ad Standards, all ads must comply with our Community Standards on Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Nudity. Ads must not contain content that sexually exploits or endangers children," it said.

Meta said it reports apparent child exploitation cases to law enforcement through the National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), publishes global and India-specific transparency reports, and has appointed statutory compliance officers (Chief Compliance Officer, Grievance Officer, and Nodal Contact Person) under India's IT Rules.

The company said it works with industry and law enforcement to combat online child exploitation beyond its own platforms.

It highlighted the ways in which it supports industry-wide efforts, and spoke about its founding membership of the tech coalition's Lantern programme for cross-platform intelligence sharing on predatory accounts, and efforts to block links to third-party websites hosting abusive content.

Meta also said it supported NCMEC's 'Take It Down' tool, which helps prevent the spread of intimate images of young people online.

"In 2019, we played an integral role in establishing India's relationship with NCMEC by enabling local law enforcement authorities to receive reports and take action on violating activity," Meta said.

Meta asserted that this work is ongoing. "Our teams are constantly improving our defences - developing new technology, blocking violating links, and sharing intelligence across the industry - but we know there is more to do. We will continue investing in every resource needed to keep young people safe, strengthen our ad review processes, and work with law enforcement to hold criminals accountable," it said.

## AMARNATH YATRA

## Over 1 Lakh Pilgrims Perform Darshan: Div Com Kashmir

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, on Tuesday said that more than one lakh pilgrims have paid obeisance at the holy Amarnath cave shrine since July 3, when the annual pilgrimage commenced. Talking to reporters, Garg, according to KNO said the Amarnath Yatra has witnessed a huge influx of pilgrims during the first five days.

He said a huge number of devotees who had not registered online turned up during the initial days of the Yatra, creating logistical challenges for the administration. "We appeal to all pilgrims to register themselves online before undertaking the Yatra," he said.

The Divisional Commissioner said the situation has now been streamlined with the augmentation of transit accommodation facilities on the directions of the Lieutenant Governor. He added that the on-the-spot registration facility has also been expanded to ensure that pilgrims do not face any inconvenience. "More than one lakh pilgrims have paid obeisance at the holy cave shrine, and the darshan process is continuing smoothly," Garg said.

He said senior officers have been deployed at both the Nunwan and Battal Base Camps, while regular reviews are being conducted by the Amarnath Shrine Board and the civil administration to ensure all necessary facilities are extended to pilgrims and that the Yatra continues smoothly.

## Srinagar Semi Ring Road Phase I set for November completion

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The much-awaited Srinagar Semi Ring Road project, envisioned as a major infrastructure initiative to ease traffic congestion and improve regional connectivity across Kashmir, is steadily moving forward, with the first phase expected to be completed by November this year. However, delays in land acquisition, compensation, and utility shifting continue to hamper progress on the remaining sections.

NHAI Project Director Srinagar Akash Deep Singh said the first phase, covering a 42.10-kilometre stretch from Galander in Pulwama district to Sarai Dangerpora in Bandipora, has reached its final stage. "We are confident of completing Phase I by November, provided the remaining land required for one Electricity Supply Transmission (EST) tower in Bandipora is made available. Only a few EST towers are pending, and land acquisition for one of them is yet to be completed by the district administration. Once the land is handed over, the remaining work can be finished within the planned timeline," Singh told KNO.

The first phase, being executed at an estimated cost of around Rs 2,920 crore, forms the backbone of the Semi Ring Road. Originally



planned up to Narbal, the alignment was later extended further towards Bandipora, increasing both the project's length and strategic importance.

The Semi Ring Road begins from Galander on the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway and traverses through several important junctions before joining the Srinagar-Baramulla National Highway near Narbal, then extending towards Sarai Dangerpora.

Officials said the majority of civil works have either been completed or are in the final stages. The pace of construction slowed over the past few months due to interruptions in the supply of bitumen, caused by disruptions in

refinery supplies.

Work on Phase II, extending over 24.70 kilometres from Sarai Dangerpora to Wayul in Ganderbal district, has achieved nearly 50 per cent physical progress but is unlikely to meet its original deadline because significant portions of land required for construction are yet to be handed over.

