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CM Announces 100% Fee Waiver For AAY Students

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Wednesday announced a full fee waiver for students from Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families studying in Classes 9 to 12 in government schools and undergraduate courses in government degree colleges across the Union Territory.

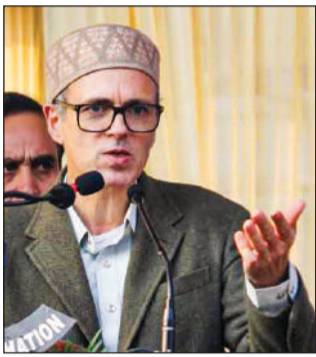
The move fulfils a key budget commitment made by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah earlier this year and is aimed at ensuring equitable access to education for economically vulnerable students.

"I am delighted to announce the implementation of a full fee waiver for AAY students studying in Classes 9th to 12th in Government Schools and Undergraduate students in Government Colleges across Jammu & Kashmir," Education Minister Sakina Itoo said in a post on X.

She said the decision reflected the Chief Minister's vision of ensuring that no student is deprived of education due to financial constraints.

"Under his leadership, we remain firmly committed to making quality education accessible, affordable, and inclusive for every deserving student. This initiative is another significant step towards building an equitable and empowered Jammu & Kashmir," Itoo said.

In a formal order, Commissioner Secretary,



School Education Department, Ram Niwas Sharma accorded sanction to the full fee waiver for AAY students studying in Classes 9 to 12 in all government schools across Jammu and Kashmir with immediate effect.

The waiver will apply to students belonging to households covered under the AAY and possessing a valid AAY ration card or any other document prescribed by the government. Eligible students will be exempt from payment of all fees levied by government schools.

However, fees payable to outside statutory authorities or examining bodies will continue to be governed by the applicable rules unless specifically waived by the competent authority.

Heads of institutions have been directed to verify the eligibility of each beneficiary before granting the waiver and maintain records for audit, inspection and verification.

The government said the financial | More on P6

Amarnath Yatra Sees 28% Surge In Turnout

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Srinagar: The annual Amarnath Yatra has witnessed a 28 per cent surge in pilgrim turnout this year, with over 1.42 lakh devotees performing darshan at the holy cave shrine in the first six days of the pilgrimage.

Official figures show that 1,42,861 pilgrims had performed darshan till 7 pm on Wednesday, compared to 1,11,975 during the corresponding period last year. The number marks an increase of 30,886 pilgrims.

On Wednesday alone, 29,047 devotees paid obeisance at the cave shrine, including 18,362 men, 9,737 women, 404 children, 181



sadhus, 13 sadhvis, 11 transgender devotees and 339 security personnel.

Meanwhile, the pilgrimage recorded its largest-ever single-day departure from the

Draws 1.42 Lakh Yatris In First Six Days

departed in a convoy of 361 vehicles. Of these, 5,337 pilgrims left for the traditional Pahalgam route in 188 vehicles, while 4,500 pilgrims headed towards the Baltal route in 173 vehicles.

A heavy rush of pilgrims was witnessed at the Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas from the early hours of Wednesday as devotees from different parts of the country assembled for the pilgrimage.

The naturally formed ice Shivling inside the Amarnath cave has, meanwhile, shrunk noticeably compared to its size at the beginning of the Yatra, prompting more devotees to seek an early darshan.

The 57-day pilgrimage, which began | More on P6

Fresh Rain Spell Likely From Today

Heavy Showers Forecast At Isolated Places Over Next 4 Days

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A fresh spell of rain and thunderstorms is likely to lash Jammu and Kashmir from Thursday, with heavy showers forecast at isolated places over the next four days, the Meteorological Centre Srinagar said.

The forecast comes after rain and thundershowers lashed several parts of the Union Territory on Wednesday evening, with brief intense spells triggering localised flash floods, mudslides and landslides in some areas.

Intense showers were reported from Poonch, Rajouri, Reasi, Katra, Doda, Udhampur, Batote and parts of Ramban, disrupting normal life in several areas of the Jammu region. Parts of north Kashmir's Kupwara district also received rain and thundershowers.

According to the latest forecast, widespread rain and thundershowers are likely across Jammu and Kashmir on July 9 and | More on P6

4 Teachers Suspended Over Irregularities In Yatra Duties

KO WEB DESK

Authorities in Jammu and Kashmir's Ganderbal district have suspended four teachers for alleged irregularities in the annual Amarnath yatra duties, officials said on

Wednesday. "District Administration Ganderbal has taken cognisance of certain irregularities which occurred in connection with the on-spot registration process for Shri Amarnathji Yatra pilgrims at the Manigam Transit Camp," an official spokesman said. | More on P6

117 Lecturers Get Appointed Letters After Years-Long Gap

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Wednesday revived appointments to School Lecturer posts after a gap of several years, with Chief Minister Omar Abdullah handing over appointment letters to 117 newly selected lecturers.

The appointment letters were distributed during Education Conclave 2026, "Buniyaad Se Bulandi Tak", organised by Samagra Shiksha and the departments of School and Higher Education.

The conclave also witnessed the launch of several educational infrastructure and digital initiatives. The Chief Minister inaugurated 2,109 works in the education sector worth over Rs 115 crore, besides a studio for virtual classes and a high-tech auditorium at the Government College of Engineering and Technology, Jammu.

Abdullah also felicitated 67 meritorious school and college students and honoured National Award-winning teachers for their achievements.



Earlier, the Chief Minister inspected exhibition stalls showcasing student innovations, institutional reforms and technological initiatives. Praising the students, he said their work, ranging from patents to start-ups, demonstrated how technology and quality education could help address everyday problems.

The Chief Minister also appreciated Education Minister Sakina Itoo for initiating reforms and budgetary interventions in the education sector. He said the government

would continue investing in educational infrastructure and institutional development, besides improving the service conditions of teachers and academics.

Calling teachers the backbone of society, Abdullah said every profession, including doctors, engineers, soldiers and police officers, begins with a teacher. He assured that the government would continue working to strengthen schools, support teachers and improve learning outcomes | More on P6

Army Chief Reviews Security, Combat Readiness

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Army Chief General Dhiraj Seth on Wednesday reviewed the prevailing security situation, operational preparedness and combat readiness in the Kashmir Valley.

The Chief of Army Staff visited the Srinagar-based 15 Corps, also known as the Chinar Corps, headquarters and its formations to assess the security situation along the Line of Control and in the hinterland.

"General Dhiraj Seth, COAS, visited HQ Chinar Corps and its formations to review the prevailing security situation, operational preparedness and combat readiness along the Line of Control and in the hinterland," the Army's Additional Directorate General of Public Information said in a post on X.



The Army Chief was briefed on operational deployments, counter-terrorism operations, inter-agency synergy, evolving operational dynamics and security arrangements for the ongoing annual Amarnath Yatra.

He also reviewed initiatives related to technology absorption, capability enhancement and integrated combat readiness across the full spectrum of operations. During the visit, the Army Chief commended troops for their | More on P6

Terrorist Killed In Shopian After 6-Day Op

Press Trust Of India

A Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorist identified as Zakir Ganai was killed in South Kashmir's Shopian district following a relentless six-day operation launched by the Army and other security forces, based on a Jammu and Kashmir Police tip-off, officials said Wednesday. In an X post, the Army's Chinar Corps said during the joint search operation | More on P6

J&K Pushes Tech-Driven Strategy To Curb Cyber Financial Frauds

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir is moving towards a coordinated and technology-driven strategy to combat cyber-enabled financial frauds and unregulated financial activities amid growing concerns over cryptocurrency scams, phishing and other sophisticated online offences.

The issue came up for discussion at the 37th Union Territory Level Coordination Committee (UTLCC) meeting convened by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Jammu, and chaired by Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo on Wednesday.



The meeting called for strengthening institutional capacities and enhancing coordination among financial regulators and enforcement agencies to effectively investigate and prosecute cyber-enabled financial crimes.

Regulatory bodies, including the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), National Stock Exchange (NSE) and Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), were asked to undertake large-scale capacity-building programmes for investigation and prosecution officers.

SEBI and NSE were urged to jointly conduct awareness and training programmes targeting nearly 50,000 participants, while ICAI was asked to build the capacities of around 20,000 stakeholders, including teachers, students, Self Help Group members, community influencers and | More on P6

2 More FIRs Widen J&K Custodian Land Scam Probe

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: The Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) lodged two more FIRs on Wednesday in connection with an alleged multi-crore-rupee custodian land scam in Jammu district, saying the latest cases are part of a wider probe in which 27 FIRs were earlier registered over fraudulent alienation of more than 1,000 kanals of government land.

The fresh cases relate to alleged illegal transfer of custodian land in the Bhalwal and Amb areas of Jammu district through forged allotment orders, fabricated revenue

records and fraudulent mutations, involving a nexus of revenue officials, Form Alaf holders, land grabbers, conduits and beneficiaries, officials said.

They said the ACB had received inputs that custodian land spread across Asarwan, Mishriwala, Bhalwal and R S Pura was illegally grabbed in connivance with officials of the revenue and custodian departments. A preliminary verification revealed large-scale tampering with revenue records and sale of government land to private persons.

The agency said an earlier verification had established that more | More on P6

Militancy Almost Negligible In Kashmir: HC

Says Situation Drastically Transformed Since 1990, Rejects Case Transfer Plea

M Ahmad

Srinagar: Militancy is almost negligible at present in the Kashmir Valley and the situation has transformed drastically since 1990, the High Court of J&K and Ladakh observed while dismissing a petition seeking the transfer of a cheque bounce case from Srinagar to Jammu. The accused had sought the transfer, alleging a threat to his life if required to appear before the Srinagar court.

A single bench of Justice

Sanjay Dhar made the observations while rejecting the transfer petition filed by Sonallah Dar, who had sought shifting of a complaint under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act pending before the Court of City Munsiff Srinagar to a competent court at Jammu. The petitioner claimed that he had migrated to Jammu with his family after allegedly being targeted by militants in the early 1990s due to his association with the Congress Party. He also | More on P6



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Government of Jammu & Kashmir
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
 PWD(R&B) DIVISION ANANTNAG**

NIT NO 40 OF R&B/Anantnag/2026-27/E-TENDERING/3574-83 DATED 06-07-2026
 For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K e-tenders are invited on %age basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S.No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (in Rs)	Earnest Money (in Rs)	Time of Completion	Major Head of Account	Class of Contractor
1.	Construction of Sewerage Treatment Plant at MMABM AH GMC Anantnag.	242.35 Lacs Contract Price exclusive of GST: 205.38 + (18% GST Amount 36.97)	5500	484700/-	01 Year	Capex Budget	AAY Class Contractor having valid association/JV/MoU with OEM/technology provider/system integrator having relevant STP experience.

Project Authority: Principal Govt. Medical College, Anantnag.
 Position of AAA : Accorded Vide Order No. 30 GMCA (Plg) of 2025, Dated 26.09.2025.
 Position of TS : Accorded Vide Order No. CE(R&B) SK/TS/33 of 2026-27, Dated 20.06.2026.

1. The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms-and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

S.No.	Particulars	Dated
1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	06-07-2026
2.	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 07-07-2026 To 20-07-2026 (03:00PM) (04:00PM)
3.	Bid submission Start Date	From 07-07-2026 To 07-07-2026 (03:00PM)
4.	Bid Submission End Date	To 20-07-2026 (04:00PM)
5.	Date and time of opening of bid (online)	21-07-2026 (10:30AM)

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / receipt (Under MH- 0059 PWD) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Anantnag [Tender Inviting Authority] (NIT No. Name of Work/Item No. to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt) (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) and EMD (2% of advertised cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle Anantnag (Tender receiving Authority). (The Date of EMD [CDR/FDR/BG] should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date and validity of EMD at the time of opening of Bids shall be a period of 45 Days beyond Bid Validity of 120 Days). The same EMD should not be used in more than one Tender/Bid.

2. All the Bidders have to submit Earnest Money/Bid Security (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG. Non submission of Earnest Money/Bid Security shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.

3. The 1st lowest responsive (Successful) Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle Anantnag (Tender receiving authority) within 07 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released 60 days after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work. The date of Performance Security (CDR/FDR/BG) should be after the date of issuance of letter/LOI to deposit the performance security. Failure to produce Performance Security shall render the L1 as non-responsive and case for debarment of the Contractor be forwarded to Higher Authorities for a period of 01 Year.

4. The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG of the successful Bidder shall be released after receiving Performance security @5% of the allotted cost in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG and same shall be released 60 Days after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work.

5. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle Anantnag

6. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical Bid

7. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

a. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.

b. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.

c. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No Financial bid will be accepted in physical form.

d. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.

e. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid.

f. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents including tender document fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid.

