

A British-Era Law Returns To Haunt Kashmir Forests

Families who thought a 2006 law finally protected their homes are watching the Forest Department move to retrieve their land under a statute written more than a century ago.



Syed Sammar Mehdi

Srinagar: A Gujar family in a forest hamlet in Central Kashmir spent last week doing something they hoped they would never have to do again: packing their belongings into sacks and moving them to a relative's house, just in case.

They had already lost part of their land to the Forest Department once before.

Word had lately spread through the settlement that officials were back in the area to retrieve more forest land, and this time nobody wanted to wait and find out what would happen next.

That fear is spreading through forest communities across North, Central and

South Kashmir right now, and it comes from a simple, painful contradiction.

A national law passed in 2006 was supposed to protect these families for good. The Forest Department is instead using the Indian Forest Act 1927, a law written by the British in 1927 to retrieve the land they live on.

The 2006 law, called the Forest Rights Act, gives legal recognition to Gujjars, Bakarwals, Chopans, and Kashmiri and Dogri families who have lived on forest land for 75 years or more.

Parliament extended it to Jammu and Kashmir about six years ago, soon after the abrogation of Article 370, when officials in Delhi told residents that federal | [More on P6](#)

Road Mishaps Kill 603 In J&K This Year, Highway Toll At 206

Centre says J&K recorded 3,269 road crashes till July 27, including 1,109 accidents on National Highways

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir has recorded 3,269 road accidents, 603 fatalities and 4,775 injuries till July 27 this year, while National Highways alone accounted for 1,109 crashes that claimed 206 lives, according to data tabled by the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways in the Lok Sabha on Thursday.

The data, furnished in response to a question by Lok Sabha member Shyamkumar Daulat Barve, provides a detailed account of road



accidents, fatalities and injuries across Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. The ministry said the National Highway figures were sourced through the Electronic

Detailed Accident Report (e-DAR) portal and may be subject to further reporting.

Road accidents across J&K According to the ministry, Jammu and Kashmir recorded

5,452 road accidents, 774 fatalities and 6,972 injuries in 2021. The number rose to 6,092 accidents, 805 deaths and 8,372 injuries in 2022, followed by 6,298 accidents, 893 fatalities and 8,469 injuries in 2023.

In 2024, the Union Territory reported 5,808 accidents, 831 deaths and 7,820 injuries. Fatalities climbed to 984 in 2025 despite the total number of accidents falling to 5,318, with injuries recorded at 7,594.

Till July 27 this year, the UT has reported | [More on P6](#)

WEST ASIA CRISIS

PM Reviews India's Preparedness

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday reviewed the prevailing geopolitical situation in West Asia with a group of senior ministers and discussed measures to keep India's supply chains uninterrupted amid conflicts affecting key maritime routes, including the Strait of Hormuz, the Black Sea, the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.

The extended meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS), chaired by the prime minister, was | [More on P6](#)

Why a Kashmir Waste Plant Is Headed for a Green Tribunal Fight

What began as a complaint over a village waste site has grown into a test of whether environmental regulators can enforce their own orders.

Ansar Hussain

Srinagar- The trucks came after dark. Villagers in Ohangam, a small settlement in Beerwah tehsil, watched headlights swing into the construction site sometime after midnight on July 27, as workers began pouring material into the ground under floodlights that had no business burning at that hour.



By sunrise, everyone in the village knew what had happened.

The waste management plant residents believed they had halted had been

built overnight, while the district slept.

"The entire material was dumped here at the site and full night work was taken up," said Fayaz Ahmad, a resident of Ohangam who watched the construction unfold.

His account, and those of his neighbours, point to a decision by the Rural Development Department to press ahead with a project that | [More on P6](#)

SC Refuses Blanket Ban On Pellet Guns

Seeks preservation of RAF ammunition logs

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: The Supreme Court on Thursday declined to impose a blanket ban on the use of pellet guns, holding that such weapons cannot be prohibited as long as existing guidelines permit their use in exceptional crowd control situations.

A bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana, however, made it clear that allegations of misuse of pellet guns could be examined on a case-by-case basis.

Hearing a plea over the alleged use of metallic pellet guns during the July 20 students' protest against the NEET paper leak in Delhi, the court directed the Centre to preserve the ammunition logs of the Rapid Action Force (RAF) deployed at Jantar Mantar.

The bench observed that the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD) advisory empowers police to use pellet guns only in exceptional circumstances.

"If you are interested in phasing out pellet | [More on P6](#)

2016 Pellet Victim Gets ₹41 Lakh LPG Aid

The Jammu and Kashmir government has sanctioned Rs 41 lakh to the 2016 unrest pellet victim Insha Mushtaq to make her LPG distributorship operational, minister Satish Sharma said on Thursday. Sharma, the Minister for Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, said justice was delayed but not denied. | [More on P6](#)

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2

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR,

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER BUDGAM.

Online applications are invited for Centrally Sponsored Post-Matric Scholarship Schemes (PM-YASASVI) for OBC, EBC, and DNT Students for the year 2026-27 as per the eligibility criteria given below:

Reference: Director Social Welfare Kashmir's letter No.DSWK/Sch/2026/1470-91 dated:27-07-2026.

Online applications are invited for scholarships under PM YASASVI Scheme from the students belonging to EBC, OBC & DNT categories who are pursuing studies in Government / Government recognized institutes in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir for the year 2026-27 per the eligibility criteria given below:-

PUBLIC NOTICE

Name of the Scheme	PM-YASASVI (PM YOUNG ACHIEVERS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD SCHEME FOR VIBRANT INDIA)
Category	The student must belong to Other Backward Classes (OBCs), Economically Backward Classes (EBCs), or De-notified, Nomadic, and Semi-Nomadic Tribes (DNTs) as notified by the Central/State Govt.
Annual Family Income	The total annual family income from all sources should not exceed ₹ 2.50 Lakh per annum.
POST-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP (PMS) FOR OBC, EBC, AND DNT	He or she must have passed Matriculation (Class 10th) or Higher Secondary (Class 12th) or any higher examination and be pursuing a recognized post-matric course (e.g., Class XI & XII, Diploma, Graduate, Post-Graduate, Professional Courses).

Time limit for submission of applications:

Scheme	Activity	Date
POST-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP for OBC, EBC and DNT.	Portal Opening Date	July 22, 2026
	Portal Closing Date	October 31, 2026

How to apply

- The scholarships are open to Indian Nationals who are residents of J&K and belong to the specified categories, pursuing approved courses in recognized institutions in India.
- All eligible students are advised to apply on the National Scholarship Portal (NSP) within the specified timelines.
 - All applications **must be submitted online** on the National Scholarship Portal (NSP) viz <https://scholarships.gov.in/>.
 - All necessary certificates (Income, Caste, category etc.) must be uploaded as per the devised format/specifications mentioned on the application portal.
 - A student who is already covered under any other scholarship scheme from State/Centre Government is not entitled under this scheme.

*For further details regarding scholarship and criteria students are requested to visit the National Scholarship Portal (NSP): <https://scholarships.gov.in/> or https://socialjustice.gov.in/social-audit/publicschemesdoc/PM_Yasasvi_scheme.pdf.

DIPK-3912/26
dated: 30-07-2026

District Social Welfare Officer,
Budgam.

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UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR, SRINAGAR NOTICE

The candidate whose particular are given below has reported to the University that he has lost his University Certificate/s and has applied for issuance of Duplicate Certificate/s:-

Name: Ajaz Ashraf Wani, Parentage: Mohd Ashraf Wani, Residence: Zakura, Srinagar, Registration No: 17827-IC-03, Certificate/s lost: B.Com 2nd Year, Roll No/s: 17432, Session/Year: 2024.



Before University will consider issuance of Duplicate Certificate/s in favour of the candidate, any person having any objection shall report to the undersigned within one week from the date of issuance of this notice. The original certificate/s issued to the candidate be treated as cancelled.

Sd/
Assistant Controller of Examination
(PG/UG/Prof.)
inf

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Mehnaza Akhter, D/o Habibullah Ganie, R/o Solinda, Tehsil Tangmarg, District Baramulla, J&K, hereby inform the general public that my name has been inadvertently recorded as "Mehnaa Zahab" instead of my correct name "Mehnaza Akhter" in my Aadhaar Card. Further, my Date of Birth has also been wrongly recorded as 10-09-2003 instead of the correct 05-03-2003. My correct name and Date of Birth are Mehnaza Akhter and 05-03-2003, respectively, as per my school records. I have applied before the competent authority for correction of the said particulars in my Aadhaar Card.

If any person has any objection regarding the proposed correction of my name and Date of Birth, the same may be conveyed to the concerned authority within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. If no objection is received within the stipulated period, the correction process shall proceed accordingly.
Deponent
Mehnaza Akhter

FKO

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, SAKINA AKHTAR D/O: FAYAZ AHMAD SHEIKH R/O: NEAR MAIN ROAD BUGROO, BUGRU Budgam, is seeking for the correction with regard to my name, which has been erroneously written as "SAKEENA AKHTER" in official records e.g., bank etc. instead of my correct name i.e. "SAKINA AKHTAR". and Account number is (043504010005561) If anyone has any objection in this regard, He/Sh can inform the competent authority (J&K Bank Branch Kremshora) within seven days from the date of publication of this notice.

SAKINA AKHTAR
D/O: FAYAZ AHMAD SHEIKH
R/O: NEAR MAIN ROAD BUGROO, BUGRU BUDGAM

x

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Rayaz Ahmed Mir, S/o Zahoor Ahmed Mir, R/o Haripora, Tehsil Kwarahama, District Baramulla, J&K, hereby notify the general public that my name has been wrongly recorded in my Aadhaar Card (No. XXXX XXXX 7256) as "Riyaz Ahmad Mir" instead of my correct name "Rayaz Ahmed Mir". My correct name is Rayaz Ahmed Mir, and I have applied to the competent authority for correction of my name in the Aadhaar records. If any person has any objection to the proposed correction, the same may be submitted to the concerned authority within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. If no objection is received, the correction shall be processed accordingly.
Deponent
Rayaz Ahmed Mir

fko-r

Public Notice

I, Mushtaq Ahmad Dar, R/o Jawalapora, Budgam, father of minor child Mohammad Amaan Dar, do hereby inform the general public that in the Birth Certificate of my child bearing Certificate No. B-2023: 1-9029-001554, issued by the Municipal Council Budgam, my name has been incorrectly recorded as "Mushtaq Ahmad" without our surname. My correct and full name is Mushtaq Ahmad Dar. I am applying to the concerned authorities for the addition/correction of the surname "Dar" to my name in my child's birth records. If anyone has any objection regarding this correction/addition, they may submit their objection in writing to the Executive Officer, Municipal Council Budgam, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.
Mushtaq Ahmad Dar
R/o Jawalapora, Budgam

mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Aaqib Maqbool S/o Mohd Maqbool Tantray R/o Tantraypora Palhallan, have misplaced the number plate of my Scooty bearing Registration No. JK05E 9796 while travelling from Palhallan To Aglar. I am applying for a duplicate number plate from the concerned authorities. Any person having objection may contact the concerned department within seven days from the date of publication of this notice.
Scooty Owner : Aaqib Maqbool
Vehicle Number Plate: JK05E-9796

fko-r

Subject:- Grant Of Registration of the Proposed Travel unit under the name & Style "M/SSPREAD SMILE TOUR AND TRAVELS" Situated at DEVEDRAGER TANGMARG BARAMULLA 193402

