

KO Classifieds

PLACE YOUR
AD TODAY!

You can
do it all
here

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

J&K Colleges See 22% Drop In Graduates

Agencies

Srinagar: Colleges in Jammu and Kashmir have witnessed a decline of more than 22 per cent in the number of graduates over the past three academic years, with the total number falling from 23,655 in 2023-24 to 18,312 in 2025-26.

The figures were provided by the government in the Legislative Assembly in response to a question raised by MLA Arjun Singh Raju.

According to the government, 23,655 students graduated from colleges across J&K during the 2023-24 academic session. The number fell to 21,153 in 2024-25 before declining further to 18,312 in 2025-26.

Jammu recorded a particularly sharp decline, with the number of graduates falling from 5,930 in 2023-24 to 4,206 in 2024-25 and 3,906 in 2025-26.

In Srinagar, the number declined from 4,190 graduates in 2023-24 to 4,002 in 2024-25 and 3,352 in 2025-26.

Several other districts also recorded significant declines. Rajouri, Udhampur, Kulgam and Doda witnessed a fall of more than one-third in their graduate numbers over the three-year period.

The government informed the House that no consolidated, course-wise employability rate of graduates from Government Degree Colleges, Universities and Cluster | [More on P6](#)

J&K Assembly Adjourned Sine Die After Stormy 7-Day Session

Statehood resolution, bureaucracy row and social media regulation dominate proceedings

House sees key disclosures on recruitment, ration, power, public funds and government workers



Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly was on Wednesday adjourned sine die, bringing to a close its Autumn Session that witnessed heated exchanges over restoration of statehood, the role of bureaucracy, regulation of social media journalism, legislators' salaries, employment, electricity, ration distribution and public expenditure. The ten-day session, held

from September 21 to 30, comprised seven sittings and around 25 hours of proceedings. Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather, while announcing the adjournment, said the House had received 646 questions, including 328 starred questions. Of these, 625 were listed, while one was withdrawn and 25 were disallowed. The House also received 79 Calling Attention Notices, of which 56 were admitted and 23 disallowed. | [More on P6](#)



Finalise 'One Officer, One Car' Policy Within 15 Days: Speaker

KO Web Desk

Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather on Wednesday directed the government to finalise and notify the proposed "One Officer, One Car Policy" within 15 days, taking serious note of the prolonged delay in framing the policy. The direction came after Transport Minister Satish Sharma presented the status report on the proposed policy during the ongoing Autumn Session of the Assembly. According to the report, the Transport Department will undertake necessary inter-departmental consultations and complete the requisite | [More on P6](#)

J&K Waives Fees For AAY Students In Classes IX-XII

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Government has waived all fees for students belonging to Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families studying in Classes IX to XII in government schools across the Union Territory.

The School Education Department issued Government Order No. 263-JK(Edu) of 2026 on July 8, providing for a complete fee waiver for AAY students enrolled in Classes IX to XII in government schools.

The details were provided in response to an Unstarred Assembly question, D.No. 1/6/64, tabled by Ramgarh MLA Dr Devinder Kumar Manyal.

The Government, however, said that any reduction or waiver of application or examination fees for students belonging to economically weaker sections more broadly remains an administrative matter.

On career guidance, the Government said structured counselling is being provided to students of Classes IX to XII in government schools under the Samagra Shiksha framework.

For the current financial year, the Ministry of Education has approved coverage of 2,241 high and higher secondary schools in Jammu and Kashmir, with a financial allocation of Rs 112.05 lakh for the activity.

The programme is aimed at helping | [More on P6](#)

Kashmir Issued 2,486 EWS Certificates Against 24,058 In Jammu

Speaker Directs Govt to Examine Practices in Other States

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Government on Wednesday informed the Legislative Assembly that 2,486 Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) certificates had been issued in Kashmir Division and 24,058 in Jammu Division over the past two years.

Minister for Jal Shakti Javed Ahmed Rana, replying on behalf of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who also holds the Revenue portfolio, provided the figures in response to a Calling Attention Notice moved by Peoples Conference MLA Sajad Gani Lone over alleged regional disparity in the issuance of EWS certificates.

Rana said EWS certificates are issued by the concerned Tehsildars in accordance with eligibility criteria prescribed by the Social Welfare Department.

Raising a supplementary, Lone sought a uniform and

rational definition of the economically weaker sections in Jammu and Kashmir, arguing that the existing criteria should be reviewed in light of the socio-economic conditions of the Union Territory.

He suggested that factors including per capita income, social conditions and other socio-economic indicators be considered while determining EWS eligibility.

Lone argued that the criteria followed for EWS determination were not necessarily binding in the same form on all States and could be reviewed or modified by Jammu and Kashmir.

Citing the figures placed before the House, Lone said 24,058 EWS certificates had been issued in Jammu compared to 2,486 in Kashmir over the past two years.

He also referred to data on ration cards, saying Kashmir has a larger | [More on P6](#)

364 Eye Surgeries Have Restored Dignity, Revived Hope: LG

Hails Army's efforts to bring advanced eye care to remote areas

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said the 364 eye surgeries performed in Srinagar and Tangdhar under Operation Drishti represented not merely medical figures but transformed lives, restored dignity and renewed hope.

Sinha was speaking at the closing ceremony of the 11th Mega Eye Surgery Camp organised under Operation Drishti in Srinagar.

He said 144 surgeries were performed at the Srinagar



camp, while 220 patients underwent vision-restoring procedures at the Tangdhar camp in Kupwara district.

Highlighting the significance

of the Tangdhar initiative, the LG said it was the first mega eye surgery camp conducted on the border. Despite the challenging terrain, Army doctors and soldiers established an underground operation theatre and carried out the surgeries in two days.

"Those who have seen Tangdhar's geographical conditions understand that reaching there with assistance is itself a challenge. One must cross mountains, traverse difficult terrain and at times advance even amidst the danger. Yet, in this very challenging and uncertain | [More on P6](#)

'Pashmina Artisans Carry Kashmir's Cultural Memory To World'

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said Pashmina artisans carry Jammu and Kashmir's cultural memory and heritage to the

world, stressing the need to safeguard the traditional craft while ensuring dignity, fair remuneration and wider recognition for artisans. Sinha was | [More on P6](#)

Kashmir's Science Congress Puts Research To The Test

At IUST, scientists and researchers focused on turning scientific discovery into practical solutions as the region looks to technology for sustainable development.

Syed Sammar Mehdi

Srinagar: The lecture hall at the Islamic University of Science and Technology was filled with researchers, students and academics on Wednesday as the second day of the JK Science Congress moved between a sweeping history of scientific innovation and a more immediate question: how can research improve life in Jammu and Kashmir?

The question surfaced during a plenary lecture by Vinod Kumar Gaur, a former secretary of the Ministry of Earth Sciences and an honorary emeritus scientist at the CSIR Fourth Paradigm



Institute in Bengaluru.

Speaking on science education and research during a period of rapid transformation, Dr. Gaur pointed to the Green

Revolution as an example of how scientific innovation can help societies confront difficult challenges.

He described | [More on P6](#)

2018 Murder Over ₹80K Loan: Man Convicted

M Ahmad

Srinagar: A Sessions Court in Ganderbal district on Wednesday convicted a man of murdering, in 2018, a person from whom he had taken a loan of Rs 80,000 after allegedly facing repeated demands for repayment.

The Court of Additional Sessions Judge, Fozia Paul, convicted Mohammad Shafi Magray of Chundina, Ganderbal, for murdering Mohammad Yousuf Khanday of Shallahugh, from whom he had taken a loan of Rs 80,000. Magray also robbed the 43-year-old of cash, his ATM card and attempted to destroy evidence after committing the crime.

The court convicted Magray

under Sections 302, 379 and 201 of the erstwhile Ranbir Penal Code (RPC), while acquitting him of the charge under Section 364 RPC (kidnapping) for want of sufficient proof of abduction by force or deceitful inducement.

According to the prosecution case, Khanday went missing on May 31, 2018, after leaving his home for the J&K Bank branch at Chundina to withdraw cash. His father lodged a missing report the following day. On June 2, 2018, his body was recovered from an open marshy nursery field at Batagund, Shallahugh, bearing severe blunt-force injuries to the head.

The post-mortem examination attributed the death to cardiopulmonary | [More on P6](#)

5-Year-Long Terror Fugitive Killed In Budgam

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: A top Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorist was killed in an encounter with security forces in the higher reaches of Budgam district, officials said on Wednesday.

The slain terrorist was identified as Mohammad Asif alias Hashim Moosa, who also operated under the aliases Sulaiman Shah and Fauji. Officials said he was a retired havildar of the Pakistan Army's elite Special Services Group (SSG) and had served in the security detail of former Pakistan president Pervez Musharraf.

Asif was killed during a joint operation launched by the Army and other security forces in the higher reaches of Korag,

Yousmarg, on Tuesday.

The Army's Chinar Corps said troops observed suspicious movement in the area and, upon being challenged, came under fire, triggering an exchange of fire in which a terrorist was neutralised.

During a search operation early Wednesday, the body of the Pakistan-based LeT terrorist was recovered along with warlike stores from the general area of Palmaidan. The operation was still underway, the Army said.

Officials said Asif had infiltrated into Jammu and Kashmir in 2021 and was serving as the LeT's chief operations commander in the region. His killing, they said, ended an intensive hunt for him and dealt a major blow | [More on P6](#)



To place an advertisement

CALL +91-194 2502327

Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)

No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Srinagar | Thursday | 01-10-2026

2

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
SUB TRANSMISSION DIVISION-1st
(KPDCL), BEMINA, SRINAGAR

Notice Inviting Tender
e-NIT No. STD I / 20 of 2026-27 dated 22.09.2026

For and on behalf of the Managing Director KPDCL, e-Tenders, (In Two Cover System) is hereby invited from reputed A-class electrical contractors / registered firms/suppliers enlisted with CPWD/MES/Railways/DGS&D/JKPDD,for the work mentioned below:

S.No	Description of Work	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Cost of document (In Rs.)	AA/TS	Last date of submission of e-bid (online)
01	Shifting of 33KV Habak-Awantabhawan-SKIMS line near 90 feet Road to pave way for construction of Double Storey Shop line for rehabilitation/ relocation of the existing Shop line.	Rs10,100.00 Ten Thousand One Hundred only "No Exceptions allowed for MSME holders"	Rs.500.00 (Five Hundred only) Non refundable "No Exceptions allowed for MSME holders"	Accorded	14/10/2026; 03:00 PM

1.	Document Download/Sale (start) Date.	23/09/2026 ; 09:00 AM
2.	Document Download /Sale (End) Date.	14/10/2026; 02:00 PM
3	Bidding Queries/Clarifications	24/09/2026 up to 04.00 PM
4.	Bid Submission Start Date	25/09/2026; 09:00 AM
5.	Bid Submission End Date	14/10/2026; 03:00 PM
6.	Commercial/Technical Bid Opening Date & Time	15/10/2026; 02:00 PM
7.	Financial Bid Opening	Shall be declared later on for the technically qualified bidders
8.	Venue of Commercial/ Technical Bid Opening	Electronically in the office of Executive Engineer STD-Ist Bemina Srinagar, J&K.
9.	Cost of e-Bid document	Rs.500.00 (Rupees Five Hundred only) Non refundable
10.	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	Rs.10100.00(TenThousand One Hundred only)
11.	AA/TS	Accorded

The bidders need to submit the proof/ cost of e-Bid document as stated in the above table through non-refundable **Demand Draft** pledged to **Executive Engineer, STD-I, Bemina, Srinagar**. The scanned copy of the **Demand Draft** must be uploaded on e-tendering portal in Commercial /Technical Bid Documents & hard copy of the same to be

submitted in the office of the**Executive Engineer, STD-I, Bemina, Srinagar**before opening of techno-commercial bids.

1. All the e-Bids must be accompanied by the scanned copy of EMD in the form of CDR/FDR only, pledged to the Executive Engineer, STD-I, Bemina, Srinagar. No Interest would be payable on Earnest Money deposited with the Department.

2. Hard Copy of original instrument of EMD shall be submitted to the office of the Executive Engineer, STD- I, Bemina, Srinagar, before opening of techno-commercial bids. In case any bidder shall submit/upload the bid declaration instead of EMD, his bid shall be summarily rejected and shall not be considered for techno-commercial evaluation.

3. The date and time of opening of financial bids shall be notified on web site <http://jktenders.gov.in>. This is conveyed to the qualified bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The financial bids shall be opened accordingly online on the same web site at the office of the Executive Engineer, STD-I, Bemina, Srinagar.

