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• PUBLIC NOTICES • NAME CHANGE • SALE/ PURCHASE • BIRTHDAY WISHES • OBITUARIES

Mufti Regrets 'Slip of Tongue' Remark At Jantar Mantar



Observer News Service

Srinagar: : Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti on Tuesday expressed regret over her controversial remarks at the recent Jantar Mantar protest, describing them as a "slip of the tongue" and clarifying that the statement had been taken out of context.

Addressing a press conference on the party's 27th Foundation Day in Srinagar, the former chief minister maintained that the viral video of her remarks was authentic and had not been doctored.

"I gave bytes to a lot of people there. In one byte I said there is militancy and intended to say 'bahana banta hai', but due to the rush of media interactions I could not utter the word 'bahana'. I thought I had said that,"

Mehbooba said.

Rejecting claims that the clip had been manipulated, she said, "I wouldn't say the video is fake; it is genuine."

She said she has consistently raised issues concerning the rights, dignity and democratic aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir throughout her political career, adding that the controversial remark did not reflect her intended message.

Reaffirming the PDP's political stand, Mehbooba announced that the party would hold peaceful protests across Jammu and Kashmir on August 5 to press for the restoration of Articles 370 and 35A.

She said the PDP had adopted a political resolution reaffirming the vision of its founder, late Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, centred on [More on P6](#)

Govt Jobs Alone Can't End Unemployment: LG Sinha

» Pushes industry-academia partnership, skill-based hiring » Says youth are the makers of India's future

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday said unemployment cannot be addressed through government jobs alone, stressing the need to align education with industry requirements, promote entrepreneurship and expand private sector employment opportunities.

Addressing the 77th State-Level Mega Job Fair at Amar Singh College here, the Lieutenant Governor said government vacancies were limited and called for



a collaborative approach involving educational institutions, industry and skill development initiatives to create

sustainable employment.

"Government jobs alone cannot solve unemployment. We need to align skills with industry needs, promote private sector job creation through MSMEs and SMEs, and bridge the transition from college to the workplace through internships, mentorships and career guidance," Sinha said.

The Mega Job Fair, organised by Desh Bhagat University in collaboration with Cluster University Srinagar, NIELIT, Nations Development Association (NDA) and MY

Bharat, brought together more than 50 companies from sectors including information technology, healthcare, banking, manufacturing, retail, hospitality, logistics and engineering.

Describing the event as a platform where "dreams meet direction and education meets industry", Sinha said such initiatives instil confidence in young people while directly connecting them with employment opportunities.

"You are not merely job-seekers. You are the makers of India's future." [More on P6](#)

PoK Polls A 'Cosmetic Exercise': India

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: India on Tuesday described the ongoing local body elections in Pakistan-Occupied-Kashmir (PoK) as an attempt by Islamabad to camouflage its illegal occupation and hide its "grave" human rights violations in the region.

Voting in PoK began this week for the first round of local legislative elections amid widespread violence.

"The current cosmetic electoral exercise is nothing but an attempt by Pakistan to camouflage its illegal occupation and hide its grave human rights violations in the region," External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said at his bi-weekly media briefing.

He reiterated that the entire Union territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh, including the areas currently under Pakistan's [More on P6](#)

2 Held In Baramulla For Rape, Filming Assault

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Two men have been arrested for allegedly gang raping a 21-year-old woman, recording the assault on a mobile phone, and threatening her into silence in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, police said on Tuesday.

Addressing a press conference, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Baramulla Gurinderpal Singh said the woman approached Police Station Baramulla on July 25 and lodged a written complaint alleging that the crime had taken place on July 3 at Jalsheeri Drangbal.

According to the complaint, the woman had gone to the picnic spot with a male friend [More on P6](#)

FDA Bans Unsafe Sauce Batch Across J&K

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Food and Drugs Administration (FDA), Jammu and Kashmir, has prohibited the sale of a batch of Snack Dressing (Sauce) marketed under the brand "Nirmal Fruits Products" across the Union Territory after it was declared unsafe and misbranded by the National Food Laboratory (NFL), Ghaziabad.

The order, issued under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, also directs the immediate withdrawal and recall of the affected batch from the market in the interest of public health. The prohibited [More on P6](#)

39 Yatris Hurt After Bus Skids Off Road In Ganderbal

LG visits SKIMS, CM directs best treatment for injured

Observer News Service

Srinagar: At least 39 Amarnath Yatra pilgrims were injured on Tuesday after the bus they were travelling in skidded off the road



and crashed into a house in Ganiwan area of Ganderbal district, officials said.

The accident occurred when the driver reportedly lost control of the bus while negotiating a curve. The

vehicle veered off the road and landed on a vacant house, causing extensive damage to the structure. Officials said the house prevented the bus from plunging into the nearby Sindh [More on P6](#)

Rain Lashes J&K Parts; Wet Weather Till Aug 4

Cloudburst Triggers Flash Floods In Bandipora

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Moderate to heavy rainfall lashed several parts of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, while a cloudburst in north Kashmir's Bandipora district triggered flash floods, prompting the Meteorological Department to warn of more rain and weather-related hazards across the Union Territory over the coming days.

According to the Meteorological Centre Srinagar, moderate to heavy rainfall was recorded in parts of Kupwara, Handwara, Sopore and Bandipora in north Kashmir. Heavy showers were also reported from



Ganderbal, Kokernag and several areas of south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

In the Jammu region, rain lashed Rajouri, Reasi, Ramban, Doda and Kishtwar districts.

Cloudburst Triggers Flash Floods

A cloudburst struck the Nagmarg area of Bandipora district, sending a surge of muddy water and debris through downstream villages and triggering [More on P6](#)

Sessions Court Sets Aside Order Against SSP Srinagar

Issues Guidelines For Streamlining Execution Of Judicial Processes

M Ahmad

Srinaga: A Sessions Court here has set aside a lower court's order directing the registration of a criminal case against Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Srinagar, GV Sundee Chakravarty, while simultaneously laying down a comprehensive mechanism for the execution of judicial processes within the district.

The court of 2nd Additional Sessions Judge Srinagar, presided over by Naushad Ahmad Khan passed the order while allowing a criminal revision petition filed by the [More on P6](#)

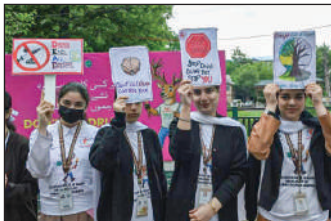
1.2 Cr People Reached Under Anti-Drug Campaign In J&K

Centre says 69 lakh youth, 51 lakh women reached; 8,565 Nasha Mukti Mitras join anti-drug drive

Observer News Service

Srinagar: More than 1.2 crore people, including 69.14 lakh youth and 51.20 lakh women, have been sensitised under the Nasha Mukti Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA) in Jammu and Kashmir, while 8,565 Nasha Mukti Mitras have joined the anti-drug campaign across the Union Territory, the Centre informed Parliament on Tuesday.

In a written reply to an unstarred question by Srinagar MP Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi in the Lok Sabha, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment said the



campaign is being implemented through awareness programmes, de-addiction services, counselling and rehabilitation facilities.

The ministry said the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing the National Action Plan for Drug Demand [More on P6](#)

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, KASHMIR

CHIEF GUEST
SHRI MANOJ SINHA
HON'BLE, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, UT, J&K

PATRON
PROF. SHAKIL AHMAD ROMSHOO
HON'BLE, VICE CHANCELLOR, IUST

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

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Dr. Jasia Bashir, AP Geomatics, IUST
Dr. Irfan Maqbool, AP CDRR, IUST

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AUGUST 03-06, 2026, 10:00 AM

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2

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH

(Office of the Registrar Judicial Srinagar)

AUCTION NOTICE

NO: /AC/HC/SGR 599-602 DATED 27-07-2026

It is hereby notified that obsolete / unserviceable and scrap items viz-a-viz Furniture / Computers / Printers / UPS/s / Photostat copiers and other electrical and electronic gadgets lying in the premises of High Court of J&K and Ladakh at Srinagar Wing, shall be disposed of through open auction to be held on 11th August, 2026 at 1:00 PM sharp subject to the following terms and conditions.

1. For the auction of aforementioned items, all the stock holders will be permitted to examine the auction material on the date fixed i.e 11th August, 2026 from 11:00 a.m to 12:00 o'clock who would thereafter submit their respective bid for upliftment of the auction material by 2:00 p.m on the very date.

2. That before putting the material on auction, all the bidders shall deposit an amount of Rs.10,000/- as security deposit with the office of the undersigned.

3. The successful bidders shall deposit the full bidding amount on the auction days by 3:00 p.m and would lift the auction material and remove from the site at his/their own costs within two days from the date of auction for which purpose he/ they will be provided gate pass, failing which security amount shall forfeit.

4. The security amount deposited by the unsuccessful bidders will be remitted to them on the very date of auction.

5. The Auction Committee, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Srinagar shall reserve the right to accept /reject any or all bids without assigning reason/notice thereof.

Accounts Officer
High Court of J&K and Ladakh,
Srinagar

NO: /AC/HC/SGR 599-602
DIPK-3804/26
DATED 28-07-2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have changed my name from (Old name) SUMAYA to (New name) SUMAYA HASSAN in future I will be known as (New Name) SUMAYA HASSAN
If anybody is having any objection he/she may contact Passport Office, Srinagar within & 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

INF

PUBLIC NOTICE

I intend to get the spelling of my name/parentage corrected as "Mohd Yousuf Ganai S/o Ab Samad Ganai" in my service records, as the same has wrongly been recorded as "Mohd Yousf Ganie S/o Ab Samad Ganie" in my service records at DPO Srinagar. If anybody has any objection in this regard, he/she may contact the SSP Office Srinagar within seven (07) days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained after the expiry of the stipulated period.

Sd/-Mohd Yousuf Ganai
S/o Ab Samad Ganai

mcb

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

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

The registrar Births and deaths (MC Pattan) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Hazim Bilal Mochi S/o Bilal Ahmud Mochi R/o Janbaz Colony Kalsari Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla with verified date of event (birth) as 13-02-2015 occurred at SDH Pattan

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 Pattan

fko

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

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

The registrar Births and deaths (MC Pattan) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Mohammad Arhaan Dar S/O Fayaz Ahmad Dar R/O Watwan Pattan Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla with verified date of event (birth) as 17-07-2021 occurred at SDH Pattan

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 Pattan

fko

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

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

The registrar Births and deaths (Block Development Officer Lalpora) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Gh Ahmad Yatoo S/O Gh Hussain Yatoo R/o Kanloo Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla with verified date of event (birth) as 01-03-1977 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 Pattan

fko

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER SUB TRANSMISSION DIVISION-IIND, RAJBAGH, SRINAGAR

EXTENSION NOTICE 2

Due to poor response, the date of submission of bids in respect of below mentioned e-NITs is hereby extended with the details enumerated below:

SNO	E.NIT No.	Name of the work	Cost tender document (In Rs)	EMD Cost (In Rs)	Last Date of Bid Submission extended up to	Bid Opening Date
1	eNIT No STD-II / 25 of 2026-27 Dated 20-05-2026	Replacement of 11KV VCB Panels at Receiving station Rangreth	Rs 1000.00	57656.00	04-08-2026; 04:30pm	05-08-2026; 02:30pm
2	eNIT No STD-II / 24 of 2026-27 Dated 19-05-2026	Replacement of 11KV VCB Panels at Receiving stations Budgam & SIDCO	Rs 1000.00	69187.00	04-08-2026; 04:30pm	05-08-2026; 02:30pm

No.: STD-II/3441-43/Ts

DIPK-NB-1221/26
Dated: 28-07-2026

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Sub Transmission Division-II,
Rajbagh, Srinagar.

Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology (K)

Office of the Dy. Comptroller
Faculty of Agriculture, Wadura, Sopore-193201

Email: assistantcomptrollerfoa@gmail.com

AUCTION NOTICE

Sealed bids are invited from interested individuals/fruit contractors for auction of fruit crop (Walnut) of the Walnut Orchard of "Walnut Research & Extension Station, Kulangam, Kupwara". The bid document/terms and conditions can be obtained from the office of Dy. Comptroller, FoA, Wadura, Sopore up to 7th of August, 2026 against payment of Rs. 100/- on any working day or can be downloaded from SKUAST-K website <http://www.skuastkashmir.ac.in> in which case a demand draft of Rs. 100/- pledged to "Assistant Comptroller, FoA, Wadura" should also be enclosed with the bid document. Bids complete in all respects along with the CDR of Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten thousand only) pledged to "Assistant Comptroller, FoA, Wadura" should reach the office of the Dy. Comptroller, FoA, Wadura by or before 12th of August-2026 up to 1.00 p.m. The bids will be opened on 13th of August-2026 in presence of bidders who wish to remain present. The auction committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

No. Au/FoA/Accts/2026-27/247
DIPK-NB-1222/26
Dated: 28.07.2026

Sd/-
Dy. Comptroller
FoA, Wadura
(Member Secretary)

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No: 433-Sig-T-31-26-27 Date:- 28.07.2026

Closing Date/Time 20.08.2026 15:00

Sr. DSTE/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders on <https://www.ireps.gov.in> against Tender Notice no. 433-Sig-T-31-26-27 Closing Date/Time 20.08.2026 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal like Net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

NIT HEADER

Contract Type	Works
Name of work	(i) Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) of MEDHA Make Electronic Interlocking system installed at 04 Stations of Firozpur division for Three (03) Years. (ii) Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract of KYOSAN make Electronic Interlocking at 3 Stations (SRX, HMR,GRY) over Firozpur Division for three years.

Tender Closing Date Time	(i) 20.08.2026 15:00 (ii) 17.08.2026 15:00	Date Time of Uploading Tender	27.07.2026 18:31
Advertised Value (Rs.)	(i) 10198999.68 (ii) 14441899.62	Bidding Start Date as per IREPS	(i) 06.08.2026 (ii) 03.08.2026
Earnest Money (Rs.)	(i) 204000.00 (ii) 288800.00	Period of Completion	(i) 36 Months (ii) 36 Months

NOTE Tenderer should keep himself updated about the Tender amendments, Corrigendum, etc. by remaining in touch regularly with the website.

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

2601/26

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to change the name on electricity bill bearing consumer ID No: 02040200000107 from Haji Ab Aziz Dar S/O Wali Mohammad Dar to Parvez Ah Dar S/O Late Haji Ab Aziz Dar R/O Saidra Kadal Srinagar. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned PDD Office within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Parvez Ah Dar mdl
S/O Late Haji Ab Aziz Dar



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No. BSNLCO-11/12(11)/4/2026-RBCIT-CO **Dated: 2026**

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) invites applications from eligible candidates for the post of **Company Secretary** under the Direct Recruitment Scheme.

Interested candidates are advised to visit www.bsnl.co.in regularly for the detailed notification and subsequent updates.

CBC 06204/12/0009/2627

BSNL CO, NEW DELHI

CSIR-Innovation Protection Unit
3rd Floor, Vigyan Suchana Bhavan (CSIR-NIScPR Building)
14, Satsang Vihar Marg, New Delhi - 110067

Walk in Interview

Advertisement No.: IPU/02/2026

Date:22.07.2026

CSIR-Innovation Protection Unit (CSIR-IPU), New Delhi, a unit of CSIR Headquarters engaged in Intellectual Property Management, invites eligible and interested Indian nationals for Walk-in-Interview for engagement of Project Staff on a purely temporary basis under the project "Intellectual Property Management".

The Walk-in-Interview is scheduled to be held at CSIR-Innovation Protection Unit (IPU), 3rd Floor, Vigyan Suchana Bhavan, 14, Satsang Vihar Marg, New Delhi - 110067 as per the following dates.

Post Code	Date and time of Walk in Interview
Post Code -1: Project Scientist (PS-1): Mechanical Engineering: No. of Post: 1 Post Code -2: Project Associate-Senior PAT: Civil Engineering No. of Post: 1	13.08.2026 9.30 am to 10.30 am
Post Code -3: Project Associate-Senior PAT: Electronics and Communication Engineering: No. of Post: 1 Post Code -4: Project Associate-Senior PAT Physics No. of Post: 1 Post Code -6: Project Scientist (PS-1): Chemistry No. of Post: 1	14.08.2026 9.30 am to 10.30 am

Candidates fulfilling the prescribed qualifications and experience may appear for the interview along with duly filled application form and supporting documents. Detailed advertisement is available on the official website of CSIR: www.csir.res.in

CBC 36202/11/0013/2627

Deputy Secretary(IPU)

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the information of general public that the Mother's name of my daughter Sabeha Imtiyaz studying in Class 4th has been incorrectly mentioned in the school records as Kulsooma Imtiyaz instead of KULSUM. Now, the same needs to be rectified. In this regard, any person having any objection must submit the same to the Principal Kids World School, Radapora, Srinagar within seven days from the date of publication of this notice, beyond which no objection shall be entertained.

Imtiyaz Ahmed Zargar Misgar
F/o Sabeha Imtiyaz

fko_r

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Arshad Ahmad Guroo, S/o Mohammad Akram, R/o Miya Shah Sahib, Rainawari, Srinagar, hereby inform the general public that the electricity connection bearing Consumer No. 0204020013517 is presently recorded in the name of Gulzar Ahmad Paul.

I have applied to the concerned department for the transfer/change of the said electricity connection into my name. If any person has any objection regarding this name change, they may submit the same to the concerned authority within the stipulated period. Failing which, the electricity connection shall be transferred to my name without any further notice.

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Gulzar Ahmad Mir, S/o Late Ghulam Hassan Mir, R/o Bagdaji Mohalla, Rainawari, Srinagar, do hereby declare that I have applied for the transfer/change of the electricity consumer record pertaining to Consumer No. 0204020000501 from the name of Ghulam Hassan Mir to my name, Gulzar Ahmad Mir. If any person has any objection regarding the above-mentioned change, they may submit the same, supported by relevant documentary evidence, to the concerned authorities within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which, the electricity consumer record shall be transferred/updated in my name, and no further claims or objections shall be entertained thereafter.

fko

NOTICE

I, Neghat Jabeen, D/o Noor Mohd Bhat R/o Wanihoma Payeen Hazratbal, do hereby inform the general public that I had opened a Savings Account in Jammu & Kashmir bank Nunner, Ganderbal, branch bearing account numbers 0174040150002471, under the name Neghat I now intend to change my name from Neghat to "Neghat Jabeen" in the records of the said bank. If any person has any objection to this change, he/she may approach the concerned bank branch or the relevant authority within 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice. After the expiry of the said period, no objection shall be entertained, and the change shall be deemed final.

Neghat Jabeen
D/o Noor Mohd Bhat
R/o Wanihoma Payeen Hazratbal

media line advt

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that i have changed my bank account bearing No 0855020100000191 name from NAYAAB CAFE & RESTAURANT to new name NAYAAB TRADERS, in this regard if anybody having any objection may contact Branch Manager Jammu & Kashmir Bank Parnewa Budgam with in a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that.
SHABIR AHMAD GOURI
S/O ABDUL AZIZ GOURI
R/O FALCHIL BUDGAM POP. NAYAAB TRADERS.
CELL. 7006502805

mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that i have changed my wards name from old name 1. ANNAS BIN FAROOZ 2. MOHAMMAD ABDULLAH BIN FAROOZ To new name 1. ANAS BIN FAROOZ KUMAR 2. MOHAMMAD ABDULLAH BIN FAROOZ KUMAR. In this regard if anybody having any objection may contact Principal Delhi Public School Budgam with in a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that.

FAROOZ KUMAR
F/o ANAS BIN FAROOZ KUMAR
2. MOHAMMAD ABDULLAH BIN FAROOZ KUMAR.
CELL. 9419020308

mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that my name has inadvertently been entered in the University records as Bilqueesa D/O Mohammad Ibrahim Rather instead of my correct name, Bilqueesa D/O Mohammad Ibrahim Rahter. The same needs to be rectified at the University level. Any person having any objection regarding the proposed correction may submit/contact the Assistant Registrar, Registration Section, University of Kashmir (KU) within one week from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained after the expiry of the stipulated period.

Bilqueesa
D/O Mohammad Ibrahim Rahter

mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Abdul Hameed Bhat, resident of Nasrullahpora, Tehsil and District Budgam, Kashmir, father of Mehnaz Hameed (holding Aadhaar No. 679055261628), do hereby declare that in my ward's Aadhaar card and related documents, her name and father's name were incorrectly recorded as Mehnaza Akhter D/O Ab Hameed Bhat.?Her actual and correct name is Mehnaz Hameed and father's name is Abdul Hameed Bhat.?Henceforth, she shall be known and identified as Mehnaz Hameed D/O Abdul Hameed Bhat in all official records and for the purpose of Date of Birth (DOB) updation in Aadhaar. This notice is being published for the information of the general public and all concerned authorities to facilitate the correction of my name in the Aadhaar records and other related documents. [5:11 pm, 28/7/2026] +91 77808 45780: PUBLIC NOTICE, Bilkees Akhter, Daughter of Mohammad Yousuf Rather, Resident of Soibugh, Budgam, do hereby declare that my name has been inadvertently recorded as "Bilkees Akhter" in my Aadhaar Card bearing Aadhaar No. 9721 3200 8543. My correct and actual name is "Bilkees Akhter". Henceforth, I shall be known and identified by the name Bilkees Akhter for all purposes, and the name Bilkees Akhter appearing in the Aadhaar Card may be treated as incorrect. This notice is being published for the information of the general public and all concerned authorities to facilitate the correction of my name in the Aadhaar records and other related documents. Bilkees Akhter D/o Mohammad Yousuf Rather R/o Soibugh, Budgam

mcb

DC Pushes for 100% Vay Vandana Coverage, Reviews TB Mukht Bharat Drive

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo chaired a comprehensive review meeting in his Office Chamber to evaluate the implementation of key health schemes in District, with a focus on expanding outreach of Vay Vandana Yojana to achieve 100% senior citizens (Above 70 years) coverage and reviewing the progress under TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan.

The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer Fayaz Ahmad Dar, District TB Officer Dr Abdul Rouf, Medical Superintendents of SMHS Hospital, JLNH Hospital and CD Hospital, Block Medical Officer Hazrabal, all Zonal Medical Officers of Srinagar District, CSC District Manager and other concerned.

On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner stressed on dedicated outreach efforts in all tertiary care hospitals and all Medical Block/Zones of the district to achieve 100% enrolment of eligible individuals aged 70 and above so that they receive the additional benefit of Rs 5 lakh free health treatment. He directed Block and Zonal Medical Offi-

cers, along with other concerned Officials to organize outreach camps to mobilize beneficiaries in their respective jurisdiction to ensure that no eligible individual is deprived of affordable and free healthcare services in the district.

The DC also assessed the Tuberculosis (TB) control measures and implementation of TB presumptive testing, surveillance and initiatives to enhance screening and treatment across the District.

The DC called for enhanced inter-departmental coordination and stronger community outreach under the TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan.

The DC also reviewed the initiatives undertaken to strengthen patient care and enhance healthcare delivery across the District.

Stressing the need for a patient-first approach, he directed health Officers to ensure the delivery of quality, accessible and responsive healthcare services at all health institutions. He emphasized maintaining high standards of service delivery to ensure timely and efficient medical care for every patient.



Health Minister Reviews Treatment of Injured Amarnath Yatris at SKIMS

Observer News Service

Srinagar: On the directions of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo visited the Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura, to enquire about the health condition of the Amarnath Yatra pilgrims who sustained injuries in a road accident in Ganiwan, Ganderbal.

During the visit, the Minister met the injured pilgrims undergoing treatment and interacted with them individually to enquire about their well-being and recovery. She

also spoke to their attendants and assured them of the Government's full support.

The Minister reviewed the treatment being provided to the injured pilgrims and held a detailed interaction with the doctors and senior officers of the hospital regarding their medical condition and progress.

Emphasising that the health and well-being of the pilgrims is the Government's foremost priority, Sakeena Itoo directed the hospital administration to ensure that all the injured receive the best possible medical care, specialised treatment and every required facility for their speedy recovery.

