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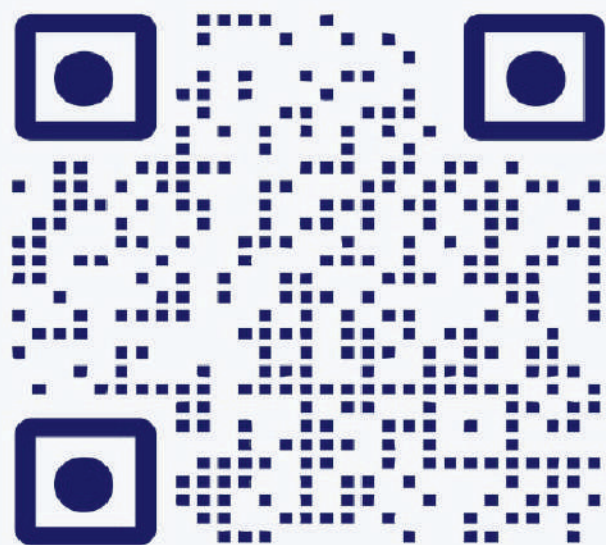


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Scholarships This Week

Kashmir Observer in association with Buddy4Study.com presents scholarships available for the meritorious students of Jammu and Kashmir

Scholarship Name 1: Bajaj Finserv Scholarship Program FY 2026-27

Description: The Bajaj Finserv Scholarship Program FY 2026-27 aims to support high-potential students pursuing Management (MBA/PGDM/PGP) and Technology (B.E./B.Tech., M.E./M.Tech.) courses, offering scholarship support of up to INR 10 lakh per year to help them build future-ready careers.

Eligibility: Open to first-year MBA/PGDM/PGP/B.E./B.Tech./M.E./M.Tech (For Tech, Applicable Courses are: Computer Science, IT, AI/ML, Data Science, or Statistics.) Must have secured a minimum of 75% marks or equivalent in Class 10 and 12.

Students from top 25 NIRF-ranked colleges will be considered for this scholarship, with students from the top 10 NIRF-ranked colleges given preference.

Annual parental income up to INR 15 lakh.

Prizes & Rewards: Scholarship of up to INR 10,00,000 per year*, based on course category and fee-linked slab.

Note: The scholarship support will be provided on a per-year basis for the duration of the course, subject to the student continuing to meet the applicable renewal criteria.

Last Date to Apply: 05-10-2026

Application mode: Online

applications only

Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/BFAS2

QR Code: <https://d1e9eg0t05513.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/2026-271788240134.png>

Scholarship Name 2: Tata Capital Pankh Scholarship Program 2026-27

Description: The Tata Capital Pankh Scholarship Program 2026-27, an initiative by Tata Capital Limited, provides financial assistance to meritorious students from economically weaker sections pursuing Class 11, Class 12, undergraduate, diploma, and ITI courses at recognised institutions across India.

Eligibility: Open to Indian students in Classes 11 and 12 or pursuing UG, Diploma, or ITI courses at recognised institutions. Minimum 60% marks in the previous year.

Annual parental income must not exceed INR 4 lakh.

Prizes & Rewards: Selected students can receive 80% to 100% of their tuition/course fees, up to INR 15,000 (Class 11 & 12) and up to INR 18,000 (undergraduate, diploma & ITI), based on their academic performance. (Whichever is less)

Last Date to Apply: 26-10-2026

Application mode: Online

applications only

Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/TCPS37

QR Code: <https://d1e9eg0t05513.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/tata-capital-pankh-scholarship-program-2026-271788235677.png>

Scholarship Name 3: Reliance Foundation Postgraduate Scholarships 2026-27

Description: The Reliance Foundation Postgraduate Scholarships aim to enable and propel India's future leaders who can think big, think green, and think digital for the benefit of society.

Eligibility: Students who are enrolled in the first-year full-time regular postgraduation programmes pursuing select future-ready courses from Engineering, Technology, Energy and Life Sciences

Must have secured 550 to 1,000 in the GATE examination, OR must have a CGPA of 7.5 or above in their undergraduate studies (or equivalent percentage normalised to CGPA) if the student has not attempted GATE

Open to resident Indian citizens only

Prizes & Rewards: Up to INR 6,00,000 over the duration of the degree

Last Date to Apply: 05-10-2026

Application mode: Online

applications only

Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/RFS15

QR Code: <https://d1e9eg0t05513.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/2026-271787032072.png>

Scholarship Name 4: Reliance Foundation Undergraduate Scholarships 2026-27

Description: The Reliance Foundation Undergraduate Scholarships support meritorious students from all corners of the country in pursuing their



undergraduate education. This empowers them to continue their studies, become successful professionals, and realise their dreams, unlocking their potential to uplift themselves and their communities and contribute towards India's future socio-economic development.

Eligibility: Students must be enrolled in the first year of a full-time regular undergraduate (UG) degree in any stream at a recognised Indian institute

Must have passed Class 12 with a minimum of 60% marks

The annual household income should be up to INR 15,00,000 per year (preference will be given to those students whose family income is less than INR 2,50,000)

Open to resident Indian citizens only. An aptitude test is mandatory

Prizes & Rewards: Up to INR 2,00,000 over the duration of the degree

Last Date to Apply: 05-10-2026

Application mode: Online

applications only

Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/RFS14

QR Code: <https://d1e9eg0t05513.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/2026-271787032064.png>

Scholarship Name 5: B.S. Abdur Rahman "India in a Classroom" Scholarship 2026-27

Description: The B.S. Abdur Rahman "India in a Classroom" Scholarship 2026-27, an initiative of B.S. Abdur Rahman Crescent Institute of Science and Technology, Chennai, offers 200 undergraduate scholarship seats to SC, ST and Muslim students from across India, covering up to 100 per

cent of tuition, hostel, food and examination fees based on income and academic performance.

Eligibility: Open to SC, ST and Muslim students from any Indian state or union territory who have passed Class 12 with the required marks and have annual parental income up to 5,00,000, seeking UG admission at the Chennai campus.

Prizes & Rewards: Scholarship covering up to 100 per cent of tuition fee, hostel accommodation, food and examination fee.

Last Date to Apply: 14-09-2026

Application mode: Online

applications only

Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/CRSCT1

QR Code: <https://d1e9eg0t05513.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/b-s-2026-271787580717.png>

Scholarship Name 6: Mahindra EmpowerHer Scholarship Program 2026-27

Description: The Mahindra EmpowerHer Scholarship Program 2026-27, an initiative by Mahindra & Mahindra Limited, offers a fixed scholarship award of INR 5,500 to meritorious girl students belonging to the SC, ST or OBC communities studying in Classes 9 to 12 or pursuing general undergraduate and postgraduate courses, helping them continue their education without financial hardship.

Eligibility: Open to PAN India girl students belonging to the SC, ST or OBC communities studying in Classes 9 to 12, or pursuing general undergraduate courses (such as B.A., B.A. (Hons.), B.Sc. or B.Com.) and general postgraduate courses (such as M.A., M.A. (Hons.), M.Sc. or M.Com.).

Applicants must have secured at least 50% marks in their previous academic year or semester.

Annual family income from all sources should not exceed INR 4,00,000.

Prizes & Rewards: Fixed scholarship of INR 5,500 per selected scholar

Last Date to Apply: 21-09-2026

Application mode: Online

applications only

Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/MNM3

QR Code: <https://d1e9eg0t05513.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/2026-271787032048.png>

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Managing Body

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6	Shahbaz Sultan S/o Mohd Sultan Wani R/o Repora Namthail Chadoora Budgam	Member
7	Mohd Iqbal Kuchay S/o Gh Hassan Kuchay R/o Bilal Mohalla Humhama Budgam	Member

Objections are hereby invited from the General Public, regarding the above said Management. Any such objections shall be submitted within seven days before the Chairman/Principal (Contact No 7006142041) Darul Huda Educational and Welfare Trust Bagander Humhama Budgam Kashmir.