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas I, Mr. ARSHID AHMAD SHEIKH S/o AB RASHID SHEIKH R/o HOOM GULMARG TANGMARG BARAMULLA intend to apply in the Department of Tourism for registration of my proposed travel unit under the name & style of M/S SPREAD SMILE TOUR AND TRAVELS Situated at DEVEDRAGER TANGMARG BARAMULLA 193402 under tourist trade act 1978/82/2011-12. Whereas I will submit state subject / Domicile certificate , Qualification Certificate, pan card, Experience Certificate(Minimum 5years), Police character certificate, Bank statement (minimum balance 10000), site plan, Affidavit, Rent deed duly attested by sub Registrar, printing material (Latter head / Visiting card) Photograph of the unit (indoor and outdoor) and Two passport size photographs to the department of Tourism as per prescribed checklist I Prior to Registration of my unit as an Excursion Agency. / Adventure Tour Operator Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011/12) before my case is processed for my registration by the Competent Authority, the matter is hereby notified for information of general public/ Financial institutions/Bank/ Organisation, etc for objection, if any and the same should reach to the Deputy Director Tourism Registration(email id: ddtregl23@gmail.com) within a period of 7days from the publication of this notice in a leading newspaper/newspapers of the valley. No objection beyond a period of 7 days shall be entertained.

fko

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, Anayat Ali, S/o Mushtaq Hussain Rather, R/o Ichigam, holder of Aadhaar Card No. 5968 3122 0067, do hereby inform the general public that my name has been incorrectly recorded as "Inayat Ali" in my Aadhaar records. My correct and actual name is Anayat Ali, S/o Mushtaq Hussain Rather. Both names, "Inayat Ali" and "Anayat Ali", refer to one and the same person, i.e., myself. Henceforth, I shall be known as Anayat Ali for all official and legal purposes. If anyone has any objection to this name correction, they may submit their objection in writing to the concerned authorities within 7 days from the publication of this notice

mcb

Public Notice

This is information for the general public that I have changed my wards name from old name 1. ANNAS BIN FERROZ 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 within a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that.

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

mcb

Public Notice

I, Sageer Ahmad Khan, S/o Ali Haider Khan, R/o Pati Jathar, Kachwa Muqam, hereby inform that I am working as a Porter at Station Headquarter, Gulmarg. I have lost my poter ID card bearing Card No. 53 at Chandoosa. I made every possible effort to find it, but could not. now intend to apply for a new/duplicate ID card. If anyone has any objection to this, he/she may file the objection at Station Headquarter, Gulmarg within 7 days from the date of this notice. If anyone finds the said ID card, kindly contact: 8494044037 or Station Headquarter, Gulmarg.
Sd/-
Sageer Ahmad Khan

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed to the general public that I intend to change/correct my name in my Aadhaar Card and Bank records from Shameema to Shameema Bano as per my official records. Henceforth, I shall be known and identified by my new/correct name, Shameema Bano, for all purposes and official records. If any person has any objection regarding this name change, he/she may contact the concerned authorities within seven (07) days from the date of publication of this notice. Thereafter, no objection shall be entertained.

Shameema Bano
W/o Mohd Maqbool Rather
R/o Burzahama, Hazratbal Sgr

Media line advt

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Sajad Ahmad Ahmad Gadda S/o Mohd Tayoob Gadda R/o Hajibagh Buchpora Srinagar hereby inform that my father Gulam Nabi Gadda who was the Registered Consumer of PDD having Electric Connection bearing Consumer no. 0204040013477 expired a decade before. Now I intend to transfer the said electric connection in my name "Sajad Ahmad Gadda. My mother Haleema has no objection in this process. If any person or party has any objection in this transfer. They may file their objection in writing in the office of the AEE Sub Division Hawal within 7 (seven) days from the Date of Publication. No objection shall be entertained after stipulated Time Period.

Sajad Ahmad Gadaa
S/o Mohd Tayoob Gadda
R/o Hajibagh Buchpora
For any Query: 9596566566

Media line advt

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Bilal Ahmad Gadda S/o Late Gh Nabi Gadda R/o Hajibagh Buchpora Srinagar hereby inform that my father Gulam Nabi Gadda who was the Registered Consumer of PDD having Electric Connection bearing Consumer no. 0204040013475 expired a decade before. Now I intend to transfer the said electric connection in my name "Bilal Ahmad Gadda. My mother Haleema and brothers namely Muzaffar Ahmad Gadda and Shahtaj Ahmad Gadda have no objection in this. If any person or party has any objection in this transfer. They may file their objection in writing in the office of the AEE Sub Division Hawal within 7 (seven) days from the Date of Publication. No objection shall be entertained after stipulated Time Period.

Bilal Ahmad Gadda
S/o Gh Nabi
Hajibagh Buchpora
For any Query: 9596566566

Media line advt

Public Notice

I, Mujeeba Nazir, W/o Nazir Ahmad Bhat, R/o Hurdu Shoor, Tehsil Kunzer, District Baramulla, J&K, hereby notify that the name of my daughter has been wrongly recorded in the school records of Hamdania Public School, Kunzer as "Saaliha Nazir" instead of her correct name "AEERONA NAZEER", as per her Aadhaar Card and other official records. I have applied to the concerned school authorities for correction of her name in all school records. If any person has any objection to the proposed correction, the same may be conveyed to the concerned authorities within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice; failing which, the correction shall be processed accordingly.
Deponent
Mujeeba Nazir

FKO

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Tilgam Executive Magistrate 1st Class

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

Public Notice

The registrar Births and Deaths BDO Pattan has submitted case file pertaining to birth of Tahseen Majeed S/o Abdul Majeed Wani R/o Wanigam Bala Distt Baramulla having verified the date of birth as 17-03-2015 and the event has been shown to be occurred at Home . In this connection if anybody having any objection to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall submit his/hr claim to this office within seven (7) days after that no objection shall be entertained
fko

Naib Tehsildar



The Jammu And Kashmir Board Of School Education

New Campus Bemina Srinagar

PUBLIC NOTICE



I have passed/appeared in SSP (Class 10th) under Roll No. 866244 during the Year 1995-1996 through The Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education. The error has been committed by the Parents / Institution against my Name and Spelling by father's name as "Asma Bashir" and "Bashir Ahmad Khan" instead of "Asma Bashir Khan" and "Bashir Ahmad Khan"

Now I have applied for correction at The Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education, New Campus, Bemina, Srinagar. If any person has any objection in this regard, may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Certificates Kashmir Division within seven days from the date of publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period, no objection will be entertained.

This is published for the information of the general public.

The correct particulars are mentioned as under:

Name: Asma Bashir Khan
Father's Name: Bashir Ahmad Khan
Mother's Name: Ishada Bashir
Date of Birth: 5th of Feb. 1980 (05-02-1980)
Residence: Chaman Barzulla Baghat
Mobile No: 9596481313

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class-10th) under Roll No. 121004023 Session: Annual Regular Oct - Nov Year 2025 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. Due to the error committed against my father's name as Bilal Ahmad Ganie instead of Bilal Ahmad Doom



Now, I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education Sub Office Magam , if any person has any objection in this regard, may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Sub Office Magam within seven days from the date of Publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period no objection will be entertained.

Name: Seerat Bilal
Father's name: Bilal Ahmad Doom
Mother's Name: Mahmooda Bano
DOB: 15-03-2010
Residence: Hanji Bugh
Mobile no: 8899105047

bmg

از نیابت پہلپان

عنوان :- درخواست از جانب محمد اشرف تانترے ولد علی محمد تانترے برادرسchool EWS سرٹیفیکٹ بحق پیران خود

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لہذا سرٹیفیکٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض سات دن کے اندر دفتر نمائش پیش کریں۔ معیار گذرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار fko

از نیابت پہلپان

مضمون درخواست منجاب محمد عبداللہ والدہ ساندہ الدراما کے پہلپان تحصیل بن برادرسchool Certificate بن خود دفتر نامہ بانو (NAZIMA BANOO)

اشتہار برادرادگائی برخاص وعام

مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ایک درخواست برادرسchool اندارج کرنے کی یہ پیدائش بحق دختر NAZIMA BANOO اشخاص یا اشخاص پیدائش مند پیدائش نام تاریخ پیدائش سکونت پہلپان 16-02-1997 NAZIMA BANOO لہذا اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کو سرٹیفیکٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ چاروں کے اندر دفتر نمائش پیش کریں۔ معیار گذرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

تحریر الصدار

نائب تحصیلدار fko

Twin Body Recoveries Trigger Police Investigations

Agencies

Srinagar: Police on Thursday launched separate investigations after two bodies were recovered under different circumstances in Srinagar.

In the first incident, a 40-year-old man was found dead inside his residence in the Rawathpora Baghat area of the city.

Officials said the deceased was found with injuries reportedly caused by a sharp-edged object. Soon after receiving information, police reached the spot, took the body into custody and shifted it for medico-legal formalities.

The deceased was identified as Ajaz Ahmad Wani (40), son of Ghulam Mohammad Wani, a resident of Rawathpora Baghat. Police have initiated

ated proceedings to ascertain the circumstances surrounding his death.

In another incident, an unidentified body was recovered from a water canal in the Baba Demb area of Srinagar.

According to eyewitnesses, the body was found floating in the canal wrapped inside a bathtub, following which locals alerted the police.

A police team reached the spot, secured the area and initiated legal formalities. The body was shifted for medico-legal examination, while the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) was called to examine the scene.

As per KNT, Police have launched an investigation to establish the identity of the deceased and determine the circumstances that led to the death.

Basant Bagh Residents Demand Restoration of Drinking Water Supply

Agencies

Srinagar: Scores of women from the Basant Bagh area of Srinagar on Thursday staged a protest against the persistent shortage of drinking water, blocking the road for nearly half an hour to press for the immediate restoration of the supply.

The protesters said they had been facing acute hardship due to the prolonged disruption in water supply, forcing them to struggle for their daily domestic needs. They urged the concerned authorities to address the issue without any further delay.

As per KNT, the demonstration led to disruption of vehicular movement in the area before a police team from Kral Khud Police Station reached the spot and held discussions with the agitating women. Police officials assured the protesters that their grievance would be conveyed to the concerned authorities and that efforts would be made to restore the drinking water supply at the earliest.

Following the assurance, the women dispersed peacefully but warned that they would resume their agitation if the issue remained unresolved.



High-Level Meeting Reviews Srinagar Flyovers, Ring Road Alignment

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg on Thursday chaired a high-level meeting of key stakeholder departments to deliberate on the alignment and implementation of major road infrastructure projects, including the Parimpora-Dalgate Flyover, Panthachowk Flyover, and the Srinagar Ring Road stretch from Panthachowk to Pandach.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Conservator Forests, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Vice Chairman Srinagar Development Authority, Director Airport Authority, Senior Superintendent of Police (Traffic) Srinagar, Chief Engineers of KPDC and Irrigation & Flood Control,

along with senior officers from the Roads & Buildings Department, RTO, UEED, LCMA, Air Force, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), BSF, and other concerned departments.

A threadbare deliberation was conducted on the proposed Parimpora-Dalgate Flyover, with discussions focusing on its alignment, project cost, anticipated impact on traffic flow, and implications for existing city utilities. It was decided to constitute a committee comprising officers from the stakeholder departments to undertake a comprehensive assessment of the project's impact and submit recommendations.

The meeting also discussed construction of the two parts of the Panthachowk-Pandrethan Flyover and decided to move ahead with the execution of the project.

With regard to the Panthachowk-Pandach section of the Srinagar Ring Road, the meeting decided to undertake a fresh study of the proposed alignments to minimise the impact on residential areas. NHAI officials were directed to carry out a comparative evaluation of the suggested alignments and submit recommendations for the most suitable option.