DIPK-2998/26 dated: 08-07-2026

(Er Mohammad Waseem)
 Executive Engineer,
 R&B Division Anantnag

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that Mrs. Shubeena Akhter, wife of Late Nisar Ahmad Yattoo, resident of Duroo, Tehsil Khansahib, District Budgam, Jammu & Kashmir, has applied to the concerned authority for the issuance of a Duplicate Death Certificate of her late husband.

The particulars of the deceased are as follows:
 • Name of Deceased: Late Nisar Ahmad Yattoo
 • Father's Name: Ghulam Rasool Yattoo
 • Residence: Duroo, Tehsil Khansahib, District Budgam
 • Date of Death: 02 July 2014
 • Death Certificate Registration No: 172-172
 • Registration Date: 11 July 2014

The applicant has stated that the original death certificate has been lost and is therefore seeking the issuance of a duplicate certificate. Any person having any objection or claim regarding the issuance of the duplicate death certificate may submit the same, along with supporting documentary evidence, to the concerned authority within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. If no objection is received within the stipulated period, the concerned authority may proceed with the issuance of the duplicate death certificate as per the applicable rules.

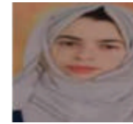
Sd/- Shubeena Akhter W/o Late Nisar Ahmad Yattoo
 R/o Duroo, Tehsil Khansahib

THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION SUB OFFICE KULGAM

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have passed/ appeared in SSE (class 10) under Roll no. 104005473 session Annual Private/ Bi-annual year (2021-22) and HSE-I (11th class) under Roll no. 204001256 session (Annual Private/ Bi-Annual) 2024 through The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. The error has been committed due to illiteracy of the applicant's grandfather, against my Parentage and address of the applicant has been wrongly mentioned as Fathers Name Bashir Ahmad Magrey, Mothers Name Shameema Akhter and R/O Watoo, instead of Father Name Mohd Yaqoob Wagay, Mothers Name Nadeema Akhter and R/O Rakhama. Now I have applied for correction in the Jammu and Kashmir board of school education, New campus Bemina, Srinagar. If any person has any objection in this regard may file the same in the office of the deputy secretary, certificates Kashmir Division within seven days from the date of publication of this notice, after expiry of said period, no objection will be entertained. This is published for the information of the general public. The correct particulars are recorded as under.

Name:- TABEENA JAN
 Fathers Name:- MOHD YAQOOB WAGAY
 Mothers Name:- NADEEMA AKHTER
 Date of Birth:- 06-06-2006
 Residence:- RAKHAMA
 Mobile No:- 7889660495



fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Bashir Ahmad Dar, F/o Aarizoo Bashir, R/o Wailoo Kralpora, Tehsil Kunzer, P.O. Kunzer, District Baramulla, J&K (UT), hereby notify that my daughter's name has been incorrectly entered as "Aarizoo Bashir" in her Aadhaar Card No. 3487-9145-6254. Her correct name is "Aarizoo Bashir."

This notice is published for correction of her name in the Government Gazette and all official records.

Sd/-
 Bashir Ahmad Dar
 F/o Aarizoo Bashir

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Mohammad Ashraf Parry, F/o Adnaan Ashraf Parry, R/o Wailoo Kralpora, Tehsil Kunzer, Post Office Kunzer, District Baramulla, J&K (UT), hereby notify for the information of the general public that the name of my son has been incorrectly recorded as "Adan" in his Aadhaar Card bearing No. 3750-7925-0062.

His correct and actual name is "Adnaan Ashraf Parry." Henceforth, he shall be known and identified by the name Adnaan Ashraf Parry for all purposes.

This notice is being published for correction of the said name in the Government Gazette and all concerned records. If any person has any objection regarding this correction, the same may be conveyed to the concerned authority before the publication in the Government Gazette.

Sd/-
 Mohammad Ashraf Parry
 F/o Adnaan Ashraf Parry
 R/o Wailoo Kralpora, Tehsil Kunzer, P.O. Kunzer, District Baramulla, J&K (UT)

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my son has been wrongly written in his birth certificate as Saalim Javeed while his correct name is Saalim Javeed Beigh. Now I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the MC Magam within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Javeed Ahmad Beigh
 F/o Saalim Javeed Beigh (DOB 03-04-2023)
 R/o Goigam T/o Karhama Baramulla

BMG

From the office of Advocate Ishfaq Rasool sheikh and Associates

In the case of
 1. Nazir Ahmad Bhat
 2. Ghulam Mohammad Bhat
 3. Abdul Rashid Bhat Sons of Mohammad Ramzan Bhat
 4. Waqar Ahmad Bhat
 5. Rouf Ahmad Bhat Both Sons of Nazir Ahmad Bhat
 6. Barkat Ahmad Bhat Both Sons of Ghulam Mohammad Bhat
 All Residents of Raipora Palhallan Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla Caveators

V/s
 Public at large
 Non CAVEATOR
 In the Petition in terms of Section 148-A

The caveators have reason to believe that Non-Caveator may file any Application, Petition, Ap- peal, Suit or any other type of proceeding before the Hon'ble Court and on the ground of distorted facts/misrepresentation and cooked story and may seek in obtaining some relief/order at their back/in ex parte against the caveators and in such eventuality the caveators will be put in irreparable loss and inconvenience. It would be proper that caveators be given an opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble court before passing any order.

fko Sd/advocate

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

The candidate whose photograph is published in the notice is claimed to have lost his qualification certificate pertaining to SSE (10th) as per below mentioned below.



NAME: MUBASHIRUL ISLAM
 FATHERS NAME : MUSHTAQ HUSSAIN SHAH
 MOTHERS NAME: SAYEEDA BEGAM
 ROLL NO: 218210 YEAR & SESSION 2002 ANNUAL
 DATE OF BIRTH 02/02/1987 RESULT : PASS
 RESIDENCE: HOUSING COLONY OMPORA BUDGAM

Accordingly the candidate concerned has approached to this office for issuance of DUPLICATE QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATE, so before the same is processed and provided to the candidate, under rules, anybody having objection in this regard, shall bring in to the notice of Assistant Secretary of Certificate KD, as well as Assistant Secretary Examination Unit I & iii, KD, within the period of 10 & 07 days respectively, from the date of publication of this notice..

Besides, the above listed QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATE bearing S. No. 19ARKAM-5047863 be treated as CANCELLED.

Sd/= Assistant Secretary Certificates - KD

mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE / COURT

SUMMONS Subject: Publication of Court
 Summons under :UTDDO2-000314-2005 COMERCIAL SUIT NO 1/2025

Take notice that in the matter of ABHINAV ELECTRONICS versus K B TRADERS pending before the IN THE COURT OF CIVIL JUDGE SENIOR DIVISION DIU, the below-mentioned individual(s) are hereby summoned to appear before the court.

Case No: *UTDDO2-000314-2005
 COMMERCIAL SUIT NO 1/2025*

Next Date of Hearing: 30/07/2026
 Time: 11:00 AM

Respondent/Defendant Details :
 K B TRADERS
 PROPRIETOR ZAHOOR AHMED BEIGH
 Last Known Address: R/O YARBAL SAIDA KADAL, SHRINAGAR, JAMMU AND KASHMIR - 190003

Whereas, the Hon'ble Court has directed the service of summons through newspaper publication as normal service could not be effected. The above-named Respondent/Defendant is directed to appear before the Court in person or through a duly authorized advocate on the date and time mentioned above. Failure to appear on the scheduled date may result in the case being heard and decided ex-parte in your absence.

A copy of the court order and petition is available for inspection at the office of the undersigned.

Date: 08/07/2026
 Place: DIU

inko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Haseena, Wife of Ghulam Qadir Gusani, Resident of Abi Karpura, Nehru Park, Srinagar, hereby inform the general public and all concerned authorities that my name has been inadvertently recorded/spelt as "Hassina" in certain records/documents. My correct and official name is "Haseena", as reflected in my Aadhaar Card and other valid identity documents.

I am maintaining a Savings Bank Account bearing Account No. 00480410100021375 with J&K Bank, Dalgate Branch, wherein my name requires correction from "Hassina" to "Haseena" for banking and allied purposes. Henceforth, "Hassina" and "Haseena" shall be treated as one and the same person. Any person having any objection to the above correction may contact the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the name correction shall be deemed accepted and no further claims or objections shall be entertained.

Sd/-
 Haseena
 W/o Ghulam Qadir Gusani

inko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost the number plate of my scooter bearing regd no: JK05Q 2081. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the ARTO Baramulla Sopore within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained

Adil Ahamd Ganale
 S/o Abdul Ahad Ganale
 R/o Agrikalan Magam

BMG

اطلاع عام

برخاست و عام کا اطلاع دی جاتی ہے کہ درکان نمبر 245 واقع فروٹ منڈی سو پورہ سکی غلام محی الدین لون ولد محمد جمال لون کا ادارت ہو مقاب چنگ غلام محی الدین لون کا انتقال ہو چکا ہے اب دوکان بڑا کی آرٹ و سروس ملڈر نہیں کسی منظور احمد لون دلمر موجود غلام محی الدین لون ساکنہ ناپیورہ چن کے نام کرانی مطلب ہے اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو ایک ہفتے کے اندر اندر ڈپٹی ڈائریکٹر حاکم پبلک ورکس سرائیکوٹا یا ایڈمنسٹریٹو سیکرٹری دارالحکومت فروٹ منڈی سو پورہ چن کریں۔ معیاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی تدار یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ منظور احمد لون ولد غلام محی الدین لون ساکنہ ناپیورہ چن

اطلاع عام

منظور کو اپنے SHAWAL کا نام غلام شہانہ MALIK SHAWAL کی رجسٹریشن ٹیکہ پینڈی کریشن بڑگام میں کرانی مطلوب ہے۔ اس بارے میں اگر کسی کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا اعتراض ایک ہفتے کے اندر اندر اسٹنٹ ڈائریکٹر سیکرٹری پینڈی کریشن بڑگام کے دفتر میں پیش کریں بعد از یہ کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

المصغر - پراپرائٹر - بیال احمد ملک
 ولد عبدالعزیز ملک ساکن سوہگ بڑگام۔
 فون 9906414532 MBC

mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Abdul Hameed Rangraz (Shah), S/o Abdul Ghaffar Shah, R/o S.K. Colony, Qamarwari, Srinagar, hereby notify that the electricity connection bearing Consumer ID: 0203010000270, Installation ID: 110434-RI, and Service Agreement ID: 7869746711 is proposed to be transferred from my name to Parveez Hameed Shah, S/o Abdul Hameed Rangraz (Shah). Any person having any objection may submit the same to the concerned authority within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

ird

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform that I, Ghulam Mohi Ud Din Dar S/o Abdul Rahim Dar R/o Pethzanigam Budgam have applied for enlistment as Class D civil Contractor. If any person has any objection in this regard, they may submit their objections (if any) in writing to the office of Chief Engineer, CID wing JKSPDC Bemina Kashmir or Secretary Technical PWD (R&B), Civil Secretariat Jammu within 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained thereafter

ab

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform that I, Syed Mohammad Ashraf Shah S/o Syed Shah Ghulam Mohammad R/o Takiya Farooq Shah have applied for enlistment as Class D civil Contractor. If any person has any objection in this regard, they may submit their objections (if any) in writing to the office of Chief Engineer, CID wing JKSPDC Bemina Kashmir or Secretary Technical PWD (R&B), Civil Secretariat Jammu within 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained thereafter

ab

**The Jammu And Kashmir Board Of School Education
 New Campus Bemina Srinagar**

I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class- 10th) under Roll No. 104036103 Session: Annual Year 2024 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. Due to the error committed by the concerned School/Board/parent against my Father's as Gulam Ahmad Malik Instead of Ghulam Mohammad Malik



Now, I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education, New Campus Bemina, Srinagar, if any person has any objection in this regard, may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Certificates-KD within seven days from the date of Publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period no objection will be entertained.
 Name: Iqra Jan
 Father's name: Ghulam Mohammad Malik
 Mother's Name: Shakeela Banoo
 DOB: 17-03-2009
 Residence: Dano Kandi Marg

x

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform that I, Tajamul Rasool S/o Gh Rasool Dar R/o Lanoora Budgam have applied for enlistment as Class D civil Contractor. If any person has any objection in this regard, they may submit their objections (if any) in writing to the office of Chief Engineer, CID wing JKSPDC Bemina Kashmir or Secretary Technical PWD (R&B), Civil Secretariat Jammu within 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained thereafter

ab

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

The Deputy Chief Engineer/ Bridge Line/Jammu Tawi for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open-tender under for the under noted works:-

S. No. 1: Tender Notice No. : OT-04-JAT-26-27
Name of work : Provision of Side pathway on 63 nos. Bridges in Jammu Division
Approx Cost : Rs. 9,12,28,605.23
Earnest Money : Rs. 18,24,600.00
Date of opening : 31.07.2026
Bidding start date on IREPS : 17.07.2026
Cost of tender form : Rs. 0
Completion period of work : 24 Months
Date & Time for submission of Tender and opening of tender : Up to 11:00 hrs. on dates shown against each and opening of tender thereafter at 11:00 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 and tender document is available on www.ireps.gov.in.
No.: 04-DYCEBJAT-2026/27 Dated: 08.07.2026 2346/2026

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed to the general public that the front registration number plate of my car bearing Registration No. DL7CM8316 was lost during travel on 30th June, 2026 between Shalimar and Harwan, Srinagar.

