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Power Bills To Go Up?

J&K Utilities Seek 5% Tariff Hike



Observer News Service

Srinagar: Electricity consumers in Jammu and Kashmir could see higher power bills in the coming financial year, with the Union Territory's two power distribution utilities proposing a five per cent hike in tariff across all consumer categories for 2026-27.

The Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) and Jammu Power Development Corporation Limited (JPDCL) have submitted separate petitions before the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (JERC) for J&K and Ladakh, seeking a five per cent increase in the basic tariff.

The proposed revision is subject to the Commission's approval, with JERC having already conducted public hearings on the petitions and expected to take a final call on the

matter.

In their petitions, the utilities said they had proposed a five per cent tariff revision across the board, along with the J&K government's commitment towards subsidy support. They have requested the Commission to determine subsidised tariffs in accordance with applicable laws and tariff regulations.

Alongside the proposed hike, KPDCL and JPDCL have sought rationalisation of the existing tariff structure, proposing to reduce the number of tariff categories from 13 to eight and sub-categories from 47 to 22.

The utilities said the restructuring was proposed in compliance with the Revised Results Evaluation Framework of KPDCL under the policy and structural reforms component relating to tariff rationalisation.

The proposed increase, however, has | [More on P6](#)

J&K Heads Into Another Wet Spell, MeT Warns Of Intense Showers

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Rain lashed parts of Kashmir on Saturday as the Meteorological Department forecast more showers and thunderstorms across Jammu and Kashmir over the coming days, with heavy to very heavy rainfall likely in a few districts of the Jammu division.

Srinagar recorded a maximum temperature of 26.1 degrees Celsius, 3.8 degrees below the seasonal average, while the minimum settled at 19.5 degrees Celsius. The city received around 2 mm of rainfall in the 24 hours till 5.30 pm.

The weather office said light to moderate rain or thundershowers are likely



Photo : Abid Bhat

at many places on August 9, with brief intense showers possible at a few locations.

Between August 9 and 11, light to moderate rain and

thundershowers are expected at most places across Jammu and Kashmir. Heavy to very heavy rainfall is likely at a few districts of Jammu division,

while brief intense heavy showers are possible at a few places in Kashmir division.

The department has forecast another spell of unsettled weather from August 12 to 17, with light rain and thundershowers likely at many places and brief intense showers possible at a few locations.

Jammu recorded a maximum temperature of 30.5 degrees Celsius, 2.4 degrees below normal, and received 4 mm of rainfall in the past 24 hours till 5.30 pm. Katra recorded 7 mm of rainfall, while its maximum temperature settled at 27.2 degrees Celsius.

The weather department has advised people to remain cautious, | [More on P6](#)

Amarnath Yatra Suspended From Today

Observer News Service

The Amarnath Yatra-2026 will remain suspended from August 9 on both the

Pahalgam and Baltal routes due to recent rains, the need for repairs at vulnerable stretches of the pilgrimage tracks and the forecast of adverse weather

over the next few days, officials said on Saturday. Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Anshul Garg said the decision was taken after assessing | [More on P6](#)

Constructive Approach To Centre Eroded My Political Capital: CM

Calls UT With An Assembly An "Abomination", Says Elected Govt Lacks Control Over Key Institutions

Says Prolonged Delay In Restoration Of Statehood Has Fuelled Public Disappointment

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Saturday expressed deep frustration over the delay in restoration of statehood to the Union Territory, saying the prolonged

wait had fuelled public disappointment and eroded his own political capital.

In an interview with journalist Karan Thapar for The Wire, Abdullah said his initial strategy of building a constructive working relationship with the Union government, in the hope of securing an early restoration of statehood, had severely affected his political credibility among local constituents.

"I put a huge amount of my own political credibility at stake for this. I know for a fact that I've eroded a large part of it," | [More on P6](#)

Leadership Is About Service, Humility, Honesty: LG

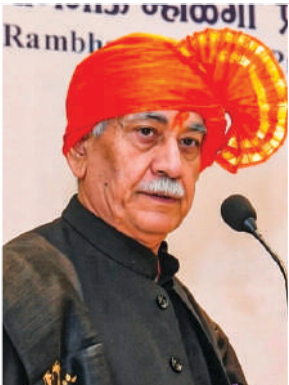
Urges youth to turn demographic dividend into leadership dividend

Observer News Service

Mumbai: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday addressed the convocation of the ninth batch and induction ceremony of the 10th batch of the Indian Institute of Democratic Leadership (IIDL), an initiative of Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini, and called upon young leaders to uphold honesty, humility, ethics and public service.

Addressing the graduating students, the new batch, faculty members, mentors and parents, Sinha said leadership was about understanding people, creating new paths for them and serving them with humility and honesty.

He outlined four essential principles of democratic leadership, saying honesty and transparency form the foundation of trust, knowledge and wisdom guide decision-making, sensitivity helps maintain balance in democracy, and public service remains the highest duty of



leadership.

"The strength of democracy lies in Constitutional values, institutions and in those leaders who are committed to the values of honesty, humility, and public service," he said.

Sinha said institutions could gain strength only when they were infused with ethical leadership. Without ethical leadership, even strong institutions could weaken over time, while honest and accountable leadership could turn ordinary institutions into

engines of change and nation-building, he said.

He congratulated the ninth batch graduates and welcomed the 10th batch, expressing confidence that the institute would continue to equip young leaders with constitutional values, discipline and wisdom.

Highlighting the contribution of Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini since its establishment in 1982, Sinha said the institution had trained more than 60,000 parliamentarians, legislators, panchayat representatives, entrepreneurs and youth in leadership and capacity building.

He said India's future depended on addressing seven key challenges, including sustaining long-term economic growth, eliminating terrorism and separatism, strengthening transparent and technology-driven governance, ensuring merit-based opportunities in politics, promoting national integration, achieving | [More on P6](#)

Online Terror Glorification, Recruitment

CIK Conducts Valley-Wide Raids

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: he Jammu and Kashmir Police's Counter Intelligence Kashmir (CIK) wing on Saturday conducted raids at multiple locations across the Kashmir Valley in connection with a case involving alleged online glorification of terrorism, radical content and recruitment into terrorist ranks, officials said.

The raids were carried out in Kupwara, Baramulla, Budgam, Anantnag, Shopian and Bandipora in connection with an FIR registered at Police Station CIK, Srinagar, under Sections 505 and 153-A of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Sections 13 and 18 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

During the operation, a suspect identified as Siraj Nabi Parray, a resident of Archanderhama in Magam, Budgam, was detained, officials said.

According to officials, the CIK scrutinised social media activity and identified an account



allegedly being operated by Parray that was disseminating radical content of a potentially extremist nature.

They said various posts, images and other digital material found on the account allegedly carried radical and anti-national overtones.

The material allegedly included radical narratives, glorification and projection of individuals associated with terrorism, propagation of extremist viewpoints and content that could influence or radicalise impressionable persons, officials said.

The suspect was subsequently produced before an Executive Magistrate 1st Class, where proceedings | [More on P6](#)

NRI Flies 11,000 Kilometres From Canada After His Home In Kashmir Goes Dark

Power, water and security systems vanished from a newly built house in Tral, drawing its owner home from Toronto and raising larger questions about how overseas Kashmiris protect property from thousands of miles away.

Haziqah Showkat

Srinagar: The lights had stopped working by the time Zahid walked through the house in Tral one July evening.

Water had stopped flowing, the security cameras that watched the gates had disappeared, and utility lines had been removed in broad daylight only a short walk from the local police station.

Standing alone inside the dark house, the caretaker picked up his phone and called its owner, Mohamed Yusuf Butt, more than 11,000 kilometres away in Toronto.

Within days, Butt, a 69-year-old Canadian citizen of Kashmiri origin, booked a flight home.

Canadian authorities had advised against travel to India. Butt came anyway.

He landed in Delhi on July



22, continued to Srinagar, and travelled straight to Pulwama district, determined to understand why a house he had built after more than three decades abroad had suddenly fallen silent.

The property in Tral Payeen represented far more than an investment. Butt spent about 1.5 crore building it, buying materials from local businesses and employing local workers. He holds a Canadian passport,

an Overseas Citizen of India card and an Aadhaar card listing the Tral address. The house marked the place where he planned to spend longer visits and, one day, return for good.

Instead, it became the centre of an increasingly bitter dispute.

Much of that dispute appears in WhatsApp messages exchanged between Butt and Arshad Bhat, an electrician known to the family who worked on the property.

"You have trespassed into my property and removed stuff. This is huge violation," Butt wrote. "I am afraid I will have to file an FIR."

Arshad rejected the allegation and replied that Butt still owed him 26,000 from work completed the previous year. He accused Butt of failing to honour their agreement. Butt

answered that payment had already been made to another contractor who completed the work.

The exchange soon turned hostile.

Messages referred to court proceedings, imprisonment, cancellation of licences and financial damages. One message told Butt to "wait and watch."

While the dispute unfolded on phones, conditions at the property continued to worsen.

According to Butt and Zahid, electricity remained disconnected for days. Water stopped flowing, and internet service also failed. Zahid described repeated threats and eventually left the property after basic services disappeared.

Butt approached the local police station and also brought the matter to the attention of the district's | [More on P6](#)

Manasbal's Waters In Peril As Sewage, Waste Take Toll

All 7 CPCB samples fail Class-B standard; faecal contamination raises concerns over water quality

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The water quality of Kashmir's famed Manasbal Lake has come under serious scrutiny after a Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) assessment found that none of the seven samples collected from the wetland and adjoining water sources met the prescribed Class-B standards.

The findings, submitted before the National Green Tribunal (NGT), point to significant faecal contamination, untreated wastewater inflow and poor solid waste management around the lake, raising concerns over the health of the wetland

and people dependent on its waters.

The CPCB conducted the assessment on April 4, 2026, along with officials of the J&K Pollution Control Committee and the Wullar-Manasbal Development Authority (WMDA), following directions from the NGT in a case filed by environmental activist Raja Muzaffar Bhat.

Seven samples were collected from four locations in Manasbal Lake, two natural springs along its periphery and the Lar Canal, which flows into the wetland.

According to the report, none of the samples met Class-B criteria prescribed for organised | [More on P6](#)



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2

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD(R&B) DIVISION ANANTNAG

Email: xen-pwdnbanantnag@jk.gov.in

Phone and Fax: 01932-222221

CANCELLATION

Subject: Cancellation of NIT No 48 (Item 04, 05 & 06):

- Construction of Tile path at PHC Marhama for Doctors Quarter.
- Upgradation of BMO Office Building at Veeri.
- Construction of Compound walling Along with Gate and approach road for NTPHC Waghama.

Ref: NIT 48 OF R&B/Anantnag/2026-27 /E-TENDERING/4140-49, DATED 17-07-2026.

Due to administrative reasons, the subject cited works which were tendered vide this Office above referred NIT are hereby Cancelled.

No. 5366-70
DIPK-4322/26

Dated: 08-08-2026

Executive Engineer,
R&B Division Anantnag.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD(R&B) DIVISION ANANTNAG

NIT NO 62 OF R&B/Anantnag/2026-27 /E-TENDERING/ 5296-305 DATED 06-08-2026

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K e-tenders are invited on %age basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs in Lacs)	Cost of T/ Doc.(in Rs)	Earnest Money (In Rs)	Time of Completion	Major Head of Account	Class of Contractor
1.	Construction of HWC at Panchpora (Medical Block Bijbehara).	49.06 Lacs Contract Price exclusive of GST: 41.58 + (18% GST Amount 7.48)	1100	98120/-	01 Year	District Capex Budget (Health UT)	AAY & BEE Class Only
2.	Restoration of Flood Damaged Boundary Walling at FPF K-05 Anantnag (Phase -I)	24.45 Lacs Contract Price exclusive of GST: 20.72 + (18% GST Amount 3.73)	800	48900/-	90 Days	Capex Budget 2026-27	BEE, CEE & MSME's Class Only

Project Authority : 1. District Development Commissioner Anantnag.

