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DELHI PROTESTS

SC To Hear Contempt Plea Today

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The Supreme Court will hear on Sunday a plea seeking initiation of contempt proceedings against authorities for alleged blatant violation of the court's direction to ensure no complete prohibition on metro and trains services in Delhi due to the CJP protest.

According to the cause list of October 11 uploaded on the apex court website, the plea would come up for hearing before a bench of justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana.

The plea, filed by advocate Shailendra Mani Tripathi, has arrayed Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan, Delhi Police Commissioner Anurag Kumar and Delhi Metro Rail Corporation chairperson D. Thara as respondents.

"This brutal assault on the fundamental rights of the citizens and sheer disregard to the orders of this court amounts to a deliberate, intentional attempt on the part of Delhi Metro, Delhi Police and the Union government which must be dealt with with an iron hand," the plea, filed through advocate Chand Qureshi, said.

The petition referred to the top court's October 9 order, which was passed while hearing a separate plea against the closure of 57 metro stations and cancellation of trains to Delhi in view of the protest.

The protest call was given by the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) and some student organisations against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar over alleged irregularities in the functioning of the Election Commission.

While hearing the petition on Friday, a bench of Chief Justice Surya Kant and justices Bagchi and Mohana had directed the Centre to ensure that there was no "complete prohibition" of the movement of metro and trains coming to Delhi on October 10 due to the protest, saying they cannot bring everything to a halt.

Though law | [More on P6](#)

Police Target Rs 1 Cr Properties Of 2 PoK-Based Accused

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Police have identified immovable properties worth around Rs 1 crore belonging to two UAPA accused presently residing in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) for attachment in Kupwara district, officials said on Saturday.

The action has been initiated by Handwara Police against properties in Kohru and Udiopora villages of Langate in connection with the investigation of FIR No. 198/2003 registered under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) at Handwara police station, a police spokesman said.

According to the spokesman, one of the properties belongs to Fayaz Ahmad Bhat, a resident of Kohru, Langate, who is presently stated to be residing in Muzaffarabad in PoK.

The property identified for attachment comprises one kanal and two marlas of land at Kohru, Langate.

The second property belongs to Manzoor Ahmad Lone, a resident of Udiopora, Langate, who is presently stated to be residing in Basnada in PoK. The property comprises seven kanals and 11 marlas of land at Udiopora, the spokesman said.

The combined estimated value of the two properties is approximately Rs 1 crore.

Police said the action was initiated pursuant to the directions of the competent court as part of the ongoing legal proceedings in the case.

Fortress Delhi: 7,000 Detained In Mega Crackdown

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: An unprecedented security clampdown and the detention of over 7,000 protesters, including CJP leader Abhijit Dipke, four former chief ministers and YouTuber Dhruv Rathee, helped the government thwart a planned mass mobilisation at Jantar Mantar on Saturday to press for the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar.

Jantar Mantar, a designated protest site, wore a deserted look throughout the day, with the deployment of over 30,000 security personnel and waves of barricades in Lutyens' Delhi to keep the protesters away from the area.



Opposition parties likened the situation to one worse than the Emergency, with Congress leader Rahul Gandhi urging the youth to "keep

protesting" and asserting that "we are going to ensure that this regime and the people who have attacked the Constitution are defeated".

Several opposition leaders, including former chief ministers Arvind Kejriwal (AAP), Mamata Banerjee (TMC), Pinarayi Vijayan (CPI-M) | [More on P6](#)

UN Concerned About Delhi Situation

The United Nations human rights office on Saturday expressed concern over reports of mass detentions during large-scale protests in Delhi, urging Indian authorities to respect the right to peaceful assembly and immediately release anyone arbitrarily detained. The statement came as security forces prevented demonstrators associated with the Gen Z-led

Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) from reaching Jantar Mantar for a planned protest demanding electoral reforms and the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. In a statement, UN human rights spokesperson Thameen Al-Kheetan said the office was concerned by reports of the detention of demonstrators, protest leaders, members of civil society organisations, | [More on P6](#)

CJP Protest 'Flop Show', Says BJP

The protest meant to take the city "hostage" turned out to be a "flop show", the BJP said on Saturday, accusing Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi of spreading anarchy in cahoots with foreign powers, likening him to Mir Jafar.

It was a victory of democracy over "mob rule", BJP leader Sambit Patra said, as hundreds of youths and several politicians who headed to Jantar Mantar were detained by Delhi Police.

Senior BJP leader Ravi Shankar Prasad, on the other hand, alleged that the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) had called the protest to do "shadow boxing" for the Aam Aadmi Party but the Indian democracy destroyed their "quest for anarchy". Addressing a press conference at the party headquarters here, Patra called Gandhi a "nalayak" leader, condemning his Friday remarks that President Droupadi Murmu did not deny the | [More on P6](#)

Advocates Enrolled Since 2009-10 Must Clear AIBE: HC

KO Correspondent

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh on Saturday made it mandatory for law graduates enrolled as advocates from the academic year 2009-10 onwards to qualify the All India Bar Examination (AIBE), if they have not already cleared the examination.

In a notification issued by Registrar General M.K. Sharma, the High Court said the decision would apply to advocates enrolled with the Bar Council of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh across both Union Territories.

The notification follows the approval granted by the Full Court at its meeting held on October 8, 2026, to the recommendations of

the Rules Committee, which considered the matter at its meeting on August 19, 2026.

Under the notification, fresh law graduates and advocates enrolled provisionally with the Bar Council of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh will be granted an absolute certificate of enrolment only after qualifying the AIBE and producing the Certificate of Practice (CoP) issued by the Bar Council of India within two years.

The High Court has also directed advocates enrolled with the Bar Council of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh after July 1, 2010, who have already qualified the AIBE, to submit copies of their Certificates of Practice to the Registry | [More on P6](#)



J&K Has Talent, Potential To Attract Global GCCs: LG

Identifies six advantages, including lower costs, incentives and local talent

Observer News Service

Jammu: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday expressed confidence that Global Capability Centres (GCCs) could become a vital part of Jammu and Kashmir's industrial ecosystem over the next decade, citing the region's young talent pool, improving infrastructure, investor-friendly policies and growing innovation ecosystem.

Addressing the valedictory session of the J&K Global Capability Centre Summit 2026, Sinha said Jammu and Kashmir was poised to emerge as a



significant destination for GCCs, which bring together talent, technology and specialised business operations to serve global enterprises.

Congratulating IIM Jammu, NASSCOM, partner institutions and the

administration for successfully organising the two-day summit, he urged stakeholders to work collectively to make Jammu and Kashmir a preferred destination for multinational companies seeking their next talent hub, innovation centre and capacity destination.

Drawing inspiration from the world's highest railway arch bridge over the Chenab River, the Lieutenant Governor said Jammu and Kashmir reflected the confidence and ambition required to pursue transformational goals.

He observed that the Chenab, | [More on P6](#)

Light Snowfall In Gulmarg, Rain-Snow Ahead

MeT forecasts fresh precipitation on October 13-14

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Fresh light snowfall was reported in the higher reaches of Gulmarg in north Kashmir's Baramulla district on Saturday as the Meteorological Department forecast another spell of rain and snow across Jammu and Kashmir next week.

The snowfall brought a fresh chill to the upper reaches of the popular tourist destination, with cloudy conditions prevailing in the area.

According to the weather forecast, Gulmarg is likely to witness mostly cloudy skies on Saturday, with the possibility of precipitation during the evening and night. The resort is expected to record a maximum temperature of around 12 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 5 degrees Celsius.

Cloudy conditions are likely to continue on Sunday, October 11, with occasional rain possible during the afternoon and evening. Partly cloudy weather is forecast for Monday, October 12, with the possibility of brief afternoon showers.

A fresh spell of unsettled weather is expected on October 13 and 14, when several parts of Jammu and Kashmir may receive light to moderate rainfall, while higher-altitude areas could experience fresh snowfall.

Temperatures in Gulmarg are also likely to | [More on P6](#)

3rd Kashmir Marathon On Oct 25

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The third edition of the Kashmir Marathon will be held on October 25, with 67 foreign nationals from 12 countries having registered for the event so far, officials said on Friday.

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Anshul Garg chaired a meeting to review preparations for the marathon and assess arrangements being made by the nodal Tourism Department and other stakeholder departments.

The event will feature both the full marathon, covering 42.19 kilometres, and the half marathon, spanning 21.09 kilometres, to be held on the same morning. A three-day Marathon Expo will also be organised at Polo Ground.

During the meeting, Garg directed all concerned departments to nominate nodal officers to ensure effective coordination and timely completion | [More on P6](#)

Rehbar-e-Janglaat Regularisation

CAT Asks Govt To Decide Within 8 Weeks

Agencies

Srinagar: The Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), Srinagar Bench, has directed the Jammu and Kashmir government to examine the regularisation claims of 12 Rehbar-e-Janglaat employees in accordance with its existing policy and relevant government orders, and issue a reasoned decision, preferably within eight weeks.

The direction comes as a significant development for the employees, who completed five years of service in 2022 but have been awaiting regularisation under the government's policy. The Tribunal directed the

competent authorities to consider the applicants' claims in light of Government Order No. 155-FST of 2017 and subsequent orders governing the regularisation of Rehbar-e-Janglaat employees.

Under Clause VIII of the 2017 policy, employees completing five years of satisfactory and continuous service are eligible for consideration for regularisation, subject to fulfilment of the prescribed conditions.

The applicants maintained that despite completing the stipulated service period, their cases had not been settled, prompting them to approach the Tribunal for relief. | [More on P6](#)

Prepare Children For Life Beyond Exams: Omar

Stresses critical thinking, digital literacy and holistic development at education summit in New Delhi

Observer News Service

New Delhi: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday called for an education system that prepares children for life beyond examinations, stressing the need to equip students with critical thinking, digital literacy, adaptability and a strong sense of responsibility.

Addressing the School Leader of the Year 2026 Summit & Awards in New



Delhi, Omar emphasised the role of school leaders in shaping young minds and building safe, inclusive and student-centric educational institutions.

He said principals and headteachers do much more than administer schools, as they play a crucial role in shaping students' learning environments, values and

aspirations.

The Chief Minister stressed that education must focus on the holistic development of children rather than academic achievement alone, nurturing creativity, communication, collaboration, problem-solving abilities and digital competence.

He said schools must prepare students to face emerging challenges with confidence and responsibility.

Highlighting the opportunities offered by technology and artificial intelligence (AI), Omar called for the responsible adoption of these tools to improve learning outcomes, personalise education and | [More on P6](#)



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2

Scholarships This Week

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

Scholarship Name 1: WINGS — Women INspiring Growth in STEM Scholarship Program

Description: IIT Bombay's Alumnus Bharat Desai and his wife, Neerja Sethi, have launched an initiative at IIT Bombay to encourage women in STEM, named WINGS — Women INspiring Growth in STEM Scholarship Program. This initiative aims to break financial barriers and champion women's education in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.
Eligibility: For female students planning to pursue an undergraduate STEM course at IIT Bombay (2027-28 Session). Students not availing any other government tuition grant or scholarship.
The scholarship will continue for students maintaining a 6.0 CPI or higher.
Prizes & Rewards: The scholarship covers tuition fees (Rs 2 lakhs per annum) for women students meeting the above eligibility criteria.
Last Date to Apply: 31-10-2026
Application mode: Online Application Only
Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/WINGS2
QR Code: <https://dle9eg0t05513.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/wings-women-inspiring-growth-in-stem-scholarship-program1791265653.png>

Scholarship Name 2: Concentrix Scholarship Program 2026-27
Description: The Concentrix Scholarship Program 2026-27 supports Pan-India female students in the first year of an MBBS program at government medical colleges, offering financial assistance of up to INR 65,000 per year to ease the cost of medical education and enable them to complete their course.
Eligibility: Open to Pan India female students currently enrolled in the first year of an MBBS program at a government medical college.
Applicants must have successfully completed their Grade 12 board examination.
The annual parental income of the applicant must not exceed INR 5 lakh from all sources.
Prizes & Rewards: Scholarship of up to INR 65,000 per year covering institution fees, examination fees, books, stationery, equipment, and other academic costs.
Last Date to Apply: 30-10-2026
Application mode: Online Application



Only Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/CTXSP1
QR Code: <https://dle9eg0t05513.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/concentrix-scholarship-program-2026-271791265666.png>

Scholarship Name 3: Infocepts Innovate for Impact Scholarship 2026-27

Description: The Infocepts Innovate for Impact Scholarship 2026-27, a CSR initiative of Infocepts Foundation, is now open for applications. The scholarship supports meritorious engineering students from financially disadvantaged backgrounds with support of up to INR 50,000 per year for four years.
Eligibility: Open to undergraduate Computer Engineering, IT, AI, ML, or Data Science students (Any year) with 60% in Class 10 and 12, family income up to INR 6 lakh, studying/domiciled in Nagpur, Pune, Chennai, or Bengaluru.
Prizes & Rewards: Selected students will receive scholarship support of up to INR 50,000 per academic year for a maximum period of four years, subject to annual renewal and continued eligibility.
Last Date to Apply: 30-10-2026
Application mode: Online Application Only
Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/INFO3

QR Code: <https://dle9eg0t05513.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/infocepts-innovate-for-impact-scholarship-2026-271791265666.png>

Scholarship Name 4: Satya Scholarship Program 2026

Description: The Satya Scholarship Program 2026, an initiative of Nehru Sidhant Kender Trust, offers 100% annual course fee coverage along with accommodation and meal support to eligible students pursuing 3–5-year undergraduate or integrated master's programmes in Medical & Health Sciences. The scholarship is available to students from Punjab admitted to 12 selected institutes in Ludhiana district and to students from Ludhiana district admitted to select Top NIRF-Ranked Medical institutions across India.