If anyone has found or finds the said registration number plate, they are kindly requested to contact Mr. Shahid Hussain Shah. The finder will be suitably appreciated.

Shahid Hussain Shah
 9717212226

Media line adst

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Son's name has been wrongly written as MOHAMMAD ZEYAAN 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_r

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform that I, Faisal Hussain Mir S/o Syed Ghulam Hussain Mir R/o Chattergam Budgam Shah have applied for enlistment as Class D civil Contractor. If any person has any objection in this regard, they may submit their objections (if any) in writing to the office of Chief Engineer, CID wing JKSPDC Bemina Kashmir or Secretary Technical PWD (R&B), Civil Secretariat Jammu within 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained thereafter

ab

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that in my adhar card bearing number 353454110093 the name is entered as Abdul Majid Ganie while my actual name is Abdul Majeed Ganie. Now I have applied for the correction if any body having any objection mat contact concern department within a period of 7 days. Abdul Majeed Ganie

Address: Hill View Colony Rangreth Budgam mcb

KU Team Wins National Youth Parliament Contest, Earns Top Parliamentary Honour

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The University of Kashmir (KU) has secured first position at the National Level in the 17th National Youth Parliament Competition 2024-25 for Universities and Colleges, organised by the

Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The University was awarded the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Running Parliamentary Shield and Trophy by Arjun Ram Meghwal, Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Law and Justice; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, during a ceremony held at the Parliament House Complex, New Delhi.

The KU team impressed the judges with its understanding of parliamentary procedures, constitutional values, and democratic traditions. The students also presented a repeat performance of their acclaimed Youth Parliament Sitting before dignitaries and participants from across the country.

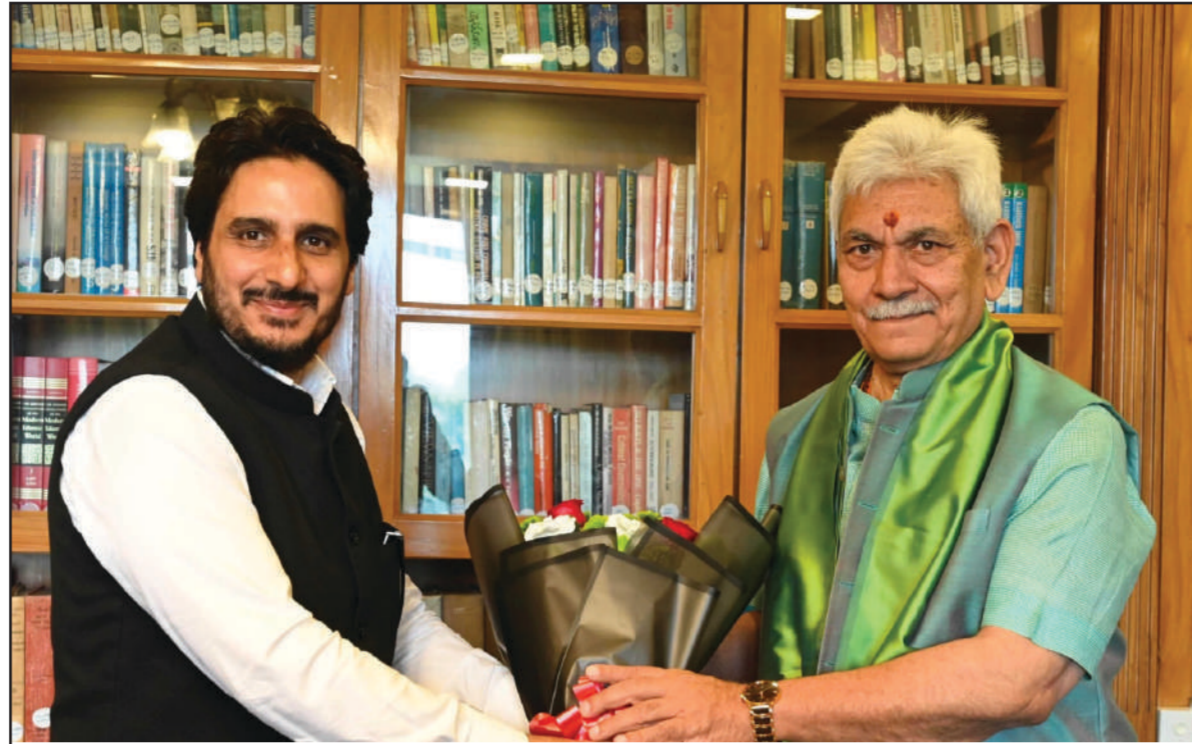
Congratulating the team, Vice-Chancellor KU, Prof. Nilofer Khan, said, "This achievement is a matter of immense pride

for the University and reflects the intellectual ability, preparation, and confidence of our students. Their performance shows a strong understanding of democratic institutions and constitutional values, which are essential for responsible citizenship."

Registrar KU, Prof. Naseer Iqbal, appreciated the students and the Department of Students' Welfare (DSW) for their dedicated efforts, noting that the achievement highlights the University's continued focus on academic and co-curricular excellence.

Dean, DSW KU, Prof. Seema Singh, said that the competition provided students with a valuable platform to develop leadership, communication, and parliamentary skills, and added that their national-level success would inspire more students to participate in such academic forums.

The University congratulated the winning team and its mentor, Dr. Shahid Ali Khan, Cultural Officer, DSW, KU, for their dedication and efforts in preparing the award-winning Youth Parliament presentation, which brought national recognition to the University and the Union Territory.



Qazi Salman, Director News at Doordarshan Kendra (DDK) Srinagar, and Director Press Information Bureau Srinagar called on LG Manoj Sinha on Wednesday. He briefed the LG on the programs being run by Doordarshan in spreading mass public awareness on Nasha Mukta J&K Abhiyan and various government schemes and campaigns.

Div Com Chairs Multi-Disciplinary Meeting on Traffic Management

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg on Wednesday chaired a multi-disciplinary meeting to review traffic management initiatives and monitor the progress of key road infrastructure projects aimed at improving traffic flow and urban mobility across Srinagar.

The meeting was attended by the Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Vice Chairman Srinagar Development Authority (SDA), Regional Transport Officer (RTO) Kashmir, SSP Traffic Srinagar, and senior officers from the Roads & Buildings (R&B) Department, Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL), and other concerned departments.

During the meeting, the Divisional Commissioner reviewed the status of several major projects, including the Natipora Crossing-



Chanapora Bridge road, T-junction at Natipora, Shalteng-Parimpora Flyover, Foot Over Bridge at JVC, underpasses at Nowgam and Mominabad, the road along the Doodganga bank from Barzulla to Sanatnagar, painting of zebra crossings and stop lines, establishment of an e-charging station at Batamalo, development of bus stops, removal of traffic bottlenecks across the city, and identification of no-honking zones.

Officers from the R&B Department and SSCL briefed the chair on the current status of the projects, progress achieved so far, and the timelines for their completion.

The Divisional Commissioner stressed the importance of inter-departmental coordination and directed the concerned agencies to ensure the timely execution of all projects to enhance traffic management and commuter convenience in the city.

CIK Conducts Raids at Two Srinagar Locations in UAPA Case

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Counter Intelligence Kashmir (CIK) on Wednesday conducted simultaneous raids at two locations in Srinagar in connection with an investigation registered under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) and relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code.

Official sources said one CIK team carried out a search at Usmania Colony, Bagh-i-Mehtab, at the residence of Altaf Ahmad Bhat, a resident of Bagh-i-Mehtab, who is presently residing in Pakistan since 1990.

Simultaneously, another CIK team conducted a raid at Sheikh-ul-Alam

Colony, Nowgam, at the residence of Mukhtar Ahmad Baba, a resident of Sheikh-ul-Alam Colony, who, according to the investigating agency, has been residing in Pakistan since 2022.

The searches are being conducted in connection with FIR No. 04/2026 registered at Police Station Counter Intelligence Kashmir under Sections 505 and 153A of the Indian Penal Code and Sections 13 and 18 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

As per KNT, officials said the searches were in progress at the time of filing this report, adding that further details would be shared after completion of the operation.

Commissioner SMC Reviews Urban Greening Initiatives



Observer News Service

Srinagar: Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Faz Lul Hasbeeb, conducted a comprehensive inspection of the Hari Parbat Range under the Urban Forestry Division to review the progress of ongoing afforestation, landscaping, and urban greening initiatives aimed at enhancing the city's environmental sustainability.

During the inspection, the Commissioner reviewed the survival rate of plantations, maintenance of green spaces, progress of beautification works, and the overall condition of the area. He directed the concerned officers to adopt scientific plantation management practices, ensure timely irrigation, safeguard newly planted saplings, and optimize the use of available resources to maximize the survival and healthy growth of plantations.

Emphasizing the critical role of urban forests in improving air quality, mitigating the impacts of climate change, and strengthening the city's ecological resilience, the Commissioner instructed the field functionaries to

maintain the highest standards of cleanliness, landscape management, and environmental stewardship. He further directed that all ongoing works be executed in a time-bound manner while ensuring quality, sustainability, and long-term maintenance of the developed green assets.

The Commissioner also underscored the need to intensify plantation drives and further strengthen Srinagar's green infrastructure in line with the Corporation's commitment to developing a cleaner, healthier, greener, and climate-resilient city.

During the visit, officers of the Urban Forestry Division briefed the Commissioner on the progress of various plantation programmes, maintenance schedules, survival monitoring mechanisms, and the operational challenges being encountered in the field.

Appreciating the dedication and sincere efforts of the field staff, the Commissioner urged them to continue working with renewed commitment towards transforming Srinagar into a model of sustainable urban forestry and environmental conservation.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir UT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PW (R&B) DIVISION CHADOORA
Near: Tehsil Office Chadoora

NOTICE INVITING FRESH E-TENDER
Two cover system
E-NIT No: 22/EE/R&B/CHD/2028-37 of 2026-27/Dated: 07/07/2026

Executive Engineer PW (R&B) Division Chadoora on behalf of Lt. Governor of J&K UT invites percentage rate bids in electronic tendering system for the following works from the eligible and approved contractors registered with J&K UT Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State Governments.

S.No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (incl. cost of Bitumen and GST (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rs.)	Earnest money CDR/ FDR/BG (Rs)	Time of Completion (days)	Major Head	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Inner roads at Town Chadoora.	20.00	800/-	40000/-	15 working days	C&T 2026-27	BEE/CEE
2	Upgradation of Muqam shrumnag road including link road to Shumnag to Dowaut.	40.00	1100/-	80000/-	15 working days	C&T 2026-27	AAV/BEE
3	Link road at Gangipora Bhat Mohalla upto Masjid Sharief incl link roads at Saidpora.	40.00	1100/-	80000/-	15 working days	C&T 2026-27	AAV/BEE
4	Inner roads at Kralpora & Handlebagh.	40.00	1100/-	80000/-	15 working days	C&T 2026-27	AAV/BEE
5	Macadamization of road from Jamia Masjid Alhidas to H/o Ghulam Rasool Bhat at Repora Namtahal.	40.00	1100/-	80000/-	15 working days	C&T 2026-27	AAV/BEE

Project Authority: PW (R&B) Department Kashmir
Position of AAA: Accorded
Position of TS: Sanctioned
Position of funds: Committed / Available

1. The bidding documents, which would include qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications/drawings, a bill of quantities (B.O.Q.), a set of contract terms and conditions, and other details, can be viewed/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in on the dates listed below:-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	07/07/2026
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	07/07/2026
3	Bid submission Start Date	06/07/2026
4	Bid Submission End Date	14 /07/2026 upto 4.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	15/07/2026 11:00 AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora

2. Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between the bid start date and the Bid Submission End date) deposited in M.H. 0059 in the name of Executive Engineer PW (R&B) Division Chadoora (Tender Inviting Authority) as the cost of the tender document.

3. At the time of tendering, all the bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora (The date of Earnest money should be between Date of Start of bid and bid submission End date). The successful bidder will have to provide Performance security @5% of allotted cost in shape of CDR/FDR at the time of contract award. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of performance security of 5% of the total allotted cost which will be released after successful completion of the DLP.