"The Government is committed

to providing the highest standard of healthcare to every injured pilgrim. There should be no compromise in treatment, and all necessary medical assistance and support must be extended to them," the Minister said.

She also instructed the hospital authorities to closely monitor the condition of each patient and ensure round-the-clock availability of specialist doctors, medicines and other essential healthcare services.

Director SKIMS, Dr. Ashraf Ganie informed the Minister that all injured pilgrims are under constant medical supervision and are being provided comprehensive treatment by teams of specialists.

Young Girls from Minority Communities Encouraged to Pursue Entrepreneurship

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Social Welfare Department (SWD), SANKALP-HEW Srinagar, organized an interactive session on "Business Women Interaction with Young Girls from Minority Communities" at Check-i-Sangri, Khonmoh, Srinagar in collaboration with the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) on Tuesday.

The programme, organized under Beti Bachao Beti Padhao

(BBBP) initiative, aimed to motivate and empower young girls from minority communities by exposing them to inspiring entrepreneurial journeys and creating awareness about opportunities for self-employment, skill development, and economic empowerment.

The session featured a successful women business entrepreneur, who shared her experiences, highlighting the importance of determination, innovation, and perseverance in establishing a successful enterprise.

Awareness, Enrolment Drive to Be Intensified Under Welfare Schemes: DC

Observer News Service

Srinagar: To assess the progress achieved under various flagship welfare and pension schemes, including the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan Yojana (PM-SYM), JK Samadhan, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana (PM-KMY), and the National Pension Scheme for Traders and Self-Employed Persons, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo, on Tuesday chaired a comprehensive review meeting

at the Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Joint Commissioner SMC, District Programme Officer, ICDS, Chief Planning Officer, General Manager DIC, Assistant Commissioner Development, Deputy Director Employment, Chief Education Officer, Chief Agriculture Officer, Chief Horticulture Officer, Assistant Labour Commissioner, AD Handicraft/Handloom, ARTO, District Health Officer, District Officer, KVIB/KVIC, DPM NRLM, District

Manager CSC and other concerned.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner was given a department-wise presentation on the progress achieved under the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan Yojana (PM-SYM), JK Samadhan, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana (PM-KMY) and the National Pension Scheme for Traders and Self-Employed Persons in the District. The presentation highlighted the status of enrolment, beneficiary coverage and implementation of these flagship welfare and pension schemes.

Five-Day Search Ends as Body of Missing Youth Recovered from Jhelum

Agencies

Srinagar: The body of a 25-year-old youth, who had jumped into the River Jhelum at Sempora in the Pantha Chowk area of Srinagar, was retrieved on Tuesday after a five-day-long search operation, officials said.

Officials told KNO, that the body of the youth was recovered by teams of the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) during the search operation near Pantha Chowk Srinagar.

They said the operation was jointly carried out by the SDRF Srinagar and local volunteers. The deceased was identified as Sajad Ahmad Mir (25), a resident of Balhama, Srinagar.

سانحہ ارتحال / اجتماعی فاتحہ

نورچشی پرویز احمد (پنواری محکمہ مال) کا شیرخوار لخت بچہ محمد حسنین کل صبح 12 صفر المظفر 1448 بمطابق 27 جولائی 2026 مختصر

علامت کے بدحوث ہوئے۔ اللہ تعالیٰ اس بچے کو ہم سب کیلئے آخرت میں مغفرت کا باعث بنائے۔ چونکہ غم فطری ہے اسلئے تعزیت تین دن غریب خانہ واقعہ 9 یوں فردوس آباد لین 7 منوں آباد بٹہ مالوسرنگر میں ہے۔ اجتماعی فاتح خوانی آبائی مقبرہ واقعہ آلوچی باغ بنڈرزدیک خادی مل جمہرات صبح 30:09 انجام دیا جائے گا اور اجتماعی فاتحہ خوانی کے بعدوں بھر غریب خانہ میں دعا نیہ مجلس کا اہتمام ہوگا

غمزدہ

محمد یاسین گورو

بنہ مالو سرینگر

9906452212 / 7006900791 / 9596307240

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have changed my name from (Old name) NIGHAT HILAL (New name) NIGHAT HAMDANI. In future I will be known as (New name) NIGHAT HAMDANI.

If anybody is having any objection he/she may contact Passport Office, Srinagar within 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted..

Nighat Hamdani
D/o Peer Buah-ud-Din Hamdani
W/o Hilal Ahmad Mattoo Daa Rul-Sar,
H.No. 2, Victory Cross, Hazari Bazar,
Rainawari, Srinagar PIN – 190003,
Jammu & Kashmir, India

ROYAL SPRINGS GOLF COURSE, SRINAGAR

NOTICE INVITING TENDERE-NIT No.13 of 2026-27 Dated 23.07.2026

For and on behalf of the Chief Executive Officer, Gulmarg, e-tenders are invited on two cover system by Executive Engineer Royal Springs Golf Course Srinagar by e-tendering mode on Percentage basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K State UTI, PWD, CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Govt. for the following works:-

S No	Name of work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Earned Money (in Rs)	Cost of T/Doc	Time of Completion	Class of Contract	Major Head of Account
1	Repair and Maintenance of Golf Course Machinery for the year 2026-27 at GDA.	32.00 lakhs	64,000/- in shape of CDR OR FDR in favour of Executive Engineer RSGC	1500/= Non Refundable in shape of Bank Challan in favour RSGC SB-12341 J&K Bank Brain Branch Nishat Srinagar	40-60 DAYS	Firms Registered with GST in Mechanical Or Mechanical Suppliers Or Electro Mechanical Suppliers or Firms or Dealers in Golf Machinery	3452 Non-Plan

Position of AA: Accorded Note: Bidders are advised to read all the terms and conditions of this E-NIT and its accompanying documents carefully before submitting their bids. All annexures enclosed with this E-NIT shall be filled in completely, accurately, and duly signed wherever required. Incomplete, unsigned, or improperly filled annexures, or omission of any required information or document, shall render the bid liable to rejection. The bidder may be disqualified at any stage of the tendering process without any further notice.

- No exemption shall be allowed; therefore, all bidders must upload proof of payment for the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Processing Fee.
- The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any tender or all tenders without assigning any reason at any stage.
- Intending bidders shall upload scanned copies of a valid Registration Certificate (renewed for the year 2026-27), PAN, GST Registration Certificate, along with the latest GST return/receipt for the month of June 2026 or the 1st Quarter of FY 2026-27 (April-June 2026). The successful bidder shall produce the original documents for verification before the issuance of the contract.
- The typographical error in the BOQ like Unit of Item Quantity of Item etc, if any found during e- NIT or after end date of NIT shall be rectified in the allotment as per the estimate.
- The Time is the Essence of this Contract. Agencies are requested to supply the item within the stipulated period of time, which is much mandatory.

The Bidding documents 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 www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

S No	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	24.07.2026 3:00 PM
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 24.07.2026 to 10.08.2026 (3.00 PM on wards)
3	Bid submission Start Date	24.07.2026 3:00 Pm on wards
4	Bid Submission End Date	10.08.2026 upto 03:00 PM
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids(Online)	11.08.2026 at 10.00 AM in the office of the Executive Engineer RSGC Srinagar
6	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids(Online)	To be notified after Technical Bid Evaluation is completed

General Conditions:

- The financial bid (BOQ) of only eligible, responsive bidders shall be opened on line on the date mentioned above in the office of Executive Engineer, Royal Springs Golf Course Srinagar. In case of any avoidable circumstances the tenders shall be opened on the next working day or any subsequent date convenient to the Authority.
- The 1st lowest bidder (Successful) has to submit performance security @ 5% of the Contract Value or Below %age of un-balanced cost to be deposited on quoted bid by 11 in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer, Royal Springs Golf Course Srinagar drawn from nationalized/ scheduled bank preferably J&K Bank which should reach to the office of Executive Engineer, Royal Springs Golf Course Srinagar within 05 days from the date of opening of on line bids. In case of failure the bid shall be treated as non-responsive.
- The bids for the works shall remain valid for 90 days from the date of opening of tenders.
- The department shall not be responsible for any technical error or delay in submission of on line bids due to any reason.
- The department can modify the terms and conditions, specification of work if need arises before the deadline date of receipt of tenders.
- The bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ down loaded should be used for filling the item rate/ Percentage inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains.
- Un-balanced Bid: The bidders have to produce additional security in shape of CDR/FDR of recognize scheduled/commercial Bank, pledged to Executive Engineer RSGC Srinagar. The CDR/FDR shall be valid for maximum six months or more after the last date of receipt to bids along with the bid document as per following break up: Additional Security online in shape of CDR/FDR: (As Finance Department Circular No. FD-Code/441/2024-02-158 Dated 08-08-2025)

S No	Percentage of Unbalanced Bid viz; Advertised cost on account flow rates	Additional Security Advertised value of work as percentage of Advertised cost
1	Up to and including 10% below	Nil
2	Greater than 10% up to 20% below	1%
3	Greater than 20% up to 30% below	3%
4	Greater than 30% up to 40% below	5%
5	Greater than 40% up to 50% below	7%

- The additional performance guarantee percentage shall be rounded off to the next lower percentage based on whether the decimal point of the percentage of bid price is below 0.5% or next higher percentage based on whether the decimal point of the percentage of bid price is 0.5% or more.
- The Contractor is bound to work/ supply the material of best quality as per specifications. Any material found Substandard/ defective shall not be entertained and contractor is bound to replace it immediately at his own cost.
- The date of start of work shall be reckoned within 3 days from the date of issue of LOI /allotment.
- In case of delay in completion of the work beyond stipulated period of completion, penalty up to 10% of the allotted cost shall be imposed.
- No advance payment shall be paid to the Service/ contractor.
- The contractor shall ensure execution of an agreement with the Department within 15 days from the date of issue of LOI/allotment.
- All disputes and differences between the parties arising out of any relating to the NIT, Letter of intent, Allotment, work done bills and agreement to be signed between the Officer (Executive Engineer) of RSGC and the contractor including interpretation of its terms and conditions shall be preferable to Chief Executive Officer, Gulmarg whose decision shall be final and binding upon all the parties
- The bidders are advised to quote their rates in Percentage which includes Income tax, GST, Labour cess etc
- The employer may terminate the contract if the contractor causes a breach of the contract.
- The tender is liable to rejection if it does not fulfil the requirements as laid down in the NIT/ Agreement
- All other terms and conditions shall remain same as laid down in PWD form-25 double /FC-31.
- The DLP shall be reckoned from the date of successful completion of work shall be upto the period of not less than Six Months.
- Rates should be quoted in INR inclusive of all taxes / Charges/ FOR.
- No escalation of rates shall be allowed whatsoever during the period of rate contract.
- In case of the unsuccessful tenderer the CDR/ FDR shall be released after completion of the rate contract with successful tenderer.
- The EMD in shape of CDR/ FDR with validity of not less than 24 months from any nationalized/ scheduled bank preferably J&K Bank pledged to Executive Engineer RSGC and should be uploaded on the portal with tender.
- The Agreement shall be accepted by the Chief Executive Officer (GDA), and shall be drawn by the Executive Engineer, RSGC.
- All payments shall be made through the Chief Executive Officer, GDA, and the Accounts Officer, GDA after fulfillment of all codal formalities.

No: RSGC/EE/2026-27/164-67
Dated: 23/07/2026

DIPK-NB-1232/26
dated: 28-07-2026

Executive Engineer
Royal Springs Golf Course
Srinagar

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✍️ KO VIEW

Kashmir's
Liver Crisis

Kashmir's hepatitis problem runs deeper than symptoms suggest. World Hepatitis Day reveals why.

The virus spreads through ordinary moments of life, remains invisible for years and often appears only when a person undergoes a routine medical check.

By then, a disease that could have been detected early may have already begun damaging the liver.

This is the central failure in Kashmir's battle against hepatitis: the tools to identify and control the disease exist, but many people reach diagnosis by accident rather than through a planned public health system.