4. The e-Bids will be electronically opened in the presence of bidder's representatives, who choose to attend at the identified venue on indicated 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' representative will be required to be produced.

5. 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.

6. In the event of date specified for e-Bids opening being a holiday/closed day for department's office then the due date for opening of e-Bids shall be the following working day at the same time and place.

7. 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 up loaded electronically in the same BOQ sheet provided with the SBD.

8. To participate in e-bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' As per InformationTechnologyAct-2000, to participate in online bidding.

9. **Hard copy of technical bid, technical specification and commercial bid documents (complete) of L1 Bidder must be delivered to the office of the Executive Engineer, STD- I, Bemina, Srinagar.**

The sealed cover shall be scribed as "Techno-Commercial Bid against e-NIT No. STD-I/20 of 2026-27 dated 22/09/2026.

10. The name of the L1 bidder and e-NIT no. shall be clearly written on the cover. It may be noted that the hard copy should be an exact replica of the uploaded offer documents. For evaluation purposes the uploaded documents will be treated as authentic and final. The hard copy shall be used only for reference purpose.

11. The name of the bidder and e-NIT no. shall be clearly written on the cover. It may be noted that the hard copy should be an exact replica of the uploaded offer documents. For evaluation purposes the uploaded documents will be treated as authentic and final. The hard copy shall be used only for reference purpose.

12. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents.

Any other information regarding e-tendering process can be had from the office of the Executive Engineer, STD- I, Bemina, Srinagar

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Sub Transmission Division-I,
Bemina, Srinagar.

DIPK-NB-1756/26
dated: 30-09-2026

No.:- **STD-I/3904-07**

Dated:- **22/09/2026**

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Higher Education Department Civil Secretariat, J&K

**

Subject:- Selection of candidates for the post of Assistant Professor (Commerce) in the Higher Education Department- Appointment thereof.

NOTICE

Mr. Naveed Anjum Mir S/o Mohd Hamayoon Mir R/o 002, Dildar Karnah as recommended by the J&K Public Service Commission vide Letter No. PSC/DR-HE/AP/Commerce/2023(7687416) Dated 09.01.2026 for the post of Assistant Professor (Commerce), is hereby directed to submit his e-mail Ids and Contact number as per Annexure-A in the Higher Education Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu/ Srinagar in person or on official E-mail-id: hedjk.dispatch@jk.gov within a period of seven (7) days positively for uploading the same on the Employee Verification System (EVS), failing which it shall be presumed that he is not willing to take up his appointment as Assistant Professor in the Higher Education Department and he shall forfeit the right of appointment without any further notice.

(Sanjay Kumar Tickoo), JKAS
Deputy Secretary to the Government

No. HED-GAZ/385/2023-04(7331171)
DIPK-6262/26 Dated: 30.09.2026

Annexure "A" to Notice dated.30.09.2026

Name	Parentage	Address	Email ID	Mobile No.

Public Notice

I, Gulshan Nisa, hereby inform the general public that my name has been wrongly recorded as "Gulshan Bano" in my account maintained with Jammu & Kashmir Bank, Qamawari Branch. I have applied for correction of the same to "Gulshan Nisa". Any person having any objection may contact the concerned branch within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Thereafter, no objection shall be entertained.

ird

**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. 139003359 Session: Bi-Annual - 2026 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. The error has been committed by the parent against mother's name as Mahmooda Begum instead of Mehmooda Bano
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: Shafiya Bashir
Father's name: Bashir Ahmad Mir
Mother's Name: Mehmooda Bano
DOB: 10-10-2010
Residence: Kongam Dara Teh Pattan
Mobile no: 8825031291

bmj

**The Jammu and Kashmir Board of
School Education Bemina Srinagar.**

The candidate whose photograph is above repots that she has lost her Qualification Certificate/s having following description:-
Roll No **663168**
Class **10th**
Year & Session **1986 November**
Registration No **8594-DT-1X-84**
Name **BILAL AHMAD GANAI**
Fathers Name **MOHD MUNAWAR GANAI**



Date Of Birth **11-02-1970**
Residence **HARIPARIGAM AWANTIPORA**
Now the candidate had applied for issuance of DUPLICATE QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATE/S.Before the case shall be processed under rules, if somebody has /have any kind of objection in this regard he / she shall approach the office of undersigned within seven (07) days from the date of publishing of this notice. No claim shall be entertained.
(Besides, the "QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATE/S" bearing S.NO: **7598** is be treated as "CANCELLED"

Sd/= Asstt. Secretary,
Certificates K.D.

No. F(Certs-KD-DQC/B)KD/22
Dated: _____

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Hilal Ahmad Reshi, S/o Mohammad Ramzan Reshi, R/o Ranbirpora, Tehsil Kunzer, District Baramulla, J&K UT, hereby inform the general public that the name of my son is wrongly recorded in his Aadhaar Card as "Zubair Ahmad Reshi" instead of his correct name "Zubair Hilal Reshi". His Date of Birth is also wrongly recorded as 15/02/2010 instead of the correct Date of Birth 10/07/2012. The correct particulars are Zubair Hilal Reshi, DOB 10/07/2012, as per his school records. I have applied for correction/update of the same in his Aadhaar record. Any person having any objection may contact the concerned authority within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which no objection shall be entertained.

fko

از نیابت بومی
عنوان: درخواست منجاب بشیر احمد شوشہ ولد غلام نبی شوشہ ساکنہ سیلو
برادر عطائی EWS سرٹیفکیٹ بحق اولادان باسط بشیر و شاد بشیر پسران
بشیر احمد شوشہ ساکنہ سیلو
اشہار برادر آگاہی ہر خاص و عام
معاہد مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سائل برض حصول
EWS سرٹیفکیٹ دفتر بد میں زیر کار دوائی ہے اس نسبت پٹواری حلقہ سے
رپورٹ طلب کے گئے جس سے عہماں ہوتا ہے کہ سائل ان کا سکہ دھ دھذا
کاسکوت دار ہے اور کنبہ بذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے
بشیر احمد شوشہ ولد غلام نبی شوشہ 60 سال
حسینہ بیگم زوجہ بشیر احمد شوشہ گیارہ بیوکام 55 سال
باسطہ بشیر پسران بشیر احمد زینعمیم 23 سال
مہشیر بشیر -- 20 سال
شامد بشیر -- 17 سال
الفت بشیر -- 26 سال
اسکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کہہ نہیں ہے سائل اس سائل کی مہوار آمدنی 9000
روپے تک ہے ۔ سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث ادا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو
کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض سات یوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔
مبادا گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
نامب تحصیلدار

Public Notice

I have lost my 10th Marks Card, 12th Marks Card and DOB certificate. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned office within seven days.After that no objection shall be entertained.
Aaqib Hussain Bhat
S/o Ghulam Mohammad Bhat
R/O Pallar Budgam

bmj

**BEFORE THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE CHIEF
JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE AT SRINAGAR**

IN THE CASE OF:
BASHIR AHMAD DAR S/o Abdul Salam Dar R/o Dagapora Tailbal, District Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir.
... APPLICANT/GUARDIAN

IN RESPECT OF:
MUZAFFAR AHMAD DAR
S/o Bashir Ahmad Dar
R/o Dagapora Tailbal, District Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir.
... PERSON WITH DISABILITY

V/s
PUBLIC AT LARGE

RESPONDENT

In the matter of: PUBLICATION NOTICE

In the matter of an application for appointment of the applicant as Guardian of Muzaffar Ahmad Dar, a person with disability, in respect of his personal, legal, financial, banking, movable and immovable property affairs.
Notice is hereby given to the Public at Large and all persons concerned that the above-named applicant has filed an application before the Hon'ble Court seeking his appointment as Guardian of Muzaffar Ahmad Dar, S/o Bashir Ahmad Dar, R/o Dagapora Tailbal, District Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir, who is stated to be a person with disability.
Any person having any objection to the grant of the said application or to the appointment of the applicant as Guardian may appear before the Hon'ble Court and file/submit his/her objections on or before 07/10/2026 failing which the matter shall be proceeded with in accordance with law.

fko CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE SRINAGAR

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Faizan, S/o Abdul Qayoom Dar, R/o House No.2, Khalil Colony A, Srinagar, District Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir – 190011, hereby declare that my name has been recorded as "Faizan" in my certificate, whereas my name is recorded as "Faizan Qayoom" in my Aadhaar Card.I hereby declare that "Faizan Qayoom" is my full and correct name and shall be used for all official, legal, and future purposes, including the issuance of my passport.If anybody has any objection to the above-mentioned declaration, he/she may contact the undersigned within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. After that, no objection shall be entertained

Faizan Qayoom
S/o Abdul Qayoom

Media Line Advt

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Sameem Yaqoob Bhat, F/o Azlan Sameem (Given Name) and Bhat (Surname) R/o Naribal Soura Opp SKIM, Srinagar, Pin: 190011, Jammu AND Kashmir, India holding Passport No. C5015716 issued at Jeddah on 23/01/2025 hereby announce to change my minor son's name as Ibrahim Sameem (Given Name) and Bhat (Surname) for all future purposes.

Media line advt

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Shameem Ahmad Kuchay, S/o Mohammad Sideeq Kuchay, born on 04-03-1988, hereby inform the general public that I was a student of Lal Public High School, Botakadal, Lal Bazar, during the 2002 session and had passed Class 9th.I have misplaced/lost my original School Discharge Certificate and, despite diligent efforts, the same could not be traced.I have therefore applied for the issuance of a Duplicate Discharge Certificate from the concerned school authorities.

If anybody has any objection regarding the issuance of the said duplicate certificate, they may submit the same before the concerned authority within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. After the expiry of the stipulated period, no objection shall be entertained.

Media Line Advt

Health & Medical Education Department, Govt. of J&K

GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE, ANANTNAG

College Campus, Dialgam Anantnag J&K-192210

Email ID: principal-gmca@jk.gov.in

Subject: Selection of candidate for the tenure post of Senior Resident in the Discipline of Anatomy, Government Medical College, Anantnag.

Notification No.: 18 GMCA OF 2026

Dated: 30-09-2026

Whereas, this office vide Advertisement Notice No. 10 GMCA of 2026, Dated: 10.06.2026 invited applications from the eligible candidates possessing requisite qualification for filling up tenure posts of Senior Resident/Demonstrator/Tutor (in-service/not in-service doctors) in the various disciplines of Government Medical College, Anantnag as per Criteria/Policy Guidelines for eligibility/selection of the tenured positions of Senior Residents/Tutors issued vide Government Order No. 383-JK (HME) of 2024, Dated: 20.06.2024; and Whereas, in response to the aforesaid Advertisement Notice, this office received various application forms in different departments/disciplines; and Whereas, on scrutiny of application forms, it was found that the number of eligible applicants in the discipline of Anatomy were more than the number of available posts and the written test was therefore conducted on 11.09.2026 at Main Campus Dialgam as per Govt. Order No. 382-JK (HME) of 2024, Dated: 20.06.2024; and Whereas, the merit list of the candidates who appeared in the said written test was published vide this office notification dated 22.09.2026; Now, therefore, in light of the above, the selection list in the aforesaid discipline as indicated below is hereby notified for information to the concerned.

Name of Candidate	Parentage	Address	Roll No.	Whether In-Service
Mir Iffat Khurshid	Mr. Khurshid Ahmad Mir	Gudooru Pulwama	2779	No

The above candidate is hereby directed to report to the Office of the Principal, Government Medical College, Anantnag along with the following documents within 07 days from the date of issuance of this notification, for submission of online form through Employee Verification System (EVS) for verification of character and antecedents to the concerned candidate:

1. Application form (in coloured)
2. Photocopies of all uploaded certificates
3. Affidavit (attested by the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate) to the effect that: -
 - a) He/she is the domicile of Union Territory of J&K and is in possession of all requisite documents/certificates.

Email

b) He/she has not done senior residency/demonstratorship earlier within or outside J&K Union Territory. (only for those candidates who are applying afresh).

c) He/she has done months of senior residency/demonstratorship in the institution/medical college. (only for those candidates who or less than 30 months of senior have already done 30 residency/demonstratorship).

d) The information submitted in the application form is true and correct and nothing has been concealed therein.

However, if the candidate fails to report to the Office of the Principal, Government Medical College, Anantnag within the stipulated time, his/her selection in the concerned discipline shall forfeit without any further notice.

Note: - Mere issuance of this notification does not entitle the selected candidate to claim appointment/engagement.