2. Forest Protection Force J&K.

Position of AAA : 1. Accorded vide Order No. 302 – DDCA of 2026, Dated 05.07.2026.

2. Accorded vide Order No. 261 – DFPF of 2026, Dated 21.07.2026.

Position of TS : Accorded.

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

S. No.	Particulars	Dated		
1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	06-08-2026		
2.	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 07-08-2026 To 14-08-2026	(10:00 AM) (04:00 PM)	
3.	Bid submission Start Date	From 07-08-2026 To 14-08-2026	(10:00 AM) (04:00 PM)	
4.	Bid Submission End Date	To 14-08-2026	(04:00 PM)	
5.	Date and time of opening of bid(online)	15-08-2026 (10:30 AM)		
in the office of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Anantnag.				

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

2. All the Bidders have to submit Earnest Money/Bid Security (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG. Non submission of Earnest Money/Bid Security shall render the bidder as No-responsive.

3. The 1st lowest responsive (Successful) Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Anantnag (Tender receiving authority) within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released 60 days after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work. The date of Performance Security (CDR/FDR/BG) should be after the date of issuance of letter/LOI to deposit the performance security. Failure to produce Performance Security shall render the LI as non-responsive and case for debarring of the Contractor be forwarded to Higher Authorities for a period of 01 Year.

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

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

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

7. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.

8. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.

9. Scanned copy of cost of tender document in the shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Anantnag (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) and EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Anantnag must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The Original Treasury Challan (Cost of Tender Document), EMD and other relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of the Contract.

10. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually.

11. Price escalation and taxes: The %age quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees, shall be deemed to include price escalation upto completion of the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.

12. Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.

13. All other terms and conditions are as same as laid in PWD Form 25.

(Er. Mohammad Waseem)

Executive Engineer,

R&B Division Anant-

nag

DIPK-4320/26 dated: 08-08-2026

Subject:- Grant Of Registration of the Proposed Travel unit under the name & Style "M/S Stateside Room Tour & Travels Situated at Ogmuna Karhama

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas I, Mr. Nazim Ahmad Rather S/o Sonaulah Rather R/o Ogmuna Karhama Baramulla intend to apply in the Department of Tourism for registration of my proposed travel unit under the name & style of "M/S Stateside Room Tour & Travels Situated at Ogmuna Karhama 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: dtregl23@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.

bmg

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Gowhar Ahmad Wani, F/o Hawa Fariel Gowhar, R/o Waniyar, Safa Kadal, Srinagar, hereby inform the general public that I intend to change the name of my daughter from Haiza Gowhar to Hawa Fariel Gowhar in the Municipal records.

Henceforth, she shall be known and recorded as Hawa Fariel Gowhar for all purposes. Any person having any objection to the said change may raise the same before the concerned authority within the prescribed period.

Gowhar Ahmad Wani
F/o Hawa Fariel Gowhar
R/o Waniyar, Safa Kadal, Srinagar
Mob: 7006431576

inf

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE FOR CHANGE OF NAME IN ELECTRICITY CONNECTION
Notice is hereby given to the general public that the electricity connection bearing Consumer ID: 0204020013940, presently registered in the name of Reyaz Ahmad Beigh S/o Ghulam Mohammad Beigh, is proposed to be transferred/changed in the name of Nighat Jan, as per her valid identity documents.

Any person having any objection to the proposed change of name/transfer of the said electricity connection may submit his/her objection before the concerned Power Development Department (PDD) within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. After expiry of the stipulated period, no objection shall be entertained.

Applicant:

Nighat Jan

Place: Srinagar

Date: 8-8-26_____

inf

از غیابت پہلوان

مضمون درخواست نمائید فاطمہ بیگم زوجہ مرحوم غلام ہذا و ساکنہ تپا پوری پورہ تحصیل چٹن براہوہول فرمائے حکم بہایت حاصل کرنے ذمگی سر تقیٹ یقن مرحوم غلام ہذا و

اشہار برادر گاہی بر خاض و عام

مندرجہ عنوان الصدور میں ایک درخواست برادر عطاء یقن ذمگی سر تقیٹ یقن کو بدفعہ خاض میں زیر کردانی ہے ساکنہ کا شوہر مرحوم غلام ہذا و ساکنہ تپا پوری پورہ 1999-27 کو فوت ہو چکا ہے لہذا اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو سر تقیٹ یقن زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ چاروں کے اندر دفتر ذمگی چٹن کریں۔ معیا گزرنے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

تقریر الصدور

نائب تحصیلدار fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that in School record the Date of Birth of my daughter AYMAN FAYAZ is entered as 10-03-2014 while her actual Date of Birth is 13-11-2011. Now i want its correction, in this regard if anybody having any objection may contact Office of the Principal Govt, Boys Middle School Kremshore with in a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that.

FAYAZ AHMAD BHAT

F/O AYMAN FAYAZ R/o KREMSHORE BUDGAM

mcb

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Necessary Correction/change in address in data to the License No.JK-0420070000049 issued in favour of KHALID SHAFI Parentage MOHAMMAD SHAFI Whereas an application has been recieved by one KHALID SHAFI Parentage MOHAMMAD SHAFI wherein he claimed that the Fathers Name has been wrongly recorded in the records of Driving Licenses as M. SHAFI SHEIKH Which needs to be changed as MOHAMMAD SHAFI.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any in this regard shal reach in written in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office Budgam within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper.After expiry of stipulated time no objection will be entertained.

Assistant Regional Transport officer

Budgam Kashmir

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Gh Mohd Mir, S/o Khazir Mohd Mir, R/o Khumbir Hazratbal, Srinagar, do hereby inform the general public that my Registration Certificate (RC) bearing Registration No. JK01E-9161 has been lost/misplaced.Despite my best efforts, the same could not be traced.

If anybody finds the above-mentioned document, they are requested to kindly return it to the undersigned. In case no objection is received within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, I shall apply for issuance of a duplicate RC from the concerned authority.

Gh Mohd Mir

Khazir Mohd Mir

Mobile: 9596573500

Media line advt

PUBLIC NOTICE

it is hereby notified for the general public that my name has been wrongly recorded as Nassir ahmad tantray instead of Nisar Ahmad Tantry in my aadhaar card bearing number 9345 9903 0501.

i have applied for the correction/rectification of my name to Nisar Ahmad Tantry. any person having any objection regarding this correction may file it in writing before the concerned Aadhaar centre/authority within seven days from the date of publication of this notice.

Nisar Ahmad Tantry S/o Mohmad Sumander Tantry

R/o Gund Brath Sopore baramulla j&k 193201

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that I ISHFAQ SULTAN BHAT S/O MOHD SULTAN BHAT applied for fresh, DEE (D) class contractor card, if Any body having any objection regarding the same they may submit their objection written to the Chief Engineer Civil investigation wing JKPDC, Bemina Srinagar within a period of 7 days from the date of this notice. No objection will be entertained after that.

ISHFAQ SULTAN BHAT

S/O MOHD SULTAN BHAT

R/O SHOPRI BAGH BUDGAM.

mcb

THE JAMMU A KASHMIR BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION SUB OFFICE KULGAM PUBLIC NOTICE

I have passed/appeared in SSE/HSE-II (Class 10th) under Roll No. 104004060 Session Oct-Nov-2025 Year 2025 through The Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education. The error committed by the Haji Alam ud din Public School D.H. Pora against my Mother's Name as Mahmooda Akhter (Instead of) Summy Jan.

Now I have applied for correction/ rectification of error in 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. Sub office Kulgam, 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 be receded as under: -

Name: AYMAN NISAR
Father's Name: NISAR AHMAD BHAT
Mother's Name:- SUMMY JAN
Date of Birth:- 04-04-2011
Residence:- KOUSEBAL
Mobile No. 7889963293



PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to the General public that my name .parantage and Date of Birth (DOB) in my Aadhar Card bearing Aadhar No :- 2093 5281 1324 has been wrongly mentioned as Nawaz Sharief Pandith .S/O.Shareef Ud Din Pandith DOB 01.01.1992 instead of Tawsid Ahmad Pandith S/O. Sharief Din Pandith and DOB is 01.04.1990 .Now I am applying for its Correction as per School recard and Birth Certificate bearing Reg No- B202601052380000239 .if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may contact the same in the office of the General Manager Ranbir Govt Press Jammu within a period of seven days from the publication of this notice. No objection will be entertained after expiry of stipulated period.

Tawsid Ahmad Pandith S/O. Sharief Din Pandith

R/O :- Langate, Tehsil :- Langate Dist :Kupwara .

Post Office:- Langate Pin Code:- 193302 J&kashmir

FKO

اطلاع عام

بر خاض و عام کو ذر بر اشہار مطلع کی جاتا ہے کہ مجھے اپنے بچل انکے برست زیر کتن برمرنبر 0206010008738 کو کہ میرے والد کے نام پر یعنی بچل انکے برست کے نام پر ہے۔ اب اس کو کہ میرے نام پر اشتقاقی عہد کے نام پر کروانا مطلوب ہے۔ اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سراسر دن کے اندر اندر ایک نوکیلیہ اخبار پر ذی ذی بذ گام کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ معیا گزرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

مشتاق احمد ذر دلعل محمد

ساکن عیادہ مغلہ بذ گام۔

فون 788938912 MBC-

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Abdul Hameed Ganie, Father of Ahsaan Ahmad Ganie, R/o Hardu Surash, Tehsil Khag, District Budgam, J&K, hereby declare that the name of my ward in his Aadhaar has been wrongly recorded as "Assan Ahmad Ganie" instead of his correct name "Ahsaan Ahmad Ganie".

Further, his Date of Birth has been wrongly recorded as 09/04/2014 instead of the correct Date of Birth 09/08/2014. The correct particulars are duly supported by his school records and Birth Certificate.

I have no objection to the correction/update of his Aadhaar records accordingly. Any person having objection may raise the same before the concerned authority.

Abdul Hameed Ganie

Father/Guardian of Ahsaan Ahmad Ganie

R/o Hardu Surash, Tehsil Khag, District Budgam, J&K

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 Khaipora has submitted case file pertaining to birth of Mohammad Ishaq Lone S/o Ghulam Rasool Lone R/o Khargam Tehsil Pattan having verified the date of birth as 15-11-1992 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

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my driving licence bearing dl no: JK05 20250005123 as Younis Rafiq Dar S/o Mohd Rafiq Dar while my correct name as per adhaar card is Younis Rafiq S/o Mohammad Rafiq Dar .now I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned ARTO within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Younis Rafiq S/o Mohammad Rafiq Dar

R/o Palpora Pattan

fko

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

The registrar birth BDO Sherabad Khore has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Fehmeeda Parveen D/ Mohd Sabir Loan R/o Hanjiwera Bala. The date of birth as per school record is 01/01/1969 . In this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

fko

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Nazir Ahmad Parray S/o Ghulam Nabi Parray, R/o Hardushoora, District Baramulla, J&K, hereby inform the general public that I have lost/misplaced my Passport on 02/02/2026 at Hardushoora.