Chairman

Darul Huda Educational and welfare trust
Bagander Humhama Budgam Kashmir.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

ATTENTION PLEASE

The candidate whose photograph is above reports that he/she has lost his/her qualification certificate/s having the following description: -

ROLL NO:- 534424

CLASS :-10TH

YEAR & SESSION:- BIENNIAL- 2011

REGISTRATION NO:- 04NKF504725

NAME:- SHAMIMA SULIMAN

FATHER'S NAME :-MOHMAD SULIMAN PIR

MOTHER'S NAME :-NASEEMA BEGUM

DATE FO BIRTH :-10-02-1990

RESIDENCE:- HIRRI KUPWARA

Now the candidate has applied for issuance of DUPLICATE QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATE/S. Before the case will be processed under rules, if somebody have any kind of objection in this regard he/she shall approach the office of the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publishing of this notice after expiring date no objection shall be entertained.

(Besides, the lost "QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATE ", bearing Serial NO/s 11BIKAM-8005087 is being be treated as "CANCELLED")

No:(Certs-I-DQC)/B/KD/20



Sd/- Assistant Secretary
Certificates, KD

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Riyaz Ahmad Lone, S/O Assadullah Lone , R/O Goshabugh, Pattan, hereby inform the general public that the electricity connection bearing Consumer ID 0213040006002, presently registered in the name of my grandfather Mohad Lone, is proposed to be transferred to my name, Riyaz Ahmad Lone.

Anyone having any objection may approach the concerned department within 7 days from the date of publication.

Riyaz Ahmad Lone
S/O Assadullah Lone
R/O Lone Mohalla Goshbugh, Pattan

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Neelofar Mehraj W/O Mehraj ud din Gurkhoo R/O298 hubbi colony,baba Shah mohalla ,lal Bazar srinagar hereby inform the general public that my name in my Bank Account is recorded as Neelofar Akhter. As per my Aadhaar Card, my correct name is Neelofar Mehraj.

I have therefore applied for correction/change of my name in the Bank records from Neelofar Akhter to Neelofar Mehraj, as per my Aadhaar Card.

Any person having any objection to the said change may communicate the same to the concerned authority within the stipulated period.
Neelofar Mehraj
Formerly: Neelofar Akhter

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12 Years On, 554 Kashmir Flood Cases Await Justice

Consumer commission backlog exposes agonising wait for victims of 2014 deluge



Ansar Hussain Dar

Srinagar: More than a decade after the devastating September 2014 floods, 554 consumer cases arising from the disaster are still pending before the J&K State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, raising fresh questions over the pace and transparency of consumer justice in the Union Territory.

The startling figure has emerged from an RTI reply issued by the Commission, which reveals that 1,356 cases remain

pending among those taken up after its reconstitution under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019.

The flood-related backlog is particularly striking: 554 cases connected to the 2014 floods continue to remain pending, even as victims have spent years waiting for their disputes to be resolved.

'Disposed'—but how many were actually decided?

The RTI reply raises as many questions as it answers.

The Commission says it took up | [More on P6](#)

Doda Bans VPN Use For Two Months

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Authorities in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda ordered a complete ban on the use of Virtual Private Networks (VPNs) across the district for two months, citing concerns over cybersecurity, unlawful activities and maintaining public order.

In an order issued recently under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), Doda District Magistrate Krishan Lal said certain individuals and groups were allegedly misusing VPNs to circumvent lawful cyber

restrictions and access prohibited applications, websites and digital content.

"Such activities have the potential to be exploited for unlawful and anti-national purposes, including inciting unrest, disseminating inflammatory material and coordinating activities prejudicial to the maintenance of law and order," he said.

Lal further informed that the restriction was being imposed as an urgent preventive measure in view of the "serious threat to public, tranquility and national security" posed by the | [More on P6](#)

Kashmir Steps Into Global Cinema Spotlight With Maiden IFFJK

Santosh Sivan-led jury to evaluate competitive entries and decide festival awards

Movies shot in Valley in 60s, 70s to be shown in Floating Cinema

Observer News Service

Srinagar: After decades of serving as a picturesque backdrop for Bollywood films, Kashmir is set to take centre stage in the global cinematic landscape as the first International Film Festival of Jammu and Kashmir (IFFJK) begins on Monday.

The four-day festival, themed "Rang-e-Cinema", will be held from September 7 to 10 and is being organised by the Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR), Jammu and



Kashmir. The festival is being positioned as a major international platform for cinema, cultural exchange, filmmaking and creative tourism.

The festival will bring 135 films from 41 countries to Jammu and Kashmir, selected from more than 1,100 submissions received from

92 countries.

India has the largest representation with 64 films, followed by France with 13 and Iran with eight. Argentina and Spain will contribute four films each, while Brazil, Germany, the Russian Federation and the United States will have three films each.

Films from South Korea, Sweden, Taiwan, Qatar, Colombia, Türkiye and several other countries will also form part of the international selection, giving the inaugural edition a distinctly global character. | [More on P6](#)

Union Ministers, CMs, LGs, Bollywood Stars to Attend IFFJK

Union Ministers, Governors, Chief Ministers, Lieutenant Governors, Tourism Secretaries from various States and Union Territories and several Bollywood personalities are set to attend the first International Film Festival of Jammu and Kashmir (IFFJK), being held across Srinagar, Jammu and Gulmarg from September 7 to 10. The four-day festival will feature screenings of films, documentaries | [More on P6](#)

Govt Speaking In Two Voices: Ruhullah On Interns' Protest

Accuses Govt Medical College Principals Of Coercing Interns To End Stir

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Srinagar Lok Sabha MP Ruhullah Mehdi on Sunday criticised the Jammu and Kashmir administration over the handling of the ongoing protest by medical interns demanding an enhanced stipend, alleging that principals of government medical colleges were warning the protesting interns of consequences if they did not return to duty.

The remarks came a day after Jammu and Kashmir Health Minister Sakina Itoo described the interns' demand as "genuine".

Ruhullah, who recently announced his resignation from the ruling National



Conference, wrote separate letters to the Health Minister and principals of government medical colleges, seeking an explanation over the alleged pressure on the interns to call off their indefinite strike.

"Something has changed in the last few days, and I would like to know from you what it

is. For a week, this was a dispute conducted in the open. The interns stated their case, you accepted it was genuine, the chief minister's advisor gave a date," Ruhullah said in his letter to Itoo.

"Now I am told that principals of our medical colleges have begun warning interns of consequences if they do not return to duty. That is not a change in the government's position. It is a change in its method," he said.

The MP questioned whether the principals had been instructed by the Health Department to press the interns to end their protest.

"If it has come from the department, I would like to know who | [More on P6](#)

Terror Figures In J&K Moving Towards Zero: Shah

Says 'Separatism Reduced Considerably' After Art 370 Abrogation

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday said separatism has reduced considerably in Jammu and Kashmir following the abrogation of Article 370, while asserting that terrorism in the Union Territory is "gradually shrinking and moving towards zero".

Shah made the remarks while addressing reporters after chairing a high-level meeting on narcotics in Goa, where he also said the Narendra Modi government would eliminate the drug menace in the country in the same manner as it had tackled Naxalism.