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

No. GMCA/Estt/2026/8512-20
 DIPK-6289/26
 Dated: 30 09-2026

KASHMIR OBSERVER™

Printed & Published by Sajjad Haider on behalf of
Kashmir Observer LLP
Printed at: K.T Press Pvt. Ltd 120-Electronic Complex,
Industrial Estate, Rangreth-Budgam
Published from: 5-Boulevard Srinagar J&K
Editor-in-Chief: Sajjad Haider
Managing Editor: Bilal Handoo
News Editor: Farzana Nisar
Online Editor: Syed Hamid
Head Layout & Design: Muntazir Yaseen,
Digital Media Head: Amir Ali Shah
Distribution & Advertising: Firdous Ahmad
RNI Registration No: 69503/98
Postal Registration No-L/159/KO/SK/2014-16
Legal Counsel: Tasaduq Khwaja
Switchboard: (0194) 2502327 | +91 8899256463
Editorial: (0194) 2502327
Email: editor@kashmirobsrver.net

KO VIEW

Build From Within

Multiple times a day, people in Kashmir gather at mosques and other faith centres. They come to pray, but these places also bring neighbours together. People discuss families, prices, roads, schools, illness and the problems facing their neighbourhoods. The discussion is often about this world as much as the next.

One issue now needs far greater attention: what type of future will Kashmir's young people inherit?

Unemployment has become one of the hardest economic problems facing families. Parents worry about children spending years preparing for government examinations, only to face limited openings and long recruitment processes. Young people with degrees often find a private sector too small to absorb their ambitions.

Government has an important role here, but the government cannot build the entire economy by itself. Kashmir's communities need to ask what they can do with the resources, trust and local networks already within their reach.

Mosques and community organisations could become starting points for such an effort. A neighbourhood, for example, could pool modest contributions to establish a small food-processing unit, workshop, packaging centre, repair business, cold-storage facility or digital service company. Several families investing manageable sums could create an enterprise that serves the local area while employing young people from it.

The idea does not need communities to become corporations. It simply asks them to become economic participants.

A small unit will not solve Kashmir's employment crisis. But thousands of such initiatives could begin filling one of the biggest holes in the region's economy: a strong private sector rooted in local communities.

The same principle can apply to public spaces and basic services. If a lane needs repair, a playground needs maintenance or a community facility needs improvement, residents do not have to assume that nothing can happen until a government department arrives. Communities can identify the problem, contribute where they can and work with the administration to complete the job.

That does not reduce the government's responsibility. It can make government action easier and faster. Where citizens organise themselves around a clear need, officials have a partner rather than another unresolved demand.

Kashmir already possesses something many places spend years trying to build: dense social connections. The challenge is to direct some of that collective strength toward economic and civic problems.

The future of a child in a Kashmiri neighbourhood cannot rest entirely on a government vacancy. A community that can come together to help a family in distress can also come together to create a small enterprise. A mosque that brings people together for prayer can also become a place where neighbours discuss how to create work for their children.

Kashmir does not have to wait for someone else to begin. It can begin with what it already has, and build from there.

Kashmir in the Audit Books

An unspent clean air grant, a flood recovery plan that skipped its flood defences and a fine that tripled in six months point to a disparity between what Kashmir is told and what it does.



K.P. Yadaw and Raja Muzaffar Bhat

Auditors going through the records of Jammu and Kashmir's lakes found that 315 of them, 45 per cent of the total and 1,537.07 hectares of water, have disappeared from official records.

Eighty belonged to the Forest and Wildlife Department and 235 to Revenue and Agriculture, so the loss lies in the files of two separate departments.

Across 518 lakes that have vanished or shrunk, the Comptroller and Auditor General named encroachment, siltation and untreated sewage, along with land-use change, deforestation and altered catchments.

Government conservation reached six lakes, Dal, Wular, Hokersar, Manasbal, Surinsar and Mansar, while the Forest Department identified no eligible water bodies among the other 691 and made no plans to seek ministry assistance.

Even Dal, the best known of them, showed land unacquired from its dwellers, malfunctioning sewage treatment plants, ineffective de-weeding and weak monitoring.

The auditors recommended a specialised authority staffed with hydrological engineers, wetland ecologists, limnologists and remote sensing and GIS specialists, because lakes double as natural flood buffers.

A region that sells itself on tulips, mustard fields and almond blossom on the karewas of Pulwama and Budgam, with the Himalayas and the Pir Panjal behind them, is losing the water that holds the picture together.

The air has slipped the same way.

In the Swachh Vayu Survekshan, the Central Pollution Control Board's clean-air survey under the National Clean Air Programme, Srinagar ranked 26th among 39 cities with a population of one million or more. It had ranked fourth in the first survey in 2023.

Delhi, long associated with toxic winter smog, ranked 21st with 172 points, compared with Srinagar's 162.6. Lucknow, Indore, Jabalpur and Bhopal led the rankings.

Last year, the Air Quality Index touched almost 300, and this autumn and early winter look worse.

Sanitation staff burn municipal waste in the open, dust goes uncontrolled, vehicles multiply, illegal cement plants and stone crushers run without checks, and construction and demolition waste has no system to receive it, while authorities say little to residents about what they are breathing.



A region that sells itself on tulips, mustard fields and almond blossom on the karewas of Pulwama and Budgam, with the Himalayas and the Pir Panjal behind them, is losing the water that holds the picture together.

Money was available to change this.

Between 2019 and June 2022, Jammu and Kashmir received Rs 21 crore under the clean air programme and spent Rs 12 lakh, about 0.5 per cent. Gujarat received Rs 12 crore and spent all of it, Andhra Pradesh spent Rs 22 crore of Rs 34 crore, and Himachal Pradesh spent Rs 6.30 crore of Rs 10 crore.

More than half of the 130 non-attainment cities used less than half of what the programme and the 15th Finance Commission released, so the valley lies at the extreme end of a national habit, and spending under one per cent in three years tells residents how seriously their survival was treated.

Srinagar has already paid for its lost buffers.

The 2014 floods affected around two million people, killed hundreds and left large parts of the city under several feet of water for days, after unplanned urbanisation, encroached riverbanks and wetlands and poorly maintained spill channels enlarged the disaster.

The World Bank provided Rs 1,500 crore in 2015 for the Jhelum Tawi Flood Recovery Project, and CAG report number 07 of 2025 found 174 of 213 projects complete by December 2023.

The retrofitting of critical buildings and the Hydro Meteorological action plan, both written into the appraisal document, never happened. Monitoring fell short of Bank guidelines, the steering committee met irregularly and no operational manual was prepared.

New projects were built in place of the damaged roads, bridges, drainage systems and retaining walls, against the guidelines.

The water, in the meantime, keeps coming.

Cloudbursts have hit the Pir Panjal and the Chenab valley, the Amarnath ice lingam is melting fast, and untreated waste has piled into mountains.

Figures placed before the Legislative Assembly for 2025-26 and 2026-27 count 3,959 roads, 5,597 water-supply schemes and 24,416 residential structures damaged, along with crops and livestock.

Last year's cloudburst in Chisoti village in Kishtwar killed more than 75 people, and a fresh one has sent flash floods and mudslides through Doda, Kishtwar and Ramban, halting traffic on the Jammu-Doda-Kishtwar highway.

Unless precautions are taken in letter and spirit, another flood cannot be ruled out.

Beneath all this, the riverbeds are being dug away. Illegal mining of sand, gravel and boulders has intensified from Kathua to Kupwara and from Budgam to Baramulla. Illegal earth mining has hit the karewas of Budgam, Pulwama, Baramulla and Anantnag, which has drawn the National Green Tribunal's attention.

A report from the J&K Pollution Control Committee counted 18 lakh metric tons of clay, sand and gravel excavated from just two villages, Gowherpora and Zadoora. Tribunal action has curbed machines on the Doodh Ganga, Shaliganga and Sukhnag, but manual extraction goes on, and the accumulated damage has transformed the river channels.

The Supreme Court expressed concern over illegal mining in the Shaliganga stream, in a case titled Government of J&K v. Raja Muzaffar Bhat, Civil Appeal No. 8055 of 2022. After its judgement of 22 August 2025, the committee imposed Rs 3.10 crore in environmental compensation on NKC Projects Pvt Ltd in February 2026, payable within three months.

Six months on, the sum stands at Rs 12.30 crore, and the committee has asked the National Highways Authority of India to recover it from the company's pending bills, as the Mining Minister told the Assembly in reply to the Chadoora MLA.

That fine is the fastest-growing figure in this record, and a court pushed it upward. Piecemeal responses no longer match the scale of the damage, so climate adaptation has to guide infrastructure planning, pilgrimage management, mining enforcement, waste processing, groundwater protection and disaster preparedness through one coordinated strategy with measurable goals and public accountability.

Declarations alone cannot solve a survival crisis. The real test is what reaches the ground.

— K.P. Yadaw is a former Director General of Audit, Government of India, and retired Principal Accountant General of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh in October 2025. Raja Muzaffar Bhat is a Kashmir-based environmental activist and policy analyst who chairs the J&K Climate Action Group and founded the J&K RTI Movement.

Hanky-Panky Under the Handkerchief?

Open bidding would show the grower what his fruit fetched, but only storage and grower-owned processing would let him decide when to sell at all.



Farooq Ahmad Khan

An apple grower spends most of a year on a single crop. He tends the orchard through winter and spring, pays for pruning, fertiliser, pesticide, labour, packing material and transport, and stays exposed to weather, disease and a market he cannot predict.

When the fruit lands in the mandi, the man who invested the most in producing it holds the least power over its price. The custom behind that outcome is old.

Buyers and commission agents signal their bids by hiding their hands under a handkerchief or piece of cloth. Whatever history lies behind the practice, it feels out of place in an age of digital payments and instant messages.

The cloth hardly matters, but what happens under it does.

A grower who has sent hundreds of boxes hundreds or thousands of kilometres away depends on his agent to tell him what happened. Who bid what? How many bidders took part? Was the highest bid accepted? What price did each grade fetch, and does the figure in the account statement match the price at which the lot actually sold?

A grower who cannot check these answers must simply trust them, and trust makes a poor substitute for a record.

The remedy is modest. Any sale should be open to verification: the price, the purchaser, the weight or number of packages, the commission, the market charges and the net amount payable, all recorded where the grower can see them.

An electronic auction, an SMS confirmation or a photograph of the accepted bid would settle most disputes before they begin. Banks record transactions worth crores within seconds, so the price of a farmer's produce has no business hiding under a handkerchief.

Transparency solves half the problem, the other half lives in the fruit.

An apple is not land, gold or machinery, and once picked it cannot sit with the grower while he waits for a better buyer. The buyer knows this, the agent knows it, and the grower knows it best.

At peak harvest, thousands of growers enter the market together, trucks pull in one behind another, and the mandis absorb huge quantities within a short window.

The grower has already paid for harvesting, grading, packing and transport, and hauling the boxes back from a distant mandi makes no economic sense.

One side of the bargain can wait and the other cannot, which is where distress selling begins.

The useful question therefore changes. Asking how the grower can win a fairer price today assumes he must sell today. A better question asks how he can avoid selling today at all.

He needs two freedoms: to know the true price of his fruit, and to refuse a bad price because the fruit is spoiling. Transparency supplies the first, while storage and processing supply the second.

Premium apples, scientifically graded, can go into Controlled Atmosphere or modern cold storage and reach the market gradually instead of chasing buyers in one harvest window. Time then works for the grower.

But Controlled Atmosphere capacity is limited and costly, and not every apple justifies the expense. The larger gain comes from value addition, which turns an apple fetching a poor price as fresh fruit into dried apple, chips, juice, concentrate, jam, jelly or vinegar, all of which keep longer.

Kashmir's crop falls into three streams, and each needs its own route.

Premium, well-coloured, well-sized fruit should stay fresh, with professional grading, attractive packaging, branding and, where commercially viable, controlled-atmosphere storage.

Smaller or less attractive apples can be turned into dried slices or chips. Drying removes the moisture that spoils fruit, leaving a lighter product that takes up less space, travels easily and, when properly packaged, lasts much longer.

A grower who cannot hold fresh apples may hold packaged dried apple and choose the time and place of sale.



An electronic auction, an SMS confirmation or a photograph of the accepted bid would settle most disputes before they begin. Banks record transactions worth crores within seconds, so the price of a farmer's produce has no business hiding under a handkerchief.

Fruit unfit for either route can go to juice, pulp, vinegar and jam. The grower's question then becomes the form in which an apple earns its best value.