3.1. The 1st lowest responsive (Successful) Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora (Tender receiving authority) within 15 days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work. The CDR/ FDR/Bank Guarantee should be valid till DLP period. The Date of Performance Security should be after the date of issuance of Letter of acceptance. Failure to produce Performance Security on stipulated period, the case may be forwarded to Higher Authorities for debarring of the participating in tendering process for a period of 01 Year.

4. **Abnormally Low Bid Price:**
As per the Circular Instructions of Finance Deptt. Vide No. FD-Code/441/2021-02-158 Dated: 08.08.2025, which is reproduced as:-
Where the bid price is below 10% but not below 20% of the project cost put to bid, the additional performance guarantee/security percentage shall be incremented by 0.1% for every percentage of bid price below 10% of the project cost put to bid starting at 11% with the additional bid performance guarantee being 0.1% and this additional performance guarantee percentage shall be applied on the bid price.
Where the bid price is 20% or more below of the project cost put to bid, the additional performance guarantee percentage shall be incremented by 0.2% for every percentage of bid price below 20% of the project cost put to bid in addition to 1% of the bid price and this additional performance guarantee percentage shall be applied on the bid price.
The additional performance security shall be treated as part of the performance security. Additional performance Security shall be taken only after approval of next Higher authority.

5. The date and time of bid opening shall be notified on the Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and automatically communicated to bidders via an e-mail message sent to their e-mail address. Responsive bidders' bids will be opened online on the same Web Site in the Office of the Executive Engineer PW (R&B) Division Chadoora (Tender Receiving Authority).

6. Bids for the work shall be valid for 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids.

ii) All other terms and conditions will be as per PWD Form 25 and CPWD General Conditions of Contract (CPWD G.C.C.)
All other terms and condition shall be same as per NIT No:
2026-37
Dated: 08/07/2026

No: 2026-37
Dated: 08/07/2026

Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Chadoora

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092, 2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488, 245222, 2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
- Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS
SHEIK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 ✈

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

PRAYERS

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

HIJRI CALENDAR
23 Muharram
1448

This Day In History

- 1789 - French Revolution: the National Assembly renames itself the National Constituent Assembly
- 1790 - Russo-Swedish War: Second Battle of Svenskund - in the Baltic Sea, the Swedish Navy captures one third of the Russian fleet
- 1807 - Second Treaty of Tilsit signed by France, Russia and Prussia
- 1810 - Napoleon annexes the Kingdom of Holland as part of the First French Empire
- 1926 - Chiang Kai-shek appointed to national-revolutionary supreme commander in China
- 1944 - In World War II, US troops secure Saipan as Japan falls
- 1947 - Spain votes for Franco monarchy
- 1951 - US President Harry Truman asks Congress to formally end state of war with Germany
- 1957 - Discovery of element 102 (Nobelium) announced
- 1958 - Giant splash caused by fall of 90 million tons of rock & ice into Lituya Bay, Alaska washes 1,800 feet up the mountain
- 1971 - Henry Kissinger visits the People's Republic of China to negotiate a detente between the US and China
- 1979 - Voyager 2 flies past Jupiter
- 1989 - Two bombs explode in Mecca, killing one pilgrim and wounding 16 others
- 1992 - Space Shuttle STS 50 (Columbia 13) lands
- 2002 - The African Union is established in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The first chairman is Thabo Mbeki, President of South Africa.
- 2006 - At least 122 people killed after a Sibir Airlines Airbus A310 passenger jet, carrying 200 passengers veers off the runway while landing at Irkutsk Airport in Siberia in wet conditions
- 2006 - FIFA World Cup Final, Olympiastadion, Berlin, Germany: Italy beats France, 5-3 on penalties; 1-1 after extra time

From KO Archives

Two Ex-Ministers Guilty of Contempt

Mufti's Colleagues Asked To Show Why They Should Not Be Punished

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR- The State High Court has found two former ministers and an ex-director of finance in contempt for flouting orders passed by a double bench in August 2004 about an out-of-turn promotion granted to an official of the drug control authority.

Justice Bashir Ahmad Kirmani has issued notices to former minister of health, Suman Lata Bhagat, her deputy, Abdul Ghaffar Sofi, and former director finance, Muhammad Yousuf Dar, asking them to show cause why they should not be punished for suppressing orders from a double bench quashing the promotion and calling for a fresh appointment to the drug controller's post in Kashmir.

The court's order came after a contempt petition filed by a senior officer, Mushtaq Ahmad Khatueeb, who was then the assistant drug analyst, and had already won legal battles before the single bench and the double bench against the promotion of assistant drug controller Nazir Ahmad Wani to the post of drug controller. Kashmir, during Mufti Muhammad Sayeed's stint as chief minister.

Khatueeb's lawyer, Muhammad Yousuf Bhat, said that the former ministers and officers of the health department had not only brazenly violated court orders but that the former minister of state for health, Abdul Ghaffar Sofi, had concealed the court orders in his almirah to show undue favour to Nazir Ahmad Wani. The Lawyer said that the former minister implemented orders from a single and double bench for several months, because of which Wani continued on drug controller's post illegally.

Apart from two ministers, a show cause notice has been sent to Wani as well.

All the four have been directed to appear in the court on July 30.

(Kashmir Observer, 09 July, 2007)

KASHMIR OBSERVER™

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A Crisis Beyond Weather

Fresh cloudbursts, a melting ice lingam, polluted rivers and mountains of waste reveal a region where environmental decline has become impossible to dismiss.



Dr. Raja Muzaffar Bhat

How many more disasters will it take before Jammu and Kashmir calls this what it is: a climate emergency?

Fresh cloudbursts in the Chenab Valley, the rapid melting of the Amarnath ice lingam, mountains of untreated waste and relentless river-bed mining may seem like separate crises.

But they are all part of the same story. Rising temperatures, weak environmental governance and years of ecological damage have combined to push Kashmir's natural systems to a dangerous point.

Government agencies still treat these as isolated incidents instead of one environmental crisis demanding a coordinated response.

Chenab Valley has delivered the latest evidence. Last year's cloudburst in Chisoti village in Kishtwar district killed more than 75 people. Another cloudburst has now struck the region, triggering flash floods and mudslides that damaged roads in Doda, Kishtwar and Ramban. Transport along the Jammu-Doda-Kishtwar highway ground to a halt.

Heavy rain pounded Tathri town during the night of July 6 and early July 7, sending mud, rocks and boulders crashing into homes, shops and parked vehicles around 3 a.m.

Flash floods also damaged the 540-megawatt Kwar Hydroelectric Power Project, where debris buried vehicles inside the project premises.

Good fortune prevented deaths this time, but physical destruction alone should push policymakers into action.

Events in Kashmir Valley paint the same alarming picture.

Heat surged during the past week, and the naturally formed ice lingam inside the Amarnath cave melted within days of the pilgrimage beginning on July 3. More than 65,000 pilgrims had visited the shrine by July 6.

This marks the second consecutive year that the ice formation disappeared unusually early, even though the pilgrimage will continue until August 28.

Global warming explains part of that change, human decisions explain another part.

Large crowds enter a highly sensitive mountain ecosystem during warmer summers that place growing stress on glaciers and snowfields. Pilgrim safety also demands fresh thinking after last year's deadly cloudburst during the Machail Yatra.

Authorities and the Shri Amarnath Shrine Board should examine limits on visitor numbers and the pilgrimage period before environmental conditions dictate far harsher limits through disaster.

Cities tell the same story through garbage instead of glaciers.

Srinagar's Achan landfill has become one of the clearest symbols of administrative failure.

Documents submitted before the National Green Tribunal showed that about 1.15 million metric tons of legacy waste had accumulated at the site. The tri-



bunal imposed environmental compensation of 12 crore and directed legal action involving former Srinagar Municipal Corporation commissioners who served between 2017 and 2024.

Fresh waste continues to pile onto an old crisis. Official figures estimate Srinagar generates about 600 tons of municipal solid waste daily, while independent estimates place the figure even higher.

Almost three-fourths ends up at Achan. Projections show daily waste generation reaching more than 918 tons by 2028. Processing capacity remains limited to about 150 tons a day.

Government approval of 361 crore for bioremediation marks a welcome beginning, though success will depend on execution rather than announcements.

Communities living near Achan already face the consequences.

Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences, barely two kilometers away, has complained that foul smell affects patients, doctors, attendants and hospital staff. Medical authorities themselves have sought action, but larger concerns sit beneath the landfill.

Massive volumes of leachate seep into surrounding groundwater, threatening neighbourhoods including Achan, Eidgah, Syedpora, Gilkadal and Anchar.

Waste management failures extend well beyond Srinagar.

Poonch has dumped garbage near a river for two decades, leading to tribunal action and penalties, while Pampore has seen municipal waste discarded close to saffron fields beside National Highway 44.

Source segregation remains almost absent, while municipal bodies struggle to implement solid waste management rules.

Administrative capacity certainly needs improvement, though public participation holds equal significance because household waste segregation forms the foundation of any successful system.

Rivers present another chapter of environmental decline.

Illegal mining of sand, gravel and boulders has intensified during recent years, damaging streams

from Kathua to Kupwara and Budgam to Baramulla.

Legal action through the National Green Tribunal has curbed machine-based extraction in rivers such as Doodh Ganga, Shaliganga and Sukhnag. Manual extraction continues, however, and cumulative damage has transformed river channels.

Deep trenches now interrupt water flow toward paddy fields. Portions of the Doodh Ganga and Shaliganga recently ran dry near Gurwaith and Draggar villages, a sight that would have seemed unimaginable only a generation ago.

Climate change amplifies these local pressures: glaciers retreat, summers grow hotter, rivers lose flow, and heavy rainfall grows more destructive.

Mining weakens river systems precisely when stronger natural defenses would help absorb extreme weather, while waste pollutes waterways already struggling with lower water levels.

Environmental problems feed one another until disasters become more frequent and more expensive.

Jammu and Kashmir has reached the point where piecemeal responses no longer match the scale of the challenge.

Climate adaptation must guide infrastructure planning, pilgrimage management, mining enforcement, waste processing, groundwater protection and disaster preparedness through one coordinated strategy backed by measurable goals and public accountability.

Government declarations alone solve little. Public recognition changes priorities, mobilizes resources and signals that environmental protection sits alongside economic development instead of behind it.

Jammu and Kashmir now faces a choice between continued crisis management and a comprehensive climate response.

Recent weeks have already delivered the evidence. Leadership should finally match the reality on the ground now.

The author is an environmental activist and policy analyst based in Kashmir. He chairs the J&K Climate Action Group and founded the Jammu & Kashmir RTI Movement.

KO VIEW

Campus To Careers

Is there a serious disconnect between academia and industry in Kashmir?

If the answer is no, then why does the same debate return every year with greater intensity as another batch of graduates enters a job market that has little room for them?

Families discuss it around dinner tables, employers raise it in business meetings, and students live with it every day.

That alone makes this a public concern.

Kashmir's universities and colleges consume significant public resources every year. Society therefore has every right to ask whether these institutions are preparing young people for the economy they will actually enter.

A degree should represent knowledge, confidence and employable skills. Many graduates instead spend years chasing a limited number of government jobs because their education has offered little exposure to private industry, entrepreneurship or real workplace experience.

Daily discussions now revolve around startups, artificial intelligence, freelancing, digital businesses and the gig economy. Students understand those words, and employers expect those skills. But many classrooms still reward memory more than creativity, teamwork and problem solving.

That mismatch continues to widen the distance between education and employment.

Why does this disparity persist when startup incubation centres, innovation hubs and entrepreneurship cells already function inside many academic institutions?

Their very purpose is to connect classrooms with the marketplace. And their success should therefore be measured through thriving businesses, stronger industry partnerships, meaningful internships and graduates who create jobs instead of waiting for one.

Government remains the largest employer in Jammu and Kashmir, although public employment can never absorb every graduate leaving colleges and universities. Academic institutions therefore have a larger mission.

They must prepare students to work with industry, launch enterprises, adapt to changing technologies and build careers beyond government recruitment.

Faculty members, administrators and institutional leaders also need honest scrutiny. Higher education cannot remain unchanged while the economy transforms at remarkable speed.

Regular curriculum reviews, industry immersion for teachers, stronger accountability and deeper collaboration with businesses need equal importance alongside examinations and academic rankings.

Everyone has a place in this discourse because the consequences reach every household.

The son of a senior officer and the daughter of a daily wage worker enter the same uncertain job market after graduation.

Kashmir has discussed this problem for years. Now it needs practical reforms that help students build skills, find jobs and create opportunities beyond the classroom.

The Next Wealth Story

Property transformed modest savings into extraordinary wealth over five decades in Kashmir. Today's investors face a different market where diversification, disciplined investing and financial literacy will determine long-term prosperity.