"After the abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir, the feeling of separatism has reduced considerably. The figures of terrorism are



gradually shrinking and moving towards zero. Jammu and Kashmir has progressed on the path of development," the Home Minister said.

He said successful efforts had also been made to bridge the "mental distance" that existed between Jammu and Kashmir and the rest of the country.

Shah was responding in the broader context of the Centre's internal security | [More on P6](#)

BJP Announces District-Wise Outreach Against NC Govt

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: The BJP's Jammu and Kashmir unit on Sunday announced a public outreach programme from September 7 to 20 to highlight public grievances and the alleged failures of the National Conference (NC)-led government in the Union Territory.

A party spokesperson said during a BJP MLAs' meet at its headquarters here, the party decided that legislators, led by Leader of Opposition Sunil Sharma, would undertake door-to-door visits across all administrative districts to personally listen to the people's problems, grievances and aspirations.

He said J&K BJP president and Rajya Sabha MP Sat Sharma presided over the meeting.

He said the LoP will commence the tour from the border district of Poonch on September 7.

"The initiative reflects the BJP's commitment to remain connected with | [More on P6](#)

Search Intensified For 2 Missing In Chenab River

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Search operations have been intensified to trace a man and a woman believed to have drowned in the Chenab River in separate incidents in Doda and Ramban districts of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said on Sunday.

A 21-year-old woman, identified as Payal Devi, allegedly jumped into the river from the Shiva Dal bridge near Prem Nagar in Doda on Saturday afternoon.

Officials said additional teams of police and the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), along with local volunteers, have joined the search operation. Rescue personnel have been conducting searches along the riverbank and downstream stretches, but no breakthrough has been achieved so far.

According to her family, Payal was suffering from



anxiety and depression. The circumstances that led to the incident, however, could not be immediately ascertained.

Her father, Krishan Lal, said she had gone to a mela and later told him over the phone that she was going to consult a doctor as she was feeling unwell. After reportedly finding the doctor unavailable, she was returning when she allegedly ran towards the river.

Meanwhile, a separate multi-agency search operation is underway in Ramban to trace 20-year-old Ravi Kumar, who slipped into the Chenab at Maitra on September 1.

Ramban Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Alyas Khan and Senior Superintendent of Police Arun Gupta visited the site and reviewed the search operation and rescue plan.

Officials said | [More on P6](#)

SC To Hear Plea On Regulation Of Airfares, Ancillary Charges

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear on Monday a plea seeking regulatory guidelines to check "unpredictable fluctuations" in airfares and ancillary charges levied by private airlines in India.

According to the apex court's cause list for September 7, a bench comprising Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta will hear the matter.

The Centre had told the Supreme Court on August 17 that it had fast-tracked the framing of rules under the Bharatiya Vayuyan Adhiniyam, 2024, and that the rules would be finalised within three weeks.

The government had placed the draft rules before the bench in a sealed cover, informing the court that final discussions were underway.

The court had taken note of Additional Solicitor General

Anil Kaushik's request for three weeks to finalise the draft rules and place them before the bench.

The apex court is hearing a plea filed by social activist S Laxminarayanan, who has sought an independent regulator to ensure transparency and passenger protection in the civil aviation sector, besides guidelines to regulate airfare and ancillary charges.

Senior advocate Ravindra Srivastava, appearing for the petitioner, had argued that existing rules would continue to operate until the new rules come into force. He also questioned the authorities' "lack of willingness" to address the issue and alleged that airlines were charging exorbitant fares.

On July 13, the Supreme Court had directed the Centre to place the rules framed under the Bharatiya Vayuyan Adhiniyam, 2024 before it in a sealed cover, irrespective of whether they | [More on P6](#)

Justice Bhati Appointed J&K HC Chief Justice

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: The Union Law Ministry has issued formal notifications appointing Chief Justices to eight High Courts across the country, including the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court.

Justice Dr Pushpendra Singh Bhati has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court, according to the notification issued by the ministry.

The appointments have been made in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 217 of the Constitution, read with Article 222, which govern the appointment and transfer of High Court judges.

Besides Justice Bhati, seven other judges have been appointed as Chief Justices of various High Courts.

Justice Valluri Kameswar Rao has been appointed Chief Justice of the Patna High Court, while Justice Ravindra V Ghuge will head the Calcutta High Court.

Justice Sanjay | [More on P6](#)

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KO VIEW

Digital Downtown

Something new is stirring in the lanes of Downtown Srinagar. The old city built its name on copperware, bakeries, and shops where customers walked in and haggled over prices. Those businesses still stand. They now share space with a different type of commerce.

Young Kashmiris have turned bedrooms into offices and smartphones into storefronts. They sell vintage clothes through Instagram stories. They ship walnut cakes to Mumbai via WhatsApp orders. They manage Facebook pages for the same butcher shops their grandfathers ran. The tools changed, but the hustle stayed.

Walk through any neighborhood, and you will find a graduate packing thrifted kurtas for Bangalore buyers. You will meet a mother of two who started a baking business during distress and now employs her sister. You will see two college dropouts shooting product videos for the spice vendor downstairs.

None of them waited for permission. They started with data packs and learned the rest as they went.

Technology opened doors that turmoil once locked. A QR code taped to a kitchen wall handles payments. A delivery rider collects packages from homes instead of shops. A single reel can bring more customers than a month of foot traffic. These young sellers talk about engagement rates and unboxing experiences the way their fathers discussed wholesale rates. The vocabulary shifted, but the ambition remained familiar.

The money moves in circles now. The printer who makes labels for the home baker. The wholesaler who sells flour in five-kilo bags instead of fifty. The courier who knows every narrow lane because he picks up from them daily. Old shopkeepers watch their neighbours pack boxes for Delhi and ask for help listing their own shawls online. The learning flows both ways. Women run businesses from living rooms without stepping past their front gates. Young men who filled only government forms now fill order sheets. Parents who once insisted on stable jobs now ask about profit margins. The social fabric loosens in the right places.

Official plans for Kashmir feature highways and hotel chains. Downtown tells a smaller story. It runs on initiative, on adapting fast, on making something from what is available. The right loans, training programs, and steady internet could multiply what is already working.

These micro-entrepreneurs blend the old city craft with new methods. They prove that opportunity grows at home when people believe it can.

Two Generations, One Home

India’s Promise to Its Elders

Sudhansh Pant



In the light of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (the world is one family), the glory of the elderly is their insight, their knowledge and their wisdom.

In Indian homes, there is always a memory everyone carries, a grandfather narrating an adventurous story from his childhood or a grandmother demonstrating knitting while sitting in the balcony on a fine winter afternoon. These ordinary afternoons are where a family’s real inheritance gets passed on quietly, one small skill and one shared story at a time.

We often speak about the generation gap, about grandparents who do not understand smartphones and grandchildren who do not have the patience for long stories of golden past. But I think we speak far less about generation bridges. Almost invisible ways in which the old and the young still complete each other.

A grandparent gives a child something no school can teach: time, that asks for nothing in return. With growing urbanisation and both parents often working, a child’s day is usually structured around strict timetables but, a grandparent is often the one person willing to simply sit. To listen to a story being told for the fifth time. To wait while a shoelace is tied. That unhurried attention given to children shapes a sense of being valued in ways we rarely measure.

And what do these children have for giving back? Presence, which seems something very modest, yet it is not. A grandchild’s visit changes the shape of an elderly person’s whole week. A video call from a grandson away at college or a granddaughter telling her grandmother how much she misses her cooking, a great-grandchild simply climbing into a lap- these moments do for an elderly what medicine alone cannot. This is the logic behind ‘Ageing At Home’, an idea that elderly people are happiest and healthiest not in an institution but in their own home, surrounded by the family and neighbourhood they have always known and cherished.