Processing brings a danger of its own. If a few large intermediaries capture the plants, the grower simply exchanges his dependence on a commission agent for dependence on the owner of the only plant in the district.

The answer lies in grower-accessible and, where possible, grower-owned facilities.

Farmer Producer Organisations, cooperatives and groups of orchardists can run common centres for washing, grading, slicing, drying, juice extraction, pasteurisation, packaging and storage, serving a village, a cluster of villages or a whole apple-producing block.

Policy already allows for this.

The Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises framework gives credit-linked assistance to processing units and to common infrastructure.

Shopian apple already appears in the National Horticulture Board's Cluster Development Programme, whose framework covers post-harvest management, value addition, logistics, marketing and branding.

The language exists, but the facilities, visible and open

to the ordinary orchardist, do not.

Picture such a centre beside a major apple belt. A grower brings his fruit, and electronic scales weigh and grade it. The best grade is packed for fresh sale or storage, the next is washed, sliced and dried, and processing-grade fruit goes to juice, pulp or vinegar.

Every kilogram is accounted for. The grower knows what quantity went in, what finished quantity came out and what processing charge was deducted, and he may sell at once, market collectively through the growers' organisation or keep ownership for a later sale.

The same records can follow the product to the shelf, where a packet with a common Kashmir brand could name the variety, the producing area and the processing unit, with a QR code for traceability.

A brand that means only a colourful carton is decoration, but a brand built on quality, consistency and consumer confidence is worth something.

Value also grows after the fruit leaves the orchard.

It is graded, packed, stored, transported, processed, branded and retailed, and somebody earns at every stage. The grower collects his share at the first and weakest link. No economic law confines him to supplying raw material.

A cooperative that exists only on paper, or to collect government concessions, squanders its purpose.

Its purpose is to let small producers own together what none could afford alone. One grower cannot buy a dehydration unit, but five hundred growers can.

Processing also corrects an unspoken injustice.

Fresh-fruit markets judge an apple by its size, colour, shape and freedom from surface blemish, and price follows the judgment.

An apple that fails that cosmetic test may still be perfectly fit to eat.

Under a handkerchief, the price is hidden from the grower, and under the cosmetic standard, the worth of a sound apple goes unseen.

The author is an advocate practising the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh at Srinagar. He can be reached at advofarooqahmadkhan@gmail.com.

A 1960 Law in a New Age

While freeing a man detained over alleged bovine smuggling, a Kashmir court found serious flaws in his detention and called for tougher penalties for animal cruelty.



Sanjeev Sirohi

At the Srinagar Bench of the Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court, the case of Anwar Jan had little to do with animal welfare when it first reached the courtroom.

Jan had been placed under preventive detention under the J&K Public Safety Act after a record that included several criminal cases and seven cases linked to alleged bovine smuggling.

The Division Bench of Justice Sanjeev Kumar and Justice Mohd Yousuf Wani eventually quashed his detention order. Then, before closing the case, the judges turned to the law governing animal cruelty and found it badly out of step with the harm it seeks to prevent.

The judgment, Anwar Jan (Choudhary) v. Union Territory of J&K & Others, was pronounced on Sept. 24 and uploaded the following day. The court's intervention came after Jan challenged a June 30 decision that had upheld his preventive detention. His detention order had been issued by the District Magistrate of Anantnag on Dec. 1, 2025.

The record before the Division Bench was extensive.

Jan had been arrested in connection with FIRs registered in 2015, 2017, 2021 and 2022. He had also faced an earlier preventive detention order in 2018, which the High Court quashed in April 2019. Seven FIRs connected to alleged bovine smuggling followed in 2022.

Those cases invoked provisions of the Indian Penal Code along with Section 11 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960.

A further detention order came in January 2023. Jan challenged that order as well, and the High Court stayed it in February 2023. Two more FIRs followed in 2025.

By the time the latest detention order was issued, Jan was already in custody in connection with one of

those cases.

That fact became central to the appeal.

The judges found that the detention record failed to show awareness that Jan was already behind bars. The authority also failed to record a compelling reason for invoking preventive detention against someone already in custody.

Supreme Court precedents, the Bench said, require a genuine assessment of the possibility that a person may secure release and resume prejudicial activities before preventive detention can be invoked.

The record also omitted significant information about Jan's bail position.

He had secured bail in one 2025 case, while his bail plea in another had been rejected by a trial court and remained pending before the High Court when the detention order was issued. The judges found that the detention authority had failed to account for those developments.

Another defect concerned the description of the charges in one FIR.

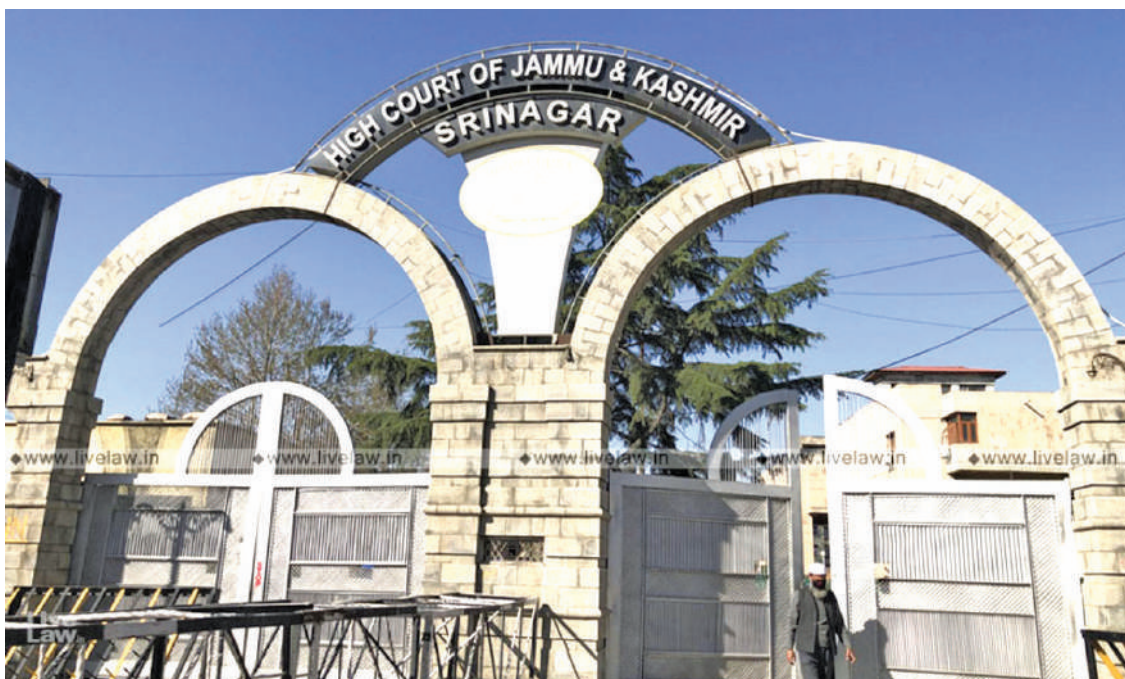
The detention order cited five provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, while the FIR contained three. The judges treated the error as evidence that the authority had relied mechanically on the police dossier. Such inaccuracies, they held, could impair a detainee's constitutional right to make an effective representation under Article 22(5).

The timing of the detention raised another problem. The order was issued on Dec. 1, 2025, while authorities executed it on Dec. 19. The government gave no explanation for the 18-day delay.

Then came the detail that the Bench regarded as decisive.

Five days before the detention order was issued, the office of the Director General of Prisons had already directed that Jan be lodged at District Jail Bhaderwah under preventive detention laws. That communication followed a letter from the District Magistrate concerning jail arrangements. The judges concluded that the sequence suggested that the decision to detain Jan had already been taken before the formal order was issued.

The court therefore quashed the detention order and directed that Jan be released if another case did not require his custody.



India's animal-protection framework was written in 1960. The High Court's intervention suggests that the social and technological world surrounding that law has changed considerably since then. Animal abuse can now become recorded content, circulate within minutes and reach vast audiences. The statutory punishment, in many instances, remains measured in amounts that began as small fines decades ago.

The judges then widened the lens.

Their observations on animal welfare emerged from the same allegations that had formed part of the detention case. The Bench traced India's animal-protection tradition to ideas such as ahimsa, or non-violence, and dharma, or duty. It referred to the special cultural place occupied by cows, elephants and buffaloes and recognised the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act of 1960 as a significant legislative step.

Then the judgment confronted the law's central weakness.

The Act's penalties for certain forms of cruelty remain remarkably small. Section 11 provides for fines of ₹10 to ₹50 for a first offence. Subsequent offences can attract a fine of ₹25 to ₹100, imprisonment

of up to three months, or both.

The scale of those penalties has drawn criticism for years, including in parliamentary discussion of animal cruelty laws.

The High Court connected those amounts to the changing ways animals are abused. It pointed to cases in which people record acts of cruelty and post the videos on social media for views.

Such conduct creates a disturbing mismatch between the seriousness of the suffering and the consequences available under the principal animal-protection law.

The judges put the issue in human terms. Animals experience pain, stress and fear, they said, while the legal system continues in significant respects to treat them as objects or property. The court called for legislation that formally

recognises animal sentience and replaces nominal fines with imprisonment and substantially heavier penalties.

The observations also highlighted Kashmir's own tensions surrounding bovine smuggling.

The Bench said such smuggling constitutes a criminal offence and can also offend the religious sentiments of a large section of India's population. Where such activity is established, the judges said, law enforcement agencies must act firmly and according to law.

That final qualification is central to the judgment.

The court's concern over animal cruelty did not become a justification for bypassing constitutional protections.

The Bench expressly said preventive detention cannot substitute

ordinary criminal prosecution. Articles 21 and 22 impose mandatory safeguards, and authorities must respect them even when allegations involve activities capable of disturbing public order. Criminality, the judges said, calls for diligent and expeditious prosecution under ordinary law.

That principle gives the judgment its wider significance.

The court simultaneously demanded stronger protection for animals and stronger protection for constitutional liberty. A serious allegation, however troubling, still has to move through lawful procedures.

A law intended to protect animals also has to impose consequences that correspond to the suffering it seeks to prevent.

India's animal-protection framework was written in 1960. The High Court's intervention suggests that the social and technological world surrounding that law has changed considerably since then. Animal abuse can now become recorded content, circulate within minutes and reach vast audiences. The statutory punishment, in many instances, remains measured in amounts that began as small fines decades ago.

The case therefore leaves two legal messages in the same judgment. Authorities cannot use preventive detention as a shortcut around constitutional safeguards. Legislatures, the court suggested, can also no longer treat animal cruelty as an offence whose consequences remain almost symbolic.

The man at the centre of the case was ordered released because the state failed to follow the rules governing his detention. The animals mentioned in the judgment remain subject to a law the judges said needs stronger consequences.

Together, those conclusions point to the same principle: the seriousness of state power, and the seriousness of suffering inflicted on living beings, ultimately depends on whether the law gives both realities meaningful weight.

—The author is an advocate based in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. He writes on legal developments, court judgments and issues concerning law and public policy, and can be reached at sanjeevsirohi@meerut@gmail.com.

The Night Bonahama Went Dark

With power out for days, villagers repaired the line themselves as a sick mother, medicines and exams added to the pressure.



Ansar Hussain

I had my hand halfway to the plate when the mosque loudspeaker started crackling.

The announcement cut through the house just as lunch sat steaming on the floor. The room held that heavy feeling of a winter afternoon that everyone here knows so well.

Snow days stretch time in a silent way, making meals slower, the world softer, and it is easy to lose track of the day.

So hearing that voice made the day feel different, like a sudden emergency had come to interrupt a lazy winter routine.

The mosque message came fast and uneasy, saying that the electricity line had broken under the snowfall from Friday.

Three days had already passed without power, and now the villagers were being asked to go out and fix it themselves.

Everyone listening understood immediately what this meant without anyone spelling it out.

I stepped outside soon after, and the cold hit my face, mixed with the smell of snow and wet earth. White patches were still clung stubbornly to the rooftops and fences, as if they had no plans to leave.

Along the narrow road, neighbours were walking in the same direction, wrapped in worn pherans, boots soaked through with slush.

Their faces reflected the tired look that comes after living through winters like this for years.

Even though we were all walking toward the same problem, there was a sense of familiarity, like this was something we had done many times before.

When we gathered around the pole where the wire hung loose, people talked all at once.

One man pointed upward and discussed who would climb first, while another looked up at the wires, measuring the risk. And then a few people laughed, a little nervous and relieved.

That small sound made the task feel a little smaller, a little less frightening, as words in Kashmiri flew back and forth and courage spread from one person to another.