Singh said Deputy Commissioners of both Ganderbal and Bandipora have been requested to resolve all pending land acquisition and compensation issues. The relocation of water supply pipelines in Ganderbal has emerged as another major challenge, though authorities said the

process is nearing completion.

Phase-IIA, covering a 12.11-kilometre stretch between Pandach and Wayul, has also witnessed delays due to unresolved land acquisition and compensation issues. The package, estimated at Rs 828 crore, includes a 2.55-kilometre elevated corridor through Ganderbal town.

The proposed Phase III, which will connect Lasjan with Pandach through Hazratbal, is yet to receive the necessary approvals. The 24.60-kilometre corridor remains at the Detailed Project Report stage and has an estimated cost of nearly Rs 2,380 crore, including a dedicated airport connectivity corridor.

## Passport Seva Kendras in Sgr, Ang &amp; Bla to Function on Saturday

SRINAGAR: In view of the high demand for passport services, the Regional Passport Office Srinagar will conduct a special drive on Saturday, 11th July 2026. Accordingly, Passport Seva Kendra in Srinagar, Post Office Passport Seva Kendra (POPSK) Anantnag and Post Office Passport Seva Kendra (POPSK) Baramulla will remain functional on the said date for processing of passport applications as part of a drive.

Shri B. S. Rawat, Regional Passport Officer, Srinagar, said that the special drive is being organised keeping in view the sustained demand for passport-related services. The initiative aims to ensure timely, efficient and transparent delivery of passport services to citizens, Shri Rawat added. Applicants can avail passport services by booking an appointment through the official website www.passportindia.gov.in at their nearest or preferred Passport Seva Kendra and selecting a suitable time slot for July 11, 2026.

Applicants are required to report to the designated centre at the scheduled time along with the appointment confirmation and all requisite documents in original. (Observer News Service)

## Delhi Statehood Protest: NC Reaches Out To Kashmir Civil Society

SRINAGAR: Ahead of its protest programme on statehood in New Delhi, the ruling National Conference on Tuesday reached out to the civil society of Kashmir.

To seek suggestions from different sections of civil society ahead of the protest programme on statehood, NC president Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah presided over a meeting convened by the party with people from different sections of society. "More than 150 representatives from various sections of J&K civil society convened today, July 7, 2026, at SKICC, Srinagar, in a meeting presided over by JKNC president Dr. Farooq Abdullah and VP & Hon'ble Chief Minister @Omar Abdullah," the NC said in a post on its X handle.

The party said the gathering unanimously adopted a resolution calling upon the Union Government to restore full statehood to Jammu & Kashmir without any further delay.

"The resolution reflects the collective and unanimous voice of the civil society representatives present at the meeting, reaffirming the broad-based demand for the immediate restoration of full statehood to Jammu & Kashmir," it said. After the meeting, the Chief Minister said that a unanimous resolution calling on the Union Government to restore full statehood was passed. (KNO)

## CM Omar Meets Tourism &amp; Business Stakeholders; Assures Support

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah met delegations representing the travel, tourism and business sectors here at the Civil Secretariat and held detailed discussions on issues concerning tourism promotion, business facilitation and the overall growth of the economy in Jammu and Kashmir.

A delegation comprising representatives of leading travel and tourism associations, including Irshad Ahmad (TAAI), Zahoor Qari, President SKAL International Kashmir; Burhan Misgar, Chairman Travel Agents Federation of India (TAFI), and Waseem Goosani, President TASK, called on the Chief Minister and apprised him of various matters relating to the travel and tourism sector.

The delegation high-

lighted issues concerning the tourism industry, measures to further strengthen tourist inflow, ease of travel, and initiatives required to sustain the momentum of tourism in J&K. They also shared suggestions aimed at improving visitor experience and enhancing Jammu and Kashmir's position as a preferred tourist destination.

The Chief Minister gave a patient hearing to the delegation and reiterated his government's commitment to creating an enabling environment for the tourism sector, recognising it as one of the key drivers of economic growth and employment in Jammu and Kashmir. He assured the representatives that the concerns raised by them would be examined sympathetically and addressed in a time-bound manner in coordination with the concerned departments.