Eligibility: Open to first-year students in 3 to 5-year undergraduate or integrated master's courses in MBBS, BDS, BPT, B.Sc. (Nursing), B.Sc. (Allied and Healthcare). Must have passed Class 12 Board Exam from a recognised board in Punjab with at least 60% aggregate.
Students from Punjab who have secured admission to the above courses at the 12 selected institutes in Ludhiana district are eligible.
Students from the Ludhiana district who have secured admission to the above

courses at select Top NIRF-Ranked Medical institutions across India are also eligible.
Annual parental income must not exceed INR 8 lakh; guardian income limits apply for orphans.
Applicants must be Indian citizens and not recipients of any other educational scholarship.
Note: Preference for girl students, sportspersons, persons with disabilities (PwD), orphans, and children of single parents
Prizes & Rewards: 100% annual course fee coverage for the entire course duration, with additional support for hostel, accommodation, and meals as per program guidelines.
Last Date to Apply: 31-10-2026
Application mode: Online applications only
Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/SAT4
QR Code: <https://dle9eg0t05513.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/satya-scholarship-program-20261790043867.png>

Scholarship Name 5: DXC Progressing Minds Scholarship for Graduation Students in STEM 2026-27

Description: The DXC Progressing Minds Scholarship for Graduation Students in STEM 2026-27, a CSR initiative by DXC Technology, supports women and transgender students pursuing undergraduate STEM studies across India.
Eligibility: Open to women and transgender students pursuing graduation in a STEM-related field.
Minimum 60% (or equivalent) marks in the last semester/year is required.
Annual family income from all sources must not exceed INR 4,00,000.
Students from PAN India are eligible.
Children of DXC Technology and Buddy4Study employees are ineligible.
Prizes & Rewards: INR 50,000 (one-time, fixed amount)
Last Date to Apply: 15-10-2026
Application mode: Online applications only
Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/DXC8
QR Code: <https://dle9eg0t05513.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/dxc-progressing-minds-scholarship-for-graduation-students-in-stem-2026-271790043709.png>

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied online for the issuance of RBA certificate . If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the Tehsil Office Kwarhama within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Wasif Ahmad Shah
S/o Abdul Hameed Shah
R/o Wussan Bangil Tehil Kwarhama bmg

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied online for the issuance of RBA certificate . If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the Tehsil Office Kwarhama within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Ummar Inayat Shah
S/o Inayatullah Shah
R/o Wussan Bangil Tehsil Kwarhama bmg

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Birjees Rashid D/o Abdul Rashid Bhat, R/o Hanji Wera, P.O. Pattan, Tehsil Singpora, District Baramulla, J&K UT, hereby inform the general public that my name has been wrongly recorded as Bergis Rasheed in my Aadhaar Card bearing No. 2636-8148-1145, whereas my correct name is Birjees Rashid. I have applied for correction of the same at the concerned Aadhaar Centre, Jammu/Srinagar. Anybody having any objection in this regard may submit the same to the concerned Aadhaar Centre within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which no objection shall be entertained.

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

My DOB has been wrongly written in my adhaar card as 01-01-2013 while my correct DOB is 08-04-2011. Now I have applied for the correction of the same at the concerned Aadhaar Centre, Jammu/Srinagar. Anybody having any objection in this regard may submit the same to the concerned Aadhaar Centre within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which no objection shall be entertained.
Sumya Jan
D/o Mushtaq Ahmad Sheikh
R/o Mazhama Tehsil Magam fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my driving licence bearing DL No: JK01 20030031258 As Javeed Ahmad Guru While my correct name as per adhaar card is Javid Ahmad Guroo. Now I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned office within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Javid Ahmad Guroo
S/o Mohd Akram Gurru X

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified to the general public that I have applied for correction of my name and my father's name in the bank records of J&K Bank, Main Branch Magam. The details are as under:
Name as recorded: Mohammad Qasim Malla
Correct Name: Mohmad Qasim Malla
Father's Name as recorded: Ghulam Hassan Malla
Correct Father's Name: Ghulam Hasan Malla
Any person having any objection to the above-mentioned corrections may submit the same to the concerned bank branch within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which no objection shall be entertained.
Address: Magam
Contact No.: 7006045366 BMG

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PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Hashmat Iftikhar Zargar, hereby declare that my name has been incorrectly recorded as "Hasmat Iftikhar Zargar" in my passport, whereas my correct name, as per my other official documents, is "Hashmat Iftikhar Zargar". Henceforth, my name shall be read and treated as "Hashmat Iftikhar Zargar" for all official and legal purposes. This notice is published for correction of the spelling of my name in my passport records. If anybody has any objection, he/she may contact the Passport Office, Srinagar, within 7 days. After 7 days, no objection will be accepted.
Hashmat Iftikhar Zargar
Passport No.: J7222678 mko

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the general public that my name has been wrongly recorded as Rayees Akhter instead of Reyeesa Akhtar in my aadhaar card bearing number 5048 7112 2394. i have applied for the correction/rectification of my name to Reyeesa Akhtar . any person having any objection regarding this correction may file it in writing before the concerned Aadhaar centre/authority within seven days from the date of publication of this notice.
Reyeesa Akhtar
W/o Khalid Ishaq
R/o Zaloor Sopore baramulla j&k 193201 FKO

GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE, SRINAGAR

10-Karan Nagar, Srinagar Kashmir, 190010
(ACADEMIC SECTION)

Subject: Operationalization of waiting list for the tenure post of Senior Resident in the discipline of Pediatric Orthopedics, Government Medical College, Srinagar.

Reference: i) This Office Advertisement No. 08 of 2026 Dated. 02.06.2026.

Notification No. 25-RA of 2026
Dated. 08.10.2026

Whereas, two candidates have applied for the post of senior Resident in response to aforementioned advertisement in the discipline of Pediatric Orthopedics and accordingly the written examination was conducted on 19.08.2026; and
Whereas, the examination Cell issued result and provisional selection list of the candidates as Senior Resident vide notification No. 23-EC of 2026 Dated. 16.09.2026, wherein the selected candidates have been directed to report to the office of the Registrar Academics, Government Medical college, Srinagar alongwith pre-requisite documents within a timeframe of (07) days for submission of online forms through Employee Verification System (EVS) for verification of their Character & Antecedents; and Whereas, in accordance to Government Order No. 383-JK(HME) of 2024 Dated. 20.06.2024 at point no. v, wherein it has been distinctly indicated that Along with select list, the selection committee(s) shall also maintain a waiting list, which shall be valid for 3 months, for each discipline and, in case of failure of any candidate to join, the next candidate in merit may be invited to join; and Whereas, Consequent upon non-submission of CID verification roll through online portal (EVS) within the stipulated time/withdrawal of candidature for the post of Senior Resident by 01 candidate viz., Dr. Rouf Ibrahim Khandy in the discipline of Pediatric Orthopedics, Government Medical College, Srinagar, the following candidate is hereby upgraded and provisionally selected in the discipline of Paediatric Orthopaedics, being next at S. No. 01 in the waiting list: -

S. No.	Name of the Doctor	D.O.B	Qual.	Whether Inservice	Marks Obtained	Status
01.	Dr. Idrees Ayoub	18-06-1988	MS	NO	52	Selected

Whereas, pursuant to the instructions issued by General Administration Department vide Order No. 528-JK(GAD) of 2021 Dated. 21-06-2021 read with 1003-JK(GAD) of 2021 Dated. 27-09-2021, the aforesaid doctor who has been provisionally selected in this notification is hereby directed to report to the Office of the Registrar Academics, Government Medical College, Srinagar alongwith the following documents within 07 days from the date of issuance of this notification, to enable this office to send URL, login ID & Password to his registered Mobile number for submission of online form through Employee Verification System (EVS) for Verification of Character and Antecedents: -
1. Application form (in colored).
2. Xerox copies of all uploaded certificates.
3. Affidavit (in original).
4. All Original Certificates for physical verification.
Moreover, if the selected candidates fails to submit Employee Verification System through online portal within the stipulated timeframe or at the time of physical verification, if the aforementioned documents are not found in accordance with the conditions laid down in the advertisement notification, his selection in the concerned discipline shall forfeit without any further notice.
Note: -
After cutoff date login ID will be deactivated.
NO: GMCS/RA/6539-49/MC
DIPK-6578/26
Dated.10-10-2026.

Principal/Dean
Govt. Medical College
Srinagar

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR JAMMU AND KASHMIR SERVICES SELECTION BOARD (JKSSB)

Muthi Akhnoor Road, Jammu/Zamzam Complex Rambagh Srinagar.

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NOTIFICATION

Subject: Result/Scoresheet of Written Examination for the post of Junior X-Ray Technician, Health and Medical Education Department held on 16.09.2026 - regarding.

Whereas, the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) conducted the OMR based Written Examination for the post of **Junior X-Ray Technician**, Health and Medical Education Department, advertised vide Notification No. **07 of 2025**, under Item No. **117-121**, on **16.09.2026**; and

Whereas, the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB), vide Notice No. JKSSB-COE0EXAM(UT)/03/2026-03(7909564) dated:16.09.2026, issued Provisional Answer Key in respect of the written Examination/Test; and

Whereas, the Revised/Final Answer Key in respect of written examination held for the said post has been notified vide No. JKSSB-COE0EXAM(UT)/03/2026-03 (7909564) dated **09.10.2026**.

Now, therefore, in view of the above, the Result/Score-sheet, based on the performance of candidates who appeared in the Written Examination/Test for the post of **Junior X-Ray Technician**, Health and Medical Education Department is hereby notified as **Annexure "A"**.

It is further notified that:

- Mere figuring in the result/score sheet shall not entitle a candidate to be called for document verification or figure in the select list and that he/she has to fulfil other eligibility conditions, as laid down and decision of the Board in this regard shall be final.
- Jammu & Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) will call candidates falling in the consideration zone, based on the merit obtained by them for Document Verification. The schedule for Document Verification shall be notified separately.

DIPK-6588/26
DATED:10-10-2026

No: JKSSB-COE0EXAM(UT)/03/2026-03 (7909564)

Dated:09.10.2026

(Reyaz Ahmad Malik) JKAS
Controller of Examinations
JK&K Services Selection Board

اعلانیت یونی

عنوان: درخواست مناجب عبد رشید نجادولغلام محی الدین نجاد سائیکنگی پورہ مراد عطا سنگی OBC سرٹیفکیٹ تحت 176SRO بحق اوالدان فردوس رشید وعادل رشید ، ورضوان رشید

اشتہار ہرخاص وعام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل/سائلنے ایک درخواست بعرض OBC سرٹیفکیٹ پیش کی ہے جو کہ بکار دوائی ہے اس بارے میں پناوری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل/سائل داہنی تھارڈ ذات سے تعلق رکھتا ہے اور سائل/سائل سگی پورہ میں رہائش پذیر ہے اور کبھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے سائل/سائل کانکنبہ بذیل افراد پیش ہیں

عبد رشید نجادولغلام محی الدین نجاد	ترکمان	56 سال
رضیغیزہ بیگم عبد رشید	گھریلو کام	50 سال
عادل رشید پسر	زیر تعلیم	26 سال
فردوس رشید پسر	--	20 سال
رضوان رشید پسر	-	23 سال

سائل مذکورہ OBC سرٹیفکیٹ حاصل کرنے کا خواں ہے اور کبھی مہوار آمدنی 5,000 روپے تک ہے۔ سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عزیاریا عراض ہو تو وہ بعد مشتر اخبار سار سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنے مذریا عراض عدالت ہذا کو دفتری اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے یہ عدا کوئی مذریا عراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

fko

اعلانیت یونی

عنوان: درخواست مناجب محمد شفیق جام ولدھرمضان جام سائیکیلو ہر ادعائنگی OBC سرٹیفکیٹ تحت 176SRO بحق پسر شفیق

اشتہار ہرخاص وعام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل/سائلنے ایک درخواست بعرض OBC سرٹیفکیٹ پیش کی ہے جو کہ بکار دوائی ہے اس بارے میں پناوری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل/سائل جام ذات سے تعلق رکھتا ہے اور سائل/سائل سگی پورہ میں رہائش پذیر ہے اور کبھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے سائل/سائل کانکنبہ بذیل افراد پیش ہیں

محمد شفیق جام ولدھرمضان	تجارت	55 سال
فہیدہ بیگم زوجہ محمد شفیق	گھریلو کام	53 سال
شہباز شفیق پسر	--	23 سال

سائل مذکورہ OBC سرٹیفکیٹ حاصل کرنے کا خواں ہے اور کبھی مہوار آمدنی 15,000 روپے تک ہے۔ سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عزیاریا عراض ہو تو وہ بعد مشتر اخبار سار سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنے مذریا عراض عدالت ہذا کو دفتری اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے یہ عدا کوئی مذریا عراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

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KU Retains 4-Star Rating under Ministry of Education’s Innovation Council Framework

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The University of Kashmir (KU) has retained its 4-Star Rating under the Institution’s Innovation Council (IIC) framework of the Ministry of Education’s Innovation Cell (MIC) and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).

The University secured a total score of 76.79 out of 100 in the latest IIC performance assessment, declared on October 5, 2026. The rating recognises the University’s initiatives to strengthen its innovation ecosystem and encourage students and faculty members to translate ideas into practical solutions. Institutions securing a 4-star rating are considered among the best-performing institutions with a streamlined campus ecosystem for innovation and entrepreneurship.

The Centre for Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship (CIIIE), Institute of Technology (IoT), Zakura Campus, which also serves as KU’s Institution Innovation Council, facilitates activities aimed at nurturing creativity, entrepreneurial thinking and start-up development across the University.

Congratulating the CIIIE team, Vice-Chancellor, KU, Prof. Nilofer Khan, said the continued recognition reflected the importance the University places on promoting an innovation-driven academic environment.

“Retaining this rating is an encouraging recog-

nition of our continued efforts to nurture innovative thinking and entrepreneurial talent. We want our students and researchers to feel empowered to explore new ideas, develop practical solutions and contribute to society through their creativity and enterprise,” she said.

Registrar, KU, Prof. Naseer Iqbal, congratulated the team and said the achievement reflected the varsity’s commitment to creating opportunities for students and faculty to engage in innovation and entrepreneurship.

Director, IoT, Zakura Campus KU, and Chairman, CIIIE, KU, Prof. M. Tariq Banday, said the rating shows the collective efforts of the CIIIE team in building a culture of innovation and enterprise.

Under the MIC-AICTE framework, the Council undertakes a range of activities throughout the academic year, including innovation and entrepreneurship awareness programmes, expert interactions, ideation and problem-solving sessions, design thinking, intellectual property rights awareness, exposure visits, idea competitions, hackathons, prototype showcases, mentoring and start-up development initiatives.

