

J&K's Nights Getting Warmer, Winter Heat Rises With Altitude: Study

High-altitude locations including Pahalgam and Gulmarg have warmed by nearly 1°C in two decades, 45-year analysis finds

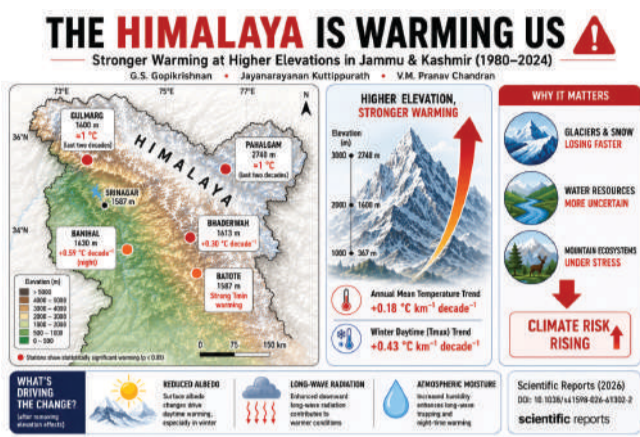
Farzana Nisar

Srinagar: Several high-altitude areas of Jammu and Kashmir, including Pahalgam and Gulmarg, have warmed by nearly one degree Celsius over the past two decades, while nighttime temperatures are rising sharply at several mountain stations, a new scientific study has found.

The findings point to an uneven but significant warming of the climate-sensitive Western Himalayan region, raising concerns over snow

cover, glaciers, water availability and the stability of mountain ecosystems.

The study, titled "Warming of the high-mountainous climate sensitive Jammu and Kashmir during the period 1980-2024", was published in Scientific Reports. It was conducted by G S Gopikrishnan, Jayanarayanan Kuttippurath and V M Pranav Chandran of the Centre for Ocean, River, Atmosphere and Land Sciences (CORAL) at the Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur. Analysing 45 years of



ground-based temperature observations from 10 India Meteorological Department stations, along with atmospheric reanalysis data, the researchers found that Jammu and Kashmir has experienced a clear but spatially uneven warming since 1980.

The study examined temperature records from Banihal, Batote, Bhatnagar, Gulmarg, Jammu, Kokernag, Kupwara, Pahalgam, Qazigund and Srinagar, covering an elevation range from 367 metres at Jammu to 2,740 metres at

Pahalgam.

One of the most striking findings is the sharp rise in minimum, or nighttime, temperatures at several mid- and high-elevation stations.

Bhatnagar recorded a minimum temperature warming trend of around 0.65 degrees Celsius per decade, while Batote saw an increase of about 0.42 degrees Celsius per decade. At Pahalgam, the highest station examined in the study, minimum temperatures increased by around 0.32 degrees Celsius per decade.

The researchers said the pronounced nighttime warming, particularly when accompanied by weak or negative daytime temperature trends, is narrowing the difference between day and night temperatures at some locations.

The annual temperature analysis also found strong nighttime warming at Bhatnagar, Batote, Banihal and Pahalgam. Bhatnagar recorded an annual minimum temperature trend of roughly 0.7 degrees Celsius per decade, with | [More on P6](#)

No Amarnath Yatri Should Face Inconvenience: LG

Says Higher Footfall Positive Sign For J&K Tourism

Calls For Strict Action Against Fraudulent Registration Practices



Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday directed officials to ensure round-the-clock care for pilgrims undertaking the ongoing Amarnath Yatra, saying no yatri should face any inconvenience during their stay in Jammu and Kashmir.

"From registration to accommodation and food, no pilgrim should face any inconvenience. It must be our collective responsibility to make their stay in Jammu Kashmir divine and comfortable," Sinha said during a visit to the Yatra Transit Camp and Yatri Niwas at Pantha Chowk here.

The Lieutenant Governor

reviewed arrangements for pilgrims and interacted with officials and yatri to enquire about the facilities being provided to them.

He took stock of accommodation, sanitation, security, healthcare, drinking water, power supply, firefighting measures and other essential services put in place by different departments for the safety and comfort of the pilgrims.

Sinha called for strict legal action against those found involved in fraudulent registration practices and stressed close coordination and vigilance among departments and security agencies to ensure effective crowd management and a hassle-free | [More on P6](#)

Amarnath Yatra Set To Cross 2-Lakh Pilgrim Mark

The annual Amarnath Yatra is set to cross the two-lakh pilgrim mark on Friday after 28,583 devotees paid obeisance at the holy cave shrine on Thursday, taking the total footfall since the commencement of the pilgrimage to 1,71,501. Official figures showed that among those who performed darshan on Thursday were | [More on P6](#)

SPO Dismissed For Dereliction Of Duty During Yatra

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh on Thursday quashed the preventive detention of two persons from south Kashmir under the Public Safety Act (PSA), holding that serious procedural lapses by the authorities vitiated the detention process and violated the constitutional safeguards guaranteed to detainees.

A bench of Justice Rahul Bharti set aside the detention orders against Asif Ahmad Dar of Pulwama and Amir Wani of Anantnag and directed their immediate release.

In case of Asif Ahmad Dar who was booked under PSA on 30 April last year, the Court observed | [More on P6](#)

A special police officer (SPO) was dismissed from service in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag district | [More on P6](#)

Ayatollah Khamenei Laid to Rest After Historic 6-Day Farewell

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: From Tehran to Qom... from Najaf to Karbala... and finally to Mashhad, the coffins of Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei and the members of his immediate family killed alongside him in the February 28 US-Israeli strike completed a journey that was as much political as it was spiritual.

What unfolded this week was not merely a state funeral. It became one of the largest public mourning ceremonies ever witnessed in recorded history, stretching across Iran and Iraq and drawing millions into the streets in a powerful display of grief, faith and defiance.

When President Donald Trump launched the war on February 28 alongside Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Washington predicted a different ending. Trump declared that the Islamic Republic was on the brink of collapse and gave Iran 24 hours to surrender.

Six months later, the



images told a strikingly different story.

Instead of a collapsing state, the world saw overflowing streets from Tehran to Mashhad. Instead of a leadership abandoned by its people,

millions turned out to bid farewell to a man who had led Iran for nearly four decades.

Perhaps the most remarkable scenes came not inside Iran, but across the border in Iraq.

For a country that once fought an eight-year war against Iran at the behest of America and its allies, it welcomed the Iranian leader's coffin with extraordinary emotion. | [More on P6](#)

Tourist Flow In J&K May Need Regulation: CM Omar

Calls For Shift To Value-Based Tourism To Protect Resorts, Improve Visitor Experience

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday said tourist flow to Jammu and Kashmir may need to be regulated in the future to protect popular destinations from mounting pressure and ensure visitors are not subjected to overcrowding, traffic jams and inadequate facilities.

While welcoming the surge in tourist arrivals, Omar said Jammu and Kashmir needed to rethink its tourism strategy and move away from merely



chasing higher visitor numbers towards a value-based and sustainable model.

"We have to decide whether we wish to earn by charging one hundred tourists one rupee each or by creating an

experience where one tourist is willing to pay one hundred rupees. The answer to that question must shape all our future tourism master plans," Omar said.

He was | [More on P6](#)

Schools Told To Screen Books For 'Objectionable Content'

HOIs Asked To Submit Report Within Seven Days

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Authorities have ordered a comprehensive screening of books in government and recognised private schools and coaching institutions across Kashmir to identify "inappropriate or objectionable content", directing heads of institutions to report any such material within seven days.

The directive comes after certain books and literature allegedly containing "anti-national and separatist content" were circulated in educational institutions in Jammu and Kashmir.

In a circular, the Directorate of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) directed heads of government schools, recognised

private schools and coaching institutions under its jurisdiction to screen all books, including recently acquired and older publications.

The screening will cover books and other material available in offices, classrooms, staffrooms and school libraries.

The DSEK said the exercise was aimed at ensuring that no publication contained inappropriate or objectionable content.

"This includes material that may violate religious sentiments of any section, inappropriate content for students, and content against prevailing laws with the potential to harm national interest and affect educational values and established norms," the | [More on P6](#)

HC Quashes 2 PSA Detentions

M Ahmad

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A bench of Justice Rahul Bharti set aside the detention orders against Asif Ahmad Dar of Pulwama and Amir Wani of Anantnag and directed their immediate release.

In case of Asif Ahmad Dar who was booked under PSA on 30 April last year, the Court observed | [More on P6](#)

Teachers With Multiple PGs Must Choose One For Promotion

One-Time Option To Be Exercised Within 30 Days; Choice Final, Irrevocable

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Teachers in Jammu and Kashmir holding two or more postgraduate qualifications will have to choose a single PG subject for fixation of seniority and consideration for promotion, with the School Education Department making the one-time choice final and irrevocable.

Under fresh guidelines issued by the department, every teacher possessing dual or multiple postgraduate

qualifications has been directed to exercise a one-time option in writing before the concerned Director of School Education within 30 days of the issuance of the circular.

The teacher will have to indicate the single PG subject in which he or she wishes to be considered for seniority and promotion.

"The option so exercised shall be final and irrevocable and shall govern all future service matters relating to seniority and promotion of such teacher," | [More on P6](#)



Farmers harvest collard greens, locally known as haakh, in a field in Kashmir. Deeply rooted in the Valley's culinary tradition, the leafy green remains a staple in Kashmiri households. KO Photo By Abid Bhat

Army Chief Reviews Security Along LoC

Observer News Service

Jammu: Chief of Army Staff General Dhiraj Seth on Thursday visited forward areas in Jammu and Kashmir's twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch and reviewed the prevailing security situation, operational preparedness and combat readiness of troops.

The visit, his first to the forward areas in Poonch after assuming office, comes amid heightened security measures in Jammu and Kashmir in the wake of the ongoing Amarnath Yatra.

"General Dhiraj Seth, COAS, visited forward areas along the Line of Control in Poonch, Rajouri and Sunderbani. He reviewed | [More on P6](#)



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GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE ZONAL EDUCATION OFFICER SRIGUFWARA

e-mail: zeo.srigufwara@jk.gov.in

Subject: Tentative Selection List of Helpers/AAYAs under ECCE in approved schools for the year 2025.

NOTIFICATION

- Whereas, Chief Education Officer Anantnag vide No.: CEO/A/Sms/ECCE/25/28492-674/25 Dated: 09/07/2025 issued orders for engagement of AAYAs purely on terminus basis in terms of Govt. order No.: 07 OF CHIRAG-2023 Dated: 09/01/2023 read with order No.: 150-CHIRAG OF 2023 Dated: 21-09-2023 and amendments made from time to time;
- Whereas, this office vide No.: ZEO/S/Sms/1471-83/25 Dated: 18/07/2025 floated advertisement notification for engagement/hiring of Helpers/AAYAs under ECCE in 08 approved schools for the year 2025 purely on terminus basis for participation in selection process from eligible candidates;
- Whereas, the said advertisement notification was displayed on the notice board of this office, notice boards of concerned schools/Panchayat Ghars. Besides, the said advertisement was published in the leading dailies of Kashmir Division;
- Whereas, the last date for submission of application forms was extended upto 04.08.2025 vide this office No.:ZEO/S/Sms/1539-44/25 Dated: 01/08/2025 and the notification also stands published in the leading dailies of Kashmir Division;
- Whereas, as per the detailed guidelines/norms to be followed, the Selection of Helper/AAYA has to be restricted to Village in respect of Rural area, where approved school is located. The candidate must possess minimum qualification: 8th Class Passed. Preference shall be given to the candidates from BPL Category in the below mentioned order of Priority;

- Widow
- Divorced
- Orphan
- Double Orphan (women whose both biological parents are dead)
- Paternal Orphan (women whose biological father is dead)
- Maternal Orphan (women whose biological mother is dead)

In case of tie-up of the selection of candidate for Helper/AAYA, the preference shall be given to the elder candidate (i.e Candidate with more age shall be considered);

Whereas, this office vide No.: ZEO/S/Sms/1486-86/25 Dated: 18/07/2025 constituted School Level Screening Committees headed by Head of Institution concerned for verification of documents like Domicile, BPL/AAY Ration Card, Widow Certificate, Divorced, Orphan Certificate, DOB Certificates etc. submitted by the candidates for engagement/Hiring of Helpers/AAYAs under ECCE. The School Level Committee had been mandated to draw-up the panel of all eligible candidates in order of merit/preference in sequel to the detailed guidelines of Directorate of Samagra Shiksha J&K UT in consultation with concerned PRI/VEC.

Whereas, the constituted School Level Committees in consultation with PRIs/VEC/SMCs have prepared/drawn the panel of all eligible candidates strictly in order of merit/preference as per the detailed guidelines of Samagra Shiksha.

Whereas, this office vide No.: ZEO/S/Sms/1576-79/25 Dated: 05-08-2025 constituted Zonal level Committee to cross-check the panels drawn-up by the School Level Screening Committee in order of merit/preference. The committee had been also mandated to re-verify the documents/testimonials/certificates submitted by eligible candidates and the committee submitted recommendations for engagement of AAYAs at aforesaid schools.

Whereas, this office issued tentative selection list of AAYA on the basis of panel framed by the concerned Headmasters.

Whereas, one Dilshada Akhter was tentatively selected for engagement as AAYA in MS Trail subject to verification of credentials.

Whereas, the discharge certificate produced by Dilshada Akhter was sent to HSS Salia for its verification/authentication vide this office No.:ZEO/S/Sms/2049/2025, Dated:-10.09.2025.

Whereas, Principal HSS Salia vide No:- BHSS/S/AD/144/2025, Dated:-20.09.2025 reported that the said certificate is fake/invalid.

Whereas, on the basis of the report submitted by the Principal HSS Salia with regard to the verification of discharge certificate in favour of Dilshada Akhter, this office vide No:- ZEO/S/Sms/2144-46/25 Dated:-25.09.2025 withdrew the provisional engagement of Dilshada Akhter in ab-initio.

Whereas, Headmaster MS Trail vide No: HMGMS/2128/2026 Dated:-07.02.2026, reported that Dilshada Akhter has not joined the school on the issue of the provisional engagement order and has requested for engagement of AAYA in the school.

Whereas, the committee already constituted ibid was requested to consider the request of Headmaster MS Trail and the said committee in the meeting dated ;09/04/2026 has recommended the engagement of MASRAT BANOO figuring at serial No:02 in the already framed panel, for engagement of AAYA in the said school.

