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Stipend Standoff Ends

J&K Medical Interns To Get Rs 25K



Observer News Service

Srinagar: After prolonged protests and an indefinite strike, medical interns in Jammu and Kashmir will now receive a monthly stipend of Rs 25,000, with the government formally approving an increase from the existing Rs 12,300.

Following the decision, the All India Medical Students' Association (AIMSA) announced the withdrawal of the ongoing strike by MBBS and BDS interns, saying the issuance of the formal government order had fulfilled the principal demand behind the agitation.

The Health and Medical Education Department issued Government Order No. 747-JK(HME) of 2026 on Wednesday, sanctioning the enhanced stipend for MBBS and BDS interns, including Foreign Medical Graduates (FMGs), across the Union Territory.

According to the order, the

revised stipend will take effect retrospectively from October 1, 2026.

"Sanction is hereby accorded to the enhancement of the monthly stipend payable to MBBS/BDS interns, including Foreign Medical Graduates (FMGs), in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, from Rs 12,300 to Rs 25,000 per month, with effect from 01.10.2026," the order stated.

The order was issued by Commissioner/Secretary to the Government, Health and Medical Education Department, Saugat Biswas, following a reference to the Finance Department's communication dated October 20.

The increase of Rs 12,700 per month more than doubles the existing stipend and is expected to provide financial relief to medical graduates undergoing compulsory rotating internships at government medical colleges and other designated healthcare institutions across J&K.

The decision | [More on P6](#)

CM Directs Adherence To Power Curtailment Schedules Calls For Coordinated Snow Clearance, Adequate Stocking Of Essentials

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday reviewed winter preparedness across Jammu and Kashmir, directing departments to strictly adhere to notified power curtailment schedules, ensure coordinated snow clearance and maintain uninterrupted emergency healthcare in snowbound areas.

Chairing a high-level meeting, Omar directed the Power Development Department and distribution companies to ensure that notified power

curtailment schedules are implemented uniformly across the areas concerned.

He said that while technical faults and other exigencies could occasionally necessitate power interruptions beyond scheduled curtailments, consumers must be informed about such disruptions in advance wherever possible.

The Chief Minister directed that any deviation from notified schedules due to technical faults or other unavoidable reasons be communicated promptly to consumers through | [More on P6](#)

Won't Rest Until J&K Is Free Of Terrorist, Separatist Elements: LG

Pays tribute to police martyrs on Police Commemoration Day, warns terrorism supporters of action under law

Says Valour of martyrs inspires us to strengthen peace, security

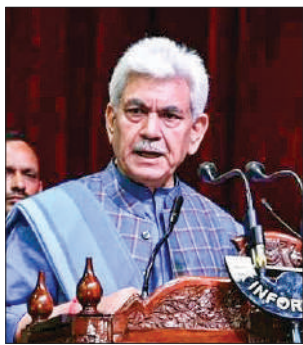
Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday paid tribute to police personnel who laid down their lives in the line of duty on Police Commemoration Day, vowing to continue efforts to eliminate terrorism and its support networks from Jammu and Kashmir.

In a strong message to those supporting terrorism, Sinha said the administration would not rest until the Union Territory was free of separatist and terrorist elements.

"Our goal is to identify and root out terrorism and every element associated with it in Jammu Kashmir. Today, we must resolve that we will not rest until this land is freed from separatist and terrorist elements," he said.

Warning those supporting



terrorism, the Lieutenant Governor said they would be identified and brought to justice under the law.

"I warn those elements within Jammu and Kashmir who support terrorism that your days are over. Even if you attempt to hide in Pataal, we will find you and ensure that you are punished under the law," he said.

Remembering | [More on P6](#)

Peace Established In Kashmir, Terrorism Curbed: Shah

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday said significant success had been achieved in curbing terrorism in Kashmir, asserting that peace had been established in the region and that it was now positioned to focus on development.

Addressing a gathering at the National Police Memorial on Police Commemoration Day, Shah said peace had also been established in the Northeast and areas affected by Left-Wing Extremism, creating an



environment conducive to development.

"Peace has now been established in all three major hotspots, Kashmir, the Northeast and the areas affected by Left-Wing Extremism," he said.

Shah said these regions were now ready to compete | [More on P6](#)

DGP Warns Terror Supporters

Jammu and Kashmir Police will track down those supporting terrorism and ensure they face the full force of law, Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin

Prabhat said on Wednesday, asserting that the "days of terror supporters are numbered." Addressing a gathering on Police Commemoration Day 2026,

Prabhat vowed to completely uproot terrorism and dismantle its support network in Jammu and Kashmir. "Our objective is clear: to identify | [More on P6](#)

Kashmir's Private Schools Seek An End To Duplicate Paperwork

School leaders flag paperwork burden, seek training reforms

Syed Sammar Mehdi

Srinagar: Private schools in Kashmir say they are spending time resubmitting information already held by the government while their teachers lack equal access to some professional training programmes.

The concerns surfaced Wednesday at a meeting between school representatives from Anantnag and the Director of School Education Kashmir, Naseer Ahmad Wani.

The delegation, led by the Private Schools Association Jammu & Kashmir's Anantnag president, Ishfaq Ahmad, sought two changes: simpler administrative procedures and systematic training for private school teachers.

The first concerns



paperwork. The association said schools repeatedly submit data and documents despite their institutional information already being available on the Unified District Information System for Education, or U-DISE, portal.

It urged the Directorate to use those existing digital records instead of requesting the same information again. Where verification is necessary, it proposed zonal-level checks every six months to reduce duplication | [More on P6](#)

JKBOSE Scraps 20% Marks Condition For Re-Evaluation

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) has withdrawn the mandatory 20 per cent minimum marks condition for re-evaluation of answer scripts, allowing students to seek a review of their answer papers irrespective of the marks obtained in the concerned subjects.

The decision applies to students of Classes 10, 11 and 12, as well as those enrolled in the Diploma in Elementary Education (D.El.Ed) programme and Jammu and Kashmir State

Open School (JK SOS) for Classes 10 and 12.

According to a notification issued by JKBOSE Director Academics Dr Parveen Singh, the earlier provision restricting re-evaluation to papers in which candidates had secured at least 20 per cent of the total marks has been withdrawn.

"In partial modification, it is notified for information of all the stakeholders that the condition 're-evaluation shall be permissible only in such papers in which the candidate has secured 20% or more marks assigned to the concerned subject' is withdrawn," | [More on P6](#)

Mobile Phones Banned For Supervisory Staff

The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) on Wednesday barred supervisory staff from keeping mobile phones with them during examination hours in the ongoing annual board | [More on P6](#)

India Protests An 'Internal Matter': Rubio

Press Trust of India

Mumbai, Oct 21: US Secretary of State Marco Rubio on Wednesday refused to comment on the recent protests against the Election Commission, terming it an "internal political matter".

Rubio was also dismissive of the reference to UN experts' criticism of the protests. "The UN experts are the oxymoron," said Rubio, who is currently in India on an official visit.

"It's a domestic political matter. I'm not going to get involved in their politics. This is a democracy. They have elections here, so I'm not going to opine on their domestic political matters," he said.

He said that even the US witnesses protests every day and are reflective | [More on P6](#)

J&K Child Protection Panels Await Fresh Appointments

CWC, JJB tenures expire; interim arrangements raise questions over statutory powers

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The expiry of the tenure of Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) and Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs) without the constitution of new bodies has raised concerns over the functioning of statutory child-protection and juvenile-justice mechanisms in Jammu and Kashmir.

The six-month extension granted to the chairpersons



and members of the existing committees and boards expired on October 13, 2026, while their replacements were yet to be appointed, according to an official communication issued by the Directorate of Mission Vatsalya on the same date.

The communication, addressed to all District Child Protection Officers (DCPOs), directs them to take custody of

official files, records, registers and other documents relating to the outgoing CWCs and JJBs. It also outlines interim arrangements for handling matters concerning children until the new bodies are constituted.

The development has drawn criticism from Peoples Conference chairman and Handwara MLA Sajad Gani Lone, who accused the government of failing to ensure continuity in institutions responsible for protecting vulnerable children and dealing with juveniles in conflict with the law.

The tenure of most CWCs and JJBs had expired on April 15, 2026, following which the Social Welfare Department granted them a six-month extension.

JJBs face | [More on P6](#)

Serious Charges Can't Override PSA Safeguards: HC

Summons DM Srinagar Along With Record Today

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has underscored that serious allegations cannot override constitutional and statutory safeguards governing preventive detention, observing that the validity of a detention order hinges on the detaining authority's independent application of mind and demonstrable compliance with legal requirements, rather than merely the gravity of the

allegations or the absence of a criminal case.

A bench of Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal made the observations while questioning the manner in which a PSA detention order was passed against a man accused of having links with terrorist elements.

The bench noted that the grounds of detention prima facie lacked specific material particulars and appeared to raise serious concerns regarding independent application of mind.

Hearing a petition filed by Zubair Amin Bangroo, the court noted that the detention grounds alleged that the detainee | [More on P6](#)



JKSET 2026 Exam Rescheduled To 1:30 PM

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The University of Kashmir has rescheduled the commencement of the Jammu and Kashmir State Eligibility Test (JKSET)/Ladakh State Eligibility Test (LASET) 2026 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm on October 25.

According to a notice issued by the JKSET Agency, University of Kashmir, the examination will now begin at 1:30 pm across Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. Candidates have been directed to report to their respective examination centres by 12 noon.

The notice further states that the interval between the two papers has been reduced from 20 minutes to 15 minutes, while all other examination instructions will remain | [More on P6](#)



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2

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

DIRECTORATE OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS, J&K

127-AD, Opposite Police Residential Qtrs. Gandhi Nagar Jammu Pin Code No. 180004 Sulieman Complex Dalgate Srinagar 190001

Email: directorjk.tad@jk.gov.in

Subject: Admission to Class 6th in Scheduled Tribe (Gujjar & Bakerwal) Hostels of Kash-mir Division and in Winter Zone of Jammu Division for the Academic year 2026-27.

Admission Notice

In terms of the Admission Policy notified vide Government Order No: 24-JK(TAD) of 2026 dated 03.06.2026, applications are invited from eligible students belonging to the Sched-uled Tribe (Gujjar & Bakerwal) communities for admission to Class 6th in the ST (Gujjar & Bakerwal) Hostels of Kashmir Division and Winter Zone of Jammu Division, against the avail-able vacancies for the academic year 2026-27. The admissions shall be regulated strictly in ac-cordance with the aforesaid Admission Policy, subject to fulfillment of the prescribed eligibility conditions, qualifying the entrance test, prescribed criteria and availability of seats in the con-cerned hostels.