These activities include those prescribed under the IIC calendar, MIC-driven initiatives, celebrations and self-driven programmes, with outcomes documented and reported through the designated IIC portal.

Rainawari Residents Face Week-Long Water Crisis

Agencies

Srinagar: Residents of Dewath Wali Pora in Srinagar’s Rainawari have been grappling with a water shortage for more than a week, with regular supply yet to be restored despite repeated assurances from Public Health Engineering (PHE) officials.

Locals said that water is supplied only for a brief spell between 7 am and 8 am, while taps remain dry throughout the evening, forcing households to manage their daily needs with limited water.

Residents said the disruption followed maintenance work announced by the department on September 27. They said that despite bringing the issue to the attention of the concerned PHE staff, including the local lineman and inspector, the problem remains unresolved.

“We approached the concerned staff and were assured that the matter would be resolved, but nothing has changed. We are still facing the same problem, with water

available only for an hour in the morning and no supply in the evening,” local resident Numan Rafiq said.

Residents questioned the delay in restoring an essential service, saying repeated assurances had done little to ease their daily struggle for water.

Another local resident, Shahnaz Aslam, said the prolonged disruption had caused considerable hardship to households. “We have complained multiple times, yet our taps remain dry. How are families supposed to manage their daily needs without water?” she said.

When contacted a senior PHE official, he assured that the matter would be looked into. However, residents said no improvement has been witnessed so far.

The residents have urged the authorities to move beyond assurances and take immediate steps to restore regular water supply to Dewath Wali Pora, saying they should not be left to struggle for an essential necessity—(KNO)

Mawlid-E-Masood(PBUH) Celebrated at Nowhatta Shrine

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Mawlid-e-Masood (PBUH) was celebrated with religious fervour and devotion at Ziyarat Qutb Alam Hazrat Bahauddin Ganj Baksh (RA) in Qutubdinpora, Nowhatta, Srinagar, with devotees gathering to mark the auspicious occasion.

In a statement issued, a spokesperson said Mawlid-e-Masood SAW, was celebrated with religious fervour, devotion and enthusiasm at Ziyarat Qutb Alam Hazrat Bahauddin Ganj Baksh (RA), Qutubdinpora, Nowhatta, Srinagar.

He said on the auspicious occasion, the Valley’s renowned Maulood Khwan and religious preacher, Janab Al-Haj Syed Moham-

ad Ashraf Kamli, recited the Maulood, filling the spiritual gathering with devotion and reverence for Prophet Muhammad SAW.

“The gathering reflected the deep-rooted religious and spiritual traditions of Kashmir, with devotees coming together to mark the blessed occasion and pay their respects.”

The spokesperson said on the occasion, President of the Ziyarat’s management, Al-Haj Pirzada Mohammad Syed Makhdoomi, and General Secretary Al-Haj Farooq Ahmad Gani, expressed their gratitude to the Power Development Department, the Water Department and Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) for their cooperation and support in making the arrangements.

Chief Justice Stresses Rule of Law, Bench-Bar Coordination in Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Chief Justice High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Dr. Justice Pushpendra Singh Bhati on Saturday interacted with judicial officers in the Conference Hall of the District Court Complex, Srinagar, and later attended a felicitation programme organised by the Kashmir Advocates Association.

During the interaction with judicial officers, Chief Justice emphasised the importance of discharging judicial responsibilities fearlessly, compassionately and with unwavering commitment to the rule of law. He highlighted the vital role of the judiciary in safeguarding citizens’ rights, ensuring access to justice and maintaining public confidence in the justice delivery system.

Chief Justice stressed that collective responsibility, mutual trust and institutional harmony were essential for strengthening the functioning of courts. He encouraged judicial officers to work collaboratively, uphold the highest standards of judicial conduct and foster a peaceful and conducive working environment.

He expressed satisfaction with the professional competence and dedication of judicial officers serving in the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and underscored the importance of continuous learning and guidance from senior judicial officers.

At the outset, Naseer Ahmad Dar, Principal District and Sessions Judge, Srinagar, welcomed the Chief Justice on behalf of the judicial officers of the district.

He expressed gratitude for the interaction and reaffirmed the commitment of the District Judiciary, Srinagar, to quality adjudication, timely disposal of cases and reduction of pendency.

Later, the Kashmir Advocates Association organised a felicitation programme at the District Court Complex, Srinagar, to welcome the Chief Justice.

Speaking on the occasion, Adv. Waseem Gul, President of the Kashmir Advocates Association, extended a warm welcome to the Chief Justice on behalf of the legal fraternity and also welcomed the newly appointed Principal District and Sessions Judge, Srinagar.

Highlighting the role of the District Court as the first accessible forum of justice for ordinary citizens, the Association President emphasised the importance of a construc-



“**Dr. Justice Pushpendra Singh emphasised the importance of discharging judicial responsibilities fearlessly, compassionately and with unwavering commitment to the rule of law. He highlighted the vital role of the judiciary in safeguarding citizens’ rights, ensuring access to justice and maintaining public confidence in the justice delivery system.**

tive partnership between the Bench and the Bar.

He assured full cooperation in strengthening the administration of justice and sought the Chief Justice’s guidance on improving court infrastructure, enhancing facilities for lawyers and litigants, strengthening legal aid, promoting alternative dispute resolution and providing structured training for young advocates.

The Association President also announced that the Association had

accepted in principle the induction of five women lawyers into its Executive Committee, with the decision to be formalised shortly.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Justice expressed happiness at interacting with members of the Bar and the judiciary at Srinagar. Drawing upon his experience as a lawyer, he emphasised the need to encourage and support women advocates, observing that their active participation was essential for the progress of the legal fraternity.

Chief Justice recalled the pioneering contribution of Cornelia Sorabji and stressed the importance of bringing women lawyers to the forefront. Appreciating the Association’s decision to induct women members into its Executive Committee, the Chief Justice described lawyers as vital custodians of access to justice and constitutional rights.

He urged the legal fraternity to respond to evolving societal expectations and emphasised the need to embrace technology, observing that failure to adapt could leave institutions behind.

The programmes underscored the shared commitment of the Bench and the Bar to strengthening the justice delivery system, upholding the rule of law and preserving the dignity and independence of the institution of justice.

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir

Kashmir Golf Club, M.A Road Srinagar

NOTICE INVITING TENDER E-NIT No. 05 Of 2026-27 dated 07.10.2026

For and on behalf of the Administrator KGC, e-tenders are invited on two cover system by Executive Engineer Kashmir Golf Club by e-tendering mode on Percentage basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K State UTI , PWD, CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Govt. for the following works:-

S No	Name of work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Earned Money (in Rs)	Cost of T/Doc	Time of Completion	Class of Contract	Major Head of Account
1	Procurement of Spares parts for turf machinery and allied equipments etc at KGC, Sgr.	7.00 lacs	Rs. 14,000/- in shape of CDR or FDR in favour of Executive Engineer KGC	Rs. 1200/= Non Refundable in shape of Bank Challan CD-0005010100005998 J&K Bank Branch Residency Road Srinagar in favour Administrator KGC	45 DAYS	Firms Registered with GST in Mechanical Or Mechanical Suppliers Or Electro Mechanical Contractors/ Firms	5452 Tourism

Position of AA: Accorded

of TS: Obtained

Note: Bidders are advised to read all the terms and conditions of this E-NIT and its accompanying documents carefully before submitting their bids. All annexures enclosed with this E-NIT shall be filled in completely, accurately, and duly signed wherever required. Incomplete, unsigned, or improperly filled annexures, or omission of any required information or document, shall render the bid liable to rejection. The bidder may be disqualified at any stage of the tendering process without any further notice.

I. No exemption shall be allowed; therefore, all bidders must upload proof of payment for the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Processing Fee.

II. The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any tender or all tenders without assigning any reason at any stage.

III. Intending bidders shall upload scanned copies of a valid Registration Certificate (renewed for the year 2026–27), PAN, GST Registration Certificate, along with the latest GST return/receipt for the month of August Or September 2026 or the 1st or 2nd Quarter of FY 2026-27 (July to Sept 2026). The successful bidder shall produce the original documents for verification before the issuance of the contract.

IV. The typographical error in the BOQ like Unit of item Quantity of item etc, if any found during e- NIT or after end date of NIT shall be rectified in the allotment as per the estimate.

V. The Time is the Essence of this Contract. Agencies are requested to supply the item within the stipulated period of time, which is much mandatory.

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	07.10.2026	3:00 PM
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 07.10.2026 to 21.10.2026	(3.00 PM on wards)
3	Bid submission Start Date	07 .10.2026	3:00 Pm on wards
4	Bid Submission End Date	21.10.2026	upto 03:00 PM
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids(Online)	22.10.2026	at 10: 00 AM in the office of the Executive Engineer RSGC Srinagar
6	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids(Online)	To be notified after Technical Bid Evaluation is completed	

No. KGC/EE/2026-27/45-48

Dated: 07/10/2026

DIPK-NB-1851/26

DATED: 10-10-2026

Sd/ Executive Engineer Kashmir Golf Club Srinagar



TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686

PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883

PDD: 0194-2450213

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,2452222,2452155

CAPD: 18001807011

SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081

Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS



SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259

ANANTNAG: 01932-228243

BARAMULLA: 0194-102029

BIJBERA: 01932-228243

PAMPORE: 01933-294132

PATTAN: 01954-293507

QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

HIGHWAY STATUS



Sgr-Jammu highway - (Open)

Mughal Road - (Open)

Srinagar- Leh- (Open)



PRAYERS

FAJR

5: 09

ZUHR

12:18

ASR

4: 24

Magrib

6: 07

ISHA

7: 26

This Day In History

- 1138 -Earthquake in Aleppo, Syria, kills an estimated 230,000
- 1142 - Treaty of Shaoxing ratified with Chinese southern Song Dynasty agreeing to pay tribute to northern Jin dynasty
- 1531 -Battle of Kappel: Swiss Roman Catholic cantons beat protestant forces of Zurich; Huldrych Zwingli Swiss reformation leader is killed
- 1540 -Emperor Karel names his son Philip, Duke of Milan
- 1573 -Battle of South Seas - Dutch rebels beat Spanish navy
- 1687- Hungary accepts Habsburg sovereignty
- 1698 -France, England & Netherlands ratified the First Partition Treaty, which eventually led to the War of the Spanish Succession
- 1726 - Benjamin Franklin returns to Philadelphia from England
- 1737 -Earthquake reported to have killed 300,000 and destroyed half of Calcutta in India. Now thought to have been an exaggerated account of a hurricane which claimed 3,000 of the city's estimated 20,000 residents. [1]
- 1746 -Battle of Rocoux: French defeat British, Austrian and Dutch armies
- 1776- Brigadier-General Arnold's Lake Champlain fleet defeated by British during the Battle of Valcour Island (American Revolutionary War)
- 1797- Battle of Camperdown (Kamperduin): British navy defeats Dutch fleet
- 1811- The Juliana, 1st steam-powered ferryboat, begins operation
- 1852- The University of Sydney, Australia's oldest university, is inaugurated in Sydney.
- 1864 -Slavery abolished in Maryland
- 1865- Paul Bogle led hundreds of black men and women in a march in Jamaica, starting the Morant Bay rebellion
- 1881 - David Houston patents roll film for cameras
- 1887- A Miles patents elevator
- 1890 -Daughters of American Revolution founded
- 1895 - Emperor Menelik II of Abyssinia rejects a treaty with Italy
- 1899 - South African Boers declare war on Great Britain
- 1914 -German troops occupy Ghent
- 1915- Bulgarian anti-Serbian offensive begins
- 1918- Major tsumani shakes Caribbean
- 1922 First woman FBI "special investigator", Alaska Davidson, appointed
- 1922- Turkey & Greece sign cease fire
- 1939- FDR and advisor Alexander Sachs meet to discuss Albert Einstein's letter warning of the possibilities of an atomic bomb 1942 -Naval battle at Cape Esperance, Guadalcanal
- 1944 - Allies bomb sea wall at Veere
- 1944- Tuvinian People's Republic or formerly Tannu Tuva was annexed by the U.S.S.R
- 1945 - Chinese civil war begins between Kuomintang government led by Chiang Kai-shek and Mao Zedong's Communist Party
- 1947 - Brazil & Chile break diplomatic relations with USSR
- 1969 - Soyuz 6 launched; Soyuz 7 & 8 follow in next 2 days
- 1977 - Soyuz 25 returns to Earth
- 1979 - Allan McLeod Cormack & Godfrey Newbold Hounsfield win Nobel Prize for medicine for developing CAT scan
- 1980 - Cosmonauts Popov & Ryumin set space endurance record of 184 days
- 1984 - 1st space walk by US woman (Dr Kathryn D Sullivan)
- 1984 - NASA launches space vehicle S-208
- 1986 - Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev open talks at a summit in Reykjavik, Iceland
- 1990 - Mexican writer Octavio Paz is awarded the Nobel Prize for literature
- 1990 - Libya's Qadhafi says Israel must be eliminated
- 1994 - Space shuttle STS-68 (Endeavour 7), lands
- 1994 - Nobel Prize in economics is awarded to John Harsanyi, John Nash and Reinhard Selten for their "pioneering analysis of equilibria in the theory of non-cooperative games"
- 2000 - The 100th Space Shuttle mission (STS-92) is flown.
- 2012 - A further 83 people are killed throughout Syria by the Syrian army

The Road to Safe Sanitation

The push to mechanise sanitation must go hand in hand with healthcare, social protection and economic opportunities for the workers who keep communities clean.



Dr. Virendra Kumar

Thousands of sanitation workers keep our cities and communities running daily, often under hazardous conditions.

I judge the work of my ministry against one test, which is whether a person still has to enter a sewer or septic tank by hand.

NAMASTE was designed to end that practice and to work towards zero fatalities in sanitation work, and every other measure I describe here serves that purpose.

The first task was to find the workers. More than 91,000 sewer and septic tank workers have been profiled under the scheme, and more than 90,000 of them have been validated.

I value this step more than its dull vocabulary suggests, because a profile gives a worker formal recognition and opens a path into government welfare and social-security programmes.

It also tells the implementing agencies who they are dealing with, so that safety, healthcare, training and livelihood support can be fitted to real needs.