Now, therefore Mtr. Masrat Banoo D/O:- Mohd Sultan Raina, (Widow) figuring at Sno. 02 in the already prepared panel (enclosed at Annexure 'A' to this notification) is recommended for engagement as AAYA in MS Trail, subject to the objections, if any, within seven days from the date of publication of this notification by this office and no objection beyond cut off date shall be entertained.

It is further notified that:

- Mere figuring in the tentative selection list shall not entitle a candidate to figure in the final selection list/engagement as AAYA/Helper and shall be further subject to the document verification from issuing authorities.
- The Tentative selection list shall be subject to the outcome/writ petition(s), if any, pending in any court of law of the competent jurisdiction.
- The Tentative Selection List shall also be subject to the outcome of enquiry, if any, involving candidates, figuring in the tentative selection list.

Annexure - "A" to this office Notification No.: ZEO/S/Sms/1198-1201/2026 Dated: 08/07/2026

S.No	S.No. in Panel	Name of the School	Name of the Applicant	Father/Husband's Name	Date of Birth	Qual.	Village	Ration Card Type	Whether Widow	Whether Divorced	Whether Orphan	Remarks		
											Both	Father	Mother	
01	02	MS Trail	Masrat Banoo	Mohd Sultan Raina	10.03.1998	9th	Trail	AAY	Yes	No	No	No	No	Widow

No. ZEO/S/Sms/1198-1201/2026

DIPK-3031/26 Dated: 09/07/2026.

sd/-
Zonal Education Officer,
Srigufwara.

PM SHRI JAWAHAR NAVODAYA YAVIDYALAYA AISHMUQAM DISTT. ANANTNAG

NOTIFICATION FOR LAUNCHING OF ONLINE PORTAL FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS FOR CLASSVI JNVST-2027

Online Registration portal for Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Selection Test (JNVST)-2027 for Admission to class VI for the session (2027-28) is launched. **The last date of submission of online application is 31.07.2026.** The candidates may apply free of cost by visiting the NVS website <https://navodaya.gov.in/> or <https://cbseitms.rcil.gov.in/nvs/Index/Registration>.

Prospectus may be seen at <https://navodaya.gov.in/nvs/en/Admission-JNVST/Admission-Notifications/>

DIPK-3064/26 dated: 09-07-2026

(S.N.Gupta) Principal

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name as been wrongly written in my school records as Seerat D/o Bail Ahmad Gani While my correct name is Seerat D/o Bail Ahmad Doom. Now I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned office within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Seerat D/O Bail Ahmad Doom
R/O Hanji Bough Magam

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have changed my name from (Old name) Amir Jan ... to (New name). Amir Jan Shalla In future will be known as (New name). Amir Jan Shalla If any body is having any objection he/she may contact Passport Office, Srinagar with in 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

inf

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan
Executive Magistrate 1st Class

Subject: Order for registration of Date of Birth in the records of Municipal Committee Pattan

Public Notice

The registrar Births and Deaths (Executive Officer, Municipal Committee Pattan has submitted case file pertaining to birth of Azan Bilal Mochi S/o Bilal Ahmad Mochi R/o Yamberzal Colony Kalsari Distt Baramulla having verified the date of birth as 21-08-2022 and the event has been shown to be occurred at SDH Pattan for issuance of Delay order.

In this connection if anybody having any objection to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall submit his/hr claim to this office within seven (7) days after that no objection shall be entertained

fko Naib Tehsildar

OFFICE OF THE NAIB TEHSILDAR TILGAM
EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS

Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/Death Registration.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer), Pattan, has submitted case files for delayed birth registration of:

- Tanseef Fayaz Lone, S/O Fayaz Ahmad Lone, R/O Wanigam Bala, Tehsil Pattan, DOB: 25-03-2018 (Home).
- Kausar Ahmad Lone, S/O Fayaz Ahmad Lone, R/O Wanigam Bala, Tehsil Pattan, DOB: 10-02-2014 (Home).

Any person having any objection may contact this office within 07 days, failing which no objection shall be entertained.

Executive Magistrate
1st Class Naib Tehsildar,
Tilgam/Pattan

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, I, Khadim Hussan Kasana S/o Mohammad Akbar Kasana R/O RINGABAL KHANSAHIB BUDGAM J&K, intend to apply in the office of the Prescribed Authority of Directorate of Tourism Kashmir for registration of my proposed Paying Guest House/Home Stay under the name and style "Tahira Paying Guest house Khadim Hussain Kasana" situated at Ringabzal Khansahib budgam j&k 193411 under the Tourist Trade Act, 1978/82/2011. Whereas, I will submit Land Ownership Certificate from the concerned Tehsildar with attested photographs of the unit through Dy. Commissioner concerned, Rent/Lease Deed/Partnership Deed issued by the concerned Sub-Registrar, Judicial Magistrate (if applicable), NOC from the owner to the effect that the property can be used as Home Stay, Character Certificate of the applicant from the concerned Police Station, undertaking from the owner as self-declaration, Public Notice inviting objections, if any, in print media, list of family members with Name, Age and Photograph self-attested by the owner, photographs of the unit as mentioned in the application (each of exterior and individual bedrooms and bathrooms), Inspection Report by the Committee (the recommendation of the Inspection Committee shall decide whether to issue registration to the unit or not, keeping in view the type of accommodation and amenities), and Aadhaar Card. Now, before my case is processed for registration by the Prescribed Authority, the matter is hereby notified for information of the general public/organizations for objections, if any. The same should reach the office of the Prescribed Authority within a period of 7 days from the publication of this notice in a leading local newspaper of the Valley. Objections received beyond the period of 7 days from the date of publication shall not be entertained, and the case shall be processed under rules as per merit.

Media Line Ads

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, I, Ghulam Qadir Kasana S/o Ghulam Kasana R/o ringabzal Khansahib budgam j&k, intend to apply in the office of the Prescribed Authority of Directorate of Tourism Kashmir for registration of my proposed Paying Guest House/Home Stay under the name and style " Tosamadian Paying Guest House" situated at Ringabzal Khansahib budgam j&k 193411 under the Tourist Trade Act, 1978/82/2011. Whereas, I will submit Land Ownership Certificate from the concerned Tehsildar with attested photographs of the unit through Dy. Commissioner concerned, Rent/Lease Deed/Partnership Deed issued by the concerned Sub-Registrar, Judicial Magistrate (if applicable), NOC from the owner to the effect that the property can be used as Home Stay, Character Certificate of the applicant from the concerned Police Station, undertaking from the owner as self-declaration, Public Notice inviting objections, if any, in print media, list of family members with Name, Age and Photograph self-attested by the owner, photographs of the unit as mentioned in the application (each of exterior and individual bedrooms and bathrooms), Inspection Report by the Committee (the recommendation of the Inspection Committee shall decide whether to issue registration to the unit or not, keeping in view the type of accommodation and amenities), and Aadhaar Card. Now, before my case is processed for registration by the Prescribed Authority, the matter is hereby notified for information of the general public/organizations for objections, if any. The same should reach the office of the Prescribed Authority within a period of 7 days from the publication of this notice in a leading local newspaper of the Valley. Objections received beyond the period of 7 days from the date of publication shall not be entertained, and the case shall be processed under rules as per merit.

Media Line Ads

Office of the Naib-Tehsildar Tilgam
Executive Magistrate 1st Class

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

The registrar Births and deaths (Block Development Officer Pattan) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Marayam Jan Wani D/o Bashir Ahmad Wani R/o Dargam Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla with verified date of event (birth) as 01-08-1992 occurred at Home

In this connection, if anybody having any objection to the issuance of said registration may contact this office within seven (07) days, after which no objections shall be entertained.

Executive Magistrate 1st Class
Naib Tehsildar Tilgam

fko

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub... Application on behalf of Peer Mohd Iqbal s/o Peer Sada ud din R/o Poshwani Pattan for issuance of legal heir certificate..

PUBLIC NOTICE

IT is inform to general public that applicants father's legal heir certificate is under process in this office in this matter report was sought from Patwari concerned which reveals that applicants father namely Peer Sada ud din s/o Peer shamus ud din R/o Poshwani Pattan Tehsil Pattan district baramulla died on 21/11/2025 and Left following legal heirs...

S.NO	Name	AGE	Occupation	Marital status	Realtion with deceased
01	Peer Mohd Iqbal	61	Pensioner	Married	Son
02	Shahzada Begum	58	Housewife	Married	Daughter
03	Tahira Begum	55	Housewife	Married	Daughter
04	Kulsooma Jan	45	Housewife	Married	Daughter
05	Rifat Ara	38	Housewife	Married	Daughter

In this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

Sd
Naib Tehsildar Pattan

fko

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub.. issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth..

PUBLIC NOTICE.

The registrar birth BDO Sherabad Khore has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Abdul Salam Wani S/o Sonaulah Wani R/o Shirpora Tehsil Pattan district baramulla with verified date of birth 09/03/1959 . In this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

Sd
Naib Tehsildar Pattan

fko

از نیابت پٹھان
 عنوان :- درخواست جناب حاجرہ بیگم زوجہ مرحوم اسد اللہ کون سا کڈ گوسہ بگ تحصیل پٹن
 برادرانی لیگل ہیر سرٹیفکیٹ لین خود
 اشتہار ہر خاص و عام
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصد میں سائل اسائل نے ایک درخواست لیکل ہیر سرٹیفکیٹ
 پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پڈاری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس
 سے مہاں ہے کہ سائل اسائل کا شوہر شہید اسد اللہ کون مطابق دستہ سرٹیفکیٹ مورثہ
 08-01-2026 کو فوت ہو چکا ہے دستوں کے دارخان جائزہ ذیل ہے

حاجرہ بیگم	زوجہ	69 سال	گھریلو کام
گلشن بیگم	دختر	44 سال	--
ریاض احمد لون	پسر	40 سال	مزدوری
فیاض احمد لون	--	36 سال	--

متوفیہ کی زوجہ لیگل ہیر سرٹیفکیٹ دفتر حذالین زیر کاروائی ہے سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء
 کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عجز یا عترض ہو تو وہ بعد مشورہ اخبار سات دن کے اندر نامدر
 آپ سے عذر یا عترض عدالت حذاً کو دفتر کی اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے سے عجز کو کوئی
 عذر یا عترض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نایب تحصیلدار
FKO

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Javid ahmad dar, R/o Ahmad nagar srinagar, hereby inform the public that I have lost the original key of my vehicle bearing Registration No. JK018C9998 on 07/07/2026 at Mallabagh Srinagar. Despite diligent efforts, the key could not be traced.

If anyone finds the said vehicle key, they are requested to contact me at 6005047562 or hand it over to the nearest police station. The owner shall not be responsible for any misuse of the lost key from the date of this publication.

Javid ahmad dar
Contact: 6005047562
Date: 10/07/2026

Media line advt

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that the name Adil Ahmad Magloo S/o Ali Mohammad Magloo mentioned in the Driving Licence records is incorrect.

The correct name is: Adil Ahmad Magloo S/o Ali mohmad
Driving license No.: JK- 0120120074036

I am applying for correction in the official records. If anyone has any objection to the same, they may contact RT0 office Srinagar, within 7 days of publication of this notice. After that, no objection will be entertained.

media line advt

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Reyaz Ahmad Parry, S/o Farhatah Reyaz, R/o Wailoo Kralpora, Tehsil Kunzer, P.O. Kunzer, District Baramulla, J&K, hereby inform the general public that my daughter's name has been wrongly recorded as Farhat Riyaz in her Aadhaar Card bearing No. 2555-7039-2962. Her correct and actual name is Farhatah Reyaz.

Henceforth, she shall be known and recognized by the name Farhatah Reyaz for all official purposes. If anyone has any objection to this correction, they may file the same before the concerned authority within the prescribed period.

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have changed my name from (old name) FATIMA to (New name) FATIMA BANO. In future I will be known as (new Name) FATIMA BANO. If any body having any objection he/she may contact Passport Office, Srinagar within 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

FATIMA BANO W/O MOHAMMAD JAFFAR MIR
R/O WATERWANI BUDGAM.

mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that in Birth Certificate of my daughter the name is entered as HAZIMAH BINT MOHAMMAD while her actual name is HAZIMAH MOHAMMAD. Now i want its correction, in this regard if anybody having any objection may contact EXECUTIVE OFFICER MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BUDGAM with in a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that.

GHULAM MOHAMMAD BHAT
F/O HAZIMAH MOHAMMAD
R/O NADIWAN PORA BUDGAM
CELL. 7006319863

mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Firdous Ahmad Dar, S/o Mohd Amin Dar, R/o Chandbigh Narikhar, TESHIL KUNZER District Baramulla, Jammu & Kashmir (UT), hereby notify the general public that I have applied to the concerned authority for the upgradation of my contractor registration from D Class to C Class in the Public Works Department (PWD), Jammu & Kashmir. My existing D Class Contractor Registration No. is PWD-JNK-CONT-2023-471028.

If any person has any objection regarding the proposed upgradation of my contractor registration, he/she may submit the same in writing, along with supporting documentary evidence, to the concerned authority within 07 (Seven) days from the date of publication of this notice. If no objection is received within the stipulated period, it shall be presumed that no one has any objection, and the concerned authority may proceed with the upgradation process as per rules.

Firdous Ahmad Dar S/o Mohd Amin Dar
R/o Chandbigh Narikhar, Kunzer
District Baramulla, J&K (UT)

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Peer Aalam, hereby inform the general public that I have lost my wallet containing the following original documents:- Driving Licence- Aadhaar Card- PAN Card- Voter ID (Election Card) The wallet was misplaced, and despite my best efforts, it could not be traced. If anyone finds the wallet or any of the above-mentioned documents, kindly return them to the undersigned or hand them over to the nearest police station.

Any misuse of these lost documents by any unauthorized person shall be entirely at their own risk. I shall not be responsible for any such misuse. This notice is being published to inform the public and to facilitate the issuance of duplicate documents.

Peer Aalam
Date: 8 July 2026
Place: Shutsa shahi Shaheed gunj
7780838853

Media line advt

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to correct name in my service record working in Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences from Muneer Ahmed Zargar to Muneer Ahmad Zargar. Anybody having any objection in this regard may submit his or her in Administrative Office (Personal) of SKIMS within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. After expiry of the time period no objection will be entertained.