1. Eligibility Conditions:

The applicant must fulfill the following eligibility conditions:

a) The applicant must belong to the Gujjar or Bakerwal community. A valid Scheduled Tribe certificate issued by the competent authority, indicating the sub-tribe/caste, shall be annexed.

b) Domicile/Residence: The applicant must be a domicile/resident of the concerned district of Jammu and Kashmir where the hostel is located and for which applicant is applying. Only the domicile of concern District shall be eligible to apply. A valid Domicile Certifi-cate shall be furnished in support thereof.

c) Admission Class; Applications shall be entertained only from students seeking admis-sion to Class 6th. No admission shall be made to any other class under this admission no-tice.

d) Age Limit; The applicant must not have attained the age of more than 14 years as on 1st January of the calendar year (i.e. 01.01.2027) in which admissions are to be made.

e) Economic Category: Priority shall be given to eligible applicants belonging to the Anty-odaya Anna Yojana (AAY) category, followed by eligible applicants belonging to the Be-low Poverty Line (BPL) category, in accordance with the prescribed preference criteria stipulated in Admission Policy.

f) Admission to domicile of district; Students/applicants who are domicile of concern Dis-strict shall ordinarily be admitted to a hostel located in the same district. In case there is no hostel in any of districts, student(s)/ applicant(s) of such District may be con-sidered for admission to a hostel in adjoining nearest district subject to availability of vacancies and fulfillment of the other prescribed eligibility conditions.

g) Qualification; Must have passed class 5th or studying/reading is class 5th from Govt/Govt recognized school/ institution as on last date of receipt of applications.

2. Hostel-wise Vacancy Position:

The hostel-wise vacancy position for admission to Class 6th for Kashmir Division/Winter Zone of Jammu Division are as under:

S. No.	Name of Hostel	Vacancies available for Class 6th
1	ST/G&B Boys Hostel, Anantnag	10
2	ST/G&B Girls Hostel, Kulgam	4
3	ST/G&B Boys Hostel, Shopian	18
4	ST/G&B Boys Hostel, Pulwama	7
5	ST/G&B Girls Hostel, Srinagar	13
6	ST/G&B Boys Hostel, Budgam	11
7	ST/G&B Boys Hostel, Baramulla	6
8	ST/G&B Boys Hostel, Kupwara	6
9	ST/G&B Boys Hostel, Handwara-Kupwara	100
10	ST/G&B Girls Hostel, Zangli-Kupwara	100
11	ST/G&B Girls Hostel, Baramulla	100
12	ST/G&B Boys Hostel, Bandipora	12
13	ST/G&B Boys Hostel, Doda	11
14	ST/G&B Girls Hostel, Doda	7
15	ST/G&B Boys Hostel, Chatroo-Kishtwar	5
Total Vacancies		410

3. Application Procedure and Documents required:

1. The applicant shall submit the application in the prescribed format as provided under Annexure "A" of the Admission Policy duly completed and attested by the Head of the Institution/school in token of having passed or studying in the school/institution.

2. The application shall be accompanied by self-attested photocopies of the following doc-uments:

i. Valid Domicile Certificate of the concern District.

ii. Valid AAY/BPL Ration Card as applicable.

iii. Scheduled Tribe certificate indicating the sub-tribe/caste, issued by the competent au-thority.

iv. Death certificate(s) of the parent(s), wherever the applicant claims is to be considered as orphan.

v. Recent passport-size photograph, duly attested as prescribed in the application form.

vi. Relevant school record establishing the applicant's date of birth, qualification, previ-ous schooling and other particulars required in the prescribed application form.

3. The applicant shall correctly indicate the hostel for which admission is sought, along with the particulars of residence, particular of the school, distance from the hostel and other information required in the prescribed application form.

4. Incomplete applications, applications without the requisite documents or applications containing incorrect or misleading particulars shall be dealt with in accordance with the applicable rules/law and the Admission Policy.

4. Submission of Applications:

The duly completed application form, along with all requisite documents, shall be submitted to:

Office of: i) Warden(s) of concerned Hostel(s) of District.

ii) Deputy Director, Tribal Affairs Department of the concerned Division.

Last date for submission of application shall be: 4.00PM 31.10.2026 till

Mode of submission of applications; To be delivered by hand or sent through email to Office of concern warden or Deputy Director Tribal Affairs of concern Division. (Le Email id for Kashmir division; dydirectortribal.kmr@jk.gov.in Email id of Jammu Division; dydirector.jmu@gmail.-com

Applications received by hand or through email after the prescribed last date shall not be enter-tained.

Note: Warden ST/G&B Boys Hostel Kupwara shall receive the application forms in respect of ST G&B Girls Hostel Zangli Kupwara and ST/G&B Boys Hotel Handwara Kupwara till wardens are deployed in these hostels by competent authority.

5. Entrance Test and Selection Procedure:

1. Admission to Class 6th shall be made through a written screening test/examination con-ducted by the designated Selection Committee in accordance with the Admission Policy.

2. The entrance test shall be conducted at the district level for the hostels situated within the concerned district.

3. The screening test/examination shall be conducted in accordance with the prescribed pro-tocols of confidentiality and the procedure for conduct of the test.

4. The syllabus for the screening test/examination shall be as prescribed/notified by the Di-rectorate of Tribal Affairs, J&K vide endorsement No. DTA-ESTB/253/2026-03/5262-91 Dated: 09.09.2026.

5. A candidate must secure at least 33% of the total marks in the entrance test to qualify for further consideration in admission process. Candidates securing less than 33% marks shall not be considered for admission.

6. A merit list shall be prepared on the basis of performance in the entrance test. The selec-tion list shall thereafter be drawn in accordance with the prescribed eligibility conditions, preference criteria and hostel-wise availability of seats.

7. A waiting list comprising 25% of the advertised seats shall also be maintained. Where selected candidates fail to join within 30 days from the date of publication of the admis-sion list, candidates from the waiting list shall be considered in order of merit and in ac-cordance with the applicable preferences under the Admission Policy.

8. The designated Selection Committee shall complete the admission process within the prescribed period of 30 days, keeping in view the academic and examination calendars applicable to the Winter Zone.

6. Preference Criteria:

Among applicants who fulfill the eligibility conditions and secure the minimum qualifying marks in the screening test/examination, preference shall be given in the following order, in accordance with the Admission Policy:

A. Applicants belonging to AAY category;

i. Orphans who have lost both parents.

ii. Orphans having a single parent (mother).

iii. Orphans having a single parent (father).

iv. Other eligible applicants belonging to the AAY category.

B. Applicants belonging to BPL category;

Where eligible applicants from the AAY category are not available, preference shall be accorded to eligible BPL applicants in the following order:

i. Orphans who have lost both parents.

ii. Orphans having a single parent (mother).

iii. Orphans having a single parent (father).

iv. Other eligible applicants belonging to the BPL category.

In the event of a tie between applicants, the greater/longer distance of the applicant's residence from the hostel shall be the tie-breaking criterion, subject to the provisions of the Admission Pol-icy.

7. Nomadic Bakerwal/Doodhi Gujjar Communities:

25% of the advertised/notified vacant seats in each of ST (Gujjar & Bakerwal) Hostels shall be earmarked for applicants belonging to the Nomadic Bakerwal/Doodhi Gujjar communities. In case of non-availability of applicants/students belonging to these communities (Le Nomadic Bak-erwal and Doodhi Gujjars), the vacancies/seats so earmarked shall be filled up by eligible Gujjar applicants. Applicants belonging to the Nomadic Bakerwal and Doodhi Gujjar communities shall also be eligible to compete for the remaining 75% of seats on merit, over and above the ear-marked seats.

8. Verification of Documents before Grant of Admission:

1. Admission shall be granted by the concerned Warden on the basis of the selection list forwarded by the Directorate of Tribal Affairs, J&K, after verification of the requisite documents and in accordance with the recommendations of the designated Admission Committee.

2. Selected candidates shall produce the original documents for verification at the time of admission, as per instructions of concerned Warden.

3. Any discrepancy in the particulars furnished by an applicant or any false claim regarding eligibility, category or other relevant information shall render the applicant liable to rejec-tion/cancellation of admission in accordance with the applicable rules.

4. No admission fee shall be charged. A refundable security deposit of 500/- shall, how-ever, be payable by each selected candidates at the time of admission, in accordance with the Admission Policy.

5. Admission shall be subject to the availability of seats in the respective hostels and com-pliance with the rules and regulations governing hostel residence.

6. Vacancies indicated are tentative and may increase or decrease as per actual status in hos-tel(s) at the time of final selection.

9. General Instructions:

1. Submission of mere application shall not confer any right for admission in any hostel.

2. Admission shall be strictly regulated in accordance with the prescribed selection proce-dure notified Vide Government Order No. 24-JK(TAD) of 2026 dated 03.06.2026.

3. Applicants and their parents/guardians shall ensure that all information furnished in the application form is correct and supported by valid documents.

4. The schedule, venue and other instructions relating to the screening test/examination shall be communicated separately.

5. The decision of the competent authority regarding the conduct of the admission process shall be governed by the provisions of the notified Admission Policy and shall be final.

Sd/-
(Mohd Mamta Ali) JKAS
Director
Tribal Affairs, J&K

No:DTA/ESTB/9/2026/6596-6642

DIKP-6936/26

Dated: 21.10.2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Tazakiya Hilal, D/o Hilal Ahmad Najar, R/o Rawathpora, Tehsil Tangmarg, District Baramulla, UT of Jammu & Kashmir, hereby notify the general public that my name has been wrongly recorded in my Aadhaar Card as "Tazka Jaaan" instead of my correct name "Tazakiya Hilal," as per my school records. Both names refer to one and the same person. I intend to correct my name in the Aadhaar records accordingly.