## CM Reviews Roadmap for Revival of J&amp;K Overseas Employment Corporation

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah chaired a high-level review meeting with the roadmap for the revival and operationalisation of the Jammu & Kashmir Overseas Employment Corporation Limited (JKOEL) and reviewed J&K's overseas recruitment facilitation infrastructure, with a focus on creating a robust institutional framework to connect J&K's skilled youth with global employment opportunities.

The meeting reviewed the proposed strategy for reviving JKOEL as the government's nodal recruitment agency for facilitating safe, transparent and market-driven overseas employment. Discussions centred on strengthening institutional mechanisms, expanding international partnerships, enhancing skill development

aligned with global standards, and establishing an integrated ecosystem to prepare youth for overseas careers.

A detailed presentation by Director Employment J&K Harvinder Singh outlined a phased roadmap for operationalising JKOEL, including the creation of a digital overseas employment portal, partnerships with licensed recruiting agencies, foreign languages and international certification programmes, employer engagement, counselling, pre-departure orientation and post-placement support. The proposed framework seeks to position JKOEL as the nodal agency coordinating with the Ministry of External Affairs, the Protector of Emigration, Indian Missions abroad, skill institutions and licensed recruiting agencies to ensure ethical, transparent and legally compliant overseas recruitment.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR  
DIRECTORATE OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS, J&K

127-AD, Opposite Police Residential Qtrs. Gandhi Nagar Jammu - Pin Code No. 180004

Sulaiman Complex Dalgate Srinagar 190001

Email: directorjk.tad@jk.gov.in

Subject: Inviting Applications for Admission to Scheduled Tribe (Gujjar &amp; Bakerwal) Postgraduate (PG) Hostels of Jammu &amp; Kashmir for the Academic Session 2026-27.

## ADMISSION NOTICE

Applications on the prescribed format as per Annexure-A to this notice are invited from eligible students (Male/Female) belonging to the Scheduled Tribe (Gujjar & Bakerwal) community for admission to ST (Gujjar & Bakerwal) PG Hostels functioning under the Administrative control of Directorate of Tribal Affairs, J&K, for the Academic Session 2026-27 against the available vacancies.

## Eligibility Criteria:

The applicant shall fulfil the following eligibility conditions/criteria:

- The applicant must be domicile of Jammu and Kashmir and must belong to the Scheduled Tribe (Gujjar & Bakerwal) community.
- The applicant must be pursuing a regular Undergraduate or Postgraduate course in a Government/ Government-recognized Colleges, Universities or other Government/ Govt recognized Institutions.
- The applicant must fall under any one of the following:
  - Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAJ) category; or
  - Below Poverty Line (BPL) category; or
  - Low-income group having an annual family income not exceeding ₹2.50 lakh.

## Selection Procedure

Admissions shall be made strictly on merit in accordance with the point-based selection system prescribed and preferences as notified under the Admission Policy notified Vide Government Order No. 24-JK (TAD) of 2026 dated 03.06.2026.

## Documents Required to be attached with application form:

Applicants shall submit self-attested copies of the following documents:

- Domicile Certificate.
- Valid Scheduled Tribe Certificate indicating Gujjar/Bakerwal status.
- Valid AAJ/BPL Ration Card, wherever applicable.
- Income Certificate (in case of applicants under the low-income group category).
- Aadhaar Card.
- Marks Certificate of the qualifying examination (i.e. 12th or Graduation or post graduation in case of doctorate).
- Certificate from concern Head of Institution (HoI) regarding admission and continuation of course during 2026-27 as regular student.
- Death Certificate(s) in case of orphan applicants.
- Recent passport-size photograph affixed on application form at the space provided and duly attested by HoI concern.

## Submission of Applications

The prescribed application form may be obtained from Directorate office or the offices of concern Deputy Directors, Tribal Affairs Department concerned or Wardens of PG Hostel, or may be downloaded from the official website of the Tribal Affairs department, J&K (<https://tribalaffairs.jk.gov.in>)

Completed application forms, along with all requisite documents, shall be submitted in the office of Directorate of Tribal Affairs J&K Srinagar (Dalgate Suleiman Complex, Second Floor Srinagar) or Deputy Director Tribal Affairs Jammu (Gandhi Nagar, Near District Police Line, Jammu)/ Deputy Director Tribal Affairs Kashmir (Suleiman Shopping complex Dalgate, Srinagar) by or before 23.07.2026.