Hepatitis B and C are especially dangerous because they remain inside the body for years while causing gradual liver damage, eventually leading to cirrhosis or liver cancer. A person can continue working, raising a family and planning a future while carrying an infection that demands medical attention.

The numbers show the scale of the challenge.

Hepatitis B affects around 2.5 percent of Kashmir's population, close to the national figure. Hepatitis C affects nearly 2.1 percent, almost double the countrywide average.

These percentages represent thousands of people whose first encounter with the disease often comes through a visa examination, employment screening, blood donation test or an unrelated hospital visit.

Many people still connect hepatitis only with jaundice, although jaundice represents a symptom rather than the disease itself. Awareness about hepatitis B vaccination remains low despite its availability.

The public discourse around hepatitis also needs greater accuracy.

Hepatitis B and C spread through infected blood and body fluids. They are linked with risks such as unsafe injections, certain medical procedures, repeated blood transfusions, dialysis, exposure among healthcare workers and transmission between an infected mother and child. Large gatherings and tourism do not drive hepatitis B and C transmission. They can create conditions for hepatitis A and E outbreaks when food and water sanitation breaks down.

Kashmir also lacks comprehensive district-level data, leaving health authorities with an incomplete picture. Smaller studies point toward higher prevalence in parts of Anantnag, Pulwama and Shopian, though broader surveys are needed to understand the full distribution of infection.

The path forward is clear. The National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme already provides free screening, diagnosis and treatment through district centres. Hepatitis C can be cured with antiviral medicines, while hepatitis B can be controlled with treatment that slows liver damage and reduces transmission.

The challenge now is moving hepatitis detection from accidental discovery to routine healthcare.

A disease that hides for years cannot be defeated through awareness campaigns alone. Kashmir needs a culture where testing, vaccination and early treatment become ordinary parts of healthcare.

The virus has been invisible long enough, but the response cannot remain the same.



Aksa Muzamil

Yesterday it was Budgam. Today it is Baramulla. Tomorrow, which daughter?

The most disturbing part of these crimes is the speed with which one tragedy is replaced by another.

A family is pushed into grief, society expresses outrage, and before that pain finds any closure, another woman's suffering enters public memory.

After the horror that shook Budgam, many believed that such a case would force a serious conversation about women's safety in Kashmir. The hope was simple: a tragedy of such scale would awaken institutions, families and communities.

Then came another case, this time in Baramulla, with another woman and another family facing an unbearable ordeal.

The question before Kashmir is no longer limited to what happened in one incident. The deeper question is what has happened to a society that speaks so often about values, honour and culture while failing to protect the people who give those ideas meaning.

The allegations emerging from Baramulla are deeply disturbing. Police have said the survivor reported sexual assault, and investigators have alleged that the assault was recorded on video.

If proven in court, the crime reveals a level of cruelty that extends beyond the act itself.

Recording another person's suffering transforms violence into a spectacle and turns human pain into something meant for circulation.

That possibility should force Kashmir to examine its relationship with technology.

Smartphones have connected people in extraordinary ways, but they have also created new spaces where cruelty can spread faster than accountability. A person who once might have stepped forward to stop suffering can now become a spectator holding a camera.

The presence of a recording changes the nature of violence. The assault ends at one point, but the digital consequences can follow the survivor long after.

A video, a message, or a forwarded



“

The next headline from Kashmir should never be another woman's suffering. That change will come when outrage becomes action, when families teach respect before control, when institutions protect before tragedy strikes, and when technology serves humanity instead of becoming a tool for humiliation.

file can create another layer of trauma. The crime gains an online existence, while the victim faces the possibility that her worst moment may continue to circulate.

Digital platforms amplify what attracts attention. They measure engagement over ethics. Shocking content travels because it captures curiosity, and that creates a dangerous incentive structure.

When violence becomes a spectacle, society must ask whether it is only witnessing cruelty or helping it spread.

Strong laws, effective investigations and timely trials remain necessary parts of justice. Still, a courtroom begins its work after a crime has happened.

The deeper battle begins much earlier, inside homes, schools, colleges and workplaces where boys learn how to view women.

A society cannot build respect through punishment alone. It must cultivate it through education, family engagements and social accountability. Laws can respond to crimes, but conscience develops through everyday choices.

This crisis also carries an economic cost that receives little attention.

Economists study opportunity costs, the losses created when people are unable to pursue better choices.

The cost of a society where women feel unsafe appears through abandoned careers, declined opportunities and families restricting daughters' ambitions.

Government documents may record roads, investments and tourism numbers, but they rarely capture the economic consequences of fear.

A young woman who turns away from a job because travel feels unsafe represents a lost contribution. A family that prevents a daughter from pursuing education elsewhere represents another lost possibility.

The damage reaches beyond individual lives.

A society that limits women's participation limits its own progress. Human potential remains unused when half the population must calculate personal risk before pursuing education, employment or independence.

Kashmir's dialogue about honour also needs examination. Communities often invoke honour when discussing women's choices about education, work, clothing and movement.

But the true meaning of honour lies somewhere else.

Honour belongs with the protection of a person's humanity. It exists when daughters can study, work and move through society without fear.

Asking women to remain restricted because society cannot control predators represents failure disguised as protection.

The next headline from Kashmir should never be another woman's suffering. That change will come when outrage becomes action, when families teach respect before control, when institutions protect before tragedy strikes, and when technology serves humanity instead of becoming a tool for humiliation.

The author is an M.A. Economics student at the Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST). She can be reached at aksamuzamil96@gmail.com.

The Paradox of Neocolonialism

A world built on fluid identities and cultural borrowing has created new freedoms, but it has also blurred the lines between authenticity, ambition and political belonging.



Wajahat Qazi

The reaction to colonialism and imperialism emerged in the imperial metropolises.

This is the paradox.

It is one because the native who had been colonized may not have had an idea that his or her freedom had been taken away. Or, more prosaically, he or she may not have had an idea of the nation. He or she belonged either to a tribe or to a grouping that had a loose and somewhat vague idea of itself.

Obiter dictum, this affective and loose affiliative sense was encouraged by imperial powers by creating tribal groups and encouraging them. The premise was to pit these groupings against one another and/or create a balance of power that would accept imperial authority.

But this is beside the point. The real issue and gravamen of the matter was that reaction and resistance to imperialism emerged in the Western imperial power centers.

This had two components. One was the conceptual underpinnings of nationalism and its practice. The other was the internalization of the same by the non-Western intellectuals and elite who studied or worked in the Western metropolises.

Exposure to and understanding of nationalism, and maybe some unsavory experiences in the West, for example, Gandhi was thrown out of a first-class train compartment in South Africa, crafted the consciousness of most, if not all,

non-Western elite.

In the main, this set in motion nationalist struggles in most of the non-Western colonized world.

Consider the ideas and concepts of nationalism. Eminence grises like Benedict Anderson held that a nation was an imagined community. Others like Anthony Smith attributed nationalist consciousness to industrialization, labor, and the emergence of the modern workforce.

More astute intellectuals and scholars like Herder held that nations were not mere constructs but had much hoarier antecedents existing across space, territory, and time.

A post facto assessment of these intellectual crosscurrents suggests that none of these, on a standalone basis, constituted the truth or had a basis in objective reality. But they carried elements of truth.

Over time, the predominance of each in a given milieu, global or local, was contingent on a particular confluence of circumstances and ideological fervor. But the essential point remains: the theory and praxis of nationalism were Western in their provenance. They were only internalized and used as a tool and ideology by non-Western intellectuals and elite in their noble anti-colonial struggles.

But all this is well known and understood. Does it have a bearing on the contemporary human condition? If so, what is its nature?

The world as it stands now is at a crossroads, culturally, politically, and economically. The so-called democratic recession jostles and jockeys with a retreat of globalization and more realistic and sober economic paradigms. While the shape and form of the new world are unknown, it is surely at an inflection point.

In the interstices of these developments and in a postcolonial world, the term and academic discourse on neocolonialism emerged. The proponents of neocolonialism held that colonialism, after the spree of decolonization, had not ended in real terms. It existed in a new and even more insidious avatar.

In this schema, the newly decolonized chose to abdicate their will, agency, and autonomy to their former colonial

masters in a new idiom or matrix.

The merits or demerits of this formulation are not the issue here. The issue is whether the wellsprings of neocolonialism emerge from the bosom of the decolonized or whether it is a Western phenomenon.

Yet again, its genesis is Western, either through highly aware and sophisticated intellectuals based in the West or through disaffected wannabes.

This, among other things, testifies to the teleology and discursive dominance of Western scholarship and its advancement.

Can these broad brushstrokes be reified and illustrated? Yes.

Be it the hijabi Muslim woman, or a dissident in a Third World context who realizes that the rights he or she has been fighting for were more notional than real and that he or she has to fight for survival, or the modern man or woman whose vulgar self-expression lies in corporeal show-off and consumption, all realize that their rights are more real and better protected in the West than elsewhere.

The soft power pull of rights, their protection, and ideational, corporeal, or identity-based self-expression is what I think constitutes the grist of immigration into the West.

So, if neocolonialism, no matter its reality or tour de force, is a Western-inspired and Western-determined concept, does closure lie in so-called hybridity?

The global me, the hybrid self, which entails the incorporation of bits and pieces from here and there into a person's self-concept, may be one of the biggest frauds in modern history. Informed and motivated by globalism, it collapses identity into a vortex of market supply and demand.

While identity should be a matter of choice in a given context, identity politics is a mug's game, a sure-shot way of destroying the essence of a nation.

The United States emblemizes this point. I shall illustrate this by way of a real-world anecdotal example.

A South Asian woman with American citizenship, who lives in the UAE with her husband and children, engaged

with one of my essays. Her review of it, to employ South Asian parlance, was too good.

My suspicions were raised, so I placed the text of my essay into ChatGPT. The response it produced was eerily similar to the one posted by the woman.

Now, this is not the gravamen of the matter.

The woman was trying to flatter me to get to something else, my view of the student protests in India. Her husband, who has political ambitions in India and certain ideological predilections, wanted a sober scholarly assessment from me.

Again, this may be beside the point. The real issue is that the couple, educated in the US and holding US citizenship, use both to enjoy the lifestyle and opportunities that the region offers. They bide their time, waiting for a suitable opportunity to partake in political power in India.

In the meantime, the couple build Western networks in the UAE and the US by playing the diasporic brown faces and white masks card. The real name for the same is obviously something else: influence, power, and political forays.

This, besides being inorganic, is as fake as can be.

If the couple's ambition is inauthentic and motivated purely by self-interest rather than by a higher calling, what does this tell us about hybridity?

While this may not be a one-size-fits-all assessment, it would appear that this sample impugns hybridity as a fraudulent, inorganic, and inauthentic concept and practice.

What, then, is the antidote?

A stable identity and an ideational and emotional framework underpinned by a citizenship paradigm that validates both vigorously.

For this, and within this scheme, the United States, as it does in other domains, must lead the way.

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.

The Volunteers Keeping Kashmir's Scientific Ambitions Alive

Started fifteen years ago as a small Facebook group, JKScientists now counts over 13,000 members worldwide. Its General Secretary opens up about mentorship, gender gaps, and the long road to a self-sustaining ecosystem.



When one volunteer sleeps in Korea, another is active in Europe or the US, so the network stays reachable around the clock. The discussions are deeply human, often about academic stress, career uncertainty, or isolation. Sometimes students just want someone to listen with empathy.



Aashiq Hussain Andrabi

Full 2011. Jammu and Kashmir was still recovering from a season of unrest, and Syed Mubarak Hussain, a doctoral student thousands of miles from home, kept circling one question: how does a talented but overlooked generation find its way into science?

His answer started small, a Facebook group called Kasher Scientists, built to connect Kashmiri students with mentors who had already made it out and made something of themselves.

Hartals, curfews, and shuttered campuses had long made education in the valley an unpredictable business. Career paths in science were murky at best, and role models were scarce.

Hussain understood the disparity firsthand, as he had crossed it himself, with help from mentors he considers himself lucky to have found.

The group he started grew slowly, until it became something bigger than anyone expected.

Renamed JKScientists, it now operates as a registered public organization in the United States, with a global membership that has crossed 13,000: students, scientists, scholars, technologists, and teachers, all tied back to Jammu and Kashmir.