This work did not belong to us, at least on paper, because climbing poles and handling live wires is supposed to be done by trained staff, by official teams. But over the years, villagers here had learned another way of getting through winter, passing tools from house to house, trusting the hands of people used to hard work.

Every snowfall added another story like this to our lives.

Bonahama is described as a forward-looking village in official files, a place with development and progress. But life here tells a very different story through flickering bulbs and long hours spent waiting.

Standing there in the cold, watching people decide who would climb next, that label of progress felt far away, because here progress is often what happens when people hold each



other up when the system does not show up.

Near the edge of the group stood a man who barely spoke. His hands were deep inside his pheran, and he was moving slowly. When someone asked if the electricity would come back that day, he replied in a low, strained voice that sounded like a question more than an answer. The worry in it had nothing to do with comfort.

His mother was at home critically ill, on an oxygen ventilator, and every hour without power tightened the pressure on the family.

He spoke of electricity as the difference between life and darkness. His words came from long nights spent listening to breath and waiting for light.

Others shared their worries nearby.

A shopkeeper spoke about medicines that could spoil without electricity, a student mentioned exams that were getting closer by the day, and another man talked about days spent feeling unclean and worn out.

Electricity here touches every part of life, from health and work to the smallest daily routines.

As the afternoon went on, people took turns climbing, holding ladders, passing tools, guiding hands from below, and the repair slowly came together, built on years of care and trust that everyone knew from living this way.

By evening the power flowed again through the line. The repair looked rough, but hope spread across faces.

Soft claps broke out, and smiles appeared as people thought of lights coming back at home, warm tea

waiting, and a night that would feel a little easier.

Later, the officials arrived, and the mood shifted immediately.

Instead of checking the repair or ensuring safety, they disconnected the line again, leaving people in darkness once more without a clear explanation.

Homes went dark again, including the house where the old woman struggled to breathe as cold pressed in and snow reflected the dim sky.

People froze for a moment, then walked back slowly, because years of living like this had taught everyone to accept moments such as these, and to keep moving even when the system fails.

As I walked home, one question stayed with me: how long can people keep doing work that is meant for

others to handle?

Every snowfall in Kashmir tests wires and poles, and it also shows the space between the people who struggle to live and the systems that are supposed to serve them.

When villagers climb electric poles in freezing weather, it says a lot about care, courage, and the gaps left behind by those who should be responsible.

That evening, the loudspeaker stayed silent, the wires stayed dark, and in Bonahama, a son sat beside his mother, watching the hours pass, trusting that the light would come back through the hands of people standing together, the way it always has.

—The author works as Multimedia Editor at Kashmir Observer.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

J&K Assembly Adjourned

Two government resolutions were moved and adopted during the session, including the resolution seeking restoration of full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir and another urging amendment of the Right to Education Act, 2009, to exempt teachers from the mandatory Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) requirement.

Statehood Resolution Triggers Political Face-off

The resolution seeking immediate restoration of full statehood to J&K emerged as the most politically contentious issue of the session.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah moved the resolution, which referred to earlier resolutions adopted by the erstwhile state legislature in 2000 and by the J&K Legislative Assembly in 2024.

The resolution was passed amid a walkout by BJP members, who objected to its contents and the manner in which it was taken up. BJP legislators questioned the adequacy of discussion and opposed the government's position on statehood.

Leader of Opposition Sunil Sharma and other BJP members strongly criticised the resolution, while Jugal Kishore Sharma alleged that sufficient discussion had not been allowed. BJP members also raised the issue outside the House in Jammu.

BJP MLA Sunil Sharma also urged Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo not to forward the resolution to the Union Government.

Bureaucracy Comes Under Legislative Scrutiny

The role of senior bureaucrats became another major flashpoint after PDP MLA Waheed Para moved a privilege motion against Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo and Law Secretary Achal Sethi over their reported involvement in questioning aspects of the statehood resolution.

Para argued that legal or administrative advice from officers could not constrain the legislative authority of the House. He also said he had reservations regarding the substance, language and clarity of the statehood resolution itself.

Sajad Lone, Irfan Lone and CPI(M) MLA M.Y. Tarigami also raised concerns over the issue, with Lone describing the reported intervention as unprecedented and unacceptable.

Social Media Journalism Policy Proposed

The government also disclosed that a new policy for social media journalists was being prepared.

Information Minister Sakeena Itoo said a House committee headed by Ali Mohammad Sagar had examined the issue and given the Information Department four months to formulate rules and regulations.

The proposed framework is expected to address misleading, abusive and defamatory content on social media platforms. Members, however, cautioned against using regulation as a means of censorship.

Waheed Para warned against restrictions that could undermine freedom of expression, while Itoo said political parties and politicians also had a responsibility to prevent misuse of social media.

The government also indicated that scrutiny of social media journalism and possible regulations concerning its functioning would form part of the proposed policy.

Mehraj Malik Marshalled Out of House

AAP Doda MLA Mehraj Malik was marshalled out of the Assembly after entering the Well during Question Hour while protesting that he had not been allowed to speak.

The Speaker directed that Malik be removed from the House. Malik had also raised allegations regarding the withdrawal of his security personnel and driver.

Salary Bills Become Another Flashpoint

The proposed salary Bills concerning legislators and ministers also triggered a political confrontation.

Altaf Kaloo alleged that BJP members had opposed the proposal after their recommendations concerning salaries were not accepted. BJP MLA Sham Lal Sharma rejected the allegation and said the government had itself withdrawn the Bills.

The BJP argued that resources should instead be directed towards issues such as the regularisation and welfare of daily-wage workers. Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather said the matter had already been closed.

RTE Resolution Seeks TET Exemption

The Assembly also adopted a government resolution urging the Government of India to amend the Right to Education Act, 2009, to exempt teachers from the mandatory Teacher Eligibility Test requirement.

The resolution was one of the two government resolutions adopted during the session, the other being the resolution seeking restoration of full statehood to J&K.

Legislative Business

The government introduced eight Bills during the session, of which six were passed while two were withdrawn.

On the Private Members' Bills side, 49 Bills from previous sessions and 23 fresh Bills were received. Of the fresh Bills, 22 were admitted and one was disallowed. Only one Private Members' Bill was taken up during the session.

The House received 646 questions, including 328 starred and 318 unstarred

questions. A total of 625 questions were listed, while one was withdrawn and 25 disallowed.

The Assembly also received 79 Calling Attention Notices, with 56 admitted and 23 disallowed.

As many as 70 Private Members' resolutions were received. Seven were listed and one was taken up, but it was not adopted.

Over One Lakh Workers Registered
The session saw several disclosures concerning employment and recruitment.

The government informed the House that 1,00,501 casual and other workers had been registered through Aadhaar-based biometric identification and skill profiling.

However, the committee examining regularisation of such workers had not yet finalised a policy or timeline for their regularisation.

The Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission and Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board received more than 21 lakh applications over three financial years, generating over Rs 113 crore in application fees for 15,964 posts.

Rs 2,984 Crore Spent Against Rs 10,641 Crore Released

The government also disclosed that Rs 2,984 crore had been spent against Rs 10,641.80 crore released under district allocations, from a total allocation of Rs 16,926.95 crore.

On food distribution, more than 2.25 lakh beneficiaries had been added to the ration system since January, while 56,664 beneficiaries were deleted.

The government said 100 per cent Aadhaar seeding had been achieved and clarified that the ineligibility of an individual beneficiary would not ordinarily result in cancellation of an entire ration card.

Electricity Tariff Hiked

The government informed the House that domestic electricity tariffs had been increased by 15 to 25 paise per unit, while the fixed charge was raised from Rs 8 to Rs 10 per kilowatt per month.

Around 66 per cent of the consumer base had been covered by smart metering, while 714 feeders had been designated for round-the-clock power supply.

Jal Jeevan Mission Report Taken Up

The House also took up the report of the committee examining implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission.

An exchange took place after Jal Shakti Minister Javed Rana suggested that the matter had already been concluded while committee chairman and MLA Hasnain Masoodi was briefing the House.

The Speaker intervened and allowed the committee's observations to be placed before the House.

Speaker Calls for Constructive Debate

In his concluding remarks, Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather said his responsibility was to facilitate members in raising issues concerning the people.

He said he had attempted to accommodate members irrespective of their political affiliation and reiterated that he did not belong to any party. He also favoured longer sittings, saying they provided members greater opportunity to raise public concerns.

Rather said protests and disruptions were normal in legislatures but stressed that they should remain constructive. He noted that he could have ordered more members to be marshalled out but chose to exercise patience during the session.

He also said efforts were made to ensure that questions and legislative business were not allowed to go waste.

Speaker Praises CM, Staff and Media
Rather praised the Council of Ministers and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah for their regular attendance and participation in Assembly proceedings.

He said Omar Abdullah had wanted to attend the concluding proceedings but was unable to do so because of official commitments.

The Speaker also thanked Assembly staff, security personnel, PHE, PDD and other departments for their assistance during the session.

He described the press and media as an important pillar of democracy and a link between the Assembly and the people, saying the media plays an important role in highlighting public issues. He acknowledged the workload on Assembly staff and said they were performing their duties despite limited manpower and pending service-related issues.

Finalise 'One

formalities for finalising the policy.

The Speaker had earlier directed the concerned minister to submit a status report on the delay in formulating the new car policy during the Autumn Session.

Taking strong exception to the matter remaining pending, Rather said complaints regarding the misuse of public resources were a serious concern and highlighted the need for clear and updated rules governing the entitlement and use of government vehicles.

"This matter should not be allowed to remain pending any further. The complaints regarding misuse of public resources are a matter of serious concern and underscore the need for clear and updated rules governing the entitlement and use of government vehicles," he said.

The Speaker said the use of multiple government vehicles beyond the prescribed entitlement could be termed

misuse of public resources.

However, Rather clarified that the issue was not directed against government officers, who should be provided vehicles and other facilities to which they are legitimately entitled under the prescribed rules.

He observed that the matter had been moving from one department to another for nearly five years despite its importance.

The Speaker stressed the need for expeditious finalisation of the policy, particularly amid concerns over the proper and judicious use of public resources. Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather on Wednesday directed the government to finalise and notify the proposed "One Officer, One Car Policy" within 15 days, taking serious note of the prolonged delay in framing the policy.

The direction came after Transport Minister Satish Sharma presented the status report on the proposed policy during the ongoing Autumn Session of the Assembly.

According to the report, the Transport Department will undertake necessary inter-departmental consultations and complete the requisite formalities for finalising the policy.

The Speaker had earlier directed the concerned minister to submit a status report on the delay in formulating the new car policy during the Autumn Session.

Taking strong exception to the matter remaining pending, Rather said complaints regarding the misuse of public resources were a serious concern and highlighted the need for clear and updated rules governing the entitlement and use of government vehicles.

"This matter should not be allowed to remain pending any further. The complaints regarding misuse of public resources are a matter of serious concern and underscore the need for clear and updated rules governing the entitlement and use of government vehicles," he said.

The Speaker said the use of multiple government vehicles beyond the prescribed entitlement could be termed misuse of public resources.

However, Rather clarified that the issue was not directed against government officers, who should be provided vehicles and other facilities to which they are legitimately entitled under the prescribed rules.

He observed that the matter had been moving from one department to another for nearly five years despite its importance.

The Speaker stressed the need for expeditious finalisation of the policy, particularly amid concerns over the proper and judicious use of public resources.

J&K Waives Fees

students make informed choices regarding higher education, professional courses, scholarships and employment pathways based on their aptitude, interests and talents.

Rural Schools May Get K-12 Upgrade
The School Education Department also said it was contemplating a proposal to upgrade selected high schools, particularly those located in rural and far-flung areas, into higher secondary K-12 institutions.

The proposed exercise would cover schools currently having Classes I to X and is aimed at improving access to senior secondary education in areas where such facilities remain limited.

However, the Government clarified that there is currently no immediate proposal to upgrade primary schools into middle schools or middle schools into high schools.

It said demands for school upgradation, including those from Ramgarh constituency in Samba district, would be examined in phases, subject to availability of budgetary provisions and other applicable norms.

J&K Colleges

Universities in Jammu and Kashmir is currently available in a standardised form.

It said the employability of graduates varies across courses and institutions and depends on factors including further education, competitive examinations, skill acquisition and employment opportunities in relevant sectors.

The government also said no comprehensive formal assessment or survey covering employment outcomes, placement rates, average salary packages and sector-wise absorption of graduates from all degree colleges, universities and cluster universities in J&K had so far been conducted and compiled in a uniform manner.