The details of the lost passport are as follows:

Name: Nazir Ahmad Parray

Father's Name: Ghulam Nabi Parray

Address: Hardushoora, District Baramulla, J&K

Passport No.: K574384

Date of Issue: 16/05/2012

Date of Expiry: 15/05/2022

Date of Loss: 02/02/2026

Place of Loss: Hardushoora

Despite making all possible efforts, the said passport could not be traced.. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the PASSPORT OFFICE Srinagar within seven days.

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Imran Nazir Ganaie S/o Nazir Ahmad Ganaie, R/o Malpora Sangram, Tehsil Kunzer, District Baramulla, J&K, do hereby declare that I was born on 15-05-2008 at home and that my birth has not been registered with the Office of the Registrar, Births & Deaths, Block Kunzer.

I intend to register my birth with the concerned authority and seek issuance of my Birth Certificate. I shall be personally responsible for any incorrect information furnished by me.

Imran Nazir Ganaie

S/o Nazir Ahmad Ganaie

R/o Malpora Sangram, Tehsil Kunzer, District Baramulla

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Bashir Ahmad Bhat S/o Abdul Jabar Bhat, R/o Kralawat, Tehsil Kunzer, District Baramulla, J&K (UT), being the father/ guardian of my ward Bhat Arsalan Bashir, hereby declare that his name has been wrongly recorded in his Aadhaar Card No. 2291 8902 5591 as "Arsalan Bin Bashir" instead of his correct name "Bhat Arsalan Bashir", as per his Birth Certificate.

Both names refer to one and the same person. The error is inadvertent, and I have requested the concerned authority to correct/update the Aadhaar record accordingly. Any person having any objection may approach the concerned authority within the prescribed period.

Bashir Ahmad Bhat

Father/Guardian of Bhat Arsalan Bashir

R/o Kralawat, Tehsil Kunzer, District Baramulla

fko

نمبر شمار	نام و محل ولادت	تاریخ درخواست	نمبر	پیش	سال آمدنی
محمد یوسف مله	والدہ ساکان	38	سال	500000	
نظیر باکو	والدہ ساکان	35	سال	نمبر ملک	
نور حسین	مال خود	17	سال	نمبر زمین	
فکرت حسین	والدہ ساکان	15	سال	نمبر زمین	
عنان علی	ساکن	08	سال	نمبر زمین	
علی رضا	ساکن	20	سال	نمبر زمین	

Generations Unite at Makhdoom Sahib (RA) Urs

Agencies

Srinagar: All roads lead to-wards Koh-e-Maran on Sat-urday as thousands of devo-tees gathered at the historic Makhdoom Sahib Shrine in Srinagar to mark the Urs Mubarak of revered Sufi saint, "Sultan-ul-Arifeen" Hazrat Sheikh Hamza Makh- doom (RA), popularly known as Makhdoom Sahib (RA).

The city wore a different rhythm through the day, as

Urs is not simply an annual religious gathering but a tra- dition passed from one ge- neration to another.

"I have been coming here since I was young. Earlier, my father used to bring me. Now I bring my children," Zahoor Ahmad, a devotee in his 70s, told KNO.

Another devotee, Mukhtar Khan from Budgam said the annual gathering had become a part of his fam- ily's life. "We wait for this



men, women, children and elderly devotees made their way towards the shrine.

The usual bustle of Sri- nagar's markets and old-city lanes was joined by groups of devotees heading towards Koh-e-Maran, some with families, some with friends and many elderly devotees who have been making the annual visit for years.

For several families, the

day every year. You meet people here, offer prayers and remember Makhdoom Sahib. It gives you a different kind of peace," he said.

With prayer beads in their hands and skull caps on their heads, elderly men slowly made their way through the crowds, while children walked alongside their parents and grandparents.

Mega Tiranga Rally From SKICC to Botanical Garden on August 12

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Principal Secre- tary Culture Department, Brij Mohan Sharma and Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg jointly chaired a compre- hensive meeting at the Tourist Reception Centre (TRC) to review and final- ize arrangements for the mega Tiranga Rally sched- uled to be held from SKICC to the Botanical Garden on August 12 and the Inde- pendence Day celebration at Bakshi Stadium.

During the meeting, the Principal Secretary directed the concerned departments to put in place innovative and theme-based arrange- ments to enhance public partici- pation and patriotic fervour during the Tiranga Rally.

Brij Mohan Sharma called for installation of theme-based selfie points at SKICC and the Botanical Garden to encourage partici- pants to capture and upload photographs. He also direct-

ed deployment of NCC vol- unteers to facilitate partici- pants at these selfie points.

The Principal Secretary directed the Roads & Build- ings (R&B) Department to undertake theme-based col- ouring of tree trunks along the rally route, while the Srinagar Municipal Cor- poration (SMC) was asked to install the National Flag on electric poles along the route.

He further directed to sensitize participants about adherence to the National Flag Code and called for or- ganizing a Shikara Tiranga Rally in Dal Lake as part of the celebrations.

Principal Secretary also reviewed plan for setting up theme-based stalls and exhi- bition at SKICC. He directed the concerned departments to ensure attractive displays and effective public engagement.

Brij Mohan Sharma also reviewed arrangements for cultural programmes, band performances and the felicitation of VVIPs, war widows and war heroes.



SKIMS SFC Meeting Govt Pushes SKIMS Towards Quaternary Healthcare, Centre of Excellence

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Marking a significant ad- ministrative milestone and providing a fresh impetus to long-pending de- velopmental initiatives, the Standing Finance Committee (SFC) of Sher-i-

Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura, met after a gap of over five years under Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, setting a clear vision for trans- forming the premier medical institution into a quaternary healthcare facility and Centre of Excellence in the region.

The last meeting of the Standing Finance Committee had been held in August 2021. The revival of the high- level financial and administrative mechanism is expected to accel- erate critical infrastructure projects, strengthen institutional capacities and provide a renewed roadmap for the fu- ture growth of SKIMS.

The meeting was attended by Shailendra Kumar, Financial Com- missioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Finance; M. Raju, Commissioner Sec- retary, Health & Medical Education;

Prof. (Dr.) Mohd. Ashraf Ganie, Direc- tor, SKIMS & EOSG; Prof. (Dr.) Fazal Q. Parray, Principal, SKIMS Medical College, Bemina; and a representative of the Planning Department.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Secretary called upon the SKIMS administration to set a higher institu- tional benchmark by transforming the institute into a quaternary healthcare facility and a Centre of Excellence for medical institutions across the region.

He assured that the Government would extend all possible support to SKIMS for upgrading its capa- cities in super-speciality healthcare, advanced medical technologies, medical education and cutting-edge research, in line with the original mandate and vision behind estab- lishment of the premier institution.

The Chief Secretary stressed the need for an all-round transformation of patient-care services, with SKIMS adopting the latest technologies, treat- ment protocols and medical practices evolving globally.

He maintained that the institute

has to be several notches higher in its approach, infrastructure and facilities to meet the emerging healthcare re- quirements of the region, emphasizing that the institution must continuously benchmark itself against the best na- tional healthcare facilities.

He directed the SKIMS adminis- tration to prepare a comprehensive roadmap for strengthening patient care, infrastructure, equipment, hu- man resources and specialized ser- vices, with the objective of ensuring that patients from Jammu and Kash- mir do not have to travel outside the region for advanced and highly spe- cialized treatment.

The Chief Secretary further em- phasized strengthening SKIMS as a Centre of Excellence in medical edu- cation and research, particularly in ar- eas such as cancer and other diseases of growing prevalence in the region. He called for greater focus on research- driven healthcare solutions and cre- ation of a pool of highly skilled medi- cal professionals capable of addressing emerging health challenges.

RASM E CHARUM

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform our relatives, friends, and well-wishers that our beloved mother, Mrs. Taja, passed away on 7th August 2026 and left for her heavenly abode.

The **Rasme Charum** will be observed on **Monday, 10th August 2026**, at our ancestral graveyard at: **Rustum Hiri, Malatang, Dalgate, Srinagar**
Time: 9:30 AM

All relatives, friends, and well-wishers are requested to join us in offering prayers for the departed soul.

May Allah grant her the highest place in Jannat-ul-Firdous and give the bereaved family strength and Sabr. Ameen.

Gul Reyaz Ahmad
Shahid Lateef
Feroz Ahmad
Contact:
9906733172
700635115

Govt. Of Jammu & Kashmir (U.T) OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD(R&B) DIVISION VALLOO

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

NIT No.34/4439-48 of R&B/Vailloo/2026-2027/e-tendering DATED:07/08/2026

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory J&K e-tenders (In Single cover system) are invited on %age basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works.

S. No	Name of Work	Approved Amount (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc.in form of Treasury challen / Re- ceipt (in Rs.)	Earns st Mone (2% of Adv. Cost)(in Rs.)	Time of completion	Project Intend- ing Department	Class of Contractor	Major Head of account
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Construction of 2 No 3 Meter culvert at Chinar Chowk Shangus and kharmohalla middle School Including Drain behind the SDH Shangus	29.017	1100	58034 180 Days	PWD	AAY/BEE Class and MSME's only	District Capex	
2	Upgradation of road from Hiller to Dehruna		29.127	1100	58254 180 Days	PWD	AAY/BEE Class and MSME's only	District Capex
3	Construction of R Wall drain at Gohan Ziyarat Sharif		19.808	800	39616 90 Days	PWD	BEE/CEE Class and MSME's only	District Capex

Position of AA: Accorded

Position of TS: Accorded

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

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	07.08.2026		
2.	Period of Downloading of bidder documents.	From 07.08.2026	05.00 pm	
3.	Bid submission Start Date	From 07.08.2026	05.00 pm	
4.	Bid Submission End Date	To 19.08.2026	04.00 pm	
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	20.08.2026 at 11.00 A.M	in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Vailloo	

1. Bids must be accompanied with a Receipt of cost of Tender document/Tender Fee deposited in a Centralized Designated Pooling Bank Account bearing No. 0470010200000099 (Division Name, NIT No. and Item No or Name of Work to be mentioned in the remarks of the Receipt and Receipt of EMD (2% of advertised Cost) shall also be deposited in a Centralized Designated Pooling Bank Account bearing No. 0470010200000099 (Division Name, NIT No. and Item No or Name of Work to be mentioned in the Remarks of the Receipt. (The Date of receipt of EMD and Tender Fee should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date). The same EMD/Tender Fee receipt should not be used in more than one Tender/Bid.

2. The Earnest money amount of the successful Bidder shall, upon completion of the bidding process be transferred from single Central- ized Designated Pooling Bank Account to Performance Security Deposit Head on Authorization from HoD during the currency of contract agreement including defect liability period. In addition, the differential amount of performance security shall be furnished by the Bidder in cash to the designated Authority. Failure to produce differential amount of Performance Security shall render the LI as non-responsive and case for debarring of the Contractor for a period of 01 Year be forwarded to Higher Authorities..

3. Only those contractors are eligible for taking part in the bidding process whose contractor registration card is enrolled online on the JKPW- DOMS portal and the Proof of that needs to be uploaded with this bid mandatorily.

4. Note: a) MSME's are required to pay only 50% of tender document fee or Rs 500/- whichever is lower.

b) MSME's are required to pay only 50% of the amount of EMD/Bid security or Rs 5000/- whichever is lower.

c) The registration card/MSME card (which is uploaded) should be online available on JKPWDOMS portal.

d) Only those MSME's shall be considered responsive who shall have the domain of construction activities with regard to various civil works/ build- ings/ similar work in their certificate of incorporation/ registration (UDYAM) and should be updated on the said website.