This is not a new discovery for us. In most parts of India, touching the feet of an elder for their blessing remains one of the first gestures a child learns, a small act that teaches something no lecture could: that age is to be honoured. The Sanskrit teaching ‘Matru Devo Bhava, Pitru Devo Bhava’, ‘Regard Your Mother And Father As You Would The Divine’, remains the foundation of the values Indian families try to instil in their children. Those who raise us, deserve our reverence in return. There is another divine saying, “Paradise Lies Beneath The Feet of Your Mother”, again reflects the eternal source of blessings and contentment one can earn through love, care and service to our parents and grandparents. It means that serving, respecting and lowering oneself to care for a mother is a direct path to earning God’s pleasure and entering Paradise. Besides, it acknowledges the immense pain, hardship, and lifelong sacrifice a mother endures while raising her children.

This is why, when families stay close across generations, under one roof some exchange happens. Children raised close to grandparents tend to grow knowing the stories that shaped their family, the values their elders lived by and experiencing what patience actually looks like. And elderly people who remain woven into a family’s daily life are healthier, less anxious and less lonely.

When The Thread Frays?

But we would be telling only half the truth if we did not admit that this thread is fraying across cultures in many Indian homes today. Migration for work, nuclear families, the sheer pace of modern life, all of these have quietly left many of our elders spending their days in empty houses, waiting for a call that comes less often than it used to.

This is not a failure of love. It is usually a failure of time and distance. And because ageing at home remains the outcome every family and every elderly person requires, the support that steps in should be built to help a parent stay in their own home rather than moving out.

What we need to fully understand and embrace that the elderly are a source of wisdom, experience and stability in a world that is constantly changing.

Under the visionary leadership of Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Central Government’s ELDER LINE, a toll-free helpline (14567), is there the moment they simply need to talk to someone, day or night.

And under the Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY), elderly citizens receive walking sticks, hearing aids, spectacles and other assistive devices free-of-cost, so that independence is never out of reach for want of means. These quiet supports exist precisely so that distance does not have to mean disconnection. When a grandchild does finally visit, they find a grandparent who is well, engaged and still at home, full of stories, not one who has simply been waiting.

Even when a family genuinely cannot be present every day, ageing at home need not mean ageing without care. The SHATAYU (Senior Holistic Care Assistance and Training For Your Utility) dashboard is helping build something India has long needed, a trained, trackable network of geriatric caregivers available district-by-district, so that a qualified pair of hands can step in for the hours a

working son or a distant daughter simply cannot. It is care that comes to the home, rather than care that requires leaving it.

For a smaller number of elders who have no family close by, this idea of home simply takes a different shape and government-supported old age homes, run under the Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY), step in to become exactly the family they need. Residents share meals together, celebrate festivals as a household would, take part in Yoga and health check-ups and have someone to talk to over tea. It is a family, rebuilt in a different form, so that no elder ever has to grow old entirely alone.

A Small Practice Worth Reviving

If there is one thing every family could do, it is to let the generations sit together. Just an evening where a grandparent tells a grandchild about their own childhood, or a teenager teaching their grandmother to send a voice note. Teaching her to use the JEEVAN (Joint Elderly Empowerment & Virtual Assistance Network) App on her phone, where she can check which welfare schemes she is eligible for or simply have an emergency help button within her reach. These moments cost nothing and require no grand gesture. They only require intention.

Because in the end, inter-generational bonding is not really about the old teaching the young or the young energising the old. It is about both generations reminding each other of something the middle years of life tend to make us forget.

Somewhere in India today, a grandparent is folding a paper boat with a child who will not remember why that afternoon mattered. It mattered anyway. Let us make sure there are many more such afternoons and with the quiet support of schemes built exactly for this purpose, no grandparent has to spend their alone.

Sudhansh Pant, IAS is Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India

Reels vs. Real Life: What Are We Losing?

Mohmad Iqbal Khandy

The young generation focus on useless content creation compromising on their future. They ruin their future. They are losing their precious time, health, wellbeing, valuable social relations and most importantly they risk on their education, skills and goals.

Making reels and watching reels have become an addiction to this generation. It is rare to see a person busy with the mobile phone and not watching the reels. Gardens, trekking sites, vehicles, restaurants, malls, riversides- every public place has become the reel-shooting site. The young people are more vulnerable to this addiction. The obsession with making reels is slowly turning every moment and every place in to a stage for social media. What starts as entertainment can become and addiction and sometimes. It comes at the cost of our privacy, dignity, time and even the career of our youth.

The muddle begins when making reels changes from a hobby in to an obsession and starts affecting studies, work, relationships, privacy or career. The young people are seen more interested in making reels to get fame and popularity. They want people to like, share and comment their reels. Other causes of the addiction include influencer culture, monetization opportunities, peer influence and fear of feeling left behind if they don’t follow the trends.

In 90’s, people used to explore the things in a different way. They travelled to experience different places, spent time with family-n-friends, played outdoors and enjoyed each moment without feeling

the need to record all these things. They used to share experiences during their exposure visit with family-n-friends. Now-a-days, we often explore things to make reels rather than to make sweet memories. They used to live the moment and now, we often live for the camera.

I am a kid of 90’s and I still remember the things well. Whenever we travelled distances, went for picnics, attended any programme, visited a new place or simply gathered with relatives or friends, we were busy living the moment rather than recording them. There were no smart phones in our hands, no cameras pointed at us and no pressure to create content for social media. We explored everything with curiosity, enjoyed conversations, played together and then returned home with sweet memories in our hearts.

The young generation focus on useless content creation compromising on their future. They ruin their future. They are losing their precious time, health, wellbeing, valuable social relations and most importantly they risk on their education, skills and goals.

Present day influencer, capture every moment of visit in his phone and then shares with the family and friends. Instead of experiencing the place, enjoying the surroundings, and creating the memories together, everyone watches the

recorded moments on a screen- while the actual experience is left behind. Perhaps they are recording too much and living too little. But what we did in our times is quite different. We used to explore, enjoy the nature and created memories in our hearts and minds. When we returned home, we carried back not hundreds of reels, but stories, feelings, experiences and vivid imagination. We would sit with our family-n-friends and narrate everything we had seen. They listened eagerly, imagined the places through our words and often became curious to explore them someday themselves.

The craze of reel- making has taken several lives and ended many in serious injuries throughout India and in J&K as well. In June 2021, a young tourist from UP died after she and her sister slipped in to the Shali Ganga stream while making reels. Her sister was rescued in an injured condition. Another accident was reported at the same spot in October 2024. In April 2023, a woman was fatally struck by a moving train while reportedly shooting a video near Srinagar-Budgam railway line. In the race to capture the perfect picture or reel, we sometimes forget that a beautiful view is not worth risking a precious life.

It is time to counsel and guide the young minds to come out of this fragile world of virtual validation and reel addiction.

tion. They need to understand that life is much important than likes, views, followers and fleeting online fame. Let them use technology as a tool, not allow technology to use them.

My suggestion to the young generation is to enjoy life before you record it. Making reels and creating digital content is not wrong, but giving it priority at the cost of your precious time, health, relationships, education and career is not fair. Do not risk your life for a few minutes of online attention. Explore places, enjoy surroundings, learn new skills, make good relations and create memories that remain in your heart and mind rather than in your smart phones. If you have talent and knowledge for content creation, use it positively to aware, inspire, inform, showcase something meaningful. Followers may come and go, trends may change, but your time, life and career will never come back. Build a life worth remembering, not just a profile worth scrolling.