Muneer Ahmad Zargar
S/O Gh. Rasool Zargar
Date: 10/07/2026

Media line advt

اطلاع عام

ہر خاص و عام کو بذریعہ اشتہار اطلاع کیا جاتا ہے کہ میرے جوں و کشمیر کے ایک کادھت ذریعہ
 BILALAH AKHTER کے نام پر 0078040100775463 اندر نام ہوا ہے جبکہ میرا اصل نام
 BILALA KHALIQ ہے۔ اب اس کی درستی کرانی مطلوب ہے اس بارے میں اگر کسی عترض ہو تو وہ سات
 دن کے اندر نامدر برائے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے کے بعد کوئی بھی عترض قابل
 قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

BILALA KHALIQ W/O MUZAMIL AHMAD RESHI
R/O RESHI MOHALLAH RASAMWANI
TANGMARG BARAMULLA.

Several Delegations Call on CM Omar at Raabita

bserver News Service

Srinagar: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah met several public delegations at Raabita and listened to their grievances and demands concerning various public and sector-specific issues.

A delegation of the Industrial POP Association, Khunmoh, called on the Chief Minister and highlighted the challenges confronting the Plaster of

gave a patient hearing to the delegation and assured its members that the matter would be examined in consultation with the concerned departments to explore a sustainable solution.

Later, a delegation of the Khidmat Centre Association met the Chief Minister and submitted a proposal concerning them.

The Chief Minister assured the delegation that



Paris (POP) industry in Kashmir due to the non-availability of gypsum. The Chief Minister

its representation would be examined on merit in consultation with the concerned departments.

Man Electrocuted to Death in Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A 35-year-old man was electrocuted to death in the HMT area on the outskirts of Srinagar on Thursday, officials said.

An official told KNO that the man suffered an electric shock and was rushed to a hospital, where

doctors declared him brought dead.

The deceased was later identified as Parvaiz Ahmed Parray (35), son of Habibullah Parray and a resident of Allahipora Wagoora in Baramulla district.

Police have taken cognizance of the incident and initiated further proceedings.

High Court Judges Inspect New High Court Complex Site

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Justice Sanjay Dhar, Chairman of the Building and Infrastructure Committee, along with Justices Rahul Bharti, Moksha Khajuria Kazmi, Member of the Building and Infrastructure Committee and Justice Shahzad Azeem, on Thursday visited the site of the new High Court Complex, Srinagar to review the progress and pace of construction.

On the occasion, the Executive Engineer, R&B Project Division-I Srinagar, delivered a detailed presentation on the status of the ongoing project. He apprised the Judges of the various phases of construction completed so far and outlined the new works scheduled to be taken up in the future.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Fayaz Ahmad Malik, S/o Ali Mohammad Malik, R/o Gul Afshan Mugalgam, Tehsil Kunzer, District Baramulla, J&K, hereby notify that my ward's name has been wrongly recorded in Aadhaar Card No. 2688 4823 4730 as Farhaan Fayaz. The correct name is Furqan Ahmad Malik as per the Birth Certificate. Henceforth, Furqan Ahmad Malik shall be treated as the correct and valid name for all official purposes. If any person has any objection, the same may be conveyed to the concerned authority within the prescribed period.

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Mohammad Amin Dar, S/o Assadullah Dar, R/o Chandibugh Narikhara, Tehsil Kunzer, District Baramulla, Jammu & Kashmir (UT), hereby notify the general public that I have applied to the concerned authority for the issuance of a new D Class Contractor Registration Card in the Public Works Department (PWD), Jammu & Kashmir. If any person has any objection regarding the issuance of the said D Class Contractor Registration Card in my favour, he/she may submit the same in writing, along with supporting documentary evidence, to the concerned authority within 07 (Seven) days from the date of publication of this notice. If no objection is received within the stipulated period, it shall be presumed that no one has any objection, and the concerned authority may proceed with the registration as per the applicable rules.

Mohammad Amin Dar
S/o Assadullah Dar
R/o Chandibugh Narikhara, Tehsil Kunzer
District Baramulla, J&K (UT)

inf

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan Executive Magistrate 1st Class

Subject: Order for registration of Date of Birth in the records of Municipal Committee Pattan

Public Notice

The registrar Births and Deaths (Executive Officer, Municipal Committee Pattan has submitted case file pertaining to birth of Maseeha Rafiq S/O Mohd Rafiq Wani R/O Shipora. Distt Baramulla having verified the date of birth as 28-02-2020 and the event has been shown to be occurred at SDH Pattan for issuance of Delay order.

In this connection if anybody having any objection to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall submit his/hr claim to this office within seven (7) days after that no objection shall be entertained

fko

Naib Tehsildar



LCMA Speeds Up Khushalsar, Gilsar Conservation

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Vice Chairman of the Lake Conservation & Management Authority (LCMA), Khurshid Ahmad Shah, on Thursday reviewed conservation works at the Khushalsar-Gilsar lake system and directed officials to expedite demarcation, deploy cleaning machinery without delay, and prepare a proposal for fencing vulnerable stretches to prevent encroachments.

A spokesperson said the Vice Chairman was accompanied by the Superintending Engineer, Collector, Executive Engineers, Assistant Executive Engineers (AEEs), Junior Engineers (JEs), Revenue officials and other officers of the Authority.

The spokesperson said the Vice Chairman conducted a comprehensive on-the-spot review of the demarcation exercise being carried out by field teams. He inspected the identified land parcels and assessed the progress made on the ground.

Stressing the importance of clearly establishing the boundaries of the water bodies and their protected areas, he directed the demarcation teams to expedite

the pegging and marking of all identified land to ensure proper identification, protection and effective monitoring of these ecologically significant assets.

Interacting with the field staff, the Vice Chairman emphasized the need for sustained vigilance and coordinated efforts in carrying out conservation activities. He instructed the concerned officers to ensure that the demarcation work is completed in a time-bound manner while maintaining complete accuracy and transparency.

He further directed that regular inspections be conducted to prevent any encroachment or unauthorized activity within the demarcated areas.

Reviewing the condition of the water body, the Vice Chairman directed that the Water Master and barge be mobilized and shifted to the Khushalsar-Gilsar lake system on priority so that cleaning and restoration activities can be intensified without delay.

He stressed that all necessary logistical arrangements should be made immediately to ensure that the machinery becomes operational at the earliest.

The spokesperson said the Vice Chairman also reviewed the existing

protective measures along vulnerable stretches of the Khushalsar-Gilsar lake system. Recognizing the need to strengthen the physical protection of the lake boundaries, he directed the Engineering Wing of LCMA to immediately prepare a detailed proposal for installing chain-link fencing at identified vulnerable locations.

He observed that appropriate fencing would help secure the demarcated land, discourage encroachments and support the long-term preservation and restoration of the water bodies.

Reiterating the Authority's commitment to conserving the Khushalsar-Gilsar lake system, the Vice Chairman said LCMA remains dedicated to protecting these important urban wetlands through scientific management, continuous monitoring, infrastructure development and active field-level interventions.

He said the restoration and safeguarding of these water bodies are vital for maintaining ecological balance, improving the urban environment and preserving the natural heritage of the Kashmir Valley for future generations

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
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- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
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AIRPORTS
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

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

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

PRAYERS

FAJR 3: 44
ZUHR 12:36
ASR 5: 35
Magrib 7: 48
ISHA 9: 27

HIJRI CALENDAR
24 Muharram
1448

From KO Archives

J&K Next To Bihar In Corruption.
TII, CMS Blow Whistle
Observer News Service

Srinagar - Jammu and Kashmir is in the news for yet another wrong reason, that it is India's second most corrupt state, next only to Bihar, while Kerala has emerged as the least corrupt state. The startling revelation follows a recent survey titled "The India Corruption Study 2005," conducted jointly by the Transparency International India (TII) and die Centre for Media Studies (CMS). The study sampled about 14,500 respondents from over 150 cities and 300 villages across 20 Indian states and covered about a dozen services, including police, judiciary, education and public distribution system. It has placed the state very low at 19th position, just a shade ahead of Bihar.

Apparently, die services surveyed may not have included various engineering disciplines, industries and allied sectors, revenue, agriculture and allied fields, education, healthcare, transport and traffic control. In case they were, Jammu and Kashmir should have had die dubious distinction of being die most corrupt state ahead of Bihar. While die alarming report may not have disturbed die sleep of those in die helm, die revelations must certainly not be music "to die state people's ears. By any stretch of imagination, the scenario is greatly disturbing for a place otherwise groaning under the debilitating impact of numerous other misfortunes, natural as well as manmade. Given the tall promises held out by successive rulers to root it out, die disclosure is all die more amazing.

For the only Muslim majority state mat Jammu and Kashmir continues to be in spite of die sustained, and in some degree successful, government-inspired attempts to change its

demographic complexion, die revelations are all the more shocking. One is reminded of the story that an old woman refused to believe that a Muslim had lied on something "I can't believe that a Muslim can ever tell a lie", she told her informer. It must have entailed a relentless effort by that known enemy, satan, and his countless visible and invisible followers to erase die most effective deterrent from die Muslim mind i.e. a firm belief in die Day of Judgement, even if its indicators are visible to die naked eye all over. The custodians of religion would need to ponder over die grim situation.

Pertinently, it is die government which is squarely responsible for die situation taking a turn for die worse in spite of die pledges die successive rulers made while seeking people's mandate. The incumbent regime is particularly answerable because its promises were much louder not only to eradicate the canker but even to bring the earlier swindlers and scammers to justice. The

Peoples Democratic Party, which wrested power from National Conference on die main plank of eradicating corruption, took about three years to identify a presiding officer for die Accountability Commission even as making it visibly functional may take another three years for its major coalition partner, Congress, to make die high-profile body discernibly functional.

By now, the chief minister, Mufti Muhammad Sayeed, must have forgotten what he told die people on assuming die high office: that nobody should approach him in matters of recruitment as die process would be made absolutely transparent. 'Not only that he and several of his ministerial colleagues are accused of making backdoor appointments, the coalition partners certainly have a mischief Up their sleeves for the ensuing recruitment to over 20,000 vacancies in government departments. This is not the occasion to enumerate all the scandals that surfaced over the recent years in which the government's Conduct has been suspect, even to the extent of overt and covert complicity. Instances are galore to suggest the present rulers are worse than their predecessors.

(Kashmir Observer, 10 July, 2005)

Government of Jammu and Kashmir (UT)

Department of Agriculture Production and Farmers Welfare. Office of the Chief Agriculture Officer, Shopian.

Subject: -Selection list of candidate/s for engagement as Krishi Udyami for KKG Location Check Sidiq Khan Block Harman in District Shopian under HADP.

NOTIFICATION

Whereas, Mission Director, Holistic Agriculture Development Program approved establishment of Kisan Khidmat Ghar (KKGs) vide letter No. E-7358056/Plan-2/2/2023 dated: 07.02.2024 and engagement of Krishi Udyamis (KU) (Agriculture Entrepreneurs) to operate the KKGs through District Development Commissioner of respective District;

Whereas, under the chairmanship of District Development Commissioner Shopian, an engagement committee was constituted vide chief agriculture Officer Shopian's No. CAO/SPN/Dev-160/2024-25/1919-25 dated: 27-07-2024 for engagement of Krishi Udyamis (KU) Agricultural entrepreneurs in District Shopian;

Whereas, an advertisement notices for engagement of Krishi Udyami (KU) for KKG Location Check Sidiq Khan Block Harman in District Shopian was issued by District Development Commissioner Shopian's no. DDS/25/3060-63 dated: 07-03-2025 for engagement of Krishi Udyami on temporary bases initially for a period of two years, after resignation of previously selected KU for the above location;

Whereas, as per laid down criteria of weightage, on pro-rata basis, to the academic qualification and experience in relevant domain/field, the provisional merit list was framed by the committee and published vide no. CAO/SPN/HADP-20/2026-27/1365-68 Dated: 01-07-2026 in local dailies and on official website of District Development Commissioner Shopian for objection (if any) from the applicants within a period of four (04) days from the date of publication (02-07-2026);

Whereas, 02 numbers of objections were received in stipulated time for name correction and all the objections were redressed and disposed off as per the prescribed criteria for selection of KU's.

Therefore, the selection list of Krishi Udyamis for KKG Location Check Sidiq Khan Block Harman in district Shopian is hereby notified (enclosed as Annexure "A").

It is further notified that: The selected candidates are directed to report Chief Agriculture Officer, Shopian within a period of Four (04) days alongwith site plan of the location (owned/ rented) where KKG will be housed for which the candidate will not claim rent from government, if the KKG is not housed in government accommodation. Further, if the selected candidate fails to report within the stipulated time along with Site plan, his/her candidature shall be deemed to have been cancelled abinitio and the waiting list shall be operated accordingly, without any further notice.

By Order.

Sd/-
Addl. District Development Commissioner,
(District Nodal Officer, HADP/ JKICP)
Shopian.

NO: CAO/SPN/HADP-21/2026-27/ DIPP-3028/26 Date:09/07/2026

Annexure "A" of communication no. CAO/SPN/HADP-20/2026-27/ Date: /07/2026

Selection list of candidate/s for engagement as Krishi Udyami for KKG Location Check Sidiq Khan Block Harman in District Shopian under HADP

S No	Name	Parentage	Address	Total Points	Remarks
01	Aadil Hussain Malik	Mohammad Ashraf Malik	Hardu Nagisharan	59.25	Selected Candidate
02	Ishtiyahq Ahmad Bhat	Gul Mohd Bhat	Tachloo	50.91	Waiting List Candidate
03	Kashifa Hameed	Abdul Hameed Bhat	Ganowpora Arshi	30.16	Waiting List Candidate

The waiting list shall remain operative for a period of one year.

Chief Agriculture Officer,
Shopian

3rd Death Anniversary In Loving Memory of



Farooq Ahmed Khan

S/o Late Mohammad Akram Khan
R/o Sari Bala, Srinagar

Present Address: Friends Colony, Zakura Crossing
Who left for the heavenly abode on 10th July, 2023

Two years have passed since you left us, but your presence still lingers in our hearts. Your love, guidance, and memories continue to inspire and strengthen us every day. You are deeply missed and forever remembered.

Fondly remembered by

Tariq Ahmad Khan (Son) | Neyaz Ahmad Khan (Son)
Cell No: 7006950379

KASHMIR OBSERVER™

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The Debate That Now Defines Kashmir

Political parties now rally around statehood, revealing how constitutional change has redirected the region's public debate.



Farooq Ahmad Khan



Politics rarely stands still. Public arguments evolve, priorities shift and campaigns that once dominated newsmill gradually give way to fresh constitutional goals.