A round-the-clock counselling network, run entirely by volunteers spread over continents and time zones, has become one of its defining features.

More than a decade later, what began as a modest online circle has turned into a case study in how volunteer effort, sustained long enough, can build lasting institutions in places where formal ones often falter.

In this interview with Kashmir Observer, JKScientists General Secretary Dr. Khalid Gul talks about the platform's growth, its struggles, and where it goes from here.

JKScientists has run for over a decade on volunteers alone. What

keeps it alive?

It takes conviction, trust, and a shared sense of responsibility toward giving back. Scientists, clinicians, and volunteers worldwide believe mentorship is a meaningful way to contribute. People stay committed because they see real impact on young students, and they know how much encouragement can change a future.

It isn't easy. Most contributors juggle demanding careers alongside coordinating outreach and mentoring students.

But what keeps JKScientists going is a shared belief that small acts of mentorship create lasting change.

Where's the biggest gap between JKScientists' values and its daily reality?

The biggest challenge is balancing an expanding vision with limited capacity.

Outreach has grown a lot, but much of the work still rests on a small group of volunteers. This isn't a gap in values, since JKScientists believes strongly in mentorship and accessibility.

Turning ideals into large-scale action is simply hard within a purely voluntary structure. Recognizing that limit helps, since it opens the door to better delegation.

Volunteers juggle careers in different time zones. What breaks down most often?

What breaks down is continuity and coordination rather than commitment.

Members balance demanding careers in research, medicine, and academia with volunteer work spread over different time zones, so consistent availability gets hard to maintain.

A small group of highly active people end up handling most of the load, which creates strain over time.

Still, trust keeps the system running, because people believe the work counts.

Who's actually on the other end of your 24x7 helpline at two in the morning?

Coordinators and volunteers spread around the globe, based in East Asia, Europe, and North America. The time zones actually work in our favour.

When one volunteer sleeps in Korea, another is active in Europe or the US, so the network stays reachable around the clock.

The discussions are deeply human, often about academic stress, career uncertainty, or isolation. Sometimes students just want

someone to listen with empathy.

Is mentorship more about science, or about belief?

It's about science, but equally about confidence and aspiration.

Jammu and Kashmir has produced talented scholars and scientists, and we deeply respect the region's academic ecosystem. We try to help students stay connected to opportunity and scientific culture, whatever the circumstances.

The region has seen repeated educational disruptions, so ongoing encouragement becomes important on its own. Sometimes one small talk is enough to reassure a student their ambition is still valid.

How do you reach a student who's never been told science is possible for them?

Through a sustained engagement. See, many students are talented

up. Learning to handle that uncertainty is core to scientific training.

Our social context adds weight too, since success often ties closely to identity and family expectation. Mentorship helps normalize that struggle.

Honest discussions with researchers show students that even accomplished scientists have faced rejection and self-doubt.

Where do young women in Kashmir lose the most ground, and what do you do there?

Mostly during transitions, from school to higher education, and later from postgraduate training into research or leadership roles.

At these stages, talented students run into limits around access, exposure, or confidence, despite strong potential.

We step in through sustained mentorship, career guidance, and

connected to the region.

The goal isn't a physical return, but lasting academic networks that keep benefiting Kashmiri students, wherever they are.

With 13,000 members, has what students ask you changed over the decade?

Yes, quite a bit.

Earlier on, students sought basic academic guidance, information about careers and scholarships hard to find locally. Today they're far more informed and globally aware.

Questions have grown more specific: research opportunities, interdisciplinary careers, mental well-being, and handling intense competition.

The emotional pressure around achievement has grown too, and employment stability remains a major concern that comes up often on our platform.

What has to shift for a real startup culture in Kashmir?

Change at both the structural and cultural level.

Talent already exists, but innovation ecosystems depend on institutional support, mentorship, and investment rather than talent alone.

Startups involve risk, and that calls for a cultural shift where experimentation gets treated as part of innovation instead of immediate failure.

Visibility counts too: success stories should get more recognition, since they build confidence in others to take similar risks.

You're registered in the US and J&K. Where do the two environments pull against one another?

Our approach stays collaborative and institutionally aligned. We work within the rules and academic frameworks of the regions we engage with.

Our students regularly take part in mentorship and training at leading Indian institutions, including the National Center for Biological Sciences, the IITs, and the IISERs.

The international and local sides of JKScientists are complementary networks that keep Kashmiri students connected to wider academic ecosystems.

What decision sparked the most internal debate, and what did it reveal?

Major internal disagreements have been fairly rare, since the organization runs on a consensus-driven approach.

Most discussions center on how

to implement initiatives responsibly rather than disagreement over the mission itself.

What that consistently shows is real weight placed on institutional responsibility and long-term credibility.

Members from very different backgrounds keep working together voluntarily for years, and that says a lot about the group's mutual respect.

The old problems remain. How do you keep momentum going?

Those structural challenges haven't disappeared. Educational disruptions and unequal access still affect students in different ways.

Still, the organization keeps momentum by focusing on what can realistically change at the mentorship level, more as a complementary platform than a substitute for systemic reform.

One encouraging development has been the growth in students' ambition, with many former mentees coming back as mentors themselves, creating a cycle of continuity.

If you could fix one thing about the machinery, not the mission, what would it be?

Building more structured operational systems on top of an already strong mentorship network.

The organization has grown a lot, but much of the work still leans on voluntary coordination and a handful of highly committed people. More formal systems for volunteer management could ease the strain.

The transition has been gradual because the organization grew organically, and scaling up within a volunteer-driven framework naturally takes time.

Fifteen years out, what does success look like, and what's standing in the way?

A strong, self-sustaining scientific and mentorship ecosystem where Kashmiri students stay connected to research, healthcare, technology, and higher education, whatever their background.

Success wouldn't just be measured by how many students reach institutions abroad, but by scientific curiosity taking deep root in the region itself, with former mentees returning as mentors and institution-builders.

The biggest challenge is probably sustainability, not of ideas, but of systems and institutional capacity.

— The author is a senior scribe from Pulwama, and can be reached at cj.saha.18@gmail.com.

Govt Summons Meta Over PM Modi Post Restriction

IT Ministry rejects Meta's 'technical glitch' explanation as inadequate

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The government on Tuesday summoned a top Meta executive after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent post addressing India's youth and promising stringent measures against paper leaks was briefly restricted by Facebook, and although the US-headquartered social media giant blamed it on a technical glitch and apologised, the IT Ministry found the explanation "inadequate".

Prime Minister Modi's Instagram post of July 23, later shared on Facebook, marked his first direct selfie video aimed at engaging with the youth and

underscoring the government's commitment to crack down on paper leaks - amid students' protests going on at that time - but was restricted briefly by Meta on Facebook.

A source privy to the development said that the global head of public policy of Meta (Facebook and Instagram) has been summoned by the IT Ministry over the issue.

Meanwhile, IT Secretary S Krishnan said that while Meta has apologised and admitted that they made a mistake, the Ministry of Electronics and IT (Meity) is not happy with the explanation given and is seeking more details from the company.

"It is good that they have apologised and admitted what they did was a mistake. But we are not happy with the explanation...it is not adequate and we are seeking more details," Krishnan said.

Meanwhile, sources said Meta has told the government that a glitch in its automated content filters caused the removal of PM Modi's Facebook post for a brief while. Sources added that Meta has also offered to ringfence high-profile accounts to avoid a repeat.

According to a Meta spokesperson, the content was removed "in error" and has since been restored on the platform.

Sources further said Meta's explanation to the government citing a technical glitch in the automated content filters, is "not reasonable", and that the matter is "not settled and done". They further said that if indeed a glitch in the automated system caused the error, then Meta, being a technology company, must hasten to improve its tools.

Meta officials, it is learnt, attributed the error to AI-powered automated content filters that were reviewing shared posts and subsequent content that circulated following the original post by the PM; sources further said that Meta claimed its automated filters inadvertently

ended up briefly removing the original post itself.

Government sources said that the issue goes beyond a single incident, and stressed that content moderation tools must comply with Indian laws. The IT Ministry also wants to ensure Meta's global teams are fully apprised of the Indian Government's concerns, and are being adequately briefed by local teams about the issues.

BJP worker Priti Gandhi had called out the restricted post on Facebook, and had questioned the platform's actions.

In a post on X, she criticised Meta saying the move raised questions over the company's

political bias, transparency and accountability.

"The Prime Minister of the world's largest democracy uploads his first direct selfie video to connect with India's youth... and Facebook restricts it??? Who gave Meta the authority to decide what millions of Indians should or should not see???" she had said.

She added: "This isn't just content moderation. It raises serious questions about your political bias, transparency & accountability. Respond!!!".

The video, posted on July 23 amid the student protest organised by the Cockroach Janta Party, was Prime Minister

Narendra Modi's outreach to youth where he had announced that a bill containing provisions for strong action against paper leaks will be introduced in Parliament. In that video post, Modi also said the contours of the bill will be discussed at a meeting of the Union Cabinet the next day (Friday), where the proposed legislation will be finalised.

On July 25, Saturday, Cockroach Janta Party called off its 36-day agitation against irregularities in exams and the NEET paper leak, after Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan resigned and the government accepted its other demands.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Mufti Regrets 'Slip

peace with dignity, democratic engagement, reconciliation and political dialogue.

The PDP chief said district-level Foundation Day celebrations had been scaled down in view of the recent heavy rains and the loss of lives and property, particularly in Rajouri and Poonch.

Congratulating party workers on the PDP's 27th Foundation Day, Mehbooba said the party had withstood repeated political challenges over the years and that its cadre had remained committed to its ideology despite hardships and political pressure.

Reading out the party's political resolution, she said the PDP would continue its constitutional struggle for the restoration of Articles 370 and 35A and all constitutional guarantees that protected the identity, special status and rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

"The only way to establish lasting peace is through dialogue, reconciliation and confidence-building measures. That remains the vision of Mufti Mohammad Sayeed and the commitment of the PDP," she said.

Referring to the developments following the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5, 2019, Mehbooba alleged that PDP leaders and workers had faced detentions, intimidation and political targeting because of their stand on Jammu and Kashmir. Despite the pressure, she said, the party would continue to speak for the people without compromising on its principles.

Calling Jammu and Kashmir a natural gateway between South and Central Asia, she urged the Centre to reopen the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad and Poonch-Rawalakote cross-LoC routes for trade and travel, saying the links would boost commerce, tourism and people-to-people contact.

She also sought reopening of access to Sharda Peeth for Kashmiri Pandits, release of political detainees and undertrials, and a review of preventive detention cases.

Mehbooba further called for the gradual withdrawal of security forces from civilian areas where militancy had substantially declined, arguing that if the Centre maintained that normalcy had returned, it should also be reflected in the security footprint on the ground.

The PDP president also demanded a greater share of Jammu and Kashmir's natural resources, including the transfer of at least two major hydroelectric power projects to the Union Territory or adequate compensation. She reiterated the demand for separate divisional administrative units for the Pir Panjal and Chenab Valley regions, transparent recruitment to fill more than one lakh government vacancies, greater political representation for women, and continued efforts for the dignified rehabilitation and return of Kashmiri Pandits.

Govt Jobs Alone

In your hands rests your career as well as the direction of the nation's development," he told the aspirants.

He urged students to follow three guiding principles—dream big, never stop learning and embrace innovation.

"The future belongs to those who seek new solutions, develop new thinking and lead change. Success is meaningful only when achieved with ethics and responsibility," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor said educational institutions must equip students with practical knowledge and workplace skills instead of limiting learning to classrooms.

"Education should not be confined to classrooms. It must prepare every student to begin life's journey with confidence, skills and practical understanding," he said.

Calling for closer collaboration between academia and industry, Sinha said such partnerships would help bridge the gap between academic learning and market requirements.

"If industry and education work together, we can create an environment where knowledge and experience strengthen each other, and innovation and employment advance together," he said.

Highlighting Jammu and Kashmir's growing entrepreneurial ecosystem, Sinha said lakhs of young people had taken up entrepreneurship since 2020 and recalled that the Union Territory topped the country in implementation of the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) in 2021-22.