5. The Advertised is cost is inclusive of GST@18%. The bidder has to quote the rate exclusive of GST.

6. Security Deposit shall be deposited by the contractor within 10 days of issuance of LOI, failing which the concerned tender

7. The contractor shall initiate the work within 10 days of entering into the agreement, failing which the undersigned shall terminate the contract and issue a fresh tender after imposing penalties viz forfeit security/LD as per T&C of the Bid document and recommend contractor for blacklisting.

8. The work shall be completed by the concerned contractor as per the timeline stipulated in the bid document/agreement, failing which ac- tion shall be initiated against contractor by forfeiting EMD and shall be recommended for blacklisting.

9. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division vailloo (tender receiving authority).

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

11. The earnest money shall be forfeited, if-

a. Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.

b. Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.

c. Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

i. The tender / bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in NIT.

22.0 All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form)

-
DIPK-4294/26

dated: 08-08-2026

Sd/-
Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Vailloo

14TH EDITION

MASHQ-E ARBA'EEN

FINAL DAY

Art Talk SACRED SPACES

Conversations on Art, Faith and the Relevance of Ashura & Arba'een in the 21st Century.

Celebrating the journey of Mashq and its growing space for young artists.

Appreciating children and young minds for their emotional and spiritual expressions.

Presentations on the relevance of Ashura & Arba'een in the 21st Century.

Certificates of Participation will be awarded.

This Mashq will continue to inspire the younger generation through future Workshops and Exhibitions, spreading the message of Imam Hussain (AS) and paying tribute to the Martyrs of Karbala.

25 ARTISTS OF ALL AGES

50+ STUDENTS FROM SCHOOLS

Kashmir's Disasters Are Engineered

A retired general's blunt diagnosis: the valley's disasters trace back to engineering failures passed off as bad luck, and to a government that treats infrastructure as a political priority only when crisis strikes.



Lt Gen. R. S. Reen

The monsoon hits Jammu & Kashmir the same way it always does. Clouds gather over the Pir Panjal, a cloudburst tears open a hillside, and within hours the valley becomes a scene of ruin. Homes standing for generations collapse into mud. Cars get pulled off roads and smashed against rocks. Officials count bodies, open relief camps, and hand out promises of land for new houses. A week later, the cameras leave, the bureaucracy exhales, and residents are told to hold on for a better future, one that supposedly hinges on Delhi finally settling the union territory's constitutional status. Call this what it is: not a weather emergency but a failure of engineering standards, sustained by decades of administrative excuse-making. J&K was never built for careless construction. Its valleys run narrow, its rivers move with glacier-fed force, and its slopes sit on unstable ground. Generations of residents understood this. They built on ridges, kept drainage channels open, and let riverbeds do their job during heavy rain. Modern development has thrown that knowledge out. Hotels, concrete houses, and roads now crowd floodplains and natural drainage paths. Walls rise where water needs to

move. Riverbeds narrow under rubble and unchecked ambition. When the rain comes and finds no outlet, it crashes through doors and windows, and officials act stunned. They shouldn't be. Collapsed buildings and drowned vehicles are the predictable outcome of construction permitted in zones that should have been off-limits from the start. Politicians bear real responsibility here. Land deeds get handed out in exchange for votes, with no engineering survey behind them, drainage plan, or safe road access. Relief payments and rehabilitation packages meet an immediate human need, but when they substitute for real structural change, they solve nothing. A family gets a new plot on the same unsafe ground their old house stood on, and the cycle resets for the next disaster. Then there's the second excuse, arguably more damaging than the first: the claim that drainage systems, flood alerts, and river-bank protection will improve once J&K's political status gets resolved, whether that means continued Union Territory rule or a return to statehood. This is a dodge. Clearing a storm drain before monsoon season, designing a bridge to hold a hundred-year flood load, testing concrete before it goes into a retaining wall: none of that depends on who signs off in Srinagar versus Delhi. These are technical and managerial tasks rather than constitutional ones. Telling residents to wait for political clarity while their drains fill with garbage and their rivers fill with concrete is a failure of basic governance paraded as patience. Having spent years as Director General of Quality Assurance in the defense sector, I recognize this failure immediately. In defense work, a faulty component gets pulled before it costs a soldier's life.



The next monsoon will hit on schedule. Whether it finds cleared riverbeds and inspected buildings, or the same unchecked construction that killed people last year, is a choice officials are making right now. Waiting for constitutional clarity has never cleared a single drain.

Civilian infrastructure in J&K operates by no such standard. A badly mixed concrete pillar, a bridge built with no hydrological study, and a road cut with no slope stabilization become death traps the moment a cloudburst hits. Nobody removed them beforehand because nobody was checking. What the valley needs is a Quality Assurance and Disaster Resilience Authority with real enforcement power rather than another advisory panel. This body should inspect materials, certify construction in vulnerable zones only after a proper risk assessment, and hold contractors accountable when they cut corners. Roads through landslide-prone terrain should have real culverts and slope retention instead of just fresh asphalt. Building on un-

stable slopes or marked floodplains should stop, regardless of who's applying political pressure to allow it. The fix demands remote-sensing surveys of every valley and floodplain to map encroachments, followed by the actual removal of structures blocking natural drainage rather than endless negotiation over timelines. Families displaced by this process should get planned resettlement with drainage, sewerage, roads, and electricity built in from the beginning rather than another risky plot on a different unstable hillside. Where engineers do need to channel water, they should design for peak flow capacity using real infrastructure instead of rubble walls thrown up in a panic. None of this is theoretical. Countries with comparable mountain terrain manage these risks routinely. J&K isn't short on technical knowledge. It only lacks political will and institutional discipline. Local panchayats, engineers, and residents who know which hillside slides and which nullah floods should drive mitigation plans directly, working alongside government rather than waiting on it. The next monsoon will hit on schedule. Whether it finds cleared riverbeds and inspected buildings, or the same unchecked construction that killed people last year, is a choice officials are making right now. Waiting for constitutional clarity has never cleared a single drain.

The author is a graduate of REC/NIT Srinagar and a former Director General of the Directorate General of Quality Assurance under the Ministry of Defence. He is currently an advisor to Bharat Electronics Limited, and can be reached at rsinghreen@gmail.com

The Ice We Forgot to Count

More than 2,000 glaciers have been mapped across the region, revealing a water reserve already under sustained pressure.



Dr. Tariq Abdullah

A colleague wrote here recently about the ledger Kashmir refuses to read: the glaciers, forests, wetlands and soils that keep the region's economy running while nobody counts them. I want to pull one line item out of that ledger, the one I spent years measuring myself: Glaciers. Everybody in Kashmir holds an opinion about glaciers, but almost nobody has looked at the numbers. Let me share some. Start with a question that sounds like settled fact: how much ice does Kashmir actually hold? The major global inventories, RGI, GAMDAM, ICIMOD, disagree with one another on area, elevation range, and even glacier count for the same valley. My colleagues and I built our own inventory a couple of years ago, mapping ice by hand off Landsat imagery and checking it against field surveys. We counted 2,096 glaciers spanning the Jhelum, Suru and Chenab basins, covering roughly 3,300 square kilometres. Here's what surprised people: the Jhelum basin, the part most Kashmiris mean when they say "Kashmir," contains only 154 of those glaciers and about 86 square kilometres of ice. Most of the region's glacial mass sits farther east, in the Suru and Chenab basins. Kashmir's water security rides on a genuinely modest ice reserve, and that reserve keeps shrinking. Take Kolahoi, the largest glacier in the valley and the source of the Lidder River, which feeds the Jhelum. Trekkers photograph it from Aru and Pahalgam without knowing what they're looking at. We measured it directly on the ground for five years, drilling stakes into the ice and digging snow pits over multiple field seasons, and found it losing about 0.83 metres of water-equivalent thickness annually between 2014 and 2019. Satellite estimates stretching back to 2000 tell a similar story, close to a metre a year. Compared with other glaciers in the western Himalaya, Kolahoi ranks among the worst performers. Losses accelerate in some years and slow in others, but the long-term trend only moves one direction.



Outburst-flood risk throughout the Himalaya keeps climbing, and Kashmir's glacial terrain sits inside that danger zone.

Zoom out to the entire Upper Indus Basin, and the picture turns more uneven. A study covering more than 12,000 glaciers found an average thinning speed of about 0.35 metres a year between 2000 and 2012, adding up to a cumulative loss near 70 billion tonnes of ice in just over a decade. That average conceals real geography. The Pir Panjal range, Kashmir's southern wall, lost ice nearly five times faster than the basin average, around 1.7 metres a year. The Karakoram, farther north, barely moved, statistically close to stable. Glaciologists call this split the "Karakoram

anomaly," and it means treating "Himalayan glaciers" as one uniform system makes little sense. Kashmir's mountains sit on the losing side of that divide. Something skipped almost entirely, because it isn't visible from a road or trekking trail: rock glaciers. They look like ordinary rubble slopes, but underneath the rock sits ice, sometimes centuries old, insulated and creeping downhill at its own pace. Inside the Jhelum basin alone we inventoried 240 of them, covering about 41 square kilometres, and roughly three-quarters remain active, still holding and moving ice rather than sitting as dead relics from a colder past.

Together they store something close to 0.7 cubic kilometres of water. As clean-ice glaciers keep retreating toward higher, colder ground, these debris-covered systems become a larger share of what remains. Nobody currently plans water policy around rock glaciers. That omission needs correcting. What worries me more than the past is what the models say comes next. Using projections drawn from thirteen separate CMIP6 climate models, we ran the Jhelum sub-basin's glaciers forward to the 2080s under two different futures. Under a moderate emissions path, close to what the world currently tracks, glacier area shrinks by about 35 percent. Under a high-emissions path, the loss exceeds 55 percent. Streamflow tied to glacier melt drops with it. This is a concrete number for people alive today rather than a distant abstraction for three generations from now. Plenty of people alive right now will watch a large share of that decline unfold. Melting ice also means something beyond less water later: it means new lakes forming behind loose, unstable moraine dams where glaciers once sat, lakes that fail without much notice. A paper on exactly this risk, produced by our group, has just been accepted by the Journal of the Geological Society of India. The published version will include specific figures, but the direction is unmistakable: Outburst-flood risk throughout the Himalaya keeps climbing, and Kashmir's glacial terrain sits inside that danger zone. So where does the ledger stand? Glaciers count as effectively nonrenewable on any timescale that means anything to a farmer, a hydropower planner or a city drawing its drinking water from the Jhelum. Once that ice disappears, it stays gone for a century, maybe several. Wetlands, farmland and forests can theoretically recover if political will shows up, but glaciers hold no comparable path back once they vanish. They simply run down, at a pace only now becoming measurable with real precision. Kashmir keeps building its future on an assumption that water will keep flowing the way it always has, but years of data collection say otherwise. Reading that number now beats discovering it the hard way.

The author is Assistant Professor and Head, Department of Geomatics, Islamic University of Science & Technology, Awantipora, Jammu & Kashmir, and can be reached at tariq.abdullah@iust.ac.in.

A Girl, a Dream, and the Sky

Faiqa Anbreen followed her fascination with physics from Charar-i-Sharief to California, where she now works at the cutting edge of aerospace engineering.



Aashiq Hussain Andrabi

On a California university campus, where research labs run on complex computation and aircraft models dominate screens, a Kashmiri woman focuses on problems that govern flight itself.

Faiqa Anbreen's work belongs to a world defined by precision and imagination, where mathematics turns into motion and theory becomes flight.