Author is JK-UT Best Teacher Awardee currently posted at MS Badray, Vailoo, Anantnag Email: khandyiqbal@gmail.com

Traffic Restrictions Announced in City Ahead of IFFJK Inauguration

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Traffic Police has announced a series of restrictions and diversions in Srinagar ahead of the inauguration of the first International Film Festival of Jammu Kashmir (IFFJK) at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC) on Monday.

According to SSP Traffic City Srinagar Ajaz Ahmad Bhat, the measures will be enforced from 4 pm to 7 pm, and may continue beyond that time if the inauguration function is not concluded.

Gupkar Road will remain closed to general traffic during the restricted hours. Only invitees, festival participants, VVIPs and event staff will be allowed to use the route.

Traffic heading towards SKICC and Nehru Park from Badyari Chowk and Brein Chowk will also be restricted, with exceptions for hotel guests and local residents.

Vehicles travelling towards Nishat will be diverted via Gupkar and Hazratbal, while traffic approaching from the Nishat and Harwan sides will also be diverted towards Hazratbal.

Traffic Police said the arrangements have been put in place in view of the expected increase in vehicular movement towards the SKICC after 4 pm.

Commuters have been advised to plan their journeys in advance, avoid the restricted routes where possible and cooperate with traffic personnel deployed in the area to ensure smooth movement during the event.

Bihar Governor Meets CM Omar in Srinagar



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Governor of Bihar, Lieutenant General (Retd) Syed Ata Hasnain called on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah at the latter's residence in Srinagar.

The two exchanged views on a range of issues of mutual interest during the meeting.

Former Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir Dr Farooq Abdullah and First Lady of Bihar were also present on the occasion.



Sangarmal Land Goes for Rs 421.75 Crore to Chaya-Backed Consortium

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: A consortium backed by prominent hotelier Mushtaq Ahmad Chaya has emerged as the successful bidder for around 45 kanals of prime commercial land at Sangarmal in Srinagar, with the property fetching Rs 421.75 crore in an online auction conducted by the Srinagar Development Authority (SDA).

The auction, involving one of the city's prominent commercial properties, has triggered a political debate over the manner in which prime government assets are being monetised, with politicians Sajad Lone and Iltija Mufti offering sharply divergent reactions.

Chaya, who heads the local corporate entity in the consortium, said he had decided to participate in the bidding even before the property was formally put up for auction.

"When the Srinagar Development Authority decided to put around 45 kanal of land at Sangarmal up for online auction, I had already made up my mind to bid for it," he said.

Maintaining that he was determined to pursue the bid regardless

of the amount involved, Chaya said he was prepared to continue until the bidding process was concluded.

The consortium ultimately emerged as the highest bidder, quoting Rs 421.75 crore for the approximately 45-kanal parcel.

The auction has, however, drawn political scrutiny.

Peoples Conference president & MLA Sajad Lone, in post on X, said the consortium comprised a local corporate entity headed by Chaya and a non-local corporate entity. While defending the principle of private participation in commercial activity, Lone questioned whether the government had adopted the best possible model for maximising returns from such a valuable public asset.

Lone argued that the government should generally stay away from running commercial ventures and instead focus on creating an environment for private players. At the same time, he said he would have preferred a model under which the government retained an equity stake in the consortium rather than opting for an outright land sale.

He also questioned the reserve price, saying he believed it was on the lower side and suggesting that the auction could potentially have fetched between Rs 900 crore and Rs 1,000 crore. He acknowledged that the valuation was open to debate.

Lone compared the arrangement with the earlier Leela/Centaur hotel model and said the consortium-based approach was preferable to past practices in which public properties were allegedly transferred at significantly lower values.

He also criticised the economics of the Sangarmal Mall project, which was conceived and constructed during the PDP-Congress coalition government between 2002 and 2008. According to Lone, the project failed to generate adequate returns for the government despite the high value of the land and the expenditure incurred on construction.

"The economics of Sangarmal Mall was disastrous. Nothing for the government," Lone said, arguing that the experience demonstrated the risks of government involvement in commercial real estate.

read full story on kashmirobserver.net

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10:00 AM-1:00 PM

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Comfort Inn,
Lal Mandi, Near LD
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78767 47687 | 7006152260

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my driving licence bearing dl no: JK04 2019 0004489 as Ajiaz Hussain Akhoun S/o Mohammad Yousuf Akhoun while my correct name as per adhaar card is Ajiaz Hussain S/o Ghulam Ahmad Akhoun. 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 ARTO Srinagar within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Aijaz Hussain
S/o Ghulam Ahmad Akhoun
R/o Chak Sadarbal Naseem Bagh
Srinagar

inf

Subject:- Grant Of Registration of the Proposed Travel unit under the name & Style "M/S Miles & Memorise Pvt Ltd Situated At Zurhama Kupwara

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas I, Mr. Pirzada Abid Aziz S/O Abdul Aziz Pir R/O Zurhama Kupwara intend to apply in the Department of Tourism for registration of my proposed travel unit under the name & style of M/S Miles & Memorise Pvt Ltd Situated At Zurhama Kupwara 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: ddtreg123@gmail.com) within a period of 7days from the publication of this notice in a leading newspaper/newspapers of the valley. No objection beyond a period of 7 days shall be entertained.

fko

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,2452222,2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
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- PAMPORE: 01933-294132
- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153



HIGHWAY STATUS



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



HIJRI
CALENDAR
24 Rabi-ul-Awwal
1448

PRAYERS

FAJR	4: 45
ZUHR	12:31
ASR	5: 00
Magrib	6: 55
ISHA	8: 17

This Day In History

- 1191- Third Crusade: Battle of Arsuf - Richard I of England defeats Saladin at Arsuf.
- 1599-Earl of Essex & Irish rebel Tyrone signs treaty
- 1701- Germany, England & Netherlands sign anti-French covenant
- 1714- Treaty of Baden: Holy Roman Emperor Charles VI & France, ends War of spanish Succession, French retain Alsace,Austria gets bank of Rhine
- 1812- Battle at Borodino: Napoleon-Kutuzov
- 1909- Eugene Lefebvre becomes first pilot to die in an airplane craft, while test piloting new French-built Wright biplane at Juvisy
- 1922- In Aydin, Turkey, independence of Aydin, from Greek occupation.
- 1936- Boulder Dam (now Hoover Dam) begins operation
- 1942- Transport nr 29 departs with French Jews to nazi-Germany
- 1947- Battles between Hindus & Muslims in New Delhi, India
- 1948- 1st use of synthetic rubber in asphaltic concrete, Akron
- 1950- Monasteries shut down in Hungary
- 1965- China announces that it will reinforce its troops in the Indian border.
- 1970- Fighting between Arabic guerillas and government forces in Amman, Jordan.
- 1977- Ethiopia drops diplomatic relations with Somalia

From KO Archives

Valley Wide Alert As Experts Trace Adulterated Oil

Observer News Service

Srinagar- Officials of Food and Supplies Department and Srinagar Municipality in joint raids today seized tins of adulterated edible oil, capable of causing dreaded dropsy. Alert has been sounded and people warned not to use contaminated brands.

The joint teams today and yesterday fanned out in different directions of capital Srinagar and raided various godowns and retail outlets of edible oil, leading to the seizure of 7800 tins of P. Mark and over 100 cannisters of Hira Brand mustard oil.

Sampling, followed by analysis on war footing of the seized' edible oil tins was done by assistant public analyst from State's Drug and Food Control organisation. The assistant public analyst, Mushtaq Ahmed Khateeb confirmed adulteration in Hira brand, packed under seal number 200- 201/PFAK, Dated 4-9-1998.