Personal Protective Equipment kits have been provided to more than 87,000 workers, and around 77,000 are covered under health-insurance schemes.

Institutions have to be ready as well. More than 750 safety devices have been dispatched to the Emergency Response Sanitation Units set up in larger municipal corporations and districts, where they strengthen emergency response and support the safe, mechanised cleaning of sewers and septic tanks.

More than 1,600 workshops on preventing hazardous cleaning have brought workers, officials and other stakeholders together to examine the risks of unsafe practice and the case for cleaning by machine.

Technology can do this task safely, so no worker should have to climb into a sewer or septic tank to do it by hand.

The Central Government is therefore helping sanitation workers become owners and operators of sanitation machinery and vehicles. An upfront capital subsidy of nearly 35 crore has been released to around 1,000 sanitation workers for the purchase of more than 370 sanitation

vehicles.

I read that figure as a change of position, because a worker who once went into the tank can now own the vehicle that does the work.

We want to see sanitation workers as skilled professionals, service providers and entrepreneurs in their own right. Ownership improves safety at the workplace and opens the way to financial independence and long-term economic security, and it gives a family the means to build a secure and respected livelihood.

That is what I mean by empowerment.

Sanitation extends well beyond sewers. Waste pickers collect, sort and help recover and recycle waste, and for far too long many of them worked without adequate recognition, occupational protection or social-security coverage.

The Government expanded NAMASTE in 2024 to include waste pickers engaged in solid-waste management, with profiling, occupational-safety measures, healthcare, skill development and livelihood support.

More than 3.80 lakh waste pickers have been profiled, and nearly 2.60 lakh have been validated through e-KYC. More than 1.30 lakh have received PPE kits, and the data of more than 1.20 lakh has been processed for generation of Ayushman Cards.

Their inclusion acknowledges their place in the circular economy and in solid-waste management, and it links them to identity documents, safety, healthcare and other welfare measures while opening routes to more sustainable livelihoods.

Safety needs an income beside it. The National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation, a Government of India undertaking under my Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, provides concessional finance for income-generating activities, entrepreneurship, skill development and the purchase of sanitation vehicles and equipment.

Between 2014-15 and 2025-26, it released more than 2,383 crore, benefiting over 3.42 lakh people throughout the country.

Annual assistance grew from more than 134 crore for over 19,000 beneficiaries in 2014-15 to more than 223 crore for nearly 29,000 people in 2025-26.

Behind those figures are families looking for greater economic security, and concessional finance, capital subsidy and livelihood support help them buy productive assets, set up enterprises and build lasting sources of income.

A household with such income can plan ahead and put its children through school.

Respect belongs alongside money and machines.

On August 23, 2026, the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis held its 33rd Foundation Day at the Constitution Club of India in New Delhi, a first of its kind.

More than 900 Safai Karamcharis attended, joined by representatives of Central and State Governments, Union Territory administrations, Urban Local Bodies, public-sector organisations and civil-society organisations.

Two hundred and fifty Safai Karamcharis received Certificates of Appreciation, the NCSK Annual Calendar 2026 was unveiled, and a missed-call facility on 80 4735 9520 was launched so that stakeholders can register grievances and representations.

A certificate is a small object, but a worker who receives one in a hall full of officials is being seen, and a number that takes complaints is the state agreeing to listen.

The SafaiMitra Suraksha Evam Samman Shivir, held in hybrid mode in the National Capital, drew more than 3,800 Urban Local Bodies, Rural Local Bodies and line departments from the whole country.

It belongs to our commitment to uphold the honour and value of our SafaiMitras.

Beneficiaries downloaded 2,24,521 NAMASTE Cards, and 57,967 Ayushman Cards were distributed to open access to healthcare and social protection. The Shivir also facilitated 1,53,253 registrations under various Government schemes, which connects people to welfare and social-security measures, and over 1.28 lakh PPE kits were handed to SafaiMitras at participating locations to strengthen occupational safety.

Taken together, these steps form one design. Profiling gives recognition and a base for targeted help. Protective kits and safety devices lower the risk, health cover protects a family against illness, mechanisation reduces dependence on manual work, and skills and finance open the door to self-employment.

I set the goal higher than making hazardous work somewhat safer. The goal is to eliminate hazardous practice, promote mechanised and skilled sanitation services and build pathways to honourable livelihoods.

Our commitment is that those who keep the nation clean live and work with safety, security and opportunity, and that none of them risks his or her life to do it.

A scheme that ends hazardous cleaning will one day have fewer kits to distribute, and I will welcome that day.

The author is Union Minister of Social Justice And Empowerment.

India's Progress Puzzle

The country has become expert at connecting households to services, and the 2026 numbers show how little it measures about what flows through the connection.



Sri Varshith Kumar Reddy E

India's 94th place in the Sustainable Development Report 2026 is its best since the goals were adopted, up from 99th a year earlier and 112th in 2015, on a score of 68.3 out of 100.

Among the major powers only China, with a gain of 14 places, comes near India's 18.

Ministries will circulate the figure with justified pride, though it folds seventeen goals into a single digit, and a single digit cannot say which goals lift the country and which drag it down.

The Ministry of Statistics supplied a better instrument on June 29, when it released its National Indicator Framework Progress Report, built on 277 indicators.

Read slowly, it describes a country that has grown expert at building things and is only beginning to measure what those things deliver.

The building record is formidable, as rural households with piped drinking water have risen from about 21 per cent to nearly 82 per cent, and household electrification is complete. Internet subscriptions have grown from 302 million to 969 million, Aadhaar covers 95.67 per cent of the population, and social protection has widened from 22 per cent in 2016 to 65.3 per cent now. Poverty has receded with it: 5.1 per cent of Indians live below \$3 a day and 9.6 per cent below \$4.20. Under-five mortality has fallen from 43 to 28 per 1,000 live births, unemployment has halved from 6.1 per cent in 2017-18 to 3.1 per cent in 2025, and installed renewable capacity per capita has nearly tripled since 2014-15. Critics who skip these figures forfeit their credibility early.

But some of the figures are older than they look. The official multidimensional poverty number, 14.96 per cent, rests on survey data from 2019 to 2021, so a headline about the India of 2026 describes households as they stood five years ago.

The difference between the date of a number and the date of its publication is a policy variable in its own right. Water shows where the machinery stops.

India reports 95.7 per cent access to drinking water and 83.4 per cent access to sanitation, while only 19.2 per cent of its wastewater is treated.

A house with a tap and a city with a sewer network can still feed a river that nobody can drink from. The access indicator records the connection and says nothing about the water that leaves it.

Health shows the same imbalance, in smaller ways. Tuberculosis still afflicts 187 people per 100,000, and the global report puts maternal mortality at 80.5 deaths per 100,000 live births against the 87 in the national framework.

India now describes its progress through at least three lenses, the national framework, NITI Aayog's index and the global report, and they do not always agree on the same indicator for the same year.

A country that wants to be believed on its achievements should be the first to reconcile its own numbers. The plate tells the harder story.

Cereal yields have reached 3.6 tonnes per hectare, a record of agricultural competence, and 12 per cent of the population remains undernourished. Child stunting stands at 35.5 per cent, wasting touches 18.7 per cent of children, and only 23.6 per cent of young children eat a minimally diverse diet.

Food policy has long assumed that enough grain would eventually produce enough nourishment. The granary is full, but the plate of a two-year-old in Bahrach or Barmer is not.

Rice and wheat from a ration system supply calories, while a stunted child needs protein, micronutrients, clean water and a mother with the education and rest to feed her well.

The framework itself names child nutrition, labour quality and regional disparity as its remaining challenges.

Employment invites the same scrutiny, since a jobless share of 3.1 per cent is a real gain, and the framework concedes that informality and the quality of work still decide outcomes.

In an economy where most workers cannot afford to be unemployed, that figure measures how little choice they have as much as how well they are doing.

The air is worse: pollution is associated with an estimated 132.1 deaths per 100,000 people a year, a toll that rivals diseases the health system has fought for decades.

Per-capita fossil emissions of 2.2 tonnes remain modest by global standards, which is India's moral argument at climate negotiations and also its practical trap, since a country still industrialising can build clean from the start and loses that chance with each coal plant or diesel fleet commissioned on the old logic.

Four years remain before 2030, and the measures with the most force are those that move outcomes instead of inputs.

Poshan should answer for the share of young children eating a diverse diet, with grain tonnage and take-home rations set aside as the test.

Wastewater treatment should receive the mission-mode financing and monitoring that piped water received, with municipal borrowing, performance-linked central grants and city-level public reporting of treated volumes.

The employment indicators should be widened to wages, contract status and social security coverage. Budgets should be tied to SDG targets at state and district level, and Jammu and Kashmir's UNDP-backed tagging of departmental spending, reviewed by its Chief Secretary in August, is a working template.

India should publish one reconciled SDG dataset annually, with notes wherever national and international figures diverge, and release core household survey data on a fixed schedule.

India's 2026 record supports two statements that lie uneasily together.

The country has built an impressive machinery of access and has not built a comparable machinery of outcomes.

The goals furthest from reach, nutrition, clean water, air and decent work, belong to no single ministry, and no ribbon-cutting can finish them.

They belong to the municipal office, the anganwadi and the district planning cell, where the work is slow and rarely photographed.

Whether the next four years go to that work will decide if the 94th rank is remembered as a turning point or as a respectable plateau.

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Farooq Ahmad Khan

‘Muntinie Leiji Paanzu’

A resolution on statehood passed the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly, but the question of how two senior officers came to oppose it behind the Chief Minister's back remains unanswered.

Kashmiri has a proverb for the person who tips five kilograms of rice into a saucapan built for one.

‘Muntinie Leiji Paanzu’ describes someone who takes on a burden, a role or an authority far beyond what his vessel can hold, and it came to mind during the recent controversy in the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah had moved a resolution seeking restoration of statehood, and the Speaker had admitted it. The Law Secretary and the Chief Secretary then reportedly wrote to the Assembly Secretariat opposing its consideration on the ground that the subject was sub judice.

The Chief Minister, who also holds the Law portfolio, told the House that he knew nothing of the Law Secretary's opinion and nothing of the Chief Secretary's letter to the Speaker.

The Assembly eventually passed the resolution, which settles the politics and sharpens the institutional puzzle.

Whether the officers favoured the resolution is beside the point, and so is the correctness of their view on sub judice, at least for now. What needs an answer is who authorised two officers to approach the Speaker against a resolution their own Chief Minister had moved.

That puzzle lies at the foundation of parliamentary government.

A Secretary owes his Minister candour. A Law Secretary who finds a proposal legally defective is bound to say so, and a Chief Secretary who foresees constitutional or administrative trouble may place his concerns on record.

He may write on the file that the resolution could fall afoul of the rule on sub judice subjects, recommend reconsideration, ask that the question go to the competent authority, even advise strongly against proceeding.

Advice of that kind is the working substance of a civil service. Once the political executive decides otherwise, however, the Secretary has no independent route into the legislative sphere to tell the Speaker that the resolution should wait.

Advising the Government and assuming its authority are different acts.

The Supreme Court drew this line in *Shamsher Singh v. State of Punjab*, (1974) 2 SCC 831. A seven-Judge Bench described how parliamentary government works: civil servants take innumerable administrative decisions, but they do so inside the governmental structure, while Ministers determine policy and the Council of Ministers settles the major questions.

The officer is a limb of Government and holds no separate political executive of his own.

A Secretary's weight comes from that placement. His strength grows from serving within the lawful structure with professionalism, continuity and institutional memory.

A permanent civil service is indispensable to parliamentary democracy, and a parallel executive has no place in it.

The Transaction of Business of the Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir Rules, 2019 sharpen the point. They are working instructions that set out how governmental business is distributed, processed and decided.

Rule 4 allocates business among Ministers, and the Second Schedule lists proposals to introduce any resolution or Bill in the Legislative Assembly among the items to be brought before the Council.

Legislative business proposed by Government is therefore structured business of Govern-

ment and the private enterprise of no Secretary.

Rule 52 makes the Secretary of the concerned department responsible for the proper transaction of business and for observance of the Rules. If he finds a material departure, he must bring it personally to the notice of the Chief Secretary, the Minister-in-charge, the Chief Minister and the Lieutenant Governor.

The Rule recognises that a Secretary may discover irregularity and gives him a route for raising the alarm. That route runs through the executive structure and does not readily allow him to enter the legislative arena on his own.

A Law Secretary convinced that the resolution was impermissible could record his objection and place it before those constitutionally concerned.

The authority for the next step, the letter to the Speaker, remains unlocated.

The Speaker is an administrative subordinate of no Government department. Admissibility under the Rules of Procedure of the Legislative Assembly falls within the legislative process and the jurisdiction entrusted to the Speaker.

The executive may hold a legal view, the Law Department may tender it when called upon, and Government may object on the floor of the House.

Giving legal assistance when sought differs from seeking to prevent the Speaker from taking up legislative business.

The Speaker himself reportedly called the bureaucratic intervention unprecedented, and reports say the communications went out after the resolution had been moved and admitted. If that sequence holds, the question grows sharper.

A second Kashmiri expression applies here,

with care.

‘Bubun dopum, phetkai’ pictures a girl recounting even a father's affectionate rebuke as a mark of special favour, and its nearest English cousin is being more loyal than the king.

Attributing motive to a public servant requires evidence, so the issue is whether the officers sought to please anyone at all.

The narrower question is whether they travelled further than the authority on whose behalf they believed themselves to be acting.

A direction from the Lieutenant Governor would give the episode one character. A lawful requirement from the Government of India within its constitutional sphere would also need weighing.

If neither existed and the officers decided on their own that the Chief Minister's resolution ought to be stopped, the picture changes entirely. The official record decides which account is true.

Documents can solve this more cleanly than speeches. Who first suggested writing to the Assembly Secretariat? Was the Law Secretary asked for an opinion, and by whom? Did that opinion reach the Minister-in-charge of Law, and if it did not, why? Did the Chief Secretary act on a direction from the Lieutenant Governor, and did any communication come from Lok Bhavan? Was the Speaker or the Assembly Secretariat itself seeking a legal opinion? If someone gave an oral direction, did anyone reduce it to writing?

These questions grow directly out of service law.

The Supreme Court addressed that law in *T.S.R. Subramanian v. Union of India*, (2013) 15 SCC 732, examining Rule 3(3) of the All India

Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968.