Her presence in this space carries meaning beyond professional success, because her journey begins far from these laboratories, in classrooms and homes in Kashmir where science often feels distant and ambition must fight for room to grow.

Her story arrives at a moment when young people in the valley continue to look outward for examples that connect education with purpose. Conversations around careers often circle familiar paths, shaped by caution and expectation. Aerospace engineering rarely enters those discussions, especially when the student imagining it happens to be a girl.

Faiqa's path brings a different picture into view, one built slowly through curiosity, discipline, and sustained effort rather than sudden opportunity.

As a child, physics and mathematics drew her attention early, offering patterns that explained how the world holds together. A televised space tragedy watched in her school years left a deep impression, linking human courage with scientific pursuit and turning distant spacecraft into symbols of possibility.

That moment stayed with her as she moved through school in Charar-i-Sharief and Srinagar, then into engineering studies that demanded long hours and steady focus.



It's very important to have good self-esteem and to keep reminding yourself that you're not alone, and there're other women out there in diverse fields. You've to keep feeling it and be confident that you can compete with men at the same level.

Each step carried her further into a field where abstract equations meet real machines, and where progress depends on patience as much as inspiration.

Today, Faiqa Anbreen's doctorate research combines aerospace engineering with computational mathematics in the United States. Her academic work runs parallel to professional engagement with an international aerospace company serving aviation, space, and defense sectors.

This dual role places her research inside the living system of global aviation, where design decisions travel from computer models to aircraft in the sky. Her experience includes work connected to advanced commercial aircraft, turning years of study into components that fly with passengers every day.

Her presence in this field also highlights a broader reality.

Aerospace engineering remains heavily shaped by men, and women entering these spaces often find themselves standing alone in classrooms and project teams. Faiqa speaks about focusing on learning and contribution, allowing work to speak before identity.

Over time, that approach has placed her in a position where younger students, especially girls from Kashmir, look toward her as evidence that technical ambition can survive distance and doubt.

Despite years spent outside the valley, her connection to home remains active. She engages with networks of Kashmiri scientists and professionals and takes part in student outreach whenever possible. These interactions often turn into conversations about curiosity, parental support, and the importance of allowing children to grow into their interests.

Her reflections resonate in a society where family influence shapes choices early and where encouragement can determine how far a student dares to think.

Her voice also carries relevance in the present moment for global aviation. The industry continues to rebuild and rethink after widespread disruption, and engineers like Faiqa work inside questions that touch speed, efficiency, and future design.

Her academic focus and professional experience place her close to these shifts, giving her perspective weight and immediacy.

In this candid interview with Kashmir Observer, Faiqa Anbreen speaks about her journey from Kashmir to advanced aerospace research, her work within the aviation industry, and her message to young people who continue to dream of futures shaped by science, persistence, and belief.

Please tell us something about your current professional engagements and your academic journey?

Well, I'm a Ph.D. student in aerospace engineering and computational mathematics at California State University and Claremont Graduate University. I also work for Safran as a proposal engineer.

Safran is an international high-technology company catering to aviation, space and defense markets.

I did my initial schooling from Shiekul Alam Islamic Model (SIM) School, Charari Sharief and later on joined Delhi Public School (DPS), Srinagar where I passed my Senior Secondary School Examination.

Both these schools had a constructive role in shaping up who I am today. SIM offered a decent environment to be able to ask questions but DPS offered more resources and a platform to develop a multi-dimensional personality.

Later on, I started my career at Amity University where I finished Bachelors in Aerospace Engineering, and then I came to



TAKING UP AEROSPACE ENGINEERING AFTER CLASS 12 WAS LIKE JUMPING INTO A DARK WELL. I didn't know anyone in this field I could consult, I hadn't checked any statistics. All I was doing was following my instincts and believing in myself. I always focused on the work rather than the difficulties and limitations.

US for Masters at California State University.

Aerospace is one of the toughest engineering streams, how did you get into it?

As a curious child, when someone used to ask me about my career goals, my response would be "a scientist".

When you start learning about great scientists like Isaac Newton and Albert Einstein, it gets quite fascinating to know how they came up with such complicated laws and equations. Only with time, one realizes that it takes an enormous effort and dedication to be a scientist.

I've always been interested in reading about planets, stars, and creation of the universe and would ask teachers questions to which sometimes they wouldn't even have answers.

In 2003, I watched space shuttle Columbia disintegrating on re-entry into the earth's atmosphere. Returning from a space mission, it took precious lives of six astronauts. It may sound counterintuitive that a disaster helped me shape up an idea in my head that I want to become an aerospace engineer.

Kalpna Chawla, the first Indian astronaut, got killed in that accident. Reading her biography has always been exciting. What she studied and how she reached NASA always intrigued me. It was this event that in some way helped me to decide and pursue Aerospace Engineering as a career choice.

But now, all the research I am doing is more motivated by working on something that furthers the aerospace technology and solve some of the unexplored problems of computational fluid dynamics.

Throughout your academic journey, what kept you motivated, focused and energized to keep going?

I feel as humans, we continue to keep finding the meaning of life. There's a curiosity and inquisition that keeps pushing you to know more about this universe and existence. And I consider science feeds to that curiosity within me.

Aerospace is all about physics and mathematics. Those things keep me interested and motivated.

I still sometimes go back to read Class 9 Physics textbook, where we start understanding physics at a detailed level. Physics is at the heart of the whole universe. The manifestations of the subject amaze me, from the order of the universe to the music; it keeps me glued to what I'm studying and what I want to do in the future.

Besides, I have always tried to be well-balanced in everything I do.

Data shows that there aren't many women in this area. So how does it feel to create a niche in a male-dominant field?

Taking up aerospace engineering after Class 12 was like jumping into a dark well. I didn't know anyone in this field I could consult, I hadn't checked any statistics. All I was doing was following my instincts and believing in myself. I always focused on the work rather than the difficulties and limitations.

Now when I look at the number of women in aerospace, I have had situations where I have been the only woman in a group of male engineers doing projects or working with them. This not only inspires me in many ways but also makes me realize that we should

have more women in this field.

When I look back, I don't see many precedents among women to follow from Kashmir but I think there are a lot in the coming generation who have demonstrated enormous interest in the field who look up to me as a precedent. And I try my best to pass on my experiences to whoever approaches me.

Knowing yourself is the beginning of all wisdom. What've you learned about yourself in this journey?

It's certain that we live life forwards but it's amusing that we learn and understand about life backwards.

When we look back at the phases of life we have lived, the reflections of those become the steps of the staircase of experiences we climb on, towards more meaningfulness. It has been a natural progression towards learning about sensitivities and human biases, only after being exposed by living on my own in foreign lands from the last 11 years.

The most important learning that I would like to share is being open to criticism and thank your critics for they are the people who help you in becoming better and bigger.

Taking criticism is very hard and people usually get offended by it, but for me, I've only realized how important feedback is for personal as well as professional growth.

Also, we are unknowingly wrapped up in a number of biases and the whole struggle is to take yourself out of them one by one.

I see life in pieces. For a moment I live in those small pieces. And it's only when you look back, you're able to see what the journey was about.

You said since your childhood days you were keen about giving back to the society. How do you intend to do that now?

Well, my idea of giving back to humanity is to develop faster planes one day. It's one of my core interests.

I'm part of JK Scientists, an NGO run by Kashmiri scientists and professionals all over the world. Also, whenever I'm home, I try to be part of student outreach programs to interact with students and mentor them.

With all the work you've done, are you interested in going up in space one day?

I've always had this dream of traveling to space and wanting to be an astronaut.

But being an astronaut is like one in a million jobs which literally takes a lot of learning and experience to get selected. The work I have done so far is just the stepping stone, but to go to space one day I have a thousand miles to go. For now, it looks like a distant dream, but I will keep dreaming.

What's the biggest challenge you've faced as a woman in aerospace industry?

It's very important to have good self-esteem and to keep reminding yourself that you're not alone, and there're other women out there in diverse fields. You've to keep feeling it and be confident that you can compete with men at the same level.

That's a bit challenging when you talk in general terms but personally speaking, I haven't faced any challenges that I can count on. I've found great mentors and colleagues who I learn from every day and who've always been there to guide me through.

What's the most memorable opportunity you have had as an aerospace engineer?

Well, it was to work as a design engineer for A350 which is the latest Airbus aircraft. I have designed some parts which are flying on-board A350. I cherish that most memorable opportunity.

Any word for people back home?

My interactions with Kashmiri students make me believe that children aren't allowed to pursue their dreams easily, especially girls.

Parents impose their opinions and career choices on their children without considering what talent and interest the child has.

Students should stay persistent with what they want to do in life. They must believe in themselves, and make the people around them believe in their talent. Don't give up easily on your dreams.

For parents out there, I would say believe in your children, empower and guide them by letting them learn on their own by experiencing and exploring.

Family is the one of the most important influences in a child's life and family support plays a significant role in our success as individuals and as members of the society.

Personally speaking, my parents especially my mother always supported me to do what I was passionate about.

For those who want to pursue a career in aerospace, I would say read and familiarize yourself with the field and understand what you are getting into. It is a very vast field and has a lot of opportunities to explore.

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

Rain Fury: Himachal, Kerala Reel from Havoc; Assam Flood Toll Mounts to 98

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Rain fury eased in several parts of the country on Saturday; however, destruction prevailed in its wake, with the death toll in Assam mounting to 98, mobility paralysed with 153 roads blocked in Himachal Pradesh and hundreds in Kerala staying put in relief camps due to damage to houses and roads.

In Assam, more than 1.55 lakh people remained affected by floods, with the toll in this year's deluge reaching 98 with one more fatality, officials said on Saturday.

Even as 13 districts remained affected, the government will, from Sunday, launch an assessment of damage caused by the deluge to expedite release of funds for permanent rehabilitation in the four worst-hit districts in the eastern part of the state.

Marking a four-day streak of showers, the national capital on Saturday recorded its wettest August day in two years, with the month's rainfall total nearly reaching the monthly average in just the first eight days.

With 98.7 mm of rain till 8.30 am, Delhi marked the highest rainfall in August since 2024, when 107.6 mm of rain was recorded on the first day of the month.

Traffic snarls were reported at several stretches across the national capital amid incessant rain, with heavy congestion at the Kalindi Kunj border, ITO, Press Enclave Marg, Geetanjali Marg and Mehrauli-Badarpur Road. Traffic was also affected in parts of east Delhi, including stretches of GT Road.

During the first seven days of August, Delhi recorded 127 mm of rainfall as relentless rain continued to affect the national



capital through Friday. The heavy rainfall on Friday caused widespread waterlogging, increased flow in drains, and numerous reports of wall and house collapses across Delhi.

Friday, which saw the city pounded mercilessly by showers, caused multiple incidents,

including the collapse of a wall at a private parking facility in Deoli, damaging eight vehicles. Additionally, an 18-year-old went missing after being swept away by rainwater while trying to cross a drain in the Priyanka Camp area of southeast Delhi during heavy rainfall.

In Himachal Pradesh, torrential rains have led to the closure of 153 roads, and the Shimla MeT Office issued an 'orange alert' for heavy to very heavy rains at isolated locations in the state on Monday and Tuesday.

According to the State Emergency Operation Centre (SEOC), 77 water supply schemes and 104 transformers were also disrupted as of Saturday morning.

Since the monsoon began on June 30, 65 people have died in rain-related incidents so far, including 14 in landslides and one in flash floods. The state has suffered losses totalling Rs 834 crore, officials said.

The weather department has predicted a wet spell in the state till August 14.