He expressed confidence that Jammu and Kashmir would emerge as a hub for innovation, startups and modern industries.

The Lieutenant Governor said the Mega Job Fair was aimed at promoting meaningful employment, strengthening industry-academia partnerships, encouraging entrepreneurship, simplifying recruitment through on-the-spot hiring and preparing a future-ready workforce.

Senior officials, vice-chancellors of universities, representatives of participating industries and a large number of students attended the event.

PoK Polls A 'Cosmetic

"illegal and forcible occupation", are parts of India.

"India's position on this matter has been clear, consistent, and well known. The entire Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh, including the areas currently under Pakistan's illegal and forcible occupation, are integral and inalienable parts of India."

"As we have stated earlier, the ongoing mass protests in Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir are the direct consequences of Pakistan's economic exploitation, its denial of the people's fundamental rights, and its administrative oppression," he said.

Jaiswal also responded to a question on many Pakistani experts talking about shared Indus Valley civilisation between India and Pakistan in the context of the Indus Water Treaty (IWT) and if it was an attempt of cultural appropriation.

"A country which has been promoting cross-border terrorism, which has been promoting religious fundamentalism and violence for decades, cannot have any claim to any pluralistic cultural legacy," he said.

"Their abysmal track record on the protection of minorities and their cultural rights make such desperate attempts look even more phony," he added.

India decided to put the IWT in abeyance as part of a series of punitive diplomatic and economic measures unveiled soon after the Pahalgam terror attack in April last year that killed 26 civilians.

Asked about videos originating from Pakistan to extend support to students' protests in Jantar Mantar, Jaiswal said Indian youths know reality of that country.

"Let me say that, as we all are aware, Pakistan has been sponsoring cross-border terrorism against India for several decades now," he said.

"The people of India, including the Gen Z, have been demanding that the Pakistani state-sponsored cross-border terrorism, must come to an end. We hope their counterparts are taking note," he said.

39 Yatris Hurt After

stream, averting a major tragedy.

No one was inside the house at the time of the accident.

The injured pilgrims, who were returning to Srinagar after paying obeisance at the holy Amarnath cave shrine, were initially rushed to Sub-District Hospital (SDH) Kangan by locals, security personnel and rescue teams. They were later shifted to Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura, for specialised treatment.

Officials said all 39 injured pilgrims admitted to SKIMS were in stable condition and responding well to treatment.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha visited SKIMS to enquire about the health and wellbeing of the injured pilgrims. He interacted with the patients and their attendants, reviewed the treatment being provided and directed the hospital administration to ensure the highest standard of medical care.

In a post on X, Sinha said, "By the grace of Baba Amarnath, all 39 yatris admitted this morning are currently in stable condition and responding well to treatment."

He also directed senior officials to extend all necessary assistance and ensure arrangements for the pilgrims' safe return to their hometowns after recovery.

The Lieutenant Governor was accompanied by Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Anshul Garg, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar Akshay Labroo, Inspector General of Police Kashmir V.K. Birdi and other senior civil and police officers.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah also expressed concern over the accident and directed the Health and Medical Education Department to ensure the injured pilgrims received the best possible treatment.

He deputed Health Minister Sakina Itoo to SKIMS to personally oversee the treatment of the injured. The minister visited the hospital, met the pilgrims and their attendants, interacted with doctors and instructed the hospital administration to spare no effort in ensuring their speedy recovery.

The Chief Minister wished the injured pilgrims a speedy recovery and reaffirmed the government's commitment to extend every possible assistance to them and their families.

Officials said the cause of the accident is being investigated.

2 Held In Baramulla

when the two accused allegedly accosted them, assaulted the man and forced him to flee before sexually assaulting the woman.

Police said the accused also recorded the assault on a mobile phone and later circulated the video among others. The circulation of the video became a crucial breakthrough in the investigation, helping police identify and trace the suspects through technical evidence and human intelligence.

"The victim knew the accused only by their first names, 'Shakir' and 'Ashraf'. We relied on technical evidence, scientific methods and human intelligence to establish their identities," the SSP said.

The accused have been identified as Shakir Ahmad Lone (22), son of Abdul Gani Lone, and Mohammad Ashraf Dar (27), son of Abdul Hamid Dar, both residents of Jalsheeri, Baramulla. Police said one of the accused works as a JCB driver while the other is a Sumo driver.

The SSP said the woman delayed reporting the incident because she had allegedly been threatened by the accused. Police have since provided her security.

A case under FIR No. 112/2026 has been registered at Police Station Baramulla under Sections 70(1) and 351(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

Police said both accused were arrested on Monday and have allegedly confessed to the crime during interrogation. The mobile phone allegedly used to record the assault has also been recovered.

Investigators have collected material evidence, recovered relevant exhibits, and taken the accused to the alleged crime scene to reconstruct the sequence of events.

The SSP said the investigation is continuing and that police are collecting scientific, medical and digital evidence to ensure a thorough probe and strict legal action against those found guilty.

FDA Bans Unsafe

product is Snack Dressing (Sauce), Batch No. 02, manufactured on May 2, 2026, with an expiry date of May 1, 2027. The one-litre pack was manufactured by M/s Nirmal Fruits Products at the Industrial Estate, Akhnoor, Jammu.

According to the FDA, the sample was collected by the Food Safety Officer, Akhnoor, on May 16, 2026, from the manufacturer's premises and sent to the National Food Laboratory, Ghaziabad, for analysis. The laboratory declared the sample unsafe and misbranded under the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act.

Following the laboratory findings, the Designated Officer, Food Safety, Jammu Rural, initially prohibited the sale of the batch within Jammu district. The Commissioner, Food Safety, J&K, has now extended the ban across the Union Territory to safeguard public health.

The FDA has directed all food business operators, including manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers and retailers, to immediately stop the sale and distribution of the affected batch, withdraw existing stock from the market, inform the concerned Designated Officer about the stock position and initiate its recall without delay.

Enforcement officers have been instructed to ensure strict implementation of the order and initiate legal action wherever the prohibited batch is found on sale.

The FDA has also advised consumers not to use the affected batch and urged them to report its sale or any suspected unsafe food through the toll-free helpline 104 or to the Food Safety Department.

Rain Lashes J&K

flash floods that caused panic among residents.

Locals said water levels in streams rose rapidly, inundating low-lying areas and posing a threat to residential houses, agricultural land and local infrastructure. Residents living in vulnerable areas shifted to safer locations as floodwaters rushed through villages.

Officials said the situation was being monitored and teams were assessing the extent of the damage. No loss of life was reported.

The MeT Department warned that intense showers over Handwara, Sopore, Bandipora, Ganderbal, Rajouri, Reasi, Doda and Kishtwar could trigger localized flash floods, mudslides and landslides. It also cautioned about shooting stones and rockfalls along vulnerable stretches in hilly districts, advising people to stay away from nallahs, streams and landslide-prone areas.

Srinagar Records 31.5°C

Despite the rainfall, Srinagar recorded a maximum temperature of 31.5 degrees Celsius, 1.6 degrees above normal, while the minimum settled at 20.0 degrees Celsius, 1.2 degrees above normal.

Qazigund recorded a maximum of 30.5°C and a minimum of 18.6°C, while Pahalgam registered 27.9°C and 16.2°C, respectively.

Kupwara recorded 31.6°C, Kukumag 30.5°C, Jammu 34.0°C, Banihal 29.6°C, Batote 26.6°C, Katra 29.5°C, and Bhaderwah 30.5°C.

Among the weather stations, Gulmarg received 7.4 mm of rainfall between 8:30 am and 5:30 pm, while Katra recorded 22.4 mm during the same period and 45.2 mm during the preceding 24 hours ending at 8:30 am.

More Rain Forecast Till Aug 4

The MeT Department has forecast one or two spells of light to moderate rain and thundershowers at many places on July 29, particularly during the early morning and late afternoon or evening hours. A few districts of the Jammu division are likely to receive heavy rainfall and brief intense showers.

For July 30 and 31, Kashmir division is expected to witness light to moderate rain and thundershowers at most places, with brief heavy showers at isolated locations. In the Jammu division, widespread light to moderate rainfall is expected, while a few districts could experience heavy to torrential rain.

The weather office said Udhampur and adjoining areas are likely to receive heavy to very heavy rainfall, with peak activity expected during the night of July 30.

The wet spell is expected to continue on August 1 and 2, with light to moderate rain at many places and isolated intense showers. Similar conditions are likely on August 3 and 4, although a few districts in the Jammu division may witness heavy to torrential rainfall.

The MeT Department warned that heavy rainfall between July 28 and August 1 could trigger flash floods, landslides and mudslides, particularly in vulnerable areas of the Jammu division. It advised residents, tourists, travelers and transporters to follow official advisories and avoid unnecessary movement near water bodies, nallahs and landslide-prone stretches.

Sessions Court Sets

SSP challenging an order of the City Judge/Judicial Magistrate First Class, Srinagar. The Magistrate had initiated proceedings under Sections 210(1)(c) and 223 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), noting repeated non-execution of judicial warrants and notices by the police in a pending complaint. The Magistrate had also observed that there appeared to be violations of provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir Police Act, besides calling for an explanation from the SSP and a report from senior police authorities.

While examining the matter, the court of 2nd Additional Sessions Judge observed that the Magistrate was fully justified in expressing concern over repeated non-execution of judicial warrants, emphasizing that every criminal court possesses sufficient authority to ensure compliance with its lawful orders. The court noted that prompt execution of warrants was essential for the effective functioning of the criminal justice system.

However, the court held that certain observations made in the City Judge's order including findings that the SSP had "wilfully" failed to execute warrants, was an "accomplish," or the "biggest impediment" to justice, amounted to conclusive findings before the statutory opportunity of hearing contemplated under Section 223 BNSS had been provided. Such remarks, the court observed, diluted the fairness of the proceedings by creating an impression that the matter had already been prejudged.

The court stressed that while judicial concern over non-compliance was legitimate, the language employed must remain restrained and confined to what is necessary for adjudication.

The court described both the judiciary and the police as complementary pillars of the criminal justice system, observing that courts speak through their orders while the police give life to those orders through faithful execution.

The court observed that public confidence in justice depends on mutual respect and constitutional discipline between the two institutions, adding that institutional friction serves neither the administration of justice nor public interest.

The court also issued a series of prospective administrative directions for all Judicial Magistrates and the Srinagar Police.

The court directed that judicial summons, bailable warrants, non-bailable warrants and other processes intended to be executed within Srinagar should ordinarily be sent directly to the Station House Officer (SHO) having territorial jurisdiction, or in exceptional cases to the Additional Superintendent of Police (Headquarters), instead of routing every process through the office of the SSP.

It further directed SHOs to personally ensure

timely execution of judicial processes and submit compliance reports within prescribed timelines. Where execution is not possible, detailed reasons must be communicated to the issuing court without delay.

The SSP, Srinagar, has also been directed to issue standing instructions to subordinate police officers and establish an effective monitoring mechanism for warrants and summons so that no judicial process remains unattended without sufficient cause. Judicial Magistrates have likewise been advised to route processes through officers having immediate territorial jurisdiction to avoid unnecessary administrative delays.

Allowing the revision petition, the court set aside the Magistrate's order dated July 6, expunged all adverse observations against the SSP relating to alleged deliberate misconduct, obstruction of justice, habitual disobedience and institutional collapse of the police machinery, and closed the suo motu proceedings initiated pursuant to the impugned order.

At the same time, the court clarified that the Magistrate's concern regarding timely execution of judicial processes was bona fide and stemmed from his duty to safeguard the authority of the courts.

The court directed that copies of the judgment be circulated among all Judicial Magistrates in the district as well as the Srinagar Police to ensure implementation of the newly prescribed administrative framework.

1.2 Cr People Reached

Reduction (NAPDDR), under which financial assistance is provided to States and Union Territories, NGOs and government hospitals for preventive education, awareness generation, capacity building, treatment and rehabilitation of persons affected by substance abuse.