Earlier, the meeting also discussed the proposed road from Ring Road Part-I via Sheikhpora to Airport Road and its potential impact on adjacent BSF security establishments. On the occasion, the Divisional Commissioner directed officers of the Air Force and BSF to hold joint consultations with the executing agency to explore a feasible solution that addresses the concerns of all stakeholder departments while ensuring timely implementation of the project.

Labour Deptt Organises Stakeholder Awareness Prog on Labour Codes

Observer News Service

Srinagar: As part of its continued efforts to strengthen labour governance and promote awareness of recent labour law reforms, the Labour Department, organised a Stakeholder Awareness Programme on the Labour Codes here.

The programme was attended by representatives of various trade unions from across Kashmir and served as a platform for constructive dialogue on labour rights, social protection, and regulatory reforms.

The programme commenced with the registration of participants, followed by the inaugural session.

Delivering the introductory address, S. Charandeep Singh, Labour Commissioner, J&K, highlighted the significance of the Labour Codes in creating a modern, transparent, and worker-centric labour administration. He emphasised that sustained awareness among trade unions and other stakeholders is essential for ensuring smooth implementation of the new labour law framework and for safeguarding the rights and welfare of workers. He said that the Department remains committed to promoting awareness, strengthening institutional capacity, and fostering collaborative partnerships with all stakeholders to facilitate

effective implementation of the Labour Codes.

The Labour Commissioner also urged trade unions to act as vital partners in disseminating awareness among workers and ensuring that the benefits of labour reforms reach every workplace.

The programme was graced by Pawan Kumar Parihar, Special Secretary to Government, Labour & Employment Department; Umesh Sharma, Additional Secretary to Government, Labour & Employment Department; Masarat Hashim, Deputy Labour Commissioner (Central); and Najwan Nazki, Deputy Labour Commissioner, Kashmir.

Expelled NC Veteran Syed Muhammad Akhoon Joins Apni Party

Agencies

Srinagar: A senior National Conference leader, who was expelled from the party earlier in the day, joined the Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party on Thursday in the presence of party president Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari.

Bukhari formally welcomed the veteran politician, Syed Muhammad Akhoon, along with several other new entrants into the party, expressing hope that their experience would strengthen the organization and its outreach across Jammu and Kashmir.

Speaking to reporters after the joining ceremony, the Apni Party chief launched a sharp attack on the administration, alleging

that there was a growing disconnect between the government machinery and the people.

He said public grievances were mounting despite repeated assurances from the authorities. "There is a huge gap between the administration and the people. Despite the installation of smart meters, people continue to face power shortages. There is no adequate drinking water and road infrastructure in many areas," Bukhari said.

As per KNT, he urged the administration to focus on addressing basic civic issues affecting the common people rather than remaining confined to official claims, asserting that governance should be reflected in the delivery of essential public services.

Email: ceo-mcganderbal@jk.gov.inFax @:- 01942416090Phone No: 01942416090

Government of Jammu and Kashmir.
Department of Urban Local Bodies Kashmir Srinagar
OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL GANDERBAL

Dasti Quotation
For and on behalf of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir, sealed quotations are invited from registered dealers/agencies/authorized workshops/companies for the repair and replacement of defective spare parts of the Tow Van of Municipal Council Ganderbal, as per the details mentioned below:

S.No.	Name of items with description	Qty	Rate to be quoted
1	Oil Filter	01	Complete Job
2	Fuel Filter	01	
3	Air Filter	01	
4	Engine Oil	7.5 L	
5	Sensor Spray	03	
6	Cloth	02	
7	Repairing of Injectors	04	
8	LNT (Exhaust Cylinder)	01	
9	Remove and Reinstall of Injectors	Complete Job	
10	Filters and Oil Replacement	Complete Job	
11	Laptop Checkup	Complete Job	
12	LNT Removal and Refitment	Complete Job	

Terms and Conditions:

- The sealed Dasti quotations should reach to the office of the undersigned by or before 05-08-2026 up to 2 pm either by post or by hand on the printed letter head of firm/dealer
- The rates should be quoted both in words and figures without cutting/ overwriting.
- The quotations shall be opened on the same day after 2 pm or on any other convenient day to the opening authority in presence of the registered dealer/ agencies/Authorized Dealers who which to be remain present
- The successful bidder shall be bound to carry out the repair and replacement of the defective spare parts of the Tow Van as specified above, strictly in accordance with the specifications and quality standards mentioned in the quotation
- The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of the quotations without any reason.
- Further details can be had from the office of the undersigned during the working hours.
- The rates should be quoted inclusion of all applicable taxes.

No: MC/GBL/206/2469-72
Dated:- 24 /07/2026

Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer
Municipal Council
Ganderbal.

DIPK-NB-1253/26
dated: 30-07-2026

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Office of the Chief Executive Officer
Municipal Council Pulwama

ABBREVIATED NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
E-NIT No.: MC/PUL/2026/174 | Dated: 25/07/2026
For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of UT of Jammu & Kashmir, online e-tenders (Single Cover System) are invited from eligible persons/firms/agencies for the **Auction of Entry Fee / Terminal Tax Collection Contract of Municipal Council Pulwama** for the year 2026-27 (for a period of 365 days w.e.f. 15-08-2026 to 14-08-2027).

- Minimum Reserved Bid Amount:** ₹1,90,05,909/- (Rupees One Crore Ninety Lakh Five Thousand Nine Hundred and Nine Only)
- Cost of Tender Document:** ₹5,000/- (Non-refundable)
- Call Deposit Receipt (CDR):** ₹3,80,118/-

CRITICAL DATES & SCHEDULE

S. No.	Particulars / Activity	Date / Time
1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	27-07-2026
2.	Period for Downloading Bidding Documents	27-07-2026 to 10-08-2026
3.	Bid Submission Start Date (Online)	27-07-2026 at 11:00 AM
4.	Bid Submission End Date (Online)	10-08-2026 up to 11:00 AM
5.	Last Date for Submission of Hard Copies	10-08-2026
6.	Date & Time of Opening of Bids (Online)	11-08-2026 at 10:00 AM
7.	Bid Validity Period	120 Days from date of opening

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS:

- The standard bidding documents containing eligibility criteria, terms & conditions, rate schedule, and formats can be viewed/downloaded from the departmental e-tendering portal: **www.jktenders.gov.in**.
- Bids must be submitted online only through **www.jktenders.gov.in** with a valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC).
- Hard copies along with requisite documents must reach the office of the Chief Executive Officer, Municipal Council Pulwama on or before the specified date.

Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer
Municipal Council Pulwama

DIPK-NB-1254/26
dated: 30-07-2026



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

AIRPORTS
SHIEKH UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

RAILWAYS

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



HIGHWAY STATUS

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



**HIJRI**
CALENDAR
16 Safar
1448

PRAYERS

FAJR	4: 04
ZUHR	12:37
ASR	5: 32
Magrib	7: 36
ISHA	9: 09

This Day In History

- 30 BC - Battle of Alexandria: Mark Antony achieves minor victory over Octavian, but most of his army subsequently deserts, leading to Octavian's invasion of Egypt
- 432 - St Sixtus III begins his reign as Catholic Pope
- 781 - The oldest recorded eruption of Mt. Fuji (Traditional Japanese date: July 6, 781)
- 1291 - Egyptian Mamelukken occupies Akko, crusaders driven out of Palestine
- 1423 - Hundred Years' War: Battle of Cravant - the French army is defeated by the English on the banks of the river Yonne in Burgundy
- 1498 - Christopher Columbus discovers the island of Trinidad on his third voyage

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE
Sr.DEN-III/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on **www.ireps.gov.in** with closing date- **19/08/2026 & 18/08/2026 up to 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 these tenders, 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 only payment modes available on **www.ireps.gov.in** portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information logon to **www.ireps.gov.in**

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System
Open	Works	Single Packet System
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time
27.07.2026	05.08.2026 & 04.08.2026	19/08/2026 & 18/08/2026 11:50 Hrs.

S.No.	Tender No.	Details of Tender		
1.	72-2026-27-ADEN-I-ASR	Construction of precast central drain between yard lines at Amritsar station in the section of SSE/WM/ASR under ADEN-I/ASR.		
	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money	Validity of offer	Period of completion
	49492068.95	989900.00	60 Days	09 Months
	Similar nature of work: - "Any civil work other than track work."			
2.	73-2026-27-SrDEN-III-FZR	Provision of Relay Hut at (24 Nos Level crossings) for Gate Signalling at Non Interlocked L-xing gates over Firozpur division (TVU between 10,000 and 20,000) in the jurisdiction of Sr.DEN-III/FZR as per Type Plan No. NRHQ Plan No. 0-97/2017/R1		
	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money	Validity of offer	Period of completion
	30803482.52	616100.00	60 Days	08 Months
	Similar nature of work: - "Any structural work made of Pre-cast PSC/RCC panels"			

Note : 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.
Tender No: 72-2026-27-ADEN-I-ASR & 73-2026-27-SrDEN-III-FZR Date: 28/07/2026
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 2626/26

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that the electricity connection bearing Consumer ID: 0204020005717, presently registered in the name of Mohammad Shafi Beigh, R/o Hazratbal, Srinagar, is proposed to be transferred in favour of Saif Shafi Beigh, S/o Mohammad Shafi Beigh, R/o Hazratbal, Srinagar.

If any person has any objection regarding the proposed transfer of the said electricity connection, they may submit the same in writing to the concerned authority within seven days from the date of publication of this notice.

If no objection is received within the stipulated period, the electricity connection shall be transferred in favour of Saif Shafi Beigh without any further notice.

For any clarification, please contact:
Mob: 7006564624 / 7006430537

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that as per the records available in the office of the concerned PDD Sub-Division, Rainawari, Srinagar, under Customer ID No. 0204020007751, the name recorded as Mr. Mushtaq Ahmad Cheeta, S/o Abdul Ghani Cheeta, R/o Check Bagh Saadal, Nageen, Hazratbal, Srinagar and Mr. Mukhtar Ahmad Cheeta, S/o Abdul Ghani Cheeta, R/o Check Bagh, Nageen, Hazratbal, Srinagar pertains to one and the same person.

It is further notified that the necessary correction in the records is being carried out on the basis of the documents provided by the applicant. Henceforth, the electricity bill shall be issued in the name of Mr. Mukhtar Ahmad Cheeta, S/o Abdul Ghani Cheeta, R/o Check Bagh, Nageen, Hazratbal, Srinagar.

Any person having any objection to this may file the same before the concerned office within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained thereafter.

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

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KO VIEW

Copying Cost Kashmir

Every climate crisis pushes Kashmir to search for the next big fix. Experts speak of smart cities, new materials, energy-efficient homes and climate-ready design. Builders promise fresh ideas, while architects speak the language of the future, but a surprising answer has been standing in front of us all along.

Old Kashmiri homes never treated weather as an enemy. They accepted it as part of daily life and learned how to live with it. Thick timber walls trapped warmth through long winters. Sloping roofs handled heavy snow. Deep windows welcomed sunlight when the days turned cold and kept harsh summer heat outside. Every beam, stone and corner had a reason, even if nobody called it climate science.

That wisdom slowly disappeared when Kashmir entered a construction boom in the late 1990s. Brick, cement and copycat designs from the plains began replacing homes that had grown out of the valley's own weather.

New buildings looked modern, although many ignored the land they stood on. Summers felt hotter indoors, winters demanded more heating, and electricity bills climbed while comfort fell. Houses became bigger, but they stopped feeling smarter.

Public debate often treats old architecture as nostalgia, something to admire in old photographs or heritage walks. That misses the larger point.

Those buildings were never monuments to the past. They were practical answers to a difficult climate, created by people who understood snow, rain, wind and sunlight through daily experience instead of computer models.

A new generation of architects has started looking at those homes with new eyes. They are asking simple questions instead of chasing fashionable designs.