In Kerala, rains prevailed on Saturday, and although floodwaters are receding gradually in many areas, hundreds of people

remain in relief camps as many roads and houses are still flooded.

The Upper Kuttanad and Kuttanad regions of Alappuzha and interior areas of Kottayam district continued to bear the brunt of the flooding, though water levels had started receding at several places, officials said.

Floodwaters were receding only marginally in some areas, and several residents remained stranded or affected as their houses and roads were still underwater.

Major roads, including the Alappuzha-Changanassery road, remained inundated, disrupting traffic in the region. Small boats were being used to ferry people and shift essential belongings from waterlogged areas.

In view of the prevailing rains, holidays were declared for all educational institutions in eight districts -- Kasaragod, Kannur, Wayanad, Kozhikode, Thrissur,

Kottayam, Pathanamthitta and Alappuzha -- on Saturday as a precautionary measure.

Local self-government institutions, revenue officials and elected representatives have been asked to facilitate the evacuation of vulnerable residents to relief camps wherever necessary.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast rain and thundershowers at several locations in western Uttar Pradesh and isolated areas in the eastern parts of the state over the next 24 hours.

Officials have also issued a warning of heavy rain in certain locations in eastern Uttar Pradesh.

A few places in Punjab and Haryana received rain during the day, including Ludhiana, Patiala, Pathankot, Bathinda, Hisar, Rohtak, Bhiwani, Sirsa and Gurugram.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

J&K Utilities Seek

drawn opposition from the industrial sector.

President of the Federation Chamber of Industries Kashmir (FCIK) Shahid Kamili said the chamber had strongly opposed the tariff hike during the public hearing.

"They have proposed a five percent increase in the basic tariff, but we opposed it. How can industries survive when you increase tariffs in the absence of incentives and marketing support from the government?" Kamili said.

The final tariff for different consumer categories will be determined by JERC after considering the petitions, public objections and other relevant factors. (inputs from KNO)

J&K Heads Into

warning that torrential rain and brief intense heavy showers could trigger flash floods and landslides at vulnerable places, besides causing waterlogging in low-lying areas.

Amarnath Yatra

the condition of the Yatra tracks and the weather forecast issued by the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

"In view of the recent rains, a necessity for the repair and maintenance of the Yatra tracks at vulnerable stretches has been felt," Garg said, adding that restoration work was being carried out by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO).

Officials said no fresh Yatra convoy was allowed to leave the Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu on Saturday as a precautionary measure amid rains and inclement weather in Ramban district and parts of Kashmir.

Meanwhile, the 28th batch of 1,202 pilgrims who had completed darshan at the Holy Cave and were staying at the Baltal base camp was allowed to proceed towards Jammu in a convoy of 44 vehicles.

The returning group comprised 867 men, 251 women, one child, 79 sadhus and four sadhvis. The convoy included 28 heavy motor vehicles, one medium motor vehicle, 11 light motor vehicles and four trucks.

According to officials, 3,336 pilgrims performed darshan at the Holy Cave on Saturday. The pilgrims included 2,384 men, 569 women, 21 children, 20 sadhus, six sadhvis, four transgender pilgrims and 332 security personnel.

With Saturday's figures, the total number of pilgrims who have performed darshan during the 2026 Yatra has reached 4,80,019.

The 57-day pilgrimage began on July 3 from the traditional Pahalgam and Baltal routes and is scheduled to culminate on August 28 with the traditional Chadi Mubarak ceremony.

An official spokesperson said the suspension would remain in effect on both routes from August 9 in view of the adverse weather forecast and ongoing track repair and maintenance work.

"The Chadi Mubarak shall proceed via the traditional Pahalgam route and shall mark the culmination of Yatra 2026 on August 28," the spokesperson said.

Authorities have advised pilgrims to follow official advisories and instructions issued from time to time in the interest of their safety and the smooth conduct of the pilgrimage.

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No Charges

itself impose an MDR, the government said in a statement.

If Parliament passes the Taxation and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026, the UPI and Services Steering Committee headed by the National Payments Corp. of India (NPCI) will decide on the MDR, if any, according to the government.

The government said any future MDR would be threshold-based rather than imposed across all UPI transactions, with the "vast majority" of merchant payments continuing to be free.

The proposed framework is aimed at creating a more sustainable revenue model for UPI as transaction volumes surge and the system requires continued investment in cybersecurity, fraud prevention and payment infrastructure, it said.

Unified Payment Interface or UPI has become the world's largest real-time payment system since its launch in 2016-17, processing 2,366 crore transactions worth Rs 29.9 lakh crore in July 2026 alone. The platform is now live in 11 foreign countries, with several others expressing interest in adopting or integrating UPI, the government said.

The statement comes two days after the Lok Sabha passed a Bill to amend the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, which authorises the government to permit banks and other service providers to levy charges on payments

through UPI and other notified electronic payment modes.

"Once the Parliament passes the Taxation and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026, which proposes to amend Section 10A of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, the 'UPI and Services Steering Committee' headed by NPCI will decide on the MDR, if any," it said.

The recent amendment to the Payment and Settlement Systems Act (PSS Act) has generated a debate, with some misinterpreting it as a move to impose charges on ordinary users, it said, adding, in reality, the amendment is an enabling provision designed to ensure UPI's long-term sustainability, technological advancement, and resilience against emerging risks.

Explaining the rationale, the statement said that with exponential transaction volumes, the system requires significant and continuous upgrades in cybersecurity, fraud prevention, and infrastructure.

The statement further said that it was required for market expansion and self-sustainability.

It is necessary to increase competition by encouraging more companies to expand their operations, which requires a self-sustaining revenue model, it said.

Reliance on subsidies alone is not viable for the next wave of growth, it said, adding that a balanced framework is required to ensure that UPI remains robust, inclusive, and future-ready.

Addressing concerns on narratives like external influences may be driving policy changes, the statement said, this is unfounded, completely false and misleading.

If external pressure had been a factor, the government would not have introduced UPI in 2016 or made it free of charge for both merchants as well as citizens since January 2020 and ensured that it became the world's largest real-time interoperable payment system, it said.

The amendment should therefore be viewed in the context of the government's broader objective of ensuring that India's digital payment infrastructure remains sustainable, competitive, innovative and capable of serving the country's rapidly expanding digital economy, it said.

UPI is India's own innovation, and the government remains committed to keeping it free for citizens while ensuring its sustainability for decades to come, it added.

India now stands at the cusp of the next wave of digital payments growth, it said, adding that to expand UPI further into rural and semi-urban areas and maintain competitiveness, the UPI ecosystem must be self-sustainable and affordable.

The amendment to the PSS Act is a forward-looking step to ensure that UPI continues to thrive as a secure, affordable, inclusive, and globally recognised payment system, it said.

Since its launch in 2016-17, the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has transformed India's digital economy into one of the most inclusive and dynamic payment ecosystems in the world, it said.

What began as a bold experiment in real-time, interoperable payments has now become a global benchmark, processing billions of transactions every month and reaching deep into the fabric of everyday life, it said.

Today, it said, UPI has grown into the world's largest real-time payment system, processing 2,366 crore transactions worth Rs 29.9 lakh crore in July 2026 alone. UPI is now also live in 11 foreign countries, and many other countries have shown interest.

UPI is a national achievement built by Indians, for Indians. The government has promoted, funded and grown it for a decade, and will continue to do so.

Citizens are requested to rely only on official information from the Ministry of Finance, the Reserve Bank of India and NPCI, and not to forward unverified messages, it added.

Leadership Is About

global leadership in emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and semiconductors, and building a world-class education system focused on quality, research, innovation and skills.

Sinha urged the youth to turn India's demographic dividend into a "leadership dividend" by building teams, empowering others and creating roadmaps for inclusive growth.

"With more than 65% of India's population under 35, the youth emerged as the nation's greatest strength," he said.

Citing Jammu and Kashmir as an example of governance and public participation, Sinha

said more than 30,000 projects had been completed through public participation since 2020, while Panchayati Raj institutions and digital governance had also been strengthened.

He urged the young leaders to balance tradition with modernity and progress with sensitivity, saying leadership should be driven by innovation, empowered by technology, credible through transparency and humane through sensitivity.

"Your success will not be judged by your position, but by how many lives you changed, how much trust you earned, and how positive an impact you left on society," he said.

Sinha also stressed the importance of dialogue, consensus and inclusion in strengthening public trust in democracy.

He said true leadership should rise above the boundaries of caste, religion and region and treat public welfare as its highest duty.

Online Terror

under Sections 126 and 170 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) were initiated against him.

On the orders of the Executive Magistrate, Parray was remanded to judicial custody till August 17 and lodged in Central Jail, Srinagar, officials said.

Electronic devices and other material were also recovered and seized during the searches. Officials said the digital devices are being examined to ascertain the nature and extent of the alleged online activity.

The examination will also focus on the sources and dissemination of the material, associated social media accounts and contacts, and any possible linkages requiring further investigation, officials said.

The raids were conducted as part of the ongoing investigation into FIR No. 03/2023, registered at Police Station CIK, Srinagar.

NRI Flies 11,000

top police officer, seeking an FIR. Complaint records and correspondence reviewed by this newspaper show that the matter remained pending at the local level.

On July 27, Butt sent another message requesting that police either register the FIR or formally acknowledge receipt of his written complaint. He wrote that he hoped utility services would return before evening. They did not.

By then, the dispute had grown well beyond missing utility lines.

Butt assembled a detailed file containing boarding passes, passport records, Aadhaar documents, photographs, WhatsApp conversations and complaints written in English and Urdu. He personally submitted the material to Vidhi Kumar Birdi, the Inspector General of Police for Kashmir.

His letter described the removal of electricity and water connections, the disappearance of security equipment and the impact on the caretaker.

"I could have made a hue and cry with MOI and MOE," Butt wrote. "But I thought of approaching you so that instant action is undertaken and a criminal case registered against the culprits including their accomplices."

The complaint reached senior police officials within days.

On August 1, the Inspector General's office issued a confidential communication directing the Deputy Inspector General of South Kashmir Range in Anantnag to examine Butt's application and submit a report.

The forwarding note, accompanied by supporting documents, marked the first formal administrative response after weeks of complaints.

The order placed the dispute within the police system and opened the way for further action.

Butt also alleged that an official working in Pulwama shared family ties through marriage with the electrician named in his complaint. He described what he called a "nexus of evil" that sought to pressure an overseas property owner into paying money.

Authorities have not publicly responded to that allegation, and the claim remains unverified.

Arshad, meanwhile, has maintained that the dispute centres on unpaid dues rather than criminal conduct. His messages repeatedly insist that he completed work for which payment remained outstanding.

Those competing accounts now await examination through the official process initiated by senior police.

But the dispute has already reached beyond one house in Tral.

Thousands of Kashmiris living overseas continue to build homes in the valley, hoping to preserve family ties and prepare for longer stays after retirement. Many depend on caretakers, neighbours and local contractors while managing property from distant countries. Physical distance often turns routine disagreements into disputes that prove difficult to resolve without travelling home.

That irony sits heavily over Butt's experience. "The house rose with materials purchased in local markets. Local workers built its walls, installed its wiring and connected its water supply," he said. "Those same systems later disappeared during the dispute."

Despite Butt presenting documents to support his account and senior police officers taking note of the case, the central fact remains: a Canadian of Kashmiri origin flew 11,000 kilometres home after the house he had built for his return suddenly went dark, forcing him to cross an ocean to find out what had happened to the life he had left behind.