However, the department is in the process of devising a comprehensive policy framework for systematic assessment and monitoring of graduate employability and employment outcomes.

The proposed framework will cover indicators including placement rates, sector-wise absorption, skill requirements and other relevant parameters, the government said. (KNO)

J&K To Frame

discussion was held in the Budget Session, and the government gave its reply at that time. Without the media, whether print or electronic, we are incomplete; there is no two ways about it. But, Sir, there are certain shortcomings now; there is no doubt about that

either," she said.

The minister said the widespread use of mobile phones had also changed the way information and images from the Assembly were circulated.

"We keep our close associates around to photograph everything here so that the pictures can be published outside later. We cannot place the entire blame on media personnel alone," she said.

Itoo also alleged that a social media page had been created under the name of a member's wife's maid and was being used to post abusive and derogatory content against ministers.

She said political parties and political actors were also responsible for the misuse of social media for mud-slinging and character assassination.

"Those who have turned into mobile and Facebook media stoop to slandering anyone's character whenever they wish, taking less than two minutes to demean someone's dignity. And in this, if anyone is most responsible, it is the political parties," Itoo said.

364 Eye Surgeries

environment, our doctors and brave soldiers, under the leadership of Brigadier Sanjay Mishra, created a centre of hope," he said.

Sinha said modern surgical equipment was airlifted to Tangdhar to enable advanced eye care in a region where such facilities had previously been difficult to access. Patients from Khawarpora, Tangdhar, Bagbella and surrounding villages benefited from the camp.

"This is true courage, dedication to duty and the real meaning of service. This entire effort has proven one thing beyond doubt that where resolve is firm, no difficulty, however great, can block the path of human service by Indian Army," he said.

The LG said every surgery performed under the initiative had become a story of restored dignity and revived hope.

He also noted that more than 1.5 lakh people have undergone eye examinations and over 3,500 surgeries have been performed across 10 cities under Operation Drishti at the national level.

Sinha said the initiative had strengthened trust between the Army and local communities, describing the Indian Army as not only a force defending the country from external threats but also a source of support, compassion and healing for citizens.

"By restoring sight, the Army has given patients a new vision of peace, trust and togetherness," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and appreciated the efforts of the Army doctors, medical staff, support personnel and Air Force pilots involved in the initiative.

He also felicitated doctors and medical staff of the Defence Forces for their services during the camp and distributed post-operative kits among beneficiaries.

Lieutenant General Balbir Singh, GOC Chinar Corps; Brigadier Sanjay Kumar Mishra, Senior Consultant and HOD, Department of Ophthalmology, Army Hospital R&R; Brigadier B.V. Rao, Commandant, 92 Base Hospital, and senior Defence Forces officials attended the ceremony.

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Anshul Garg, SSP Srinagar Dr GV Sundeep Chakravarthy and Deputy Commissioner Srinagar Akshay Labroo were also present.

'Pashmina Artisans

speaking at the Pashmina Artisan Awards 2026, organised by the Pashmeena Entrepreneurs Makers and Artisans (PEMA) Foundation in Srinagar, where he felicitated artisans and congratulated the award winners.

Describing the ceremony as a celebration of Jammu and Kashmir's cultural prosperity, the LG said the awards honoured not just individual artisans but an entire artistic tradition that has captivated the world for generations.

Invoking Bhagwan Vishwakarma, the divine embodiment of craftsmanship, Sinha said India has traditionally regarded artisanship as sacred knowledge.

He paid special tribute to women artisans, highlighting their role across the Pashmina production process, from refining raw fibre to intricate embroidery.

"Women artisans are not merely participants in this tradition but they are its silent creators, its custodians and its heartbeat," he said.

The LG said empowering women artisans was essential for safeguarding the craft legacy and strengthening the confidence of future generations.

Recalling the earlier editions of the Pashmina Artisan Awards held in 2023 and 2025, Sinha said the awards had emerged as a source of encouragement for the artisan community. He said this year's edition marked a significant milestone by dedicating special attention to women artisans whose craftsmanship had contributed to Pashmina's global reputation.

Sinha assured artisans of the Government of India's commitment in four key areas, including fair remuneration and protection of Geographical Indication (GI) tags; access to global markets through e-commerce, exhibitions and digital platforms; skill development and welfare measures such as healthcare, social security and modern design training; and financial inclusion

through schemes including MUDRA, Credit Card Scheme and Karkhandar training initiatives.

He said the handloom and handicrafts sector currently provides economic security to around 4.6 lakh artisans and their families in Jammu and Kashmir.

Sinha also highlighted that 18 crafts in the Union Territory have been granted GI tags, while a QR-based system has been developed to help establish the authenticity of handicraft products.

The LG urged artisans to embrace modern opportunities while preserving the traditional excellence of Kashmir's crafts.

"You should never feel that your work is ordinary. What you are doing is a form of devotion, an act of creation and a noble effort to keep India's cultural memory alive," he said.

He added that every original Pashmina product from Jammu and Kashmir carried with it a part of India's culture and history wherever it travelled in the world.

Sinha assured that the UT administration and PEMA Foundation would work together to strengthen the artisan sector and create greater opportunities for its growth.

Commissioner Secretary, Industries and Commerce Department, Vikramjit Singh; former Chairperson of J&K Khadi and Village Industries Board Hina Shafi Bhat; Director Handloom and Handicrafts Kashmir Masrat-ul-Islam; PEMA Foundation President Tariq Dar; senior officials and a large number of artisans attended the ceremony.

Kashmir Issued 2,486

number of AAY and BPL priority household ration cards than Jammu, and questioned whether the existing asset-based criteria adequately reflected economic vulnerability.

Lone argued that the disparity could have implications for access to government employment under the EWS category. He cited figures on recruitments made since the present government took office and said a significantly larger share of EWS posts had gone to Jammu than Kashmir.

He suggested that ration-card status, particularly AAY and BPL categories, could be considered while defining EWS eligibility and urged the government to have a common definition for welfare and employment purposes.

Lone also cited Kerala as an example of a State using AAY and BPL ration-card status as part of its EWS framework and submitted the State's EWS certificate formats to the Speaker and the concerned minister for examination.

Responding to the issue, Social Welfare Minister Sakeena Itoo said the criteria for determining the EWS category are prescribed by the Union Government and that States and Union Territories are required to follow the prescribed criteria.

CPI(M) MLA Mohammad Yousuf Tarigami, however, said EWS criteria are not necessarily applied uniformly across all States.

He said some States had evolved their own criteria and suggested that Jammu and Kashmir could examine practices followed elsewhere while considering an appropriate mechanism.

Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather said the matter merited examination and directed the government to study the criteria adopted by different States.

"What I understood from his question is that he is not saying you should keep 10 percent or 5 percent. He is saying that whatever percentage you keep, keep it. His problem lies with the definition of poverty," the Speaker observed.

Rather directed the government to examine why different States had adopted different criteria and study whether such practices could offer relevant lessons for Jammu and Kashmir.

The discussion thus centred not on the percentage of EWS reservation but on the criteria used to determine who qualifies as economically weaker, with members seeking a framework they said would better reflect the socio-economic conditions of the Union Territory.

5-Year-Long Terror

to the outfit's operations in J&K.

According to officials, Asif had served in the Pakistani military for 23 years, including around 18 years with the SSG. Between 2006 and 2008, he was deputed to the security detail of Musharraf. Officials also said he underwent specialised VIP protection training in the United States and completed medical courses with US Special Forces.

After retiring from the Pakistani Army, officials said, Asif was recruited by terror networks to train cadres before being infiltrated into J&K to lead LeT operations.

'Linked to Multiple Attacks'

Security officials attributed Asif's involvement to several major attacks on security forces and civilians across the Pir Panjal region and Kashmir.

These include the April 2023 attack on an Army vehicle in Bhatta Duriyan in Poonch, in which five soldiers were killed and another was critically injured, and the May 2023 Kandi forest blast in Rajouri that killed five Army personnel and injured another.

Officials also linked him to the December 2023 Dera Ki Gali ambush in Poonch, in which four Army personnel were killed and three injured.

In 2024, he was allegedly involved in

the attack on an Indian Air Force convoy near Shasitar in Poonch, in which one IAF personnel was killed and four injured.

He was also linked to the October 2024 attack on an Army vehicle in Buta Pathri near Gulmarg, in which two soldiers and two civilian defence porters were killed and three troops injured.

Officials further attributed to him a role in the October 2024 attack on a private construction camp at Gagangir in Ganderbal, in which seven people, including a local doctor, were killed.

The officials also said Asif was among those involved in planning the April 2025 Pahalgalam attack, in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were killed.

Associate Killed Earlier
Asif had earlier escaped an encounter in the Yousmarg heights on September 5, during which his close associate Yasir was killed.

Officials said Asif was subsequently tracked to the higher reaches of Budgam, where he was finally neutralised during Tuesday night's operation.

The security forces have described the killing as a significant setback to the LeT's operational network in Jammu and Kashmir.

2018 Murder Over

arrest resulting from massive blunt-force head trauma. During investigation, the prosecution said, call detail records showed that the last call involving the deceased's phone was with Magray, while tower data placed both men in the same coverage sector around the relevant time.

The prosecution said that Magray owed Khanday Rs 80,000 and had faced repeated demands for repayment. According to the disclosure statement, Magray lured Khanday to an isolated field on the pretext of handing over a cheque and attacked him with a river boulder. He also took Rs 11,700 in cash, an ATM card, identity documents, loan affidavits and the deceased's mobile phone before attempting to destroy or conceal the evidence, the prosecution said.

Investigators subsequently recovered the boulder, pieces of the loan affidavits, the deceased's skull cap and slippers, Rs 11,700 in cash and his ATM card from locations connected with the accused.

Assessing the evidence as a whole, the court held that the circumstances, including the alleged motive, scientific evidence, recoveries and post-crime conduct, formed a complete chain pointing to Magray's guilt. The court further held that the prosecution had proved beyond reasonable doubt that Magrey intentionally caused Khanday's death, dishonestly removed his cash and ATM card and subsequently concealed or destroyed material evidence.

Kashmir's Science

scientific progress as a process that begins with observing nature. The human mind, he said, can recognise patterns in the natural world, triggering cognitive intuition and inspiring new designs.

His remarks came as the Congress placed science within a broader discussion about the future of Jammu and Kashmir, where researchers and policymakers are increasingly looking toward technology, innovation and scientific knowledge to address development challenges.

The next plenary lecture shifted the discussion from discovery to application. Srinivas Hotha, a professor of chemistry at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research in Pune and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry, spoke about translating research findings into benefits for society.

The difference is significant for a region where universities and research institutions generate work in fields ranging from science and engineering to emerging technologies, while communities face practical questions involving development, resources and the environment.

The Congress sought to bring those worlds closer by giving researchers a place to present their work and discuss its possible applications.

Technical sessions followed the plenary lectures, with participants presenting research in diverse areas of science, innovation and emerging technologies. At the Civil Mechanical Engineering Block, researchers and scholars displayed their work through poster presentations, creating another forum for academic exchange.

The programme also moved beyond laboratories and lecture halls. Proceedings ended with a cultural programme at the Nund Reshi Auditorium, adding a local cultural element to a gathering otherwise devoted to research and technology.

The three-day Congress, which began on Sept. 29 and runs through Oct. 1, has brought together scientists, academicians, researchers and students under the theme "Science, Innovations and Emerging Technologies for Sustainable and VIKSIT J&K."

Its stated aim is knowledge exchange and interdisciplinary dialogue, with particular attention to the role science can play in addressing contemporary challenges and supporting Jammu and Kashmir's development.

The real test begins after the lectures end, when research moves from ideas to applications. That journey may help define how science frames Kashmir's future.

J&K Conducts 528 Drug-Awareness Programmes, 21 De-Addiction Facilities Functional

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government has said that 528 drug-awareness programmes were conducted across the Union Territory up to August this year, while 21 Addiction Treatment Facilities (ATFs) are currently operational in the two divisions.

The details were shared by the government in a written reply to a question raised by MLA Sham Lal Sharma regarding the growing challenge of drug addiction and measures being taken to address substance abuse in J&K.

According to the Health and Medical Education Department, the government has adopted a multi-pronged strategy combining prevention, awareness, enforcement, treatment and rehabilitation to tackle drug abuse.

The department said substance abuse is influenced by several factors, including the availability and illicit supply of drugs, diversion of medicines for non-medical use, inter-State movement of narcotic and psychotropic substances, socio-economic conditions and behavioural factors.