Objections, if any, may be submitted to the concerned Aadhaar Centre within seven (07) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which no objection shall be entertained.

zk

Office Of The Naib Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject Application of Abdul Majeed Teli S/o Gh Rasool Teli R/o Kreeri for issuance of OBC (Other Backward Classes) in favor of Sabreena Majeed & Mahmooda Bano

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the Subject cited above the applicant has submit-ted the file in the office of the undersigned for the issuance of OBC In this connection a report of patwai halqa concerned has been sought which reveals that the applicant In currently resid-ing In village Kreeri and belongs to the Teli Community having annual Income of Rs 218000 (One Lack Twenty Thousand Ru-pees) The details of the family of the applicant are as follows:

S No	Name of the family Member	Relation with the Fam-ily Head	Age	Occupation	Annual Income
01	Ab Majeed Teli	Father	55	Labour	218000
2	Muneera Begum	Mother	50	H/W	
03	Ab Ahad Teli	Brother	25	Labour	
4	Mahmooda Bano	Applicant	23	Student	
5	Sabreena Majeed	Applicant	18	--	
6	Hilal Ahmad Teli	Brother	13	-	
7	Tahira Majeed	Sister	13	-	

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

Naib Tehsildar

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my adhaar card bearing no 2877 9879 9994 as Najmun Sahur while my correct name as per domicile certificate is NAJMU SAHAR. Now I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regared he/she may file them in the concerned office within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Najmu Sahar

D/O Farooq Ahmad Ganie

R/o Palpora Budgam

bmj

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Hilal Ahmad Najar, S/o Abdul Wahab Najar, R/o Rawatpora, Tehsil Tangmarg, District Baramulla, UT of Jammu & Kashmir, hereby notify the general public that my ward's name has been wrongly recorded in his Aadhaar Card as "Al Faisal Najar" instead of his correct name "Faisal Hilal Najar," as per his school records. Both names refer to one and the same person. I intend to correct his name in the Aadhaar records accordingly.

Objections, if any, may be submitted to the concerned Aadhaar Centre within seven (07) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which no objection shall be entertained.

zk

BEFORE THE HON'BLE COURT OF PRINCIPAL DISTRICT JUDGE BARAMULLA

IN THE CASE OF:

Nazir Ahmad Malik S/o Ghulam Mohammad Malik R/o Palhallan Tehsil Pattan and District Baramulla

CAVEATOR

VERSUS

Public at Large

NON-CAVEATORS

May it please your Honour;

The Caveator most humbly submits as under;

1. That the Caveator is the bona-fide residents of UT of Jammu and Kashmir therefore has every right to invoke the jurisdiction of this Hon'ble court.

2. That the Caveator reasonably apprehend that the Non-Caveators may file. suit, Appeal agsint the order passed by Directorate of Urban Local Bodies Kashmir dated 13-10-2026, demarcation report dated 01-10-2026 Passed by Tehsildar Pattan or other legal proceedings before this Hon'ble Court against the Caveator and try to get some interim ex-parte order in their favor by misleading this Hon'ble Court regarding the factual matrix of the case.

3. That in the eventuality of any kind of legal proceedings to be filed by the non caveator thereby filing the suit or may file other legal proceedings.caveator shall be given the prior reasonable opportunity of being heard before passing any other exparte order against them.

In the premises, it are as such prayed that Hon'ble Court shall be pleased to afford prior opportunity of being heard to the caveators in the eventuality of any kind of legal proceedings filed by the Non-Caveators no exparte order or interim order may be passed against the caveators without providing him prior reasonable opportunity of being heard.

qns

Caveator through Counsel

NOTICE

I, Mubahsir Hussain, father of Hasnain Abass, hereby declare that I wish to change the name of my son from Hasnain Abass to Shaheen Hasnain Abass.

Henceforth, my son shall be known as Shaheen Hasnain Abass, son of Mubahsir Hussain, for all official, educational, and other purposes.

I request all concerned authori-ties to kindly take note of this change of name and update their records accordingly.

Mubahsir Hussain
Shaheen Hasnain Abass

NOTICE

I, Nazima Zulfikar, daughter of Syed Mohammad Shah and wife of Zulfikar Ali Joo, resident of Nabdipora, Zadalbal, Srinagar, hereby notify the general public that my date of birth has been incorrectly recorded as 01/01/1974 in my Aadhaar Card bearing No. 771629173639, whereas my correct date of birth is 08/10/1967.

Any person having any objec-tion to the proposed correction may approach the concerned authorities within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice. No objections shall be entertained after the expiry of the said period.

Nazima Zulfikar
Wife of Zulfikar Ali Joo
R/o Nabdipora, Zadalbal, Srinagar

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that in Adhar card bearing No 7564 8495 0899 the name is entered as PARJEET KOUR while my actual name is PARAMJEET KOUR. Now I want its correction, in this regard if anybody having any objection may contact Concern department with in a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that.

PARAMJEET KOUR W/O OMKAR SINGH

R/o GOLAR GORIPORA BEERWAH BUDGAM

mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as SHNAWAZ AHMAD KHAN While as my actual name is SHAHNAWAZ AHMAD PATHAN C/O RAFAKET AHMAD KHAN R/O TRINGNIAN MINDIYAN KERAN KUPWARA District KUPWARA 193224 Now I want to apply for the correction of the same if anybody is having any objection he/she may contact concerned authority within the period of seven days after that no objection will be entertained.

SHAHNAWAZ AHMAD PATHAN

C/O :- RAFAKET AHMAD KHAN

R/O :- TRINGNIAN MINDIYAN KERAN, KUPWARA

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost the front number plate of my vehicle bearing regd no: JK05 D 7397 from Check-i-Kawoosa To Narbal Crossing. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in tghe concerned ARTO within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Mohammad Ibrahim Alaie

S/o Ghulam Hussain

R/o Mirgund

2nd owner Mehraj -Ud-Din Bhat

R/o Gund-i-Khalil Narbal

Cell No: 9797127268

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to change my name in JK Bank Passbook from Aqib Ahmad Waza S/o Mushtaq Ahmad Waza to Aaqib Mushtaq Waza S/o Mushtaq Ahmad Waza. 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 JK Bank Branch magam within 3 days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Aaqib Mushtaq Waza

S/o Mushtaq Ahmad Waza.

R/o Palhallan Pattan

fko-r

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as NASEEMA BEGUM While as my actual name is NESIBA BEGUM C/O SHERAZ KHAN R/O BUNGUM HAYIHAMA KUPWARA District KUPWARA 193222 Now I want to apply for the correction of the same if anybody is having any objection he/she may contact concerned authority within the period of seven days after that no objection will be entertained.

NESIBA BEGUM

C/O :- SHERAZ KHAN

R/O :- BUNGUM HAYIHAMA, KUPWARA

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as TOFEEQ AHMAD KHAN While as my actual name is TUFEEQ AHMAD PATHAN C/O RAFAKET AHMAD KHAN R/O TRINGNIAN MINDIYAN KERAN KUPWARA District KUPWARA 193224 Now I want to apply for the correction of the same if anybody is having any objection he/she may contact concerned authority within the period of seven days after that no objection will be entertained.

TUFEEQ AHMAD PATHAN

C/O :- RAFAKET AHMAD KHAN

R/O :- TRINGNIAN MINDIYAN KERAN, KUPWARA

fko

اطلاع عام

برخاص وعام کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کی جاتا ہے کہ مجھے اپنے بھائی ایگر بسنٹ زیر کٹر پور نمبر 0206010010174 کے والد کے نام پر یعنی غلام محمد شمس کے نام پر ہے اب اسکو میرے نام یعنی گلزار احمد شمس کے نام پر کروانا مطلوب ہے۔ اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر ایک تحریر یا تجویز کی ڈی ڈی بذ گام کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

گلزار احمد شمس ولد غلام محمد شمس

ساکن کھنہ پورہ خاٹ صاحب بذ گام

MBC۔

اطلاع عام

برخاص وعام کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کی جاتا ہے کہ دوران سفر میرے دستاویز جس میں پاپیورٹ نمبر V1198347، دوہری جماعت پاس پاس کارڈز نمبر 332، باروہی جماعت پاس پاس کارڈز نمبر 271، کہیں گم ہو گئے ہیں۔ اگر کسی نے انھیں نہیں ہوں تو برائے مہربانی نیچے دے ہوئے پتہ یا نمبر پر رابطہ کریں۔ بصورت دیگر ان کی ڈپلیکیٹ نکالنے مطلوب ہے۔ اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر مختلف محکمہ میں پیش کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

لطیف احمد صوفی ولد ثناء اللہ صوفی

ساکن بٹہ پورہ بذ گام۔

فون۔ 6005349863۔ MBC۔

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Caveator through Counsel

Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist trade Act 1978/82/2011/12, before my case is processed for registration by the competent Authority, the matter is hereby notified for information of general public/ financial institutions/ Bank/ organisation,etc for objection, if any and the same should reach to the Deputy Director Tourism Registration/ email id:- ddtreg123@gmail.com/ within a period of 7 days from the publication of this notice in leading local newspaper/newspapers of the valley. No objections beyond a period of 7 days shall be entertained.

Note: Ladies are requested not to bring any items.
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KO VIEW

Dal Lake Beyond
Court Orders

The Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court's October 15 order prohibiting fuel-powered motorboats on Dal Lake is a welcome step. Its success, however, will depend on whether the government tackles the wider failures behind the lake's deterioration. Restrictions on motorboats can reduce one source of pollution, but sewage discharge, encroachment and unplanned construction demand sustained public action. Scientific research documents the scale of the damage. A study published in Aquatic Ecosystem Health and Management found that Dal Lake's area declined from 31 square kilometres in 1859 to 24 square kilometres in 2013. Orthophosphate concentrations rose from 16.75 micrograms per litre in 1977 to 45.78 micrograms per litre in 2014. Nitrate-nitrogen concentrations also climbed, from 365 to 557 micrograms per litre during the same period. These figures point to growing nutrient pollution and worsening water quality. Research published in Applied Water Science, examining satellite imagery and water-quality data between 1980 and 2018, linked the lake's deterioration to changes in land use, including expanding built-up areas, declining forest cover and increased sediment and nutrient flows. The findings point to a wider failure of land management. Pollution entering the lake points out decisions made throughout its surrounding catchment, making conservation impossible without control over construction, waste disposal and encroachment. Sewage remains a particularly serious concern. A report by the Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee to the National Green Tribunal identified untreated sewage from settlements and houseboats as a major threat. It called for better use of existing treatment capacity, connections for houseboats and upgrades to treatment plants. These recommendations expose the limits of infrastructure spending when untreated waste continues to enter the lake. The record of public investment raises further questions. In 2005, the Centre sanctioned a Dal-Nagin conservation plan estimated at 298.76 crore, including six sewage treatment plants with a combined capacity of 36.7 million litres a day. Only three plants had been commissioned by December 2009. Persistent concerns about sewage and waste management demand a public accounting of what happened to the investment, how much treatment capacity operates today and why pollution controls remain inadequate. The government should publish a time-bound restoration plan with named departmental responsibilities, independently verified water-quality targets and regular public progress reports. Satellite monitoring should identify new encroachments, while penalties should apply consistently to violators. Authorities should also consult boat operators and help them shift to electric engines through transparent licensing and practical transition arrangements. Dal Lake supports livelihoods, tourism and Kashmir's natural heritage. Its protection calls for more than judicial intervention. The government must prove that public money, environmental rules and conservation plans can produce measurable improvements in water quality and protect the lake's boundaries. Without that accountability, court orders will keep addressing individual symptoms while the damage continues.