Jammu and Kashmir has lived through one of the clearest examples of that transformation since August 2019.

The campaign for restoring statehood since speaks to a genuine constitutional aspiration, but it also tells a larger story about how political strategy can change the very subject of public debate.

Military history draws a useful distinction between winning a battle and selecting the battlefield.

One tests courage, planning and execution, the other tests foresight.

Commanders who determine where a contest unfolds often influence its outcome way before fighting begins.

Politics works in much the same way. Electoral victories count, although long-term success often comes from changing the question people discuss before they decide whom to support.

That principle helps explain the evolution of political discourse in Jammu and Kashmir.

Constitutional changes introduced in August 2019 reorganized the former state into a Union Territory and ended the constitutional position that had existed under Articles 370 and 35A.

Those decisions transformed institutions, administration and public expectations. They also redirected the focus of mainstream politics.

Statehood now drives political debate in the valley. Political parties with very different histories and ideologies speak with remarkable consistency on this issue. Their demand rests on a constitutional foundation.

Jammu and Kashmir functioned as a full-fledged state for decades after its accession to India. Citizens therefore view restoration of that status as a legitimate political objective rather than a symbolic slogan.

The recent protest at Jantar Mantar brought that sentiment into sharp sight.

Political leaders came together around one constitutional demand and placed statehood at the top of their agenda. Many people who support the campaign believe restoring statehood would bring back an elected government with greater constitutional authority and stronger control over administration.

Leaders from different political parties support that demand.

That brings us to a bigger question: why has statehood become the main political issue in Kashmir today?

One reason stands out. The constitutional changes came first, and

politics gradually adjusted to that new reality. Public debate moved in the same direction.

People may disagree on whether that shift was carefully planned or simply happened as a result of the changes made in 2019.

History may never settle that argument. One fact, however, is hard to miss: Kashmir's political debate is very different today from what it was a few years ago.

Mainstream politics in Jammu and Kashmir once revolved around a different constitutional vocabulary. Articles 370 and 35A formed the centre of political debate. Several parties defended the existing arrangement, others argued for greater autonomy or self-rule. Some advocated much broader political objectives.

Those disagreements defined elections, speeches and public discussion for many years. August 2019 altered that landscape almost overnight.

Once those constitutional provisions ceased to operate and Jammu and Kashmir became a Union Territory, the previous constitutional debate gradually gave way to another.

Statehood emerged as the principal constitutional demand, and public attention shifted with remarkable speed because political discourse generally follows constitutional reality rather than abstract theory.

Some observers see deliberate strategy behind that transition, others view it as the natural consequence of sweeping constitutional change.

Both interpretations remain plausible, and either way, the outcome stands clear: political vocabulary today bears little resemblance to the language that dominated public life before 2019.

That transformation may prove as significant as the constitutional decisions themselves. Statehood also holds significance well beyond administrative arrangements.

States enjoy stronger constitutional standing than Union Territories. Elected governments exercise wider authority. Institutions gain greater democratic legitimacy. Citizens often associate statehood with political identity and meaningful

participation in governance.

Restoring that position would therefore produce constitutional, administrative and psychological consequences that extend well beyond official paperwork.

That broader context explains why the current campaign needs careful attention.

Public debate rarely changes through speeches alone. Institutions, laws and constitutional decisions influence the subjects citizens discuss. Political organizations then adapt their campaigns to those new realities.

Voters gradually judge leaders through the lens of the latest constitutional objective rather than the arguments that dominated an earlier era.

The protest at Jantar Mantar therefore captured the evolution of political discourse in real time.

Participants called for restoration of statehood, although the gathering also illustrated how constitutional change can redirect public debate itself.

Political priorities shifted because the constitutional framework shifted first.

History records constitutional decisions, citizens remember political campaigns, and strategic choices often determine which questions dominate public life for decades.

Jammu and Kashmir now stands at such a moment.

Statehood commands the political spotlight today, while earlier constitutional debates occupy a very different place in public discourse.

That shift tells its own story.

Anyone seeking to understand Kashmir's politics must examine the transformation in the debate itself, because the subject of political contest often influences the destination way before the contest reaches its conclusion.

The author is an advocate practising before the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, and can be reached at frooqahmadkhan@gmail.com.

KO VIEW

Kashmir Needs Volunteers

Communities become stronger when people stop waiting for someone else to fix local problems.

That idea feels especially relevant in Kashmir, where health challenges, environmental damage and social issues often put heavy pressure on public institutions.

Government has an important role to play, though a strong society also grows when ordinary people give their time, skills and energy to help those around them.

Volunteering often begins with simple acts: students teach children after school, young people clean parks and public spaces, doctors hold free medical camps, lawyers guide families through legal questions, and blood donation drives bring strangers together for a common cause.

None of these efforts attracts large headlines, though all of them improve daily life in visible ways.

People begin to know their neighbours, trust grows and communities become more connected. And that trust produces practical results.

People who work together before a crisis respond faster when floods, fires or accidents strike. Local volunteers already proved this during difficult moments in Kashmir, when citizens opened homes, cooked meals, collected medicines and supported rescue efforts.

Those experiences showed that community spirit grows stronger through action rather than speeches. Strong relationships built during ordinary days become valuable during extraordinary ones.

Volunteer work also changes the people who step forward.

Young men and women gain confidence by leading projects instead of waiting for instructions. College students learn teamwork, communication and problem solving through real experience. Retired teachers, engineers and doctors continue serving society by sharing knowledge with a new generation. Children who grow up watching parents volunteer often adopt the same habit, creating a culture of public service that lasts well beyond a single campaign.

Many countries treat community service as part of education and civic life. Schools encourage students to spend time helping local organisations. Universities recognise community work alongside academic achievement. Companies allow employees to spend working hours on public projects.

Those ideas strengthen civic participation while building stronger neighbourhoods.

Kashmir already has the foundation for such a culture. Environmental groups organise clean-up drives. Youth organisations support education programmes. Civil society groups help families facing hardship. Blood donation campaigns attract large numbers of volunteers.

Those examples prove that goodwill already exists. Better coordination can multiply that impact.

Schools, colleges, businesses and local organisations can all expand opportunities for public service. Community projects linked to education, healthcare, environmental protection and disaster preparedness would strengthen public life while giving young people valuable experience.

Public recognition for volunteers would also encourage wider participation.

Strong communities grow through shared responsibility. Laws can guide society, public spending can improve services and institutions can solve large problems. But lasting social strength also comes from neighbours who choose to help one another without waiting for instructions.

A stronger Kashmir will depend as much on citizens who step forward as on governments that step up.

Paradise Has a Limit

The valley's record tourism numbers have filled hotels and boosted business, but they have also overwhelmed roads, lakes and forests. Sustainable tourism now matters more than bigger arrival figures.



Miyan Mohammad Arif

Kashmir markets itself as paradise, and some 2.35 crore tourists believed the pitch in 2024.

That number, the highest the Tourism Department has recorded in recent memory, should be a triumph.

Instead it exposes a government that built a marketing campaign without building the infrastructure to back it.

I drove from Jammu to Srinagar recently and watched the evidence roll past my window.

Convoys of private vehicles, plates from Punjab, Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, stretched for miles. The economic signal was unmistakable, so was the strain.

Dal Lake sits packed with shikaras during peak season. Pahalgam's meadows fill past any reasonable limit. The roads to Gulmarg and Sonamarg grind into daily gridlock. Hotels run full, parking lots overflow onto shoulders and footpaths.

This is what happens when a destination absorbs more visitors than its roads, water systems and waste infrastructure can sustain, and Kashmir crossed that threshold without anyone in authority saying so out loud.

The wreckage is visible on the ground itself.

Plastic bottles collect along the edges of Dal Lake. Food wrappers and disposable cups pile up in rivers, forests and alpine meadows. Dustbins overflow at picnic spots because nobody planned for the volume now showing up. Water resources strain under demand they were never designed to meet.

None of this is speculative. It sits there, photographed daily by the same tourists who came to see something unspoiled.

The private-vehicle boom compounds a second problem, one that gets far less attention than the litter.

Local taxi operators and travel agencies built their businesses on serving visitors who fly or take the train into the region. Self-driven convoys from other states bypass that entire economy.

Local drivers know the terrain, the shifting mountain weather, and the safest routes through passes that turn treacherous within hours. They function as guides as much as chauffeurs.

When outside vehicles displace them, the region loses organized, knowledgeable transport and gains chaos on roads already



buckling under volume.

Officials have a genuine remedy available, and they have left it sitting on the shelf.

An Environmental Conservation and Tourism Facilitation Fee on private vehicles entering Jammu and Kashmir from outside the territory would do two things at once.

It would generate dedicated revenue for waste management, lake and forest conservation, road maintenance, sanitation and parking infrastructure, the exact deficits now visible on every popular route.

And it would nudge visitors toward local transport, restoring business to drivers being squeezed out.

Beyond a barrier to tourism, this is the

price of keeping tourism viable past this decade.

Alongside that fee, the region needs something more basic: actual scientific study of how many visitors its major destinations can absorb without permanent damage.

Pahalgam and Dal Lake are operating on guesswork right now, and guesswork is how paradises get destroyed.

Waste management needs expansion: more bins, functioning recycling systems, organized parking, and sanitation that scales with the crowds already showing up.

Hotels and restaurants need incentives to segregate waste, harvest rainwater and cut energy use rather than treat sustainability as an option.

Awareness campaigns reaching

schools, tourism operators and residents alike could shift behaviour before the damage becomes irreversible.

The stakes go beyond scenery. Forests, once degraded, resist restoration, while polluted lakes take decades and enormous expense to recover, if they recover at all.

Kashmir's economy runs on an asset that cannot be manufactured twice. Hotel owners, houseboat operators, guides, artisans and shopkeepers built livelihoods on a landscape that took centuries to form and could unravel in a generation of neglect.

Growth in visitor numbers is not the same thing as success. Success looks like a lake that stays clear, roads that move, and a local economy that keeps its own drivers employed.

Kashmir still has the leverage to choose that outcome, but the runway is shortening with the crowds.

Decision-makers who keep celebrating arrival statistics while ignoring absorption limits are gambling with the one resource the valley cannot replace.

The paradise on the postcard only survives if someone finally treats it like one worth protecting rather than just selling.

The author is an advocate practicing before the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh at Srinagar. He can be reached at arifpir201@gmail.com.

A Tale of Two Margins

A look at how old pricing instincts are costing Kashmir's markets their most loyal customers.



Irshad Mushtaq

On a July afternoon in Lal Chowk, two electronics shopkeepers sell the same machine, purchased from the same supplier at a wholesale price of one lakh rupees.

By closing time, their cash drawers tell very different stories.

That simple difference, repeated thousands of times each day in markets across Kashmir, points to a deeper problem that local economists have begun to identify.

Irfan Ahmad runs a shop three doors down from Ali Bhat's. Both men learned the business from their fathers, who learned it from theirs.

Irfan holds to an old formula: buy low, mark up high, and sell to whoever walks through the door willing to pay. He prices his machine at one lakh fifty thousand rupees, banking fifty thousand rupees in profit on the single unit.

Some months he moves three machines. His monthly haul comes to one lakh fifty thousand rupees, and he speaks of it with visible pride when friends gather for tea.

Ali runs the numbers differently. He prices the same machine at one lakh twenty thousand rupees, keeping a profit of twenty thousand per unit, far leaner than his neighbour's.

But buyers who once drove past his shop toward Delhi-priced comparisons on their phones now walk straight through his door.

Ali moves ten machines some months, and his total comes to two lakh rupees, fifty thousand more than Irfan earns despite pocketing less on any individual sale.

Extend the math over twelve

months, and the gap widens further.

Irfan's yearly total lands near eighteen lakh rupees, while Ali's climbs past twenty-four lakh.

The extra six lakh rupees Ali banks comes with something his neighbour lacks: a growing list of customers who recommend his shop to relatives and coworkers.

The reversal captures a mistake economists say has taken hold among small businesses throughout the valley for decades, an instinct to measure success by the size of the markup on a single transaction rather than the total return generated over a full season of selling.

"People here were trained by an older market, one with fewer shops and far less information moving between buyers," said one Srinagar-based business consultant who has studied local pricing patterns. "That older market rewarded high margins because customers had little ability to compare. Today's buyer opens a phone and checks Delhi and Mumbai prices inside seconds."

The comparison-shopping habit now common among Kashmiri consumers has begun to punish traders who hold onto old pricing instincts.

A customer who discovers a steep markup on a shop's shelf item rarely voices a complaint on the spot. Instead, the buyer files the discovery away and drifts toward competitors, online platforms, or purchases made on trips outside the valley.

Shopkeepers watching foot traffic fall often blame a slow season or a difficult economy, missing the simpler explanation sitting in their own price tags.

The trend extends beyond electronics. Walk the aisles of a grocery store in Ahmedabad or Surat and local Gujarati brands fill the shelves: cooking oils, flours, spices, and snacks produced regionally, priced fairly, and woven into daily habit.

Kashmiri shelves tell a different story.

Household goods sold in Srinagar markets largely travel in from outside the valley, repackaged and resold with the same high-margin



KASHMIR'S ECONOMY HOLDS REAL VULNERABILITIES: DEPENDENCE ON OUTSIDE SUPPORT, A THIN BASE OF LOCAL MANUFACTURING, AND A WORKFORCE WHOSE BEST-EDUCATED MEMBERS OFTEN LOOK ELSEWHERE FOR CAREERS. Inside that landscape, a shopkeeper who overcharges a neighbor for short-term gain undercuts the very foundation the Valley's local economy needs to stand on. The lesson embedded in Irfan and Ali's ledgers runs simple: fair prices multiplied across many loyal customers outperform high prices squeezed from a shrinking few, year after year.

instinct that defines Irfan's approach to electronics.

Few homegrown Kashmiri brands have grown large enough to compete on their own turf, a gap business owners and economists both attribute to a preference for quick imported profit over patient, volume-driven brand building.

Educated young Kashmiris compound the problem, several local

business owners argue.

Commerce and management graduates emerging from the valley universities gravitate toward government employment or salaried jobs elsewhere, leaving family shops to run on inherited instinct rather than modern pricing analysis, inventory planning, or branding strategy.

The skills sit unused while the

businesses that could benefit from them stay stuck in old habits.

A counterexample has already taken root.

National retail chains and franchise outlets opening branches in Srinagar and beyond bring standardized pricing, controlled margins, and consistent quality control with them, and they staff those operations almost entirely with

Kashmiri employees.