Why did these houses stay warm without modern heating? Why did they stay cool when temperatures climbed? Which building methods still make sense today?

Such questions are turning old neighbourhoods into living classrooms rather than fading memories.

This change says something important about progress itself. Moving ahead does not always begin with throwing away what came before. Fresh thinking sometimes begins with admitting that earlier generations solved problems that modern society forgot how to address.

That is a practical thinking rather than romanticism.

Climate change has forced Kashmir into many difficult debates. One of the most useful may have little to do with futuristic technology and everything to do with memory.

Old wooden houses still standing in the valley pose the same simple question: If these walls protected families through generations of harsh seasons, why did Kashmir stop listening to them in the first place? Real progress may come when the valley stops considering its architectural past as history and starts treating it as tomorrow's blueprint.

The Great Wedding Wait

Hours of waiting have become an accepted part of Kashmiri weddings, despite the toll on health, work, and trust.



Dr. Fiaz Maqbool Fazili

Dr. Iftikhar checked his watch, walked into the marriage hall at exactly 2 p.m., and found almost nobody there.

The invitation had promised lunch “sharp 2:00 p.m.” Steaming copper vessels of wazwan sat ready, saffron and mutton filling the room, but five or six guests occupied a hall built for hundreds.

The doctor checked the digital invitation on WhatsApp again, wondering if he had mistaken the date. He hadn't.

He had only mistaken the printed time for a promise.

Over the next hour, guests trickled in two by two, a slow procession Kashmiris know by heart. Only when organizers judged the crowd “respectable” did the tasht-e-naer, the basin and jug passed around for handwashing, finally make its rounds.

Lunch began at 3:15 p.m., more than an hour past the promised hour.

This scene plays out in wedding halls throughout the valley so often that it has stopped registering as strange. And that's the real problem.

What should feel like a broken promise now passes as part of everyday life.

The math gets worse the more you look at it.

A 2 p.m. lunch routinely starts after 3:30. An evening function billed for 5 p.m. can push dinner toward 11 at night. Multiply that disparity by the hundreds of guests sitting through it, and you get children turning cranky, elderly relatives worn down by hours in a chair, and working professionals watching their afternoons disappear.

Doctors push back patient appointments, while traders close early. Nobody can plan around an event with no fixed start, because the printed time has become decoration rather than information.

Here's what makes this more than a matter of etiquette: it isn't just about wasted afternoons.

Kashmir, like much of the world, now carries a heavier load of diabetes, hypertension, and metabolic disorders than a generation ago. Many of these guests take medication timed to meals.

A diabetic who delays lunch by ninety minutes risks hypoglycemia, dizziness, headaches. A hypertensive patient sits there calculating whether to take a pill on an empty stomach or skip it and hope for the best.

Nursing mothers struggle, and people travelling long distances absorb the delay twice, once getting there and once sitting through it.

None of this shows up in wedding photographs, but all of it happens in that hall while cameras capture choreographed entries and the host, oddly, seems to be the one person in the room with no pressing obligation to be anywhere on time.

The strange thing is how rational

sharp has lost all working meaning.

None of this needs abandoning the trami, the shared plate that has anchored Kashmiri hospitality for generations.

Four people eating from one platter builds something a buffet line can't replicate: conversation, generational mixing, and a physical closeness that says we belong to each other.

That tradition is worth keeping exactly as it is. But what doesn't need to survive is the excuse that punctuality and the trami can't coexist.

Serve the first sitting at 2 p.m. as promised. Let later guests join subsequent sittings. Well-run functions elsewhere manage this without anyone feeling slighted, and there's no reason a Kashmiri wedding hall can't do the same.

The fix needs hosts willing to start when they said they would, instead of holding hundreds hostage to a handful of VIP arrivals.

It needs guests willing to trust that “sharp 2:00” means what it says, so they stop building in a built-in delay of their own.

the whole broken system has become.

Nobody asks “what time is lunch” anymore. They ask “how many people have come,” or they wait for a text from a friend already seated: call me when the tasht-e-naer starts moving.

Nobody wants to be first in an empty hall, so everybody times their entrance to avoid it, which pushes the actual start later, which teaches the next round of guests to delay even further.

It's a closed loop with no winner.

Hosts wait for a fuller room, guests wait for the hosts to start, and the two behaviours feed each other until 2 p.m.

Srinagar's Costliest Illusion

A city built on water spent ₹3,200 crore forgetting how water works, and the sky sends the bill every time it rains.



Muzamil Farooq

One phrase always seems to outrun the floodwater: aakhir zamaan, the end times.

A cloudburst rips through a mountain village, the Jhelum swells, and within minutes the disaster gets folded into an old script on WhatsApp forwards and mosque loudspeakers.

Many people see the 2014 floods, the flash floods that now hit more often, and the heavy, muggy summers in a valley once known for its gentle weather as signs that the Hour is near.

There's something comforting about that story, and that's exactly the problem.

Call a flood a cosmic signal and it demands awe rather than action. Nobody dredged a wetland, built on a floodplain, or paved over the city's natural drainage.

Blame the apocalypse and you let everyone off the hook, turning a man-made crisis with clear causes into a spiritual weather report.

The theology doesn't even hold up on its own terms.

The Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon

him, is reported in an authentic hadith to have raised his index and middle fingers together and said he and the Hour were sent like these two.

That means the end times started fourteen centuries ago.

Muslims have lived inside them for generations, so the label can't explain why Srinagar floods after two hours of rain in 2026 when it didn't in 1976.

Islamic tradition actually pushes the opposite way: the Prophet taught that even if the Hour arrives while a sapling sits in your hand, plant it anyway.

Looking after the earth doesn't stop mattering because a clock is running somewhere.

Here's what's really going on, and it has nothing to do with cosmology.

Kashmir's summers run hotter and more humid than they did a generation ago. Snowfall trends have shifted, the glaciers feeding the rivers keep retreating, and the valley now sits under the type of heat once reserved for the plains.

Climate change has landed on a vulnerable Himalayan ecosystem, and it's crashing straight into a development model that seems built to make things worse.

Take the Srinagar Smart City project.

Around 3,200 crore has gone into cycle tracks, riverfront promenades, decorative facades and imported streetlight designs. Officials and consultants kept repeating the same goal: make Srinagar look European. Copenhagen came up again and again. But the verdict shows up the first rainy afternoon.

Lal Chowk turns into a lagoon, brand-new roads disappear underwater, shopkeepers grab



buckets while the so-called smart drainage, where it even exists, gives out within the hour.

A city that can't handle a drizzle isn't smart. It's just expensive and breakable.

The whole project got planned from the top down. Decisions about Srinagar's future were made far away from the people living in it, and local engineers, hydrologists, planners and historians barely got a seat at the table.

Srinagar isn't some generic city. It's built on water, held together by wetlands, canals and flood channels that soaked up the Jhelum's

mood swings for centuries.

The Doodhganga, the Nallah Mar (filled in decades ago during an earlier round of “modernisation”), the shrinking wetlands at Hokersar and Bemina: that's the real drainage system here, and it's been paved over, encroached on or simply forgotten.

Copenhagen's waterfront works because Copenhagen built the drainage, the institutions and the decades of planning underneath it. Copy the look without the systems and you get imitation instead of progress.

What works for Scandinavia can leave floodwater stranded in a Himalayan city.

Two groups can actually turn this around.

Religious leaders hold an influence over public thinking that no government ad campaign can touch, and right now that influence gets spent on fatalism instead of teaching people to protect their land.

Imagine sermons that treat wetland destruction as a real moral failure, that connect wasting water and dumping into the Jhelum with breaking a trust rather than just breaking a rule.

Calling a flood a sign of the Hour isn't faith. Taking care of the earth is.

The officials running these projects need to treat the Smart City mess as a lesson, plain and simple. No road, promenade, or retaining wall should move forward without real input from the people who already know how their city floods.

The elders remembered the Nallah Mar. Somebody could have just asked them.

Another flood will come. Whether the city meets it with buckets or with restored wetlands and honest planning has nothing to do with signs in the sky.

That choice belongs to the people making it right now.

The author is a Doctoral Fellow in Economic Geography and Innovation Studies at the University of Stavanger, Norway, and a Miguel-Dols Fellow at the London School of Economics and Political Science. He can be reached at muzamil.farooq@uis.no.

What Journalism Has Become

A conversation on journalism, politics, democracy, and the enduring search for truth with one of India's most experienced television journalists.

Haqnawaz Qayoom

Indian journalism is changing rapidly, and few understand it as deeply as Rajdeep Sardesai.

After nearly forty years in journalism, he has seen newsrooms rise and fall, observed changes in editorial practices, and remained committed to the idea that journalism exists to serve the public, even in difficult times.

In this interview with Kashmir Observer, Sardesai speaks candidly about a profession he believes is "seriously unwell".

The conversation moves from memory to critique. Sardesai explains the tough choice behind the "cash-for-votes" sting, and speaks honestly about the personal toll of online abuse and how he has learned to keep focus on what matters.

Despite the challenges, Sardesai stresses that objectivity does not mean neutrality when people's rights are at stake. He also believes that, in the end, voters have their own ways of holding those in power accountable.

The interview offers a glimpse into the mind of a journalist who has spent decades reporting on India. It shows someone still deeply committed to the craft, aware of its difficulties, but unwilling to give up on its role in society.

If journalism in India were a person, how would you describe its mood today?

It would feel like someone fighting a serious illness. That's really how I see it. The media is struggling with a deep credibility crisis. And credibility is the backbone of journalism. You earn it slowly, through years of honest work, and once people trust you, that trust keeps the whole system healthy.

Strong journalism shows its worth when it makes a real difference to society. That's when you know it's alive and doing its job.

Today, sadly, we see very little of that. Much of journalism seems to have lost its moral purpose. It doesn't push for change. So yes, a big part of the profession feels like a patient in serious trouble.

When credibility slips away, journalism stops functioning, and that's the illness we're staring at now.

You've worked in both television and print media. What's one thing TV taught you that print didn't, and one thing print taught you that TV couldn't?

Television taught me the value of being right where the story is unfolding. In TV, spot reporting is everything. You need to capture the moment, you need the visuals, because the camera tells half the story. And TV also showed me how much journalism depends on teamwork. You're only as strong as the cameraperson filming with you, the editor cutting your story, the producer planning your show. TV is a group effort through and through. I didn't learn that in print.

Print, on the other hand, taught me something TV never could: the power of deep research and context. When you don't have visuals to lean on, you have to understand every layer of the story. You need background, history, nuance. Print forces you to dig, question, and connect dots. In many ways, it's more demanding because the entire weight of the story rests on your reporting and writing.

So yes, TV taught me teamwork and the energy of being on the scene. Print taught me depth, context and the discipline of going beyond the surface.

Given your long career and decades of travel across India, could you share three stories you're most proud of, and why?

When I look back, three moments stand out.

The first is my coverage of the 1992-93 Mumbai riots. Mumbai is home for me. I grew up there, I know its lanes, moods, and people. Watching the city tear itself apart after the Babri Masjid demolition was heartbreaking.

Week after week, we were out on the streets, trying to make sense of the violence, the fear and the sudden divide between neighbours.

That story stayed with me because it felt like documenting the



pain of a city I loved.

The second is my reporting on the 2002 Gujarat riots. I have a personal link to Gujarat. My grandparents lived there and to see that place burn with religious hatred was extremely difficult. It tested every instinct I had as a journalist.

We spent long days and nights covering it, speaking to people who had lost everything, trying to separate fact from rumour, and holding on to whatever truth we could find.

It was one of the toughest assignments of my life.

The third moment is building CNN-IBN from scratch.