As part of the preventive measures, district-level awareness



programmes are being organised in coordination with various stakeholders to educate people about the harmful effects and misuse of drugs and psychotropic substances. During 2026-27, 528 such programmes had been conducted up to August.

The government said the toll-free Health Helpline 104 is also being publicised through awareness campaigns and print and electronic media to provide people with access to counselling, guidance and assistance.

The department said it has adopted a zero-tolerance approach towards violations of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and other ap-

plicable laws, particularly unauthorised sale, distribution and diversion of narcotic and psychotropic substances.

It said CCTV cameras have been installed in medical establishments and computerised billing systems for procurement and sale of medicines have been made mandatory. The government reported 100 per cent achievement in CCTV installation and 99.8 per cent implementation of computerised billing.

Authorities are also maintaining surveillance over courier service providers to prevent the clandestine movement of intoxicating medicinal preparations

and other drugs liable to misuse.

The department said Drug Control authorities are coordinating with their counterparts in neighbouring States and Union Territories to exchange information and prevent inter-State diversion, smuggling and illegal movement of drugs.

It added that coordinated action is being taken with the Narcotics Control Bureau, Police, Excise, Revenue and Air Cargo authorities to curb illicit trafficking and diversion.

Regular meetings of the National Coordination Committee for Drug Control (NCORD) are also being held at the UT and district levels under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary and concerned Deputy Commissioners.

21 ATFs operational across J&K

The government said 11 Addiction Treatment Facilities are functional in Kashmir division, including at SKIMS, GMC Bemina Srinagar, GMC Anantnag, GMC Baramulla, GMC Handwara and district hospitals in Kulgam, Shopian, Pulwama, Budgam, Ganderbal and Bandipora.

In Jammu division, 10 ATFs are operational at GMC Doda, GMC Jammu, GMC Kathua, GMC Associated Hospital Rajouri, GMC

Associated Hospital Udhampur and district hospitals in Kishtwar, Poonch, Ramban, Reasi and Samba.

The facilities provide both outpatient and inpatient services. The government said de-addiction OPD services are available in all 20 districts, while inpatient services are available at all nine government medical colleges. Psychiatrists have also been posted in all GMCs to provide clinical oversight.

The services are being implemented under the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan and various Health Department initiatives.

The government also listed several NGOs and private rehabilitation centres involved in addressing substance abuse, including organisations operating in Budgam, Pulwama, Kulgam, Bandipora, Jammu, Udhampur and Srinagar.

It said the overall strategy focuses on reducing the availability and diversion of drugs, strengthening enforcement and regulatory mechanisms, expanding awareness, improving treatment and rehabilitation services and enhancing coordination among departments and enforcement agencies. (with KNO inputs)

Zero Hour in LA

Legislators Raise Public Issues During Zero Hour

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR:: Members of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, during Zero Hour, today raised a wide range of issues concerning public services, infrastructure, healthcare, education, agriculture, disaster relief, employment and civic amenities across their respective constituencies.

Raising an issue concerning the institutional dignity of elected representatives, MLA Ali Mohammad Sagar emphasized the need to protect the institution and protocol of MLAs.

MLA Pyare Lal sought government intervention for establishment of a fire service station in his constituency. He also demanded immediate relief and assistance for families affected by the recent fire incident at Mungli, Wadwan.

MLA Showkat Hussain Ganie highlighted extensive damage caused by the recent hailstorm in his constituency, affecting nearly 30 villages. He sought waiver of KCC loans for affected farmers and also raised the need for adequate staffing at the District Hospital besides sanctioning of a separate Medical Division.

MLA Javid Riyaz Beldar drew attention to crop damage caused by recent inclement weather. He called for introduction of a farmer-friendly insurance scheme to provide greater financial protection to the farming community.

MLA Ali Mohammad Dar raised issues relating to waterlogging, crop damage and shortage of drinking water and irrigation facilities, seeking appropriate intervention for affected areas.

MLA Muzaffar Iqbal Khan sought assessment of damages caused by recent floods and appropriate relief for affected people. He also raised issues concerning education, healthcare and remuneration of Numbers and Chowkidars, besides seeking establishment of a degree college in his constituency.

MLA Kuldeep Raj Dubey demanded compensation for flood damage under SDRF and sought augmentation of school infrastructure. He also raised the issue of road connectivity and sought takeover of a road from the Railway Department for better maintenance and public convenience.

MLA Mushtaq Guroo sought financial assistance

for families affected by fire incidents besides raising the issue of non-issuance of revenue extracts.

MLA Randhir Singh sought completion of stalled Jal Jeevan Mission works and release of pending payments to contractors. He also raised issues concerning drinking water shortages, availability of science stream in the college of his constituency and forest clearances required for road projects.

MLA Aga Syed Muntazir highlighted difficulties being faced by people in Soibugh due to inadequate road connectivity and pending DPRs. He also called for demarcation of Hokarsar wetland after taking into consideration the suggestions and concerns of local residents.

MLA Zafar Ali Khatana stated that 22 schemes were awaiting the report of the House Committee and sought their expeditious resolution. He also raised issues concerning road upgradation, sanctioning of a fire service station, shortage of staff and deployment of a full-fledged Executive Officer in the Kokernag Development Authority.

MLA Irshad Rasool Kar highlighted various issues

concerning the health sector in Sopore and demanded that SDH Sopore be upgraded to the status of a District Hospital.

MLA Vijay Sharma raised the shortage of doctors, backlog of vacant posts and need for strengthening of medical infrastructure in his constituency. He also highlighted shortage of potable drinking water.

MLA Qaisar Jamshaid Lone urged the Government to reconsider opening a health sub-centre in Machil, which had been closed due to non-availability of staff.

MLA Abdul Majeed Larmi sought government intervention for identification of suitable land for the proposed 239-bedded Mother and Child Hospital at Anantnag. He also demanded construction of a new hospital building for the health facility at Achabal.

MLA Thakur Darshan Kumar raised the issue of shortage of staff in health and educational institutions in his constituency.

MLA Shabir Ahmad Kulay highlighted an acute shortage of potable drinking water in his constituency and sought immediate measures for augmentation of water supply.

BJP's Sahil Bhat Slams Omar Govt Over Jammu Shop Notices, Delayed ULB Polls

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: BJP J&K State Spokesperson and Prabhari Bandipora, Er. Sahil Bashir Bhat, has criticised the Omar Abdullah-led government over notices issued to shopkeepers and commercial establishments in Jammu, urging the administration to adopt a "human and solution-oriented" approach to livelihood-related issues.

Reacting to reports of notices issued by the Jammu Municipal Corporation to commercial establishments operating in residential colonies, Bhat said traders facing documentation or Change of Land Use (CLU) issues should be given a reasonable opportunity to rectify deficiencies wherever legally permissible.

"The government cannot ignore the livelihood concerns of ordinary shopkeepers. The festive season is at the doorstep, and this is the time to support traders, not add to their difficulties," he said.

Bhat also questioned the delay in holding Urban Local Body (ULB) elections, noting that elected municipal bodies completed their terms in 2023.

J&K Bank Drives Green Mobility Initiative at IIM Jammu Under CSR

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Strengthening its commitment to youth-focused development and environmental sustainability, J&K Bank supported the launch of a green mobility initiative at the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Programme. As part of the initiative, 71 bicycles, along with dedicated cycle stands, were flagged off at the Institute's Jagti Campus.

Bank's MD & CEO Amitava Chatterjee flagged off the bicycles in the presence of Director IIM Jammu Prof B.S. Sahay and the Bank's GM & Divisional Head (Jammu) Ashok Gupta. Also present on the occasion were Prof (Dr) Shakti Gupta; Dean Academics Prof Nitin Upadhyay; Chairperson Centre for Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Skill Development Dr Muqbil Burhan; Chairperson Student Affairs Prof (Dr) Brigadier Neeraj Soni; and Chairperson Anandam Prof Shyam Narayan Lal, besides other faculty members, officers, staff and students of the Institute.

Speaking on the occasion, MD & CEO Amitava



Chatterjee said, "Educational institutions shape not only knowledge but also the habits, values and choices of future generations. When students experience sustainability as part of their everyday campus life, it becomes a value they carry into the organisations and communities they go on to lead. This initiative is, therefore, an investment not merely in mobility infrastructure, but in healthier living, environmental awareness and responsible leadership."

"At J&K Bank, our CSR approach is guided by the enduring impact that an intervention can create. Our partnership with IIM Jammu brings together two institutions committed to shaping

a better future - one through education and leadership development, and the other through responsible financial and social engagement. We are pleased to support an initiative that places young people at the heart of climate-conscious change," he added.

Earlier, Director IIM Jammu Prof B.S. Sahay welcomed and felicitated MD & CEO Amitava Chatterjee and the Bank's representatives. Acknowledging the Bank's support under its CSR Programme, he appreciated its contribution towards strengthening sustainable mobility infrastructure at the Institute and promoting healthy and environmentally responsible practices among students.

Minister Rules Out Blanket Audit of JJM Scheme

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Minister for Public Health Engineering (PHE), Flood Control and Irrigation Javed Rana on Wednesday announced that only those schemes identified by the House Committee, or flagged by MLAs, would be audited by District Development Commissioners.

Speaking in the Legislative Assembly, as per KNO, the Minister said that all schemes under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) recommended for blanket audit by the House Committee headed by Justice Hasnain Masoodi would not be subjected to such scrutiny.

"The House Committee has recommended a blanket audit of all JJM schemes. This would amount to yet another probe and could keep execution of these schemes halted. Many Hon'ble Members have stated in writing that there is

no irregularity in their constituencies and that JJM schemes should continue. I therefore propose that only the schemes identified by the Committee or any Hon'ble Member as having issues be subjected to a comprehensive audit by the respective District Development Commissioners through teams comprising technical and financial experts," he said.

The Minister said the department was of the view that a high-level committee, as recommended by the House Committee, was not required. "The Department will also examine the other recommendations and take necessary steps to address the concerns raised. Therefore, there is no need for any further action by this Hon'ble House on the recommendations of the Committee, and the matter may be treated as closed," he added.

Public Cooperation Key to Safer Roads, Says Transport Commissioner

SRINAGAR: Transport Commissioner Jammu and Kashmir Vishesh Paul Mahajan has urged people to strictly follow traffic rules, wear helmets and seat belts and refrain from using mobile phones while driving, saying improvement in the traffic management system depends substantially on public cooperation.

Speaking to the news agency Kashmir News Trust, Mahajan said enforcement alone could not bring lasting improvement unless people changed their behaviour and developed greater civic sense. He appealed to motorists and other road users to avoid traffic violations and comply with prescribed safety measures.

Mahajan said all District Magistrates had been asked to direct petrol pump owners not to dispense fuel to motorists who are found riding without helmets, driving without seat belts or using mobile phones while driving.

"We are dependent on the public. Unless the public mend their ways, we will not succeed," he said, stressing that road safety ultimately required responsible behaviour by road users.

The Transport Commissioner also underlined the role of parents in promoting responsible driving habits, saying they could play a major role in inculcating traffic discipline and safety awareness among younger road users.

On the fitness and age of vehicles, Mahajan said vehicles that have completed more than 25 years would be seized and would not be allowed to ply on roads. He stressed that vehicles must meet the prescribed fitness requirements before being permitted to operate. [KNT]

Ten Houses Guttled in Major Midnight Fire in Warwan

KISHTWAR: At least ten residential houses, along with cowsheds, were gutted in a major fire that broke out during the night in Mungli village of the remote Warwan area of Kishtwar district, officials said on Wednesday.

The blaze, which erupted around midnight, rapidly spread through the village, reducing several residential structures and adjoining livestock shelters to ashes. The extent of the destruction was significant, with initial reports putting the number of residential houses gutted at between eight and ten.

No casualties have been reported in the incident so far.

The fire has once again brought into focus the vulnerability of settlements in the far-flung Warwan region, where the absence of dedicated firefighting infrastructure can make it difficult to respond quickly to major fire emergencies.

Local residents were involved in efforts to contain the blaze as the fire engulfed the structures. The exact circumstances that led to the outbreak of the fire were not immediately known.

Officials were assessing the extent of the damage, including losses to residential property and livestock-related structures. Further details regarding the affected families and the cause of the fire are awaited. [KNT]

Kargil Notifies Returning Officers, Assistant Returning Officers for Panchayat Elections

KARGIL: The District Panchayat Election Officer, Kargil, has notified the list of Returning Officers and Assistant Returning Officers for the conduct of Panchayat elections in the district, marking a key administrative step towards the electoral process in Ladakh.