Irshad Mushtaq

Many Kashmiri families keep three generations under one roof. A grandfather receives a cancer diagnosis. His son steps away from work to take him for treatment while grandchildren watch the changes at home. A young parent receives the same diagnosis. Elderly parents wonder who will care for the children. One case touches the whole family on emotional levels, financial levels, and practical levels right away. Working-class families deepen the narrative with their own struggles and hopes. Drivers, shopkeepers, and labourers lose a full day's pay for every hospital visit. Travel from Kupwara, Baramulla, Anantnag, or Poonch to Srinagar or Jammu starts early, fills the entire day, and ends late with everyone tired. Cancer treatment brings hospital bills plus all the income lost when someone must attend the patient. Consider a taxi driver whose wife battles breast cancer. He often spends ten to fifteen days each month on hospital trips and tests. Relatives help a little. His earnings drop sharply while expenses climb. Cancer arrives as a shock that silently rearranges a child's education. Parents shift them to cheaper schools, or stop tuition altogether. Older children, especially girls, begin caring for younger siblings or the patient, trading classrooms for kitchens and hospital corridors. Homework fades, attendance breaks, and exam forms remain unfilled as money is diverted to medicine. The strain is immediate, measured in unpaid fees and missed lessons, but its shadow stretches forward. A child pulled away from school today often grows into an adult with narrower choices and lower earnings tomorrow. Pressure changes how families talk to each other. Patients hide their pain to spare others worry, others hide money problems to spare the patient guilt. Arguments start over small matters such as who went to the hospital or who paid what. Big talks about recovery chances and decisions happen less often. Open talk lets families plan treatment limits, borrowing limits, and ways to protect children and elders. In one home, a son and father borrow money separately for the same



With tumour cases climbing, caregivers in the valley are often ignored by the system, but their strength is what holds the patient's wellbeing together.

treatment without telling each other. After the patient passes, they discover the double loans and feel the heavy load. Many people notice small symptoms and choose to wait. They wonder where the money will come from if tests show cancer. They decide to wait until after the apple harvest, winter, exams, or marriage. Early check-ups catch the disease when treatment stays cheaper and easier. The concern about money leads people to delay. The disease advances and treatment costs more. Early action keeps treatment options open and expenses lower. Kashmiri families often sell land, orchards, and ancestral property to cover treatment costs. These pieces give yearly income, inheritance for children, and trust from elders. Selling a small orchard pays for a few chemo cycles. Families use their future security to meet today's needs. Even when treatment succeeds, the land disappears and the next generation starts with less. Amid all this, crestfallen caregivers become the hidden patients in Kashmiri homes. The mother who cares for her sick husband lifts, washes, changes dressings, and holds the emotional load. She skips her own checks for sugar or blood pressure. The daughter who cares for a parent stops meeting friends and loses sleep. People rarely view her as a patient. With tumour cases climbing, caregivers in the valley are often ignored by the system, but their strength is what

touches every part of life: health, money, relationships, children's futures, and connection to land. Early awareness and check-ups catch the disease when treatment is cheaper and easier. Honest family planning sets limits on spending, borrowing, and protecting loved ones. Strong social support from friends, relatives, and neighbours arrives consistently. They contribute money, time, presence, and respect, directing every rupee to real needs: treatment, nutrition, transport, and mental health, while avoiding quick-money traps. This is exactly where community funds make the difference. Imagine every mohalla and village in Kashmir creating its own cancer support fund. People contribute what they can each month. The fund pays for travel to Srinagar or Jammu, covers a few chemo cycles, helps with medicines, and even supports caregivers with basic health checks. Families no longer sell their orchards or borrow in secret. Children stay in school. Caregivers receive attention before they break down. Early check-ups become possible because the money question loses its sting. When someone passes, the fund helps clear part of the debt and keeps the family standing. People stand with each other through these community funds. — The author is a Srinagar-based financial educator, and can be reached at drn757@gmail.com.



Hidayat Bukhari

India's food economy is expanding fast, creating opportunities at home and abroad. At the same time, enforcement data points to the need to upgrade safety systems and sharpen alignment so the framework keeps pace with modern supply chains and builds confidence in Indian food. Recent enforcement drives across states, especially during peak seasons, have found a notable share of samples in categories such as milk products, sweets, edible oils and spices showing quality issues. These findings go beyond simple label issues to reveal hygiene problems, contamination, and adulteration. Officials seize substantial amounts of spoiled meat along with large quantities of sweets, khoya, paneer, and adulterated oils. Such actions demonstrate that the problems affect mass markets. The sector operates with more than a million registered food business operators plus a sizable informal part. Inspection levels, lab resources, and processing times differ greatly among states. Many districts experience backlogs in testing and limited field checks. Detection often happens after products reach distribution channels. The approach stays mostly reactive. Scientists understand the risks well. Meat and dairy items held without proper temperature or hygiene allow common pathogens such as Salmonella, E. coli, Listeria, and Staphylo-

coccus to grow quickly and create toxins. These lead to sudden sickness and serious issues for vulnerable groups. High-moisture foods like dairy sweets see faster microbial growth when refrigeration drops. Proteins in decomposing foods produce biogenic amines that set off toxic responses. Some spoilage toxins resist heat and remain even after reheating. Chemical changes bring another set of concerns. Studies in various states document cases where producers add non-food substances to milk and dairy substitutes to mimic fat or protein content. Oils receive blending or oxidation that raises risks to heart health. Extended contact with contaminants including aflatoxins from mold, conditions that form nitrosamines, pesticide traces, and heavy metals adds to longer-term health challenges. The pattern points to cumulative effects in a system where safety levels vary. Public health data places this situation squarely in the policy arena. India deals with substantial levels of food-related illnesses and non-communicable diseases. Small amounts of avoidable contact, when multiplied by 1.4 billion people, add up to major expenses in medical care, missed work, and lower life quality. Importing nations apply careful standards. Perceived problems in supply chains, whether from poultry disease outbreaks or issues in processed foods, lead to quicker restrictions on market entry. These steps serve as standard tools for health protection in international commerce.



India builds its growth narrative around both volume and excellence. Alignment of the food system with those goals supports public health, export strength, and fair opportunity for all.

An economy that aims to grow agricultural exports finds that solid domestic food safety practices support competitiveness as much as they protect buyers at home. The Food Safety and Standards Act of 2006 delivered a strong consolidation effort. It established one regulator and brought standards together. Two decades later, the market looks different with longer supply chains, e-commerce and quick commerce that shorten distribution periods, cold chains that remain uneven, and an informal segment that works with limited checks. State governments lead enforcement, which produces differences in inspection strength, lab resources, and timelines for legal action. Penalties lean toward fines, and court processes move slowly.

The result creates a balance where benefits from shortcuts exceed likely costs of detection. A second-generation food safety law and enforcement setup needs to operate on prevention as the main approach. Producers and large distributors gain from requirements to perform hazard analysis and keep clear control plans throughout the chain. This change moves efforts from final product tests toward risk management right at the beginning. High-risk categories benefit from full digital traceability systems that work from end to end. Batch information stays connected between states and e-commerce sites so officials can pinpoint and pull back affected batches fast instead of depending on wide searches after the fact. Inspection and laboratory resources require expansion and standardization through a central support program. District labs, mobile testing teams, and quick screening tools cut processing times and broaden coverage. Officials publish figures on inspection levels and test turnaround times to build accountability. Enforcement gains strength when officials set firm timelines and apply measures that fit the violation. Fast-track processes handle food safety cases with defined service standards. Criminal responsibility applies where violations pose clear dangers to life, and penalties increase according to the level and extent of harm. The informal sector enters the system through easier licensing processes, stepped

hygiene requirements, and focused training programs. Safer methods become the simpler choice for everyone involved. A clear public reporting system covers businesses with repeated or serious violations while respecting proper procedures. Consumers and buyers downstream receive the information they need to choose wisely. A national platform lets citizens report concerns with safeguards for those who speak up and turns public observations into useful data for officials. Recall procedures and international alert systems line up more closely with established global practices. Domestic responses match the pace and precision of partners like the European Union rapid alert systems and the United States preventive controls approach. These steps appear in successful models elsewhere. They lift the chance of catching problems, cut the time to action, and increase the price of violations. Behaviour shifts when the cost of breaking rules surpasses the advantage gained. The goal centers on a fair environment where businesses that follow rules avoid competition from those who cut corners. Consumers gain confidence in their purchases. Trust functions as a valuable economic resource in the food sector. India builds its growth narrative around both volume and excellence. Alignment of the food system with those goals supports public health, export strength, and fair opportunity for all. Predictable preventive rules deliver better results than the unseen expenses of a system that waits for problems to appear. A second-generation food safety law built on prevention, traceability, expanded resources, and prompt enforcement secures the strength of India's food economy through the coming decades.

The author is the CEO and Founder of GenTechPro IT Solutions. He can be reached at hidfan@gmail.com.

Give Young People Room to Fail

Young people in Kashmir need ambition and perseverance, but they also need families, schools and institutions that help them face failure without losing faith in themselves.



Mohammad Ilyas Bhat

A public water tap stood outside our home during my childhood in Kashmir. Such taps were common in those days, before piped water connections became widespread in individual households towards the late 1960s.

Ours was a simple arrangement, a half-inch iron pipe fitted with a brass or copper mouthpiece. When someone pressed it, water flowed. Once the tap closed, a few drops continued falling onto a stone beneath it.

Over the years, those drops bored a deep hole into the hard stone. As children, we wondered how something so soft could penetrate something so resistant. We had no scientific explanation, but the stone was teaching us a lesson that has remained with me for decades.

A single drop could achieve little on its own. Thousands of drops, falling persistently over time, could accomplish what appeared impossible.

I often return to that image when thinking about ambition and the expectations we place on young people. We tell them to dream big, work hard and pursue success. We speak less about the time achievement takes, the disappointments that accompany it and the emotional strength needed to continue when progress remains invisible.

In a society where young people face intense competition and uncertain prospects, that omission comes at a cost.

Dreams give direction to human endeavour. Scientific discoveries, technological advances and social reforms began as ideas that someone dared to pursue. Ambition allows people to imagine a life beyond their present circumstances and work towards possibilities they have yet to experience.

But ambition alone cannot complete the journey.