P. Mark Bahadurgarh Haryana Brand was also found adulterated, as per the officials, who warned the general public this evening not to use the two contaminated brands. The analysis of other brands seized by the teams is underway and reports are expected by Sunday.

Out of 225 samples analysed in the laboratory till now, reports of only 140 were received by this evening. While 139 samples tested negative, one tested positive. That was the sample taken from Hira brand, manufactured and marketed by M/S Grower Oil Mills, Private Limited, Bari Brahamana, Jammu.

The raids were conducted by the teams at Court Road, Sarai Bala, Tankipora, Hazuribagh and other parts of the city. More teams will conduct raids tomorrow to trace out adulterated oil.

Eight tins of adulterated Hint brand were seized from a dealer at Court Road. Reports revealed that the said dealer has sold off hundreds of tins of

Hira brand to retailers all across Kashmir. Messages have been flashed to different districts to trace out the adulterated brands.

Two edible oil factories-situated at Zainakote, have also been raided and samples taken for analysis. The two factories, reports said, import oil from Jammu in huge tankers. "The factories will be sealed if the samples test positive," a top official in Srinagar Municipality said on condition of anonymity.

With detection of contaminated edible oil, panic has gripped the people in the Valley as thousands of them have been continuing their food preparations on these brands- now declared adulterated According to an eminent epidemiologist there is every chance of dropsy disease invading the state now.

(Kashmir Observer, September 07, 1998)

CYBER AWARENESS

Work Smart, Stay Safe

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ERGONOMICS

A healthy posture today, a safer digital tomorrow

Choose the Right Chair

- Good back support
- Adjustable height
- Keep your feet flat on the floor

Position Your Screen

- Top of screen at eye level
- 50-70 cm distance
- Avoid glare and reflections

Keep Your Hands and Wrists Safe

- Use a keyboard and mouse at comfortable height
- Keep wrists straight
- Take regular breaks

Maintain Good Posture

- Back straight
- Shoulders relaxed
- Elbows at 90 degrees

Take Regular Breaks

- Follow 20-20-20 rule (every 20 minutes, look 20 feet away for 20 seconds)
- Stand, stretch, move

Reduce Stress & Eye Strain

- Use proper lighting
- Adjust screen brightness
- Blink often, keep eyes moist

Sit Right
Work Bright
Stay Safe

Prevents Health Issues

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AIIMS-Jammu to Be 1st Hospital in Country to Get CISF Cover

Press Trust of India

SRINAGAR: The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Jammu could become the first hospital in the country to be guarded by an armed contingent of the CISF given its "sensitive" location close to the India-Pakistan international border, officials said.

The 226.84-acre hospital and medical college is located in the Vijaypur area of Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district, along the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway-44. The campus is located a few kilometres from the India-Pakistan International Border (IB). The hospital was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in February 2024.

Sources in the security establishment told PTI that given the "sensitive" nature of its location near the IB, the Centre has planned to provide an armed security cover to the facility.

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) is expected to be de-



ployed at the AIIMS-Jammu campus, making it the first hospital to be brought under the security cover of the central paramilitary force, the sources said.

They added that a security survey and a manpower-estimation exercise are currently underway. The Ministry of Home Affairs

(MHA) has for long resisted deploying armed personnel at hospitals post the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks, when health facilities were targeted by the terrorists.

The officials said there have been demands from many hospitals to get a CISF security cover for their campuses after 2008, but

such proposals were turned down after a broad security assessment of the potential threats to these institutions and the limited manpower of the force. There are many hospitals in the government and private domains that experience high footfall. Incidentally, CISF personnel

have been temporarily deployed at the R G Kar Hospital premises in Kolkata following a Supreme Court directive in August 2024 in the backdrop of the rape and murder of a doctor there.

The AIIMS-Jammu deployment is expected to be a permanent duty for the CISF, the officials said.

The force, which guards vital installations in the space, nuclear and power-sector domains, is also expected to be deployed for the security of the Kolkata Metro.

The 58 stations of the Kolkata Metro along 74 km are currently guarded by the Railway Protection Force (RPF). Once sanctioned, it will be the second metro rail network in the country after the Delhi Metro to be brought under a CISF cover, the officials said.

The paramilitary force is also expected to be deployed to guard the only civil airport in Arunachal Pradesh -- the Donyi Polo Airport at Hollongi in Papum Pare district.

Chief Minister Pema Khandu recently mentioned about the move in a social media post.

Tarigami Questions Centre's Normalcy Claims

Press Trust of India

JAMMU: Senior CPI (M) leader Mohd Yousuf Tarigami on Sunday called for the restoration of the rights of people of Jammu and Kashmir, asserting that undermining their political and constitutional rights would neither serve the interests of the country nor help establish lasting peace.

He also questioned the Centre's claims of normalcy in the Union territory, saying the government must explain why members of the Kashmiri Pandit community are once again receiving threats from terrorists despite repeated assertions that peace has returned to the region.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of a function organized here to pay homage to party's General Secretary Sitaram Yechury ahead of his second death anniversary on September 12,

Tarigami criticised the BJP over recent protests in Jammu and Srinagar.

"The BJP is also protesting, as is the National Conference (for statehood). But tell me, I myself could not understand what exactly the BJP is protesting about. As far as the BJP is concerned, they have the Government of India with them, and even the government here is effectively in their hands--the administration and officials here," the Kulgam MLA said.

He asked whom the BJP could hold responsible for issues relating to governance and public order.

"So, whom are they going to complain to? Whom are they going to hold responsible? What exactly are they trying to say?" he said.

Tarigami also criticised the manner in which Jam-



mu and Kashmir had been reorganised and called for restoration of what he described as the region's rights.

"The people cannot be misled for too long. Times are changing, both in Kashmir and here in Jammu," he said.

Referring to the legislature, he alleged that it had been rendered powerless by the Centre.

"We hope that the legislature will be restored to its rightful position. The legislature has been rendered powerless--who has made it powerless? The Government of India has done so," he said.

He called for restoration of the rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, saying the move was essential for the region's future.

"The rights granted to the people of Jammu and Kashmir by the Constitution and the Constituent Assembly should be restored. That is where our security lies, and that is where our future lies as well...This is a question of the rights of Jammu. It is also a question of the rights of Kashmir. Therefore, weakening the people of Jammu and Kashmir does not serve the interests of the country. It will not help establish lasting peace," he said.

Tarigami also raised questions over land and employment protections that existed during the rule of last Dogra ruler Maharaja Hari Singh, asking

who subsequently changed those laws. "I would like the BJP, and the BJP government, to answer this before the people of Jammu."

The CPI(M) leader sought accountability over the fresh threats held out to Kashmiri pandits. "They say the situation has improved and there is peace everywhere. This is what they say in Parliament and elsewhere. Then why is it happening again that a community--a minority community, which has already suffered immensely--is once again facing threats?"

He said the government must explain who was behind such incidents and what steps were being taken against them.

"The government needs to be held accountable on this issue. It must take the people into confidence and explain what is happening, which forces are behind such threats, and what the government is doing or intends to do to deal with those forces," Tarigami said. Paying homage to Yechury, he said the struggle associated with his leadership would continue, particularly for the rights of workers, farmers, youth, students and women.

Tarigami also appealed to the people of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh to maintain their bonds despite the political changes and divisions in the region. On youth issues, the CPI(M) leader criticised the Centre over employment and the handling of student protests, referring to demonstrations at Delhi's Jantar Mantar in July.

"Until our young people protested at Jantar Mantar, faced lathis and sent to jail, the government did not listen," he said.