Irshad Mushtaq

Urbanization began reshaping the region slowly but inexorably. Roads replaced waterways, utilities expanded, and the demand for construction-ready land surged.

Those who recognized this shift and invested prudently saw their modest holdings turn into financial lifelines, supplementing incomes rooted in agriculture, horticulture, and Kashmiri handicrafts.

The transformation was more than monetary.

Families who bought land early witnessed the emergence of new schools, hospitals, and marketplaces, altering lifestyles and opportunities.

Real estate became a bridge from traditional livelihoods to modern economic stability, turning long-term vision into tangible wealth.

Today, the investment landscape has shifted. Prime land is scarce, and expectations of exponential returns have tempered. Investors now seek diversification.

Mutual funds, multi-asset portfolios, and systematic investment plans (SIPs) are emerging as tools to secure steady long-term growth.

Even modest monthly contributions can, over decades, accumulate into substantial wealth, demonstrating the power of disciplined, incremental investing.

Financial literacy emerges as the next frontier. Teaching younger generations about



market dynamics, prudent spending, and the virtues of patience ensures that wealth is preserved and multiplied.

Impulse-driven decisions give way to careful planning, understanding risk, and responding to evolving economic realities.

Kashmir's real estate journey tells a story

of foresight, patience, and strategic thinking. Early investors turned sparsely developed land into lasting legacies.

Future prosperity will depend on the ability to combine this historical wisdom with modern financial strategies, blending tangible assets with diversified portfolios and informed

Financial literacy emerges as the next frontier. Teaching younger generations about market dynamics, prudent spending, and the virtues of patience ensures that wealth is preserved and multiplied.

decision-making. For Kashmiris, the lesson is clear: wealth is built over time, nurtured by knowledge, and preserved through careful, adaptable strategies.

The author is a Srinagar-based financial educator.

Beyond the Crackdown

Kashmir's fight against drugs will succeed only when strict enforcement is matched by prevention, treatment, mental healthcare and opportunities for recovery.



Mohammad Ilyas Bhat

I walked into a local medical store years ago and watched a young man purchase three tablets of Proxynon Spas along with a bottle of Iodex.

The transaction seemed ordinary, but moments later, outside, the man spread the Iodex over a piece of bread and consumed it like buttered toast.

I stood stunned. That scene marked my first direct brush with the grim reality of addiction in Kashmir.

I dismissed the episode as rare back then, but events since prove how wrong I was.

Today the valley counts more than 54,000 drug addicts.

A 2022 survey by the Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences in Srinagar put the number of people dependent on opioids at about 52,400, with heroin figuring prominently among them. This surge touches countless homes and families.

The problem now stands as a full-blown crisis that demands co-ordinated action from every corner of society.

Decades earlier, pharmacies stocked painkillers, cough syrups, anti-anxiety medicines, antidepressants and sedatives with relative ease. Doctors prescribed these substances for legitimate medical needs, and most patients used

them responsibly.

Deliberate misuse occurred, but such cases remained uncommon and rarely appeared in daily life.

The contrast with today's landscape could hardly appear starker. Authorities have responded to the rise in addiction by tightening regulations and pulling many of these medicines from easy over-the-counter access. Pharmacists now face strict requirements to keep detailed prescription records and verify patient identities.

These measures succeeded in reducing open availability. Addicts, however, simply turned to illegal channels. Smugglers and illicit sellers stepped in to meet persistent demand.

Supply-side controls alone fail to address the core issue because they leave the underlying drivers of addiction untouched.

Law enforcement plays a vital role in curbing availability, but it must pair with robust prevention, education, early intervention, and comprehensive treatment programmes. The true battle lies in shrinking demand.

Families cannot wage this fight in isolation. Success hinges on collaboration among NGOs, educational institutions, religious leaders, health professionals, law enforcement and government bodies.

Public awareness forms the first pillar. Communities need exposure to authentic stories from recovering addicts and families shattered by loss. Schools, colleges, social media platforms, television channels and local gatherings must carry these accounts.

Young people encounter plenty of false glamour around drugs. They seldom see the ruined careers, fractured families and prolonged suffering that follow.

Open discussion strips away illusions and equips the next generation with knowledge.

Peddlers who target youth deserve the harshest penalties



THE ADDICTION CRISIS THREATENS THE SOCIAL FABRIC OF KASHMIR. GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS CANNOT SHOULDER THE FULL BURDEN. Citizens, institutions and leaders share responsibility for shielding young people from this menace. Collective action that blends compassion with resolve, awareness with enforcement, and treatment with prevention offers the only viable path forward.

available under law. Those who deliberately undermine an entire generation commit a profound offence against society. Stringent punishments, already enacted in several countries for drug trafficking, send a clear message about the gravity of such crimes.

At the same time, authorities

must treat individuals struggling with addiction primarily as patients who need medical care, counselling and rehabilitation rather than viewing them solely through a criminal lens.

Parents, teachers and community leaders play a decisive part by learning to spot early signs of

substance abuse.

Timely intervention can halt experimentation before it hardens into dependence. Schools and colleges should run consistent awareness programmes that lay out the dangers in clear terms.

Regulations intended to fight misuse also create unintended

barriers for genuine patients.

Individuals who suffer from anxiety disorders, depression, chronic pain and other serious conditions depend on these same medicines.

Hesitant pharmacists, wary of paperwork and scrutiny, often limit stock. Genuine patients then struggle to obtain necessary treatment.

The government can resolve this tension by channelling such medicines through designated government drug stores or hospital pharmacies.

Strict monitoring remains possible while ensuring uninterrupted supply for legitimate needs.

Rehabilitation efforts must extend far beyond initial detoxification. Recovering addicts need education, vocational training, job prospects, ongoing psychological support and social reintegration.

These elements allow them to rebuild lives and contribute productively once more. Without sustained backing, many fall back into old habits, undermining the entire recovery process.

Since the addiction crisis threatens the social fabric of Kashmir, government departments cannot shoulder the full burden.

Citizens, institutions and leaders share responsibility for shielding young people from this menace.

Collective action that blends compassion with resolve, awareness with enforcement, and treatment with prevention offers the only viable path forward.

I still remember that young man by the roadside. His actions foreshadowed a wave that now engulfs thousands.

We possess the knowledge and the tools to turn the tide. What we lack is any excuse for delay.

— The author works in agricultural seed production and is currently writing his first short story collection in Kashmir.

The Tobacco We Pass Down

Cultural acceptance has made Naswar, Ghutka, bidis and hookah seem harmless, even as they tighten their grip on families across Kashmir.



Syed Majid Gilani

Let's forget for a moment the warnings printed on cigarette packs. Let's also set aside the gruesome images of damaged lungs and bleeding gums.

Tobacco's biggest threat isn't just in what it does to the body. It's in how it weaves itself into the daily life of our homes, silently passing from parent to child, from habit to inheritance, until nobody even questions its place at the family table.

Tobacco isn't always seen as a vice in the valley. Sometimes, it sits right next to the salt and the sugar in the kitchen cupboard. And sometimes, it's tucked in a pocket, shared among friends, or folded into the fabric of a working man's day.

It comes in many forms: Ghutka, Naswar, Pan-Masala, the humble bidi, the social hookah. But they all speak the same silent language: this is normal, this is ours.

I have seen men buy Naswar along with their vegetables, as if it were as necessary as bread. I have heard the excuses, the familiar lines: "It calms me down," "Everyone in the village uses it"



Tobacco never arrives in a rush. It slides in silently, through the cracked door of habit, through the unguarded moment when a child decides that what his father does must be safe.

There is something about this habit that feels harmless until it isn't.

The harm doesn't always begin with the smoker. It begins when a child watches his father pinch a bit of tobacco under his lip or when a teenager lights his first bidi because the scent reminds him of home.

These things don't arrive as warnings. They arrive as memories. Tobacco doesn't knock on the door like a thief, it's passed along,

wrapped in affection, mistaken for tradition.

Ask anyone who has tried to quit, and they'll tell you how deeply it grips the body. The nicotine doesn't just settle in the blood, it builds a house in the mind. It sits with you at work, follows you to bed, stands beside you at moments of worry and silence.

And yet, in many Kashmiri homes, the sight of a bidi or a hookah barely raises an eyebrow.

What's often lost in the haze is how this cultural acceptance wrecks families. Children exposed to secondhand smoke develop weak lungs before they've even had a chance to grow strong. The bidis that men roll in their fingers deliver far more nicotine than the costlier cigarettes they sometimes cannot afford. The Ghutka and Pan-Masala chewed between errands slowly steal away the ability to eat, to speak, to laugh without pain.

In time, what began as a casual habit becomes a family crisis.

Even worse is how the habit defies advice. A father who chews tobacco cannot convincingly tell his son to avoid it. The son has already seen him choose it again and again.

And when neighbours and shopkeepers and friends all say, "It's no big deal," the warning slips away before it can take root.

In villages across Kashmir, tobacco finds its way into daily life not because people want to destroy themselves, but because nobody told them that this small thing could hollow out their futures.

Awareness campaigns pass by, educational posters hang in clinics, but the real teaching happens in the kitchen, in the courtyard, where children grow up watching and copying.

Tobacco never arrives in a rush. It slides in silently, through the cracked door of habit, through the unguarded moment when a child decides that what his father does must be safe.

And maybe that's why the danger stays invisible for so long. It doesn't explode. It seeps. It doesn't always steal life in a headline-making way. Sometimes, it just leaves a person too breathless to chase his grandchild, too sick to go to the market, too weak to finish the work of an ordinary day.

In Kashmir, where so much of life is already uncertain, it's the slowest threats that often go unnoticed. And sometimes, the greatest dangers don't come from outside. They grow quietly, right inside our homes.

— The author is a government officer. He can be reached at syedmajid6676@gmail.com.

Achyuta Samanta Honoured With AAPI Award For Transformational Social Work & Indo-US Partnership

Observer News Service

Bhubaneswar: Eminent educationist and social reformer, and Founder of KIIT, KIMS and KISS, Dr. Achyuta Samanta, has been conferred the AAPI Award for Transformational Social Work & Indo-US Partnership by the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI) at its annual convention, AAPICON 2026, held in Tampa, Florida, USA.

The award was presented during AAPICON 2026 and AAPI's 44th Congress, held from July 2 to 5, in recognition of Dr. Samanta's outstanding social service, visionary philanthropy, transformational humanitarian initiatives, exemplary support to AAPI during the Global Health Summit 2026, and his significant contribution towards strengthening Indo-US partnership.

The award was presented to Dr. Samanta by Dr. Amit Chakrabarty, President, AAPI in the presence of 3,000 physicians.

The association also lauded Dr. Samanta for his lifelong dedication to social service and his unwavering commitment to uplifting the underprivileged through education, healthcare and humanitarian initiatives.

AAPI is one of the oldest and largest organisations of physicians of Indian origin in the United States, representing more than 120,000 Indian-origin doctors. Its members serve communities across the United States, and more than 3,000 physicians attended this year's convention.

On July 4, coinciding with United States Independence Day, Dr. Samanta was invited as the Guest of Honour and keynote speaker at a special session of the convention. In his address, he praised AAPI's outstanding contribution to healthcare and community service while highlighting the importance of stronger collaboration between India and the Indian diaspora in advancing



global health.

Dr. Samanta also appealed to AAPI physicians to dedicate a few days every month to providing healthcare services in India. Responding positively to his appeal, AAPI expressed its support and assured that its member doctors would endeavour to spend 7 to 15 days every month offering medical consultation and healthcare services in India. Achyuta Samanta Honoured with AAPI Award for Transformational Social Work and Indo-US Partnership

Bhubaneswar, July 5: Eminent educationist and social reformer, and Founder of KIIT, KIMS and KISS, Dr. Achyuta Samanta, has been conferred the AAPI Award for Transformational Social Work & Indo-US Partnership by the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI) at its annual convention, AAPICON 2026, held in Tampa, Florida, USA.

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Seven In 10 Children In India Missed School Due To Extreme Heat: Report

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Nearly seven in every 10 school-going children across the country missed school or routine activities because of extreme heat from May to June this year, according to a new report.

The report, based on an assessment conducted by child rights NGO CRY, titled "Feeling the Heat: Children's Voices on Heat, Well-Being and Learning in India", gathered responses from 3,096 school-going children aged 10-17 years across 27 states and Union Territories.

"88 per cent of children felt this year's summer was hotter than previous years. Nearly 68 per cent reported missing school or routine activities due to heat-related distress, while 76 per cent said the heat negatively affected their ability to focus on studies.

"Around 47 per cent identified the afternoon as the most difficult part of the day, and more than 45 per cent said school hours were particularly uncomfortable, underscoring the challenges children face while learning in increasingly hotter conditions," the report said.