Their success on the valley soil demonstrates something important: the workforce performs well under professionally managed pricing systems.

The limitation lies in inherited business habits, economists argue, rather than any deficiency among the people running the shops.

Reversing the pattern requires a handful of concrete shifts, business advisers in Srinagar say.

Shopkeepers can set margins based on genuine product quality and risk rather than what the traffic will bear. They can explain price differences honestly when quality varies, building buyer confidence instead of eroding it.

Above all, they can start measuring success across a full year of repeat business rather than the size of a single sale.

Five years forward, the diverging paths of Irfan and Ali provide a preview of what awaits Kashmiri traders who choose one instinct over the other.

Irfan's shop still stands, its shelves still filled, but a portion of his old customer base has drifted toward online retailers and rival shops offering fairer prices. He attributes the slowdown to a changing market.

Ali's shop has grown a loyal following that treats his storefront as a first stop rather than a last resort, insulating his business against slow seasons in ways Irfan's shop struggles to match.

Kashmir's economy holds real vulnerabilities: dependence on outside support, a thin base of local manufacturing, and a workforce whose best-educated members often look elsewhere for careers.

Inside that landscape, a shopkeeper who overcharges a neighbour for short-term gain undercuts the very foundation the valley's local economy needs to stand on.

The lesson embedded in Irfan and Ali's ledgers runs simple: fair prices multiplied across many loyal customers outperform high prices squeezed from a shrinking few, year after year.

— The author is a Srinagar-based financial educator.

A Land That Forgot to Sing

Kashmir's poetic tradition grew from longing, mysticism and deep reflection. Today, the pressures of modern life, technology and material ambition have replaced those impulses with speed, certainty and distraction.



Wajahat Qazi

It may not be far-fetched to describe historical Kashmir as the "land of poets."

The nature of poetry in Kashmir is suffused with mysticism, existentialism, a yearning for the visual (union) with the Divine, and a mournful elegy over firaq (the pain of separation) from the beloved.

This descriptive typology of the nature of poetry in Kashmir may be a tad reductive. But in the main, barring the romantic poetry interlude of Rasool Mir Sahib, the politics-inflected poems of Mehjoor, and the eclectic genre of Rehman Rahi, in the modern periods this may be said to constitute the gravamen of our poetic genius.

But the travesty (or even tragedy) is that Kashmir may not produce poetic greatness anymore.

We may actually have to rest on the proverbial laurels of the past. Even worse, Kashmir may have lost its indelible historical link with poetry.

Consider the evidence. Apart from Rehman Rahi, in the recent past Kashmir has not produced a poet of reckoning or worth.

Rahi, if memory serves me right, filled an interregnum after Mehjoor's death.

But, sadly, that's that. Why have we lost our connection and link with poetry?

The answer is, by necessity, anecdotal.

While the loss of our poetic eminence is almost an empirical fact, the reasons are not easy to locate and tease out.

One prong of the answer may be economic, the other sociological, followed by more prosaic ones. Re economics, there is a paradox in operation.

A cursory examination of the "class background" of our poetic greats reveals that most, if not all, were from very poor socio-economic backgrounds.

This reality jars with Maslow's hierarchy of needs and, tangentially, with neuroscience and some psychological theories.

Cumulatively, these postulate that higher-order thinking happens when basic human needs are satisfied (poverty becomes an intervening variable here).

Now, from the late Soche Kraal Sahib, late Nyame Sahib, late Ahad Zargar Sahib, Mahmud Gaemi Sahib, late Rasool Mir Sahib, and so on, to name just a few luminaries, all of them did not cut their teeth in wealth, so to speak.

From a material, socio-economic perspective, they were working-class people. But, in terms of their poetic genius, their work speaks eloquently.

Does this mean that poverty and immiserating conditions of life are the springboards for great works of art, like poetry?

And, contrarily, does the capitalist wealth effect denude a given society of its art and poetry?

Historically, if the West is used as a comparator here, it appears that the best and greatest works of art emerge in not-so-great times.

The material advancement of the West has not produced a Shakespeare, Dickens, Yeats, Virgil, or Walt Whitman.

But then, if the "bleak houses" of the world (underdeveloped regions of the contemporary world) are employed as a yardstick, we do not see an outpouring of great literature and poetry.

Given that our referent is Kashmir,

what explains the pre-dominance of poetry and poetic genius in and during a certain period? And what explained its absence now?

What, the question is, is the explanatory variable for this?

Sociologically, it may be that the incentive structure in Kashmir is a warped one: we prefer absolute certainty in worldly matters over the uncertain, the hesitant, and the tentative.

We are too smug and conceited in our worldview and outlook.

In terms of economics, while Kashmir is not a capitalist nirvana, no one dies of hunger here. Almost everyone has a roof over his or her head.

But it is in combination, the incentive structure and a desire to get ahead in life (which is a legitimate aspiration), overlaid by our mediated exposure to the world at large (through communications technology), that an answer may lie.

In the interstices of these, we have

Sociologically, it may be that the incentive structure in Kashmir is a warped one:

we prefer absolute certainty in worldly matters over the uncertain, the hesitant, and the tentative. We are too smug and conceited in our worldview and outlook.

created a self and a self-image, plus a self-concept, where instinct crowds out the sine qua non of poetry: a refined sensibility and sensitivity.

While our older folk's struggles were for a comfortable middle-class existence (again a legitimate endeavor), our younger folks' sense of self and self-concept is defined by technology-induced and fed consumerism and gratification.

In the attendant "attention economy," a selfie with a pout, a tweet, or a line on social media appears to be more important than reflection and thought.

These dynamics create a self where sense, sensibility, and sensitivity are occluded in both real life, real time, and in the mists of cyberspace.

Lost, then, is what was the essence of Kashmir: the art of thinking and the craft of poetry.

Can this noxious trend be reversed? Can it be reclaimed?

Given the "habitus" - defined by the stimuli our young are exposed to: technological, media, communication, the incentive structure emphasized by society and fed by consumerism, and so on - the answer is bleak.

But, as the old adage goes, the world rests on hope.

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

From Noon Chai To Kahwa: How Healthy Is Your Daily Cup Of Tea?

Expert Warns Excess Sugar, Salt And Caffeine Can Raise Risk Of Lifestyle Diseases

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: From the salty pink Noon Chai to aromatic Kahwa and the ubiquitous Yellow Tea, a cup of tea is woven into everyday life in Kashmir. But what goes into that daily cup, and how often it is consumed, could have long-term implications for health.

A public health advisory has cautioned that excessive sugar, salt and caffeine in commonly consumed beverages can

contribute to obesity, hypertension, diabetes and heart disease, urging people to make more informed choices about what, when and how much they drink. "Tea and coffee are not harmful when consumed in moderation. The real concern lies in excessive sugar, salt and caffeine intake, which over time can contribute to obesity, hypertension, diabetes and heart disease," said Dr S Muhammad Salim Khan, Professor, Department of Community Medicine, Government Medical

College Srinagar.

The advisory compares the nutritional value, health benefits and potential risks of beverages commonly consumed in Kashmir, including Noon Chai, Kahwa, Yellow Tea, green tea and coffee.

According to the advisory, plain green tea and traditional Kashmiri Kahwa rank among the healthiest beverages because of their high antioxidant content and low calorie count.

Kahwa, prepared with green tea leaves, saffron, cinnamon,

cardamom and almonds, contains around five to 25 calories per cup and may aid digestion, relaxation and antioxidant protection. However, adding excessive sugar or honey can reduce its health benefits.

Plain green tea contains just two to five calories per cup and is rich in antioxidants. It may support metabolism and heart and brain health. Experts recommend consuming it in the morning or afternoon but advise against drinking it with meals as

it may reduce iron absorption.

Noon Chai, Kashmir's iconic pink salted tea, remains an important part of the region's culinary tradition but should be consumed in moderation because of its high salt content, the advisory said.

Prepared with green tea, baking soda, salt and milk, Noon Chai provides hydration, warmth and calcium when milk is added. Excessive consumption, however, may contribute to high blood pressure, fluid

retention and increased cardiovascular risk, particularly among people with hypertension, kidney disease or heart failure.

Experts recommend limiting Noon Chai to one or two cups a day, preferably with breakfast or on cold mornings.

Yellow Tea, commonly prepared with black tea, milk and sugar, contains antioxidants and can improve alertness. But excessive sugar can significantly increase its calorie content and contribute to obesity, diabetes

and dental problems. The advisory recommends limiting Yellow Tea to one or two cups a day with minimal or no added sugar.

Black coffee without sugar is described as one of the healthiest caffeinated beverages because of its extremely low calorie content. It can enhance alertness and physical performance but excessive consumption or drinking it late in the day may trigger acidity, anxiety, palpitations and sleep disturbances.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

J&K's Nights Getting

warming during the pre-monsoon and monsoon seasons reaching around 0.8 degrees Celsius per decade.

Several other mid- to high-elevation stations, including Batote, Banihal and Pahalgam, recorded annual and seasonal nighttime warming trends ranging between 0.2 and 0.4 degrees Celsius per decade.

"Warmer nights reduce natural cooling, accelerate snow and ice melt, and alter mountain hydrology. These long-term observations provide critical evidence for improving climate projections and adaptation planning in Himalayan regions," lead author G S Gopikrishnan said.

The warming, however, is not uniform across Jammu and Kashmir.

Bhaderwah recorded the strongest annual mean temperature rise at around 0.3 degrees Celsius per decade. Its warming was particularly pronounced during the pre-monsoon and winter seasons, when mean temperatures increased by about 0.5 degrees Celsius and 0.4 degrees Celsius per decade, respectively.

In contrast, Jammu, the lowest-elevation station studied, showed a weak and statistically insignificant annual cooling trend of around 0.15 degrees Celsius per decade. The station also recorded winter cooling of about 0.3 degrees Celsius per decade.

The researchers found evidence of what scientists call "elevation-dependent warming", a phenomenon in which the rate of temperature change varies with altitude.

This finding is particularly significant for Jammu and Kashmir and other mountainous regions, where warming that intensifies with elevation can place already fragile high-altitude environments under greater climate stress. The researchers said such changes have serious implications for snow and ice, mountain hydrology, freshwater availability and the stability of the cryosphere.

Annual mean temperature warming increased by 0.18 degrees Celsius per kilometre of elevation per decade. The effect was strongest during winter, when mean temperature trends increased by 0.35 degrees Celsius per kilometre per decade with elevation.

Winter daytime temperatures showed an even stronger relationship with altitude, increasing at a rate of 0.43 degrees Celsius per kilometre of elevation per decade. The researchers said this indicates that winter days are warming substantially faster at higher elevations.

"The Himalaya is among the most climate-sensitive regions on Earth, and our results show that warming is not uniform across elevations," Prof Jayanarayanan Kuttippurath said.

"The accelerated warming observed in mountain regions threatens glaciers, seasonal snow cover, freshwater availability and ecosystem stability, with consequences extending far beyond the Himalayas," he added.

The study found that winter warming at higher elevations is statistically associated with albedo-related surface processes. Albedo refers to the amount of incoming solar radiation reflected by the Earth's surface. Snow-covered surfaces reflect more solar energy, while darker, snow-free surfaces absorb more heat.

The researchers, however, cautioned that their analysis establishes a statistical association with albedo variability and does not directly prove snow-albedo feedback as the sole cause of the warming.

At the same time, the rapid increase in minimum temperatures appears to be linked more closely to local atmospheric moisture and radiative conditions. Increased atmospheric moisture can trap outgoing longwave radiation, reducing the amount of heat lost from the surface during the night and limiting nighttime cooling.

"The interaction between altitude, snow-albedo feedback, atmospheric moisture and radiation creates distinct warming patterns across the complex Himalayan terrain," Kuttippurath said. "This knowledge is essential for developing science-based climate adaptation and disaster-risk reduction strategies."

Importantly, the researchers found no statistically significant elevation-dependent warming in minimum temperatures. This means that although nights are warming rapidly at several stations, the rate of nighttime warming does not systematically increase with altitude.

The study describes the nighttime warming as a more localised phenomenon, potentially influenced by atmospheric moisture, long-wave radiation and site-specific environmental conditions.

The researchers also acknowledged limitations in the observational network. The study is based on 10 weather stations and has limited representation of areas above 3,000 metres, where long-term meteorological observations remain sparse.

They said the findings should therefore be viewed as representative of the elevation range covered by available observations in Jammu and Kashmir rather than a complete assessment of warming across the entire Himalayan cryosphere.

Still, the study warns that continued warming could have serious consequences for the Himalayan environment, including changes in snow storage, glacier stability, mountain

hydrology and water resources.

Overall, several high-altitude locations, including Pahalgam and Gulmarg, have warmed by up to nearly one degree Celsius in the past two decades, highlighting what the researchers describe as the growing sensitivity of the Himalayan environment to climate change.

The scientists have called for denser high-altitude monitoring, sustained long-term observations and stronger climate adaptation strategies to better understand and respond to the rapidly changing mountain climate.

Heat Persists;

at vulnerable locations in the Chenab Valley and Pir Panjal region.

People have been advised to stay away from nallas, streams and landslide-prone areas and remain alert to weather advisories.

The weather is expected to remain largely hot and humid from July 13 to 16, although scattered rain and thundershower activity is likely, particularly in parts of Jammu division.

Meanwhile, temperatures remained above normal across most parts of Kashmir on Thursday.

Srinagar recorded a maximum temperature of 32.6 degrees Celsius, 1.9 degrees above normal, while Kupwara registered 33.5 degrees Celsius and Qazigund 31 degrees Celsius.

Pahalgam recorded a maximum temperature of 27 degrees Celsius and Gulmarg 23 degrees Celsius. Jammu city recorded 35.5 degrees Celsius, close to the seasonal average.

The Met department advised residents, particularly those in flood and landslide-prone areas, to remain alert and follow weather advisories. (KNO)

Ayatollah Khamenei

Millions of Iraqi mourners transformed the funeral into a symbol of how profoundly the region has changed during the Khamenei era. The unprecedented scenes from Najaf and Karbala reflect the religious and political bonds that now connect proverbial Arab and Ajam under one banner.

The funeral also unfolded under the shadow of war.

Despite a fragile ceasefire, Iran remains on a war footing. American attacks continue, Israeli plots have not entirely ceased, and both Trump and Netanyahu have publicly renewed threats against Iran.

Against that backdrop, every stage of the funeral carried a message—not only to Iranians but to the wider region and the world.