Sainik School Manasbal Alumni Elect First President in 45 Years

Mohammed Yousuf Wani

SRINAGAR -- Alumni of J&K Sainik School, Manasbal, have elected Mohammed Yousuf Wani, a member of the institution's first batch, as the first president of their association, 45 years after the school admitted its inaugural batch.

Wani was declared elected on September 3 after securing 344 of the 765 valid votes polled in an election in which the association said the electoral roll, voting figures and complete counting details were placed in the public domain.

The election recorded a turnout of nearly 74 per cent, with 1,034 alumni from 39 batches registered on the electoral roll. The voters included alumni based in India and abroad.

Dr Nawab Nasir Aman secured 226 votes, followed by Mohammed Ijaz Ul Haq Kanth with 112, Junaid Ahmad Wani with 42 and Farooq Zaidi with 41 votes.

The election was conducted by an independent four-member Election Commission headed by alumnus Hamid Hajni. Its other members were Dr G R Beigh, HOD Electronics & Communications Engineering at the NIT; Dr Bashir Ahmad, IRS, Inspector General of Registrations; and chartered accountant and registered valuer Ovais Shah.

The commission said it prepared and published the electoral roll within three weeks and kept it open to objections for a week. Five nominations were scrutinised, and two online public debates were held before polling.

The electronic ballot system was designed to pre-



vent manipulation and preserve voter confidentiality, according to the association.

Each voter was issued a confidential, one-time Voter ID, while the ballot record was kept view-only by five custodians. A cryptographic fingerprint of the complete record was generated every 10 minutes during the two-day polling period and shared with all five custodians, it said.

The commission said no one, including its members, could view the voting pattern before counting. The count was conducted on a recorded call in the presence of all four commission members and was followed by two independent recounts.

Of 986 ballots received, 765 were declared valid. The remaining 221 were rejected -- 142 because of repeat submissions against Voter IDs that had already been used and 79 because the IDs were not on the electoral roll.

The association said the rejected ballots and reasons for rejection, along with the complete count sheet and valid ballots identified by voter ID, were made available on its website.

"Seven hundred and sixty-five men voted from Manasbal, Leh, Delhi, the Gulf and Canada, and every one of them can check on his phone that his ballot was counted," Hajni said.

"We did not ask the members to trust the Commission. We built it so they did not have to," he said.

Wani took oath as president on September 5 at an online ceremony attended by alumni from across India and abroad. The Principal of J&K Sainik School, Manasbal, was also present and addressed the alumni.

In his address, Wani said his mandate extended to all alumni irrespective of the batch or region they belonged to.

"I am not the President of the men who voted for me. I am the President of every alumnus of this School, of every batch and every region," he said.

Wani said his immediate priorities included setting up an independent Constitution Drafting Committee, with applications open to all members, and holding a formal gathering at the school on September 14, the anniversary of the first batch's admission.

The association has around 2,800 alumni, including serving and retired armed forces personnel, civil servants, doctors, engineers, academics and entrepreneurs across India and abroad.

Its stated objectives include supporting alumni facing hardship, mentoring and providing scholarships to students, and assisting the school.

J&K Sainik School, Manasbal, situated on the banks of Manasbal Lake in Ganderbal district, admitted its first batch on September 14, 1981. The institution has since trained students from across Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh, with many pursuing careers in the armed forces, civil services and other professions.

Ladakh Marathon Draws 8,000 Registrations

LEH: Around 8,000 participants have registered so far for the upcoming Ladakh Marathon, an official said on Sunday, as Chief Secretary Ashish Kundra reviewed preparations and arrangements for the region's premier sporting event.

Kundra inspected the NDS Indoor Stadium, Leh, describing the growing participation in the Ladakh Marathon as a proud moment for the union territory.

"The event has gained recognition well beyond the region and provides an important opportunity to showcase Ladakh's natural landscape, culture and remarkable spirit of endurance to the world," the Chief secretary said.

During the review, the organisers informed that around 8,000 participants have registered for the Ladakh Marathon so far, with participation expected from across the country and different parts of the world, an official spokesman said.

He said the event is drawing participants from different states and union territories as well as international destinations, making it a significant occasion for Ladakh to host a truly global sporting event.

Kundra urged the people of Ladakh, particularly local youth and residents, to participate enthusiastically in the marathon and contribute to making the event a grand success.

He emphasised that the participation of local people would add greater meaning and vibrancy to the event while further strengthening Ladakh's identity as a destination for high-altitude sports and adventure.

Referring to the Silk Route Ultra, the Chief Secretary highlighted the remarkable endurance demanded by the 122-km race, which this year begins from Kyagar village in Nubra Valley on September 10 and follows the historic Silk Route through villages including Sumur, Lakjung, Tirth, Khalsar and Khardung before crossing the high-altitude Khardung La and finishing in Leh.

He noted that the race reflects the exceptional endurance, resilience and sporting spirit associated with Ladakh, while showcasing the region's challenging terrain and unique high-altitude environment to the wider sporting community.

The Chief Secretary expressed his best wishes to the organisers, participants, volunteers and all stakeholders involved in the Ladakh Marathon and called for coordinated efforts to ensure that the event is conducted smoothly, successfully and to the highest standards.

The inspection underscored the UT Administration's commitment to supporting major sporting events in Ladakh and leveraging them to promote sports, fitness, tourism and the region's growing reputation on the national and international sporting map, the spokesman said. (Press Trust of India)

Public Advisory Issued for Kailash Yatra-2026 in Bhaderwah

BHADERWAH: Additional District Magistrate Bhaderwah Sunil Kumar Bhutyal has issued a Public Advisory for the safe and smooth conduct of the Kailash Yatra-2026, scheduled to be held from September 8 to September 10, 2026.

The advisory highlights the challenging nature of the pilgrimage to Kailash Kund, situated at an altitude of around 14,500 feet and urges devotees to undertake the Yatra with adequate preparation, caution and strict adherence to the instructions of the Yatra Administration.

Devotees have been advised to ensure their physical fitness, carry valid identity proof, begin the journey early, maintain a slow and steady pace, take adequate rest and stay properly hydrated. Pilgrims have also been advised to follow weather advisories issued by the IMD and District Administration and carry essential items including warm and waterproof clothing, rain gear, suitable footwear, torch, medicines, food items and other necessary supplies.

The advisory further stresses that pilgrims experiencing symptoms of high-altitude illness should immediately descend to a lower elevation and seek medical assistance.

As part of the precautionary measures, persons above 70 years, children below 14 years, persons suffering from serious illnesses, pregnant women and lactating mothers with their babies have been advised not to undertake the Yatra beyond the specified points, keeping in view the difficult terrain and high-altitude conditions.

The administration has strictly prohibited intoxicants, narcotic drugs, alcohol, caffeinated drinks and tobacco products, with violators liable to action under relevant laws. Pilgrims have also been directed to use only designated tracks, avoid shortcuts and refrain from activities causing pollution or damage to the local ecology, flora and fauna. Single-use plastics are strictly banned in the Yatra area.

The administration has urged all devotees to cooperate with the authorities and follow the prescribed safety and environmental guidelines for a safe, disciplined and spiritually fulfilling Kailash Yatra-2026.

For emergencies, pilgrims can contact the designated Tehsildars, Police, Block Development Officers, Medical Officers, Forest officials and Station House Officer, Bhaderwah. (Observer News Service)

Koul Takes Stock of BJP Morchas' Grassroots Outreach in J&K

SRINAGAR: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) General Secretary (Org.), Jammu Kashmir, Ashok Koul, alongside BJP General Secretary J&K Mohammad Anwar Khan chaired a review meeting of all BJP Morchas at Church Lane, Srinagar, to take stock of the ongoing organisational and public outreach programmes being undertaken across Jammu & Kashmir.