Directions from an official superior should ordinarily be in writing. When an oral direction cannot be avoided, the superior must confirm it in writing, and the officer receiving it should seek that confirmation.

The Court went further and held that civil servants cannot function on verbal instructions alone, because a record is needed to fix responsibility and preserve accountability.

An officer acting on unrecorded oral directions risks being unable to show later that the decision was not his own.

That reasoning fits the present controversy almost exactly.

If the Chief Secretary or the Law Secretary acted under superior authority, the record should say so. If no record exists, personal administrative responsibility comes into view.

The legal demand is simple and neither condemns nor exonerates: show us the authority.

Misconduct needs more care than political debate usually allows. An erroneous decision is no misconduct, a procedural lapse is no indiscipline, and disagreement with a Minister is no insubordination.

A civil servant should face discipline for an inconvenient legal opinion under no circumstances, since a service that tells Ministers only what they wish to hear loses its worth.

The position shifts when an officer knowingly exercises authority he does not possess. The Conduct Rules call for devotion to duty, political neutrality, fairness, accountability, discipline and adherence to lawful governmental procedure.

A civil servant who doubts a direction may resist it through institutional channels, and Rule 52 marks one of them.

The saucapan in the proverb holds one kilogram of rice. A Secretary's proper vessel holds advice, objection and recorded dissent, all of which the system welcomes.

A letter to the Speaker against the Chief Minister's own resolution, without a written trail behind it, is the other four kilograms, and they have to land somewhere.

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Kashmir's Unexpected Daughter

A chance meeting at Delhi's Red Fort in 1974 brought a young Punjabi woman into a Kashmiri family, creating a bond that endured through marriage, illness and loss.



Syed Nissar H. Gilani

The photograph was taken on a sunny afternoon in July 1975, in Srinagar's Mughal Gardens.

My father, Dr. Amin, sits at the centre, surrounded by family. My son, my cousin, my brother-in-law, Iqbal Mantoo, and another relative stand nearby.

Behind my father is a woman whose presence in the picture tells a story that has remained with me for half a century.

Her name was Jayadevi Sood Bhardwaj. We called her Sister Jaya.

I took the photograph myself. At the time, I was recording a family picnic. Today, when I look at the picture, I return to the unlikely meeting that brought Jaya into our lives and changed our understanding of what makes a family.

The story began on a February morning in 1974, during a family holiday to New Delhi, Agra, Jaipur and Ajmer. My father loved history, and during our visit to Delhi's Red Fort, he went to Moti Masjid to offer his Namaz.

A young woman stood nearby. Jaya was an unmarried graduate working as a senior clerk at Punjab University in Chandigarh. She watched my father as he prayed, apparently struck by something she struggled to explain. When he finished, she began to sob. Her grief was so sudden and intense that we gathered around her, unsure how to help.

Once she could speak, she looked at my father and called him "Pitaji", the Hindi word for father.

Jaya explained that her own father had died a few years earlier. My father's face, she said, bore an extraordinary resemblance to his.

She took out a photograph of the man she had lost, and we stared at it in astonishment. The resemblance was remarkable, almost as if the two men were twins.

My father understood what she was experiencing. He had no daughter of his own, and he responded with a generosity that came naturally to him.

"I have no daughter of my own, but from this day on, you are my daughter. My son is your brother, and my wife is your mother."

With those words, a stranger became part of our family. We went to a nearby restaurant for a meal, exchanged addresses and began a relationship that would continue for years.

After we returned to Srinagar, letters began arriving from Chandigarh. Jaya wrote about her work at Punjab University, her personal struggles and her wish to become more independent. She also wanted the guidance of the father she had found in Delhi. At my father's request, I became the family scribe, writing replies on his behalf.

The correspondence linked our homes in Srinagar and Chandigarh. Through those letters, we learned about Jaya's life, and she became increasingly familiar with ours. The distance between the two cities seemed easier to manage when we could keep up with one another through the post.

In the summer of 1975, Jaya came to Kashmir to stay with us. Her visit lasted two weeks, and her presence felt less like that of a guest than a daughter returning home. She slept beside my mother, shared our daily life and joined us on outings around the valley.

One afternoon, we went to the Mughal Gardens. The summer flowers were in bloom, and the family gathered for a photograph. Jaya stood behind my father, smiling, with her hands resting near him. I raised my camera and captured the moment.

I could not have known then how much that photograph would come to mean to me. It preserved a particular afternoon, but it also recorded the beginning of a family relationship that had grown out of



Half a century later, I understand the photograph differently. It records the people who gathered in a Srinagar garden, including three who are no longer alive. More than that, it preserves a decision made in a moment of compassion: my father chose to treat a stranger as his daughter, and the rest of us learned to do the same.

an encounter between two people who had never met before that day.

Before Jaya returned to Chandigarh, she told my parents that she had fallen in love with a man named Satish. She wanted their blessing before marrying him. My parents gave it wholeheartedly.

Their approval came from the same affection that had welcomed her into our home a year earlier.

We could not attend the wedding in Chandigarh, but we hosted the newlyweds in Srinagar for their honeymoon. Satish became part of our extended family, and

the relationship between the two households continued to deepen. Jaya and Satish later had twins, Anand and Deepti, giving us another generation of family connections.

Jaya continued her career at Punjab University, eventually becoming an assistant registrar. Her

professional progress gave us reason to feel proud of the daughter my father had found by chance. The relationship also extended beyond celebrations and good news. When Satish suffered a serious accident, the bond between our families remained a source of mutual support.

Then cancer took Jaya from us while she was still in active service. Her death came far too early, leaving a loss that the passage of time has never erased.

Other people in the photograph have since died, too. My father passed away in 1994, aged 74. My brother-in-law, Iqbal Mantoo, died in 2006, aged 60. Jaya is gone as well. Their absence gives the old photograph a weight that I could scarcely have imagined when I took it.

The picture brings back the garden air, the dahlias and the sunlight falling on our gathering. I can still see Jaya standing behind my father, the man whose face had reminded her of the father she had lost. Her grief brought her to us, and my father's kindness gave that moment a future.

Families usually begin with birth, marriage or ties of kinship. Ours began with a stranger's tears outside a mosque and a grieving woman who recognised her father in a stranger's face. My father could have comforted her and continued with his day. Instead, he made room for her in our lives.

Half a century later, I understand the photograph differently. It records the people who gathered in a Srinagar garden, including three who are no longer alive. More than that, it preserves a decision made in a moment of compassion: my father chose to treat a stranger as his daughter, and the rest of us learned to do the same.

I took that photograph to remember a family afternoon. Today, I keep returning to it for the family it revealed. Blood had brought many of us together, but love brought Jaya home.

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Gurez's Harvest of Possibilities

Living among the communities of Gurez and Tulail, I see how wild berries, honey and medicinal plants could support local livelihoods. The missing link is the local infrastructure that would let people turn these resources into businesses of their own.



Amreen Qadir

When I look at the natural wealth of Gurez and Tulail, I often think about the distance between what the land produces and what the people who live here earn from it.

The mountains hold wild sea buckthorn, medicinal herbs, wild honey and buckwheat.

Shilajit is another valued resource, while native black cumin connects local livelihoods to a long history of cultivation.

These resources are part of the landscape and the knowledge people have built around it. Their economic potential, however, remains largely untapped.

Working with communities as a community care worker, I have come to see development through a simple question: what can people build with the resources they already have, and what prevents them from earning a better living from their work?

The problem begins when a harvest leaves the village. A family gathering wild berries or honey can sell the raw product to a buyer, who then takes it elsewhere for processing, packaging and sale. The local harvester earns money for collecting the resource, while businesses farther down the

supply chain capture the additional value.

I want to see that change.

People in Gurez and Tulail need a chance to own more of the process, from harvesting to selling a finished product.

Solar-powered processing units could make this possible.

A local cooperative or women's self-help group equipped with cleaning machinery, berry depulpers and bottling equipment could produce packaged sea buckthorn products, branded honey and other goods ready for sale.

Solar power could help these facilities operate in places where conventional infrastructure is difficult to maintain.

The idea is clear and concise: instead of sending raw material out of the valley, communities could process it locally and sell a product that earns them a larger share of the final price.

These enterprises could create work for young people, give women greater control over their earnings and allow families to build businesses around resources they know well.

Setting up a processing unit, however, would solve only part of the problem. A producer also needs to convince buyers that the product meets the required standards.

Small businesses can struggle to obtain laboratory tests and organic certification when the relevant facilities are far away. Sending samples to distant cities costs money and consumes time, particularly during the short harvesting season.

A producer may have a good product ready for sale and still face delays before reaching a formal market.

I believe the government could make a practical difference by bringing testing services closer to the people who need them.

Mobile laboratories could visit



When I look at the possibilities, I see a future in which a woman who gathers sea buckthorn can also help process, package and sell it. A young person can build an enterprise around local honey or medicinal plants rather than having to look elsewhere for work. A cooperative can reach buyers directly and keep a greater share of the earnings within the community.

during peak harvesting months, while quality-assurance kiosks at the taluka level could help producers access testing and certification services. Clear guidance on the applicable standards would also help small enterprises prepare their products for sale.

This would give local producers a better chance of reaching urban retailers and online buyers. It would also help them establish trust in the quality and origin of their goods, which is essential if products from Gurez and Tulail are to build lasting

markets.

Winter brings another difficulty in this weather-hostage zone.

Heavy snowfall can isolate mountain communities and disrupt the movement of goods. Perishable harvests become harder to store, and small businesses that depend on regular transport can struggle to keep operating.

I see potential in underground community root cellars supported by solar-powered equipment. The earth can help regulate temperatures, while suitable ventilation and storage systems can protect different products under carefully controlled conditions.

Sea buckthorn, honey and medicinal herbs need different handling, so communities would need storage facilities designed around the products they plan to sell.

Such investment could help producers preserve seasonal supplies and serve buyers for longer periods. It could also reduce losses when snowfall disrupts transport, giving small enterprises a better chance of maintaining income through the winter.

Digital access could help them reach customers beyond the mountains. In settlements such as Baduab, where conventional administrative offices may be absent, a shared satellite internet connection at a community centre could give local entrepreneurs a place to manage online businesses.

Low-earth-orbit satellite technology can connect remote villages without the need to lay fibre-optic cables through difficult terrain. With reliable internet, cooperatives and women-led enterprises could display their products online, communicate with buyers, manage orders and explore national and international markets.

A connection alone would not guarantee sales. Producers would still need digital skills, suitable packaging, dependable shipping and help

understanding the rules of the markets they want to enter.

But internet access could give them a direct route to customers who value locally produced honey, herbs and other goods, reducing their dependence on intermediaries.

These investments need to work together. The Department of Rural Development, tribal welfare programmes and horticultural authorities could coordinate support for processing equipment, testing facilities, winter storage and digital access. Shared facilities would need clear management arrangements, affordable access and training so that local groups could operate them over time.

I keep returning to the same observation about Gurez and Tulail. The region already has natural resources and communities with generations of knowledge about them. What people need is a practical way to turn that knowledge into a reliable source of income.

When I look at the possibilities, I see a future in which a woman who gathers sea buckthorn can also help process, package and sell it.

A young person can build an enterprise around local honey or medicinal plants rather than having to look elsewhere for work.

A cooperative can reach buyers directly and keep a greater share of the earnings within the community.

I want development to begin with what people already have and help them make a living from it.

In Gurez and Tulail, that means giving local communities the tools to turn the wealth of their mountains into businesses they can call their own.

—The author is the founder and chairperson of The LIFT Foundation, an NGO working in Gurez. She can be reached at amreenqadir@doonsrinagar.com.

INDIA Bloc Holds ‘Vote Chori’ Protests Across Kashmir

Congress, NC, PDP workers demand CEC’s resignation; Sunil Sharma calls agitation baseless

Observer News Service

Srinagar: INDIA bloc parties on Saturday held protest marches across Kashmir against alleged electoral irregularities, demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, while the BJP termed the agitation baseless and accused the opposition of politicising the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

The protests, held as part of the INDIA bloc’s nationwide agitation against alleged “vote chori”, took place in Srinagar and several district headquarters across the Valley.

In Srinagar, workers of the Congress, National Conference (NC) and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) assembled at the Congress headquarters on M A Road and raised slogans against the BJP-led government at the Centre and the Chief Election Commissioner.

The protesters attempted to march towards the main road but were stopped by police, who did not allow them to leave the Congress office complex. The demonstration continued for some time before dispersing peacefully, according to agency reports.

Similar protests were held at several district headquarters across the Valley.

Reacting to the INDIA bloc’s proposed agitation, Leader of Opposition in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Sunil Sharma termed the protests “baseless”, accusing opposition parties of politicising the SIR exercise and attempting to create unrest in the country.

Speaking to media persons, Sharma defended the Election Commission of India (ECI), describing it as a constitutional institution and saying that questioning the poll body in this manner was not good for democracy. “The Chief Election Commissioner is a constitutional institution of India. It is not a person; it is an institution,” he

said.

On the SIR exercise, the senior BJP leader said electoral rolls needed to be updated by removing the names of deceased and ineligible voters and correcting errors.

He argued that the process was necessary to ensure that only eligible Indian citizens remained on electoral rolls.

Sharma asserted that citizens were alert and would not allow the country to witness situations similar to those in Nepal and Bangladesh.

Responding to PDP president Mehbooba Mufti’s reported comparison of Kashmir with Delhi, Sharma said the situation

in Kashmir had changed and claimed that improved peace had created a favourable atmosphere for tourism.

“Today, everyone would like to be peace,” he said, adding that he would welcome a similar atmosphere in Delhi.

Referring to the reported assault on a Kashmiri youth in Delhi, Sharma condemned the violence and praised the youth for speaking against instability in the country.

He said the youth’s stand reflected concern for India and added that the country should not experience the kind of unrest witnessed in neighbouring countries.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Fortress Delhi:

and Manik Sarkar (CPI-M), were detained from multiple locations across the capital as they tried to join the protest called by the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP).

“This has gone beyond an Emergency; it has become a Super Emergency,” Trinamool Congress (TMC) chief Banerjee said. Several detained leaders claimed that they were driven around in police vehicles for hours.