A large dream demands patience, discipline and a willingness to

learn from mistakes. The distance between imagining an achievement and realising it is filled with ordinary work that rarely attracts attention. It includes long hours of preparation, rejected applications, failed examinations, financial setbacks and repeated attempts that produce little immediate reward.

Our age has made this distance harder for many young people to accept.

Social media presents success through its most visible features, including wealth, recognition and professional achievement. The years of preparation, uncertainty and sacrifice behind those outcomes receive far less attention. A young person comparing their own unfinished life with someone else's apparent success may begin to feel that they have fallen behind.

This expectation of rapid progress can turn a temporary setback into a personal crisis. An unsuccessful examination, a rejected job application or a business venture that fails to take off can seem like a final judgement on one's abilities. The disappointment becomes heavier when family expectations and social comparisons beef the belief that success must come early.

A seed offers a different lesson. Before a plant appears above the ground, its roots develop beneath the soil. Much of its growth remains unseen. Human effort often follows the same course.

The work someone puts into learning a skill or preparing for an opportunity may produce no immediate result, but the experience can still prepare them for what comes next.

This is particularly relevant in Kashmir, where unemployment, academic competition, economic uncertainty and family pressures weigh on young people. Their aspirations often exceed the opportunities available to them, leaving many struggling to reconcile what they hope to achieve with what their circumstances permit.

The reported figures on suicide and attempted suicide in Jammu and Kashmir make the emotional consequences impossible to dismiss.

Police figures cited for 2021 recorded 586 suicide attempts in Kashmir, many involving young people. Figures attributed to the National Crime Records Bureau for 2023 recorded 365 suicide deaths in Jammu and Kashmir. A separate reported estimate for 2024 placed the



Our young people need ambitious goals, but they also need a society that understands the human cost of demanding success without teaching them how to face setbacks. We should celebrate achievement without belittling those who have yet to reach their goals. We should encourage persistence while recognising when someone needs care, guidance or a fresh start.

suicide mortality rate at around 1.7 deaths per 100,000 people.

These figures come from different reporting systems and periods, so they cannot be treated as directly comparable measures of a single trend. They nevertheless point towards a serious public health concern.

Mental health professionals in the valley have also expressed alarm about suicidal behaviour and psychological distress.

Suicide has many possible causes, including mental illness, emotional suffering, isolation and financial hardship. It would be both inaccurate and cruel to explain such tragedies simply as failures of perseverance.

Someone experiencing a suicidal crisis needs timely professional care, understanding and support. Advice about working harder cannot substitute for mental health treatment.

The wider question concerns the environment we create around our children. We encourage them to secure high marks, enter prestigious professions and find well-paid

employment. Parents make sacrifices to finance education, while students spend years preparing for competitive examinations. But we devote far less attention to helping young people cope with rejection, uncertainty and disappointment.

A child praised only for achievement may grow up believing that personal worth depends on performance. An examination result then becomes something larger than a measure of academic preparation. It can begin to define how that child sees their intelligence, their prospects and their place within the family.

Parents and teachers can help prevent this by separating achievement from personal worth. An examination measures performance under particular conditions. It cannot determine the full range of someone's abilities or predict the course of an entire life.

Children need encouragement to aim high, but they also need the freedom to make mistakes, change direction and seek help without fearing that they have disappointed everyone around them.

Schools in Kashmir should treat

emotional well-being as part of education rather than an issue to address only after a crisis. Students need access to counselling, trusted adults and practical guidance on dealing with academic pressure. Families need to understand the signs of serious distress and seek professional help when necessary. Communities, too, should stop treating mental health difficulties as a source of shame.

Perseverance itself needs a more thoughtful definition. It does not mean repeating the same action regardless of the result. A failed attempt may call for greater preparation, a different method or a new direction. Sometimes the wisest response is to rest and ask for help. Continuing to learn is more valuable than stubbornly pursuing a plan that no longer fits one's circumstances.

Nor will all dreams unfold as imagined. People begin with different resources, responsibilities and opportunities. Some encounter obstacles that effort alone cannot remove. We should recognise those realities rather than suggest that

anyone who works hard enough will inevitably achieve whatever they want. Such promises can turn structural disadvantages into personal blame.

Still, the value of sustained effort extends beyond a single outcome. The knowledge gained while preparing for an examination, the skills developed during an unsuccessful business venture and the experience accumulated after professional rejection can prepare someone for another opportunity. A change of direction need not erase the worth of the work already done.

That old tap taught me to pay attention to progress that is too small to attract notice. A few drops seemed insignificant as they fell onto the stone. Their effect became visible only with time. Human development also depends on repeated acts of effort, from an hour spent studying to a mistake corrected or a new skill practised after a disappointing result.

Our young people need ambitious goals, but they also need a society that understands the human cost of demanding success without teaching them how to face setbacks. We should celebrate achievement without belittling those who have yet to reach their goals. We should encourage persistence while recognising when someone needs care, guidance or a fresh start.

The stone beneath our old tap never knew how much time the water needed to alter it. Its surface changed through countless small encounters, none of which appeared significant on its own.

Perhaps that is the lesson worth passing to the next generation. A life cannot be judged by one examination, one rejection or one season of disappointment. The future remains open to learning, adjustment and new attempts, even when the original dream changes.

Dream big, then give yourself the time to grow towards that dream. Work hard, but allow room for mistakes and help from others. Success may take a different form from the one you first imagined. Your life, however, is larger than any single result, and its worth never rests on how quickly you reach a destination.

— The author works in agricultural seed production and is currently writing his first short story collection in Kashmir. He can be reached at mbhatilias@gmail.com.

Does Tuesday Bring More Cold?

Repeated cold mornings in Virginia recall a Kashmiri belief about Fridays and raise questions about the difference between meteorological patterns and human perception.



Dr. Akhtar Purvez

Every Tuesday this Virginia winter arrived with the same sharp greeting. The coldest morning of the week came like clockwork, again and again.

At first, I called it coincidence. Weather behaves erratically, and the human mind loves to impose order on chaos. The repetition persisted.

A cold front would sweep through over the weekend or early Monday. Winds would slow, skies would clear, and by Tuesday morning, the cold would bite harder and hold longer.

Breath would cloud in thicker plumes, and frost etched deeper patterns on the windshield.

The trend stayed subtle. Once noticed, it seized the eye.

Here is where the mind rushes toward the wrong conclusion. We want to believe Tuesday itself has grown colder, that modern weather now

obeys the calendar.

But this winter reveals something far more interesting. We experience weather only where it meets our lives.

I learned this decades ago in Kashmir, where I grew up.

Older generations there often spoke about Fridays as the coldest or hottest days of the week. People treated this as common knowledge. Like every other Kashmiri, I accepted it as settled truth.

Years later, I asked why.

The answer pointed toward human attention.

Many Kashmiris worked in cottage industries. Shawl weaving, carpet making, and intricate textile work demanded long hours of stillness and repetition. Artisans spent entire weeks bent over looms in dim rooms, fingers moving through wool and silk, the outside world reduced to a rectangle of sky through a window. Friday offered the only rest. The loom fell silent, and the kitchen filled with the smell of fresh bread. People stepped outside, gathered at mosques, strolled through markets, and stopped on doorsteps.

Friday became the day they felt the weather.

The cold arrived every day. It howled past the loom sheds on Wednesday. It settled into the valley on Thursday. Friday simply provided the space to notice, discuss, and

remember.

Over cups of noon chai, men compared the sting of the air. Women pulling shawls tighter remarked on the bite of the wind. Shopkeepers lifted their eyes to judge the clouds. Children home from school felt the sun's rare warmth on their faces. The sensation entered interaction, then memory, and then lore.

What people called a weather pattern was actually a pattern in life.

Standing in Virginia all these years later, I began to wonder whether Tuesday had assumed a similar role, though for entirely different reasons.

Modern weather along the East Coast moves in multi-day cycles. A system drifts through, a front passes, pressure builds, and skies clear. The bitterest temperatures often follow the storm itself, during the silent aftermath, when winds grow calm and radiational cooling peaks. The earth releases its stored heat into a cloudless night, and the thermometer drops to its lowest point just before dawn.

When those systems pass early in the week, the coldest morning lands a day or two later.

Tuesday. Meteorologists understand these cycles well. Some research explores whether human activity, traffic, pollution, and urban heat, might generate subtle weekly variations in temperature.

Cities exhale heat during the bustle of Monday. Roads absorb the friction of tires. Buildings radiate the warmth of a thousand furnaces. By Tuesday dawn, that thermal blanket has thinned.

The evidence remains mixed. The timing of weather systems alone produces the appearance of a weekly pattern.

Appearance, repeated often enough, begins to feel like truth.

Tuesday in the United States demands full engagement as the week gathers momentum. Meetings stack up and deadlines begin to loom. Any sense of breathing room disappears and the buffer evaporates.

The cold arrives into full motion.

The commute stays on schedule as the school day begins. Coffee cools fast while the car warms slow. The body meets the cold in motion, without time to adjust. Shock sharpens the chill with each abrupt transition. The mind misses the clear winter dawn, seeing only ice on the pavement.

We notice discomfort most when life demands we move through it. Friday held the weather in Kashmir because it held attention. Tuesday may hold it in Virginia because it holds friction.

Tuesday is inherently colder only in our experience. The atmosphere operates outside human time. It remains indifferent to expectation. A high-pressure system recognizes

only pressure gradients. The jet stream ignores the workweek.

We do.

That alone determines what we remember.

We like to imagine weather as objective, recorded in precise numbers. One sense makes it objective. Our experience of it remains something else entirely.

It passes through the structure of our lives, filtered through alarm clocks and carpoools, through prayer times and paychecks, through the rare moments when we stop long enough to feel the air against our skin.

This winter's Tuesday pattern may amount to coincidence, a temporary alignment of weather systems.

The instinct to assign meaning will remain.

We observe the atmosphere. We also observe ourselves moving through it.

— The author is an interventional pain physician who earned his medical degree from Government Medical College Srinagar. He completed his residency in anesthesiology at Boston University Medical Center, followed by a fellowship in pain management at the University of Virginia.

Tuesday in the United States demands full engagement as the week gathers momentum. Meetings stack up and deadlines begin to loom. Any sense of breathing room disappears and the buffer evaporates.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

J&K Medical

follows sustained protests by interns at Government Medical Colleges across Jammu and Kashmir and SKIMS Medical College, Bemina, who had been demanding a revision of their monthly remuneration in view of their clinical responsibilities, working hours and financial challenges.

The agitation intensified after interns alleged that the timeframe given in an earlier written assurance had expired without the issuance of a formal government order. They had maintained that the strike would continue until the stipend hike was officially notified.

