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J&K Filmmakers Shine At IFFJK, Bag 3 Awards



Observer News Service

Srinagar: Filmmakers from Jammu and Kashmir made a strong mark at the First International Film Festival of Jammu and Kashmir (IFFJK) 2026, securing three of the nine awards presented during the inaugural edition of the festival. Baba Tasaduq Hussain won the Best Cinematography Award for the documentary Naqsh-e-Daur (The Story of Ghulam Nabi Dhar), earning recognition for its visual storytelling and cinematic treatment.

The Best Emerging Filmmaker Award was conferred on Askini: The Guiding Darkness, directed by Ajit Singh Bhasin, in recognition of its distinctive cinematic voice and creative approach.

Filmmaker Kapil Mattoo's Tasruddar – The Jinns of Kashmir won the Best Film from Jammu and Kashmir Select category, adding another major honour to the region's tally.

The three awards, spanning cinematography, emerging filmmaking and the best film from J&K, highlighted the diversity of cinematic talent emerging from the Union Territory.

Several other films by local filmmakers also received appreciation during the festival. Batt Koch (The Lost Lane), directed by Siddarth Koul and Ankit Wali, was screened as the closing film and received appreciation from filmmaker Ramesh Sippy and audiences.

Tasruddar (Djinns of Kashmir) by | [More on P6](#)

Terror Outfits Must Find No Operational Space: DGP

Directs intelligence-led operations, stronger inter-agency coordination to counter narco-terror networks

Observer News Service

Jammu: Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat on Saturday directed officers to intensify action against narco-terror modules in the Jammu region and ensure that terror outfits and their support structures find no operational space.

Prabhat chaired a high-level security review meeting with officers of Jammu Police to assess the prevailing security situation and review action being taken against narco-terror networks and their support modules. "Dismantling the entire



ecosystem of narco-terror networks, including financiers, handlers and logistical support, must remain a top priority," the DGP said.

He directed officers to maintain a high | [More on P6](#)

BRICS Adopts New Delhi Declaration With Consensus Skips Mentioning US Attack On Iran

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: In a major diplomatic victory for India, the BRICS grouping adopted a consensus joint declaration on Saturday after overcoming sharp differences between the United Arab Emirates and Tehran regarding the West Asia conflict but skipped any direct mention of the US strikes on Iran or the Iranian military's attacks on several Gulf Arab nations.

The New Delhi Declaration also did not criticise Russia's war on Ukraine but was severely



critical of Israel for continuing violence in Gaza and called for fulfilling the aspirations of the Palestinian people.

BRICS, without naming the US, also voiced serious concerns over

the proliferation of "trade-restrictive actions" such as "discriminate" tariffs and non-tariff measures as well as protectionism, saying they threatened to further | [More on P6](#)

Global South Must Become 'Rule Shaper': PM Modi

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The Global South must become a "rule shaper", and the existing "pyramid of privilege" in global governance must give way to a "platform of partnership", Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday at the BRICS Summit where India secured a consensus joint declaration despite sharp differences between the UAE and Iran over the West Asia conflict. | [More on P6](#)

Mufti Welcomes BRICS Pahalgam Attack Condemnation Questions Silence On Gaza, Iran; Says Terrorism Cannot Be Selective

DP chief Mehbooba Mufti on Saturday welcomed the BRICS condemnation of last year's Pahalgam attack in Jammu and Kashmir, but said terrorism cannot be condemned selectively and that international justice cannot have double standards.

"Welcome the BRICS condemnation of the

Pahalgam terror attack. But India, as the current BRICS chair, should have shown courage and true leadership by moving a resolution that also unequivocally condemned Israel's genocide in Gaza and the US-Israeli attack on Iran, which not only killed several of its political leaders but also | [More on P6](#)

NHM Strike Enters 4th Day, 12,000 Employees Remain Off Duty Across J&K

Health Minister Itoo urges employees to resume duties, says Govt has taken up demands with Centre

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The agitation by employees of the National Health Mission (NHM) continued across Jammu and Kashmir for the fourth consecutive day on Saturday, with around 12,000 workers remaining off duty in support of their long-pending demands.

The strike has affected healthcare activities at several locations, with protesting employees insisting that they would continue their agitation until the government provides a concrete and written



assurance on their demands. The employees have been seeking revision of their

remuneration, removal of pay disparities with NHM workers in | [More on P6](#)

Veterinary Interns' Stipend Protest Enters 6th Day

Observer News Service

The protest by veterinary interns of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural

Sciences and Technology-Kashmir (SKUAST-K), Shuhama, over their monthly stipend entered its sixth day on Saturday, with the students intensifying their | [More on P6](#)

Decision Will Be Collective: Ruhullah On His Political Future

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Lok Sabha MP Ruhullah Mehdi on Saturday said he will soon announce his political future after holding discussions with the people of Jammu and Kashmir, particularly the youth, weeks after deciding to part ways with the National Conference on "ideological grounds".

"I will sit down with everyone, especially with the youth. Whatever decision is made, it will be a collective one -- whether to form a new party, not form one, or what to do next. It will be a collective decision taken together with the people of Jammu and Kashmir, especially the youth," Ruhullah told reporters in Ganderbal district.

Responding to a question about whether he would join another political party or form a new one, Ruhullah said he

first wanted to "free" himself from certain "chains" before taking the next step.

"First, let me free myself from certain chains on November 3. Let me break those chains, let me cut those ropes," he said.

Ruhullah had announced that he would quit the Lok Sabha and resign from the primary membership of the NC on November 3, coinciding with the 26th death anniversary of his father Aga Syed Mehdi, who was killed by terrorists.

Ruhullah won the Srinagar Lok Sabha constituency in the 2024 general elections. However, he has frequently disagreed with the NC leadership over what he described as its shift in position on the restoration of Article 370 and its failure to fulfil promises made during the elections. Shortly after | [More on P6](#)

LeT Conspiracy Case

NIA Raids 10 Locations Across J&K

Agencies

Srinagar: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Saturday conducted searches at 10 locations across Jammu and Kashmir as part of an ongoing investigation into an alleged cross-border conspiracy involving Pakistan-based handlers of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and their suspected network of local over-ground workers.

According to officials, the searches were carried out at locations in Kupwara, Kulgam, Bandipora, Baramulla and Sopore to gather further evidence related to the alleged conspiracy and ascertain the roles of individuals suspected of providing logistical and other support to infiltrated terrorists.

The searches were conducted at residential premises, with NIA teams assisted by local police and security personnel during the operation.

Officials said the investigation is focused on alleged links between Pakistan-based handlers and their local network in Jammu and Kashmir. The agency is also examining the nature of the alleged logistical support and other | [More on P6](#)

Assembly Autumn Session Speaker Forms BAC; All-Party Meet Next Week

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Ahead of the upcoming autumn session of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather has constituted the Business Advisory Committee (BAC).

According to a notification, a copy of which is in possession of the news agency Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the committee has been constituted under Rule 317 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir.

The committee comprises legislators from different political parties, including Leader of Opposition Sunil Kumar Sharma of the BJP, Ali Muhammad Sagar and Mubarak Gul of the National Conference, Muhammad

Yousuf Tarigami of the CPI(M), Ghulam Ahmad Mir of the Congress, Sajad Gani Lone of the Peoples Conference and Independent MLA Choudhary Muhammad Akram.

The BAC is entrusted with recommending the allocation of time for discussion on Government Bills and other business referred to it by the Speaker.

Under the rules, the committee may also frame a timetable specifying the hours by which different stages of such business are to be completed, besides performing any other functions assigned to it by the Speaker.

Sources said Rather is likely to convene an all-party meeting next week to discuss arrangements and ensure the smooth functioning of the 10-day-long Assembly session. Representatives | [More on P6](#)

Rain, Thundershowers Likely Across J&K From Sept 14

Hailstorm Ravages Crops, Orchards in Beerwah

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: The Meteorological Centre Srinagar has forecast generally dry weather across Jammu and Kashmir on September 12 and 13, with brief spells of rain or thundershowers likely at isolated to scattered places during the late afternoon and evening.

From September 14 to 16, rain or thundershowers are likely at scattered to many places, particularly during the early morning and afternoon-evening hours, the Met Centre said.

The weather is expected to remain generally dry from September 17 to 22, with isolated rain spells.

The Met Centre has advised caution over thundershowers, lightning and gusty winds at a few places during September 14 to 16. Farmers have also been advised to continue harvesting apple and paddy crops and other agricultural operations.

Meanwhile, a sudden hailstorm accompanied by strong winds during the intervening night damaged standing crops and orchards across parts | [More on P6](#)

NH-44 Blocked After Fresh Landslides

Agencies

The Jammu-Srinagar National Highway was blocked on Saturday after fresh landslides, mudslides | [More on P6](#)



Artist Masood Hussain's hand-painted Pashmina shawls bring the mystical verses of Lal Ded to life at 'Vakhs of Silence' exhibition in Srinagar. KO Photo By Abid Bhat



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Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BARAMULLA

Subject: Postponement of Sortition (Draw of Lots) for allotment of shops to dislocated shopkeepers in Shopping Complex, General Bus Stand, Baramulla.

NOTICE

All concerned dislocated shopkeepers are hereby informed that the Sortition (Draw of Lots) for allotment of shops in the Double Storey Shopping Complex at General Bus Stand, Baramulla, which was earlier rescheduled to be held on 16-09-2026 at 2:00 PM, has been postponed and is now scheduled to be held on 19-09-2026 at 11:00 AM in the Office of the Municipal Council Baramulla.

Therefore, all the concerned dislocated shopkeepers are hereby informed to take note of the revised date and time and remain present at the venue accordingly. All other terms and conditions of the original Sortition Notice issued vide No. MC/Bla/2026/2261-68 dated 07-08-2026 shall remain unchanged.

Yours faithfully
Chief Executive Officer
Municipal Council Baramulla

No: MC/Bla/2026/3292-95
DIPK-NB-1620/26
Dated: 12/09/2026

OFFICE OF EXCISE & TAXATION OFFICER Excise Range South Kashmir (APSK) HQ K P Road Anantnag

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the Information of the General Public that M/S Reshi Associates,Pharmaceutical Distributors, K P Road Nai -Basti Anantnag has applied for the issuance of NP-5 License . If any person has any objection in this regard, the same shall be submitted within a period of 10 days from the date of the issuance of this notice in the office of Excise And Taxtaion Officer, Excise Range Anantnag-Pulwama Shopian-Kulgam (HQ K. P Road Anantnag). No objection shall be entertained after the stipulated time period of 15 days.

S/d
Excise and Taxation Officer
Excise Range,
Anantnag- Pulwama- Shopian -Kulgam H.Q Anantnag.
DIPK-5617/26
dated: 12-09-2026

Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir (UT)

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER BARAMULLA

Kanli Bagh, Baramulla-193101, J&K

Subject: Invitation of applications for deputation of Warden and Assistant Warden in ST/G&B Girls Hostel Khowajabagh, District Baramulla.

Reference: Director Tribal Affairs Department, J&K's No. DTA-STBG/8/2025-01/4293-96 dated 24.07.2026 and No. STBG/8/2025-01/3536-39 dated 19.06.2026

NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited from the eligible Female Masters belonging to ST-I Category working in the School Education Department, District Baramulla for the post of Warden in ST/G&B Girls Hostel Khowajabagh, District Baramulla and Female Teachers belonging to ST-I Category working in the School Education Department District Baramulla for the post of Assistant Warden in ST/G&B Girls Hostel Khowajabagh, District Baramulla, strictly as per Government Order No. 557-JK (GAD) of 2023 dated 09.05.2023 issued by the General Administration Department.

Eligibility Criteria:-

1.	Seniority/Length of service	Will be considered, supported by attested seniority lists and Service Book pages.
2.	Administrative Skills	Experience as wardens, Middle School Heads, or qualifications in management, finance, public administration, or sports
3.	Suitability for the Post	Candidates must have a clean service record, certified by the DDO.
4.	Career Record	Exceptional academic, administrative, or sports achievements.
5.	Willingness to Serve	Candidates must provide consent for assigned duties.
6.	Proximity to the Hostel	Domicile certificates will be considered.
7.	Verification/Character Antecedents Certificate	Vigilance Clearance and Character Antecedents Certificate will be sought post short listing.
8.	Attributes from 01 to 06	Will be quantitatively assessed as per grading matrix fixed by the authorities.

The application forms (annexed as Annexure – “A”) to this notification along with requisite documents duly attested/authenticated by the concerned DDO should reach this office by or before **21.09.2026 up to 02:00 PM.**

Sd/= **Chief Education Officer Baramulla**
(Member Secretary, DLSC)
No. CEO/Bla/P1g/
Dated:- **DIPK-5614/26 dated: 12-09-2026**

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, REHANA AKHTER W/O ISHFAQ AHMAD RESHI, R/O KUNCHIPORA, TEHSIL KUNZER, DISTRICT BARAMULLA, J&K UT, being the mother/guardian of my ward RESHI USMAN, hereby inform the general public that his name has been wrongly entered in his Aadhaar Card bearing No. 3613 7185 9463 as “MAHRAN ISHFAQ” instead of his correct name “RESHI USMAN”. The correct name of my ward is RESHI USMAN, as recorded in his School Birth Certificate/School records. I have applied for correction of the same in the Aadhaar records.