CPI(M) general secretary M A Baby, veteran Left leader Brinda Karat, CPI(ML) Liberation general secretary Dipankar Bhattacharya, activist Yogendra Yadav, lawyer Prashant Bhushan and All India Students’ Association (AISA) president Neha were also detained.

Gandhi, who was in Chennai for his Chhatron Ki Goonj event, also said the “core characteristic” of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the RSS is “cowardice”.

The Congress, which has been holding protests demanding the resignation of the CEC over alleged vote theft, however, maintained its distance from the CJP protest.

Dipke and two CJP leaders, Saurav Das and Ashutosh Ranka, were detained by Delhi Police from inside the aircraft as soon as their flight from Mumbai landed in the national capital.

In a video shared by the CJP, Dipke could be heard telling police officers who entered the aircraft, “We are here to be arrested, come and arrest us.”

Before the detention, police personnel told the CJP leaders that they did not have permission to hold their protest at Jantar Mantar.

Dipke said CJP leaders were being detained as if they were criminals. He said that even former prime minister Indira Gandhi did not do this, adding that it amounted to dictatorship.

UN Concerned

lawyers and journalists before and during the demonstrations.

“We call on the authorities to ensure that the right to peaceful assembly is fully respected and fulfilled,” the statement said, adding that restrictions on peaceful protests must meet strict tests of necessity and proportionality.

Al-Kheetan urged law enforcement personnel to exercise the utmost restraint while responding to peaceful protesters, in keeping with India’s democratic traditions and human rights obligations.

“All those arbitrarily detained must be immediately and unconditionally released,” he said.

The UN also called on the authorities to engage in meaningful dialogue to address the concerns raised by the protesters.

The CJP had planned to hold a demonstration at Jantar Mantar, a designated protest site in central Delhi. However, Delhi Police denied permission for the gathering, while heavy security deployment, barricades and roadblocks prevented most demonstrators from reaching the venue.

The CJP said its founder, Abhijeet Dipke, and two other leaders, Saurav Das and Ashutosh Ranka, were detained shortly after their flight from Mumbai landed in Delhi. Delhi Police had not publicly commented on their detention.

The protest was called to demand the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar over allegations of manipulation of electoral rolls during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise.

The CJP and opposition parties have accused the Election Commission of favouring the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the revision of voter lists. The Election Commission and the BJP have denied the allegations.

The Election Commission has maintained that the SIR is a routine exercise intended to remove the names of deceased, duplicate and ineligible voters from electoral rolls.

However, voters in several states have alleged that their names were wrongly deleted from the lists, raising concerns over the exercise. The Election Commission has denied

allegations of political interference.

The CJP, a Gen Z-led satirical movement that is not registered as a political party, emerged in May after its founder, Dipke, posted a question on X in response to the Chief Justice of India likening some unemployed young people to “cockroaches”. The post went viral, leading to the formation of the movement.

The group gained prominence during weeks of protests over the summer, when it demanded education reforms and the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. The protests ended in July after Pradhan resigned.

The group has now returned to the streets, shifting its focus to electoral reforms and demanding Kumar’s resignation.

Saturday’s developments also triggered a political confrontation, with the BJP accusing opposition parties of attempting to destabilise the country through the protests.

BJP president Nitin Nabin alleged that opposition groups, including those associated with Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Aam Aadmi Party leader Arvind Kejriwal, were pursuing their political agendas “at the behest of foreign forces”.

He accused them of refusing to accept the people’s verdict and attempting to create instability, asserting that Indian democracy was strong enough to thwart such efforts.

CJP Protest 'Flop

INDIA bloc’s “vote chori” allegation at a meeting.

Rahul Gandhi with his “baseless” remarks after meeting with President Murmu on Friday proved that he is not competent to hold the position of the leader of opposition in Lok Sabha, Patra charged.

“What is happening at Jantar Mantar and what is being shown on TV and across various social media handles does not represent the true story of India. India is peaceful, and India is moving forward with good governance,” Patra said

He alleged an attempt to hold the capital and whole of India hostage through the protests.

“There were attempts to incite violence, physical altercations, and street battles here. It remained a flop show.

“Democracy triumphed over mobocracy. Given the way democracy has asserted itself in Delhi today, and the fact that the entire situation is under control, I wish to reiterate that the anarchists failed, and their show flopped,” he added.

At a separate press conference at the BJP headquarters, Ravi Shankar Prasad accused the Congress and its allies, as well the AAP, of trying to “weaponise” street protests following defeat in various elections.

“These defeated and frustrated parties are harassing people of Delhi for the last three-four days. They are weaponising the street protest, but people have foiled their conspiracy. The dignity of democracy has destroyed the chronic anarchy which the opposition is trying to foment,” Prasad said.

“The country will be run from Parliament, not the streets,” he added.

Patra, on the other, hit out at Gandhi and likened him to Mir Jafar, a betrayer, citing his recent remarks on Elon Musk’s Starlink project in India. (PTI)

Light Snowfall

decline during this period, with the maximum temperature forecast to drop to around 9 degrees Celsius on October 13.

Intermittent showers may continue on October 15 and 16 before weather conditions improve. The Meteorological Department has forecast generally dry weather across Jammu and Kashmir from October 17 to 22.

The anticipated wet spell comes as Kashmir’s horticulture sector remains engaged in apple harvesting and transportation. Farmers and orchardists have been advised to exercise caution during periods of rainfall and gusty winds and ensure the safe storage of harvested produce.

The fresh snowfall in Gulmarg’s higher reaches signals a gradual transition towards colder weather in the region’s mountainous areas ahead of winter.

Residents, tourists and people travelling to higher-altitude areas have been advised to follow updated weather forecasts, particularly during the expected rain and snow spell on October 13 and 14.

3rd Kashmir

of assigned responsibilities.

Emphasising the need to ensure a safe and visually appealing route, he directed the Roads and Buildings Department to inspect the marathon loop and fill all potholes. He also called for the placement of potted flowers to beautify the route and instructed the concerned authorities to prune trees along the stretch.

Stressing the importance of maintaining Srinagar’s scenic appeal, the Divisional Commissioner called for cleanliness around Dal Lake and along the marathon route.

He also directed the deployment of volunteers at appropriate locations and the establishment of medical camps with adequate staff to address emergencies during the event.

The Traffic Police was asked to publicise designated parking locations well in advance to facilitate participants and ensure smooth vehicular movement on the day of the marathon.

The Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) and Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) were directed to ensure the proper functioning of streetlights along the route. The Sports Council was instructed to make adequate lighting arrangements at Polo Ground for the smooth conduct of the event.

The SMC was also asked to ensure proper cleanliness and sanitation along the marathon route and at the inaugural venue.

The meeting was attended by the Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Director Tourism and officers from various departments, including Information, Public Health Engineering, Roads and Buildings, Youth Services and Sports, Health, Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Development Corporation, Hospitality and Protocol, Srinagar Smart City Limited, State Road Transport Corporation, Agriculture, Sports Council, Lake Conservation and Management Authority, State Disaster Response Force, Police, and Fire and Emergency Services.

The Divisional Commissioner stressed that close coordination among all stakeholder departments and timely completion of preparatory arrangements would be crucial for the successful conduct of the third edition of the Kashmir Marathon.

J&K Has Talent

formed by the confluence of the Chandra and Bhaga rivers, symbolised collaboration. Similarly, he said, GCCs could combine the global expertise, capital and technology of multinational enterprises with the talent, aspirations and imagination of Jammu and Kashmir’s youth to create new opportunities for growth and innovation. “I see Global Capability Centres in the same spirit of courage and confluence and together they can generate a strength far beyond their separate capabilities,” he said.

The Lieutenant Governor noted that India was home to more than 2,100 GCCs employing over 19 lakh professionals and contributing substantially to exports.

He said the expansion of GCCs beyond metropolitan centres into Tier-II and Tier-III cities demonstrated that India’s talent pool was widely distributed across the country. This, he added, presented both an opportunity and a responsibility for Jammu and Kashmir to strengthen its institutions, infrastructure and innovation ecosystem.

Emphasising the changing nature of the sector, Sinha said GCCs had evolved from a focus on cost efficiency towards excellence, innovation and

specialised capabilities.

He expressed confidence that Jammu and Kashmir could progress from being a destination for capability centres to becoming a hub for distinctive global innovations originating from the region.

Highlighting the region’s economic transformation, the Lieutenant Governor said major infrastructure developments and improved connectivity were supporting industrial investment and the growth of the startup ecosystem.

“The industrial revolution we are witnessing today in parts of the Jammu division and the Kashmir Valley is a living symbol of the new Jammu Kashmir,” he said.

Citing the growth of startups, Sinha said their number had increased from 69 in 2020 to 1,305, representing a growth of over 1,800 per cent.

He said the presence of institutions such as IIM Jammu, IIT Jammu and NIT Srinagar, along with other universities in the region, was contributing to the emergence of a skilled workforce capable of meeting the requirements of global enterprises.

The Lieutenant Governor identified six advantages that could position Jammu and Kashmir as an attractive destination for GCCs. These include strong financial support, lower operating costs, special incentives for pioneering multinational investors, the return of local talent, first-mover advantages for early entrants and opportunities in specialised sectors.

He highlighted the potential of agriculture technology, tourism technology and handicraft digitisation as niche areas where Jammu and Kashmir could develop capabilities for global markets.

Outlining a four-pillar roadmap for the next five years, Sinha stressed talent development through industry-academia partnerships, building investor confidence through credible implementation, leveraging the region’s unique destination advantages and promoting inclusive growth through a hub-and-spoke development model.

He said sustained collaboration between educational institutions and industry would be essential to developing the skills required by global companies and ensuring that local youth could benefit from emerging employment opportunities.

The Lieutenant Governor expressed confidence that GCCs could become an integral pillar of Jammu and Kashmir’s industrial ecosystem over the next decade.

He said the foundation laid during the summit could help build an aspirational, innovation-driven Jammu and Kashmir prepared to welcome Global Capability Centres from across the world.

Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, NIIT Chairman Rajendra Singh Pawar, IIM Jammu Director B.S. Sahay, Secretary Labour and Employment Kumar Rajeev Ranjan, IIM Jammu Dean of Faculty and Research Jabir Ali, Dean Academics Nitin Upadhyay and CEO of CITaG, IIM Jammu, Sandeep Ananthanarayanan, were among those present.

Experts, policymakers, industry leaders, senior officials, faculty members and students also attended the valedictory session.

Advocates Enrolled

within one month from the date of issuance of the notification.

The notification invokes Rules 9, 10 and 11 of Chapter III, Part VI of the Bar Council of India Rules governing the All India Bar Examination.

As per these rules, advocates enrolled under Section 24 of the Advocates Act, 1961, who graduated from the academic year 2009-10 onwards, must pass the AIBE to be entitled to practise law. The examination is conducted by the Bar Council of India, and successful candidates are entitled to receive a Certificate of Practice.

The High Court has directed the concerned judicial authorities and bar associations to publicise the notification for information and necessary action by all concerned.

HC Promotes 11 Civil Judges To Senior Division

KO Correspondent

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh on Saturday promoted 11 Civil Judges (Junior Division) as Civil Judges (Senior Division) on an adhoc basis.

According to an order issued by the Registrar General of the High Court, the promotions were made after considering the comparative seniority, vigilance reports and performance of the judicial officers falling within the consideration zone.

The officers promoted include Rohit Sharma, Rashi Verma, Shilpa Dogra, Poonam Gupta, Neena Thakur, Shayesta Nazir, Shahber Ayaz, Bazila Bashir, Danishta

Shafi, Himani Parihar and Shafiq Mushtaq Lone. The promotions have been made in accordance with Rule 7 of the Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh Judicial Service Rules, 2025, notified vide S.O. 173 dated June 20, 2025.

The order clarifies that the ad-hoc promotions will not confer any right to regular promotion or a claim to seniority on a regular basis. It further states that the officers may be reverted to the cadre of Civil Judges (Junior Division) if sufficient posts are not available for their regular promotion.

The promoted officers will continue to serve at their respective places of posting until formal adjustments are ordered.

SC To Hear

enforcement agencies have the right to take steps to restrict unruly movement, citizens should not be unduly harassed, the top court had said.

Delhi Metro closed 45 stations from 9 pm on Friday till 6 pm on Saturday for security reasons, an advisory had said.

The contempt plea said, “Notwithstanding the solemn judicial mandate and the assurance recorded before the top court, the authorities have “consciously maintained a blanket shutdown across transit corridors, persisted with unwarranted train cancellations, and failed to issue or publicize transparent traffic and transit advisories”.

“This deliberate recalcitrance has severely crippled public life across the National Capital Territory, stranding essential travellers, and amounts to an intentional attempt to bypass and undermine the authority and majesty of this court,” the plea submitted.

It said the petitioner was directly affected with the “arbitrary closure” of metro stations/gates of metro stations in Delhi.

“The instant contempt petition needs immediate intervention of this court because there is the blatant violations of the orders passed on October 9 by this court, by closing the entry and exit gates of Delhi Metro in spite of the clear and unambiguous order of this court that only regulatory measures can be taken to regulate the crowd and it can’t be a preventive step,” the plea said.

It said the petitioner had personally visited at least two metro stations – GTB Nagar and Vishwavidyalaya – about 9.30 pm on Friday and found that entry gates were completely closed and exit gates were being manually regulated.

It alleged that authorities were “deliberately, intentionally and knowingly creating lawless condition in the national capital”.

The plea sought initiation of contempt proceedings against the respondents for their alleged deliberate, willful and contumacious disobedience of the October 9 order.

It has also sought an urgent ad-interim direction commanding the respondents to immediately revoke all blanket prohibitory orders against metro and railway operations, and enforce a strictly regulated, operational schedule with immediate public notice.

The plea urged the apex court to issue notice to the respondents directing them to appear in person before the court to show cause why they should not be punished for committing contempt of the court.

In its October 9 order, the top court had said, “It appears that the notifications are overreaching, as they impose a complete ban upon essential public transportation. Upon our indication that a distinction exists between total ‘prohibition’ and the ‘regulation’ of metro and other train movements, Solicitor General of India has fairly agreed to impress upon the authorities to reassess such prohibitions.”

“Regarding that assurance, we clarify that although there shall be no outright prohibition on the movement of metro trains, a prudent decision may be made to permit the operation of metro trains and other rail services in a suitable and regulated manner,” the bench had said.