Waqf Board Chairperson and MoS Dr Darakhshan Andrabi, along with other senior party leaders and office-bearers, were present on the occasion.

The meeting brought together representatives of the party's various Morchas to review the progress of ongoing programmes, organisational activities and outreach initiatives among different sections of society. The Morcha leaders briefed the party leadership on the activities being undertaken at the grassroots level and shared feedback on their respective programmes.

Ashok Koul emphasised the importance of strengthening the party organisation at the grassroots level and ensuring effective implementation of ongoing party programmes. He urged the Morcha leaders to maintain regular public outreach, strengthen coordination and work with dedication and commitment.

He said the Morchas have an important role in connecting the organisation with different sections of society and taking the party's programmes and initiatives to the people. He called upon the office-bearers to remain actively engaged with the public and further strengthen the organisational network across Jammu & Kashmir.

The meeting focused on reviewing the progress of ongoing programmes, enhancing coordination among the Morchas and chalking out further outreach activities in the coming days. (Observer News Service)

Innovation, Diversification Take Centre Stage at KVK Bandipora Meet

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The 20th Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Bandipora, SKUAST-Kashmir, was held under the chairmanship of Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai, Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST-Kashmir, with a focus on strengthening farmer-centric extension, promoting agricultural diversification and expanding technology-led interventions in the district.

Indu Kanwal Chib, Deputy Commissioner, Bandipora, attended the meeting as Guest of Honour, while Prof. Raihana Habib Kanth, Director Extension, SKUAST-Kashmir, participated in the deliberations.

The meeting began with a presentation on the Annual Progress Report 2025-26, highlighting the major activities and achievements of KVK Bandipora during the year. Dr. Tariq Sultan, Programme Co-ordinator, KVK Bandipora, subsequently presented the Action Plan for the forthcoming period



and outlined the KVK's proposed thrust areas, including crop diversification, aquatic agriculture, horticulture, protected cultivation, value addition, technology demonstrations, farmer training and capacity building.

Dr. Sultan also apprised the Committee of the ongoing initiatives and proposed programmes

aimed at addressing the emerging production and livelihood needs of farmers in the district.

In his address, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai appreciated the efforts of KVK Bandipora in implementing farmer-oriented extension programmes and stressed the need for stronger technology dissemination, adoption of inno-

vative and climate-resilient agricultural practices, and interventions focused on enhancing farm income and improving farmers' livelihoods.

Indu Kanwal Chib appreciated the KVK's contribution towards agricultural development in Bandipora and called for continued coordination between KVK Bandi-

pura and the district administration to strengthen farmer-oriented initiatives.

Prof. Raihana Habib Kanth emphasised the importance of need-based extension programmes, field demonstrations, capacity building and effective farmer-scientist interaction.

Progressive farmers participating in the meeting shared their field-level experiences, observations and suggestions on agricultural production and emerging challenges in the district.

The SAC members held detailed discussions on the Annual Progress Report and Action Plan and offered suggestions for further strengthening the activities of KVK Bandipora.

The meeting concluded with an emphasis on strengthening farmer-centric extension, promoting innovative agricultural technologies, diversifying farming systems and addressing the priority needs of the farming community in Bandipora. (Observer News Service)

London-bound Plane Makes 'Emergency Landing' at Bengaluru

Press Trust of India

BENGALURU: A London-bound Virgin Atlantic flight carrying 270 passengers was forced to make an "emergency landing" at the Kempegowda International Airport here on Sunday after developing a technical glitch shortly after take-off, sources at Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), which operates KIAB, said.

The flight took off from KIAB at around 8.20 am but reportedly developed a technical issue soon after departure, prompting the crew to circle the aircraft

near Tumakuru for more than half an hour before returning to Bengaluru.

"All passengers on board are safe," sources at BIAL said, adding that the aircraft was brought back to KIAB as a safety precaution and made an emergency landing.

The exact nature of the technical problem was not immediately known. Authorities are looking into the cause of the incident.

However, there was no immediate reaction from the airlines.

The flight was carrying approximately 270 passengers bound for London.

Rs 1-Cr Gold Bracelet Seized at IGI Airport

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Customs officials have seized a diamond-studded gold bracelet valued at more than Rs 1.07 crore and around 15 kg of suspected marijuana worth approximately Rs 5.25 crore in two separate cases at the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport here, officials said on Sunday.

In the first case, two Turkish nationals arriving from Istanbul were intercepted by Airport Customs Preventive officers at Terminal 3 on August 19, an official statement said.

Following a detailed baggage and personal search, the officers seized a gold bracelet studded with diamonds, the statement said.

According to the statement, the bracelet, made of 750-purity gold, weighed 87.5 grams and contained approximately 10 grams

of diamonds, equivalent to around 50 carats.

The provisional value of the bracelet was assessed at Rs 10,786,301, the statement said.

The bracelet was seized under section 110 of the Customs Act, 1962, and both passengers were arrested under section 104 of the Act.

In a separate case on September 4, customs officers, acting on profiling, intercepted a Malaysian passenger arriving from Kuala Lumpur at Terminal 3, another statement said.

The passenger was diverted at the Green Channel for an examination of her trolley bag, which led to the seizure of 30 polythene pouches containing suspected marijuana, the statement said.

The substance weighed 15,015.5 grams (net weight) and was valued at approximately Rs 5.25 crore, it added.

School Struck in Iran War Now Memorial for Children



AP

MINAB: This will never be a school again.

Its bright blue gate is still painted with the symbols that once welcomed children: Iran's map, oversized pencils and portraits of legends in science and literature.

But now, the walkway beyond it guides visitors past rows of photographs. They show children busy living, at birthday parties and more. Then come the same small faces on black banners of mourning.

This is the emerging memorial to the schoolchildren killed in the attack in the earliest moments of the

war that the United States and Israel began across Iran on February 28. Strikes hit the Shajareh Tayyeb school in Minab.

More than 100 students were killed. Months later, the Trump administration still has not directly accepted responsibility for the strike or released the Pentagon's findings, even as an Associated Press investigation found evidence that US missile hit the school.

Attention turned to Minab again in the past week when a new round of US strikes along Iran's southern coast struck a wedding and other areas, killing five and sending some of the injured to a hospital in the community.

Man United Stunned by Late Everton Equaliser in 2-2 Draw

AP

MANCHESTER: Ainsley Maitland-Niles struck in added time to rescue a 2-2 draw for Everton against Manchester United in the Premier League on Sunday.

The deadline day signing came off the bench to make his debut and curled a brilliant long-range shot into the top corner to salvage a point for his new club.

United twice led at Hill Dickinson Stadium through goals from Bryan Mbeumo and Benjamin Sesko, who looked to have scored the winner in the 88th. But Everton had an answer on both occasions, with Tyrrique George also scoring.

"Everybody wants to start off like that," Maitland-Niles said. "The ball fell to me on the edge of the box. I put my foot through it, it ended up in the top corner, which I'm happy about."

It was another setback for

United, which has just one win from its opening three games of the season after a loss to Hull and victory against Ipswich.

Defensive frailties cost United again as it conceded two goals for the third game running.

Mbeumo fired United in front straight after halftime with a low shot into the far corner. George lashed in a near-post equalizer in the 83rd, but substitute Sesko headed United back in front.

The visitors were seconds away from three points when the ball broke to Maitland-Niles outside the box in the sixth minute of added time and his first-time shot left United goalkeeper Senne Lammens standing.

"We just knew that we could get back into the game, that's what we did," said George. "We couldn't get the win but it felt like a win definitely."



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