According to the ministry, the scheme currently supports 344 Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts (IRCA), 45 Community-based Peer-Led Intervention (CPLI) programmes, 76 Outreach and Drop-In Centres (ODICs), 155 Addiction Treatment Facilities (ATFs) in government hospitals and 145 District De-addiction Centres (DDACs) across the country.

In Jammu and Kashmir, assistance is being provided to one IRCA, three ODICs, two CPLIs, six DDACs and 21 Addiction Treatment Facilities (ATFs).

The ministry also informed Parliament that the 14446 toll-free de-addiction helpline has received more than 4.6 lakh calls from across the country, including over 11,000 calls from Jammu and Kashmir, providing counselling and referral services.

Sharing year-wise progress, the ministry said 18,939 awareness programmes were conducted during 2023-24, reaching 1,00,02,860 people, while 35,639 drug users received treatment and rehabilitation.

During 2024-25, 5,851 awareness programmes sensitised 84,89,948 people, with 39,711 persons undergoing treatment and rehabilitation.

In 2025-26, 6,346 awareness programmes covered 6,24,867 people, while 28,366 individuals received treatment and rehabilitation services.

The ministry further said 3,072 drug traffickers were arrested in 2023, 2,158 in 2024, and 2,500 in 2025.

It said the implementation of the campaign is monitored through monthly review meetings, Chintan Shivirs and national-level conferences with States and Union Territories. State, district and block-level NMBA committees have also been constituted to ensure coordinated implementation and regular review.

The ministry said the campaign has strengthened awareness generation, community participation, inter-departmental coordination and outreach for prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of persons affected by substance abuse.

Launched on August 15, 2020, the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan initially covered 272 vulnerable districts and was expanded to all districts across the country in August 2023, with a special focus on higher educational institutions, universities and schools.

The ministry said 21 Addiction Treatment Facilities have been established in government hospitals across Jammu and Kashmir, including at GMC Anantnag, GMC Baramulla, GMC Jammu, GMC Kathua, GMC Doda, SKIMS Srinagar, the Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences at GMC Srinagar, and district hospitals in Bandipora, Budgam, Ganderbal, Kishtwar, Kulgam, Kupwara, Poonch, Pulwama, Ramban, Rajouri, Reasi, Samba, Shopian and Udhampur.

Besides, 12 NGO-supported de-addiction centres are currently functional in the Union Territory, providing rehabilitation, counselling and community outreach services, the ministry added.

CM Omar Directs Departments to Ensure Timely Utilization of Funds

Stresses focused implementation and optimum utilization of available resources



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday chaired a high-level review meeting on Capital Expenditure (CAPEX) at the Civil Secretariat here and directed all departments to significantly accelerate the pace of expenditure, emphasizing that timely utilization of available funds is critical for infrastructure development, public service delivery and sustained economic growth.

The Chief Minister underscored the need for focused attention on departments lagging in expenditure and cautioned against the practice of delaying spending until the closing months of the financial year.

“To have money and not spend it is incompetence. This is very difficult to justify. Not having money is easier to explain, but it is impossible to explain when funds are available and remain unutilized,” the Chief Minister said while addressing the meeting.

He said the review was intentionally convened at the beginning of the financial cycle rather than towards the end of the year so that corrective measures could be taken in time and departments could utilize the remaining working season effectively.

“There is still ample working season available in both the Kashmir Valley and the Jammu plains. There should be no reason why funds already released are not spent appro-

priately. Every department must give this focused attention,” he said.

The meeting was attended by Ministers Sakina Itoo, Javed Ahmed Rana, Javid Ahmed Dar and Satish Sharma. Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary, Power Development Department, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister, Additional Chief Secretary, Tourism, Additional Chief Secretary, Public Works Department, Additional Chief Secretary, Finance, all Administrative Secretaries, Director General Budget, Director General Codes, Heads of Departments and other senior officers attended the meeting. Outstation officers participated through video conferencing.

Reviewing the implementation of the Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI), the Chief Minister directed departments to ensure full utilization of allocations under the scheme, warning that any unspent amount during the current financial year would reduce Jammu and Kashmir's allocation in the next fiscal.

KU Begins Capacity Building Workshop for Urdu Teachers



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Centre for Distance & Online Education (CDOE), University of Kashmir (KU) in collaboration with the National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL), New Delhi, commenced a five-day ‘Capacity Building Workshop for Urdu Teachers in the light of NEP 2020’ at the Main Campus.

The workshop has been organised for school Urdu teachers with the objective of enhancing their pedagogical and professional competencies in line with the provisions of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. It aims to familiarise participants with learner-centric teaching approaches, innovative classroom practices, curriculum reforms and the effective use of digital tools in Urdu language education.

In her inaugural address, Vice-Chancellor KU, Prof. Nilofer Khan, emphasized the importance of continuous professional development for teachers in a changing educational landscape.

“The successful implementation of NEP 2020 depends greatly on well-trained teachers who can adapt to evolving pedagogical practices. Workshops of this nature equip educators with the knowledge and skills required to create more

engaging and effective learning environments,” she said.

Dean, School of Open Learning KU, Prof. Shahnaz, said that teacher training remains an important component of quality education. She noted that workshops focusing on subject-specific pedagogy contribute to improving classroom instruction and encourage educators to engage with emerging educational approaches.

Assistant Director, NCPUL, Dr. Shama Kausar Yazdani, highlighted the need to equip Urdu teachers with modern teaching techniques while preserving the linguistic and literary richness of the language.

Earlier, Director, CDOE KU, Prof. Mohd Altaf Ahanger, welcomed the participants and provided the objectives of the workshop. He said the programme has been designed to improve the teaching skills of Urdu educators through expert sessions, practical training and discussions on contemporary issues in language education.

The five-day workshop features lectures by subject experts, training sessions, interactive discussions and practical modules on innovative teaching methods, instructional technologies and effective classroom practices for Urdu language teaching.

CS Reviews Implementation of JKCIP across J&K

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the implementation of the Jammu & Kashmir Competitiveness Improvement of Agriculture and Allied Sectors Project (JKCIP) being implemented by the Agriculture Production Department across the districts of the Union Territory.

The meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department; VC, SKUAST-Kashmir/SKUAST-Jammu; Secretary (Technical), APD; Mission Director, JKCIP; MD, Horticulture Planning & Marketing; Directors of Agriculture, Horticulture, Sheep Husbandry, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry; Convenor, UTLCB besides senior officers of the Agriculture Production Department.

Emphasising that agriculture continues to be one of the most critical sectors of Jammu & Kashmir's economy, the Chief Secretary said that JKCIP has been conceived as a transformational initiative aimed at enhancing farmers' incomes through climate-smart agriculture, promotion of niche crops, value addition, entrepreneurship development, market integration and sustainable livelihood generation.

He observed that the project has created a strong institutional framework for modernising the agriculture and allied sectors and stressed that every implementing agency must now shift its focus from approvals to tangible outcomes on the ground by ensuring timely establishment of beneficiary units and measurable improvement in rural livelihoods. (Observer News Service)

Div Com, IGP Jammu Review Arrangements for Independence Day Celebrations

JAMMU: Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar and Inspector General of Police Jammu Zone Bhim Sen Tuti held a high level meeting of senior officers to review the arrangements for Independence Day, 2026 celebrations at the meeting Hall of the Divisional Commissioner's Office.

DIG Jammu-Samba-Kathua, DCs/SSPs from Jammu Division, Commissioner JMC, MD JPDCL, Director School Education Jammu, SSP Traffic attended the meeting in person and virtual mode. Besides, officers from Health, PWD, Jal Shakti, JPDCL, Information, Transport and other concerned departments also attended the meeting.

During the meeting, a detailed discussion was held on various aspects to ensure that Independence Day 2026 is celebrated in a grand, organized and befitting manner. Key areas reviewed included security arrangements, traffic management, parade, cultural programs, stage setup, lighting, drinking water, medical facilities, sanitation and other essential arrangements at the main venue and other district headquarters. (Observer News Service)

CRPF's 43 Battalion Celebrates Raising Day

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The 43 Battalion of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) celebrated the force's 87th Raising Day with patriotic fervour at its headquarters in District Police Lines (DPL), Budgam.

The celebrations began with a wreath-laying ceremony, where officers and personnel paid tributes to CRPF personnel who laid down their lives in the line of duty.

Commandant Vikrant Sarangpani later inspected the Quarter Guard and took the salute before addressing the troops. Speaking on the occasion, he highlighted the historical significance of the CRPF Raising Day, tracing the force's evolution from the Crown Representative's



Police, established on July 27, 1939, to its present-day role as the country's premier internal security force.

He said the occasion serves as a reminder of the CRPF's legacy of courage, loyalty and selfless service to the nation. The Commandant also commended

the 43 Battalion for its operational achievements and dedication while performing its duties under challenging conditions.

Urging personnel to uphold the highest standards of professionalism and integrity, he called upon them to continue serving the na-

tion with commitment and discipline.

As part of the celebrations, the battalion organised a friendly volleyball match and a community feast (Bara Khana) at the unit headquarters and all company locations, fostering camaraderie among the personnel.



GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR LAND ACQUISITION (SUB DIVISIONAL MAGISTRATE DOORU)

Subject:- Preliminary notification under section 11(1) of “The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013” for acquisition of land measuring 10 Marla 6.5 Sirsai for the construction of road from Old National Highway Qazigund to New Colony Qazigund in terms of CCP(S) No. 494/2023 WPC No, 2619/2021, Case titled as Kulsuma Vs Rafiq Ahmad Rafiq.

Reference: District Collector Anantnag's communication vide no; DCA/LA/2025-26/707-08 dated 30/03/2026.

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION UNDER SECTION 11 (1)

NOTIFICATION NO: __01__ OF 2026

DATE : __23__ -06-2026

Whereas, the Hon'ble High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh was pleased to pass an order dated dated 07/04/2023 in original case WP(C) 2619/2021 directing thereby;

“For the foregoing reason this petition is allowed with a direction to the respondents to immediately and forthwith initiate formal process of acquisition of the subject land in accordance with the provision of the Right to Fair compensation and Transparency in land acquisition, Rehabilitation and Re-settlement Act, 2013, so as to determine the compensation, if any payable to the petitioner for the land that has come under the public road constructed and macadamized by the respondents. The executive Engineer R&B Division Qazigund shall take immediate steps to place a formal indent for acquisition of the subject land and ensure that the entire process is followed and justice and fair compensation is disbursed to the petitioner within a period of six months.”

Whereas the Chief Engineer PW (R&B) Department South Kashmir vide no. CE/RB/SK/LAW/(7796957)10671-74 dated 07.02.2026 has placed an Indent for Acquisition of Land measuring 10 Marla 6.5 Sirsai for construction of road from Old National Highway Qazigund to New Colony Qazigund in terms of the aforesaid Hon'ble Court Order.

Whereas in accordance with sub section 01 of Rule of 4 Of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013, a committee of officers for conducting field inspection was constituted vide this office order No. SDM/D/LA/2026-27/04-11 dated 02/05/2026.

Whereas members of the constituted committee submitted their report through Tehsildar Qazigund vide his office letter no; OQ/TQ/2026-27/306 dated 15.06.2026 the findings of which are given below:

- No State/Government land, common land, or waste land is available on spot for the said public purpose.
- The road in question had already been developed around 20 years ago through local inhabitants. The landowners/households had left the land for construction of the said road as there were a number of households residing which had no road connectivity. However, no formal acquisition proceedings were initiated at the time of its construction.

Further, the reports reveals that:

- The road has already been in existence and developed since long.
- Yes, the land utilized under the road is the absolute bare minimum required for the said colony.
- The road has already been developed since long.
- The land under the road has not been formally acquired by the intending department. However, the local Zamindars/households had given their proprietary land for construction of the said road and for development of their land and residential constructions which was without any approach road.
- Since no State/common/waste land is available on spot, the local zamindars/households provided their proprietary land for the purpose, primarily for their own benefit, as most of them have constructed residential houses along the said road.
- No land has been acquired previously for the said purpose.
- The requisition is in conformity with the provisions of the Act.
- No displacement or rehabilitation is involved in the present case.

The Committee recommended that in view of the larger public interest and necessity of providing basic ingress and egress facilities to the local residents, the existing road may be allowed to continue in its present form.