Any person having any objection in this regard may file the same before the concerned authority within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which no objection shall be entertained.

REHANA AKHTER
W/O ISHFAQ AHMAD RESHI
R/O KUNCHIPORA, TEHSIL KUNZER,
DISTRICT BARAMULLA, J&K UT

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, SUHAIL AHMAD BAKHSHI, S/o GULAM HASSAN BAKHSHI, R/o Ranbir Pora, Kunzer, District Baramulla, J&K UT, hereby give notice to the general public that I intend to apply for registration of a Tour and Travel Agency under the name and style of “EASY RIDE KASHMIR TOUR AND TRAVEL”, having its proposed office at Kunzer, District Baramulla, J&K UT.

Any person having any objection regarding the proposed registration of the said Tour and Travel Agency may submit his/her objection before the Assistant Director, Tourism, Gulmarg, within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice.

SUHAIL AHMAD BAKHSHI S/o Gulam Hassan Bakhshi
R/o Ranbir Pora, Kunzer,
District Baramulla, J&K UT.

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, ABID AHMAD MAGRAY S/O MOHAMMAD ASSADULLAH MAGRAY, FATHER OF DUHA ABID, R/O GUND-I-MAQSOOD, TEHSIL KUNZER, DISTRICT BARAMULLA, J&K UT, hereby inform the general public that the name of my ward has been wrongly entered in his Aadhaar Card bearing No. 2640 4154 0439 as “DUWA AABID” instead of his correct name “DUHA ABID”.

I have applied for correction of the name in the Aadhaar records from “DUWA AABID” to “DUHA ABID”, as per the School Certificate Record.

Any person having any objection in this regard may file the same before the concerned authority within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which no objection shall be entertained.

ABID AHMAD MAGRAY
S/O MOHAMMAD ASSADULLAH MAGRAY
FATHER OF DUHA ABID

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, JAVEID AHMAD MALIK S/O GH. MOHI-U-DIN MALIK, R/O LALPORA, TEHSIL KUNZER, P/S KUNZER, DISTRICT BARAMULLA, J&K UT, do hereby inform the general public that I was born on 18/04/1985 at my residential place at Lalpora. My date of birth was not recorded/registered in the relevant records at the time of my birth due to omission of my parents. I intend to get my Date of Birth registered in the records of Block Lalpora and obtain a Date of Birth Certificate as per my School Certificate/School records for official purposes.

Any person having any objection in this regard may file the same before the concerned authority/Block Lalpora within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. After the expiry of the said period, no objection shall be entertained.

JAVEID AHMAD MALIK
S/O GH. MOHI-U-DIN MALIK
R/O LALPORA, TEHSIL KUNZER,
DISTRICT BARAMULLA, J&K UT

zk

NOTICE

It is information to the general public that my name in Adhaar card bearing No:-**3043-3191-4113 has inadvertently recorded as Anleeba Akhter which is incorrect.** while my correct and actual Name is **Anleefa Bano.** Now I want the same to be corrected. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the Concerned Authority, within a period of seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be entertained.

Anleefa Bano
D/o Mohd Akbar Mir
R/o Chukar Tehsil Kunzer District Baramulla

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Bazila Khanyari r/o Sangeen Darwaza, Hawal, Sgr want to publish via this newspaper column that I want to correct my name mentioned as Bazila Showkat in my current accounts i.e. 0217040400009099 at Nallamar Branch JK Bank and 0342040100016003 at SKIMS Branch JK bank to Bazila Khanyari as mentioned in my Adhar Card.

ss

The Jammu And Kashmir Board Of School Education

New Campus Bemina Srinagar

I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class- 10th) under Roll No.: 25139 Session: OCT/ NOV Year 1984 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. Due to the error committed against my Father's Name & DOB as Kh Gh Mohd Wani, DOB 05-11-1963 instead of Gh Mohd Wani, DOB 05-11-1965

Now, I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. New Campus Bemina. Srinagar, if any person has any objection in this regard, may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Certificates-KD within seven days from the date of Publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period no objection will be entertained.
Name: Iftikhar Ahmad Wani
Father's name: Gh Mohd Wani
Mother's Name: Raja Begum
DOB: 05-11-1965
Residence: Onagam Bandipora
Mobile no: 700630869



fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Hakim Mushtaq Ahmad S/o Hakim Abdul Rahman R/o Arahama, presently posted in Traffic Police City Srinagar and serving as Sub-Inspector under Belt No. 172/GBL, hereby notify the general public that my name has not been correctly recorded in my Service Book at the time of my initial appointment in the Police Department. My correct name, as reflected in my School Certificate/School Record, Aadhaar Card, PAN Card and other valid documents, is: Hakim Mushtaq Ahmad S/o Hakim Abdul Rahman R/o Arahama I intend to get the necessary correction of my name made in my Service Book to ensure consistency with my official records and documents. Any person having any objection to the above-mentioned correction may file the same before the concerned authority within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. After the expiry of the said period, no objection shall be entertained.

SI Hakim Mushtaq Ahmad
S/o Hakim Abdul Rahman R/o Arahama,
Belt No. 172/GBL EXK No. 891816

Media line advt

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Showket Ahmad Kumar F/o Sauleha Showket R/o Kurhama, Ganderbal hereby declare that due to an inadvertent error the name of my daughter were wrongly recorded in the school records.

Incorrect Name: Sauleh Showkat

Correct Name: Sauleha Showket

if any person has any objection to the above mentioned corrections they may inform the concerned authority within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice .After 7 days no objection shall be entertained

Showket Ahmad Kumar
F/o Sauleha Showket

Media line advt

Office Of The Naib Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject Application of RAFIA AKHTER & KHUSHNEEDA AKHTER D/O NOOR UD DIN KHAN R/O Sheikhpora for issuance of RBA in favor of Self

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the Subject cited above the applicant has submitted the file in the office of the undersigned for the issuance of OBC. In this connection a report of patwari halqa concerned has been sought which reveals that the applicant in currently residing in village Sheikhpora and belongs to the Khan Community having annual income of Rs 134000 The details of the family of the applicant are as follows:

S No	Name Of The Family Member	Relationship With The Family Head	Age	Occupation	Annual Income
1	Noor Du Din Khan	Father	55	Shopkeeper	134000
2	Haneefa Begum	Mothers	50	H/W	
3	Rafia Akhter	Applicant	33	Student	
4	Khushneeda Akhter	Applicant	26	Student	
5	Ameer Din	Brother	21	Student	
6	Shumail Noor	Sister	19	Student	

Therefore, through this Public Notice Objections are being sought from general public, if any person has any objection, he/she can submit their objections in the office of the undersigned within 07 days (Seven days) positively from the date the notice has been published No objection shall be entertained alter the stipulated time period.

Naib Tehsildar

fko-r

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Necessary Correction/change in address in data to the License No.JK-0420110012396

issued in favour of PEERZADA MOHMAD MUQEEM FAZILI Parentage PEERZADA MOHMAD NAYEEM Whereas an application has been recieved by one PEERZADA MOHMAD MUQEEM FAZILI Parentage PEERZADA MOHMAD NAYEEM wherein he claimed that the Name has been wrongly recorded in the records of Driving Licenses as MAQEEM FAZILI Parentage PIRZADA MOHAMMAD NAEEM Which needs to be changed as PEERZADA MOHMAD MUQEEM FAZILI Parentage PEERZADA MOHMAD NAYEEM.

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

mcb

اطلاع عام

برغاص و عام کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کی جاتا ہے کہ مجھے اپنے بچے کی اگر رجسٹرڈ زیر تکویر نمبر 0206010004360 جو کہ میرے دادا کے نام پر پیشی تھو اراجانہ غلو کے نام پر ہے۔ اب اسکو میرے نام یعنی منظور احمد غلو کے نام پر کروانا مطلوب ہے۔ اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ ماسات دن کے اندر اندر ایک نوکیلا نمبر پر ڈی ڈی یا ڈرام کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ میعاد کو درنہ کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

منظور احمد غلو دروغہ افغانی مظفر سیکل کال کالڈ ہڈ گرام۔

فون 9149998643 MBC۔

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Ghulamudin Sheikh S/o Lassi Sheikh, R/o Hewan, Post Office Baramula, Tehsil Narwa, District Baramula, hereby notify that my name has inadvertently been recorded as “Ghulam Ud Din Sheikh” in my Aadhaar Card bearing No. 9479-4601-1567, which is incorrect.

My actual and correct name is “Ghulamudin Sheikh.” I have applied for correction of my name in the Aadhaar record and for publication of the same in the Government Gazette. Any person having any objection in this regard may file the same before the concerned authority within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice. After the expiry of the stipulated period, no objection shall be entertained.

Ghulamudin Sheikh
S/o Lassi Sheikh
R/o Hewan, Post Office Baramula,
Tehsil Narwa, District Baramula

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Abdul Ahad Tantary, F/o Muntha Binte Ahad, R/o Tantary Pora Palhallan, Tehsil Pattan, Post Office Pattan, District Baramulla, hereby notify that my daughter's name has inadvertently been recorded as “Muntaha Binte Abdullah” in her Aadhaar Card bearing No. 4348-4468-5316, which is incorrect.

Her actual and correct name is “Muntha Binte Ahad.” I have applied for correction of her name and publication of the same in the Government Gazette. Any person having any objection in this regard may file the same before the concerned authority within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice. After the expiry of the stipulated period, no objection shall be entertained.

Abdul Ahad Tantary
F/o Muntha Binte Ahad
R/o Tantary Pora Palhallan, Tehsil Pattan,
Post Office Pattan, District Baramulla

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Mohammad Rafi Bhat, F/o Mariya Rafi, R/o Gada Khud, Tehsil Pattan, Post Office Pattan, District Baramulla, hereby notify that my daughter's name has inadvertently been recorded as “Mariya Rafiq” in her Aadhaar Card bearing No. 6615-5153-9669, which is incorrect.

Her actual and correct name is "Mariya Rafi."

I have applied for correction of her name and publication of the same in the Government Gazette. Any person having any objection in this regard may file the same before the concerned authority within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice. After the expiry of the stipulated period, no objection shall be entertained.

Mohammad Rafi Bhat
F/o Mariya Rafi
R/o Gada Khud, Tehsil Pattan,
Post Office Pattan, District Baramulla

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Mohammad Rafi Bhat, F/o Mariya Rafi, R/o Gada Khud, Tehsil Pattan, Post Office Pattan, District Baramulla, hereby notify that my daughter's name has inadvertently been recorded as “Mariya Rafiq” in her Aadhaar Card bearing No. 6615-5153-9669, which is incorrect.

Her actual and correct name is “Mariya Rafi.”

I have applied for correction of her name and publication of the same in the Government Gazette. Any person having any objection in this regard may file the same before the concerned authority within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice. After the expiry of the stipulated period, no objection shall be entertained.

Mohammad Rafi Bhat
F/o Mariya Rafi
R/o Gada Khud, Tehsil Pattan,
Post Office Pattan, District Baramulla

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of DOB certificate as I have not received it from the concerned Registrar of births and deaths . As per documents my DOB IS 01-03-1981 . If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned office within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Irshad Ahmad Shah
R/o Shartmuqam Lolab Kupwara

qns

PUBLIC NOTICE

My DOB has been wrongly written in my adhaar card as 09-10-2011 While my correct DOB as per School certificate is 09-10-2010. Now i Have applied for the correctiono of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned Adhaar centre Jammu/Srinagar within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Aiemam Zahoor
D/o Zahoor Ahmad Sheikh
R/o Magam Budgam

bmrg

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name & DOB has been wrongly written in my adhaar card as Mohammad Ayan Bhat DOB 27-06-2013 While my correct name is Ayan Mohi-ud-Din Bhat S/o Ghulam Mohi-ud-Din. 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 adhaar centre Jammu/Srinagar within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Ayan Mohi-ud-Din Bhat S/o Ghulam Mohi-ud-Din
R/o Archanderhama

bmrg

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of DOB certificate of my ward Areeba Irshad who was born on 07-03-2019. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned office within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Irshad Ahmad Shah
F/o Areeba Irshad (Dob 07-03-2019)
R/o Shartmuqam Lolab Kupwara

qns

PARAS Health Strengthens Specialised Haematology, Marrow Transplant Care



Observer News Service

Srinagar: PARAS Health Srinagar has strengthened its specialised healthcare services with the appointment of Dr Ishfaq Rashid as Consultant in Clinical Haematology and Blood & Marrow Transplantation.

The appointment is expected to enhance access to specialised diagnosis and treatment for patients suffering from complex blood disorders and haematological malignancies in Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr Rashid specialises in the diagnosis and management of a wide range of benign and malignant blood disorders, including acute leukaemias, lymphomas, anaemia, platelet disorders and bone marrow failure syndromes.

He holds an MBBS and MD in General Medicine, followed by a DM in Clinical Haematology and Blood & Marrow Transplantation. His specialised training encompasses the management of complex haematological conditions and advanced blood and marrow transplant care.

According to PARAS Health Srinagar, Dr Rashid will provide consultation and treatment for

conditions including Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia (ALL), Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML), Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, Hodgkin's Lymphoma, congenital marrow failure disorders, anaemia, polycythaemia, immune thrombocytopenia (ITP), aplastic anaemia and haemolytic anaemia, among other blood disorders.