## Important Dates:

- Date of Commencement of submission of application forms: 08 / 07 / 2026
- Last date for submission of applications: 23 / 07 / 2026
- Publication of selection/waiting list: To be notified separately.

## General Instructions:

- Incomplete applications or applications received after the prescribed last date shall not be entertained.
- Mere submission of an application shall not confer any right to admission.
- Admissions shall be strictly as per the provisions of admission policy notified Vide Government Order No. 24-JK (TAD) of 2026 dated 03.06.2026 read with amendment, if any.
- The decision of the Selection committee headed by Director Tribal Affairs, J&K, regarding selection and admission shall be final and binding.

NO: OTA/ESTB/2026/3760

Dated: 06-07-2026

Director  
Tribal Affairs, J&K

## Annexure "B"

## GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

- Admission form for admission in ST-(G&B.) PG Hostel for the year.....
- Name of student..... Gender.....
- Parentage (Fathers Name).....
- Residence; village..... Block..... Tehsil.....
- District.....
- Distance of PG Hostel from Residence..... (in Kms)
- Fathers occupation.....
- Mother's name.....
- Mother's occupation.....
- Belongs to BPL/AAJ..... (Attach copy of valid BPL/AAJ Ration card)
- Annual Family Income..... (Attach valid income certificate copy issued by competent authority)
- Reserved Category (ST)..... SubTri be/ Caste .....
- Aadhar Card No. of student..... (Attach Copy)
- Phone/Mobile No.....
- Email Id;.....
- Institute last attended as regular student.....
- Registration/Admission No..... Date of Admission .....
- Date of birth..... Age (as on 01 Jan).....
- Class/ Course in which admitted.....
- Name of Hostel for which application is being submitted.....
- Marks obtained in 12th / Graduation / PG Programme:..... out of total..... (as the case may be)
- Percentage of total marks obtained.....

Photograph

Signature of Student/Applicant

Recommendations of Head of the Institute/Department where student is currently admitted

Seal and signature of the  
concerned Head of the  
Institution/ University

**THE J&K BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS (BOPEE)**  
Tele/Fax: 0194-2433590, 2437647 (Srinagar); 0191-2479371, 2470102 (Jammu)  
Website: <http://www.jkbopee.gov.in>, Email: [jak.bopee@jk.gov.in](mailto:jak.bopee@jk.gov.in)

Subject: - Inviting of offline applications for admission to one seat of five (05) year integrated BA LLB degree course at Andaman Law College, Port Blair under the reserved nomination quota.

NOTIFICATION NO: 099 - BOPEE OF 2026

DATED: 07.07.2026

Vide communication No. HED-Gen/166/2024-04 (7295615) dated 30.06.2026, Higher Education Department, Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir has intimated that one seat for a student belonging to UT of J&K has been reserved in Andaman Law College Port Blair for admission to integrated B.A. LL.B Degree Course for the academic session 2026-27.

In this regard, the Jammu and Kashmir Board of Professional Entrance Examination (JKBOPEE) invites offline applications from the eligible and interested candidates for admission in integrated B.A.LL.B Course in Andaman Law College in the prescribed format annexed as Annexure-A to this Notification. The details of the college are as:

S.No.	Name of College	State/UT	No. of Seats reserved
01	Andaman Law College Port Blair	Andaman Nicobar Islands	01 (one)

Further details of the course can be seen/viewed from the official website of the Andaman Law College, Port Blair (<https://andamanlawcollege.andaman.gov.in/#>)

The date for commencement of receipt of offline application forms in JKBOPEE office Jammu/Srinagar is 07.07.2026 and last date for submission of the application forms is 12.07.2026 (till 5:00 p.m.). The interested /willing candidates are required to apply in the BOPEE office Jammu/Srinagar physically. No application shall be entertained after the cutoff date.