The route itself traced the heart of Shia Islam: Tehran, the seat of the Islamic Republic; Qom, nations centre of religious scholarship; Najaf and Karbala, the holiest cities of Shia Islam; and finally Mashhad, where Sayyed Khamenei was born and where he was laid to rest beside Imam Reza, the Eighth Imam from the household of Prophet (Pbuh).

It was a carefully choreographed journey linking revolution, religious authority and historical memory.

Whether viewed as an expression of genuine popular devotion, a demonstration of state mobilisation, or both, the scale of the funeral has reshaped the narrative surrounding the war.

The predictions of imminent collapse have, for now, been overtaken by images of extraordinary display of public allegiance to the system.

With Ayatollah Khamenei now laid to rest in Mashhad, a defining chapter in Iran's history has come to an end. Yet as a new leadership takes charge under the shadow of continuing threats from the United States and its allies, the six-day funeral has projected an image of resilience. Despite war, assassination and sustained external pressure, the Islamic Republic demonstrated an ability to mobilise millions at home while inspiring an extraordinary outpouring of solidarity beyond its borders.

Whether that public mobilisation translates into enduring political strength will be judged by the challenges that lie ahead. But one reality has already emerged from the images that travelled from Tehran to Qom, Najaf, Karbala and finally Mashhad: they stood in sharp contrast to predictions of the Islamic Republic's imminent collapse and reaffirmed that Iran's religious influence and regional political reach remain powerful forces in West Asia's evolving geopolitical landscape.

No Amarnath

registration process.

He also directed officials to ensure timely dissemination of information to pilgrims throughout the pilgrimage.

The Lieutenant Governor lauded the coordinated efforts of the district administration, line departments, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board, police, security forces and other stakeholders in facilitating the pilgrimage.

Sinha said the number of devotees undertaking the pilgrimage over the past week was higher compared to last year.

"The figures from the past week reveal that this year's Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra has witnessed a greater number of devotees compared to last year. This surge is not only a blessing for our spiritual heritage but also a positive sign for tourism in Jammu Kashmir, giving fresh momentum to the

local economy," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor also called for promoting Jammu and Kashmir's handicrafts and handloom products among pilgrims, saying the region's traditional crafts should reach homes across the country.

"I want that the rich handicrafts and handloom products of Jammu Kashmir should travel across the country and this unique heritage find a place in every devotee's home. This will honour our artisans and it will also strengthen the spirit of One District One Product campaign, weaving together faith, culture and prosperity," Sinha said.

Schools Told To

circular said.

It added that all material must conform to the age-appropriate guidelines under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

If any objectionable content is identified, the head of the institution has been asked to prepare a detailed report mentioning the title of the book, year of publication, author and publisher, besides the number of copies identified.

The report must also contain an abstract of the objectionable content and be submitted to the concerned Chief Education Officer (CEO) or Zonal Education Officer (ZEO) within seven days of the issuance of the circular.

The heads of institutions have been directed to carry out the exercise with "due diligence", maintain proper screening records and submit a compliance report or certificate to the concerned CEO or ZEO.

The ZEOs will scrutinise and consolidate reports received from schools and coaching centres under their jurisdiction and submit a consolidated report to the CEO by July 15.

The CEOs of Kashmir division have been directed to submit the reports to the Directorate of School Education Kashmir by July 17.

The circular said CEOs would personally follow up and monitor certificates issued by heads of institutions or ZEOs. The certificates must be countersigned by the concerned CEO before being submitted to the Directorate.

The DSEK warned that any lapse in complying with the instructions would invite appropriate disciplinary action against defaulting officers.

Tourist Flow In

addressing the inaugural session of the Conclave on Sustainable Tourism Planning, "Designing Tourism for Tomorrow", organised by the Tourism Department at SKICC here.

Omar said the increasing tourist flow may have to be managed in the future so that resorts are protected and visitors are able to enjoy a serene environment instead of facing a "harrowing experience" of traffic congestion, poor facilities and overcrowding.

"Tourism without sustainability is an unqualified disaster. It may survive for a few years, but it cannot endure in the long run unless sustainability is built into its very foundation," he said.

Reflecting on Jammu and Kashmir's tourism journey over the past three decades, the Chief Minister said the region had understandably pursued a volume-based approach to demonstrate normalcy after years of conflict. However, recent fluctuations in tourist arrivals had exposed the vulnerability of the sector.

Referring to the Pahalgam attack, Omar said that before the incident, the administration was grappling with traffic congestion caused by a massive tourist influx, but soon afterwards hotels and destinations were left empty.

"This reminds us how fragile tourism can be in Jammu and Kashmir, where a single incident can affect the whole season," he said.

The Chief Minister said sustainable tourism planning must address traffic regulation, parking infrastructure, waste management, water conservation, building regulations, carrying capacity and community participation.

Expressing concern over recurring traffic congestion at popular destinations, he said merely creating infrastructure would not solve the problem unless it was effectively utilised and accompanied by scientific traffic management.

He also cautioned against unplanned regulatory measures without consultation with stakeholders, saying recent traffic management decisions had adversely affected tourists and transport operators.

"Sustainability cannot be based on knee-jerk reactions. Every intervention must be well-planned, thoroughly discussed with stakeholders and capable of delivering long-term solutions," Omar said.

Calling for a scientific assessment of the carrying capacity of individual tourist destinations, Omar said a uniform approach could not be adopted across Jammu and Kashmir.

"Srinagar may comfortably accommodate far more visitors than ecologically fragile destinations such as Gulmarg or Gurez. We cannot adopt a uniform approach for every destination," he said.

Omar said Jammu and Kashmir's greatest tourism asset was its natural beauty and not artificial attractions.

"We are not selling Disneyland, Universal Studios or Las Vegas. What attracts people here is our rivers, lakes, mountains, glaciers and

landscapes. Protecting these natural assets must remain the central objective of every tourism master plan," he said.

The Chief Minister also raised concerns over solid waste management and said environmental degradation could not be blamed solely on tourists. Referring to waste removal efforts in Dal Lake, he said a significant portion of the waste originated from local habitations.

"Government has a responsibility to manage waste, but citizens too have an equal responsibility. Unless we begin treating Gulmarg, Pahalgam, Sonamarg and Dal Lake as we treat our own homes, sustainability will remain elusive," he said.

He also stressed the need to eliminate single-use plastic and formulate long-term water management strategies amid growing pressure on resources.

Omar called for strict enforcement of building regulations and tourism master plans, saying selective implementation weakened public confidence.

"A master plan is only as good as its implementation. Selective enforcement breeds resentment and weakens public confidence. Tourism planning cannot be confined to offices; it must be prepared in consultation with local communities who have lived in these destinations for generations," he said.

On the growing influx of tourist vehicles from outside Jammu and Kashmir, Omar said while their arrival had helped restore confidence in Kashmir as a tourism destination, it also placed additional pressure on local infrastructure and affected the livelihoods of local transport operators.

"We have to ensure that tourism generates greater benefits for our own people. The objective should be to move steadily up the value chain rather than simply chasing higher tourist numbers," he said.

Advocating premium tourism experiences, Omar said value-based tourism could help destinations earn more while reducing environmental stress and improving visitor experience.

"Value tourism is sustainable tourism. Our responsibility is to create conditions where local people earn better incomes while ensuring that tourism remains environmentally and economically sustainable for generations to come," he said.

Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani and Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo also addressed the conclave, stressing the need for master planning of tourist destinations, development of new destinations, environmental protection and strengthening Tourism Development Authorities.

Additional Chief Secretary, Tourism, Ashish Chandra Verma presented the government's initiative to prepare tourism master plans for destinations across Jammu and Kashmir. He outlined a tier-based approach to categorise destinations according to ecological sensitivity, tourism potential and infrastructure requirements.

Amarnath Yatra Set

17,004 men, 10,766 women, 298 children, 187 sadhus and 25 sadhvis, besides 303 security personnel.

Meanwhile, the eighth batch of 8,150 pilgrims left Jammu for the twin base camps in Kashmir on Thursday morning amid tight security arrangements.

The pilgrims departed from the Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas in a convoy of 334 vehicles, comprising 175 buses, 55 medium motor vehicles and 104 light motor vehicles.

Of the total pilgrims, 3,445 are travelling via the Baltal route, while 4,705 are heading through the traditional Pahalgam route.

The batch comprised 5,663 men, 1,960 women, 15 children, 432 sadhus, 77 sadhvis and three transgender devotees.

The Baltal-bound convoy left Jammu at 2.50 am, followed by the Pahalgam-bound convoy at 3.38 am under elaborate security arrangements.

With thousands of pilgrims continuing to arrive in Jammu and fresh batches proceeding towards the Valley every day, officials expect the total number of devotees performing darshan to cross the two-lakh mark on Friday, subject to favourable weather and smooth movement along both routes.

The 57-day pilgrimage began on July 3 and is scheduled to conclude on August 9 on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan.

HC Quashes 2

that while the detention order informed him of his right to make a representation to both the government and the detaining authority, the execution report prepared by the police informed him only about his right to approach the government, thereby denying him a vital constitutional safeguard.

In Amir Wani's case, the Court similarly held that mandatory procedural safeguards had not been followed while processing his preventive detention passed on 5 August last year, rendering the detention legally unsustainable.

The court observed that preventive detention order directly curtails personal liberty, must strictly comply with constitutional and statutory safeguards. Any deviation from these mandatory requirements strikes at the root of the detention

and cannot be sustained in law.

The Court further observed that such procedural omissions often come to light only after judicial scrutiny of the detention records, as a detainee cannot reasonably be expected to know what transpires within government files.

Holding that the constitutional safeguards had been violated in both cases, the Court quashed the detention orders and all consequential government orders, directing the jail authorities to release the duo forthwith. ONS

Teachers With

the circular said.

The department said it had noticed that some teachers possessed more than one PG qualification and cases were being forwarded by the Directorates of School Education Jammu and Kashmir for inclusion of such teachers in seniority records of more than one discipline or subject and for consideration for promotion accordingly.

It said recognition of multiple PG qualifications for a single teacher had created administrative complications in maintaining seniority, determining promotional eligibility and managing cadres.

To ensure "uniformity, transparency, equity and effective cadre management", the department has decided that only one postgraduate qualification or subject will be recognised for each teacher for seniority and promotion.

Significantly, once the option is finalised, every other postgraduate qualification held by the teacher, whether acquired before or after the issuance of the circular, will not be recognised for fixation of seniority or consideration for promotion.

Such additional qualifications will also not form part of the relevant seniority or promotion records.

The Directors of School Education Jammu and Kashmir have been directed to identify all teachers possessing multiple PG qualifications, obtain their options within the stipulated period and ensure that only the opted subject is reflected in seniority and promotion records.

The details of the options exercised by teachers will be consolidated by the Directors and submitted to the Administrative Department for updating discipline-wise seniority records.

The circular said that if a teacher fails to exercise the option within 30 days, the department will determine the subject or discipline for seniority and promotion in accordance with applicable service rules and the teacher's service record.

"No request for subsequent change of subject or promotional stream shall be entertained thereafter," it said.

The instructions will apply notwithstanding any administrative practice followed previously in this regard.

The department has directed strict compliance with the guidelines, warning that any deviation will be viewed seriously and dealt with under applicable rules and regulations.

Army Chief Reviews

the prevailing security dynamics along the Line of Control and the counter-insurgency grid of the White Knight corps," the ADGP said on X.

The COAS was briefed on the evolving security environment, operational deployments, surveillance architecture, field innovations and integrated operational readiness, it said.

He also assessed the ongoing infrastructure development and the formation's sustained efforts to empower the communities of India's first villages through people-centric initiatives.

The Army chief also met senior military officials at the Poonch Brigade headquarters, where he was briefed on troops deployment, the prevailing security scenario and operational readiness.

The Army chief earlier visited the Nagrota-based White Knight Corps headquarters, where he was briefed by senior commanders on the security situation in the Jammu region and the operational preparedness of formations under the corps, officials said.

The top officers apprised the Army chief of the overall security environment and the preparedness of troops to effectively respond to emerging challenges.

General Seth has been on a visit to Jammu and Kashmir since Tuesday. During the visit, he called on LG Manoj Sinha and CM Omar Abdullah and reviewed the overall security situation in Kashmir. ONS

SPO Dismissed

on Thursday for alleged dereliction of duty during the ongoing annual Amarnath Yatra.

In a firm action to uphold discipline and accountability during the ongoing yatra, SSP Amod Ashok Nagpure ordered the termination of SPO Shabir Ahmad Ganie for gross dereliction of duty, a police spokesman said.

He said the SPO had been duly detailed for the yatra deployment. However, despite being nominated and directed to report for duty, he failed to join his assigned place of deployment without any valid justification or prior permission, thereby exhibiting serious negligence and indiscipline during a critical security assignment.

Taking a serious view of the misconduct, the SSP ordered his immediate dismissal from service, the spokesman said. (PTI)

J&K Bank Signs Landmark MoU with Census Directorate for Census 2027 Awareness

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Reinforcing its commitment to nation-building and public service, J&K Bank signed a strategic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), first-of-its-kind in the country, with the Directorate of Census Operations, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh to collaborate on media, publicity and public awareness activities for the upcoming Population Enumeration phase of Census 2027 in the UTs of J&K and Ladakh.

This historic MoU was inked by Chief General Manager Ashutosh Sareen on behalf of J&K Bank, while Chief Principal Cen-



sus Officer (CPCO) and Director Census Operations (DCO) Amit Sharma (IAS) put in his signatures on behalf of the Directorate of Census Operations J&K and Ladakh in the presence of Joint Chief Principal Census Officer Arun Kumar, Deputy Chief Principal Census Officer Manmeet Singh Loomba, Bank's General Manager Mohammad Muzaffar Wani, DGM Syed Aadil Bashir and other se-

nior officers from both organizations. The landmark partnership will leverage the Bank's extensive branch network, digital signages and trusted customer outreach channels to disseminate official Census-related information and create widespread public awareness about the country's first Census through digital means. The collaboration will involve widespread

media, publicity and awareness initiatives.

Speaking on the collaboration, Chief Principal Census Officer and Director Census Operations Amit Sharma said, "J&K Bank is one of the most trusted public-facing institutions in both the Union Territories with an unmatched presence across urban, rural, border and remote areas. By integrating Census communication with this trusted institutional network, we are taking authentic Census information directly to the people, strengthening public confidence and ensuring that no resident remains unaware of this important national exercise."