The hospital said the addition of a dedicated clinical haematology and blood and marrow transplant specialist would provide patients with greater access to specialised expertise and comprehensive evaluation closer to home.

Blood disorders such as leukaemia, lymphoma, bone marrow failure and severe platelet disorders often require timely diagnosis, specialised investigations and coordinated multidisciplinary treatment. The availability of specialised care within the region could help patients avoid frequent travel outside Jammu and Kashmir for consultations and treatment.

Dr Murtuza Habib, Facility Director, PARAS Health Srinagar, said the appointment was an important step towards expanding specialised haematology services at the hospital.

Chief Justice Bhati Inaugurates National Lok Adalat in Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Continuing its endeavor to promote access to justice through swift, cost-effective and amicable resolution of disputes, the J&K Legal Services Authority, under the patronage of Dr. Justice Pushpendra Singh Bhati, Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Patron-in-Chief, J&K Legal Services Authority and under the dynamic leadership of Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority and with the guidance of Justice Sanjay Dhar, Chairperson, High Court Legal Services Committee, organised the 3rd National Lok Adalat of the year 2026 across the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

The Lok Adalat covered a wide range of matters, including MACT claims, matrimonial disputes, cheque dishonour cases under the Negotiable Instruments Act, money recovery matters, commercial disputes and compoundable criminal offences.

AT SRINAGAR, Dr. Justice Pushpendra Singh Bhati, Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, along with Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority, jointly inaugurated the 3rd National Lok Adalat at the District Court Complex, Srinagar.

The occasion assumed special significance as it marked the first National Lok Adalat after Dr. Justice Pushpendra Singh Bhati assumed office as Chief Justice of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh. Upon their arrival, the dignitaries were received by Haq Nawaz Zargar, Principal District & Sessions Judge (Chairperson, DLSA Srinagar) and Shazia Tabasum, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority and other Judicial Officers of the District Judiciary.



A ceremonial Guard of Honour was also accorded to the Chief Justice. Thereafter, the Chief Justice and Executive Chairman visited different Lok Adalat Benches and interacted with the Presiding Officers, members of the Benches, Advocates and litigants.

They appreciated the arrangements made for the smooth conduct of the Lok Adalat and witnessed the settlement of cases at the Benches. MACT compensation cheques were also distributed among eligible claimants on the occasion, extending timely relief to the beneficiaries.

As per the information received from various Legal Services Institutions across the UT of J&K, a total of 32908 cases were taken up by 163 Benches during the day-long National Lok Adalat, out of which

23213 cases were amicably settled and disposed of, involving a total settlement/compensation amount of Rs. 176,22,29,397.

The settled matters included Motor Accident Claims, civil and criminal matters, labour disputes, electricity and water bill disputes, land acquisition matters, family disputes, cheque dishonor cases and bank recovery matters, among others.

Dr. Justice Pushpendra Singh Bhati, while interacting with media persons, expressed his gratitude and appreciated the efforts of the Judicial Officers, Secretaries of DLSAs, Advocates, Para Legal Volunteers, staff of the District and Tehsil Courts and the litigants for their wholehearted participation in the 3rd National Lok Adalat of the year 2026.

SWD Organizes Anemia Health Camp under BBBP

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Social Welfare Department (SWD), SANKALP-HEW Srinagar, through the office of the Child Development Project Officer (CDPO), Khanyar, organised an Anemia Health Camp in Zone Boud Dal, Srinagar, with the objective of promoting awareness and early detection of anemia among the community.

A dedicated health team from the Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Srinagar's of-

fice visited the camp and conducted anemia screening tests among the beneficiaries. The health team also provided necessary medicines to those requiring treatment, on the spot.

During the camp, participants were sensitised about the causes, symptoms and preventive measures related to anemia. Special emphasis was laid on maintaining a nutritious and balanced diet, consuming iron-rich foods and undertaking regular health check-ups for

timely detection and management of anemia.

The initiative reflects the Department of Social Welfare's continued efforts to strengthen community-level health and nutrition interventions and improve the overall well-being of women and children in the district.

Officials From SANKALP-HEW Srinagar, along with the health team, actively participated in the camp and extended necessary guidance and support to the beneficiaries.

Apni Party Leaders visit Protesting NHM Workers, Express Solidarity

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Apni Party leaders, led by Provincial President Mohammad Ashraf Mir, on Saturday visited the protesting National Health Mission (NHM) workers who are observing a sit-in and hunger strike at a park near the PHC in Bonpora Bata-

maloo, and expressed solidarity with their demands. Pertinently, NHM employees have been carrying

out protests across Jammu and Kashmir for the past several days in support of their long-pending demands, including pay revision, job security, and retirement benefits.

According to a press release issued here, Apni Party Provincial President Mohammad Ashraf Mir, Women's Wing President Dilshad Shaheen, Spokesperson Ishrat Bhat, Provincial Youth President Kashmir Ji-

bran Dar, District President Srinagar and Constituency In-charge Central Shalteng Zaffar Habib, along with other party leaders, visited the protesting NHM employees and expressed their unwavering solidarity with them.

On the occasion, Altaf Bukhari spoke to the protesting employees over the phone and assured them that the party stands firmly with them and fully supports their genuine demands.



ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

AWANTIPORA, KASHMIR.

Tele: 01933-247954/247955. Website: www.iust.ac.in

Notice Inviting Quotations for the Supply of Local and
National Print Newspapers to Rumi Library

Quotations are invited from eligible newspaper vendors/agencies/suppliers to supply local and national print newspapers to Rumi Library, IUST. Interested vendors/agencies/suppliers may submit their applications in the prescribed format to In-charge Rumi Library for the FY-2026-27 in a sealed envelope affixed with a revenue stamp of Rs. 2.00 (Rs. Two). The application form, submission requirements & instructions and terms & conditions can be obtained from the office of the Rumi library or can be downloaded from the official website of IUST at <https://iust.ac.in/>.

Last Date and Time of Receiving Applications	23 Sept. 2026 / 04:30 p.m.
Date of Opening of Quotations	24 Sept. 2026 / 02:30 p.m.
Address for Communication	In-charge Rumi Library, Islamic University of Science & Technology Awantipora, J&K 192122

Detailed Notice is available on the university website www.iust.ac.in.
No.: IUST/LIB/NIQ(Newspapers)/26/477
Date: 11.09.2026

DIPK-NB-1622/26
dated: 12-09-2026

Sd/-
I/C Rumi Library

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PW (R&B) DIVISION ZAINPORA
e-mail:-randb-zainapora@jk.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
CIVIL WORKS
SINGLE COVER SYSTEM (Up To Rs. 2.50 Crores)

NIT No: 48/ZNP/RnB/e-Tendering/2026-27
For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In double cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-
Dated: 12-09-2026

S. No	Name of Work	Major Head Of Account	Advertised cost (in Lacs) (Inclusive of GST)	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.)	Class of Contractor	Time of Completion	Cost of T/ Doc (Rs.)	Project Authority	Technical sanction No. & Date
1	Upgradation of Cooperative infrastructure of PACS Chitragram (Mini Super Bazar Chitragram).	Capex Budget 2026-27	49.635	99270/-	AAY/BEE	06 Months	1100/-	Registrar Cooperative Societies, J&K	52/TS/RCS(Plg) of 2026-27 Dated: 10-09-2026

Position of funds:- Committed
AAA No. Date: 15-RCS(Plg) of 2026 Dated:- 15-07-2026
The Payment shall be made strictly as per the release of funds by the Competent authority.
1. 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	12-09-2026
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 12-09-2026, 06:00 P.M to 03-10-2026, 06:00 P.M.
4.	Bid submission Start Date	12-09-2026 From 06:00 P.M
5.	Bid Submission End Date	03-10-2026 up to 06:00 P.M
6.	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	05-10-2026 at 01.00 P.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer PW(R&B) Division Zainapora.

1. Bids must be accompanied by a Bankers pay receipt of Tender fee (dated between the bid start date and the Bid Submission End date) deposited in the Centralized Designated Pooling Bank Account No. 0470010200000099 as the cost of the tender document. Note:- The Date of Bankers pay receipt of Tender fee and EMD must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date. Any deviation shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.
1.1 Participation in the tender shall be subject to the bidder depositing the prescribed Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Fee exclusively through the online payment gateway linked to the Centralized Designated Pooling Bank Account No. 0470010200000099, established for e-tendering purposes. This requirement is in pursuance of the instructions contained in Finance Department Circular No. FD-Code/290/2026 dated 22.05.2026 and endorsed by the Chief Engineer, PW(R&B) Department, South Kashmir, vide Endorsement No. CE/R&B/SK/WS/2095-2111 dated 05.06.2026, as amended from time to time. Accordingly, submission of EMD in the form of Fixed Deposit Receipt (FDR), Term Deposit Receipt (TDR), Call Deposit Receipt (CDR), Bank Guarantee (BG), or any other offline/physical instrument shall not be accepted and such bids shall be treated as non-responsive. The bidder shall ensure that the requisite EMD and Tender Fee are successfully remitted through the prescribed online mode on or before the bid submission deadline. Any bid not accompanied by proof of successful online payment of the prescribed EMD and Tender Fee within the stipulated time shall be liable to rejection at the technical evaluation stage without any further notice.
1.2 The Successful bidder will have to provide performance security @5% of allotted cost in cash to the designated authority/Account which shall be released after successful completion of Defect Liability Period(DLP) beyond 60 days.
1.3 The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on website 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 website in the office of the Executive Engineer PW(R&B) Division Zainapora (Tender receiving authority).
14. No: R&B/ZNP/DIV/NIT/3578-89
DIPK-5638/26 Dt: 12-09-2026

Sd/-	Sd/-	Sd/-	Sd/-	Sd/-
CC	DM	AAO	TO	(Er. Shabir Ahmad Tak) Executive Engineer R&B Division Zainpore



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

AIRPORTS
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



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



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



HIJRI
CALENDAR
1448

PRAYERS
FAJR 4: 48
ZUHR 12:30
ASR 4: 53
Magrib 6: 48
ISHA 8: 10

This Day In History

- 533 - General Belisarius of the Byzantine Empire defeats Gellimer and the Vandals at the Battle of Ad Decimium, near Carthage, North Africa
- 604- Sabinian begins his reign as Pope replacing Pope Gregory the Great
- 1224 - Francis of Assisi is afflicted with stigmata after a vision praying on Mount Verna
- 1500 - Predro Alvares Cabral and his Portuguese expedition arrive in Calicut, India
- 1515- First day of two-day Battle of Marignano: Francis I's French army defeats Swiss army force near Milan
- 1574 - Turkish fleet recaptures Tunis
- 1579 - Breda forms Union of Utrecht
- 1743 - Great Britain, Austria and Savoye-Sardinia sign Treaty of Worms
- 1751 - Britain signs Austrian & Russian alliance
- 1759- British beat French forces at the battle of Plains of Abrahams near Quebec - kills both leading generals Wolfe and Montcalm
- 1782- The Grand Assault on Gibraltar by the allied French and Spanish fleets including ten floating batteries and land forces is heavily defeated by the British garrison with all of the floating batteries destroyed and allied casualties of 1,473 compared to only 83 for the British
- 1787 - Prussian army moves into Netherlands
- 1791- France's King Louis XVI accepts constitution
- 1800- Curacao in British hands (until Jan 1803)
- 1808- Finnish War: In the Battle of Jutas, Swedish forces under Lieutenant General Georg Carl von Döbeln beat the Russians, making von Döbeln a Swedish war hero.
- 1845- English chemist Michael Faraday discovers the 'Faraday effect', the influence of a magnetic field on polarized light
- 1850 - The main-belt asteroid "12 Victoria" is discovered by J R Hind
- 1861- 1st naval battle of Civil War, Union frigate "Colorado" sinks privateer "Judah" off Pensacola, Fla
- 1867- General Edward Canby orders South Carolina courts to impanel blacks jurors
- 1882 - Battle at Count el-Kebir: British troops defeat Egyptian force in the decisive battle of the Anglo-Egyptian War
- 1898- 20,000 Paris construction workers go on strike
- 1906- 1st airplane flight in Europe, Brazilian Alberto Santos-Dumont test flies his hybrid 14-bis plane (attached to a hydrogen balloon for take-off), at Bagatelle, France
- 1923- Miguel Primo de Rivera leads a military coup with the support of King Alfonso XIII to become Prime Minister of Spain
- 1925- 1st US University for African Americans, Xavier University, opens in New Orleans
- 1933- Elizabeth McCombs becomes the first New Zealand female Member of Parliament
- 1940 - Buckingham Palace damaged by German bombs
- 1940 - Italian troops under Marshal Graziani attack Egypt
- 1942 - Battle of Edson's Ridge (2nd Japanese assault) at Guadalcanal
- 1942- German forces attack Stalingrad
- 1943- German counter attack at Salerno
- 1944- Great Atlantic hurricane reaches peak intensity as a Category 4 storm, goes on to kill 300-400 along the US East Coast
- 1966- Johannes Balthazar Vorster sworn in as premier of South Africa
- 1968- Albania leaves Warsaw pact
- 1970 - Palestine guerrillas conquer Irbid Jordania
- 1971- Nikita Khrushchev, Soviet premier, buried in Moscow
- 1971- World Hockey Association forms
- 1973- ABC announces it obtained TV rights for 1976 Olympics
- 1973 - Syrian/Israeli dogfight over Mediterranean Sea
- 1974 - OPEC instructs its Secretary General to "carry out a study of supply and demand in relation to possible production controls"
- 1984 - STS 41-G launch vehicle moves to launch pad
- 1984 - Shimon Peres forms Israeli government with Likud
- 1988 - 9 hard/software manufacturers announce EISA computer bus in NY

Can AI Cut Kashmir's Cement Costs?