7,742 Food Safety

authorities analysed 13,502 food samples in J&K, of which 1,195 were found non-conforming. A total of 1,592 civil cases were decided with penalty, while 15 convictions were recorded.

During 2021-22, J&K analysed 8,109 samples, with 1,735 found non-conforming. The year witnessed 1,931 civil cases being decided with penalty, while four convictions were recorded.

Taken together, the data shows that J&K analysed 54,169 samples during the five-year period, with 4,995 samples found non-conforming. A total of 7,742 civil cases were decided with penalty, while 84 convictions were recorded during the period.

The Ministry said food safety enforcement and implementation of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 is primarily the responsibility of State/UT Food Safety Authorities, which undertake surveillance, monitoring, inspections, targeted enforcement drives and sampling activities.

Meanwhile, the State-wise data on Food Safety Officers shows that Jammu and Kashmir has 101 sanctioned posts, of which 79 are filled while 22 posts are vacant.

The Ministry said matters related to vacancies of Food Safety Officers in States and UTs are taken up regularly with the Commissioners of Food Safety through meetings of the Central Advisory Committee.

The Ministry also said the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has notified 259 NABL-accredited food testing laboratories and 24 referral food laboratories across the country. Food analysts are required to submit analysis reports within 14 days of receipt of samples.

The government said FSSAI is mandated to lay down science-based standards for food and regulate its manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import to ensure the availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption.

The data was furnished in response to a Lok Sabha question regarding food adulteration, contamination, counterfeiting, violations of food safety standards, testing infrastructure and vacancies of Food Safety Officers. (KNO)

Manasbal's Waters

outdoor bathing. Five locations, including four in the lake and one in the Lar Canal, were categorised as Class-D, which denotes water suitable for propagation of wildlife and fisheries.

Only one of the two spring samples met Class-C criteria, under which water can be used as a drinking water source after conventional treatment and disinfection. The other spring sample did not qualify under Classes A, B, C or D.

The assessment recorded high levels of faecal and total coliform at several locations, indicating microbiological contamination.

At the southern portion of the lake near Kondabal, faecal coliform was recorded at 780 MPN per 100 ml, while total coliform stood at 35,000 MPN per 100 ml.

The Lar Canal recorded the highest faecal-coliform concentration among the seven samples at 2,200 MPN per 100 ml, along with total coliform of 22,000 MPN per 100 ml.

At the temple spring, faecal coliform stood at 1,100 MPN per 100 ml and total coliform at 1,700 MPN per 100 ml. The second spring recorded faecal coliform of 400 MPN per 100 ml and total coliform of 17,000 MPN per 100 ml.

At the municipal water-extraction point, faecal coliform was recorded at 45 MPN per 100

ml, while total coliform stood at 330 MPN per 100 ml.

The CPCB said the presence of faecal and total coliform indicated microbiological contamination of the water.

The inspection also found plastic bags, bottles and other municipal waste dumped along portions of the lake shore. Open garbage dumping was observed near residential areas, while grey water from households was found flowing towards the lake. Solid waste was particularly visible around the Kondabal area.

The CPCB further observed that a portion of the Lar Canal directly enters Manasbal Lake, raising concerns over the movement of wastewater and solid waste into the wetland.

The pollution findings are particularly significant as Manasbal is an important freshwater wetland and a popular tourist destination, while also serving as a drinking water source for residents of Safapora, Sumbal, Sonawari and adjoining areas of Ganderbal and Bandipora districts.

The case before the NGT alleges that untreated sewage from 14 villages is being discharged into the Manasbal Wetland through the Lar Canal. Bhat had submitted that the continuous inflow of untreated wastewater was degrading the lake's ecology.

On January 30, the NGT Principal Bench directed the CPCB to conduct an assessment and submit its findings.

The CPCB also carried out physico-chemical and heavy-metal analysis of the samples. Most heavy metals, including arsenic, cadmium, chromium, cobalt, copper, lead, nickel and selenium, were below detectable limits. Manganese was detected in six samples and zinc in some samples, while iron was recorded at 1.37 mg per litre in the Lar Canal sample.

The report indicated that the major pollution concerns were linked to biological contamination and wastewater discharge rather than widespread heavy-metal contamination.

Meanwhile, the WMDA informed the CPCB that several measures had been undertaken to improve the condition of the lake.

Dredging was carried out after a gap of more than 12 years, covering around 70,000 square feet. Selective manual de-weeding was also undertaken, with around 1.60 lakh square metres of the lake surface cleared by March 17, 2026. About 7,202.50 cubic metres of weeds were removed during the exercise at a cost of around Rs 22 lakh in 2025-26.

The WMDA also said a sanitation contract covering collection and disposal of solid waste around the lake had been awarded for an area of approximately 6.44 lakh square metres.

A Detailed Project Report for a sewage treatment plant (STP) has been prepared by the Urban Environmental Engineering Department in consultation with the J&K Economic Reconstruction Agency.

However, the absence of an operational STP remains a major concern for environmentalists, who say untreated wastewater continues to reach the wetland.

The WMDA said communications had been sent to the Irrigation and Flood Control Department seeking measures, including mesh fencing at canal nodes, to prevent solid waste from entering the lake through the Lar Canal.

The authority has also taken up the proposed relocation of Kondabal village with the concerned departments and said land had been identified for an Integrated Solid Waste Management Plant.

Bhat said residents of Safapora and adjoining areas had repeatedly raised concerns over pollution in the lake.

"Locals of Safapora and adjoining areas, led by Civil Society Safapora and Social Concern Group, have been highlighting this issue for a long time, but authorities never took them seriously," he said.

He alleged that despite repeated assurances that an STP would be established to protect the lake, the project had not materialised.

"This is criminal negligence on the part of authorities and this will be placed on record before the NGT," Bhat said.

He said the matter would be taken up before the Tribunal and expressed hope that environmental compensation would be imposed on authorities responsible for the degradation of the water body.

The CPCB submitted its final report before the NGT on August 3, 2026.

The findings have brought renewed attention to the growing pressure on Manasbal Lake, with sewage inflow, household wastewater, garbage dumping and weed growth emerging as major threats to the ecological health of the wetland.

J&K Gets Rs 173.44 Crore for TB Elimination in Five Years

Ladakh allocated Rs 21.91 crore

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir has been allocated Rs 173.44 crore under the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP) during the last five years, while Ladakh received Rs 21.81 crore during the same period, according to data furnished by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in the Lok Sabha.

As per the reply by Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Anupriya Patel to an unstarred question, the allocations for Jammu and Kashmir stood at Rs 23 crore in 2021-22, Rs 23.64 crore in 2022-23, Rs 26 crore in 2023-24, Rs 35.33 crore in 2024-25 and Rs

65.47 crore in 2025-26.

For Ladakh, the allocation stood at Rs 3.90 crore in 2021-22, Rs 4.10 crore in 2022-23, Rs 4.51 crore in 2023-24, Rs 4.14 crore in 2024-25 and Rs 5.16 crore in 2025-26.

The data, accessed by KNO, shows that the annual allocation for J&K increased by more than two-and-a-half times over the five-year period, from Rs 23 crore in 2021-22 to Rs 65.47 crore in 2025-26.

Similarly, Ladakh's annual allocation increased from Rs 3.90 crore in 2021-22 to Rs 5.16 crore in 2025-26.

The Ministry said the government has implemented the National TB Elimination Programme un-



der the aegis of the National Health Mission. It said India contributed 26 per cent of total TB deaths globally in 2023 as per the WHO Global TB Report 2024, while the proportion declined to 25 per cent in 2024 as per the Global TB Report 2025.

The Ministry further said that the country's estimated TB incidence declined by 21 per cent from 237 per lakh population in 2015 to 187 in 2024, while estimated TB mortality declined by 25 per cent from 28 per lakh population to 21 during the same period. Treatment coverage increased from 53 per cent in 2015 to 92 per cent in 2024.

Among measures to tackle multi-drug-resistant TB, the government has focused on early detection, free drugs and diagnostics, universal drug susceptibility testing, decentralised treatment centres and shorter all-oral treatment regimens.

The Ministry said universal

drug susceptibility testing is being undertaken through 11,296 nucleic acid amplification test laboratories, while the country has established 108 Line Probe Assay laboratories, 74 Liquid Culture Testing Laboratories, 37 Intermediate Reference Laboratories and six National Reference Laboratories.

The government has also established 815 Drug Resistant TB treatment centres and introduced the BPaLM regimen for management of drug-resistant TB cases.

The Ministry said funds for the National TB Elimination Programme are provided to all States and Union Territories under the National Health Mission as part of the RCH Flexipool—(KNO)

Pulwama Traders Aghast at Sanitation Fee Hike

PULWAMA: The increase in sanitation-related charges by the Pulwama Municipal Council has triggered concern among traders and shopkeepers in the town, with members of the business community questioning the additional financial burden and seeking greater accountability in the utilisation of civic funds.

Traders argue that they are already required to meet several regulatory and licensing requirements and that any additional financial liability should be accompanied by visible improvements in sanitation and other basic civic services.

Members of the Traders Federation Pulwama said that shopkeepers were facing difficulties in complying with various requirements linked to obtaining and renewing municipal licences. They said the authorities should first ensure that existing civic infrastructure and facilities are properly maintained before imposing or increasing charges on the business community. General Secretary of the Traders Federation Pulwama, Rauf Rashid, told KNO that traders were concerned over the sanitation fee issue and the procedures involved in obtaining municipal licences.

According to the traders' body, shopkeepers are required to furnish several documents and complete various formalities for obtaining licences, which, they said, adds to the difficulties faced by the business community. The federation has also raised questions over the condition of several facilities that were established in Pulwama town in the past.

Traders claimed that some development works and civic facilities, despite substantial expenditure, have either become non-functional or are not being utilised effectively. They specifically referred to facilities such as water purifiers, street-lights and other public amenities, saying that several of these installations are no longer serving their intended purpose.

Sakina Congratulates Qaimoh Residents on Completion of Sub-District Hospital

KULGAM: Health and Education Minister Sakina Itoo on Saturday congratulated the people of Qaimoh in South Kashmir's Kulgam district on the completion of the Sub-District Hospital (SDH) building, a project that took nearly two decades to materialise.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of a function here Itoo, according to KNO said the completion of the hospital building will provide much-needed relief to residents of Qaimoh and adjoining areas, who have for years been demanding better healthcare infrastructure closer to their homes.

She said, "After around 20 years, the hospital building has been completed. Dialysis and testing facilities have been made available here, while bedding and other facilities will also be provided."

The Minister said residents have been seeking further upgradation of the hospital and assured that the demand would be considered once the formal process for upgrading the health facilities is initiated.

Pertinently, the project was originally sanctioned for the then Primary Health Centre (PHC) Qaimoh, which was subsequently upgraded to a 50-bed Sub-District Hospital following demands from the local population. The hospital building was sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs 19.34 crore. Construction work began in 2003, but progress remained slow for several years. (KNO)

President of India Confers National Handloom Award on 2 Master Weavers from Kanihama

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Handicrafts and Handloom Department, Kashmir, has extended heartfelt congratulations to two outstanding weavers, Manzoor Ahmad Hajam and Fayaz Ahmad Wani, from Kanihama, Budgam, who have been conferred with the prestigious National Handloom Award, in recognition for their contribution in the field of Kani weaving.

They were conferred with the National Award for their joint entry – Chand-Daar Kani Shawl – by the President of India, Draupadi Murmu, during a glittering function held at New Delhi, to commemorate the National Handloom Day.