It had said such a decision should be widely publicised to prevent further inconvenience.

The bench had said a traffic advisory should also be published in respect of smooth movement of vehicles in newspapers and on online platforms to ensure that no hardship or inconvenience is caused to the public in the course of travelling within the city.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta had assured the top court that he would consult the government and that restrictions could be regulated and periodically reviewed in light of the evolving situation. (PTI)

CAT Asks Govt

While examining the matter, the

Tribunal took note of the government’s earlier decisions concerning the creation and adjustment of posts in the Forest Department.

These included the creation of 333 additional Forest Guard posts in 2017 and the subsequent adjustment of 234 supernumerary posts against available vacancies in 2021.

The developments were considered relevant to the applicants’ claims for regularisation under the existing policy framework.

Importantly, the Tribunal also directed the authorities to consider the applicability of the Supreme Court judgment in Rupesh R. Gaonkar and Others versus State of Goa and Others while deciding the matter.

It observed that the benefit of the judgment should be extended to the applicants if their cases are covered by the ruling and no legal impediment exists.

The Tribunal, however, did not order the immediate regularisation of the employees. Instead, it directed the competent authorities to examine their individual eligibility and claims in accordance with the applicable rules, government orders and judicial precedents.

The authorities have been asked to pass a reasoned order, explaining the decision taken on the applicants’ claims, preferably within eight weeks from the date of service of the certified copy of the Tribunal’s order.

The direction places the responsibility on the government to assess the pending claims and communicate its decision within the stipulated timeframe.

The matter assumes significance for Rehbar-e-Janglaat employees who have been seeking regularisation after completing the service period prescribed under the government’s 2017 policy.

The Tribunal’s directions have provided the 12 applicants an opportunity for formal reconsideration of their claims, although their regularisation will depend on their eligibility and the applicable legal provisions. (KNS)

Prepare Children

support teachers.

He emphasised that technology should complement, rather than replace, the human element of education.

The Chief Minister also underscored the importance of continuous professional development for teachers and school leaders, saying exposure to innovative teaching methods, exchange of best practices and collaboration were essential to strengthening educational institutions.

Calling for an inclusive approach to educational excellence, he said quality education must reach children in rural, remote and underserved communities as well as those in urban areas.

He stressed the need for governments, educators, institutions, parents and communities to work collectively to address the diverse academic, social and developmental needs of children.

Omar also highlighted the importance of collaboration among educational institutions within India and internationally to promote innovation, share successful models and improve the quality of education.

He observed that recognising exemplary school leadership helps foster a culture of excellence by encouraging other institutions to learn from successful practices and adapt them to their own contexts.

The Chief Minister also felicitated the heads of several educational institutions in recognition of their contributions.

Achyuta Samanta of the Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology, Dalip Sharma, Executive Chairman of the Association of Indian Principals, Kashish Jhamb, CTO of AIP and CEO of City Innovates, and Rajesh Pasari, Managing Director of Macmillan Education India, were among those present.

Chancellors and senior officials from Indian and international universities, officials from Austrade, school founders, directors, principals and heads of schools from across the country also attended the summit.

Delhi Clampdown Echoes Kashmir Lockdown: PDP, NC

Press Trust of India

SRINAGAR: Arch-rivals the National Conference and the People's Democratic Party have said the clampdown in Delhi for the CJP protest on Saturday was reminiscent of the "enforced silence" in Kashmir at the time of the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019.

"The Kashmir model has been exported to Delhi. Welcome to the New Delhi, modelled on the New Jammu and Kashmir," J-K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah posted on X late Friday after internet services were suspended in the 5-km radius of Jantar Mantar in central Delhi, the proposed venue for the CJP protest, as a precautionary measure.

Abdullah's father and National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah said that suppressing the opposition's voice, refusing to tolerate dissent, and denying people the right to raise their legitimate concerns "undermine" the very spirit of democracy and render claims of good governance meaningless.

He stressed that a strong democratic system rests on freedom of expression, respect for differing opinions, public participation and institutional accountability, calling any de-



parture from these fundamental principles detrimental to democracy.

The three-time chief minister also expressed concern over alleged use of intimidation, pressure and excessive force to silence dissenting voices and create an atmosphere of fear.

Farooq Abdullah said the approach being adopted to "suppress" people's voices in the national capital reminds one of the treatment that the people of Kashmir have faced over the years.

"Silencing public voices, restricting dissent and ignoring legitimate demands do not resolve problems but instead widen the gap between the people and those in power.

"The strength of democracy lies in ensuring that every citi-

zen has the freedom to express their views and pursue their rights through peaceful and constitutional means," he said.

The senior Abdullah also said that the vote is a valuable trust placed by the people, which is the foundation of democracy.

"Ensuring transparency in the electoral process, restoring public confidence and safeguarding the credibility of democratic institutions are therefore essential," he said.

An unprecedented security clampdown and detention of more than 7,000 protesters, including CJP leader Abhijit Dipke, four former chief ministers and YouTuber Dhruv Rathee, helped the government thwart the planned mass mobilisation at Jantar Mantar on Saturday to press for the resignation of

Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar.

Several opposition leaders, including former chief ministers Arvind Kejriwal (AAP), Mamata Banerjee (TMC), Pinarayi Vijayan (CPI-M) and Manik Sarkar (CPI-M), were detained from multiple locations across the capital as they tried to join the protest called by the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP).

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti accused the BJP-led Centre of passing off "enforced silence" as consent, as she drew parallels between the heavy security clampdown in Delhi and the restrictions imposed across Kashmir during the abrogation of Article 370, which granted special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, in August 2019.

The former chief minister's remarks came amid heightened security curbs, route closures and train disruptions in Delhi to halt demonstrators from marching toward the Jantar Mantar to protest against CEC Gyanesh Kumar.

"Today's Delhi is a chilling reminder of Kashmir after the unconstitutional abrogation of Article 370. People were locked in their homes, the internet was shut down, and an entire region was placed under siege. The BJP

then brazenly claimed that nobody had protested," Mehbooba said in a post on X.

She said after "crushing" the protest, the ruling establishment would claim that there were no protests.

"With Delhi under siege, trains halted, and roads to Jantar Mantar sealed, they (the BJP) may repeat the same lie, claiming that nobody protested against Gyanesh Kumar. First crush the protest, then deny it ever happened. This is how enforced silence is passed off as consent," she said.

At several places in the Valley, INDIA bloc parties took out marches against "vote chori" in the wake of allegations of irregularities in the functioning of the Election Commission and the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls undertaken by it.

The marches – part of the INDIA bloc's nationwide agitation – were held in Srinagar and several district headquarters in the Valley.

In Srinagar, workers of the Congress, NC and PDP assembled at the Congress headquarters on MA Road and raised slogans against the Centre and the CEC, demanding his resignation.

The protesters tried to march towards the main road, but police did not allow them outside the Congress office.

Anxiety, Depression, Sleep Disturbances Top Mental Health Concerns in Kashmir: Experts

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Anxiety, depression, sleep disturbances and substance use are among the common mental health problems reported by patients visiting hospital outpatient departments in Kashmir, with psychiatrists expressing concern over the growing psychological pressures faced by adolescents and young people.

Experts say prolonged psychosocial stress, economic uncertainty, unemployment, family and societal expectations, academic competition and excessive screen time are among the factors contributing to the mental health burden in the region.

Dr Yasir Hassan Rather, Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (IMHANS), Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar said that anxiety disorders, clinical depression, sleep disturbances, substance-related problems and stress-related conditions were among the most frequently encountered mental health issues in hospital OPDs.

"In the Kashmiri context, prolonged psychosocial stress, economic uncertainty, unemployment, family pressures and societal expectations can contribute to the

increasing mental health burden. Among adolescents, academic and career-related pressures, excessive screen time and substance use are additional concerns," he said.

Dr Rather said young people were increasingly exposed to social media-related stress, unhealthy comparisons, pressure to maintain a perfect appearance, body-image concerns and the fear of missing out. He added that cyberbullying, online harassment and contact with cyber predators could further compromise their safety and psychological well-being.

"Bullying, exclusion, humiliation, peer pressure and difficulties in maintaining friendships at school can contribute to anxiety, depression, low self-esteem and social withdrawal," he added.

Psychiatrist Dr Abrar Guroo said this year's World Mental Health Day theme, "Lived Experiences Heard: Real Voices, Real Change," highlighted the importance of incorporating the experiences of patients and their families into the planning and delivery of mental health services.

"In Kashmir, we often discuss mental health through statistics and expert opinions, but people who have lived through these conditions and their families know best what helps, what hurts

and what is missing," he said. Dr Guroo said mental health services should be designed not only around clinical requirements but also around the practical experiences of patients, their families and caregivers.

Highlighting the need for reliable data, he said Jammu and Kashmir had not been covered in the National Mental Health Survey conducted during 2015-16. The survey, which covered 12 states, found that approximately 13.7 per cent of the population had experienced a mental health condition at some point in their lives. Dr Guroo said the second round of the survey was underway and would include Jammu and Kashmir, potentially providing region-specific evidence.

Speaking about the conditions he encounters in clinical practice, Dr Guroo said depression, anxiety, trauma-related illnesses and substance use were among the most common concerns, with an increasing number of young people seeking help.

"Years of conflict, the pandemic, uncertainty about employment and the influence of social media have added to the burden. Mental health here is closely connected with financial circumstances, education and the everyday pressures people carry," he said. (KNO)

Dr Amit Bhushan Sharma Highlights Next-Generation Cardiac Care at Jammu CME

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Advances in cardiac device technology and minimally invasive heart procedures took centre stage at a Continuing Medical Education (CME) programme organised by PARAS Health Gurugram in association with the Indian Medical Association (IMA), Jammu Chapter, on Saturday.

Titled "What Is New in Cardiology 2026", the programme featured Dr Amit Bhushan Sharma, Senior Director and Unit Head of Interventional Cardiology at PARAS Health Gurugram, who discussed emerging technologies, complex clinical cases and evolving approaches to cardiovascular treatment.

A key focus was the development of leadless pacemakers, including the world's smallest retrievable leadless pacemaker, designed to provide long-term cardiac pacing support while allowing retrieval when clinically indicated.

Unlike conventional pacemakers, which use leads connecting the device to the heart and generally require a surgical pocket, leadless devices are implanted directly inside the heart.



The technology offers an alternative approach to cardiac rhythm management, with the potential to reduce certain device-related complications and improve patient comfort.

Dr Sharma also highlighted advances in structural heart interventions, including transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR), MitraClip procedures and transcatheter mitral valve replacement (TMVR). These catheter-based techniques are expanding treatment options for patients with complex heart conditions, including those for whom open-heart surgery may not be suitable.

Drawing on his clinical experience, Dr Sharma presented challenging cardiac cases to explain the importance of appropriate patient selection, procedural expertise and technological advances in achieving better treatment outcomes. The interaction provided participating medical professionals an opportunity to discuss evolving clinical practices

and developments in interventional cardiology.

Dr Sharma has led the Department of Cardiology at PARAS Health Gurugram since 2017. He is credited with performing North India's first dual-chamber leadless pacemaker implantation. After completing his DM in Cardiology at KEM Hospital, Mumbai, he pursued advanced training in complex coronary angioplasty at Mount Sinai, New York, and structural heart interventions at Michigan State University, Lansing.

The programme also carried personal significance for Dr Sharma, who hails from a distinguished medical family in Jammu. His father, Dr DB Sharma, was a renowned paediatrician who headed the Department of Paediatrics at Government Medical College, Jammu, while his mother, Dr Kumkum Sharma, is a respected pathologist and transfusion medicine specialist who headed the Blood Bank and Department of Transfusion Medicine.

India Achieves 1,000-Km Quantum-Secure Communication in Three Years: Jitendra Singh

NEW DELHI: India has achieved a quantum-secure communication milestone of 1,000 kilometres within three years against an eight-year target of 2,000 kilometres, Union Minister of State for Science and Technology Jitendra Singh said on Saturday, highlighting the country's progress in strategic technologies and calling for greater private-sector participation in research and innovation.

Addressing the 121st Annual Session of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) in New Delhi, Singh said India must move beyond adopting technologies developed elsewhere and focus on building indigenous solutions capable of competing in global markets. The Minister said the progress under the National Quantum Mission demonstrated India's growing capabilities in frontier technologies, particularly in areas critical to national security and strategic autonomy.

He emphasised that quantum-secure communication had significant implications for the country's technological sovereignty and underscored the need to accelerate domestic research, development and commercial deployment.

Singh said the next phase of India's technological growth would depend on closer collaboration among the government, industry, academia, research institutions and start-ups to transform scientific discoveries into commercially viable products and enterprises.

He urged industry leaders to become involved in research projects from their inception rather than waiting until technologies reached the final stages of development.

Such participation, he said, would help researchers identify market requirements, address technological challenges and develop solutions with clear commercial potential.

Highlighting the expansion of India's biotechnology sector, Singh said the country's bioeconomy had grown from approximately USD 10 billion in 2014 to nearly USD 196 billion, with the government targeting USD 300 billion by 2030.

He attributed the expansion to advances in biotechnology research, the growing start-up ecosystem and increasing opportunities for commercial applications in life sciences and related sectors.

The Minister said the rapid development of biotechnology enterprises demonstrated how scientific research could generate economic value, create new businesses and strengthen domestic technological capabilities.

Referring to reforms in the space sector, Singh said greater private-sector participation had opened new opportunities for entrepreneurs and technology companies to contribute to strategically important industries. He said policy reforms and an enabling business environment were essential to encourage innovation and attract investment into emerging technologies.

Singh also highlighted the government's Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) initiative, stressing that private-sector investment in research and development must increase to accelerate the commercialisation of scientific discoveries.

Industry associations, including PHDCCI, could play a crucial role in connecting scientific institutions with businesses, facilitating investments and helping promising innovations progress from laboratories to market-ready products, he said. (KNS)

Educated Unemployed Youth Facing Depression: Sakina Itoo

Kulgam: Asserting that the government aims to make youngsters SELF-Reliant by developing their skills, Minister for Health and Medical Education Sakina Itoo on Saturday said that educated unemployed youth are facing depression and they need to be pulled out from the quagmire of uncertainty.