Kashmir imports more than half its cement needs. Better technology could raise local production, cut fuel use and save crores in transport costs.



Sheikh Junaid Fayaz

I spend my days building a digital twin of a cement plant, teaching algorithms to think like a kiln operator, and searching for ways to produce cement with less fuel and lower emissions.

It sounds technical and distant from everyday life in Kashmir, but the longer I work on it, the more I realise that this research speaks directly to the price of every house, school, and hospital built back home.

Cement rarely enters our economic debates in the valley. We speak about tourism, apples, handicrafts, education, and technology. We talk about employment and start-ups. Cement barely features in those conversations, even though it forms the base of every bridge over our rivers and each flood-protection wall that shields our towns.

Development in Kashmir rests on bags of cement stacked in hardware shops and trucked to construction sites in every district.

The numbers reveal how central it is. According to the Cement Manufacturers' Association, the valley consumes around 2.5 to 3 million tonnes of cement each year. Housing construction accounts for a large portion of this demand, followed by public infrastructure and urban expansion.

New colonies rise at the edges of cities, roads widen, government projects multiply, and each one depends on steady cement supply.

Local production, however, meets only a part of this demand.

Five to six major plants operate in the valley, including Saifco Cements in Khunmoh, Khyber Cement, Trumboo Cement Industries, Valley Cement Industries, and J and K Cements, along with smaller units concentrated in the Khrew Pulwama and Khunmoh belts.

Together, they produce roughly 0.8 to 1 million

tonnes annually. More than half of our requirement, around 1.5 to 2 million tonnes, arrives from other states.

Most imported cement travels through the Jammu-Srinagar highway from Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, and Rajasthan. By the time a truck reaches Srinagar, the cost per 50 kilogram bag has increased by 40 to 80 compared with locally produced cement.

Transport over long distances, fuel prices, winter snow, landslides, and tunnel closures add to this premium.

The additional amount appears in the final bill paid by a family building a home or a department constructing a hospital.

Whenever I present these figures, people ask a straightforward question: Why not produce all the cement locally and avoid this transport premium?

The answer lies in constraints that define the industry. Cement plants operate under mining lease limits, environmental regulations, emission caps, and land boundaries. Carbon dioxide and nitrogen oxides emissions are regulated on an annual basis.

These caps establish a ceiling within which each plant must function. Any realistic plan must accept that there will be no new mines, no extra land, and no relaxation of emission standards.

When I began my doctoral work, I decided to approach the issue from a different direction. Instead of asking how to expand physically, I asked whether plants could produce more within the same environmental limits by improving efficiency.

Cement production is energy intensive. Kilns burn fuel at extremely high temperatures to produce clinker, the key ingredient in cement. Combustion conditions determine fuel consumption and emission levels. Small variations in airflow, temperature distribution, and fuel mixing can increase pollution and waste energy. Traditional control systems rely heavily on operator experience, which works well but leaves room for improvement.

The digital twin I have been developing uses artificial intelligence to model kiln behaviour in real time. It learns from plant data and predicts how adjustments in fuel and air will influence emissions and energy use.

The aim is to keep combustion cleaner and more stable while lowering fuel input.

The improvements achieved through this approach are measurable. Fuel consumption per tonne of clinker can fall by around 7 percent. Nitrogen oxides emissions per tonne can drop by 30 to 60 percent. Carbon dioxide



Most imported cement travels through the Jammu-Srinagar highway from Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, and Rajasthan. By the time a truck reaches Srinagar, the cost per 50 kilogram bag has increased by 40 to 80 compared with locally produced cement.

emissions per tonne can decline by about 2.8 percent.

These numbers emerge from cleaner combustion, tighter control over kiln conditions, and reduced fuel waste.

At first glance, these percentages may seem modest. Their impact becomes clear when viewed through the lens of emission caps.

Environmental regulations limit total annual emissions. When emissions per tonne decrease, a plant uses less of its permitted annual emission budget for each tonne produced.

Lower nitrogen oxides per tonne create significant regulatory headroom. Reduced fuel consumption lowers carbon dioxide intensity and stabilises operations.

Under such conditions, increasing output by 10 to 15 percent from existing plants becomes realistic and conservative, even without expanding mining areas or altering regulations.

Applied to the valley's plants, this efficiency gain could add roughly 0.1 to 0.15 million tonnes to annual local production.

This additional production directly replaces a por-

tion of imported cement. Avoiding transport premiums on 0.1 to 0.15 million tonnes translates into savings of approximately 8 to 24 crore per year in logistics and handling costs.

At the plant level, a 7 percent reduction in fuel consumption can generate another 8 to 10 crore annually in energy savings.

Together, these figures amount to 20 to 40 crore saved each year.

These are conservative estimates based on realistic efficiency gains and current transport and fuel costs.

The money currently leaves the valley because cement production and supply remain less efficient than they could be. Smarter operations keep more of that value within the local economy.

When I reflect on this, I think about the broader narrative we often accept, that environmental responsibility and economic growth pull in opposite directions. My work suggests a different story.

Lower emissions per tonne allow higher production within the same regulatory framework. Cleaner combustion reduces fuel use and cuts costs. Scientific innovation can align environmental goals with financial savings.

Cement may appear mundane compared with tourism campaigns or technology start-ups, but it underpins every physical asset we build.

Treating it as a blind spot in our economic thinking limits our ability to strengthen the valley's foundation.

When we talk about development, we should also talk about how efficiently we produce the materials that make development possible.

I began this work driven by technical curiosity. Over time, it has become personal.

Every bag of cement that costs less because it was produced efficiently means a lower construction bill for a family, a more economical public project, and fewer crores lost to transport premiums.

Smarter cement production calls for data, discipline, and a willingness to modernise operations.

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Kashmir's Battle Within

Depression is growing among young Kashmiris while families, schools and institutions often struggle to recognise or address it.



Navaid Runyal

Depression is often mistaken for sadness. People say it will pass, that it is just a phase, or that one should pray harder and push through.

But depression is far more than that. It reshapes how a person feels, thinks, and lives. It steals sleep, drains energy, dulls interest, and sometimes takes away even the will to go on.

This struggle is everywhere in Kashmir.

The valley known for its beauty effortlessly hides an inner storm. The young, who should be dreaming and building futures, are instead weighed down by fear, joblessness, and isolation. Talk to almost any student, and you will hear the same undertone: hope is slipping away.

Growing up here means growing up with uncertainty.

In 2019, when Article 370 was revoked, the region went through months of internet blackout. For students, it felt like their futures had been cut off. Those preparing for competitive exams suddenly found themselves directionless, left behind as the rest of the world moved ahead.

For many others, the heavier burden is unemployment. Jammu and Kashmir has one of the highest jobless rates in the country, especially among educated youth. Degrees rarely translate into jobs. Recruitment exams are delayed or cancelled. Paper leak scandals have shattered trust.

I have met young men who once dreamed of becoming engineers but now spend their days idle, unsure what lies ahead. Some leave,

searching for work in distant cities, carrying the ache of separation from home. Others stay back, caught in despair.

This is not just an economic story. It is also a mental health crisis. Depression grows in those empty spaces between ambition and reality, between effort and disappointment.

What makes it worse is the silence.

Mental illness is rarely spoken about in Kashmiri homes. A boy struggling with low moods is told to "man up." A girl who cannot eat or sleep is told her faith is weak. Seeking help from a psychiatrist risks being branded "pagal", a label that can ruin chances of marriage, jobs, and dignity.

So young people swallow their pain, and families look the other way.

Meanwhile, social media adds its own weight. Reels and feeds often act as mirrors of what Kashmiri youth feel they lack.

safe spaces, with trained counselors who can listen and guide. Teachers must be equipped to notice the warning signs early.

The government, too, has a responsibility. Joblessness is not just a statistic. It is a wound that eats into young minds.

Transparent recruitment, skill-building, and support for local start-ups can help restore hope. Mental health services must be expanded: helplines that actually work, affordable therapy, and clinics in every district. And there must be spaces for young people to express themselves.

Kashmir has always been a land of poetry, music, and storytelling. These forms of expression can heal. Encouraging youth to share their voices may not erase trauma, but it can lighten the load.

Young Kashmiris are growing up in a time and place where survival itself requires



Depression in Jammu and Kashmir is a humanitarian crisis. The youth carry both the scars of strife and the seeds of change.

On the screen, everyone else appears happier, richer, more successful. With each scroll, the distance between their lives and the world outside only seems to widen.

The results are distressing. More young lives are being lost to self-harm. A brilliant student gives in under academic pressure. A young girl ends her life after harassment. Another boy loses hope when exams are cancelled yet again.

These are shattered families, unfinished journeys, and grief that rarely finds words.

So what can be done?

The first step is to talk openly about mental health. Families must learn that depression is not weakness. Schools should provide

courage. If they feel unheard, they should try reaching out to a friend, a teacher, a counselor, anyone who will listen.

Depression in Jammu and Kashmir is a humanitarian crisis. The youth carry both the scars of strife and the seeds of change.

If they are given support, safe spaces, and opportunities, the valley's future can still shine brighter than its past. What cannot continue is silence.

The author is a civil engineer from Pogal Paristan in Ramban district, Jammu and Kashmir, and can be reached at navaidahmed10@gmail.com.

Smoke Without End

Warnings, taxes and public bans have changed where people smoke, but the cigarette remains firmly in circulation.



Vikas Thakur

As I watched a steady stream of people entering a small cubicle labeled 'Smoking Lounge' opposite the washrooms at the airport, Mark Twain's famous quote came to mind: "Giving up smoking is the easiest thing in the world. I know because I have done it thousands of times."

It was like the irresistible pull of a candle flame for a moth. I couldn't help but think of the victims of the Holocaust, pushed into gas chambers a century ago. Yet here, people were willingly entering their own chamber. A Nazi from a hundred years ago would have struggled to hold back a chuckle, I thought.

All the graphic warnings on cigarette packs seemed to have zilch effect on these men. Even the prohibitive costs, inflated by exorbitant taxes, failed to deter them.

I noticed no women heading toward the smoking lounge, which brought me some solace, having often heard that smoking is rapidly gaining ground among the fairer sex these days.

Tobacco was introduced to India by the Portuguese during Akbar's reign as a product with medicinal properties. Thanks to the nicotine it contains, tobacco has a calming and sedative effect. Jahangir, however, recognized its addictive and harmful qualities and banned its consumption. This gave him the distinction of being the only ruler in Indian history to impose such a ban.

Tobacco was smoked differently across social classes: the elite used hookahs, mendicants smoked chillums, and the poor resorted to bidis.

The 'hookahburdar' was the servant responsible for carrying the hookah, filling it with aromatic additives, and lighting it when demanded by his master.

Even the British embraced this custom with great enthusiasm. Early British dinner parties in India often ended with a hookah session, where personal hookahs were provided by the respective hookahburdars.

The flexible pipes, referred to as 'snakes', wound in a serpentine fashion, creating an elaborate network leading to each smoker.

Cigarette smoke contains more than 4,000 toxic chemicals, including 60 known carcinogens. In India, 90 percent of lung cancer cases are linked to smoking, and smokers are 10 times more likely to develop cancer. Nicotine is 10 times more addictive than heroin.

Alarming, 38 percent of children under five are exposed to secondhand smoke at home, leading to permanent health damage. Even fetuses in the uterus suffer due to smoking in the household.

Despite these well-documented facts being easily accessible to today's generation through various media, there is no noticeable decline in smoking.

We endured smoking in public spaces silently until 2003, when a comprehensive ban was introduced.

Before that, smoking in public buses was common, making the motion sickness of non-smokers, including children, even worse.

One could file a complaint against a smoker with the conductor, but that option often went up in smoke when the driver himself lit a cigarette. That was seen as an open invitation for other smokers to follow suit, flaunting their disregard for fellow travelers.

Thankfully, those days are behind us. Today, the only benefit of tobacco that comes to mind is the substantial tax revenue it generates for the government, though it likely costs us far more in terms of health, broken families, and social burden.

The author is the writer of the recently published memoir Pax Kashmir, and can be reached at uthakurthakur@gmail.com.

The Strength of a Silent Man

His life was marked by illness and hardship, but what I remember most is the spirit and strength with which he faced it all, leaving behind a lesson I have carried with me ever since.



Syed Nissar H. Gilani

Syed Mehraj U Din Bukhari stepped into the room like he owned every corner.

My mom's brother-in-law, he silently showed me how to keep showing up, without calling attention to it.

He'd fix a wobbly chair while asking about your day, fold his newspaper so neat it looked new, drop a tiny story that would replay in your head for years. He had no lectures to give, just silent moves you catch yourself doing later.