India witnessed repeated heatwave conditions during the summer of 2026, with temperatures crossing 45 degrees Celsius in several states. Schools in many regions revised their timings, curtailed outdoor activities and, in some places, temporarily suspended classes.

According to the Annual Climate Statement 2025 of the India Meteorological Department (IMD), 2024 was India's warmest year on



record since 1901, while the decade 2016-2025 was the warmest ever recorded, with 10 of the 15 warmest years occurring during this period. The assessment also flagged the growing health burden of extreme heat. Nearly 63 per cent of children reported experiencing dehydration, 51 per cent suffered headaches, and 44 per cent experienced extreme fatigue during periods of intense heat. Heat-related challenges extended beyond schools to children's homes.

More than half (53 per cent) of the respondents reported frequent power interruptions or overheated living spaces, while nearly three in 10 experienced water shortages, further compounding their discomfort and affecting their daily routines.

The findings also revealed that the impact of extreme heat is not experienced equally. Around 71 per cent of children from families depending on daily-wage or manual labour reported severe heat-related distress, compared to 46 per cent of children from other households, highlighting how climate-related risks disproportionately affect children from economically vulnerable communities.

A 17-year-old girl from Jharkhand said, "On a particularly hot day, I found it difficult to concentrate at school because the temperature was extremely high. The classroom felt warm and uncomfortable, and I became tired more quickly than usual. During lessons, it was hard to focus on what the teacher was explaining, and I felt thirsty."

The assessment found that children are not only experiencing the effects of rising temperatures themselves but are also acutely aware of how extreme heat is affecting their parents and caregivers.

Nearly 59 per cent said heat had made work more difficult for their parents, while 58 per cent noticed changes in their parents' mood or behaviour. Another 43 per cent reported increased stress or irritability at home, suggesting that the effects of extreme heat extend well beyond physical discomfort and into family life.

"While temperature records tell us how hot it is becoming, children tell us what that heat is impacting their lives — how it affects their learning, health, and overall well-being. It is also important to note that children are not only speaking about themselves.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

CM Announces

implications of the decision would be assessed by the concerned directorates and communicated to the Administrative Department for reimbursement from the Finance Department.

The Directors of School Education, Jammu and Kashmir, have been directed to ensure strict implementation of the order, including verification of beneficiaries, maintenance of records, monitoring and submission of periodic reports.

Amarnath Yatra

on July 3, is being conducted under a multi-layered security arrangement with logistical support from the administration, police, Central Armed Police Forces, health services and other departments.

The Yatra will conclude on August 28, coinciding with Raksha Bandhan.

4 Teachers Suspended

He said the matter is currently under investigation, and appropriate action would be taken against anyone found to be involved.

The Chief Education Officer, Ganderbal, suspended four teachers with immediate effect after receiving a communication to the effect from the nodal officer, transit camp Manigam.

The suspended teachers have been identified as Bilal Ahmad Sheikh, Aabid Mohi-ud-Din Bhat, Peer Mudasar, and Gowhar Rashid Kullu. The official spokesman said that on-spot registration is available at the Baltal Base Camp On-Spot Registration Centre, subject to the production and verification of all prescribed documents and fulfilment of the requisite eligibility criteria.

All pilgrims are advised to obtain registration only through the authorised registration centre and to follow the official procedure, he said.

"Pilgrims are further requested not to fall prey to touts, middlemen, or unauthorised persons claiming to facilitate registration or offering any unauthorised assistance in return for money or other consideration," the spokesman said.

Fresh Rain Spell

10, with intense showers expected at a few places.

The weather office said one or two spells of rain and thunderstorms are likely at many places on July 11 and 12, while isolated areas may receive heavy rainfall.

The MeT Department has advised people to remain alert, particularly in vulnerable areas, warning that intense rainfall may trigger flash floods, landslides, mudslides and shooting stones in hilly and mountainous regions. Low-lying areas may also witness waterlogging during heavy rain spells.

Meanwhile, Srinagar recorded a maximum temperature of 33.2 degrees Celsius on Wednesday, 2.5 degrees above normal, while

Jammu settled at 34.5 degrees Celsius, slightly below the seasonal average.

Kupwara recorded a maximum temperature of 33 degrees Celsius, Qazigund 31 degrees Celsius, Kokernag 30.6 degrees Celsius, Pahalgam 25.4 degrees Celsius and Gulmarg 23.4 degrees Celsius.

The minimum temperature stood at 19.6 degrees Celsius in Srinagar and 23.4 degrees Celsius in Jammu, while Pahalgam recorded 14.6 degrees Celsius and Gulmarg 11 degrees Celsius.

Authorities have urged commuters, tourists and residents to follow weather advisories and avoid unnecessary travel to vulnerable areas during spells of intense rainfall.

117 Lecturers Get

across Jammu and Kashmir. "I leave this conclave with renewed confidence in the future of Jammu and Kashmir," the Chief Minister said.

Education Minister Sakina Itoo, Agriculture Minister Javid Ahmad Dar, Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, legislators, senior government officials, vice chancellors, academicians and students attended the conclave.

Army Chief Reviews

professionalism and commitment under challenging conditions and appreciated their efforts in maintaining peace and stability.

Terrorist Killed

being conducted by the Army, Jammu and Kashmir Police and CRPF in Chanapora, "one LeT terrorist, identified as Zakir Ganai, has been eliminated in the firefight".

"Arms, ammunition and other war-like stores were recovered," it said.

Giving details, the officials said that since July 3, gunfight took place twice and Ganai (26), a category C terrorist, was earlier injured.

The terrorist was a resident of Motalhama in adjoining Kulgam district and had been active since 2023.

His body had bullet injuries in left lung and on leg and the officials said that he had been injured and had crawled to a shed in the orchards.

According to the officials, Ganai left his residence for Dialgam on September 27, 2023, to undertake shuttering work but failed to return home. After his family members were unable to trace him, a missing person report was lodged at Kulgam police station on October 3, 2023.

Ganai subsequently joined The Resistance Front (TRF) terror outfit, an offshoot of LeT, the officials said.

They said he was implicated in an FIR registered at Kulgam police station under various sections of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

The police also posted on X about the killing of Ganai saying "You Can Run But You Can't Hide! One Lashkar terrorist neutralised by SOG Shopian, in a Jt Op, along with RR (Rashtriya Rifles of the Army) and CRPF."

Security forces had first spotted two terrorists by surveillance cameras on July 3 in a dense orchard in the Meemandar area, the officials said.

A joint team of police, Army's 55 RR and 44 RR, and CRPF had maintained a tight cordon around the area over the last five days with intermittent exchanged of firing taking place between the two sides, they said.

The Army's specialised counter-insurgency unit, Victor Force, had deployed additional personnel to seal all possible escape routes through the thick orchard foliage, besides lighting up the area.

During the summer months, the heavy foliage offers a natural cover, making surveillance difficult and allowing trapped terrorists to exploit blind spots to break the cordons, the officials said.

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

Apart from Ganai, the other trapped terrorist was believed to be Latif, who joined the outfit last year.

Shah Reviews J&K

houses, shops and vehicles. Officials said heavy rain in the upper reaches brought boulders, mud and debris into Thathri town, while the Doda-Kishtwar highway was blocked, disrupting vehicular movement.

It was the third such incident in the twin districts of Doda and Kishtwar this week following heavy rainfall in the mountainous region.

A day earlier, flash floods triggered by incessant rainfall had damaged the Doda-Kishtwar highway near the under-construction 540 MW Kwar Hydroelectric Power Project.

Heavy rains have affected normal life in several parts of Jammu and Kashmir, with authorities remaining on alert and taking precautionary measures to ensure public safety and minimise disruptions.

Militancy Almost

cited his medical condition, alleged harassment and claimed he had been assaulted by the complainant.

The Court noted that although Dar had produced a migrant ration card issued by the Relief Commissioner (Migrants), the present security situation in Kashmir did not support his apprehensions.

"It is to be noted that militancy is almost negligible at present in Kashmir Valley and the situation since 1990 has transformed drastically. All political workers of Kashmir have relocated themselves to Kashmir province and they have participated in the electoral process several times since the eruption of militancy in 1990. Therefore, the contention of the petitioner that he is still facing threat to his life in Kashmir is improbable," the Court observed.

It also found that the trial court record contradicted the petitioner's claim that he was residing in Jammu. It noted that summons had

been served at his address in Ratsun Beerwah, and that his statement before the trial court, personal bond and Aadhaar card all reflected the same Kashmir address.

Holding that there was overwhelming material to show the petitioner had relocated to his original residence in Kashmir, the Court rejected his plea.

The Court further observed that the petitioner had failed to provide any particulars regarding his allegations of harassment by the trial court and its clerk.

It also noted that the petitioner had pleaded guilty when his statement was recorded under Section 251 of the erstwhile J&K Code of Criminal Procedure, following which the trial court had directed him to liquidate the cheque amount payable to the complainant.

According to the Court, the transfer petition appeared to have been filed merely to avoid payment of the cheque amount and to delay the proceedings before the trial court.

Finding no merit in the plea, the High Court dismissed the petition and vacated the interim order dated 27 January this year.

2 More FIRs

than 1,000 kanals of custodian land was shown as allotted to displaced persons on the basis of fake government orders. Many beneficiaries were allegedly not entitled to additional land but secured allotments through fraudulent means with the help of Form Alaf holders and revenue officials.

Based on those findings, the ACB had earlier registered 27 FIRs, all of which are under investigation. The agency said the latest cases emerged during further scrutiny of the same land "scam".

According to the ACB, fresh verification has found that several families displaced from areas now in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) had already received land under the rehabilitation policy but subsequently, managed to obtain mutations of additional custodian land in Bhalwal without any valid orders from the government or the Provisional Rehabilitation Office (PRO).

The bureau said no such allotment orders were found to have been issued by the PRO. After securing the illegal mutations, the beneficiaries allegedly transferred the land directly or through attorney holders and middlemen to various purchasers, causing a substantial loss to the government exchequer.

The ACB registered an FIR under provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act and the Indian Penal Code against three revenue officials -- then patwari Altaf Hussain, then girdawar Amjid Malik and then naib tehsildar Aqeel Ahmad -- besides private individuals Mohan Singh, Rabina Kouser and Nazir Hussain, for their alleged role in the fraudulent alienation of about 12 kanals and three marlas of custodian land.

In a separate development, the bureau also lodged an FIR after verifying a complaint alleging fraudulent mutations and illegal

conferment of ownership rights over about 15 kanals and eight marlas of land in Amb village of Bhalwal tehsil.

The verification found that revenue officials, allegedly in a criminal conspiracy with beneficiary Rashpal Singh and others, abused their official positions to attest illegal mutations, resulting in wrongful gain to private individuals and corresponding loss to the government, the ACB said.

The second FIR names former patwari Baldev Raj, former naib tehsildar Pawan Kumar Kohli, Singh and others.

The ACB said investigations in both the fresh cases have been taken up to establish the complete conspiracy, identify other beneficiaries and determine the role of all officials and private persons involved.

J&K Pushes

law enforcement personnel. The meeting also called for the formulation of a comprehensive Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to clearly define the responsibilities of various departments and agencies and facilitate swift action against financial fraudsters.

The Finance Department was directed to expedite the finalisation of Chit Fund Rules to strengthen the regulatory framework against unauthorised deposit-taking and fraudulent investment schemes.

Concern was also expressed over the rapid evolution of technology-driven financial crimes, particularly cryptocurrency-related scams, phishing messages and fraudulent emails.

The meeting called for identifying the masterminds behind such frauds and advocated stringent non-kinetic measures, including cancellation of driving licences, passports and vehicle registration certificates, besides attachment of properties under relevant legal provisions against offenders.

Regional Director, RBI Jammu, Chandra Shekhar Azad, briefed the meeting about technological and regulatory interventions introduced to strengthen the financial fraud prevention ecosystem.

These include the Financial Fraud Risk Adapter tool for banks, the Artificial Intelligence-based Mule Hunter tool to identify mule accounts, mandatory adoption of the "bank.in" domain by banks and standardisation of 1400 and 1600 series telephone numbers for promotional and customer awareness calls.

The RBI has also introduced tokenisation of card details to secure online transactions and customer-enabled options to disable selected features of debit and credit cards and internet banking services.

The meeting was informed that more than 113 financial literacy and awareness programmes have been organised across Jammu and Kashmir, benefiting government employees, students, traders, business establishments and members of the public.

Delhi Statehood Protest

NC To Invite Non-NDA Parties: CM

KO Web Desk

SRINAGAR: The National Conference is all set to hold a protest at Delhi's Jantar Mantar on July 20 demanding the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, with the party reaching out to political parties across the country, barring those allied with the NDA, for support.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday said invitations had been prepared for political parties in Jammu and Kashmir, including those currently represented in the Assembly and those that had been part of it in the past.