Creating a newsroom, shaping its values, training young reporters, and seeing it grow into a national channel was as fulfilling as any big investigation or ground report. It was building an institution that could stand for something.

Each of these experiences shaped me as a journalist, and as a person.

As someone who closely follows Indian politics, where do you see it heading in the next 10 years?

To me, Indian politics feels like it's slipping into a kind of dark tunnel. Money drives almost everything now, far more than it ever did.

When money becomes the main engine, politics loses its moral centre. The idea of public service becomes less appealing, and the space gets filled with people who see politics as a business.

Corruption has grown, and so has a kind of everyday cynicism. We're watching leaders return to old strategies of dividing people, playing on identity, and keeping communities apart for political gain. It's unethical, and sadly, I think we'll see even more of it in the coming decade.

Unless there's a strong push from citizens for cleaner politics, we may find ourselves deeper in this black hole, where winning matters more than doing the right thing.

There are many people who draw inspiration from you. Are there any present-day journalists, in India or abroad, whose work you would've admired as a young journalist?

When I was starting out, I was deeply moved by the work of John Pilger. His reporting from conflict zones around the world had a rare honesty and courage. His books opened my eyes to what journalism could achieve.

Another writer who stayed with me was Thomas Friedman. His book From Beirut to Jerusalem is, in my view, one of the finest pieces of journalistic writing.

If I had to name someone in India whose commitment really stood out, it would be P. Sainath. His dedication to covering rural India, agriculture and farmer suicides, stories many others ignored, was extraordinary. The depth, patience and purpose in his work made a lasting

YOU CAN STAY OBJECTIVE, but you don't stay neutral when someone's life or liberty is being crushed.

impression on me.

So while I don't want to narrow it down to a single journalist, these are the names that shaped my idea of what good journalism can be.

Can you recall a moment in your career where you had to make a difficult ethical choice? And looking back, would you still make the same decision?

There have been many such moments, but one that still stands out is the "cash-for-votes" sting operation we did in 2008. This was during a crucial Parliament vote, when some MPs were accused of taking bribes. We had the sting ready, the footage was solid, and the story was explosive.

But we didn't air it immediately. We waited almost four weeks because we felt we needed every piece in place. It was a highly sensitive story, and we wanted to be absolutely sure we had covered every angle, legally and ethically. That delay was a tough call.

Looking back, I sometimes wonder if I would have done it differently. Maybe I would have moved faster and not let the fear of legal complications slow us down. Maybe the story should have gone on air right away.

But at that moment, it really was a difficult ethical decision, choosing between speed and caution, urgency and responsibility. And those are exactly the kinds of choices that stay with you long after the story is over.

You are one of the very few remaining independent voices in mainstream TV news today. Are there any boundaries you set for yourself while reporting? And if yes, how do you decide when to push back?

For me, the goal is always the

own work.

It took time, missteps, and a lot of self-reflection, but that's how I've learned to keep going.

You've often spoken about the compromises in Indian media. Journalism is called the fourth pillar of democracy. Do you think these compromises are weakening that ideal or affecting democracy in some way?

Absolutely, and I say that with real concern. There is something deeply wrong with journalism right now. The media has stepped away from one of its most basic duties: questioning those in power, whether in Delhi or in the states. When the press stops asking hard questions, democracy becomes weaker. It's that simple.

A healthy democracy needs accountability. It needs the media to shine light on what's hidden, examine decisions, challenge wrongdoing, and give voice to people who aren't heard.

When we don't do that, entire sections of public life slip into darkness.

What worries me even more is when the media gets involved in divisive politics, and when it pushes narratives that demonise communities or fuel religious tension. That's propaganda. And it's completely unacceptable.

So yes, I do believe the media has abandoned some of its core responsibilities in recent times. And in doing so, it has weakened the democratic fabric it was meant to protect.

There's a view that journalists should stand up for justice rather than stay neutral. Do you think it's acceptable, or even necessary, for journalists to take a stand on social issues?

Absolutely. When there is clear injustice, you stand with the victim, always. You stand with the person who has been wronged, silenced or stripped of their rights. If someone has been jailed unfairly, you speak up. If someone's basic freedoms or dignity are taken away, you don't sit on the fence.

To me, the idea that a journalist must remain neutral in the face of injustice simply makes no sense. You can stay objective, meaning you stick to facts, verify everything, and avoid personal bias, but you don't stay neutral when someone's life or liberty is being crushed.

Neutrality in those moments doesn't help anyone.

So yes, taking a stand on issues of justice is part of what journalism is meant to do.

You built CNN-IBN from scratch and later watched NDTV, a channel deeply connected to your career, go through a similar corporate takeover. Do you think corporate ownership compromises the journalistic independence of TV channels and

newspapers?

Absolutely, and I say that without hesitation. Corporate ownership almost always creates a problem for journalistic independence. Most large corporates rely heavily on government permissions, regulations and discretionary decisions. When your business depends on staying in the good books of the government, how can you, as an owner, allow your newsroom to question that very government?

That's where the real conflict begins.

In India, the problem becomes even more serious because we lack strong, effective regulation. There's very little to stop a handful of business groups from taking over major chunks of the media landscape. When one or two powerful individuals or companies control multiple news outlets, it becomes much harder to do adversarial journalism, the kind that speaks truth to power.

So yes, corporate ownership can and does compromise independence. And unless we fix the structural issues, especially cross-media ownership, the space for honest, fearless journalism will keep shrinking.

We've seen a public clash between Elon Musk and Donald Trump. Musk once backed Trump's re-election, and now he's launched a new political party. How do you see this shaping U.S. politics, especially with the unprecedented nature of Trump 2.0?

To be honest, America right now feels like a country caught in a deep moral crisis. And that crisis shows in the kind of people dominating its political stage.

You have a president who lies constantly and performs for the crowd, Donald Trump, and then you have Elon Musk, who is brilliant in many ways but often behaves like a man-child who believes he alone knows what's best for America.

A clash between these two is worrying. It's a battle of egos. And when politics becomes a playground for two narcissistic personalities, it's never good news for democracy.

Democracy is built by people who do the slow, steady work: building trust, strengthening institutions, promoting fairness, and pushing for an equal society. It doesn't grow in the hands of self-styled strongmen who think they can reshape a country on impulse.

And frankly, I don't see either Trump or Musk interested in that deeper, harder task.

During the 2024 Lok Sabha campaign, the Prime Minister openly named two major businessmen while accusing the Congress of taking funds from them. More broadly, do you think business funding of election campaigns undermines democracy?

Of course it does. Whenever money becomes the driving force in elections, democracy takes a hit. If votes can be influenced or bought, then the whole idea of a free choice starts to collapse.

A fair election only works when everyone has a level playing field. They should have similar access to resources, campaign tools, and media space. Right now, that balance simply doesn't exist.

There wasn't a level playing field in 2024, and there hasn't been one for some time.

When big business funds campaigns, it creates a clear tilt toward those in power. It also means policies can end up serving donors rather than citizens.

But, I still believe voters have a wisdom. Even in an uneven contest, they find subtle ways to send messages to those who misuse power.

It may take time, but people do speak. And when they do, the message can be very firm.

And to end on a personal note, in one sentence, what does journalism mean to you?

For me, journalism has been a lifelong journey and passion, with all its highs and lows, and that's why it feels much more like a calling than just a profession.

— The interviewer is an undergraduate student at University of Delhi.

HC Raps Govt Over Bilquis Mir's Missed World Cup Duty Says Denial of Permssion Cost India's Reputation, Summons Sports Secretary

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court has strongly criticised the Jammu and Kashmir administration for failing to grant timely permission to international canoeing judge Bilquis Mir to officiate at the Canoe Sprint World Cup in Hungary, observing that the delay "damaged India's reputation as a nation."

In a strongly worded order, Justice Rahul Bharti summoned Commissioner Secretary, Youth Services and Sports, Shahid Choudhary, to personally appear before the court on August 3 to explain why its earlier direction granting Mir provisional permission was not implemented.

The order came while hearing a writ petition filed by the Indian Kayaking and Canoeing Association along with a contempt petition filed by Mir against the Commissioner Secretary, the Director General of the J&K Sports Council and the Union Territory administration.

Mir, India's first female kayaking and canoeing judge at the 2024 Paris Olympics,

was nominated to serve as Chief Finish Line Judge at the Canoe Sprint World Cup held in Hungary in May this year. However, she could not attend after the administration failed to grant permission in time despite a High Court order allowing her to travel.

The court rejected the government's justification that the required documents had not been submitted in the prescribed format, saying the official order issued in June reflected a routine bureaucratic approach without recognising the national importance of Mir's international assignment.

"It is at the cost and reputation of India as a Nation," the court observed, adding that Mir had been invited because of her internationally recognised credentials as both a sports person and a coach.

Justice Bharti said the court had not found "even a whisper" in the government's order to indicate that officials appreciated they were dealing with a matter involving India's representation in an international sporting event.

The court further remarked that the communication from the Indian Kayaking and Canoeing

Federation seeking Mir's services as national coach for preparations for the 2026 Asian Games should have prompted the government to immediately relieve her from official duties in the larger national interest.

The High Court noted that although it had granted Mir provisional permission in May, allowing her to travel at her own risk and cost subject to the outcome of the petition, the administration still failed to act. As a result, the World Cup concluded without her participation, "thereby creating embarrassment for India as a Nation," the court observed.

Justice Bharti also expressed concern that, if left to the government's approach, the Indian team could even be sent to the Asian Games without a coach.

The court directed the Indian Kayaking and Canoeing Federation to place on record the complete itinerary for which Mir's services would be required as head coach of the national team.

The matter will now be heard on August 3, when the Commissioner Secretary has been directed to appear in person before the court.

J&K Gets Rs 10,528 Cr For National Highways In 2023-24, Ladakh Rs 658 Cr: Centre

'Rs 1,846 cr allocated to J&K, Rs 70 cr to Ladakh for NH development in 2026-27 so far'

Agencies

Srinagar: Jammu & Kashmir was allocated Rs 10,528 crore and the entire amount was utilised for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs) during 2023-24, while Ladakh received an allocation of Rs 658 crore, of which the entire amount was also spent, the Centre informed the Lok Sabha on Thursday.

Responding to an unstarred question on financial assistance for construction of inter-State bridges and roads of economic importance, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Jairam Gadkari, said NH works, including inter-State bridges and economically important roads, are taken up based on traffic density, connectivity requirements, road condition and synergy with the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan.

For J&K, the allocation for NH development stood at Rs 10,331 crore in 2024-25, against expenditure of Rs 10,204 crore, and Rs 8,083 crore in 2025-26, against expenditure of Rs 7,999 crore. In the current financial year 2026-27, Rs 1,846 crore



has been allocated and Rs 1,484 crore spent up to June 30, 2026.

For Ladakh, Rs 794 crore was allocated in 2024-25 with expenditure of Rs 768 crore, while Rs 338 crore was allocated in 2025-26 and Rs 333 crore was spent. During 2026-27, Rs 70 crore has been allocated so far, with expenditure of Rs 20 crore recorded up to June 30.

The ministry also said funds are allocated and released to

State Governments and Union Territories for development and maintenance of State roads, including inter-State bridges and roads of economic importance, under the Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (CRIF) Scheme.

Under the CRIF scheme, J&K had an accrual of Rs 128.67 crore and received Rs 206.67 crore in 2023-24; in 2024-25, both accrual and release stood

at Rs 128.67 crore. In 2025-26, the accrual and release were Rs 141.54 crore each, while for 2026-27 the accrual stood at Rs 148.51 crore and Rs 125.73 crore had been released up to June 30. Ladakh had an accrual of Rs 326.41 crore in 2023-24 against a release of Rs 68.10 crore, while in 2025-26 it recorded an accrual of Rs 359.05 crore against a release of Rs 210.84 crore. (KNO)

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

A British-Era Law

protections would finally reach them. That promise hasn't translated into practice, as the Forest Department continues to enforce the colonial statute instead, the same one the newer law was designed to replace.