Talking to reporters here in South Kashmir said the government wants to help young people acquire practical skills so that they can become self-reliant and explore alternative avenues of livelihood instead of depending solely on conventional government jobs. "Many young people remain idle at home due to a lack of employment opportunities, which can lead to frustration and depression," she added.

Itoo stressed the need to connect educated youth with skill development programmes that can improve their employability, encourage entrepreneurship and enable them to earn a livelihood through their own efforts.

The minister said equipping young people with relevant skills is important for addressing unemployment-related challenges and ensuring their productive participation in society.

On media-related issues, Itoo said the government would formulate a new media policy within the next four months.

She said the policy would seek to address issues concerning the media landscape while underlining the importance of professional standards, responsible reporting and accountability in the use of digital platforms.

"Healthy criticism is always welcome, but targeting someone's dignity without reason is unacceptable," the Minister said, stressing that constructive criticism should be distinguished from personal attacks. (KNO)

Ali Emran Champions Vision for a Sustainable Kashmiri Film Industry

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Filmmaker Ali Emran is carving a distinctive path in Kashmiri cinema, blending indigenous storytelling, philosophical inquiry and cinematic experimentation with a broader vision of building a sustainable film industry in the region.

With around a dozen films to his credit, including four feature films, three of them in Kashmiri, Emran has consistently explored Kashmir's cultural heritage, spiritual traditions and contemporary social realities through independent filmmaking. His forthcoming experimental feature, *Yaqza* — *The Awakening*, is scheduled for theatrical release on October 20, 2026.

Emran began his feature filmmaking journey with *Ibtida: The Beginning* in 2015. He followed it with *Qouluf*, *The Enscrollled* in 2024, a film exploring Kashmir's Sufi and Rishi traditions and the philosophical legacies of Sheikh-ul-Alam Sheikh Noor-ud-Din Wali and Lal Ded.

The filmmaker considers *Qouluf* a significant milestone in his career, pointing to its theatrical run at INOX Srinagar as an indication of the potential for locally rooted stories to connect with cinema audiences.

His subsequent feature, *Baand* (2026), draws inspiration from Bhaand-e-Pather, Kashmir's traditional folk theatre form. The film was selected as the opening feature of the sixth International Film Festival of Kashmir (IFFK) and also received a selection at the FYH New York International Film Festival.

Emran's forthcoming film, *Yaqza* — *The*



Awakening, marks another step in his exploration of unconventional cinematic narratives. Written and directed by Emran and produced by Yaqut Mushtaq, the experimental feature delves into consciousness, the subconscious and spiritual awakening through an unconventional storytelling approach.

Moving beyond conventional, plot-driven narratives, the film seeks to expand the artistic possibilities of Kashmiri-language cinema while drawing on the region's philosophical and mystical traditions. Its forthcoming release also adds to the growing diversity of independent filmmaking in Kashmir.

Beyond his individual projects, Emran's work reflects a broader ambition to strengthen the foundations of the regional film industry. He believes that a sustainable Kashmiri cinema ecosystem requires continuity in film production, stronger distribution networks, accessible financing, professional training, regular theatrical releases and sustained audience engagement.

Police Intensify Crackdown Against Drug Traffickers, 2 Held in Anantnag

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Police on Friday arrested 02 drug peddlers in separate NDPS cases in Anantnag and recovered contraband substances from their possession.

In a statement issued to Kashmir Observer, a police spokesperson said in the first incident, a police party of Police Post Bus Stand, while conducting routine patrolling at Prem Gali, Bus Stand Anantnag, apprehended a suspected person identified as Bilal Ahmad Magloo son of Manzoor Ahmad Magloo resident of Wagay Mohallah, Achabal. During his search, charas was recovered from his possession.

He said that in another incident, during the evening hours, a police party of Police Station Dooru apprehended a person, identified as Mohd Sabir Bumla resident of Hangipora, at Kapran, Dooru. During his search, approximately 07 grams of heroin was recovered from his possession.

"Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered at the respective police stations, and further investigation has been initiated," he said.

J&K Police remains committed to intensifying its efforts against drug trafficking and dismantling the drug network. The public is urged to cooperate with police and share credible information about drug-related activities to help build a drug-free society.

	GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE, SRINAGAR (ACADEMIC SECTION)	
Subject:	Selection of Dr Umar Ali (in-service doctor) as Senior Resident in the Department of Orthopaedics, Government Medical College, Srinagar.	
Reference:	i) This office Advertisement No. 06 of 2026 Dated. 09 04 2026, ii) Character and Antecedent verification report received from CID, J&K vide Form No. 163576 Dated. 04.10.2026.	
OFFICE ORDER NO: 953 -RA OF 2026. DATED: 08 -10-2026.		
Pursuant to the Examination Cell Notification No. 20-EC of 2026 Dated. 02.07.2026 and No Objection Certificate issued by Administrative Department. Health and Medical Education Department vide No. HD-Gaz0Gen/690/2025-02 (E-7689572) Dated. 10.02.2026 and on the basis of Satisfactory verification report of Character & Antecedents received from Criminal Investigation Department (CID), J&K, Dr. Umar Ali, MS, in-service doctor, is provisionally engaged as Senior Resident in the Discipline of Orthopaedics, Government Medical College, Srinagar in accordance with the Government Order No. 383-JK(HME) of 2024 Dated. 20.06.2024, initially for a period of one year which is extendable upto maximum period of (03) years only, on the basis of good performance to be certified by concerned HOD. The appointment of the aforementioned doctor is further subject to the following terms and conditions: -		
1. The selected candidate is supposed to submit his joining report alongwith an affidavit in the office of the undersigned duly attested by the Judicial Magistrate to the effect that: -		
a. He will not participate in any kind of strike during the period of his tenure engagement. In the event he proceeds on strike, his tenure engagement shall be terminated without any notice as this service is covered under ESMA Act.		
b. He shall remain disciplined during the whole tenure; any kind of misconduct shall render his engagement liable for termination without any prior notice.		
c. He is not involved in any criminal activity or there is no FIR pending or registered in any criminal department or police station against him.		
d. He shall not claim any experience certificate, in case he leaves Senior Residency before completion at least of six months.		
e. He will not indulge in any private practice. In case he is found doing private practice his appointment shall be liable for termination without any further notice.		
f. In case the doctor abandons his course midway, he shall be liable to the following penalties: -		
a. Withholding of two increments.		
b. Imposition of penalty to the tune of Rs. 2.0 lacs along with recovery of total amount paid to the delinquent doctor during the training of said course.		
c. Ban from future participation in Government-sponsored educational programs or training courses for a period of (05) years.		
6. The appointee is required to join within (21) days from the date of issuance of this order; failing which the order shall be deemed to have been cancelled.		
7. The appointee shall be paid as per his Last Pay Certificate issued by the parent department.		
No: GMCS/RA/SR/Orth/6505-10/MC/(E-7991537)		
Dated: 08.10.2026.		
DIPK-6563-26		
DT: 10-10-2026		
		Sd/ Prof. (Dr.) Iffat Hassan Shah Principal/Dean Govt. Medical College Srinagar

Explosions Rock Saudi Capital, Airport Evacuated

AP

CAIRO: The airport in the Saudi capital was attacked again on Saturday and evacuated, two regional officials said, two days after three Saudi citizens including a pilot were killed as the kingdom faces an extraordinary series of assaults in the new front in the Iran war.

One official said air traffic to the Riyadh airport had stopped. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorised to speak to the media. Canada's embassy in a statement warned of "ongoing military activity."

King Khalid International Airport has been targeted multiple times in the week since a Saudi-led coalition launched a major military offensive against Iran-backed Houthi rebels in neighbouring Yemen. The Houthis claimed responsibility for the earlier attacks, including one Wednesday that killed a Sudanese national.

A resident said he heard explosions in Riyadh.

There was no immediate Houthi statement Saturday. The

Saudi government-run Centre for International Communication, which oversees foreign media in the kingdom, didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

A Riyadh resident, Ahmed Sayed, told The Associated Press he heard at least two loud explosions that rocked the capital.

The airport issued a terse alert telling passengers to check their flight status with airlines before heading to the airport. At least 225 flights at the airport had been cancelled over the past 24 hours, according to flight-tracking site FlightAware.

Fighting in Yemen between the Houthis and the Saudi-backed Yemeni government forces has escalated, with the Saudi-led coalition providing air support for government forces in an attempt to reverse recent Houthi gains along the Red Sea. Their new position gave the rebels better surveillance of shipping on a corridor that's a crucial alternative to the Strait of Hormuz, where Iran has been attacking ships.

Though the Houthis have told the AP and others they are only



targeting Saudi shipping as part of a blockade in retaliation for one imposed on them, concerns about wider attacks persist. The Houthis previously attacked other ships after the war in Gaza began, calling it solidarity with Palestinians. A US bombing campaign ended that.

Trump not happy but no sign of new support

The Saudis have sought support from the US and other allies as its airports, military facilities and oil infrastructure have come under attack. Officials said US assistance has included intelligence sharing, target identification and planning for the latest offensive.

On Friday, as he left the White House, US President Donald Trump was asked about the attacks on the Riyadh airport and told reporters, "It's not good" and "I'm not happy." But there has been no immediate sign of US military support to respond to the attacks.

The Saudi and Omani foreign ministers spoke by phone about the importance of "supporting diplomatic solutions to de-escalate tensions" in the region, the kingdom said Saturday. Oman, which lies across the Strait of Hormuz from Iran, has played a mediator role at times in the region.

Meanwhile, Saudi authorities warned the public this week that "filming, publishing or sharing information related to counter-ing missiles and drones and their impact sites exposes you to legal liability."

Flight disruptions are growing

This week, the Houthis warned global airlines "for the last time" about the potential consequences of operating in Saudi airspace, which they described as a theatre for their military operations.

Air India, FlyDubai, Lufthansa Group and Pakistan International Airlines have been among the airlines suspending flights to and from Riyadh and other Saudi airports for the next few days due to the situation.

The European Union Aviation Safety Agency has expanded its guidance on Saudi airspace, noting the Houthis' ability to strike targets deeper inside the kingdom, including Riyadh, and a "greater focus on aviation infrastructure."

The missile and drone attacks and interception efforts "create an increased risk of misidentification of civil aircraft," it said.

In Thursday's attack, the Saudi national carrier said one of its aircraft was damaged while it was on the ground, with no passengers on board.

Pillay's Nobel Win Hailed, Israel Fumes

AP

OSLO: Advocates of human rights and international justice cheered, as Israel and its supporters expressed disappointment, after South African jurist and former UN human rights chief Navi Pillay won the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday.

The 85-year-old, who currently serves as an ad hoc judge at the UN's International Court of Justice, drew huge applause and an outpouring of praise for her work over decades -- including as an investigator of crimes in Rwanda, Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories, and as a lawyer who helped defend Nelson Mandela.

Here's a look at some of the reactions to the announcement of her award:

-- "Today's prize is a tribute to all those working to uphold and defend international law, the rule of law and human rights, and secure peace, justice and human dignity," said UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres in a statement welcoming



the award.

-- "Justice Pillay's crowning as winner of the Nobel Prize allows us to celebrate the progressive contributions she has made to strengthen peace, uphold human dignity and bring hope in South Africa and to peoples globally. She has served humanity with principle and the belief that the world can and should be a better place," said South African President Cyril Ramaphosa.

-- "The Nobel Prize committee has lost its moral compass. It has awarded its highest honour to a bigot who built her career around

inventing and propagating blood libels against the one and only Jewish state," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu posted on X.

-- "Few have devoted their lives to justice, peace and human dignity like she did. From the violence of apartheid in South Africa to the horrors of the Rwandan genocide, she has confronted some of humanity's darkest chapters. She has looked the brutality of injustice in the eye and never looked away. She is the defender of the persecuted, the vulnerable, the voiceless and the excluded. Of the rule of law over the right of might. In a world that needs justice more than ever, her courage and moral clarity are a precious compass," European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen posted on X.

-- "To say it is well-deserved is an understatement. At a time when human rights are under attack on so many fronts, including from those who wield enormous power, this award is particularly poignant. It is an award to all those who, around the world, dedicate their lives to the defence of human rights - often at great risk to their security," said UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk, one of Pillay's successors in that post.

-- "The Nobel Prize was given out today to a liberal person who works at the United Nations, who nobody has ever heard of. I've never heard of the person. (...) In all of the wars that I've settled, I never spoke to the United Nations. They were no help to me. The United States of America, represented by me as your president, should have received the Nobel Peace Prize but didn't. And this is an indelible stain on the country of Norway and those people that made such a disgraceful and embarrassing decision," US President Donald Trump said at a rally in upstate New York on Friday.

-- "She has had a profound influence in South Africa, Rwanda, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and as leader of the UN's human rights body," said Philippe Bolopion, executive director of Human Rights Watch.

Dipke Told of Grandmother's Death

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI, OCT 10 (PTI) The Delhi Police has informed CJP founder Abhijeet Dipke about the death of his grandmother in Maharashtra and left it to him to decide whether he wants to remain under detention and continue the protest or return home for her last rites, police sources said on Saturday.

Dipke's paternal grandmother, Savitribai Shankarrao Dipke, 85, died at her home in Santuk Pimpri village in Maharashtra's Hingoli district around 11.30 am on Saturday following a prolonged illness, family sources said.

Her last rites will be performed at 10 am on Sunday, they said.

Dipke, along with Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) leaders Saurav Das and Ashutosh Ranka, was detained by the Delhi Police at the airport upon their arrival from Mumbai for the proposed protest at Jantar Mantar against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar.

The CJP said that the three leaders were detained from inside the aircraft soon after it landed in the national capital.

A cousin of Dipke said the family had



initially been unable to contact him because he was detained in Delhi. His parents had been informed and were on their way to the village, the cousin said.

Dipke had met his grandmother on August 15, when he launched the 'School Thik Karo' campaign in Hingoli district, and had met her once more after that, family sources said. He had not been able to see her in the last 20-25 days, they added.

Meanwhile, police detained over 500 people on Saturday as protesters attempted to reach Jantar Mantar despite heavy security deployment across the New Delhi district. The demonstration had been proposed against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, but police had denied permission and imposed prohibitory orders in the area.

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25	₹97.5L	₹15.0L	10.5x
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