"Not just the INDIA bloc. Invitations for Jantar Mantar have been prepared. They will go out to political parties in Jammu and Kashmir, those who are in the Assembly now and also those who have been in the past. Farooq Abdullah will send invitations to all of them," Omar told reporters.

He said the NC would also reach out to parties that are neither part of the INDIA bloc nor the NDA.

Omar named the Aam Aadmi Party, Shiromani Akali Dal, Biju Janata Dal and parties from Telangana, besides the parties led by Asaduddin Owaisi and Mayawati, among those likely to be invited.



"We hope they will support our protest on the 20th," he said.

The Chief Minister said the party's statehood demand had already received unanimous backing from civil society representatives during a meeting at the SKICC on Tuesday.

He said nearly 170 representatives from different sections of society, including trade bodies, retired bureaucrats and educationists, attended the three-hour meeting and unanimously stressed that the restoration of statehood had already been delayed for too long.

"They supported our Jantar Mantar programme and passed a unanimous single-paragraph resolution calling upon the Government of India for immediate restoration of statehood," Omar said.

The NC has stepped up its campaign for the restoration of statehood, maintaining that the Centre should fulfil its commitment without further delay.

J&K Achieves 100% Coverage of High-Risk Villages under TB Screening Drive

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In a review meeting of the National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP), chaired by the Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, it was highlighted that Jammu & Kashmir has identified all High-Risk Villages (HRVs) to be covered under the intensive TB screening campaign.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Health & Medical Education (H&ME); Director SKIMS; Mission Director, National Health Mission (NHM); Managing Director, JKMSCL; Principals of Government Medical Colleges (GMCs); Director, Health Services, Kashmir/Jammu; and Senior Faculty Members from various medical institutions across the UT.

Commending the sustained efforts of healthcare workers the Chief Secretary emphasized that the fight against tuberculosis requires sustained vigilance, early detection and uninterrupted treatment. He directed all districts to ensure rigorous contact tracing of every notified TB patient so that all household and close contacts are promptly identified, screened and, wherever diagnosed with tuberculosis, immediately linked to appropriate treatment under the National TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan. He stressed that timely contact investigation and initiation of treatment are critical to breaking the chain of transmission and achieving the goal of TB elimination.



The Chief Secretary also laid special emphasis on the effective utilisation of the 'Khushi Chatbot' integrated with the TB Mukht Bharat App, observing that the platform serves as an important digital companion for TB patients by providing ready access to authentic information, treatment guidance and counselling.

He noted that the availability of information in local languages greatly enhances awareness, addresses misconceptions and encourages treatment adherence among patients and their families, thereby strengthening community participation in the fight against tuberculosis. He directed the concerned officers to maximise enrolment of patients on the application and ensure its wider use across all districts.

The review meeting assessed the progress made under Phase-II of the TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan and noted substantial improvements across several key indicators over the past three weeks, reflecting the focused efforts of the Health & Medical Education Department, district administrations, and field-level healthcare workers.

The meeting was further informed that 6.85 lakh individuals residing in High-Risk Villages have already been screened under the campaign, representing a significant increase in community outreach over the past three weeks. The intensified field activities have substantially improved active case finding, particularly in vulnerable and underserved populations.

A major milestone highlighted by the Commissioner Secretary, H&ME, M.Raju during the meeting was the successful conduct of 1,525 Nikshay Shivirs covering all 1,518 identified High-Risk Villages, thereby achieving 100 percent geographical coverage under the campaign.

To further strengthen field diagnostics, he divulged that 11 additional hand-held digital X-ray machines have been deployed in districts including Reasi, Doda, Rajouri, Ramban, Baramulla, Srinagar and Kupwara through support from the Central TB Division and Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives, significantly enhancing the diagnostic capacity in remote and difficult areas.

Chill Brass Residents Struggle without Proper Road Connectivity

BUDGAM: Residents of Chill Brass village in Khansahib tehsil of central Kashmir's Budgam district have urged the administration to improve road connectivity, saying nearly 2,700 people continue to suffer due to the dilapidated condition of the only road leading to the village.

Speaking to KNO, locals said the damaged road causes immense inconvenience to commuters, students, patients and transporters, particularly during adverse weather.

"We have been demanding proper road connectivity for years, but nothing has changed. The condition of the road has made daily life extremely difficult for the villagers," said Sajad Bashir Lone, a resident of the village.

Another local, Farooq Ahmad Mir, said the poor condition of the road affects emergency services and transportation. "Patients, schoolchildren and elderly residents face the worst hardships. We appeal to the authorities to take immediate steps to upgrade the road," he said.

The residents further urged the district administration and the Roads & Buildings Department to undertake macadamisation and repair works at the earliest to provide much-needed relief to the village's population of around 2,700.

A concerned official of the R&B Department when contacted told KNO the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the road has already been submitted. "Once the DPR is approved, work on the road will be taken up. We have also included other roads in the DPR and the work will begin after the proposal is finalized," he said. (Observer News Service)

ACB Uncovers Fresh Custodian Land Scam in Jammu

JAMMU: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Wednesday unearthed another alleged Custodian land scam in Jammu and registered two FIRs against revenue officials, beneficiaries and alleged land grabbers for illegally securing ownership rights and fraudulently alienating government land in the Bhalwal and Amb areas.

In a statement issued to Kashmir Observer, a spokesperson said the Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau has unearthed another major alleged land scam involving Custodian land in the Bhalwal and Amb areas of Jammu district, where land was allegedly usurped by a land mafia in connivance with Form Alaf holders and officials of the Custodian and Revenue departments.

The spokesperson said inputs revealed that thousands of kanals of Custodian land at Asarwan, Mishriwala, Bhalwal and R.S. Pura in Jammu were allegedly grabbed by land grabbers in connivance with revenue officials. The revenue records were allegedly tampered with and the land was subsequently sold to various persons.

"Based on the inputs, the ACB initiated a verification, which earlier found that over 1,000 kanals of Custodian land had been shown as allotted to displaced persons on the basis of fake orders. The beneficiaries were otherwise not entitled to the additional land, which was allegedly secured through fraudulent means by land grabbers, Form Alaf holders and revenue officials. Accordingly, 27 FIRs were registered and the investigation is still in progress," the spokesperson said.

The spokesperson said further verification revealed that several displaced persons from Pakistan/PoK had already been allotted land, but their relatives, despite being ineligible, allegedly got additional land mutations in the Bhalwal area attested in their favour without any government or Provisional Rehabilitation Office (PRO) order, or on the basis of fake PRO orders, in connivance with Patwaris, Giridawars, Naib Tehsildars and Tehsildars. Verification also found that no such allotment orders had been issued by the PRO. The beneficiaries later transferred the land directly or through attorney holders and conduits by resorting to fraudulent means, causing a huge loss to the government exchequer. (Observer News Service)

Safina Baig Joins NC



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Former District Development Council (DDC) Chairperson Safina Baig on Wednesday joined the National Conference at the party headquarters, Nawae-Subh, Srinagar, here in the presence of party president Farooq Abdullah and vice president Omar Abdullah.

Safina, wife of former Deputy Chief Minister Muzaffar Hussain Baig, was formally welcomed into the party during a joining programme attended by senior National Conference leaders.

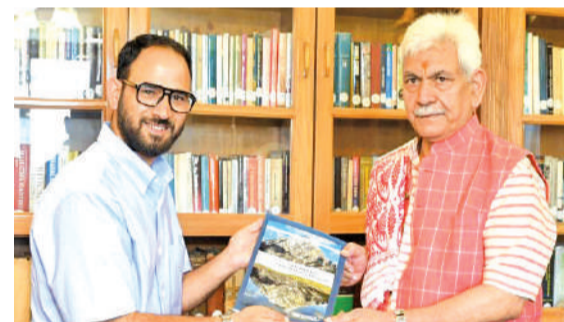
Speaking to reporters after joining the party, Safina, as per KNO said she had been contemplating joining the National Conference for a long time. "It is the party that truly represents the aspirations and expectations

of the people," she said, Praising Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's leadership, she said she was satisfied with the way he was running the government despite the difficult circumstances.

"I am satisfied with Omar Abdullah. Despite immense challenges, he is managing the government in Jammu and Kashmir," she said.

When asked about the National Conference's manifesto, Safina said she had joined the party today and it would not be appropriate for her to comment on it immediately. However, she expressed confidence that the party would make every effort to fulfil its commitments. "I won't respond to the manifesto since I joined the party today only, but I am confident that the party will do its best to fulfill promises," she said.

Cultural Researcher Dr. Suheel Calls on LG, Highlights Heritage Documentation



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Sociologist and cultural researcher Dr. Suheel Rasool Mir on Wednesday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and briefed him on a series of initiatives aimed at documenting, preserving and promoting the diverse cultural heritage of Jammu and Kashmir.

During the meeting, Dr. Mir apprised the Lieutenant Governor of

his research and cultural documentation work, including the conceptualisation, curation and establishment of the Shina Cultural Centre at Gurez, the Pahari Cultural Centre at Karnah, and the Shina-Dard Cultural Centre at Darchik.

Dr. Mir also presented the Lieutenant Governor with the inaugural edition of Shinon Meeras Dard Heritage Magazine and his book, Voices Across the Pir Panjal.

Prepare Students, Teachers for AI Era: CM's Advisor Wani

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Calling education the biggest tool for progress and nation-building, Chief Minister's Advisor Nasir Aslam Wani on Wednesday stressed the need to prepare both students and teachers for the emerging era of artificial intelligence (AI), while advocating values-based learning and skill development to meet the demands of the evolving job market.

Addressing an education programme here at SKICC, Wani, as reported by KNO, said education is not merely a department but a movement that enables societies and nations to become economically and intellectually self-reliant.

He said history has shown that countries and regions which prioritised education transformed their economies and achieved remarkable progress.

Referring to Jammu and



ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
AWANTIPORA, KASHMIR.
Tel: 01933-247954/247955. Website: www.iust.ac.in

Expression of Interest (EOI)
Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) for appointment of Statutory Auditors of Islamic University of Science & Technology (IUST)

Islamic University of Science & Technology (IUST) invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from reputed firms of Chartered Accountants for appointment as Statutory Auditor for the Financial Year 2025-26 and 2026-27. University reserves its right to extend, award, cancel the EOI. Interested firms are requested to quote the fee payable for the services to be rendered for the Financial Year 2025-26 and 2026-27. Any application indicating direct/indirect effect of escalation clause will be summarily rejected. To be eligible, the firm should have its Head office in Jammu & Kashmir and possess experience of minimum 10 years in carrying out Statutory Audit/Internal Audit. Out of the total assignments of the firm, at least one should be of either a university or Academic Institution. Interested and eligible firms may submit their Expression of Interest (EOI) along with the necessary data/details/documents by or before 17th July, 2026. After scrutinizing the proposals, financial proposal of technically qualified bidders only (as per eligibility criteria) shall be opened on a later date.

No. IUST/FO/EOI-AUDIT/26/1182 DPK-NB-1000-26 Sd/-
Dated: 08-07-2026 DT: 08/07/2026 Finance Officer

Amarnath Yatra Provides Livelihood to Thousands of Pony Handlers

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The annual Amarnath Yatra continues to provide a crucial source of livelihood to thousands of pony handlers across Kashmir, many of whom depend on the pilgrimage season to support their families for the rest of the year.

The improved infrastructure along the Yatra route has also eased the movement of pilgrims. The Men and Machinery of the 122 (RCC) of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) have constructed and maintained the track from the Baltal Base Camp to the Holy Cave, facilitating smoother access for devotees and supporting those engaged in Yatra-related services.

Ghulam Ahmad, a pony handler, told KNO that infrastructure and facilities along the route have improved considerably over the years. "Earlier, the roads were in very poor condition, but now they have improved significantly. The routes are much better, and facilities such as drinking water and electricity are available. Overall, the arrangements here are very good," he said.

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

Subject: Engagement of Dr. Hadiya Ajaz as Senior Resident on Academic Arrangement Basis, in the Department of Anaesthesiology, Government Medical College, Srinagar.
Reference: i) This office Advertisement No. 07 of 2026 Dated. 07.05.2026.
ii) Character and Antecedent verification report received from CID, J&K vide Form No. 160607 Dated. 04.07.2026.

OFFICE ORDER No: 677 -RA of 2026.

DATED: 07-07-2026.

Pursuant to the Selection list issued vide Notification No. 19-RA of 2026 Dated. 02.06.2026 and on the basis of Satisfactory verification report of Character & Antecedents by Criminal Investigation Department (CID), J&K, Dr. Hadiya Ajaz, MD, not In-service candidate is provisionally engaged as Senior Resident in the Department of Anaesthesiology on Academic Arrangement Basis under S.O. 364 of 2020 Dated. 27.11.2020 and Government Order No. 383-JK (HME) of 2024 Dated. 20.06.2024 initially for a period of one year, which is extendable upto maximum period of (03) years only on the basis of good performance to be certified by the concerned HOD.