In a press release issued here today, a spokesman of the Handicrafts and Handloom Department, stated that this honour is a fitting tribute to invaluable contribution of Manzoor Ahmad Hajam and Fayaz Ahmad Wani, who have distinguished themselves in the indigenous art of Kani weaving. "By winning such prestigious award, the master weavers have brought the Kani weaving technique on the forefront of the crafts sector, which will surely open up new



vistas of business opportunities for the high value craft," the spokesman added.

The award, which carries a citation and cash prize of ₹2.5 lakh, is for a rare form of Kani weaving technique guided by coded Talim scripts to ensure absolute precision, featuring nearly 20 distinct hues to recreate an antique masterpiece.

The spokesman further stated said their exquisite craftsmanship has not only kept our centuries-old tradition alive but has also earned global admiration. "They have become role models for thousands of weavers in Kashmir and the entire craft community celebrates this joyous moment with great pride," he added.

Blocked Road Delays Medical Aid, 17-Year-Old Girl Dies in Rajouri

Agencies

RAJOURI: A 17-year-old girl died after an allegedly blocked PMGSY road delayed her transportation to a hospital in Rajouri district, prompting Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abishek Sharma to suspend an Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE) and issue a show-cause notice to the concerned Executive Engineer.

The deceased has been identified as 17-year-old Parveena Akhtar, daughter of Abdul Aziz, a resident of Plangar in the Kalakot-Methani area.

Sources told the news agency Kashmir News Trust that Parveena was unwell and was being taken to a hospital on a cot when the blocked condition of the Kalakot-Methani PMGSY road reportedly hampered the movement, delaying her access to medical treatment.

Following the girl's death, the District Administration Rajouri took action against the officials concerned, with the AEE suspended and the Executive Engineer, PMGSY, served a show-cause notice over the condition of the road. The incident has raised serious concerns over the condition and accessibility of the road, particularly its impact on emergency medical access for residents of remote areas.

The administrative action comes amid questions over the failure to ensure road connectivity for villagers dependent on the PMGSY route for access to essential services, including healthcare. [KNT]

Ladakh's Tourism Sector Witnessing Strong Upward Trajectory

Agencies

LEH: Ladakh's tourism sector continues to witness a strong upward trajectory, with tourist arrivals crossing the one-lakh mark for two successive months in June and July 2026.

According to the data accessed by KNO, the Union Territory has recorded 3,30,332 tourist arrivals from January to July this year, already reaching 98.35% of the total 3,35,872 tourists recorded in 2025.

The surge has been particularly noticeable in the months of June and July, when more than 2.12 lakh tourists visited Ladakh, accounting for nearly 65% of the total 3.30 lakh tourist arrivals recorded so far this year.

Ladakh received 1,05,046 tourists in July 2026, compared to 67,273 in July 2025, registering a growth of 56.15%. The July arrivals comprised 95,416 domestic and 9,630 foreign tourists.

June also witnessed a significant increase, with 1,07,740 tourists visiting Ladakh compared to 75,089 in June 2025, representing a growth of 43.48%. Of the June 2026 arrivals, 1,01,060 were domestic and 6,680 foreign tourists.

PM SHRI SCHOOL JAWAHAR NAVODAYA YAVIDYALAYA AISHMUQAM DISTT. ANANTNAG

EXTENSION OF LAST DATE TO SUBMIT ONLINE APPLICATION FORM FOR CLASS VI JNVST-2027 AND OPENING OF CORRECTION WINDOW

Last date to submit online application form for Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Selection Test (JNVST)-2027 for Admission to class VI for the session (2027-28) is extended up to 10.08.2026.

The candidates may apply free of cost by visiting the NVS website

<https://navodaya.gov.in/> or <https://cbseitms.rcil.gov.in/nvs/Index/Registration>.

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

The correction window will remain opened on 11.08.2026 to 12.08.2026. Registered candidates can make necessary correction in the fields of Medium of Exam/Category/Gender/Area/Disability only.

DIPK-4340-26

DT: 08/08/2026

(S.N. Gupta)
Principal



GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER FLOOD CONTROL DIVISION ANANTNAG

PHONE FAX: 01932225119 EMAIL: floodcontrolang@gmail.com

NOTICE

Subject:- Recovery of temporary advance/ Imprest money.

It has been observed that Temporary Advances/Imprest amounts drawn by various officers/officials of this office are still lying outstanding and have not been adjusted in the books of accounts.

The advances were drawn by the concerned officers/officials prior to the year 1993. It has further been reported by the concerned section that the Divisional Office was gutted in a devastating fire incident on 14-04-1993, due to which the relevant records and bio-data of the concerned officers/officials were destroyed and are presently not traceable. A photocopy of the FIR pertaining to the said fire incident is enclosed for reference.

It is to inform through the medium of this notice, all the officers/officials whose names appear in the enclosed list as Annexure "A" and who are presently serving or are otherwise available are hereby called upon to deposit or adjust the outstanding Temporary Advance/ Imprest amount pertaining to them within two weeks from the date of issuance of this notice.

Annexure to this office Notice No. FCD/Ang/26/ 2921-24 dated:- 07/08/2026

Sr. No.	Name of Officers/ Officials	Designation	Temp. Advance outstanding	Imprest Advance outstanding	Total (Ps.)
1	M A Shah	AEE	3000	—	3000
2	Land Acq Office	LAC	51000	—	51000
3	J.L. Safya	AEE	3000	—	3000
4	M.A. Laigaroo	AEE	10000	—	10000
5	M.L. Pandita	AE	2000	—	2000
6	Mohd Rajab Wagay	JE	1500	—	1500
7	Gh. Mohi-ud-Din Sofi	AEE	5360	—	5360
8	H.Q. Tantray	AEE	6821	—	6821
9	Kamal Krishan	D/M	2000	—	2000
10	Surjeet Singh	Driver	—	531	531
11	S.N Koul	Sr. Asstt.	—	820	820
12	Tehsildar Ang	T. Ang	—	500	500
13	AB. Ahad Zargar	J.E.	—	1000	1000
14	G.M. Sheikh	Jr. Asstt.	—	1000	1000
15	P.N. Koul	do	—	500	500
16	D.N. Koul	do	—	1000	1000
17	T. N. Koul	do	—	1000	1000
18	Bushan Lal	do	—	300	300
Total=			84681	6651	91332

No. FCDA/FCD/26/2021-24
Dated- 07/08/2026

DIPK-4286-26
DT: 08/08/2026

Executive Engineer
Flood Control Division Anantnag

Email: ceomc-bla@jk.gov.in

Tel & Fax: 019522-95576



Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BARAMULLA

Subject: Rehabilitation of dislocated shopkeepers in Shopping Complex General Bus Stand MC Baramulla-Sortition of shops thereof.

SORTITION NOTICE

Whereas, during the beautification drive undertaken in Baramulla Town during the year 2002-03, thirty-six (36) shopkeepers were dislocated; and Whereas, some of the dislocated shopkeepers were subsequently rehabilitated, while others either failed to deposit the prescribed premium amount or obtained refund of the deposited amount on their own request; and

Whereas, as per the available records, seven (07) dislocated shopkeepers who had deposited the prescribed premium amount at municipal chest in the year 2003 have remained unrehabilitated till date; and

Whereas, during the construction of the Double Storey Shopping Complex at General Bus Stand Baramulla in the year 2021, eight (08) tin-structure holders were also dislocated and became entitled for consideration on the same analogy; and

Whereas, the matter has been examined at various levels, objections were invited and scrutinized through a duly constituted committee, and the recommendations of the committee have been upheld by the Director, Urban Local Bodies Kashmir; and

Whereas, the minimum reserve premium for each shop in the Double Storey Shopping Complex at General Bus Stand Baramulla has been assessed at Rs. 5,08,311/- (Rupees Five Lakh Eight Thousand Three Hundred Eleven only).

Now, therefore, in order to resolve the long-pending rehabilitation claims and make the Shopping Complex fully operational, it is hereby notified that the sortition (draw of lots) for allotment of shops shall be conducted subject to the following terms and conditions:

Terms and Conditions

- The prescribed Participation Forms shall be made available in the office of the Municipal Council, Baramulla from 10-08-2026 to 14-08-2026, up to 4:00 PM on all working days. No Participation Form shall be issued after the expiry of the stipulated date and time.
- All provisionally eligible dislocated shopkeepers intending to participate in the sortition process shall submit the prescribed Participation Form, along with an Affidavit/Undertaking incorporating the prescribed Terms and Conditions, duly executed on the requisite stamp paper and attested by a Judicial Magistrate, within the prescribed time. The duly completed Participation Forms, along with all requisite documents as specified in the prescribed checklist, shall be submitted in the office of the undersigned on or before 27-08-2026, up to 4:00 PM. Failure to submit the Participation Form along with requisite supporting documents and the duly attested Affidavit/Undertaking within the stipulated period shall render the claimant ineligible to participate in the sortition process, and no claim for participation shall be entertained thereafter.
- Each Participation Form shall be accompanied by a document fee of Rs. 500/- (Rupees Five Hundred only) deposited through Bank Challan/Receipt in Account No. SB-0213040500009208, Chief Executive Officer, Municipal Council Baramulla.
- Each participant shall also furnish a Call Deposit Receipt (CDR) of Rs.10,200/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Two Hundred only) drawn from any Nationalized Bank and pledged in favour of the Chief Executive Officer, Municipal Council Baramulla. Participation without the CDR shall not be permitted.
- The sortition (draw of lots) shall be conducted on 31-08-2026 at 2:00 PM only among those provisionally eligible dislocated shopkeepers who have been declared eligible to participate in the sortition process by the scrutiny committee. The sortition shall be confined to the number of eligible participants, and accordingly, only equivalent number of shops shall be included in the draw, commencing from Shop No. 01 onwards in the Shopping Complex at General Bus Stand, Baramulla.
- The successful allottee shall deposit 50% of the assessed premium amount, i.e., Rs. 2,54,155/- (Rupees Two Lacs Fifty-Four Thousand One Hundred Fifty-Five only), within three (07) days, i.e., on or before 07-09-2026. The remaining 50% of the assessed premium shall be deposited at the time of issuance of the allotment order. Failure to deposit the first installment of 50% of the assessed premium amount within the stipulated time shall result in the rejection of the claim ab initio. The reserved shop shall thereafter be dealt with in such manner as may be decided by the competent authority.
- The dislocated shopkeepers whose eligibility to participate in the sortition process has not been declared eligible/finalized during the scrutiny, shall not be included in the current draw of lots. However, their cases may be considered upon being declared eligible and subject to the fulfillment of all prescribed codal formalities. For this purpose, the requisite number of shops shall remain reserved up to 30-09-2026. In the event that such cases are not finalized or the claimants fail to fulfil the prescribed codal formalities by the stipulated date, the reserved shops shall be dealt with in such manner as may be decided by the competent authority.
- The undersigned reserves the right to postpone, suspend or cancel the draw of lots without assigning any reason thereof.
- All applicable rules, regulations, policies and directions issued by the Municipal Authorities from time to time shall be binding upon the allottees.
- Allotment of shops shall remain subject to fulfillment of all statutory, financial and administrative requirements.
- In case of any dispute arising out of the allotment process or interpretation of these conditions, the matter shall be referred to the Director, Urban Local Bodies Kashmir, whose decision shall be final and binding upon all concerned.

No: MC/Bla//2026/ 2861-68
Dated:- 07/08/2026

DIPK-NB-1347-26
DT: 08/08/2026

Chief Executive Officer
Municipal Council Baramulla



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