## Eligibility: The candidates must,

- not have completed 20 years of age as on 1st July of the year of admission. In case of SC/ST, the candidates shall not have completed 22 years of age as on 1st July of the year of admission.
- have passed the Higher Secondary School Examination (10+2) conducted by CISCE/CBSE/any State Government Board or equivalent recognized by NSCB/ILH securing not less than 45 % marks in the aggregate in case of candidates belonging to the general category (open) and 40% marks in aggregate in case of SC and ST candidates. However, such a minimum qualifying marks shall not automatically entitle a person to get admission into the institution but only shall entitle the person concerned to fulfill other institutional criteria notified by the institution or by the government from time to time to apply for admission.
- The candidate shall be domiciled in J&K.

The candidates who fulfill the above mentioned eligibility criteria may apply for admission to the said course. The application form shall be accompanied / enclosed with the following documents:

- Date of Birth Certificate (Matriculation).
- 10+2 Marks Card.
- Category Certificate, if any.
- ID Proof.
- Two Passport Size Photographs.

In the event of the Board receiving more than one eligible application for the said course, the selection shall be made on the basis of merit and the candidate securing highest marks (Percentage) in the prescribed qualifying examination i.e. 10+2 shall be selected.

## Note.

- Mere submission of documents/applications by the candidates shall not confer any right on the candidate to claim the seat, which the authorities shall decide by the merit/eligibility criteria prescribed by the concerned authorities.

E&amp;OE

No. BOPEE-Exam/63/2025 (7731845)

Dated 07.07.2026

DIPK-NB-997-26

DT: 07/07/2026

Sd/-  
(Dr. Shabir Hussain Keen), JKAS  
Secretary, JKBOPEE

# Iraq Gears Up for Three-Stage Funeral of Iran Leader

**Agencies**

**NAJAF:** Iraqi authorities have completed elaborate security and logistical preparations for a three-stage funeral of Iran's late Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, with official ceremonies scheduled in Najaf and Karbala amid expectations of one of the largest public gatherings in the country in recent years.

The funeral comes after Ayatollah Khamenei was assassinated in the February 28 US-Israeli attack on his residence, triggering days of mourning and funeral ceremonies across Iran before the body was brought to Iraq.

According to Iraqi officials, the ceremonies will begin on Tuesday evening with an official state reception in Najaf, followed by a public funeral procession on Wednesday morning in the holy city. A second major public procession will take place in Karbala at 4 p.m. local time.

Karbala Governor Nassif Jassim al-Khattabi described the funeral as an event of "considerable dimensions and implications" and said authorities expected exceptionally large crowds from across Iraq.

"This event will certainly be significant and will have considerable dimensions and implications," al-Khattabi said, adding that thousands of Iraqis were travelling to Najaf and Karbala to participate in the ceremonies.

To facilitate the funeral arrangements, the Karbala provincial administration has declared Wednesday a local public holiday, allowing residents to host pilgrims, provide volunteer services and participate in the processions.

An informed Iraqi official said Prime Minister Ali al-Zaidi will receive the body of the late Iranian leader at Najaf International Airport on Tuesday in the pres-



ence of senior Iraqi officials and a high-level Iranian delegation.

Major General Saad Maan, spokesman for Iraq's committee overseeing the funeral, said all logistical and administrative preparations had been completed for both the official reception in Najaf and the public processions.

"The official reception ceremony for the Leader of the Is-

lamic Ummah will be held on Tuesday at Najaf International Airport by Iraqi officials in the presence of a high-level delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran," Maan said.

He said the public funeral procession in Karbala would commence at 4 p.m. on Wednesday.

Authorities have put in place extensive security measures

for the multi-city ceremonies. Maan said continuous coordination meetings were being held involving all security agencies and the Iraqi Army Air Force to oversee implementation of the security plan.

He added that all aircraft, including drones and quadcopters, would be prohibited from flying over the funeral venues unless specifically authorised by security authorities.

According to the organising committee, the funeral procession in Najaf will cover approximately six kilometres from Majsarat al-Sadrain to the shrine of Imam Ali (AS), the first Imam and fourth Caliph. The procession in Karbala will extend over nearly 5.8 kilometres.