Dr. Raja Muzaffar Bhat, founder of the J&K RTI Movement and the Jammu & Kashmir Climate Action Group (JKCAG), has spent months looking into the reasons.

He points to a Jammu and Kashmir High Court ruling from September 3, 2020, in a case called SAVE v. J&K Government, which the Forest Department now cites to justify its land retrieval drives.

The lawsuit was filed back in 2017, three years before the Forest Rights Act reached Jammu and Kashmir.

By the time the court issued its order, the law was already active, but nobody told the judges that.

"Forest Department had started evicting forest dwellers in many places of J&K quoting Hon'ble J&K High Court order SAVE v/s J&K Govt and others dated 3.09.2020," Bhat said.

The activist believes the Tribal Affairs Department, the agency responsible for rolling out the Forest Rights Act, should have flagged the change to the court and never did.

A similar fight played out on a much bigger scale seven years ago.

On February 13, 2019, the Supreme Court ordered sixteen states to evict more than a million forest-dwelling and tribal families whose land claims had been turned down.

Protests broke out almost immediately, and the central government admitted in a filing that many of those rejections had come from a broken, careless process.

Within two weeks, the Supreme Court halted the evictions and ordered every rejected claim to be reviewed again.

That hold remains in place today.

Bhat, however, sees a direct parallel. "If these evictions have been put on hold by Hon'ble Supreme Court and Forest Rights Act 2006 is yet to be rolled out and is like a new born baby in Jammu & Kashmir, how can Forest Department of J&K invoke J&K High Court's orders and start issuing eviction notices to forest dwelling STs and other traditional forest dwellers?" he asks in a memorandum he has now submitted on the issue.

He carried that memorandum, along with Mushtaq Ahmad Lone, the RTI Movement's district coordinator for Budgam, to a meeting with Abdul Rahim Rather, Speaker of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, on July 30.

The duo asked the speaker to step in with the Chief Minister and the Forest Minister and get the land retrieval drives stopped. Rather listened closely and asked several questions, though he made no promises on the spot.

But the Tribal Affairs Department itself moved soon after.

In a circular dated July 30, 2026, the department directed every Deputy Commissioner in Jammu and Kashmir to finish the three-tier claim verification and settlement process required under the Forest Rights Act, or certify that the process is already complete, at the earliest.

The circular also pointed directly to the law's own safeguard, noting that no forest dweller can be evicted or removed from land under his occupation until that recognition and verification process is finished.

Meanwhile, families in the affected districts are still watching the road for Forest Department officials, still packing sacks just in case, and still waiting for a law written to protect them to actually start doing its job.

Road Mishaps

3,269 road accidents, resulting in 603 deaths and 4,775 injuries.

Neighbouring Ladakh recorded 235 road accidents, 39 fatalities and 368 injuries during the same period.

National Highway accidents

The ministry's data showed that National

Highways in Jammu and Kashmir witnessed 1,109 accidents during 2026, leading to 206 deaths and injuries to 1,658 people.

The highway accident data reflects a steady decline over the past five years. While 2,378 National Highway accidents were reported in 2022, the number declined to 2,342 in 2023, 2,120 in 2024, 1,867 in 2025 and 1,109 this year.

Fatalities on National Highways stood at 259 in 2022, increased to 294 in 2023, declined to 271 in 2024, rose sharply to 431 in 2025 and fell to 206 in 2026.

In Ladakh, 119 National Highway accidents claimed 17 lives and left 177 people injured this year.

Young people among victims

The ministry said 17 of those killed in National Highway accidents in Jammu and Kashmir this year were below 18 years of age. Another 25 victims belonged to the 18 to 25 age group, while 40 fatalities were recorded among those aged between 25 and 35 years.

The data further showed that 29 people aged 35 to 45 years, 28 in the 45 to 60 age group and 12 above 60 years lost their lives in highway accidents. The age of 55 victims could not be ascertained.

Pedestrian casualties

The ministry also placed data on pedestrian casualties before Parliament.

In Jammu and Kashmir, pedestrian deaths stood at 101 in 2021, 131 in 2022, 158 in 2023, 144 in 2024 and rose sharply to 477 in 2025. Till July 27 this year, 226 pedestrians had lost their lives, while 1,005 sustained injuries.

PM-RAHAT scheme

The Centre informed Parliament that 472 claims had been initiated by hospitals in Jammu and Kashmir under the PM-RAHAT (Road Accident Victims' Hospitalization and Assured Treatment) scheme till July 28.

Of these, 51 claims have been approved by the State Health Authority and 43 have been settled. However, the annexure placed before Parliament showed no disbursement amount against the settled claims.

In Ladakh, all 12 claims initiated under the scheme were approved and settled, though the amount paid was also listed as nil.

Launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 13 this year under the Motor Vehicles Act, the PM-RAHAT scheme provides cashless treatment to road accident victims. The Centre said states and Union Territories have been advised to empanel more hospitals, especially near accident-prone stretches, to ensure timely emergency care.

Causes and safety measures

Responding to a question on the causes of road accidents, the ministry said crashes are a multi-causal phenomenon broadly linked to human error, road conditions and vehicle condition. It said factors such as over-speeding, drunken driving, wrong-side driving, jumping red lights, mobile phone use and other violations contribute significantly to accidents.

The Centre also informed Parliament that 6,358 black corridors have been identified on National Highways across the country using AI-based tools developed by IIT Kanpur, based on accident data from 2023 to 2025.

It said short-term corrective measures include improved road markings, signages, crash barriers, road studs, delineators and traffic-calming interventions, while long-term measures involve improving road geometry, junction redesign and construction of underpasses and overpasses.

The ministry added that the government continues to follow a four-pronged road safety strategy focused on education, engineering, enforcement and emergency care, supported by mandatory road safety audits, technology-based enforcement and the e-DAR accident reporting system. (inputs from KNO)

PM Reviews India's

attended by its permanent members—Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and Finance Minister Nirmala

Sitharaman—as well as special invitees, including Chemicals and Fertilisers Minister J.P. Nadda, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal, Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, official sources said.

The meeting held a comprehensive review of the ongoing global conflicts, their security implications and the disruptions they have caused to India's imports and supply chains, much of which pass through these conflict zones.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi today chaired a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security to review the situation in the context of the ongoing West Asia conflict and measures taken by various Ministries and Departments. This was the fourth special CCS meeting on the issue," a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office said.

Cabinet Secretary T.V. Somanathan briefed the CCS on the evolving geopolitical situation and outlined measures taken to ensure adequate supplies of petroleum products, including LNG and LPG, as well as fertilisers.

According to the statement, procurement sources for LPG have already been diversified, while stocks and supplies of major petroleum products remain adequate.

It said sufficient availability of crude oil has enabled Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) refineries to operate at utilisation levels exceeding 100 per cent, ensuring uninterrupted production of petrol, diesel and other petroleum products.

The government has also accelerated the expansion of Piped Natural Gas (PNG) connections, resulting in a substantial increase in subscriptions. It is simultaneously promoting industrial substitution of LPG through the expansion of the National Gas Grid, augmentation of LNG import and regasification infrastructure, wider City Gas Distribution networks, and time-bound approvals for pipeline and last-mile connectivity under the Pipeline Infrastructure Order, 2026.

"During the meeting, requirements for fertilisers for the ensuing Rabi season were assessed, and alternative sources of supply were also discussed. The Prime Minister directed that all necessary measures be taken to ensure uninterrupted availability of fertilisers," the statement said.

The safety of Indian seafarers serving on domestic and foreign-flagged vessels operating in conflict zones also came up for discussion. Modi directed the ministries concerned to establish a mechanism for providing timely information, emergency assistance and counselling to seafarers and their families.

The prime minister also stressed that every effort must be made to safeguard Indian citizens and the diaspora from the fallout of the conflicts. He called for greater emphasis on renewable energy, including solar power and other non-fossil fuel sources, to strengthen India's long-term energy security.

Modi underscored the need for a "whole-of-government" approach to address the challenges arising from the crisis and directed that a unified coordination mechanism be established to monitor developments regularly and ensure swift implementation of measures to protect national interests, the statement said.

The ministers presented updates on steps taken by their respective ministries to ensure uninterrupted imports of essential commodities, including petroleum, natural gas and fertilisers.

Sources said the prime minister also issued directions aimed at safeguarding Indian citizens, protecting the country's economic interests and mitigating disruptions to global supply chains.

Before the US-Israel conflict with Iran, nearly 40 per cent of India's energy imports passed through the Strait of Hormuz. With the conflict continuing, India's energy imports from West Asia have come under increasing pressure.

Last week, Yemen's Houthis movement announced that it would target Saudi oil tankers attempting to transit the Bab al-Mandab Strait

and subsequently attacked several vessels.

The Bab al-Mandab, which links the Red Sea with the Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Sea, is one of the world's most critical maritime trade and energy corridors, much like the Strait of Hormuz.

According to available data, shipping traffic through the Bab al-Mandab has already declined, with an average of 31 vessels crossing daily over the past three days compared with 43 vessels a day during the first half of July.

Meanwhile, imports of Russian crude via the Black Sea have also come under strain as fighting in the Russia-Ukraine war has intensified, with several merchant vessels reportedly attacked in recent days.

India imports more than 88 per cent of its energy requirements and relies heavily on overseas supplies of fertilisers. Nearly one crore Indians live and work across West Asia.

Why a Kashmir

the Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee had already flagged as unlawful.

The dispute traces back to a written complaint filed on June 5 by Dr. Raja Muzaffar Bhat, who chairs the J&K Climate Action Group.

Bhat asked the Pollution Control Committee to examine the Ohangam site, and the committee's divisional office in Budgam sent an inspector within days.

What that inspector found, laid out in a report dated June 11, described a location almost perfectly wrong for its intended purpose.

The report placed the site roughly 125 meters from a school and 200 meters from human habitation, with the nearest house standing just 120 meters away. Orchards surrounded it on every side.

Waste, the inspector wrote, was already being dumped along the roadside of the Ohangam-Rathsun-Soibugh road, a route that links several villages and carries daily traffic.

Stray dogs roamed the grounds, drawn by the smell, and the inspector warned they posed a risk to children walking to and from school.

The odour itself had become strong enough to make the road difficult to use, the report said, creating what officials termed a public nuisance.

Armed with those findings, the Regional Director of the Pollution Control Committee issued a formal notice on July 6 to the Assistant Commissioner Panchayat in Budgam and the Block Development Officer in Rathsun, demanding they explain why legal action should be withheld.

The notice gave both officials 15 days to respond and instructed them, in direct language, to halt the disposal of waste at the site immediately.

Anything short of a credible response, the notice stated, would make further action all but certain.

That deadline came and went. Instead of a written explanation, residents say they got nighttime construction crews.

Locals now accuse the Block Development Officer's office in Rathsun and the Assistant Commissioner's office in Budgam of enabling a project the Pollution Control Committee had explicitly ordered stopped, and doing so by scheduling the work when oversight would be thinnest.

The episode lands amid a broader design across Jammu and Kashmir, where waste management infrastructure, urgently needed as towns and villages generate more refuse each year, keeps colliding with the Municipal Solid Waste Rules of 2016 and protections under the Water Act of 1974.

Sites meant to solve one problem often create another when they land too close to schools, water bodies, or homes, and Ohangam appears to fit that pattern closely: canals for irrigation border it, a school sits nearby, and the surrounding land is planted with orchards that feed local households.