The appointment of the above doctor is further subject to the following terms and conditions: -

- The selected candidate is supposed to submit her joining report alongwith affidavits in the office of the undersigned duly attested by the Judicial Magistrate to the effect that: -
 - She is not In-service candidate, the information if found wrong the selectee shall be punished under Rules which includes confiscation of the Registration of the Doctor.
 - She will not participate in any kind of strike during the period of her tenure engagement. In the event she proceeds on strike, her tenure engagement shall be terminated without any notice as this service is covered under ESMA Act.
 - She shall remain disciplined during the whole tenure; any kind of misconduct shall make her liable for termination without any prior notice.
 - She is not involved in any criminal activity or there is no FIR pending or registered in any criminal department or police station against her.
 - She shall not claim any experience certificate in case she leaves Senior Residency before completion at least of six months.
 - She will not indulge in any private practice. In case she is found doing private practice; her appointment shall be liable for termination without any notice.
- She shall not claim for further extension beyond three years tenure under any circumstances.
- The above doctor shall have to execute an agreement with the institution on the prescribed format (Form A) with regard to the various terms and conditions applicable during academic arrangement same can be downloaded from the official website of Government Medical College, Srinagar.
- The appointee is required to join within (21) days from the date of issuance of this order; failing which the order shall be deemed to have been cancelled.
- The Senior Resident appointed on an Academic Arrangement Basis shall be paid as per S.O. 364 of 2020 Dated. 27-11-2020.
- The Senior Resident appointed on Academic Arrangement Basis shall be entitled for leaves as per the Government Order No. 451 -JK (HME) of 2024 Dated. 08.07.2024.

No: GMCS/RA/SR/Anaes/2975-79/MC
Dated: 07.07.2026

DIPK-2991-26
DT: 08/07/2026

Principal/Dean
Govt. Medical College
Srinagar

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR,
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL & HOSPITALS DIVISION SKIMS/ JVC,

Head Quarter: SKIMS Soura Srinagar Email: mech-hospitalskims@jk.gov.in

Subject: Extension Notice-I

- Name of Work:**
- SITC of Refrigerators and Deep Freezers at Various Areas of SKIMS Soura (W-01)
 - SITC of AC Units of different capacities at various areas of SKIMS (W-02)
 - SITC of Walk-in-Coolers at various areas of SKIMS Soura (W-03)
 - Up-gradation of MGPS System to New Neuro ICU, SITC of Vacuum Pump and Oxygen Header along with accessories at SKIMS Soura (W-04)
 - SITC of 60 Kg Automatic Washing Machines (02Nos) in Laundry SKIMS (W-05)
 - SITC of Automatic Boom Barrier (14 Nos) in different areas of SKIMS (W-06)
 - SITC of Hot Water Circulation Pumps in Main Boiler House, SKIMS (W-07)
 - Replacement of the Zeolite in a 750 LPM PSA Oxygen Plant and allied works at SKIMS MCH Bemina

Reference:

- This office e-NIT No: MHD/SKIMS/JVC/07 of 26-27; Dated: 24.06.2026
 - Tender Id No: 2026_PWDJK_313578_1
 - Tender Id No: 2026_PWDJK_313578_2
 - Tender Id No: 2026_PWDJK_313578_3
 - Tender Id No: 2026_PWDJK_313578_4
 - Tender Id No: 2026_PWDJK_313578_5
 - Tender Id No: 2026_PWDJK_313578_6
 - Tender Id No: 2026_PWDJK_313578_7
- This office e-NIT No: MHD/SKIMS/JVC/08 of 26-27; Dated: 27.06.2026

Keeping in view the poor response and representation received from the intending bidder, the critical dates for above referred e-NIT's are hereby extended as following, in order to ensure healthy participation and competitive bidding.

i. Bid submission (uploading) closing date: -	13.07.2026 upto 11:00 hrs
ii. Date of opening Cover-Ist:-	13.07.2026 (1600 hrs or next convenient date)
iii. Date of opening Cover-2nd:-	Shall be intimated separately.

All other technical specifications, terms and conditions as stipulated in the e-Nit shall remain same.
No: - MHD/ SKIMS/ JVC/2189-99 Sd/-
Dated: - 07/07/2026 Executive Engineer,
DIPK-NB-1005-26 Mechanical & Hospitals Division
DT: 08/07/2026 SKIMS/ JVC

Iraq's Historic Farewell to Khamenei Underscores Regional Realignment



Trans Asia News

BAGHDAD- In an extraordinary display of political unity, religious solidarity and public mourning, millions of Iraqis on Wednesday lined the streets of the holy cities of Najaf and Karbala to receive the body of Iran's martyred Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, marking a historic reversal in relations between two countries that fought one of the bloodiest wars of the twentieth century.

The unprecedented funeral procession, attended by Iraq's top political, military and religious leadership, came at a time of heightened tensions across West Asia and was widely viewed by observers as carrying significance well beyond a religious ceremony.

Ayatollah Khamenei's coffin was accorded full state honours upon arrival at Najaf International Airport before it was taken in a massive public procession to the shrines of Imam Ali in Najaf and later Imam Hussein and Hazrat Abbas in Karbala.

The reception brought together Iraq's highest-ranking officials in a rare display of political consensus.

Prime Minister Ali Faleh al-Zaidi and former Prime Minister Mohammed al-Sudani jointly led the official reception, joined by former Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, National Wisdom Movement leader Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim, Fatah Alliance chief Hadi al-Amiri and other senior members of Iraq's Coordination Framework.

Administrative arrangements

for the funeral were overseen by Prime Minister's Chief of Staff Ihsan al-Awadi and Karbala Governor Jassim Nassif al-Khattabi, as authorities coordinated one of the largest public gatherings witnessed in Iraq in recent years.

The Popular Mobilization Forces (PMF), or Hashd al-Shaabi, deployed extensive security arrangements across the funeral route.

PMF Chairman Fahih al-Fayyadh, Chief of Staff Abdul Aziz al-Muhammawi, widely known as Abu Fadak, and other senior commanders personally participated in the procession while supervising security operations.

The religious dimension of the funeral assumed particular significance with the participation of Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Reza Sistani, eldest son of

Iraq's highest Shia cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, who attended the funeral rites near the shrine of Imam Ali alongside his brother.

Later in Karbala, Sheikh Abdul-Mahdi al-Karbalai, Grand Ayatollah Sistani's official representative and custodian of the Imam Hussein Holy Shrine, was scheduled to lead the funeral prayers.

Among other prominent attendees were Sadrist Movement leader Sayyid Muqtada al-Sadr, Supreme Islamic Council of Iraq chief Sheikh Humam Hamoudi, Asa'ib Ahl al-Haq Secretary-General Qais al-Khazali and delegations representing senior Shia religious authorities.

Adding to the scale of the gathering, tribal chiefs from across Iraq, including leaders

of the Bani Assad, Bani Lam, Al-Sahlan, Al-Omar, Al-Abous and Al-Zawalim tribes, marched in traditional attire at the front of the funeral procession.

According to estimates released by the Hashd al-Shaabi, more than four million mourners gathered in Karbala, while nearly 3.8 million people had earlier participated in the farewell procession in Najaf, where the streets surrounding the shrine of Imam Ali were packed with mourners.

The body of the late Iranian leader, accompanied by the remains of family members killed in the same attack, travelled between Najaf and Karbala along the Arbabeen pilgrimage route before reaching the shrines revered by millions of Muslims worldwide.

Iraqi authorities declared a public holiday to facilitate the funeral, with pilgrims arriving from across Iraq and neighbouring countries.

The scenes unfolding in Iraq represented a remarkable historical transformation.

During the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war under the rule of Saddam Hussein, the two neighbouring countries fought a war that claimed hundreds of thousands of lives and left deep political and social scars on both sides of the border.

Wednesday's funeral, however, presented a strikingly different image, with Iraq's political establishment, senior clergy, tribal leadership and millions of ordinary citizens collectively honouring Iran's late leader.

The turnout also unfolded

against the backdrop of continuing regional tensions and the continued presence of US military forces at bases in Iraq.

Several Iraqi political and resistance leaders described the funeral as a demonstration of regional unity and defiance in the wake of the killing of the Iranian leader, while supporters said the scale of participation reflected the enduring religious, political and strategic ties that have developed between Baghdad and Tehran since the fall of Saddam Hussein in 2003.

The funeral procession in Iraq is to be followed by the final burial ceremony in Mashhad, northeastern Iran, where Ayatollah Khamenei will be laid to rest at the shrine of Imam Reza, the eighth Shia Imam.

M | Securities

POWER OF ₹5,000 SIP

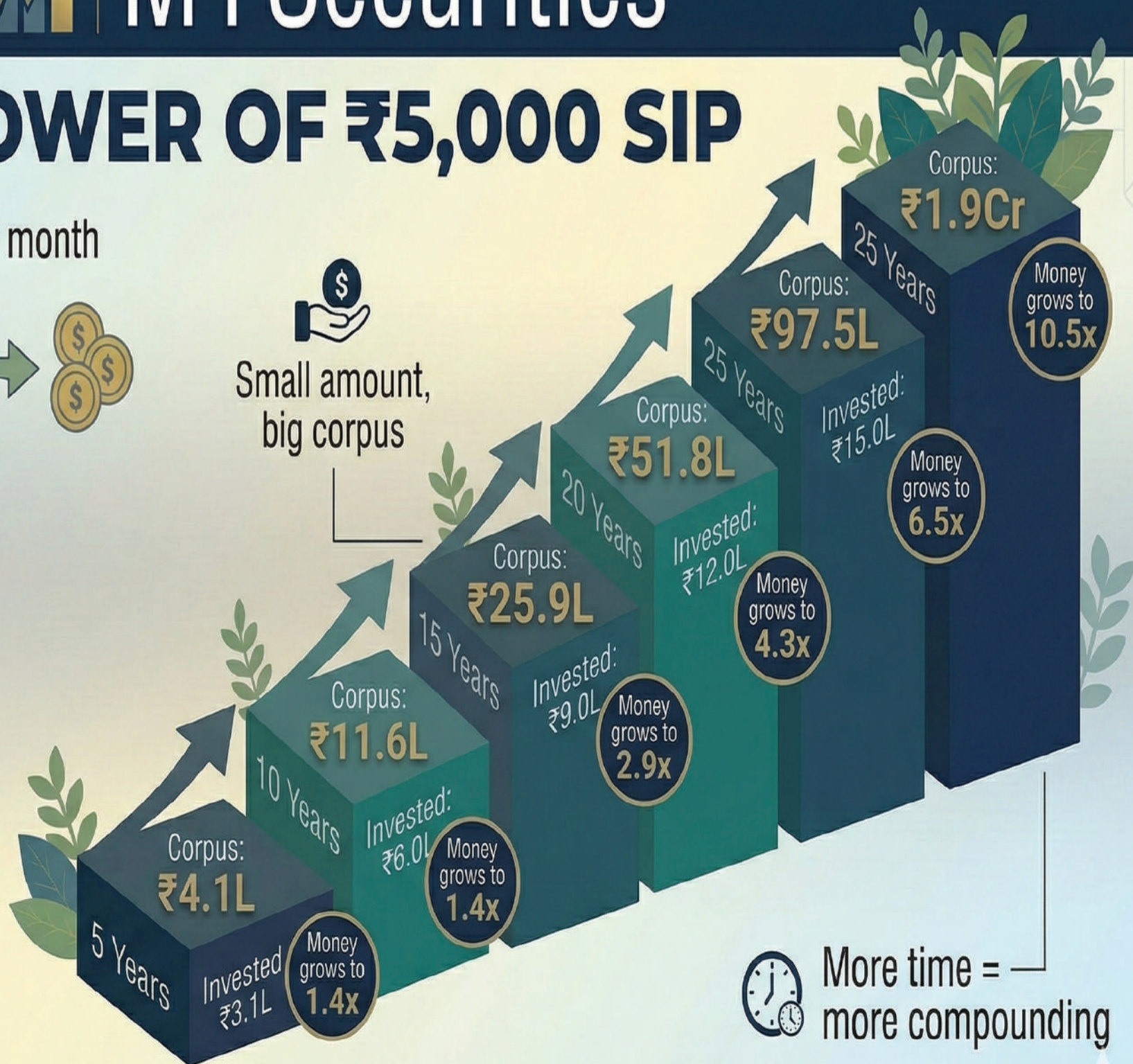
Step 1: You invest ₹5,000 every month



Small amount, big corpus

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



More time = more compounding

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