AIMSA had also urged the government to complete the formalities without further delay, maintaining that verbal assurances were insufficient to end the standoff.

Welcoming the decision, the association expressed gratitude to government officials, political representatives and others who supported the interns during their campaign.

Dr Mohammad Momin Khan, president of AIMSA J&K, said the achievement belonged to all medical interns who remained united and continued to raise their voices for the fulfilment of their demand.

J&K intern doctors also acknowledged support from political representatives across party lines, bureaucrats and other individuals, including Aga Ruhullah, Waheed Para, Sajid Yousuf Shah, Nasir Sogami, Altaf Bukhari and Sunil Sharma.

With the interns' demand now formally addressed, AIMSA said it would turn its attention to securing a stipend hike for postgraduate resident doctors pursuing MD, MS, MDS and DNB courses in Jammu and Kashmir.

The association said postgraduate residents were an essential part of the healthcare workforce and contributed significantly to patient care while undergoing specialised medical training. It indicated that their stipend concerns would now be taken up with the authorities.

Won't Rest Until

the courage, dedication and patriotism of police personnel who made the supreme sacrifice, Sinha said their service remained an enduring source of inspiration for Jammu and Kashmir and the nation.

He expressed gratitude to the police martyrs and conveyed his sympathies to their families, assuring them of continued support and welfare measures.

"No honour or assistance can compensate a family for the pain of losing a loved one. Yet, it is the nation's duty to honour their sacrifice not merely in words, but also through its conduct and responsibilities," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor assured the Jammu and Kashmir Police fraternity that every possible effort would be made to ensure a dignified life and necessary support for the families of martyrs.

Highlighting the contribution of the Jammu and Kashmir Police, Sinha said the force had demonstrated courage, discipline and commitment while maintaining law and order, combating terrorism and assisting people during emergencies and natural disasters.

"Thousands of personnel of the Jammu Kashmir Police force have laid down their lives in the fight against terrorism," he said, adding that their courage inspired the entire police system of the country.

He said the police uniform symbolised service, responsibility and sacrifice, adding that the true measure of policing lay in ensuring public safety, delivering justice and standing by society during times of crisis.

Referring to the role of security forces in safeguarding the country's security and integrity, Sinha said the Jammu and Kashmir Police, the Indian Army and the Central Armed Police Forces had served under difficult circumstances.

He stressed that peace, stability and progress in Jammu and Kashmir were vital to India's development, with a major responsibility for ensuring them resting on the police, Army and CAPFs.

The Lieutenant Governor called upon citizens to uphold unity, communal harmony and mutual trust while remaining vigilant against forces seeking to disrupt peace and stability.

He also stressed the need to strengthen measures to protect women, children and vulnerable sections of society, ensure timely justice for victims and make systems for monitoring and preventing crimes more effective.

Emphasising the need to combat drug trafficking and narco-terrorism, Sinha called for a collective commitment to making Jammu and Kashmir drug-free.

He commended the personnel of the Jammu and Kashmir Police, the Indian Army and the Central Armed Police Forces for their courage, dedication and sense of duty, wishing them safety and success in their missions.

"On Police Commemoration Day, I pay heartfelt tribute to the brave police personnel who laid down their lives in service of the nation. I bow to their courage, duty and sacrifice and extend my respect and solidarity to their families," Sinha said in a post on X.

He called for honouring them through a collective commitment to a safer and prosperous J&K.

"The valour of our martyrs inspires us to strengthen peace, unity and security. Let us honour them through our collective commitment to a safer, stronger and

more prosperous Jammu Kashmir," the LG added.

Peace Established

with the rest of the country in terms of development.

Speaking about the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir, the Home Minister said significant progress had been made in curbing terrorism. He also said the Northeast had moved forward on the path of peace following several agreements and the surrender of arms by thousands of people.

Shah also called upon police forces across the country to work towards eliminating the drug menace by December 31, 2029, the deadline set by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for making India drug-free.

Paying tribute to police personnel who laid down their lives in the line of duty, Shah said narcotics threatened future generations, placed an undue burden on the economy and provided financial support to organisations involved in anti-national activities.

He said the remaining months of 2026, along with 2027, 2028 and 2029, would be devoted to a united fight against drugs, describing the campaign as a major national priority.

The Home Minister also highlighted the security forces' role in combating Left-Wing Extremism, crediting the Chhattisgarh Police, Central Armed Police Forces, Central Reserve Police Force and CoBRA for their contribution.

He said more than 3,600 security personnel and approximately 13,700 civilians had been killed in violence associated with Naxalism between 1981 and March 2026.

Shah praised the personnel for their service in difficult circumstances, including election duties, festivals, protests and border security assignments.

Referring to the recently concluded West Bengal Assembly elections, he said security personnel had ensured that the polls were completed without a single fatality, describing it as a significant achievement.

The annual Police Commemoration Day event was organised in memory of 10 police personnel killed in an ambush by heavily armed Chinese troops at Hot Springs in Ladakh on October 21, 1959.

Recalling the incident, Shah said the personnel had remained steadfast in their resolve to protect the country's territory despite the difficult circumstances.

He said the National Police Memorial was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2018 to honour police personnel who had sacrificed their lives across the country.

Addressing the families of police martyrs, Shah said their loss could never be compensated, but the entire nation remained grateful for their sacrifices and contribution to internal security.

Earlier, Intelligence Bureau Director Mahesh Dixit said 154 police personnel had laid down their lives in the line of duty during the previous year, while 36,852 police personnel had made the supreme sacrifice since Independence.

Shah also flagged off a motorcycle rally themed "Fight Against Drugs", involving around 90 police riders from several states and Union Territories, Central Armed Police Forces and other central police organisations.

The riders will travel to Ekta Nagar in Gujarat to participate in the Ekta Parade on October 31, as part of a nationwide initiative against drugs.

DGP Warns Terror

and completely uproot terrorism and every element associated with terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

Issuing a stern warning to those supporting terrorism, the DGP said they would be tracked down and punished under the law.

"Even if you attempt to hide in the deepest corners of the earth, we will find you and ensure that you are punished under the law," he said.

Prabhat also called for unity, mutual trust and communal harmony, urging people to remain vigilant against forces attempting to disturb peace and stability in the region.

"Unity in diversity is the identity of India and social harmony is an important foundation for the progress of Jammu and Kashmir," he said, urging people to extend their support to the J&K Police, the Army and other security forces in maintaining peace.

Stressing the need to strengthen social protection, the DGP called for effective measures to prevent crimes against women and children, safeguard vulnerable sections of society and ensure timely justice for victims.

He said mechanisms to monitor and prevent such offences needed to be strengthened.

Calling for a drug-free Jammu and Kashmir, Prabhat said action against narcotics trafficking and the illegal drug trade must be intensified.

"This is not merely a question of law and order. It is about protecting the future of our youth, the well-being of families and the moral strength of our society," he said.

Paying tribute to police personnel who laid down their lives in the line of duty, the DGP said the best tribute to the martyrs would be to build a safe, peaceful, harmonious and prosperous Jammu and Kashmir.

He also stressed the need to ensure the welfare of martyrs' families and

provide them continued support.

Prabhat commended the Jammu and Kashmir Police, the Army and the Central Armed Police Forces for their courage, dedication and commitment to duty, while wishing them safety and success in their operations. (ONS)

2 Dead, 15 Injured

The Lieutenant Governor said he had directed the administration to provide all possible assistance to the affected families and ensure the best possible treatment for those injured in the accident.

Abdullah also conveyed condolences to the bereaved families and directed the authorities to ensure the best possible medical care and assistance to the injured. The Chief Minister's Office is in constant touch with the concerned authorities and is monitoring the situation.

Earlier, Singh spoke to Udhampur Deputy Commissioner Ananth Dwivedi after receiving information about the accident.

"Unfortunately, two casualties have been reported (in the accident). Meanwhile, I have taken up the issue of construction of Ramnagar to Basantgarh road with the BRO authorities at Delhi," Singh said in a post on X.

Senior BJP leader and MLA Sunil Bhardwaj visited Ramnagar hospital to enquire about the condition of the injured passengers.

Bhardwaj expressed concern over the condition of the road where the accident occurred and stressed the need for its upgradation to ensure safer travel for commuters.

He also highlighted the need to strengthen healthcare facilities in the constituency to ensure timely medical assistance and better treatment, particularly during emergencies.

Kashmir's Private

and prevent administrative work from disrupting academic schedules.

The second demand concerns teacher development. The association wants private school teachers to access the training opportunities available to their government-school counterparts.

It called for training on the PARAKH dashboard and zone-specific programmes delivered through District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs), Resource Centres (RCs) and Cluster Resource Centres (CRCs).

The association said systematic training could help teachers improve foundational literacy and numeracy, priorities under the National Education Policy 2020. It argued that closer coordination between government and private schools would help improve educational outcomes across Jammu and Kashmir.

Together, the demands highlight the association's concern that administrative duplication and limited access to professional development can hinder schools' efforts to improve teaching.

Wani acknowledged the concerns and said the Directorate would consider steps to eliminate outdated, unproductive and cumbersome administrative practices, according to the association's press release.

He urged school leaders to remain committed to students and parents, stressing that government and private institutions share responsibility for providing quality education.

The meeting, however, produced no specific timeline for changes to paperwork requirements or the proposed training programmes.

The delegation included PSAJK state president Dr. Baba Nazrul Islam, south Kashmir vice president Dr. Zulfikar Ahmad, district general secretary Suhail Ahmad and representatives from Anantnag, Dooru and Shangus.

The association welcomed the Directorate's willingness to engage with private schools and recognise their contribution to educational opportunities and academic outcomes across the Union Territory. It also commended the Education Department and the Jammu and Kashmir government for their efforts to advance education.

Wani assured the delegation of continued cooperation in addressing its concerns, the association said.

The next step rests on implementation: whether the Directorate uses existing digital records to cut duplicate submissions and opens established training networks to private school teachers.

For Kashmir's private schools, the demand is clear and concise. They want less time spent on paperwork and more support for the work that happens in classrooms.

JKBOSE Scraps

the notification states. The board said candidates seeking re-evaluation of their answer scripts can now apply irrespective of the marks secured in the concerned subjects, provided they follow the prescribed procedure and adhere to the stipulated timeline and fee requirements.

The revised provision removes the minimum marks threshold that had previously restricted access to the re-evaluation process for candidates scoring below 20 per cent in a subject.

However, JKBOSE has clarified that all other terms and conditions governing re-evaluation, as notified from time to time, will continue to remain in force.

The notification will have prospective effect, the board said.

Mobile Phones

examinations.