The notification, issued by Deputy Commissioner and District Panchayat Election Officer Rakesh Kumar was issued under Rule 5 of the Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj Rules, 1996.

According to the notification, the Election Commission for Union Territories had accorded approval on September 25 to the appointment of Returning Officers and Assistant Returning Officers for Panchayat elections in the Union Territory of Ladakh. The approval was conveyed through the Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department, UT Ladakh.

The notified list covers Panchayat Halqas across different blocks of Kargil district, with designated officers drawn from various departments including Horticulture, Public Works, Power Development, Education, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Mechanical Engineering, Public Health Engineering and other government departments.



GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER KUPWARA

Subject:-De-requisition of land held by Army at Tangdar, District Kupwara.

DE-REQUISITION ORDER NO.: 01-DCK/LAS OF 2026
DATED: 29/09/2026.

Whereas, the requisition orders were issued in respect of land measuring 27 Kanal 10 Marlas and 75 kanal and 07 Marlas situated at estate Tangdhar and Khawarpora Tehsil Karnah District Kupwara for occupation of the Army; and

Whereas, the Assistant Defence Estates Officer Baramulla vide communication No.s KAS/7080/LH/FMS ID_/94/1294/86 Dated:07-06-2022 and KAS/7391/LH/9391/LH/FMS/ID-1497/114 Dated:26-08-2022 conveyed that the Competent Authority has accorded sanction for de-requisition of requisitioned land measuring 27 Kanal 10 Marlas and 75 kanal and 07 Marlas (total 102 Kanal and 17 Marlas) situated at village Tangdhar and Khawar pora out of the aforesaid requisitioned land and requested for de-requisition order in respect of the said land; and

Whereas, this office vide letter No. DCK/LAS/23/900-9001 dated 04-07-2023 requested the Tehsildar Karnah to furnish the report and revenue papers of the said land; and

Whereas, the Tehsildar Karnah vide letter No. TK/N/252 Dated:29-08-2026 verified the case for de-requisition; and

Whereas, the Jammu & Kashmir Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1968 stands repealed by virtue of the Jammu & Kashmir Re-organisation Act, 2019 and the Department of Revenue, J&K vide communication No. REVLAJK/41/2021(88207) dated 10/10/2022 directed all Deputy Commissioners to dispose of the pending requisition/acquisition cases under the corresponding Act i.e. the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1952 (Central), in terms of Clause 17 of S.O. 3912(E) dated 30-10-2019 till new authority is constituted;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers under Sub-Section (2) of Section 6 of the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1952, and being satisfied that it is necessary so to do, I, Deputy Commissioner, Kupwara, hereby de-requisition the land detailed below and order that the possession of same be handed over to the rightful landowners.

S. No.	Tehsil	Case No.	Location	Khasra No.s	Area	Dated from which de-requisitioned
01.	Karnah	KAS/7391/REQ	Tangdhar	Old 240, 241, 249, 250, 251, 252 & 596.	27K-10M	01-04-2015.
				New 401, 405, 411, 416, 417, 418, 422		
02.	Karnah	KAS/7087/REQ	Khawarpora	622, 623, 624, 625, 630, 633, 634, 6 36, 637, 638, 639 Min 640	75K-07M	01-04-2011.

The Tehsildar concerned shall ensure the ruble clearance/repair of damage if any onspot at the time of handing/taking over of the land aforementioned survey numbers.

No:- DCK/LAS/26/2260-68

Dated: 29-09-2026

DIPK-6261-26

DT: 30-09-2026

Yours faithfully,

District Collector,

Deputy Commissioner

Kupwara

US Pulls Last Troops From Iraq As Iran Hammers American Bases Across Region

Trans Asia News

BAGHDAD: The United States has completed the withdrawal of its remaining troops from Iraq, ending a 12-year military presence in the country in a move whose timing has drawn particular attention as Washington remains locked in a war with Iran and American military positions across the region have come under repeated Iranian attacks.

The final US troops and military equipment left the last American base in Iraq, located in the northern semi-autonomous Kurdish region, with the Pentagon describing the departure as an "orderly departure".

The withdrawal marks a major shift in Iraq's post-2003 security landscape and comes at a particularly sensitive moment for Baghdad, which has close ties with both Washington and Tehran.

The latest development was presented by the Iraqi government as a sign of growing national strength and sovereignty. But the departure has also triggered contrasting reactions across Iraq, with Iran-backed factions celebrating the end of

the American military presence while some voices, particularly in the Kurdish region, have expressed concern over the security implications.

US exits as Iran targets American positions

The timing of the withdrawal is significant.

The final US forces are leaving Iraq while the United States is engaged in a direct military confrontation with Iran. The conflict has seen Iranian forces launch attacks against American military positions in the region, turning US bases and facilities into potential targets and exposing Washington's regional military posture to growing pressure.

American military installations in Iraq's Kurdish region have also come under attack since the United States and Israel launched their war against Iran on February 28.

Against this backdrop, the departure from Iraq represents the completion of a process that had already been underway but now assumes wider strategic significance.

While the United States is



ending its formal military operations in Iraq, Pentagon officials have made clear that Washington is not withdrawing completely from the wider region.

A Pentagon official said the US would retain regional capabilities, including intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance assets that could be utilised in connection with Iraq.

Last troops leave Erbil

Pentagon spokesperson Sean Parnell said US troops and equipment had completed an "orderly departure" from the final American base in Erbil, in Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdish region.

The United States had already withdrawn troops from bases in most other parts of Iraq last year,

leaving several hundred personnel in the Kurdish region.

Their departure now brings the formal US military presence in Iraq to an end.

Iraqi Prime Minister Ali al-Zaidi presided over the handover ceremony and portrayed the moment as the beginning of a new chapter for the country.

He said the next phase would

be defined by Iraq's sovereignty, stronger state institutions, the readiness of its armed forces, unity in decision-making and balanced partnerships with its friends.

The message from Baghdad was clear: Iraq wants its security architecture to increasingly rest on its own institutions rather than foreign troops stationed on its soil.

Iran-backed groups hail US departure

The withdrawal was warmly welcomed by powerful Iran-backed Iraqi groups that have for years demanded the departure of American forces.

Abu Mujahid al-Assaf, a security official with the powerful Kataib Hezbollah militia, described the departure as the expulsion of "occupation forces" and said it marked the beginning of full Iraqi sovereignty.

But his statement also carried a warning to the Iraqi government.

Al-Assaf urged Prime Minister al-Zaidi's government not to implement what he described as American plans and warned that any government that failed to work for the benefit of the Iraqi

people could be challenged and "overthrown by all means."

The statement underscores the political and security influence wielded by Iran-aligned armed groups inside Iraq even as Baghdad seeks to strengthen the authority of state institutions.

'Important milestone' for Iraq

Iraqi National Security Adviser Qasim al-Araji described the end of the US-led coalition mission as an "important milestone."

He said the development would strengthen Iraq's sovereignty and serve the national interests and aspirations of its people.

Al-Araji also credited Iraqi armed forces, resistance groups and the sacrifices of the Iraqi people with defeating Daesh, the Islamic State group that seized large parts of Iraq and Syria before being pushed back by an international military campaign.

The end of the coalition mission therefore represents the closing of a security chapter that began with the fight against Daesh and evolved into a broader debate over the continued presence of foreign troops in Iraq.

India Highlights Regional Connectivity, Transit at Islamabad Meet

Press Trust of India

ISLAMABAD: India's SCO National Coordinator Alok A Dimri on Tuesday said regional connectivity, trade and transit were among the important issues being discussed by members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.

Speaking to PTV News on the sidelines of the three-day Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) national coordinators' meeting in Islamabad, Dimri also said members had agreed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call for a civilisational dialogue, which will be held in New Delhi on November 20.

The SCO a Eurasian regional grouping, focused on political, security, economic

and cultural cooperation among its member states. It has 10 member states: China, India, Russia, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Iran and Belarus.

According to footage of the interview shared by Pakistan's Foreign Office, Dimri said the SCO provided a platform where countries from Eurasia and the Asian landmass had come together and "we have designed an agenda for our well-being, prosperity and welfare".

"Connectivity is an important point. Regional connectivity, trade, transit... are important issues, which have been discussed and progress is also being made," he said.

The meeting, held under Pakistan's 2026-27 chair-

manship of the SCO Council of Heads of State, is aimed at discussing the organisation's programme of activities, preparations for upcoming meetings and other matters on its agenda. It is also part of preparations for the SCO Council of Heads of State summit to be hosted by Pakistan in August 2027.

The Indian delegation's participation in the meeting is the first such high-level visit to Pakistan since last year's brief conflict between the two countries.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar had led India's delegation to the SCO Council of Heads of Government meeting in Islamabad on October 15-16, 2024.

Dimri said it was his first visit to Pakistan and such visits would continue

through the SCO platform as its programmes would continue throughout the year.

"My first visit is only to Islamabad but what I wanted to see was Lahore, Sialkot and Faisalabad," he said, adding that Lahore had been declared an SCO cultural city.

He said these programmes would culminate with the Islamabad summit and expressed hope that cooperation in different areas under the SCO would improve.

Dimri said the SCO was a regional framework comprising countries from North Asia, East Asia and Central Asia, and said, "we will be able to convey to the world our languages, our voices and our thoughts through the SCO".

SP's Nathwani Has ₹373 Cr Assets, ₹19.6 Cr Income

Press Trust of India

LUCKNOW: Samajwadi Party's Rajya Sabha candidate Dhanraj Parimal Nathwani has declared movable and immovable assets worth more than Rs 373 crore for himself, his spouse and two dependents, besides reporting an annual income of Rs 19.61 crore for FY 2025-26, according to his election affidavit.

Nathwani, 40, filed his nomination in Lucknow after the party on Wednesday announced his name, along with senior leader Ram Gopal Yadav, as its candidate from Uttar Pradesh.

Nathwani, currently a resident of Andheri West in Mumbai, is an executive with the Reliance Group. His father Parimal Nath-

wani is a senior Reliance executive and also a four-term Independent Rajya Sabha MP backed by NDA from Jharkhand.

The affidavit shows movable assets worth Rs 77.75 crore in Nathwani's name and properties worth Rs 211.10 crore in his spouse's name. His two dependents have movable assets worth about Rs 1.95 crore and Rs 1.20 crore, respectively.

A major component of Nathwani's movable wealth is investment in shares, bonds, debentures and mutual funds, valued at about Rs 55.76 crore. He has also disclosed bank deposits of nearly Rs 10.63 crore, personal loans and receivables of about Rs 6.92 crore and postal savings and insur-

ance investments of about Rs 2.81 crore.

His spouse has disclosed investments in shares, bonds and other financial instruments worth about Rs 199.44 crore, bank deposits of nearly Rs 1.87 crore and jewellery and other valuables worth about Rs 8.54 crore.

In immovable assets, the affidavit puts the current market value of self-acquired properties at about Rs 27.67 crore for Nathwani and Rs 53.59 crore for his spouse. The document separately records purchase costs of about Rs 7.93 crore and Rs 32.49 crore, respectively, along with development and construction costs.

Nathwani has declared liabilities of about

Rs 3.01 crore, including government dues of Rs 41.59 lakh and loans from banks, financial institutions and others of about Rs 2.59 crore. His spouse has liabilities worth Rs 18.56 lakh. The affidavit says there are no disputed government dues or disputed institutional loans.

For FY 2025-26, Nathwani has declared a total income of Rs 19.61 crore, while his spouse's income is shown at about Rs 1.48 crore. He has listed his sources of income as professional income, rental income, capital gains and income from other sources. His spouse's income includes director remuneration, rental income and capital gains.

MI Securities

POWER OF ₹5,000 SIP

Step 1: You invest ₹5,000 every month

Step 2: You reinvest your total investment growth

Duration (Years)	Total Invested Amount
5	3.0L
10	6.0L
15	9.0L
20	12.0L
25	15.0L
30	18.0L

Small amount, big corpus

Duration (Years)	Corpus	Invested	Money grows to
5	₹4.1L	₹3.1L	1.4x
10	₹11.6L	₹6.0L	2.9x
15	₹25.9L	₹9.0L	4.3x
20	₹51.8L	₹12.0L	6.5x
25	₹97.5L	₹15.0L	10.5x
30	₹1.9Cr	₹18.0L	10.5x

More time = more compounding

Mutual fund investments are subject to market risks. Read all scheme related documents carefully before investing.

MI Securities - AMFI Registered Mutual Fund Distributor | ARN: 47504 | Contact: 9419006271