Bhat, whose original complaint set the process in motion, said he raised the nighttime construction directly with the Regional

Director, Safeer Hussain, and came away with a promise of consequences.

"The official assured me to take stringent action against the culprits including the RDD contractor," Bhat said.

The activist framed the dispute in blunt terms, describing a public space surrounded by water, a school, and orchards, and accusing the Rural Development Department of pushing to spend allocated funds regardless of the legal cost.

Bhat said he intends to bring the case before the National Green Tribunal and will seek compensation on behalf of the Ohangam panchayat.

What happens next will test whether a written notice from a pollution regulator carries any real weight against a department determined to finish what it started.

For the families living within a few hundred meters of the site, the question is not abstract.

It is the smell on their road, the stray dogs near their children's school, and the fear that construction finished under cover of night will prove far harder to undo in daylight.

SC Refuses

guns, you will have to challenge that very provision," Justice Bagchi remarked, describing the petitioners' prayer for a complete ban as "vague" since it did not challenge the underlying regulations.

The court issued notices to the Centre and the Inspector General of Police, RAF, on the petition filed by former Central Information Commissioner and retired IPS officer Yashovardhan Azad, along with two injured protesters, Prashant Kumar and Sheikh Irshad Mansoori.

The bench also directed the Delhi government to ensure the best possible medical treatment for the injured petitioners.

Appearing for the petitioners, senior advocate Vrinda Grover argued that the case specifically concerned the use of metallic pellets, which were allegedly recovered from the bodies of the injured protesters. She submitted that no standing order of the Delhi Police authorises the use of pellet guns and urged the Centre to place any such regulations on record.

The court said it was willing to examine whether the use of pellet guns in the July 20 protest was justified under the "graded response" framework governing crowd control.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta assured the bench that the government would extend full cooperation and preserve all material required for the investigation, including ammunition records.

The petition alleges that RAF personnel used tear gas, lathi charge and metallic pellet ammunition without prior warning during the 'Sansad Chalo' march called by the Cockroach Janata Party (CJP), causing serious injuries, including damage to the eyes of several protesters.

The petitioners have sought a nationwide ban on metallic pellet ammunition for dispersing civilian assemblies, arguing that such weapons are inherently incompatible with constitutional standards governing the use of force and violate the principles of necessity, proportionality and reasonableness under Article 19(1)(b) of the Constitution.

2016 Pellet Victim

"Justice delayed but not denied. Insha Mushtaq lost her eyesight to pellets in 2016; her LPG distributorship was sanctioned in 2018 but left incomplete.

"Under HCM @OmarAbdullah, we've approved release of the Rs 41.16 lakh balance to finally take this case to its logical conclusion," the minister said in a post on X.

Insha, a resident of Shopian district in south Kashmir, lost her eyesight after she suffered pellet gun injuries during the unrest in the Valley in the aftermath of the killing of then Hizbul Mujahideen commander Burhan Wani in 2016. (PTI)

CM Omar Reviews Development Projects, Public Issues in Ganderbal

Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday undertook an extensive tour of Ganderbal district, holding a series of public engagements and chairing a review meeting to assess the progress of key developmental projects and obtain a first-hand account of issues affecting the district.

Beginning his visit, the Chief Minister inspected the ongoing construction of the New Bus Adda Road, a vital infrastructure project expected to significantly ease traffic congestion in the area. Stressing the importance of timely completion, he directed the executing agencies to expedite the pace of work so that the road could be dedicated to the public at the earliest.



During the inspection, the Chief Minister was accompanied by his Advisor Nasir Aslam Wani, Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal Jatin Kishore, Chief Engineer, Roads & Buildings Department, and other senior engineers and officials associated with the execution of the project.

Later, the Chief Minister chaired a review meeting to take stock of the progress of major development initiatives and deliberate on long-pending public issues in the district. The meeting focused on road connectivity, irrigation infrastructure, flood protection measures, sewerage facilities, solid waste management, land acquisition and other critical projects aimed at improving public service delivery.

The meeting was attended by Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Commissioner Secretary, Housing & Urban Development Department Man-deep Kaur, Managing Director, J&K State Power Development Corporation, Deputy Commissioners of Srinagar, Ganderbal and Bandipora, Director Tourism Kashmir, Chief Engineer R&B, Chief Engineer Irrigation & Flood Control, Secretary J&K Sports Council, district officers and other senior officials. The outstation officers attended the meeting via video conferencing.

At the outset, Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal presented a detailed overview of the district's priority development issues requiring urgent government intervention. He highlighted the need to expedite land acquisition for several road widening projects and the approach road to the Paribal-Takanwari bridge, to strengthen irrigation canals and power canal embankments, improving road connectivity to the Central University of Kashmir, development of tourism infrastructure and a Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) at Manasbal.

Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal also raised issues relating to the rehabilitation of shopkeepers displaced due to the widening of Ring Road Phase-II, construction of strategic link roads, establishment of an Integrated Solid Waste Management Plant, besides several other people-centric initiatives aimed at enhancing infrastructure and public services across the district.

EOW Files Chargesheet against Four in Cooking Oil Fraud Case

SRINAGAR: The Economic Offences Wing (EOW), Kashmir, of the Crime Branch Jammu and Kashmir has filed a chargesheet before the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Srinagar, against four accused persons in connection with an alleged 15 lakh cheating case involving the promise of supplying cooking oil through a non-existent company.

The chargesheet has been filed in FIR No. 77/2022 under Sections 420 and 120-B of the Indian Penal Code against Mohammad Amin Bhat of Khanyar, Srinagar; Khalid Hussain Khan of Gasiyar Hawal, Srinagar; Anil Kumar Maheshwari of Jaipur, Rajasthan; and Shashank Kumar of Meerut, Uttar Pradesh.

According to the EOW, the case originated from a complaint alleging that the accused induced the complainant to deposit 15 lakh as a security amount for the supply of cooking oil. They allegedly represented that M/s Assured Agro Food Industries was a manufacturer of cooking oil and assured that the stock would be delivered within a week. However, despite receiving the money, no stock was supplied.

During the investigation, the EOW found that the accused had allegedly acted in conspiracy to cheat the complainant on the pretext of supplying mustard oil. Verification with the Registrar of Companies, Rajasthan, revealed that no company by the name of M/s Assured Agro Food Industries was registered. [KNT]

Landslide near Akchamal Shuts Kargil-Leh Highway

KARGIL: Traffic on the Kargil-Leh National Highway (NH-1) remained suspended on Thursday after a massive landslide triggered by heavy rainfall blocked the road near Akchamal in Kargil district.

Officials said heavy rain caused a large volume of mud, rocks and debris to slide onto the highway, completely blocking vehicular movement along the strategic route.

Road clearance operations have been launched, with men and machinery pressed into service to restore connectivity. However, traffic will remain suspended until the debris is cleared and the highway is declared safe for movement.

Authorities have advised commuters and transport operators to avoid travelling on the Kargil-Leh highway until further orders and to check the latest traffic updates from the concerned authorities before undertaking any journey.

The closure is expected to affect the movement of passengers and essential supplies between Kargil and Leh until restoration work is completed. [KNT]

DC Rajouri Reviews Flood Restoration Works

RAJOURI: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abhishek Sharma today chaired a meeting to review the progress of temporary restoration works on infrastructure and public assets damaged during the recent flash floods. The Deputy Commissioner directed all departments concerned to submit accurate and comprehensive damage reports, ensuring no asset is reported more than once, with every report supported by geo-tagged photographs for transparency and verification.

Stressing durable restoration, the DC directed the departments to maintain the highest quality standards and adopt long-term solutions rather than repeated temporary repairs. He expressed concern over recurring proposals for temporary restoration of the same projects and asked the officers concerned to examine such cases carefully. To minimise the impact of future disasters, he instructed the departments to undertake plantations at vulnerable and erosion-prone locations as a preventive measure. The Public Works Department was directed to conduct structural safety audits of all major bridges affected by the floods and ensure repair works meet technical standards. The DC also directed all departments to expedite restoration while adhering to the prescribed guidelines. (Observer News Service)

Kashmir Witnesses Bumper Crop of Almonds This Year

Press Trust of India

SRINAGAR: Kashmir has witnessed a bumper crop of almonds this year due to favourable weather conditions.

"We are fortunate that the weather this year was very favourable so far as almond cultivation is concerned. In previous years, weather factors led to reduced production. But by God's grace, favourable weather this year resulted in good production," Riyaz Ahmad Shah, Chief Horticulture Officer Pulwama, told PTI.

He said the almond growers are satisfied that this year, comparatively, there is a significant increase in production compared to the last two or three years.

"However, their demand is that the Agriculture and Horticulture Departments should give as much attention to almond farming," he said.

Shah said timely advisories to orchard owners by the horticulture department also helped the farmers in improving the produce of the almonds.

"We ensured they received technical advice on time regarding recommend-



ed practices from the Agricultural University. We communicated details about timely pesticide sprays and fertiliser application. All these factors, combined with the hard work of the almond orchard owners, contributed to this success, and they deserve the credit," he added.

Ghulam Mohammad Bhat, an almond grower, said the produce has improved this year compared to last year, but the yield has been gradually decreasing over the past three decades.

"The yield of almonds was very high in Kashmir earlier. I remember very well that from Awantipora, Tral, Beerwah, to Mattan and the Karewa area around there were only almond trees everywhere. Around 20 to 25 truckloads of almonds were sent daily from here to out-

side markets," Bhat said.

He said almonds from Pulwama used to go to Delhi, Kolkata and Chennai for further distribution all across India.

Bhat said climate change has drastically affected the almond crop over the years.

"The weather became unpredictable; sometimes droughts occurred, and sometimes there were heavy rains. The weather lost its natural balance, and the biggest impact of this was on the almond trees," he said, adding that the almond trees began to dry up due to dry spells and intense heat that reached up to 36 degrees Celsius.

The farmers shifted their attention to other crops like apples, which flourished, he said.

Bhat claimed that there was neglect from official stakeholders, which led to a shrinking of land under almond cultivation.

"The field staff of SKUAST or the horticulture department never visited the villages to advise farmers on how to manage these almond orchards, unlike the way they currently focus on apple farming," he claimed.

Procedure Can't Override Welfare Objective: CAT On Compassionate Appointment

KO Correspondent

SRINAGAR: Observing that compassionate appointment is a welfare-oriented measure intended to provide immediate relief to the dependents of deceased employees, the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) on Thursday held that procedural formalities cannot override the humanitarian purpose of the scheme.

While allowing a plea filed by 25-year-old Najam-us-Saqib, a Bench of M.S. Latif (Member, Judicial) quashed the rejection of his claim for compassionate appointment and directed the authorities to reconsider his case within eight weeks. The Tribunal ordered that a reasoned and speaking order be passed, treating his case on the same footing as other similarly situated beneficiaries.

According to the pleadings, the youth's mother, an Assistant Supervisor in the Office of the Accountant General, Jammu and Kashmir, died while in service on March 24, 2022. Following her death, the family nominated the applicant for compassionate appointment. However, as per the plea, his claim was reject-

ed by the authorities in April 2023 on the ground that the family had received terminal benefits and was drawing a monthly family pension.

After examining the record, the Bench found that the rejection failed to take into account the family's actual financial condition, including the presence of two unmarried daughters and the dependency of the family members. It also noted that the authorities could not justify why similarly situated families had been granted compassionate appointments while the applicant was denied the same benefit.

The Tribunal emphasized that compassionate appointment is "a welfare-oriented extension to merit-based recruitment ensuring relief to dependents of deceased employees," and underlined that the procedural formalities cannot override the humanitarian purpose of the scheme and that sympathetic consideration deserves to be given to such cases.