That's how I clocked that people leave bits of themselves behind. His bits just happen to be the heaviest.

He entered the world in 1928 in Keeri, a village near Pattan that lies in a gentle pocket of north Kashmir. His father moved the family to Srinagar when he was still a child, settling close to the shrine of Makdood Sahab.

The neighbourhood carried its own soundscape: call to prayer drifting from the hill, footsteps on

the steep stairs, and vendors sending out their calls.

The family found both faith and belonging there, and the youngest son grew up in that environment with a sense of purpose.

He completed his education in Srinagar, earned a position at the State Road Transport Corporation, and felt the security that came with a government job in those years.

He married my aunt in 1954 and started to build a steady domestic life. There was comfort in that routine: a salary at the end of the month, a home in a city that held its own charm, and plans settling into place.

Pain interrupted all of it.

In 1957, he developed a sharp ache in his left lower back. At first, the family thought it was a passing infection. Doctors soon discovered a large stone inside his kidney.

Tools for diagnosis were limited in those days, and every fresh detail brought more fear.

The pain deepened, and the stakes rose fast for a man whose life had barely begun.

He was taken to the best medical minds in the valley. Dr. Ali Jan examined him with great care and advised surgery. Dr. Ghulam Rasool prepared to operate. Kidney stone surgery in the late fifties was considered a major ordeal. Every relative knew this.

The summer of 1958 became the season when the family learned how slow time can move inside hospital corridors.

He was wheeled into the operation theatre in SMHS Hospital. Four hours passed. Then a moment of dread when we saw Dr. Ali Jan rush toward the theatre.

After five and a half long hours, the news arrived that he had survived the operation. The family felt a wave of relief wash over them. He

amounts of water, eat carefully, and manage every hour with attention.

He followed the instructions as if they were sacred.

The twelve years that followed turned into a long rehearsal in endurance. He went to office, looked after his responsibilities, and lived

By morning, before he could reach the hospital, he had a massive heart attack. He passed away in his home, leaving behind a wife who adored him, a daughter who needed him, and relatives who had always looked up to him.

regained consciousness the next day.

A whisper of truth soon replaced the relief. The stone had stayed inside him. It was shaped like a staghorn and had taken over the entire kidney. Removal would require taking out the kidney itself at a later stage.

That decision would come with its own fears. Losing a kidney in the late fifties was a calamity few families could imagine.

My uncle chose patience. Surgeons and ISM practitioners gave him a plan: drink large

with pain that visited him often.

None of us ever heard him complain. He built a life inside the limits that fate had drawn for him.

In January 1970, he decided the time had come for a final resolution. He needed the surgery. He would travel outside the state for the first time for medical care.

I was a university student on winter vacation. I accompanied him to New Delhi.

We found accommodation at a mess near Prithvi Raj Road, where a relative from the J&K Arts Emporium lived. Two days later,

we walked into AIIMS.

I remember the surprise of entering a national institution with hardly any crowd. Clean floors, calm halls, and a reception area felt more like a well-run guest house than a hospital. Admission was simple and affordable.

A doctor, likely Dr. Bapna from the nephrology department, examined him and recommended immediate admission. Tests continued for a week.

I spent my days with my uncle and my evenings at the mess near Lodhi Garden. Travel between the two places cost fifty paise. The city felt wide and easy to move through.

Inside the ward, I watched the nurses work. Many were from Kerala. One of them, Alima, became a figure we never forgot.

She was around twenty-five, graceful, confident, and entirely devoted to her patients. She tended to them with a gentleness that softened the harsh lights of the ward. She fed them, cleaned them, spoke to them kindly, and moved with efficiency through long shifts. Patients found comfort in her presence. My uncle admired her. I did too.

After the tests, the doctors delivered their decision. His left kidney needed removal. The right one functioned, though it was smaller than usual. The surgeons assured him he could live a full life with one kidney. He heard them, thanked them, and chose to return to Srinagar for the surgery.

The decision surprised me. AIIMS had everything. He still wanted to come home. Kashmir was where he felt anchored.

Some months later, the nephrectomy was performed in Srinagar. It succeeded. He lived well for the next twelve years. He returned to his office, rose through the ranks, and eventually became General Manager of the passenger fleet at SRTC.

Uncle kept a steady routine. He read often, spent time with family, and lived with the same discipline that had carried him through his worst years.

In January 1982, at the age of fifty-three, he felt chest pain through an entire day and night. Doctors gave him medicines.

By morning, before he could reach the hospital, he had a massive heart attack. He passed away in his home, leaving behind a wife who adored him, a daughter who needed him, and relatives who had always looked up to him.

I return to his memory often. He lived without fanfare, carried his strength sans display, and built a life held together by patience.

His story sits in my family like a steady flame, and his endurance holds its own truth.

Lives like his teach us that strength can be silent and still shape the generations that follow.

— The author is a former civil servant. He can be reached at nisargilani57748@gmail.com.

Kashmir's Lost Art of Living

Progress has brought comfort to Kashmir, but the race for display is eroding an older culture of humility and warmth.



Umair ul Umar

Kashmir once moved with placid patience.

Winters drew us close to the glow of kangris, to smoke curling from mud stoves, to Noon chai spilling its pink fragrance through narrow alleys. Neighbours drifted in and out of each other's courtyards as if walls never existed, voices mingling like wind over deodar branches.

Weddings arrived as simple tents in backyards, with a few dishes shared by many hands. Laughter climbed higher than any music. A home measured its worth by the warmth it offered, by the softness of its welcome, not by the plaster on its walls.

Today, the air tastes different. Family conversations twist toward what can be seen and counted. Men in offices trace the labels on their shoes while the weight of their work fades into silence.

Drones circle weddings like restless insects, capturing moments meant for screens rather than hearts. Even grief wears a costume of display. I have sat in mourning gatherings where the conversation lingered on crockery and silverware, leaving memory and loss to echo silently, almost unheard.

What once carried the dignity of simplicity now carries the weight of deficiency. A daughter's wedding measures itself in the bulk of her dowry, while blessings from elders drift unheard. Schools earn praise for polished accents and humming

air conditioners, while patience and care pass in silence.

Parents sell orchards and ancestral land to secure a place in the parade of names. Education turns into a badge, marriages into transactions, and life itself becomes a stage for display.

This hunger demands more than money. Debt trails those who try to keep pace, while shame lingers over those who fall behind. Relatives skip invitations, afraid of feeling small beneath chandeliers, of being measured against walls dressed in marble.

Children who once gathered chestnuts or played cricket on open streets now speak in the language of phones and shoes, counting status instead of joy.

It is not only culture that shifts, but the mind itself. Contentment has been eclipsed by anxiety, kinship by rivalry. Love, too, seems to hide behind invisible walls, obscured by the urge to display.



We have mistaken extravagance for advancement, glitter for refinement. The true sophistication of Kashmir never needed banquet halls or designer pherans. It was carried in courtesy, elegance of thought, and refinement of character.

Morning no longer begins with the call of the muezzin threading through deodar rafters, but with the buzz of notifications. Evenings that once belonged to stories by the fire sink instead into the blue light of serials and endless scrolls.

Progress, of course, is not the villain. To want comfort, seek learning, and dream of better lives for our children are natural. What has gone astray is meaning itself.

We have mistaken extravagance for advancement, glitter for refinement. The true sophistication of Kashmir never needed banquet halls or designer pherans. It was carried in courtesy, elegance of thought, and refinement of character.

If balance is possible, it begins there. Weddings need not be burdens to be joyous. Schools can carry humility alongside knowledge. Technology can connect rather than isolate. Culture can hold its carpets and papier-mâché close even as it opens its hands to the new.

The mountains have never asked for embellishment. The Dal does not require ornament to mirror the sky. The fall of a chinar leaf in autumn is as profound as any spectacle wealth can buy.

Kashmir always knew this. Simplicity was philosophy, a way of living deeply with less. To lose it would be to lose the very poetry of everyday life, the silent soul that has carried this valley through centuries of storms.

Perhaps sophistication and simplicity are not enemies. Perhaps they can walk together, if only we remember to redefine them.

Civilizations endure in humility, kindness, and wisdom. These were once our wealth. They can be so again.

— The author writes on Kashmir's contemporary dilemmas. He can be reached at umairulumar77@gmail.com.

Threads of Change

Young women are bringing an old Kashmiri craft into modern homes while creating new possibilities for themselves.



Masoodi Mehreena

I grew up hearing the names of those twin villages in the mountains of Kupwara spoken softly, as if people were afraid to say them out loud.

That feeling followed me as I grew older, staying somewhere in the back of my mind.

It only began to make sense when I spent time there and understood why the place sits so heavily in Kashmir's collective memory.

Kunan-Poshpora is full of beauty, with open fields, orchards, and homes built by long-held traditions, but a painful event from the past still shadows life, touching women most deeply.

Even after public attention faded, the emotional and social scars remained, and women continued to live with its impact through years of isolation and judgement.

Growing up, many girls in Kunan and Poshpora, and in nearby Awoora, learned early that the past determined how others looked at them.

School often felt out of reach, stepping outside the home drew unwanted attention, and public spaces felt closed to women.

Over time, their dreams grew smaller, shaped by the narrow space they were allowed to move in.

I met young women who spoke about those years with harrowing sense and honesty, talking about homes where pain stayed unspoken and support felt scarce.

But within that silence, something else also lived.

Skills passed from mother to daughter,

hands learned patterns and stitches, and crewel embroidery, a centuries-old Kashmiri craft, survived in living rooms and courtyards, even when many other doors remained closed.

Six young women from Kunan, Poshpora, and Awoora decided to bring that skill into the open.

Watching them work felt simple and bold at the same time, like they were doing something natural while also stepping into something new.

They began to treat embroidery as more than decoration, turning it into curtains, tote bags, cushion covers, and bed sheets that bring tradition into everyday modern homes. Their journey came together through Project Jazba, an initiative of the TYCIA Foundation.

The project focuses on women in post-conflict and marginalised communities, offering training that brings together craft, emotional care, and business learning.

I watched the atmosphere in the room change as skills grew stronger, voices became clearer, and conversations shifted from hesitation to planning, with women gaining an understanding of markets, pricing, and the confidence to speak about their work.



Education programs, vocational training, and community support have begun to change how women see themselves, and I now hear fewer stories driven only by loss and more guided by intention.

A few years earlier, these kinds of discussions felt far away from village life, so watching them take place now felt deeply personal to me.

Thread and fabric became ways to express feeling and find healing, with every stitch showing patience and pride, and every finished piece standing as proof that creativity could also open doors to income and independence.

Daily life here still comes with challenges, as social attitudes change slowly, economic limits control choices, and memories from the past continue to influence the present, but the women I met choose action over retreat.

Through their work, they invite others to imagine new roles for women in the village, roles rooted in participation, visibility, and shared confidence.

This shift reaches beyond embroidery. Education programs, vocational training, and community support have begun to change how women see themselves, and I now hear fewer stories driven only by loss and more guided by intention.

The women speak as planners and makers, as people creating their own paths.

In this setting, crewel embroidery means more than keeping a tradition alive. It brings income, opens space for artistic expression, and supports emotional healing through shared work and goals.

When neighbours see these products travel beyond the village, a belief grows that what is made here holds value far beyond these hills.

As I leave Kunan-Poshpora after each visit, I carry images of women bent over fabric, laughing, discussing designs, and planning the next order.

What they create reaches beyond textile art.

They stitch together heritage and future, care and courage, memory and possibility.

— The author works with TYCIA Foundation, a non-profit organisation dedicated to empowering rural communities in Kupwara under Project Jazba. She can be reached at masoodimehrina@gmail.com.

J&K Bank Bags National Award for Best CSR Practices

Observer News Service

Srinagar: J&K Bank has been honoured with the 'Best Corporate Social Responsibility Overall Practices' award at the 13th National CSR Leadership Congress & Awards, recognising its sustained commitment to sustainable and inclusive social development.

Zonal Head (Bengaluru) Shadab Mehboob received the award on behalf of the Bank at a function held on Friday at Taj MG Road, Bengaluru. The ceremony was part of a day-long CSR conference featuring eminent experts and deliberations on emerging trends and contemporary issues shaping the CSR landscape in the country.

J&K Bank MD and CEO Amitava Chatterjee said the recognition validated the Bank's approach of undertaking meaningful, need-based interventions for underserved communities, particularly across Jammu and Kashmir and



Ladakh.

"For J&K Bank, CSR is not a peripheral obligation but an extension of our institutional purpose," Chatterjee said.

He said the Bank's CSR programme was steadily evolving into a structured platform for inclusive and sustainable development, with healthcare, education, livelihood generation, disability inclusion, environmental sustainability and

grassroots sports among its core focus areas.

The Bank's interventions also cover rural development, women empowerment and gender equality, promotion of art and culture, and support for armed forces veterans and their dependents, he said.

Chatterjee added that the Bank would continue to expand its reach and deepen its impact through strong governance and strategic partnerships, in alignment with national development priorities.

The recognition reflects the Bank's sustained CSR initiatives across healthcare, environmental sustainability, community welfare, skill development and livelihood generation.

In healthcare, the Bank has supported cardiac and breast-cancer screening programmes in underserved areas, facilitating access to preventive healthcare for vulnerable communities.