Saurabh Bhagat Chairs Review Meeting on J&K SAMADHAN

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Commissioner Secretary, Department of Public Grievances, Saurabh Bhagat chaired a review meeting to assess the functioning and performance of J&K SAMADHAN, the Union Territory's flagship grievance redressal and monitoring platform.

During the meeting, a comprehensive review of



J&K SAMADHAN was undertaken covering grievance registration, disposal trends, departmental performance, citizen feedback mechanisms and overall system functionality.

Commissioner Secretary

emphasized the importance of strengthening the grievance redressal ecosystem to ensure timely, transparent and effective resolution of public grievances and to further enhance citizen satisfaction.

The meeting was informed that J&K SAMADHAN is proposed to be migrated to the MeghRaj Government Cloud infrastructure. The migration is expected to provide a secure, scalable and reliable hosting environment, improve system availability, strengthen disaster recovery capabilities and align the platform with the Government of India's cloud adoption framework.

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA

RBO-IV, SRINAGAR

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHIFTING OF TREHGAM BRANCH TO NEW LOCATION

We are pleased to announce the shifting of our State Bank of India Branch Trehgam to a more convenient and spacious location. The new address is State Bank of India Main Market Trehgam District Kupwara J&K Pin 193224. Our Telephone Numbers are 9906433287/6299408717. We look forward to serving you better from the new location.

Regional Manager

Abbas Ads: 7006444730

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER SEWERAGE & DRAINAGE DIVISION No. IIND SRINAGAR.

Phone/ Fax No. 0194-2950058
GIST OF E-NIT No.- 12 S&D IIND OF 2026-27 DATED:- 09 - 07-2026

For and on behalf of the Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation, e-tenders are invited on Percentage basis from the Registered PWD Civil Contractors whose registration cards are valid in terms of standing rules, for the below mentioned works strictly as per the terms and conditions given hereunder:-

Sr. No.	Name of work	Estt. Cost of work incl. Deptt. materials (Amount in lacs)	Earnest Money	Class of Contractor	Time of completion.	Cost of Tender Document in the shape of Treasury Challan (Rs.)	Head of Account
1.	Construction of Cement concrete drain including manholes from existing drain near H/O Manzoor Ahmad Sheikh And others to JAKLI wall Salifa Colony lane 3 Batamalo	Rs.19.99	Rs.39980-	BEE/CEE	30 Days	Rs.600/-	Capex 2026-27
2.	Construction of RCC Pipe drain including manholes from existing drain via H/O Zahoor Ahmad Mir, M Ashraf Mator & Others at Mominabad lane 15	Rs.14.65	Rs.29300-	BEE/CEE/DEE	20 Days	Rs.420/-	Capex 2026-27
3.	Construction of covered drain from existing outfall upto the H/O Ghulam Mohd Dar at Alohilbagh	Rs.7.99	Rs.15980-	CEE/DEE	20 Days	Rs.250/-	Capex 2026-27

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 the schedule of dates given hereunder:-

01. Date of issue of Tender Notice	09.07.2026
02. Period of down loading of bidding documents	09.07.2026 from 11.00 A.M to 20.07.2026 up to 4.00 PM
03. Bid Submission Start Date	09.07.2026 from 12.00 AM
04. Bid Submission end Date	20.07.2026 up to 4.00 PM
05. Date & time of opening of Bids on line	21.07.2026 at 11.30 AM in the office of Executive Engineer, Sewerage & Drainage Division No. II, SMC, Daresh Kadal Srinagar or any subsequent date convenient date to the tender Opening Authority
06. List of soft copies to be uploaded	Scanned copy of Treasury challan (cost of tender document) with Sl. No. of NIT/ Name of the work (without overwriting), Scanned copy of CDR/ FDR/ BG (Earnest Money) (without Over writing), Scanned copy of GST Registration with latest clearance and PAN Card. Scanned copy of JKPWDDMS Registration card with latest renewal on JKPWDDMS PORTAL, Cell No./ e-mail ID and correspondence address. NIT (Terms and conditions) duly signed by the bidder. BOQ.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- I. In case the bids are found unbalanced / abnormally low bid price, the Successful bidder has to produce/ deposit Performance Security/additional performance security in shape of FDR/CDR/ BG pledged to Executive Engineer Sewerage & Drainage Division 2nd. SMC Srinagar within three days after opening the bids, as per the circular instructions of the Finance Department Circular No. FD-Code/441/2021-02-158 Dated:- 08.08.2025. The Performance Security/Additional performance security shall be released after the successful completion of Defective Liability (DLP) period of the work on the recommendation of AEE concerned
- II. Where the bid price is below 10% but not below 20% of the Advertised 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 advertised 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.
- III. Where the Bid Price is 20% or more below the advertised cost put to bid the Additional Performance Grantee percentage shall be incremented by 0.2% for every percentage of Bid Price Below 20% of project cost put to bid in addition to 0.1% of the bid price and this additional performance guarantee percentage shall be applied on the bid price.
- IV. Additional Performance Security shall be treated as part of Performance Security.
- V. In case of tie bids the department shall identify the tied bidder and shall select the L1 based on the draw lots, in presence of tied bidders, if they chose to be present
- VI. The Successful Bidder has to produce Hard Copies within three days after opening of Bids.
- VII. Bidders are advised to read the NIT carefully before participate in the Bidding process.
- VIII. Treasury Challan (Tender Document Fee) should be a fresh i.e. between the date of issue of tender notice & bid submission end date.
- IX. The payment of work on account of work done shall be made under rules subject to availability of funds under the prescribed head of account.
- X. The tender receiving authority reserves the right to accept or reject or cancel any bid / tender / NIT or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
- XI. In terms of Government order Circular No.01 (Adm) FD of 2025 Dated:- 08.07.2025 that "Every participating supplier/contractor to mandatory disclose the bank account number which is linked with their GSTIN at the time of bid submission. No payment shall be released by the Government Department / Agency to any other bank account except the one linked with the GST registered number of the successful bidder"
- XIII. Additional Terms & Conditions in terms of Circular Instructions issued under No. 7760278-HUD-Plan/106/2026-01 Dated:- 06.06.2026 shall also be applicable which are as under.

INDICATIVE TIME LINE FOR EXECUTION OF DEVELOPMENT WORKS			Building Projects.		
Sr No.	Estimated Cost	Execution Period	Sr No.	Project Type	Execution Period
1	Up to ₹2.00 lakh	1 month	1.	Small office building / health centre	6-9 months
2	₹2.00 lakh - ₹10.00 lakh	Up to 2 months	2.	School building	6-9 months
3	₹10.00 lakh - ₹25.00 lakh	2-3 months	3.	District office complex	6-12 months
4.	Above ₹25.00 lakh - ₹1.00 crore	3-4 months	4.	Hospital building	6-12 months
5.	Above ₹1.00 crore - ₹5.00 crore	4-8 months	5.	Multi-storey office complex	6-12 months
6.	Above ₹5.00 crore - ₹20.00 crore	8-12 months	6.	Large institutional campus	6-18 months
7.	Above ₹20.00 crore - ₹100.00 crore	12-18 months			
8.	Above ₹100.00 crore	18-24 months			

Additional Conditions.

- a. Additional time may be allowed for scattered works, congested sites, difficult terrain, or specialized services if justified ground.
- b. Start of work: generally, start within 7 days of the notice to proceed.
- c. Milestones are prescribed during execution (¼, ½, and ¾) progress stages.
- d. Defect Liability Period: minimum 3 years.
- e. Liquidated damages: 1% of contract value per week of delay, subject to a maximum of 10%.
- f. Time of treated as an essential condition of the contract.
- g. Extension of time (EOT) may be granted where justified by hindrances or Departmental delays.

NO. S&D-II/ 1512
 Dated:- 09.07.2026

DIPK-3040-26
 DT: 09/07/2026

SD/
 Executive Engineer,
 S&D Division IInd, Sgr.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
MICRO AND SMALL ENTERPRISES FACILITATION COUNCIL, KASHMIR
DIRECTORATE OF INDUSTRIES & COMMERCE, KASHMIR
 1st Floor Sanat Ghar, Qamerwari Road (Behind Bemina Woolen Mills) Srinagar-190018

ADVERTISEMENT NOTIFICATION NO. 01 OF 2026
 DATED: 04.07.2026

The Directorate of Industries and Commerce, Kashmir, as Micro and Small Enterprises Facilitation Councils (MSEFC's) constituted under the provisions of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006; and entrusted with the responsibility of facilitating conciliation and arbitration in cases relating to delayed payments of Micro and Small Enterprises by issuing legally enforceable awards for recovery of dues (along with applicable interest); invites applications from the eligible candidates for appointment to the post of Legal Consultant and HR (Office/ Secretarial), purely on contract basis through walk-in-interview/evaluation scheduled to be held on 29.07.2026 at 11.30 am in the Office of Director, Industries and Commerce, Kashmir at 1st Floor, Sanat Ghar Bemina, Srinagar.

The eligibility criteria for the above said posts are as follows:

S. No.	Name and number of the post	Age Limit	Qualification	Experience required	Consolidated salary
1.	Legal Consultant 01 Post	Maximum 40 years	Law Graduate from recognized Institute University with minimum 50% marks	i. Minimum 02 (Two) years of legal work experience in various courts/ Govt./ Quasi-Judicial bodies including or Tribunals with mandatory relevant experience of at least one year in dealing with MSME disputes, or arbitration and mediation matters. ii. Should have good drafting skills, proficiency in English and the local language and working knowledge of MS Office.	Rs. 80,000/- per month
2.	HR (Office/ Secretarial) 02 Posts	Maximum 40 years	Graduate in any discipline from recognized University/ Board	i. 2 years of experience in Handling Data Entry. ii. Experience of computer skills, internet, web surfing including data processing and interpretation using Excel software.	Rs. 20,000/- per month.

The duties/ responsibilities of the above posts have been set out in Annexure-I to this notification respectively.

1. How to apply/Schedule of Events:

Start date for submitting online application	July 06, 2026 (10:00 A.M.)
Last date for submitting online application	July 18, 2026 (04:30 P.M.)

- A. The interested candidates shall submit application as per the Annexure-II along-with the photocopies of following documents in the Office of Director, Industries and Commerce, Kashmir, 1st Floor, Sanat Ghar, Bemina, Srinagar, 190018, in hard as well as soft copies (scanned pdf). The soft copies of documents can be emailed on director-industries@jk.gov.in by or before 04:30 PM on 18.07.2026.
1. The candidate(s) seeking to apply for the advertised posts shall be the Domicile(s) of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.
2. Educational Qualification Certificate along-with Mark sheets.
3. Photo Identity Proof (Aadhar Card/PAN Card/Driving License/Passport).
4. Date of Birth Certificate.
5. Proof of address (Aadhar Card/EPIC).

(All attested photocopy of original)

6. Experience Certificate(s) (in original)
 (In case of Legal Consultant, the experience certificate will have to be issued by the concerned Judge of the Civil Court or HoD of the Department or Member Judge of the Tribunal/ quasi-judicial authority and in case of HR the experience certificate will have to be issued by the Head of the Institute)
 The verification of documents shall be carried out by the Scrutiny Committee, who shall evaluate the applications as per the eligibility criteria set by the Ministry of MSME, RAMP Division, GoI.
- B. The list of candidates shortlisted after verification of documents and determination of eligibility, shall thereafter, be notified separately and the eligible candidates shall be asked to appear for walk-in-interview before the Interview Committee Cum Selection Committee of MSEFC (including any co-opted member, if available) on 29.07.2026 at 11.30 am.

2. Selection Procedure/Criteria

Selection of the candidates shall be calculated in reference to the weightage point provided in the table below, on pro rata basis:

S. No.	Component	Weightage
1.	Essential basic qualification for Legal Consultant (pro-rata basis with respect to the marks obtained in attaining basic qualification and the highest qualification) i. 40 points for qualification of LLB. ii. 45 points for qualification of LL.M. iii. 50 points for qualification higher than LL.M (Ph.D or post doc).	50 points (max)
2.	Minimum 02 (two) years of legal work experience in various courts/ Govt./ Quasi-Judicial bodies including or Tribunals i. 10 points for experience of more than 10 years ii. 7 points for experience of more than 2 years up to 10 years iii. 5 points for experience of 2 years	10 points (max)
	Mandatory relevant experience of at least one year in dealing with MSME disputes, or arbitration and mediation matters. i. 10 points for experience of more than 9 years ii. 7 points for experience of more than 1 year up to 9 years iii. 5 points for experience of 1 year	10 points (max)
	3. Interview/ evaluation	30 points (max)
S. No.	Component	Weightage
1.	Essential basic qualification for HR (Office/ Secretarial) (pro-rata basis with respect to the marks obtained in attaining basic qualification and the highest qualification) i. 40 points for qualification of Graduate in any discipline. ii. 45 points for qualification of Masters in any discipline. iii. 50 points for qualification higher than Masters (M.Phil., Ph.D.)	50 points (max)
2.	Minimum two (02) years of experience in Data Entry, Office/Secretarial work, with proficiency in computer applications, internet usage, web browsing, and data processing and interpretation using Microsoft Excel. i. 20 points for experience of more than 5 years ii. 15 points for experience of more than 2 years up to 5 years iii. 10 points for experience of 2 years	20 points (max)
	3. Interview/ evaluation	30 points (max)

3. Terms and conditions for engagement of consultant:
 a) Please note that only shortlisted candidates will receive intimations via email, SMS, or phone call regarding the selection process.
 b) The selected candidates shall not have any right or claim for regular appointment against the said post during/ after the period of contract.
 c) The engagement shall be up to 31.03.2027, as the sunset date for the said Scheme has been fixed as 31st of March, 2027 by the Ministry of MSME, GoI.
 d) The remuneration shall be released to the contractual staff after the same is received from Ministry of MSME, Govt. of India through SNA.
 e) The appointee shall be entitled for leave @ 2.5 days for each month during the period.
 f) The candidate shall have to submit an undertaking on a non-judicial stamp paper, duly registered by a 1st Class Judicial Magistrate, stating that he/she shall neither claim nor seek permanent regularization, absorption, or continuation of service beyond the contractual period, nor file any case or petition before any Competent Court of Law, Tribunal, or other judicial/forum in this regard.
 g) The appointee may be required to visit Government Counsel/Courts as per the requirements of different cases.
 h) The engagement shall be on full time purely on contractual basis and the appointee(s) will be required to work normally from 10:00 A.M. to 04:30 P.M. during working days. In case of any exigency, the appointee can be required to work any time, including Sunday and Public Holidays. The appointee shall be required to mark their attendance on the Biometric Attendance System.
 i) The performance of appointee shall be assessed by the Council on the basis of his/her performance by referring to the cases conducted by him/her as well as the reports/comments submitted during their working for the Council.
 j) The appointment can be terminated by either side by giving one-month notice.
 k) In case any declaration/information furnished by the applicant is found false or forged, the engagement shall be terminated forthwith.
 l) The appointee shall not be entitled to any benefits of provident fund, pension, gratuity, medical attendance/treatment, therefor or any other benefits and concessions. No TA/DA will be paid to the candidates for attending the walk-in-interview.
 m) Application will be summarily rejected if found deviant from prescribed format or without formalities as specified above.
 n) The other terms & conditions of engagement of the appointee shall be regulated as per the orders issued by the Government from time to time.
 o) The Government/MSEFC Kashmir will reserve the right to cancel the notification at any stage. For further queries, please e-mail: director-industries@jk.gov.in. Issued with the approval of Chairman, Micro Small Enterprises Facilitation Council / Director, Industries and Commerce, Kashmir.