Officials said unprecedented media arrangements had also been made for the event.

More than 3,000 journalists representing Iraqi, Arab and international media organisations are expected to cover the funeral, while 2,500 cameras and 23 live broadcast centres have been deployed to provide real-time coverage of the ceremonies.

Authorities have also made extensive welfare and medical arrangements for mourners.

A total of 351 service stations (mawakib) have been established along the funeral route in Najaf, while more than 400 similar stations will operate in Karbala to provide food, water and other facilities to pilgrims.

As part of the emergency response plan, 150 ambulances will be stationed along the funeral routes in both cities to provide medical assistance if required.

The ceremonies in Iraq will be followed by the final funeral rites and burial of Ayatollah Khamenei on Thursday at the shrine of Imam Reza (AS) in the northeastern Iranian city of Mashhad, in accordance with his will.

# India's Vision Is Development, Not Expansion: Modi

**Press Trust of India**

**JAKARTA:** India pursues a path of development, not expansionism, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said at the Indonesian parliament on Tuesday, amid growing concerns in South East Asia over China's expansionist behaviour in the Indo-Pacific region.

In his address to the lawmakers that included President Prabowo Subianto and top ministers, Modi called for further expansion of ties between the two nations and said the world will witness history in the making when India and Indonesia's 29 crore citizens march together for shared prosperity.

"India is a strong advocate of a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific. India believes in freedom of navigation in the Indo-Pacific," the prime minister said.

"India is a nation that follows the path of development, not expansionism," he said against the backdrop of rising concerns in South East Asia over China's increasing military muscle-flexing in the South China Sea and beyond.

The prime minister, talking about shared historical trajectories of the two nations, said the shared challenges and aspirations of the people bring India and Indonesia together as "natural and trusted" partners.

Modi, touching upon the various facets of India-Indonesia ties since the 1950s, including how the two countries played a key role in the famous Bandung Conference of 1955, said that "unlimited opportunities" are waiting for the two sides in many sectors.

The 1955 Bandung Conference, hosted by Indonesia, brought together leaders from 29 Asian and African countries to promote world peace and advance cooperation among newly independent nations. It is widely regarded as laying



the foundation for the Non-Aligned Movement during the Cold War.

"For India and Indonesia, the sea has never represented distance. It has always been a bridge between our nations and remains central to our shared future," Modi said in his address.

"When India and Indonesia stand together, they strengthen the world's faith that democracy creates opportunities, democracy builds trust, and democracy shapes the future," the prime minister said.

Highlighting the deep civilisational and maritime ties between the two countries, Modi recalled that for over two millennia, the Indian Ocean has connected India and Indonesia through the exchange of ideas, commerce, culture and faith.

"The goodwill and trust that India and Indonesia share must create new opportunities for our citizens," he said.

The prime minister also spoke about anti-terror cooperation between the two nations under the existing framework of a joint working group. India and Indonesia can strengthen peace-loving forces by expanding cooperation to counter cyber threat, terror funding and radicalisation, he said.

Delving into the current geopolitical environment, the prime minister said India firmly believes that reform of the UN Security Council can

no longer be delayed.

Modi landed in Jakarta on Monday to a red-carpet welcome in the first leg of his three-nation tour -- which will also cover Australia and New Zealand -- to shore up trade and security cooperation under the framework of the India-Indonesia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership of 2018.

Conveying greetings on behalf of the 1.4 billion people of India to the parliamentarians, Modi stated that India as the "Mother of Democracy" was keen to strengthen democratic linkages with Indonesia.

Referring to what he described as the shared ideals of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" (the world is one family) and Indonesia's "Bhinneka Tunggal Ika" (unity in diversity), he noted that these values continue to guide the partnership between the two countries.

Modi, showcasing India's development journey and the synergies between the vision of "Viksit Bharat 2047" and "Golden Indonesia 2045", called for deeper bilateral collaboration in trade, investment, connectivity, food and energy security, digital public infrastructure and emerging technologies.

India and Indonesia will celebrate the centenary of their Independence in 2047 and 2045, respectively.