Its environmental initiatives

include solar-powered sanitation facilities, plantation drives and waste-management interventions aimed at promoting sustainable development.

The Bank has also undertaken community-focused initiatives, including providing affordable meals to attendants of patients at hospitals, besides promoting skill development and livelihood opportunities to strengthen economic empowerment at the grassroots level. The Bank said the initiatives reflect its philosophy of going beyond conventional philanthropy to create sustainable and inclusive value for communities while contributing to the social and environmental well-being of the region.

The National Awards for Excellence in CSR & Sustainability recognise organisations that have embedded social responsibility and sustainability into their institutional strategies and created demonstrable benefits for communities and the environment.

Reckitt, Jagran Peהל Launch Dettol School Hygiene Programme in Ladakh

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Reckitt, under its Dettol Banega Swasth India (BSI) programme, in collaboration with Jagran Peהל and the Directorate of School Education, Ladakh, has launched the Dettol School Hygiene Education Programme in the Union Territory.

The programme was formally launched at Council Model School, Ayu Saboo, Leh, in the presence of Bhanu Prabha, IAS, Administrative Secretary, School Education Department, UT Ladakh.

The initiative aims to strengthen hygiene education among schoolchildren, particularly in remote and high-altitude areas, by improving last-mile access to practical hygiene knowledge and resources.

The programme focuses on five key hygiene pillars: personal hygiene, school hygiene, home hygiene, hygiene during illness



and neighbourhood hygiene.

Speaking at the launch, Bhanu Prabha said schools play an important role in shaping lifelong habits among children. She said the programme would help students develop practical hygiene practices and become ambassadors of healthy behaviour in their communities.

Prof. Ravi Bhatnagar, Director, Corporate Communications

and Corporate Affairs, South Asia, MENAP and Africa, Reckitt, said geography should not become a barrier to access to hygiene education.

He said the company was working with the Directorate of School Education to provide evidence-based hygiene education and enable children to act as agents of behaviour change.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

J&K Filmmakers Shine

Kapil Mattoo and Naqsh-e-Daur (The Story of Ghulam Nabi Dhar) by Baba Tasaduq Hussain were also among the local productions screened during the festival.

Love in Vietnam, directed by Jammu and Kashmir-based filmmaker Rahat Shah Kazmi, was also screened and received appreciation from audiences.

The recognition of J&K filmmakers assumes significance as the inaugural IFFJK provided local filmmakers an international platform to showcase their work alongside films from across India and around the world.

The strong showing also reflected the growing creative landscape of Jammu and Kashmir, with filmmakers increasingly exploring local histories, folklore, landscapes, contemporary realities and cultural narratives through diverse cinematic forms.

The festival provided an opportunity for local storytellers to connect with wider audiences, industry professionals and filmmakers from different parts of the country and the world.

The achievement is expected to encourage young filmmakers and emerging artists from the region to pursue their creative work and explore stories rooted in the heritage, experiences and cultural identity of Jammu and Kashmir.

The First International Film Festival of Jammu and Kashmir was organised by the Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR), bringing together filmmakers, artists, technicians, industry professionals and cinema enthusiasts from India and abroad.

BRICS Adopts

reduce global trade, disrupt global supply chains, potentially exacerbating existing economic disparities.

The grouping came out against "unilateral sanctions" and "coercive measures" that are contrary to international law, in what is seen as a veiled criticism of Western economic sanctions on Russia.

The BRICS leaders appeared to endorse New Delhi's position to end the West Asia conflict through "dialogue and diplomacy" and stressed the need to work together to maintain a smooth flow of global trade, supply chains and energy, in accordance with "applicable" international law.

Adopted on the opening day of the two-day summit, the BRICS declaration is seen as a major triumph for Indian diplomacy. The negotiations on the text of the declaration went down to the wire as both Iran and the UAE had hardened their positions initially. BRICS is a consensus-based grouping, meaning any single member can block a final joint declaration.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the adoption of the declaration at the end of the opening day's deliberations in the presence of Chinese President Xi Jinping, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and other top leaders of the bloc.

"We express deep concern over the continued escalation of tensions in West Asia and, recalling our respective national positions, call for exercising maximum restraint, as well as avoiding actions that could further aggravate the situation," the declaration said.

"Furthermore, we urge to ensure the protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations in their entirety and interconnectedness, including respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the States," it said.

"We encourage increasing efforts, through dialogue and diplomacy, towards a long-term understanding that will contribute to lasting peace, security and stability in the region," it added.

BRICS stressed the need to work together to maintain a smooth flow of global trade, supply chains and energy, in accordance with applicable international law.

The grouping also expressed "deep concern" over the continued violence in Gaza despite the ceasefire agreement of October last year.

Global South Must

In his opening address at the two-day India-hosted summit, Modi also proposed a 10-point roadmap for global governance reform under the BRICS framework and advocated for a 'Seafarers' Emergency Support Network' to safeguard sailors facing heightened risks from

ongoing global and regional crises.

The summit, attended by a galaxy of world leaders including Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian and Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, assumed greater significance as it unfolded against a backdrop of escalating geopolitical headwinds driven by the Russia-Ukraine war, West Asia instability and new US tariff policies.

BRICS has emerged as an influential grouping as it brings together 11 major emerging economies of the world, representing around 49.5 per cent of the global population, around 40 per cent of the global GDP and around 26 per cent of the global trade.

As the BRICS chair, India has placed the Global South at the heart of its agenda by seeking actionable solutions for food, energy and supply chain security primarily to insulate developing nations from the economic consequences of conflicts.

"The current structure of global governance resembles a pyramid: power and decision-making are concentrated at the top, while the lower tiers consist of nations that are affected by these decisions but unable to shape them," Modi said.

"Today, the Global South stands in the front row of global crises but in the back row of decision-making. We must transform this 'pyramid of privilege' into a 'platform of partnership' -- one where every nation has a voice, every member has a stake, and the development of humanity lies at the heart of every effort," he said.

To this end, the prime minister proposed that BRICS jointly formulate a 10-point roadmap for global governance reform under the broader framework of the grouping's reform roadmap. Modi said the roadmap should be finalised by the time of the next summit.

"In formulating this roadmap, we must focus on three key aspects: representation, responsiveness, and rule-making.

In his address, Chinese President Xi hailed the BRICS bloc as the world's most influential platform for cooperation among emerging markets and developing countries and called on the grouping to play its "due role" in bringing peace in West Asia.

Russian President Putin too underlined the need for united efforts by BRICS to confront major challenges.

As the leaders concluded the first day's deliberations, Modi announced the New Delhi BRICS declaration, which was adopted unanimously.

The declaration is seen as a major diplomatic victory for India as sharp differences between the United Arab Emirates and Tehran regarding the West Asia conflict had triggered apprehensions about adoption of the document as BRICS is a consensus-based bloc.

The declaration skipped making any direct mention of the US strikes on Iran or Iranian military's attacks on several Gulf Arab nations. It also did not criticise Russia's war on Ukraine but was severely critical of Israel for continuing violence in Gaza and called for fulfilling the aspirations of the Palestinian people.

BRICS, without naming the US, also voiced serious concerns over the proliferation of "trade-restrictive actions" such as "indiscriminate" tariffs and non-tariff measures as well as protectionism, saying they threatened to further reduce global trade, disrupt global supply chains, potentially exacerbating existing economic disparities.

The grouping came out against "unilateral sanctions" and "coercive measures" that are contrary to international law, in what is seen as a veiled criticism of Western economic sanctions on Russia.

The BRICS leaders appeared to endorse New Delhi's position to end the West Asia conflict through "dialogue and diplomacy" and stressed the need to work together to maintain a smooth flow of global trade, supply chains and energy, in accordance with "applicable" international law.

The grouping also fully backed India's call for zero tolerance towards any form of terrorism and shunning double standards in countering the menace as the top leaders of the influential grouping agreed to have a concerted approach in dealing with the challenge.

It condemned in the "strongest terms" the Pahalgam terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir last year that killed 26 people.

In his remarks, the prime minister also highlighted the critical role being played by the seafarers community in the flow of global

trade and said their safety should be a matter of priority.

"Seafarers make a massive contribution to global trade, yet they often find themselves lacking support during difficult times. I propose that we establish a 'Seafarers' Emergency Support Network,'" he said.

"This would connect the maritime authorities and diplomatic missions of relevant countries, facilitating assistance with distress alerts, medical aid, family notifications, and evacuations," he said.

After the West Asia conflict began in February, India has been critical of Iranian attacks on merchant vessels near the Strait of Hormuz that have killed and injured Indian seafarers. Ten Indian seafarers are among the 16 Indians killed so far in the West Asia conflict.

In the declaration, BRICS also pressed for reform of the United Nations and even favoured having a woman as the UN Secretary General.

In the evening, PM Modi hosted a dinner reception for the BRICS leaders. On the margins of the summit, Modi held a series of bilateral meetings including with Chinese President Xi Jinping, Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim and Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

In the meeting with Xi, Modi emphasised that peace and tranquillity along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) remain essential for the development of India-China relations.

The two leaders reaffirmed that both countries should take a strategic and long-term perspective on their ties and that differences should not become disputes.

Mufti Welcomes

hundreds of schoolchildren," Mehbooba said in a post on X.

She said terrorism cannot be condemned selectively.

"Civilian blood has no nationality, and international justice cannot have double standards," the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister said.

The April 22, 2025, terror attack in Pahalgam claimed 26 lives and left scores injured.

The comprehensive declaration, titled 'Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability', marked a unified stance by the bloc against global terror, illegal financial flows, cyber fraud, and emerging cross-border scam networks.

Reaffirming their commitment to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, the BRICS leaders emphasised the urgent need to stop the cross-border movement of terrorists, disrupt terror financing networks and dismantle safe havens. (PTI)

NIA Raids 10

assistance provided to the network. The case is registered as RC-02/2026/NIA/JMU and originated from FIR No. 0024/2026 registered at Police Station Zakoor, Srinagar, according to officials.

The investigation remains underway, while further details regarding the searches, documents or other material recovered, if any, are awaited. [KNT]

Speaker Forms

of different political parties are expected to be invited to the meeting, the sources added.

The autumn session of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly is scheduled to begin on September 21. (KNO)

Rain, Thundershowers

of Beerwah in Budgam district.

Farmers reported damage to fruit-bearing trees, agricultural crops and other produce and urged the administration to initiate an immediate assessment of the losses.

The hailstorm struck Beerwah suddenly and affected agricultural fields and orchards. Farmers said the intensity of the hail and strong winds caused damage to fruit trees and standing crops, raising concerns over the impact on their seasonal agricultural income.

They said the damage occurred at a time when they were expecting returns from their crops and orchards after months of cultivation and care.

The affected farmers urged the concerned departments to send teams to the area and conduct an early on-ground survey of the damaged crops and orchards to ascertain the actual extent of the losses.

They said a timely assessment would enable the authorities to document the damage and

determine the assistance required by affected farming families.

Farmers also appealed to the administration to provide compensation or relief under applicable government provisions, saying financial assistance would help them deal with the losses caused by the weather event.

They urged the concerned authorities to expedite the assessment process and ensure that affected farmers are provided necessary assistance after the damage is formally assessed.

Further details regarding the extent of damage and any official assessment by the administration are awaited.

NH-44 Blocked

and shooting stones affected multiple stretches in Ramban district, leading authorities to suspend vehicular movement on the strategic road.

Officials said traffic would not be allowed from either side until the affected stretches are cleared and the highway is restored for safe movement.

The blockade has been reported in the Ramban sector, including the vulnerable stretch around Mehad, where landslides and continuous shooting stones have hampered traffic movement.

Men and machinery have been deployed for clearance work, while authorities are assessing the affected stretches and working to restore connectivity.

Officials said the ongoing road clearance operation could take several hours depending on ground conditions and the movement of stones and debris.

Commuters have been advised not to undertake journeys on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway until further instructions from the traffic authorities.

Other important routes in the region have also been affected by weather and road conditions, with restrictions reported on some stretches because of snow accumulation and maintenance work.

The traffic situation remains subject to further assessment and official advisories. [KNT]

Decision Will Be

Ruhullah announced his decision to quit, NC president Farooq Abdullah challenged him to contest elections independently.

Asked about the health minister's reported remarks that Chief Minister Omar Abdullah had not wanted to contest the Assembly elections but was pressured by the party, Ruhullah said the chief minister should have taken a principled stand.

"There is something called a principled stand. If you take a principled stand, then no matter what pressure comes, you can face that pressure," he said.

"Now tell me, was that his principled stand? If it was a principled stand, then why did he abandon it under someone else's pressure? You cannot trust a person like that -- someone who changes his principled stand when pressured. How can we trust that if they take a stand today, they won't alter it under someone else's duress tomorrow?" Ruhullah said.

He said leadership meant having conviction and the ability to stand by one's decisions despite pressure.

"If a person can be forced to change decisions under pressure, then obviously, such a person is not a leader, nor can they be relied upon," Ruhullah said.

Ruhullah also rejected the suggestion that Omar had faced significant pressure from the party to change his decision.

"I am a witness to all those inner workings; I was a firsthand participant in them. There was no massive pressure from the party asking him to change his decision. Until it was his personal wish, his personal need, he termed that personal need as pressure and took that decision himself," he said.