The JKBOSE Secretary, through a circular, directed all centre superintendents to ensure that supervisory staff deposit their mobile phones with them before the examinations begin.

"They will deposit the cell phones with the centre superintendents, who will be personally responsible for implementation of the circular instruction," the circular reads.

However, centre superintendents have been exempted from the restriction and may retain their mobile phones for effective communication and to remain in contact with the JKBOSE divisional or sub-branch offices, besides their departmental hierarchy.

The board has also directed that no candidate be allowed to leave an examination centre with the question paper until at least half of the examination duration has elapsed.

The directions come as JKBOSE conducts the ongoing annual regular examinations across Kashmir and the winter-zone areas of Jammu division.

On Tuesday, the board constituted a three-member committee to investigate the reported outage of the Class 10 Mathematics question paper shortly after the examination began at a centre in Mahore.

The annual regular examination for Class 12 began on Wednesday and will conclude on November 21, while the Class 11 examinations are scheduled to commence on October 29 and continue until November 30.

Earlier, nearly 97,000 students appeared for the Class 10 examinations on October 19 across 1,003 centres in Kashmir and select winter-zone districts of Jammu division.

According to officials, 97,500 students have been enrolled for the Class 10 examinations, including 72,232 from Kashmir and 25,268 from the winter-zone areas of Jammu division.

The board has also said that around 2.7 lakh students have registered for the Class 10, 11 and 12 examinations across Jammu and Kashmir.

CM Directs Adherence

appropriate channels. He stressed that people should not be left uncertain about the reasons for power interruptions or their likely duration.

He further directed that field staff should not impose additional or unscheduled power cuts at their own discretion. Any changes to approved schedules, he said, must be authorised at the appropriate level, with prescribed arrangements for informing consumers followed strictly.

Emphasising the need for close inter-departmental coordination, Omar called for a well-coordinated mechanism for snow clearance, particularly on roads maintained by different departments and agencies.

He directed that nodal officers be designated to coordinate snow clearance operations among the various road-maintaining agencies to ensure synchronised work and prevent roads from being left unattended due to a lack of coordination.

The Chief Minister stressed the importance of advance planning, timely deployment of men and machinery, and effective monitoring of snow clearance operations, particularly in areas vulnerable to heavy snowfall and prolonged disruption of road connectivity.

The meeting also reviewed arrangements for stocking ration, LPG and other essential commodities in snowbound areas, besides preparedness to maintain electricity and drinking water supplies during winter.

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Anshul Garg and Divisional Commissioner Jammu Vikas Kundal made detailed presentations on the winter preparedness plans drawn up for their respective divisions.

Particular emphasis was laid on ensuring adequate medical facilities and emergency response mechanisms in areas that frequently remain cut off during winter. The arrangements include the availability of 4x4 ambulances, helicopter services wherever required and tracking of maternity cases that may require emergency medical assistance during prolonged snowfall.

Omar stressed the importance of identifying vulnerable populations in advance and putting appropriate arrangements in place to ensure that no patient is left without access to emergency medical care because of adverse weather conditions.

Gurez, Machhil and Karnah, besides parts of Poonch, Rajouri, Udhampur and Kathua, were among the areas for which specific preparedness measures were reviewed in view of their vulnerability to heavy snowfall and disruption of connectivity.

The Chief Minister emphasised that essential commodities, healthcare services, electricity and drinking water must be available through advance planning, particularly in remote and snow-bound areas where the movement of people and supplies can become difficult during winter.

He called upon all departments to maintain close coordination with district administrations and ensure that contingency arrangements are in place to respond promptly to weather-related emergencies. He also stressed effective communication between field formations and district authorities to ensure

that emerging challenges are addressed without delay.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, Ministers Javed Rana and Satish Sharma, Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary, Power Development Department, Ashwini Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, administrative secretaries of various departments, Deputy Commissioners, Director Information J&K, senior police officers, managing directors of the Jammu and Kashmir DISCOMs, heads of departments and other concerned officers.

Officers stationed outside Srinagar attended the meeting through video conferencing.

India Protests

of the political discourse and difference of opinion.

"We have protests every day in the United States. People view protests – obviously I'm not talking about the riots, like what you're seeing in Europe, where they're vandalising and breaking into things and burning down buildings. I'm not talking about that," Rubio said.

"But in many ways, the fact that people are out there expressing themselves – I'm not talking about India; in any country in the world – is the sign that this is a country where there's political discourse and so forth and differences of opinion," he said.

"We're not going to comment on internal political matters. That's for the Indian people to decide and navigate," Rubio said.

On Tuesday, more than 20 UN human rights experts in Geneva expressed alarm over what they described as a "repeatedly heavy-handed police response" to peaceful youth-led demonstrations in the national capital.

They called on the authorities to ensure justice for reported human rights violations during the protests.

J&K Child Protection

restrictions on final orders

The lapse has affected the composition of Juvenile Justice Boards, which comprise a Principal Magistrate appointed by the High Court and two members appointed by the government.

With the tenure of the two members having ended, the boards have been left with only the Principal Magistrates. Under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, at least two members, including the Principal Magistrate, must be present for the final disposal of cases and orders transferring certain cases involving children to the Children's Court for trial as adults.

As a result, the absence of the required members raises questions about the boards' ability to pass final orders and issue transfer orders in cases involving heinous offences allegedly committed by children above the age of 16.

Child Welfare Committees, which comprise a chairperson and four members, have also been affected by the expiry of their members' tenure.

The committees play a statutory role in dealing with children in need of care and protection, including decisions concerning their placement in child-care institutions and other rehabilitation arrangements.

Interim arrangements put in place

The Mission Vatsalya communication provides for interim arrangements to maintain continuity in essential functions until new committees and boards are constituted.

According to the order, matters concerning children in need of care and protection are to be handled by the concerned Protection Officers, including those dealing with institutional and non-institutional care, along with supporting staff under the overall supervision of the DCPO.

For matters involving children in conflict with the law, Principal Magistrates are to be assisted by Legal-cum-Probation Officers and other staff of the respective District Child Protection Units.

The communication also directs district officers to ensure the systematic transfer, verification, preservation and safe custody of records, maintain confidentiality and submit compliance reports after completing the takeover process.

However, the interim arrangements have raised questions about whether administrative supervision and assistance from departmental officials can ensure the exercise of all statutory functions ordinarily performed by the CWCs and JJBs. The communication does not specify a timeline for constituting the new bodies.

Lone questions delay in appointments

In a post on X, Lone criticised the government for allowing the extension to expire without completing the appointment process.

He said the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS), now implemented under Mission Vatsalya, had established an institutional framework to deal with children requiring care and protection and juveniles in conflict with the law.

Lone also referred to the incidence of minors being taken into police custody in Jammu and Kashmir, arguing that the child-protection framework was important for ensuring a child-friendly justice system.

Referring to the Mission Vatsalya

communication dated October 13, he questioned why fresh appointments had not been completed despite the six-month extension providing time for the process.

"The order itself admits new CWCs/JJBs 'are yet to be constituted'. The discretion is exhausted. The default is totally by the government. No space for scapegoating," he said.

Lone also raised concerns over the role of outsourced employees in the child-protection system, arguing that they could face difficulties challenging police officials or other authorities when intervention was required to protect a child's rights.

He further questioned the continued non-functioning of the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, alleging that it had remained dysfunctional despite the recruitment process having been advertised more than a year ago.

The government communication acknowledges that the new CWCs and JJBs had not been constituted as of October 13 and directs officials to maintain essential functions in the interim. It does not, however, explain the reasons for the delay or provide a date for fresh appointments.

The immediate concern remains whether the interim arrangements can ensure the timely handling of cases involving children who need care and protection or are in conflict with the law, particularly where decisions require the statutory authority of the committees and boards. (inputs from agencies)

Serious Charges

had developed close relations with terrorist elements, provided logistical and moral support to terrorists and allowed his residence and other locations to be used as hideouts.

The Court, however, observed that the grounds did not sufficiently identify the persons, incidents, locations or specific acts on which the detention authority had based its satisfaction. It said the seriousness of an allegation could not substitute the requirement of relevant material and independent application of mind.

It noted with seriousness the use of the expression "aforementioned terrorists" in the detention grounds despite there being no preceding reference identifying any terrorist.

The Bench observed that this internal inconsistency strongly suggested that the relevant portion may have been mechanically lifted from the police dossier without the necessary application of mind by the detaining authority.

"The existence of serious allegations cannot dilute the obligation to comply with the constitutional and statutory requirements governing preventive detention, the court said, adding, "Equally, the absence of a criminal case, by itself, may not be determinative of the validity of a preventive detention order; nevertheless, the authority must demonstrate, through the material considered and the grounds recorded, that the statutory requirements have been independently and lawfully satisfied."

The Court further noted that it had, immediately before the present matter, dealt with another petition involving a detention order passed by the District Magistrate which prima facie appeared to reproduce the police dossier without demonstrating independent assessment by the detaining authority.

It said the similarity raised a "disturbing question" about whether preventive detention powers were being exercised on the basis of independent evaluation or by mechanically reproducing police assertions.

Emphasising that the preventive detention was an extraordinary measure involving deprivation of personal liberty without a regular criminal trial, the Court said the constitutional safeguards under Articles 21 and could not be treated as empty formalities. It stressed that the detaining authority must independently examine the material and satisfy itself that the statutory conditions for detention are fulfilled.

Referring to Supreme Court judgments, the Bench reiterated that preventive detention must be exercised with utmost circumspection and strict adherence to constitutional and statutory safeguards.

Finding that the nature of the allegations, absence of specific particulars and the apparent manner in which the detention order had been formulated warranted further examination, the Court directed the Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, who passed the detention order, to appear personally before it.

The Court ordered the DC to produce the complete original record, including the police dossier, material placed before the detaining authority and the record reflecting consideration and subjective satisfaction. It directed him to explain why he had allegedly "recklessly and mechanically" passed the detention order without due application of mind. The matter has been listed for October 22.

JKSET 2026 Exam

unchanged.

The revised schedule was announced through a notice dated October 21, 2026, signed by Professor Aijaz Ahmad, Member Secretary, JKSET/LASET.

Candidates appearing for the examination have been advised to take note of the revised timings and make the necessary arrangements accordingly.

CS Reviews Progress Of PM Ekta Malls in Srinagar & Jammu

Projects to showcase J&K's heritage, local products and expand market access for artisans and entrepreneurs

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo reviewed the status of the proposed PM Unity (Ekta) Malls at Jammu and Srinagar in a meeting convened to assess the progress of the projects being undertaken by the Department of Industries & Commerce through Public Works Department here.