The Tribunal further held that the Compassionate Appointment Scheme stands apart from direct recruitment and, when implemented with

Narrow Gauge Train Services Between Pathankot and Baijnath Paprola to Resume from Today

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Northern Railway's Jammu Division has announced the restoration of narrow gauge train services on the Pathankot-Baijnath Paprola section from July 31 after operations were disrupted due to heavy rainfall.

According to an official statement issued by the division, all narrow gauge trains that were operating before June 2, 2026, will resume regular services. The restored services include Train Nos. 52473/52472, 52465/52467 and 52470/52474.

However, railway authorities said that Train No. 52464 oper-

ating from Baijnath Paprola to Jawalamukhi Road and Train No. 52469 running from Jawalamukhi Road to Baijnath Paprola will remain temporarily cancelled on July 31 due to operational reasons.

The Railway administration has advised passengers to verify the latest train schedules and operational status through the official Railway website or the National Train Enquiry System (NTES) app before starting their journey.

Northern Railway expressed regret for the inconvenience caused to passengers during the disruption and assured that efforts have been made to restore normal services at the earliest.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
MECHANICAL AND HOSPITALS
DIVISION SRINAGAR
(Tele-fax No: 019-2496089, e-mail id: exen-mechospsg@jk.gov.in)

Subject:- Comprehensive Maintenance Contract (CMC) for Thyssenkrupp make lift installed at IPD SMHS Hospital Srinagar

Ref :- This office NIT No: M&HDS/TS /2026-27/24/e-tendering Dated: 17.06.2026

CANCELLATION

In view of no response, the above referred e-NIT floated for above subject work is hereby cancelled.

No: M&HDS/TS/2645-48
Dated:30.07.2026
DIPK-3929-26
DT: 30/07/2026

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Mechanical & Hospitals Division,
Srinagar.

HEALTH & MEDICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE, ANANTNAG
COLLEGE CAMPUS, DIALGAM ANANTNAG J&K-192210

Subject: Engagement of candidate for the post of Clinical Staff for Casualty Bed on academic arrangement basis under S.O-364 of 2020, dated: 27.11.2020 in Government Medical College, Anantnag.

References: - Adv. Notice No. 05 GMCA of 2026, dated: 09.03.2026.

ORDER NO: 553 GMCA OF 2026
DATED: 30/ 07 /2026

Pursuant to the selection list issued vide Notification No. GMCA/Estt./Rec./2026/ 4755-59, dated: 20-05-2026 the below mentioned candidate who has submitted his Personal Verification Rolls (PVR) through online mode to the Criminal Investigation Department qrs. and upon receipt of the same vide Form No. 161007, dated: 25-07-2026 is hereby engaged as Clinical Staff for Casualty Bed on Academic Arrangement Basis under S.O -364 of 2020, dated: 27.11.2020 in Govt. Medical College Anantnag for a period of one (01) year, extendable upto 06 years (on yearly basis subject to the satisfactory performance) or till such posts are filled up by the competent authority on regular basis, whichever is earlier.

S. No.	Name of the candidate	Father Name	Address	Category
1.	Muhammad Aarif Bhat	Gh Muhammad Bhat	Herpora Paniwah Kulgam	OM

The above-mentioned selected candidate is directed to join GMC Anantnag at main campus Dialgam within a period of 21 days from the date of publication of this engagement order and shall be allowed to join on production of following documents/testimonials in original for verification.

- Essential Qualification Certificate(s).
- Marks Certificate(s) of Essential Qualification.
- D.O.B. Certificate.
- 10th /12th Marks Sheet.
- Registration Certificate.
- Domicile Certificate.
- Category Certificate.
- Health Certificate.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- In case the selected candidate(s) fails to join within a period of 21 days from the date of publication of this engagement order, it will be presumed that the said candidate(s) is/are not interested and his/her engagement shall be cancelled ab-initio.
- If the candidate(s) is/are found guilty of impersonation or submitting fabricated or tempered documents/testimonials or making statement which are incorrect /false or suppressing material information shall render such person liable for legal action under law and his/her candidature shall be cancelled. In case such a defaulter is traced after selection, his/her contract shall be terminated.
- The candidate(s) shall have to submit an affidavit duly attested by the Judicial/ 1st Class Magistrate to the effect that: -
 - That in case any adverse report about Qualification, Date of Birth, Marks Certificates, Reserved Category certificate, Domicile Certificate etc, if any, is received from the concerned authority, I shall have no right to claim my engagement as such & shall be deemed to have been cancelled ab-initio. I will not also claim for any dues from GMC Anantnag as well in that case.
 - I shall not claim for any regular appointment in the department.
 - I will not participate in any kind of strike during my tenure.
 - I shall remain disciplined during my tenure of service in the institute.
 - I am not involved in any criminal/subjudice activity nor there is any FIR/ Court Case pending/registered in the Police Department/ Court of Law against me.
 - I have fully understood the terms, conditions and nature of my engagement in GMC Anantnag on academic arrangement basis and will not claim for any regularization/extension after completion of the term (beyond 06 years) or at any point of time.
- The engagement is purely on temporary basis for a period of one year on academic arrangement basis or till posts are filled on regular basis, whichever is earlier. However, the services of the engaged person shall be terminated in case his/her performance is not satisfactory/ upto the mark.
- The contractual engagement shall not confer any right on the appointee to claim extension or for regular appointment at any point of time.
- The above engagement shall be subject to the outcome of the writ petition, if any, pending before the Hon'ble court of law.
- The salary of the engaged candidate(s) shall be kept withheld and shall be drawn/dispursed only after the receipt of verification report of documents/ testimonials from the concerned quarters.

No. GMCA/ Estt. /2026/ 6809-12
Dated: 30/07 /2026

DIPK-3894-26
DT: 30/07/2026

Prof. (Dr.) Junaid S Wani
Principal
Govt. Medical College, Anantnag.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT INFORMATION OFFICER KULGAM
Ph. /Fax; 01931260032 Email: dioinf-kulgam@jk.gov.in

SHORT TERM QUOTATION

For and on the behalf of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir, short term quotations are invited from experienced vendors/firms/ service providers for Hiring, Installation and Operation of Public Address/DJ System (as service) which must cater audience of 6000 (six thousand) persons for Independence Day Celebrations-2026 including the Full Dress Rehearsal to be held at District Police Lines, Kulgam. The terms and conditions are given below:

- The tenders/quotations in sealed envelope should reach this office by or before 10.08.2026 till 04:00 PM during working days personally or through representative or registered post. The bids shall preferably be opened in presence of bidders or their representatives at 04.00 pm on the said date.
- The rates should be quoted in figures as well as in words without cutting and shall include GST and any other tax as applicable under rules. Incomplete/conditional quotations in any respect will be rejected.
- Adequate and high quality PA/DJ System alongwith necessary backup shall be made available and installed by the vendor at the venue on 12.08.2026 and operated smoothly on 13.08.2026 during Full Dress Rehearsal and 15.08.2026 for the main Independence Day function.
- The labor, transportation, refreshment for labor, etc required during transport, installation, operation, etc. of the PA/DJ Systems shall be arranged by the vendor on own expenses.
- The vendor must ensure proper power/Genset backup and there shall be zero tolerance for any malfunction.
- The quality of sound output must be superior and aimed at both cultural programme and speech. Any deviation on this ground shall be deemed as non delivery of service and treated accordingly.
- No tenders shall be entertained after the last date i.e., 10.08.2026, 04:00 PM under any circumstances.
- The payment to the vendor shall be subject to the satisfactory job performance and availability of funds in the relevant Head.

For any clarification, the interested parties may contact on Ph.No. 01931260032 on working days during office hours within the stipulated time.

No: INF/DIC/Kul- 111-112/2026
Date:30-07-2026

DIPK-3926-26
DT: 30/07/2026

District Information Officer
Kulgam

Iran Says Missile Strike Wipes Out Three US F-35s in Jordan

Agencies

TEHRAN/WASHINGTON: Iran on Thursday claimed it had destroyed three US F-35 stealth fighter jets and severely damaged three more in a ballistic missile strike on Jordan's Al-Azraq (Muwaffaq Salti) Air Base, marking one of its boldest alleged attacks on American military assets since the conflict erupted.

In a statement carried by state broadcaster IRIB, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) said its Aerospace Force fired several ballistic missiles at aircraft deployment ramps and maintenance hangars housing US F-35s. The IRGC claimed three fighter jets were "completely destroyed" while three others suffered heavy damage. It also alleged that several US officers and technical personnel were killed in the strike.

The attack, according to Tehran, was retaliation for an overnight US airstrike on Iran's Qeshm Island that allegedly killed a family of three, including a child, after bombs struck two homes in the Chah Tangu neighbourhood. Two children were reported injured, while two others survived.

Addressing "the honorable and discerning people of Jordan", the IRGC thanked Jordanians for what it described as support against the American military presence and declared that its campaign would continue until "the last American occupier is expelled from Islamic lands".



"The region is no place for a child-killing army that massacres innocent families in their sleep," the statement said.

The latest strike comes amid an escalating cycle of attacks between Washington and Tehran. Iran has launched repeated missile and drone assaults under Operation Nasr 2 and Operation Sa'eqeh (Lightning) after accusing the United States of violating the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding and expanding attacks on southern Iran.

Hours earlier, US Central Command (CENTCOM) announced that it had conducted a large wave of strikes against IRGC targets inside Iran at around 10 p.m. ET on July 29, describing the operation as retaliation for attempted Iranian ballistic missile attacks on US forces a

day earlier.

As the battlefield intensifies, political pressure is mounting in the United States.

A new Associated Press-NORC poll found that nearly two-thirds of Americans believe the US-Israel war against Iran has not been worth fighting. The survey, conducted between July 23 and 27 during a brief lull in hostilities, found overwhelming opposition among Democrats and independents, while even 37 per cent of Republicans said the war was not worthwhile.

The poll also showed President Donald Trump's approval rating slipping to around 33 per cent, adding to growing domestic unease over a conflict that continues to widen across the Middle East.

Thousands Break Into Spain from Morocco

AP

CEUTA (SPAIN): Thousands of migrants streamed into the tiny Spanish territory of Ceuta from Morocco on Thursday, prompting local officials to call on Spain to declare a national emergency and send the army to restore the frontier.

Spain's interior ministry said it would guarantee the safety of citizens and the integrity of the nation's border, but that the government could not declare a national emergency over migration concerns.

Video footage showed crowds of people, mainly Moroccans, walking around the breakwaters at Tarajal beach onto local roads. While the majority appeared to be young men, there were also

families with women and children. "Viva España!" some shouted to a freelance photographer working for The Associated Press.

Spain is a main point of arrival into Europe for migrants seeking better economic opportunities or an escape from violence in their home countries.

The escalation at the border between Spain and Morocco comes after a surge in migrants attempting to reach the small exclave, mainly by swimming.

The scenes of people streaming across the frontier recall the border crisis of May 2021 when more than 8,000 migrants poured into Ceuta in just two days.

Juan Jesús Vivas, the head of Ceuta's regional government, called for the na-

tional government to declare a national emergency on grounds of national security, asking for more police and for the army to be deployed on the border.

Vivas said the additional police and soldiers would be necessary "to guarantee the inviolability of the frontier and citizen safety."

He had warned on Wednesday that migrant reception centers were overwhelmed with hundreds of people sleeping on the streets.

The interior ministry said that legislation covering a declaration of national emergencies does not consider migration flows as a risk to national security.

Government administrations are "coordinating to respond with speed and efficacy to the situation in Ceuta," it said.

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, KASHMIR

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Corpus: ₹51.8L, Invested: ₹12.0L, Money grows to 4.3x (20 Years)

Corpus: ₹97.5L, Invested: ₹15.0L, Money grows to 6.5x (25 Years)

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