No. DI&C/MSEFC/K/2026/CC-7674181/0-2/1055-59
 Dated: 04.07.2026

Secretary, Micro Small Enterprises Facilitation Council
 Joint Director (M&P), Industries and Commerce, Kashmir

ANNEXURE-I

(A) Duties and responsibilities of Legal Consultant:
 (i) Assisting the MSEFC in all works relating to delayed payment references, including through Online Dispute Resolution portal, filed before the Council.
 (ii) Assisting the MSEFC in legal processes and procedures involved in the working of MSEFCs.
 (iii) Identification of legal issues for adjudication.
 (iv) Preparation of Case Summary, settlement agreements, daily orders, notices, awards and arbitral awards etc.
 (v) Legal research about the latest position of law and precedence of Hon'ble Supreme Court, High Courts etc.
 (vi) Legal appreciation of MSME Act, other laws/Acts that have a bearing on the case.
 (vii) Assisting the MSEFC in handling court cases filed against the Facilitation Council before various courts of law.
 (viii) Participating in the processes and interactions associated with the aforesaid, including workshops, trainings, capacity building programs, discussions, approval processes, etc., and preparation of presentations, notes, and other documents relating to the foregoing.
 (ix) To act as the Point of Contact for resolution of legal and technical issues of the ODR portal.
 (x) Any other work of a legal nature assigned from time to time.

(B) Duties and responsibilities of HR (Office/ Secretarial):
 (i) To assist the MSEFC in day to day working of the Council.
 (ii) To assist the parties in filing their delayed payment case on ODR portal.
 (iii) Data entry of old and current delayed payment cases on the ODR portal.
 (iv) Maintenance of documents, files and other relevant information of the MSEFC.
 (v) Assisting MSEFC and MSEs in ODR portal related issues.
 (vi) Any other work assigned from time to time.

ANNEXURE-II

Application for the post of _____

1. Name: _____
2. Gender: _____
3. Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY): _____
4. Parentage: _____
5. Permanent Address: _____
6. Email ID and Contact No.: _____
7. Educational Qualifications: _____

Educational details	Board/ University	Year of Passing	Marks Obtained	Max. Marks	Percentage

8. Details of Experience (indicating duration):

Name of the Court/ Govt./ Quasi-Judicial bodies including or Tribunals (for Legal Consultant) Or Organization (for HR)	Nature of duty	Duration

9. No. of enclosures:
 Declaration:
 I do hereby declare that:
 (i) The statements made herein above, are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
 (ii) I have never been prosecuted, or involved in any criminal case registered by the Police Station or convicted by any Court.
 (iii) I shall abide by the terms and conditions as laid down in the advertisement notification.

Date: _____
 Place: _____

DIPK-NB-1018-26
 DT: 09/07/2026

Name and Signature of the Candidate

Ram Temple Probe Uncovers Share Market Investments

Press Trust of India

AYODHYA: The probe into the alleged theft of Ram temple donations has found that part of the misappropriated money was allegedly invested in the share market and lent out on interest, while several transactions were routed through the bank accounts of relatives and close associates, police sources said on Thursday.

As part of the investigation, police took accused Anukalp Mishra to his residence on Thursday morning and conducted a search for around 20 minutes.

His family members were also questioned. On Wednesday, police had

similarly taken co-accused Lavkush Mishra and Karunesh Pandey to their respective houses, where searches were also carried out.

Police have frozen 30 bank accounts belonging to relatives of these three accused. Preliminary investigation has found that these accounts recorded transactions disproportionate to the account holders' known sources of income, the sources said.

According to the sources, searches conducted at the residences of the three accused led to the recovery of bundles of cash, gold jewellery, including earrings and lockets, and a car.

However, police have not disclosed the amount of cash re-



covered or specified from whose residence the seized items were found.

During interrogation, Anukalp Mishra and co-accused Avinash allegedly admitted that the stolen donation money was invested in the share market and also lent out on interest, the sources said.

They allegedly distributed money among close associates and relatives and later had the funds transferred back into their own bank accounts to conceal the transactions.

Following Anukalp Mishra's questioning, police raided his house in Ayodhya, where they recovered documents related to the purchase of one acre of land in his name.

According to the documents, the land was purchased for around Rs 6.7 lakh. However, its current market value is believed to be several times higher, police sources said.

A major controversy erupted in the first week of June after alleged irregularities were detected in the counting of donations at the Ram temple in Ayodhya.

The Uttar Pradesh government constituted an SIT following the recommendation of the trust. The SIT found prima facie evidence of embezzlement, following which an FIR was registered and eight people associated with the temple's donation-counting were arrested.

India, Australia Ink Nuclear, Defence Deals

Agencies

India and Australia on Thursday signed 18 landmark agreements covering civil nuclear energy, defence, maritime security, critical minerals, cyber cooperation, energy security and education, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese pledged to deepen their strategic partnership amid rising Indo-Pacific tensions.

A key outcome was an agreement enabling commercial uranium exports from Australia to fuel India's civil nuclear programme, following more than two years of negotiations. The two sides also agreed to expedite negotiations on a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) and a bilateral investment treaty to boost trade and investment.

The leaders issued a Joint Declaration on Defence and Security Cooperation and unveiled a Maritime Security Collaboration Roadmap aimed at enhancing defence interoperability, expanding joint exercises, strengthening shipbuilding and defence industrial cooperation, and improving maritime domain awareness. They also



launched the Australia-India Partnership on Cyber, Critical Technologies and Supply Chains and agreed to establish a critical minerals corridor.

The summit came days after China's test of a submarine-launched long-range ballistic missile, with both leaders reaffirming their commitment to a free, open and rules-based Indo-Pacific. Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said both sides shared concerns over regional security and emphasised peace, stability and freedom of navigation.

Modi described the agreements as "unparalleled", highlighting cooperation in nuclear energy, clean energy, critical minerals, technology, education and defence. He also stressed the need for dialogue to resolve global conflicts and reiterated India's commitment to combating terrorism alongside Australia.

Trump Ends 46-Year US Terror Label on Syria

Agencies

ANKARA- US President Donald Trump on Wednesday announced that he would remove Syria from the United States' list of state sponsors of terrorism, ending a designation that has remained in place for nearly five decades, and said Syrian interim President Ahmad al-Sharaa had pledged cooperation on the issue of Hezbollah in Lebanon.

Trump made the announcement while speaking alongside al-Sharaa on the sidelines of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) summit in Ankara. "I think I will, yeah," Trump said when asked if he would rescind Syria's designation as a state sponsor of terrorism. "Why wouldn't I? He's done a great job ... I think we should. Yeah, I will."

Asked whether al-Sharaa had made any commitments regarding Hezbollah in Lebanon, Trump replied, "Yeah he did. He's done a great job. He's unified Syria."

"I'm not gonna tell you what he said, but yeah, he was great today," Trump added.



The US President also praised al-Sharaa despite his past as a commander of the al-Qaeda-linked Nusra Front in Syria before severing ties with the group in 2016. Al-Sharaa later led a coalition of Islamist rebel factions that overthrew the Bashar al-Assad government in late 2024. "He's respected by everybody, including me," Trump said.

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio later confirmed that Trump had formally notified Congress of the administration's intention to remove Syria from the terrorism list.

Under US law, Congress has 45 days to review the proposal and attempt to block the deci-

sion before it takes effect.

"Lifting sanctions on Syria will unlock international trade and investment, give Syria a chance to rebuild, and open up a new chapter for the Syrian people," Rubio said in a statement. "A stable, unified Syria at peace with itself and its neighbors benefits not only the region, but the entire world," he added.

Rubio said the decision followed "positive changes and counterterrorism actions" undertaken by the Syrian government under al-Sharaa.

He said the Syrian leader had provided "formal assurances" that his country "will not support acts of international terrorism in the future."

The move is expected to pave the way for Syria's gradual reintegration into the global economy by easing barriers to international trade and investment as the country seeks to rebuild after nearly 14 years of civil war.

Syria was first designated a state sponsor of terrorism by the United States in 1979 under President Hafez al-Assad. The designation remained in force during the rule of his son, Bashar al-Assad, who succeeded him in 2000.

Washington imposed additional sanctions on Damascus in 2004 and significantly expanded them after the outbreak of the Syrian civil war in 2011, leaving the country largely isolated from the global financial system.

Al-Sharaa himself was previously listed by both the United States and the United Nations as a terrorist due to his leadership of Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), formerly known as the Nusra Front, which originated as an affiliate of al-Qaeda before publicly breaking ties and emerging as the dominant rebel force in northwestern Syria.

China Warns US Against Supporting Tibetan Independence

Press Trust of India

BEIJING: China on Thursday urged the US to honour its commitment to recognise Tibet as part of China and not to support Tibetan independence.

The US State Department said in a statement on Wednesday that it supports the aspirations of Tibetans to preserve their culture and called on China to return to dialogue with the Dalai Lama.

Reacting to the US statement, China's Foreign Ministry said that all Tibet-related issues are China's "internal affairs". China calls Tibet as Xizang.

"Xizang-related affairs are purely China's internal affairs and no country has the right to make interference," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning told a media briefing here while responding to a question on the US statement on Thursday.

"We urge the US to honour its commitment that it recognises Xizang is part of China and does not support 'Tibet independence,'" and stop using Xizang-related issues to interfere in China's internal affairs," she added.

She, however, did not react to the US call to hold talks with the Tibetan spiritual leader, who turned 91 on July 6.

MI Securities

POWER OF ₹5,000 SIP

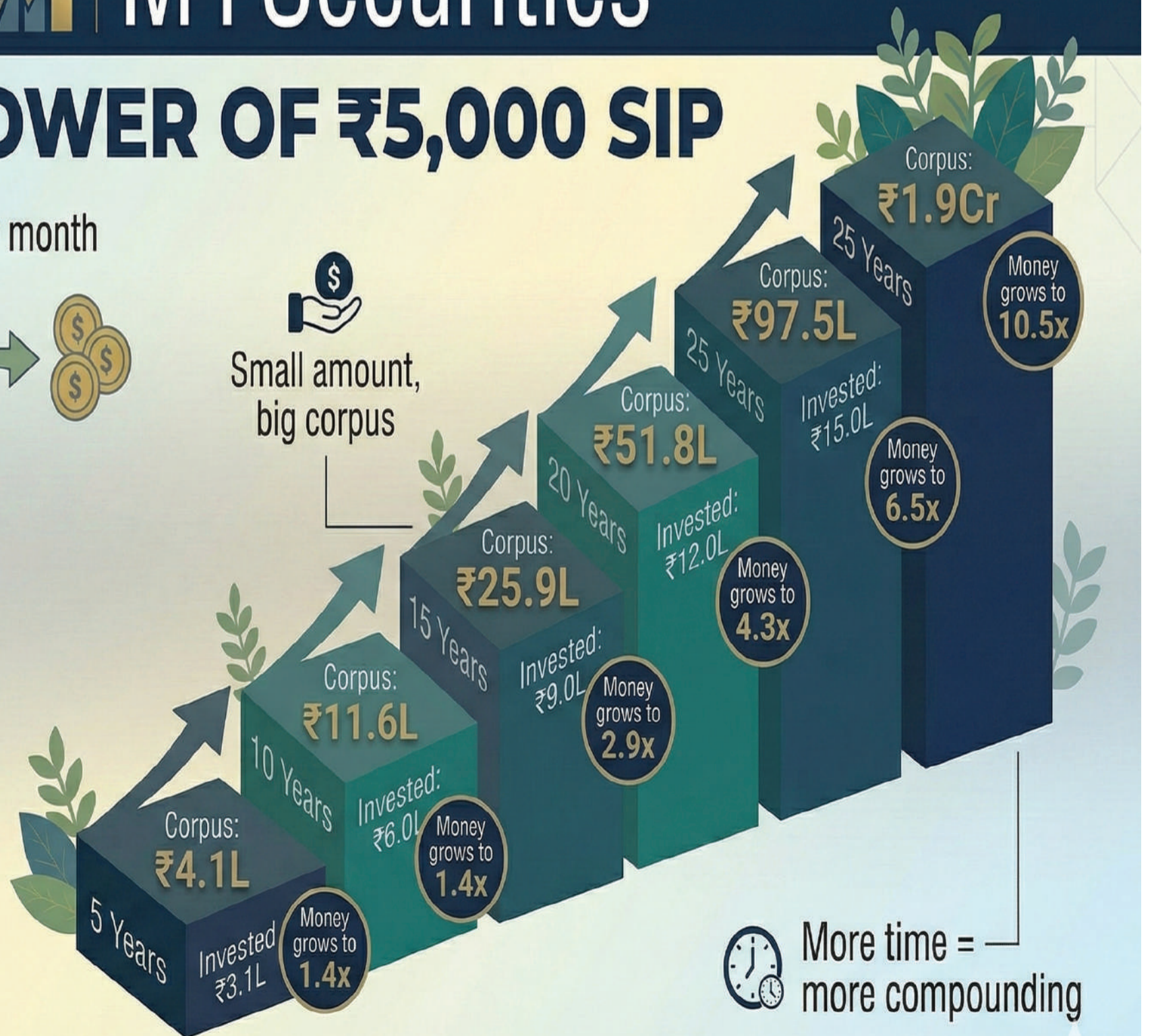
Step 1: You invest ₹5,000 every month



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.