Now, therefore it is notified for the above said project that land measuring 10 Marla 6.5 Sirsai is required for the construction of road from Old National Highway Qazigund to New Colony Qazigund. The description of the land is as under:

S.No	Khasra No.	Type of land (Rural/Urban)	Area under acquisition		Trees		Structures	
			Marla	Sirsai	Variety	Number	Type	Plinth area
1	2971/223	Urban (MC Qazigund)	10	6.5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

The notification is made under the provisions of section 11 (1) of “The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act 2013” (Act No. 30/2013) to all whom it may concern.

A plan of the land may be inspected in the office of District Collector Anantnag and Collector Land Acquisition (Sub Divisional Magistrate Dooru) on any working day during the working hours. The government authorizes Tehsildar/Revenue Staff/Indenting Department/their consultant and their staff to enter upon and survey land, take levels of any land, dig or bore into the subsoil and do all other acts required for the proper execution of their work as provided and specified in section 12 of the said act.

Under section 11 (4) of the Act, no person shall make any transaction or cause any transaction of land i.e. sale, purchase etc. or create any encumbrances on such land from the date of publication of such notification without prior approval of the Collector.

Objections to the acquisition, if any, may be filed by the person interested within 60 days from the date of publication of this notification as provided under section 15 of the act before the Collector Land Acquisition Dooru/District Collector Anantnag.

No. SDM/D/LA/2026-27/12-19
Date: 23/06/2026

DIPK-3824-26
DT: 28/07/2026

Parvaiz Rahim, JKAS
Collector Land Acquisition
(Sub Divisional Magistrate Dooru)

GOVT. OF UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT SHEEP HUSBANDRY OFFICER PULWAMA (TECHNICAL SECTION)

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR SUPPLY OF LIVESTOCK

This office is going to establish sheep units under different schemes among selected beneficiaries for the year 2025-26. As such expression of interest is invited from the interested parties/Sheep Farmers for supply of Sheep (Both male & female Hoggets) within age group of 1 year to 2.5 years to this office as per mentioned specification.

The specification of the animals to be supplied to this office shall be as under:

S.No.	Sex	Species	Age	Wool Quality	Breed
1.	Female	Ovine	1 Year to 2.5 Years	Fine white in colour without any coloured spots	Cross Bred Merino or Cross Bred Corriedale

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Maximum age of animals shall be upto 2.5 years only.

The Minimum body weight of the female animal shall be 25 - 30 kgs and that of male should not be less than 35 kgs on live weight basis. The animal should be free from any diseases and deformity

Rates per kgs live body weight shall be specified including breed value and transport charges.

The department reserves the right to reject the expression of interest of any supplier without assigning any reason thereof

The party selected shall have to supply sheep units complete in all aspects.

The expression of interest in all aspects as specified above shall be submitted to this office by or before 04/08/2026

No: DSHOP/Tech/2026-27/1893

Dated: 27/07/2026

DIPK-3801-26
DT: 28/07/2026

District Sheep Husbandry Officer
Pulwama

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR (UT) Office of the Executive Engineer R&B DIVISION PULWAMA.

Phone: 01933-295302

E-mail: techrbpul786@gmail.com

TENDER NOTICE

E-NIT No: Fresh.81/EEP/RNB/of 2026-2027/4146-56 Dated: 28/07/2026

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT term e-tenders (In Single Cover system) are invited on %age Basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Government for the following work: -

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. Lacs.)	Cost of T/D (Rs.)	Earnest Money (In %age.)	Time of Completion in working Days	Class of Contract	Major Head of Accounts	Administrative Accord Approval No:	Call No:
01	Restoration of Ziyarat Hazrat Mulla Ibrahim Akhoon Sahib (RA) Almarhoof Malla Baaba Sahib Pinglena	28.00	1100/-	2% of ADV. cost	90 working days	BEE/AAV	MH: Archives	DAA&M-184 of 2026 Dated: 01-06-2026	2nd call

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of date given below:-

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	28 - 07-2026
2.	Bid downloading Start Date	28-07-2026 from 10:00 A.M
3.	Bid submission Start Date	28-07-2026 from 10:00 A.M
4.	Bid Submission End Date	03-08-2026 upto 4:00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	04 - 08-2026 at 4: 10 PM in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Div.Pulwama
6.	Submission of Performance Security(PS)	As per Finance circular Vide No:FD-code/290/2026 Dated 22.05.2026 and circular issued by worthy Chief Engineer PW(R&B)Department South Kashmir Vide order No:CE/R&B/SK/WS/2095-2111 Dated: 05.06.2026

In light of Circular issued by Finance department Vide No:FD-code/290/2026 Dated 22.05.2026 and circular issued by worthy Chief Engineer PW(R&B)Department South Kashmir Vide order No:CE/R&B/SK/WS/2095-2111 Dated: 05.06.2026, the following conditions are mentioned below:-

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document/Tender Fee to be deposited in Cash in Centralized Designated Pooling JK Bank Account Bearing No: 0470010200000099, IFSC: JAKAOLALANG).
- All the bidders must deposit Earnest money /Bid security equal to 2% of advertised cost in Cash in Centralized Designated Pooling JK Bank Account Bearing No: 0470010200000099, IFSC: JAKAOLALANG).
- The Successful bidder will have to provide performance security @ 5% of contract value to be deposited in Cash in Pulwama MC Holding Account Executive Engineer R&B Pulwama Bearing Account no. 0054010200003470, IFSC: JAKAOGOLDEN), which shall be released after successful completion of DLP / maintenance period.

The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Div. Pulwama

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

Head Draftsman

DIPK-3816-26

DT: 29/07/2026

Technical Officer

Executive Engineer
R&B Division Pulwama

Trump's Iran War Hits Strategic Dead End

KO Web Desk

SRINAGAR- President Donald Trump is confronting mounting military and political constraints in the US conflict with Iran after senior commanders reportedly urged a pause in airstrikes, warning that the campaign has reached the limits of what it can achieve without risking a far wider war.

According to Axios, citing two sources familiar with internal deliberations, Commander of US Central Command (CENTCOM) Gen. Brad Cooper recommended halting the bombing campaign around the Strait of Hormuz, arguing that continued limited airstrikes were unlikely to produce meaningful military gains.

The report said Cooper presented his assessment to the Pentagon, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the White House ahead



of a meeting between Trump and senior advisers on Friday, after which the president decided to pause the attacks.

"It was an acknowledgement by both military and civilian advisers to the president that there are limits to what can be accomplished through military action, and specifically an air power campaign," Axios quoted sources as saying.

The reported pause followed two consecutive nights without US strikes after nearly two weeks of sustained aerial attacks and Iranian retaliatory missile and drone strikes targeting US facilities and allies across the region.

According to Axios, Cooper warned that any further military gains would likely require a broader offensive targeting

sites that had not been struck during the current campaign, substantially raising the risk of escalation.

The debate within the administration comes as concerns grow over the sustainability of the US military effort.

Axios reported that Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Dan Caine privately warned Trump and Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth that dwindling air-defence interceptor stocks could weaken the ability of US forces and regional allies to defend against future Iranian attacks.

The New York Times first reported Caine's warning. A spokesman for the chairman declined to comment on what he described as confidential military advice provided to the president.

CNN separately reported that Vice President JD Vance and Gen. Caine expressed concerns during Friday's White House meeting about the risks of further escalation. According to CNN, Caine was particularly worried about the strain on US munitions stockpiles.

Last week, CNN also reported that both the CIA and the Defence Intelligence Agency had assessed that the recent US bombing campaign was unlikely to significantly alter Iran's negotiating position, citing two US officials familiar with the intelligence assessments.

Those reports have intensified questions in Washington over whether additional military action would achieve the administration's stated objectives or simply deepen American involvement in another prolonged Middle East conflict.

Iran has maintained there are currently no negotiations with Washington.

US Plans Hundreds of Millions for Global Anti-China Drive



Agencies

WASHINGTON- The Trump administration is preparing to ramp up funding by hundreds of millions of dollars for programs designed to counter China's growing influence around the world, after it had put a halt to many of those initiatives last year during a flurry of budget and personnel cuts.

The administration notified Congress late last week that it intends to spend USD 175.8 million to replace outdated and aging undersea telecommunications cables in the Caribbean and Central America to prevent China from moving in. The Associated Press obtained a copy of the notification on Monday.

initiatives aimed at blunting Chinese influence globally that would cost many hundreds of millions of dollars more. That is even as President Donald Trump and Chinese leader Xi Jinping put on a show of cooperation and Xi prepares to visit the US this fall.

US weighs wider spending to counter China globally

The State Department is considering spending nearly half a billion dollars more on programs aimed at China throughout the Western Hemisphere, Africa and Asia, according to an internal State Department document obtained by AP.

"The United States must respond to the CCP's growing economic, technological, and diplomatic leverage around the world which undermines our national interests," the document says, using the acronym for the Chinese Communist Party.

Many of those proposed programs are designed to "reclaim diplomatic leverage" through investments in areas where the US had previously been spending money but stopped as the Elon Musk-led Department of Government Efficiency, or DOGE, carried out deep government budget and personnel cuts last year.

Those cuts, which dismantled the US Agency for International Development and eliminated several hundred diplomatic posts worldwide, also affected previously approved projects, including some aimed at countering China.

Samsung Foldables Now Account for Over 20% of Flagship Sales in India

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI/LONDON- Samsung's foldable smartphones now account for more than a fifth of its flagship sales in India, and it expects the adoption to accelerate as consumers shift to new mobile designs and layouts, the company's Southwest Asia CEO and President J B Park said.

Samsung first introduced foldable phones in 2019, and since then it has launched a new version of foldables every year. Last week, the South Korean technology giant announced the launch of its 8th generation of foldables – Galaxy Z8 – which are made in India.

"When we first introduced the foldables in 2019, they were not even known to the consumers. Even my neighbours were surprised that our phone could fold and asked – Is this real? Since then, we have come a long way. Today, more than 20 per cent of our flagship sales are from foldables. And year by year, it (fold-



able sales) is growing.

"Based on whatever the experience or the requirements are for the consumer, that's where we are focussing. I expect there will be an expansion in the consumer base transitioning to the new form factor," Park said at an Indian media roundtable in London.

Samsung currently sells almost 65 per cent of its flagship devices, including the Samsung Galaxy S26 Ultra, Samsung Galaxy S26+, and the foldable Galaxy Z series, in tier 2 and tier 3 cities and rural markets.

Kashmir's Racing Star Atiqah Produces Moments of Brilliance in Sweden

Press Trust Of India

KRISTIANSTAD (SWEDEN)- Indian racing prodigy Atiqah Mir displayed moments of brilliance in qualifying and the opening heat race before an untimely crash spoiled the remainder of her weekend at Champions of the Future Euro Series Round 4 here.

Considering it was her debut at the Kristianstad Kart Track here, the 11-year-old hardly took any time to get up to speed. Fresh off a pole position in Italy, Atiqah turned heads by qualifying only 0.17 seconds off the fastest time in her Qualifying group for a commendable 10th place and 29th overall out of 86 drivers.

Atiqah, the first Indian to be backed by Formula 1 Academy, qualified second overall among the wildcard entries.

In the round held as a pre-



lude to the high stakes FIA European Championship here this weekend, Atiqah got much needed track time for an invaluable experience. In the races, her seventh place in heat 1 was her best result of the weekend and came ahead of many established drivers on the grid.

Against all odds, Atiqah fought hard and gave a good account of her rare talent. After the impressive show in heat 1, Atiqah did not have much going her way. Starting on the outside row was a big disadvantage be-

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10 Years

Corpus: ₹11.6L

Invested: ₹6.0L

Money grows to 2.9x

15 Years

Corpus: ₹25.9L

Invested: ₹9.0L

Money grows to 4.3x

20 Years

Corpus: ₹51.8L

Invested: ₹12.0L

Money grows to 6.5x

25 Years

Corpus: ₹97.5L

Invested: ₹15.0L

Money grows to 10.5x

30 Years

Corpus: ₹1.9Cr

Invested: ₹18.0L

Money grows to 10.5x

More time = more compounding

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