Ruhullah said Omar could have resisted the pressure and demonstrated leadership by allowing someone else to become chief minister.

"He could have made someone else chief minister, someone outside the family could have been appointed, and he could have played a leadership role. But the chief ministership, after all, is a temptation, and he (Abdullah) couldn't resist that temptation," Ruhullah said.

NHM Strike Enters

other states, a comprehensive policy for job security and regularisation, besides social security measures including EPF, ESI, insurance

coverage, leave salary and post-retirement benefits.

As NHM employees continued to remain on strike, their absence affected routine services and created difficulties for patients at various health institutions.

The employees said they were not seeking any immediate or unreasonable benefit but wanted the government to recognise their contribution to the healthcare system and provide them with a fair and secure service structure.

"We have been working for years in hospitals, health centres and different national health programmes, often under difficult conditions. Our demand is that the government should address the disparity in our salaries and provide us with a clear policy for our future," protesting employees told the news agency Kashmir News Observer (KNO).

Another group of employees said repeated assurances had failed to provide them with a permanent solution.

Veterinary Interns'

agitation as their hunger strike entered the second day.

The interns are demanding an increase in their monthly stipend from the existing Rs 6,000 to Rs 23,000, saying the amount has remained unchanged since 2011 and is inadequate to meet basic expenses, travel requirements and the responsibilities associated with their internship.

National Conference Lok Sabha MP from Srinagar Aga Ruhullah Mehdi on Saturday joined the protesting interns at the SKUAST-K Shuhama campus and urged the Jammu and Kashmir Government to immediately engage with the students and address their long-pending demands.

Addressing reporters during his visit, Mehdi appealed to the government and Agriculture Minister Javed Ahmad Dar to intervene and initiate dialogue with the protesting students.

He said the interns had been raising their concerns for several months and that the issue could be resolved through meaningful engagement.

Mehdi said the ongoing protests by veterinarians, medical interns, NHM workers and students reflected the need for greater accountability and responsiveness from the elected government.

He said an elected government should listen to people's concerns and provide protesting students and professionals with a sense of belonging and confidence rather than treating their demands as a threat or revolt.

Terror Outfits

operational tempo through area domination, night patrolling and intelligence-based interventions, besides strengthening coordination among all security agencies.

"Intensify action against narco-terror modules through enhanced intelligence-led operations and stronger inter-agency coordination to counter emerging security threats in the Jammu region," Prabhat said.

The meeting also focused on emerging security challenges, including attempts by terror-linked networks to use narcotics to generate funds and facilitate anti-national activities.

Prabhat took stock of measures being undertaken by the police to identify, investigate and dismantle such networks operating in the Jammu region.

The review also covered anti-terror measures and border-related challenges, besides the growing threat posed by narco-terror networks involved in using drug trafficking to finance terror activities.

The DGP also reviewed the overall crime situation and stressed the need for proactive policing and an effective response to emerging security and law-and-order challenges.

He emphasised closer coordination among police and other security agencies to ensure timely intelligence sharing and coordinated action against terror-linked networks.

The meeting was attended by Inspector General of Police, Jammu Zone, Tajinder Singh, Deputy Inspector General of Police, Jammu-Kathua-Samba Range, Shridhar Patil, Senior Superintendent of Police, Jammu, Joginder Singh, besides other senior district police and intelligence officers.

The Jammu Zone police, in a post on X, said the DGP reviewed the security scenario and action against narco-terror modules with officers of Jammu Police.

Saffron Replanting Picks Up Pace in Pampore as Farmers Avail JKCIP Support

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Saffron replanting has gained considerable momentum across the major saffron-growing areas of Pampore as farmers have begun actively rejuvenating their fields under the Jammu and Kashmir Comprehensive Investment Plan (JKCIP).

The ongoing exercise aims to revive saffron cultivation, improve crop productivity, and restore the health of fields that have seen declining yields over the years. Farmers in several villages of Pampore Tehsil, popularly known as the Saffron Town of Kashmir, are participating in the replanting programme with support from the Agriculture Department.

Under the initiative, financial assistance of Rs 28,735 per kanal is being provided to eligible farmers for saffron replanting, while an additional Rs 9,000 per kanal is being extended towards labour costs, providing an important financial cushion to growers undertaking the labour-intensive process.

Agriculture Department teams from Zone Pampore are



closely monitoring the ongoing field activities and visiting saffron-growing areas to ensure that the replanting is carried out according to the prescribed technical guidelines.

Officials are also guiding farmers on various aspects of saffron cultivation, including selection of healthy and quality corms, appropriate planting depth, spacing, land prepara-

tion and other agronomic practices considered essential for better crop establishment and productivity.

An Agriculture Department official told KNO that around 610 kanals were covered under the replanting programme last year and expressed confidence that the area would increase substantially this year.

"Last year, around 610 kanals

were covered under the replanting programme. This year, we are expecting the area to almost double as more farmers are coming forward to participate in the scheme," the official said.

Farmers involved in the programme said the financial and technical support had encouraged them to invest in rejuvenating their saffron fields, particularly at a time when

cultivation costs have increased and maintaining traditional saffron fields has become increasingly challenging.

"We welcome the replanting programme because saffron cultivation requires considerable investment and labour. The financial assistance reduces the burden on growers, while the guidance from agriculture officials helps us follow the recommended practices," a saffron grower said.

Another farmer said that systematic replanting was important for maintaining the productivity and quality of Kashmir saffron. "Pampore's saffron is not merely a crop but part of the region's agricultural heritage. Any initiative aimed at improving production and supporting growers needs to be strengthened so that the younger generation also remains interested in saffron cultivation," he said.

Farmers, however, have also urged authorities to maintain strict vigilance over the movement of saffron corms, particularly amid concerns over their illegal transportation outside Jammu and Kashmir. (KNO)

Ladakh DGP Inaugurates 72-foot National Flag at Kargil

KARGIL: Ladakh Director General of Police (DGP) Anand Jain has inaugurated a 72-foot-high National Flag at the district police lines here, dedicating the monumental flag to the people of the Union Territory, an official said on Saturday.

The flag-hoisting ceremony was part of the Ladakh Police chief's two-day visit to Kargil district, which began on September 9, aimed at reviewing the security situation and policing arrangements in the region, a police spokesman said.

He said the flag was hoisted in presence Deputy Commissioner, Kargil, Rakesh Kumar, SSP Kargil Nitin Yadav and Major General (Rtd) Asim Kohli of the Flag Foundation of the India.

The National Flag project was executed by the efforts of civil administration Kargil, district police and Flag Foundation of India, the spokesman said.

During his visit, the DGP reviewed the prevailing security situation in Kargil and stressed the need for close coordination among security forces, along with heightened vigilance, to ensure the safety and security of the people.

A crime review meeting was also held at the District Police Office, Kargil, with supervisory officers, Station House Officers (SHOs) and investigating officers from police stations in Kargil, Wakha, Panikhar and Drass, the spokesman said.

He said Jain took a detailed assessment of the crime situation and directed officers to expedite long-pending investigations in both Kargil and Drass.

He called for special attention to heinous crimes and cases registered under the NDPS Act, particularly those involving heroin, as well as theft, POCSO and cybercrime.

He also stressed the need to further strengthen community policing initiatives to enhance public engagement and trust.

The DGP also inaugurated three newly constructed residential quarters, meant for gazetted officers at Baroo in Kargil and Mess cum Kitchen at Sankoo. (Press Trust of India)

J&K Govt Not Going to Run for Long: LoP Sharma

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Leader of Opposition (LoP) Sunil Sharma on Saturday claimed that the Omar Abdullah-led government would not complete its five-year term, alleging there was growing dissatisfaction within the ruling National Conference (NC).

Sharma, who was speaking during a visit to Reasi, described the NC as a "broken party" and said the government had failed to fill three vacant ministerial positions despite nearly two years in office.

"The National Conference is currently a broken party," Sharma, he said, alleging that only five ministers were running the government despite three vacancies.

He claimed that there was "something wrong" within the government and the party and said dissatisfaction among ministers could eventually lead to the collapse of the ruling party.

"This government is not going to run for a long time," the BJP leader said when asked whether the National Conference would complete its five-year term.

The LoP also criticised the government over issues raised by people during his visit to Reasi, including water shortages, electricity curtailment and protests by various categories of employees. (KNO)

Filmmakers Should Focus on Kashmir Beauty: A R Rahman

Press Trust of India

SRINAGAR: Oscar-winning music composer A R Rahman on Saturday said Kashmir is beautiful, uncluttered, and an inspiring place, and urged filmmakers to celebrate the region's peace and natural beauty rather than violence and conflict.

Rahman, who was in the Union Territory to shoot an advertisement, called for cinema to help reshape the narrative around Kashmir.

When asked about Bollywood's role in promoting the Valley's picturesque locales and rich culture, the music maestro said the focus should be on showing harmony rather than the past strife.

"I think that is what should happen from now. They should bring the beauty and the peace, what



you see in nature, as a positive thing, than taking anything about violence or the past. The past was past, the future is bright," Rahman told reporters.

He believes J-K provides rare creative clarity for creators.

"As artists, we seek inspiration. And when we come here, it is uncluttered, beautiful, and it inspires us," he added.

Describing Kashmir as a beautiful and blessed place, Rahman said it was

commendable that the union territory hosted its first-ever International Film Festival of Jammu and Kashmir.

"Everybody can see the beauty of Kashmir and the vibration of Kashmir. I wish this film festival becomes really famous and a lot of people come here and enjoy the hospitality of the Kashmiri people," he said.

"This is a great idea. And I wish it will grow and grow, and become beau-

tiful, and become such a great experience. Like we go to, Amsterdam, and we go to London Film Festival, or all those places, Sundance. I wish Kashmir becomes the best festival of India," he added.

The internationally-acclaimed composer said he enjoyed shooting for the ad in J-K and hopes to perform in the valley soon.

"We have some plans and we are talking. Hopefully, I want to come and perform here," he said.

He also welcomed the suggestion of greater collaboration between Bollywood and folk musicians from J-K.

"I would love to because I came here for 'Rockstar' and I recorded ladies singing folk songs, and we used it in 'Rockstar'. And we want to come and do more things here," he said.

Father, Son Killed in Budgam Accident

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A man and his minor son were killed, while his wife was critically injured after the motorcycle they were travelling on collided with a car in Central Kashmir's Budgam district on Saturday.

An official said that the family was travelling on a motorcycle when it collided with a car in the Soibugh area.

He said the motorcycle rider and his minor son sustained critical injuries in the accident. They

were shifted to Primary Health Centre (PHC) Soibugh, where doctors declared them dead.

The deceased were identified as Naseer Ahmad Mir, son of Ghulam Hassan Mir, resident of Goom Ahmadpora, Magam, and his minor son Hadi. His wife, Dilshada Akhter, also sustained injuries in the accident.

The official said Dilshada was initially treated at PHC Soibugh and later referred to Srinagar for further treatment. Her condition was stated to be critical.

CRPF Organises Cricket Tournament in Buchroo under Civic Action Programme



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The 43 Battalion of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) organised a cricket tournament at Buchroo in Srinagar under its Civic Action Programme 2025-26, aimed at strengthening ties with the local community and promoting youth engagement through sports.

The tournament, organised under the aegis of DIG Srinagar South and the guidance of IG SNR Sector CRPF, saw the participation of four local teams—Baghi Buchroo Legends Cricket Team, Buchroo Legends Cricket Team, Friends XI Buchroo Cricket Team and A-7 Cricket Club Buchroo.

The opening ceremony was inaugurated by CRPF Comman-

dant Sh. Vikrant Sarangpani in the presence of unit officers, Sarpanch of Buchroo Ghulam Moynuddin, prominent community members and local villagers.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from local youth, who displayed sportsmanship, discipline and competitive spirit throughout the matches. The initiative also highlighted the CRPF's efforts to promote sportsmanship, youth participation and greater engagement with local communities.

The tournament concluded on September 11 with the final played between Baghi Buchroo Legends and Buchroo Legends. Baghi Buchroo Legends emerged victorious, while Buchroo Legends finished as runners-up.

ACB Chargesheets Former Patwari, Driver in Bribery Case

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Saturday produced a charge sheet against a former Patwari and a driver in a bribery case before the Special Judge, Anti-Corruption, Udhampur.

In a statement issued to Kashmir Observer, a spokesperson said the charge sheet was produced in case FIR No. 01/2023 registered at Police Station ACB Udhampur under Section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (amended in 2018), against Darbinder Singh, the then Patwari of Halqa Rasli Gandheran, Basantgarh, Udhampur, and Nashar Ahmad, a resident of Basantgarh.

He said the case was registered on the basis of a written complaint lodged by Bodh Raj, a resident of Rasli Gandheran, Basantgarh, alleging that he had applied for issuance of a fard of his land, which he intended to sell to one Madan Lal. He later approached the then Patwari, who allegedly demanded a bribe for issuing the fard.

The spokesperson said the complaint was verified by an officer of the ACB Udhampur-Reasi Branch, who found it genuine and recommended registration of an FIR.

Accordingly, a trap was laid, during which Darbinder Singh, the then Patwari of Halqa Rasli Gandheran, and Nashar Ahmad, driver of vehicle bearing registration number JK02 BV-9048, were caught red-handed while allegedly demanding and accepting the bribe from the complainant.



GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
HYDRAULIC CIRCLE ANANTNAG/KULGAM
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ADDENDUM

In view of the representations received from various agencies/contractors, the Geo Coordinates of the work "Protection works for Asthal Village on Veshow Nallah in District Kulgam." Put to tenders vide this office e-NIT No. 05 of 2026-27 dated 24.08.2026, issued under No. SE/Hyd/Cors/5350-70 dated 24.08.2026, read with the corrigendums issued under No. SE/Hyd/Cors/5501-19 dated 25.08.2026 & SE/Hyd/Cors/5722-42 dated 29.08.2026 are as under:

Latitude: 33.63133° Longitude: 74.967922°

Moreover, the drawings furnished by the concerned Executive Engineer are enclosed herewith for information and reference of the intending bidders.

All other terms and conditions of the e-NIT shall remain unchanged.

No:SE/HYD/CORS/ 6132-50
Dated: 11-09-2026

DIPK-5633-26
DT: 12/09/2026

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
HYDRAULIC CIRCLE ANANTNAG/KULGAM,
H.Q. ANANTNAG.



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER SUB TRANSMISSION DIVISION BIJBEHARA
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NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-NITNO: STB/35 of 2026-27; Dated: 10.09.2026

For and on behalf of the Lt Governor, Jammu and Kashmir State, e-Tenders (In Two Cover System) are hereby invited from "A" Class Electrical Contractors issued by the Electrical Inspectorate of Govt of Central Inspectorial organization of Govt. of India/ other state Govt. In case bid submitted joint venture firm, any of partner should possess "A" class electrical license for "Segregation of 11kV Kehribal-Feeder at 10+6.3MVA Receiving Station Gopalpora ." as per terms, conditions, technical specifications and schedules forming part of this tender document. Intending bidders are requested to submit their offer along with terms, conditions, technical specifications and annexure forming part of this tender document.The details are as under:

#	Name of Work	Adv. Cost. (IN Rs. lacs)	Cost of e-Bid/ tender document (Rs)	EMD (Rs)
1.	Segregation of 11kV Kehribal- Feeder at 10+6.3MVA Receiving Station Gopalpora .	11.65	1000	23300

2	Publishing Date & Time	10.09.2026 (1700 Hrs)
3	Document Download / Sale Start Date & Time	10.09.2026 (1700 Hrs)
4	Seek Clarification Start Date & Time	10.09.2026 (1700 Hrs)
5	Seek Clarification End Date & Time	25.09.2026 (1700 Hrs)
6	Bid Submission Start Date & Time	10.09.2026 (1700 Hrs)
7	Bid Submission End Date & Time	26.09.2026 (1500 Hrs)
8	Bid opening date & Time	28.09.2026 (1500 Hrs)
9	Venue of opening Bids	STD Bijbehara

Please Read Standard Bidding Document Carefully

- The tender document is available at website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification if required and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below..
- There is no need of furnishing of hard copies of bids after submission of e-tenders. The same should be obtained only from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial bid as per the instructions of Finance Department issued vide O.M No. A/24(2017)-651; Dated: 07-06-2018
- All the e-Bids must be accompanied by the scanned copy of cost of tender document. The cost of tender document should be paid through e- challan/ treasury challan /receipt only.
- All the e-Bids must be accompanied by the scanned copy of EMD in the form of CDR/FDR/TD, pledged to the Executive Engineer Sub transmission Division Bijbehara. No Interest would be payable on Earnest Money deposited with the Department. However the bidder who is declared L1 after opening of financial bid has to submit the original EMD to the office of the Executive Engineer Sub transmission Division Bijbehara through speed post, Courier or by hand.
- The e-Bids will be electronically opened in the presence of bidder's representatives, who choose to attend at the venue, date and time mentioned in the above table or any subsequent day to the convenience of the Tender Opening Committee. An authority letter of bidder's/OEM representative will be required to be produced.
- The Department reserves the right to cancel any or all the e-Bids/ the e-Bid process without assigning any reason thereof. The decision of department will be final and binding.
- In the event of date specified for e-Bids opening being declared a holiday for department's office then the due date for opening of e-Bids shall be the following working day at the appointed time and place.
- All the required documents excluding Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded by the e-Bidder electronically in the PDF format, whereas Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded electronically in the same BOQ sheet provided with the SBD.
- To participate in e-bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' class III(b) as per Information Technology Act-2000, to participate in online bidding.
- The tender document is available on website. Interested bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table above. The Quoted rates shall be Firm, inclusive of all taxes and duties, WCT, freight, transportation up to working sites. The rates shall include costs, if any attracted towards mandatory inspections / testing by the designated agencies and the department will not be required to pay / reimburse anything over and above the price quoted. All the bids must be supported by the Instrument of EMD of the exact amount as mentioned in the above table and shall have been issued post tender publication date. Moreover, any deviation in the EMD amount is liable for rejection.
- In case the bid of the bidder is unbalanced, the bidder has to submit additional performance security deposit in the shape of CDR/FDR as per the latest Circular issued by Finance Deptt. Vide their No:FD-Code/441/2021-02-158 Dt. 08.08.2025
- The bidder at his own responsibility and risk should visit and examine the site of work and its surroundings before the submission of bid.
- Before the deadline for submission of bids, the employer reserves the right to modify the bidding document by issuing Addendum/Corrigendum.
- All requisite documents like EMD, eChallan, NIT, SBD, Experience Certificate, Turnover Certificate (of previous three financial years), ITR, GSTR, PAN Card etc. as sought in the eNIT must be compulsorily uploaded with the bid.

No:STB/Ts/4977-80
Dated: 10.09.2026
DIPK-NB-1625-26
DT: 12/09/2026

Sd/= Executive Engineer
Sub Transmission Division
Bijbehara

Harmanpreet Backs India Ahead of Asia Cup Final Against SL

Press Trust of India

DUBAI: India captain Harmanpreet Kaur on Saturday urged her team to keep things simple and trust their strengths as they look to avenge their defeat to Sri Lanka in the previous edition and clinch the Women's Asia Cup title here.

India and Sri Lanka have been the two standout teams in the tournament and will meet in the final, with Harmanpreet insisting that there is little to choose between the sides on paper.

"Whenever you are playing a match which is so important to win the tournament, that day it is all about just playing on your strength and backing your strength," Harmanpreet said at the pre-final press conference.

"Rather than trying too many things and thinking of doing something extraordinary, it is all about sticking to your strength, backing yourself and trusting your gut feeling."

Sri Lanka had defeated In-

dia in the final of the previous edition two years ago, but Harmanpreet said her team was not looking at the contest as a battle between a stronger and weaker team.

"Last time when we played against Sri Lanka, they came up with some really solid plans and solid performances. T20 is all about on a given day who is going to play the best cricket, they are going to win," she said.

India posted a competitive 165 but Sri Lanka overhauled the target with eight wickets to spare in an emphatic win in 2024.

"There is no doubt about any team being stronger or any team being lesser than anyone. It is all about playing good cricket on an important day."

Harmanpreet has been particularly pleased with the way different members of the Indian squad have stepped up at different stages of the tournament.

"Everyone in the team is very important and their contribu-



tion means a lot to us. It is good to see that whoever is getting the opportunity, they are coming up with some really solid performances," she said.

"Our batting unit came up in difficult situations and still managed to get runs on the board, while whenever we are bowling,

our bowlers have come up with some really solid performances."

The Indian skipper, however, acknowledged that batting on the Dubai surface has not been easy and said the key in the final would be for batters to spend time in the middle before looking to attack.

"This pitch is a little tough to bat on, but at the same time we just need to back ourselves, back our strength. We know we have such a good batting lineup," she said.

"Whoever is doing well on that day should take the responsibility and finish the game for the team."

Settled batter needs to take responsibility

Harmanpreet also praised Sri Lanka's bowling attack, saying their ability to execute plans has made them particularly effective on the surface.

"You have to really spend some time and then you can go for your shot. Whoever is settled, that person needs to take the responsibility and play till the end," she said.

Asked about Sri Lankan star Chamari Athapaththu, Harmanpreet said India would look to dismiss the dangerous opener early but would not focus only on her.

"We definitely want to take her wicket as soon as possible because we know how dangerous she is when she is batting. We want to come up with some solid plans against her, not only against her, but all the batters," she said.

Harmanpreet also played down the importance of the toss, saying it was beyond a captain's

control.

"I don't put any pressure on myself because toss is something which I feel is not in my control. We have been playing here for almost two weeks. We know the conditions, the pitch, and I think it is all about trusting your plans, trusting your gut feeling and backing them," she said.

The India captain also called for composure in what promises to be a high-pressure final.

"We have seen whenever we are trying to do something special or something extraordinary, we have always made so many mistakes," she said.

"Tomorrow's match is all about trusting yourself and trying to make fewer mistakes on the field. The team which makes fewer mistakes in an important game has more chances to win."

Harmanpreet was also hopeful of a strong turnout from Indian fans, saying their support can provide an additional boost to the players.

Dhiraj Eyes Maiden World Cup Final Medal Ahead Of Asian Games

Press Trust of India

SALTILLO (MEXICO): India's top-ranked recurve archer Dhiraj Bommadevara, the lone from the country to make the cut for the season-ending World Cup Final this year, will be eyeing a maiden medal at the coveted event when he starts out against Turkey's Berkim Tumer, here on Sunday.

The one-day competition follows a straightforward knockout format beginning with the quarterfinals, meaning two wins will be enough for an archer to assure himself of a medal.

Dhiraj qualified for the elite eight-member field by virtue of his victory at the World Cup Stage 3 in Antalya. No other Indian archer has made the cut across the



recurve and compound sections in the men's and women's categories.

As for the draw, it is a relatively favourable one for the 25-year-old Army man, who opens against Tumer, an archer he defeated in the pre-quarterfinals during his last World Cup appearance in Madrid in July, before bowing out in the last eight.

Should he clear the opening hurdle, the Vijayawada archer is likely to run into American great Brady Ellison in the semifinals.

Ellison, a multiple world champion and two-time Olympic medallist, will be in Mexico to defend his recurve men's title after winning his sixth World Cup Final trophy in Nanjing in 2025.

But Dhiraj has already shown that he can beat the American great, having defeated Ellison in the pre-quarterfinals of the 2023 World Cup in Antalya, a victory that helped him secure his maiden World Cup medal -- a bronze.

Since then, Dhiraj has added two more bronze medals and a gold to his World Cup tally.

The Saltillo final will also serve as an important final competition for Dhiraj ahead of the Asian Games in Japan next week, with the Indian set to fly directly to Aichi-Nagoya after the World Cup.

At the previous edition in Hangzhou, Dhiraj won a silver medal in the men's team event and will now be looking to add his maiden individual Asian Games medal.

Liverpool And Chelsea Stumble In The Premier League With Home Draws

AP

LONDON: Liverpool and Chelsea dropped more points in the Premier League after being held to surprise draws at home on Saturday.

Liverpool's big money forwards Alexander Isak and Bradley Barcola couldn't find a way past winless Fulham in a goalless contest at Anfield.

Chelsea's fragile defense was exposed again by newly promoted Hull in a 2-2 draw at Stamford Bridge.

Aston Villa's nightmare start to the season continued with a 2-1 loss at home to Nottingham Forest.

Substitute Zian Flemming scored a 90th-minute winner as Ipswich beat Crystal Palace 3-2, while Bournemouth and Brentford drew 2-2.

Frustration for Liverpool

Liverpool has spent more than half a billion dollars rebuilding its attack over the past two seasons, but was nullified by a Fulham team that had not kept a clean sheet in the league this season.

In front of a frustrated Anfield crowd, Andoni Iraola's expensively assembled team was held to a draw for the third time this season, halting the momentum of back-to-back wins.

The \$170 million British record signing Isak came up short, while Barcola — signed from Paris Saint-Germain for \$166 million — failed to produce anything in his first start in the league.

It was the same story for Florian Wirtz (\$156 million) and the relatively inexpensive Victor Munoz (\$46 million). Iraola is still finding his

feet in his first season at Liverpool after previously impressing at Bournemouth. But it has been an unconvincing start that has left his team with ground to make up even this early in the campaign.

"Collectively we didn't play well. Many things we tried to do, we couldn't do well," Liverpool goalkeeper Alisson said.

Problems mount for Chelsea

Chelsea's defensive problems are becoming increasingly costly.

Xabi Alonso's team has conceded at least two goals in each of its league games and 12 goals in six games in all competitions. Its only clean sheet came against third division Luton in the English League Cup.

It took a goal from Joao Pedro in the 66th to salvage a draw after Mohamed Beloulmi's double saw Hull rally from 1-0 down to lead 2-1.

Morgan Rogers put Chelsea ahead in the seventh minute.

Jesus sinks VillaVilla's Champions League win midweek proved not to be a turning point in what has been a desperate start for Unai Emery's much-changed team.

The loss of a slew of star players is taking its toll on a team that won the Europa League last season and finished fourth in Premier League.

Alysson Edward gave Villa fans hope of a point at home after Liam Delap put Midlands rival Forest ahead just after halftime. But Igor Jesus found a winner in the 88th.

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