Modi also reaffirmed India's commitment to working with Indonesia to strengthen

# M I Securities

## POWER OF ₹5,000 SIP

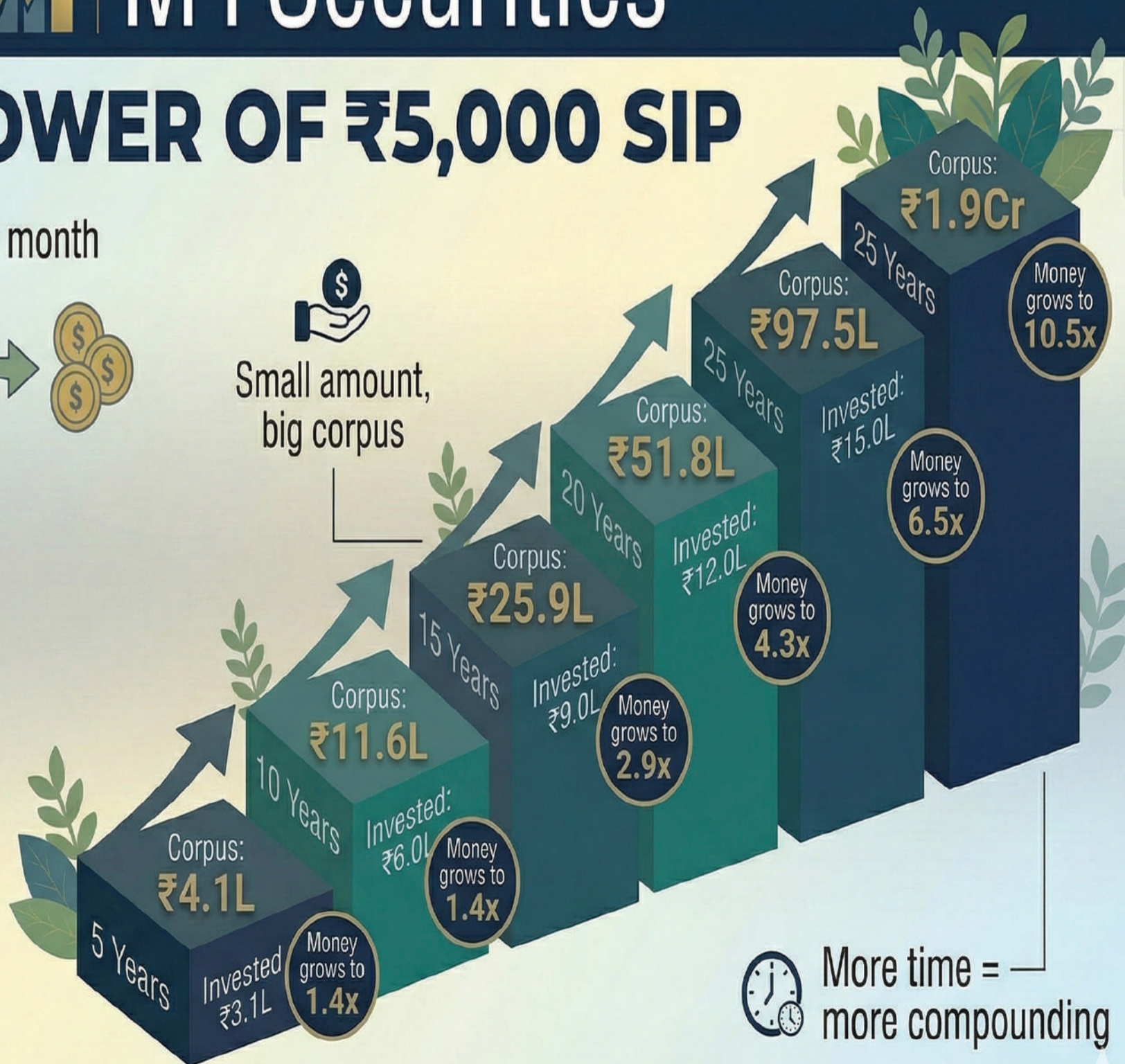
Step 1: You invest ₹5,000 every month



Step 2: You reinvest your total investment growth

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

Small amount, big corpus



More time = more compounding

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