The meeting besides the ACS, PWD and Commissioner Secretary, I&C; Secretary, Planning was attended by the HoDs of the Industries & Commerce Department and senior officers of the other concerned departments.

The Chief Secretary observed that the PM Ekta Malls would serve as integrated platforms for showcasing the rich handicrafts, handlooms, indigenous products and cultural heritage of Jammu & Kashmir alongside those of other States and Union Territories.

He underscored the significance of the initiative in strengthening market linkages for local



artisans, craftspeople, entrepreneurs and producers, while creating new avenues for tourism promotion, enterprise development and sustainable livelihoods.

He further emphasised that these commercial hubs would provide greater visibility and market access to products under the One District One Product (ODOP) initiative and those

bearing Geographical Indication (GI) tags, connecting local producers with wider domestic and international markets and opening up new opportunities for growth and economic empowerment.

While giving out the details the Commissioner Secretary, I&C, Vikramjit Singh highlighted that the Ekta Mall at Jammu is proposed to be constructed

over 24 kanals at the Rail Head Complex. Designed with two basement levels, a ground floor and three upper floors, the facility will have approximately 2.14 lakh square feet of floor space.

Adding he gave out that the project has received administrative approval of ₹125 crore and its proposed facilities include retail outlets, workspaces, public cultural facilities, a craft museum/art gallery, exhibition and trade facilitation spaces, a food court and family amenities.

Similarly, the meeting was apprised that the Srinagar Ekta Mall is proposed at Kashmir Haat Complex on Jehangir Chowk-Batmaloo Road, over an area of 15 kanals. The six-level facility, comprising one basement, a ground floor and four upper floors, will have a total floor area of approximately 1.81 lakh square feet.

Its planned facilities include retail shops, a craft museum, an exhibition hall, trade facilitation spaces, an auditorium,

an indoor amphitheatre, a food court, dining facilities and guest accommodation approved at a cost of ₹130 crore.

It was also divulged that the contract committee had considered both projects on October 19, 2026, and that the Letters of Award were expected by the third week of November 2026.

The projects are proposed to be operated and maintained through the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode, with a private partner to be selected through competitive bidding. The Government will retain policy and strategic oversight of the initiative.

Once developed, the two Ekta Malls are envisaged to provide a common platform for commerce, culture and tourism, while creating opportunities for local producers to enhance the visibility and market reach of their products and strengthening J&K's integration with the country's wider retail and cultural ecosystem.

3rd Edition of Kashmir Marathon

Div Com Kashmir Directs Joint Recce To Finalise Preparations

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, has stressed the need for a Joint Recce of the inaugural venue and marathon route to identify and address gaps in preparations for the successful conduct of the 3rd Edition of the Kashmir Marathon.

Chairing a meeting to review the arrangements, the Divisional Commissioner called for close coordination among all concerned departments to ensure that the necessary facilities and logistical arrangements are put in place well in advance of the event.

Garg directed the Roads and Buildings (R&B) Department to fill potholes along the marathon route and ensure proper levelling of the road surface. The Public Health Engineering (PHE) Department was instructed to repair leaking water pipelines.

The Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) was directed to deploy an adequate number of mobile toi-



let vehicles at the inaugural venue and ensure the availability of sweeper buses to ferry participants who face issues during Marathon.

Emphasising the need for smooth movement of participants and the general public, the Divisional Commissioner called for a comprehensive traffic management plan and directed the concerned authorities to publish the marathon route plan in advance for public information.

To enhance the visual appeal of the event, the Floriculture Department was asked to decorate the stage, while the SMC was directed to beautify the road medians along the route.

The Divisional Commissioner also stressed the im-

portance of comprehensive security arrangements and directed that participants arrive at the venue by 4 PM on the day of the event.

During the meeting, Garg further reviewed arrangements for healthcare facilities, volunteer training, installation of stalls, drinking water availability and uninterrupted electricity supply at the venue.

The meeting was attended by the Commissioner, SMC; Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar; SSP Traffic; Director Tourism; representatives of the Police Department; officers of the J&K Sports Council; and officials from the Information, PHE, R&B and other concerned departments.

Country's Highest-Altitude High Court Bench Begins Regular Hearings

Observer News Service

LEH: A historic chapter in the Indian judicial history unfolded on Wednesday when Chief Justice of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Dr Pushendra Singh Bhati and Justice Sanjay Parihar presided over the first regular division bench at Leh.

The newly established Ladakh Bench of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh located at a breath-taking height of over 11,500 feet above sea level, began regular hearing of the cases from today.

The day began with the hearing by the Division Bench in which the Chief Justice heard the matters through virtual mode while Justice Sanjay Parihar was present physically at the Ladakh Bench. After the conclusion of the hearing of five listed Division Bench matters, Justice Sanjay Parihar sat singly and dealt with as many as 60 matters listed before the single bench. Today's proceedings made use of technology to facilitate a sort of hybrid hearing with



the Chief Justice hearing through Virtual Mode and Justice Sanjay Parihar doing physical hearing.

Justice Parihar said that the identification of the 65 cases that were listed today reflects the initial effort to organise and facilitate the hearing of matters concerning litigants from Ladakh. He added that the successful commencement of regular judicial hearings today by the Chief Justice in such a high-altitude location is a landmark achievement in the country's judicial infrastructure and commitment to ensuring that geographical barriers do not become obstacles to justice.

The establishment of the Ladakh Bench is a significant

step in strengthening the reach of constitutional institutions to remote and geographically challenging regions of the country.

Earlier, litigants from Leh, Kargil and other far-flung areas of Ladakh would undertake lengthy journeys to Srinagar or Jammu for proceedings before the High Court. The commencement of hearings here is also encouraging for the legal fraternity of Ladakh including advocates.

It may be mentioned that Ladakh Bench of J&K High court was formally inaugurated by the Chief Justice of India, Justice Surya Kant on October 18, 2026, at Melongthang, Leh.

J&K Police Observes Police Commemoration Day Across Kashmir

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu & Kashmir Police on Wednesday paid tribute to its personnel who laid down their lives in the line of duty, as Police Commemoration Day was observed across the Kashmir Valley through wreath-laying ceremonies, blood donation camps, sports activities and interactions with families of martyrs.

The observances were held across all districts, where senior police officers, civil administration officials, Army and CRPF personnel and family members of the fallen personnel gathered to honour their sacrifice.

The ceremonies featured floral tributes at martyrs' memorials, two minutes of silence and the reading of the roll of honour of police personnel who attained martyrdom while serving the nation. Gifts were distributed among the next of kin (NoKs) of martyrs, while interactive sessions were held to address their concerns and reaffirm the department's commitment to their welfare.

In Anantnag, the ceremony at District Police Lines (DPL) was attended by DIG South Kashmir Range Javed Iqbal Mattoo, SSP Anantnag Amod



Ashok Nagpure, Deputy Commissioner Bilal Mohi-ud-Din and officers of the police, Army, CRPF and civil administration, besides martyrs' families. A blood donation camp was also organised.

In Kulgam, Deputy Commissioner Shahzad Alam and SSP Anayat Ali Chowdhary, along with senior security officers, police personnel and martyrs' families, paid floral tributes at the Martyrs' Monument at DPL Kulgam.

At Awantipora, SSP Irshad H. Rather led the tributes in the presence of police and CRPF officers, civil administration officials, members of civil society, retired police personnel and family members of martyrs.

In Shopian, SSP Mush-taq Ahmad Choudhary, along with senior Army and CRPF officers, district police personnel and martyrs' families, paid homage at the Martyrs' Monument at DPL Shopian.

In Pulwama, Deputy

Commissioner K.K. Sidha and SSP Sahil Sarangal led the ceremony by laying a wreath at the Martyrs' Memorial. A Police Martyrs' Memorial Volleyball Tournament was also inaugurated to promote sportsmanship and constructive engagement among youth.

In Ganderbal, SSP Harshal Rajesh Mahajan chaired the ceremony at Qamariya Stadium, where senior police officers, civil administration officials and family members of martyrs paid floral tributes.

In Budgam, the observance was held at District Police Lines under the supervision of SSP Hariprasad K K, with Deputy Commissioner Jatin Kishore also present.

In Baramulla, the ceremony at DPL was attended by the DIG North Kashmir Range, Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, SSP Baramulla, senior Army and Central Armed Police Forces officers, and families of police martyrs.

Minister Sakeena Invites Global Travellers To Explore J&K

SRINAGAR: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo on Wednesday invited global tour operators, travel agencies and tourism stakeholders to explore Jammu and Kashmir's tourism potential as she led a high-level delegation at ITB Asia 2026 in Singapore.

As per details collected by KNO, Itoo also jointly inaugurated the India Pavilion at the international travel trade event alongside Indian High Commissioner to Singapore, Dr Shilpak Ambule, to promote Jammu and Kashmir as a destination for domestic and international tourists.

The delegation held a series of business-to-business interactions and strategic meetings with international tour operators, travel trade associations, government representatives and other stakeholders to explore partnerships and expand the Union Territory's presence in the global tourism market.

"Jammu and Kashmir has immense tourism potential and our endeavour is to showcase its diversity to the world. From its breathtaking landscapes and vibrant cultural traditions to pilgrimage tourism, adventure activities and winter sports, the Union Territory offers unique experiences for visitors throughout the year," Itoo said.

She said international tourism platforms such as ITB Asia provide valuable opportunities to connect with global stakeholders, strengthen partnerships and expand the reach of Jammu and Kashmir's tourism sector.

"Our participation at ITB Asia reflects J&K Government's commitment to promoting Jammu and Kashmir on the international tourism map. We invite tour operators, travel agencies, investors and tourism professionals from across the world to explore the opportunities available in Jammu and Kashmir and partner with us in promoting its tourism potential," she added.

During the interactions, the delegation showcased the region's leisure and pilgrimage destinations, adventure tourism circuits, winter sports, offbeat locations and cultural and heritage attractions. It also encouraged international travel operators to include Jammu and Kashmir in their travel packages and destination portfolios. (KNO)

J&K Handicapped Association Presses Government On Disability Rights

SRINAGAR: The J&K Handicapped Association staged a protest at Press Enclave in Srinagar on Wednesday, urging the Jammu and Kashmir government to address the long-pending demands of persons with disabilities, including enhanced social security, employment opportunities, accessible public infrastructure and effective implementation of disability rights legislation.

The Association called for the immediate appointment of a Disability Commissioner, stating that the post had remained vacant for around one-and-a-half years, affecting the protection of the rights and welfare of persons with disabilities.

The protesters demanded full implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, across Jammu and Kashmir, a special recruitment drive for qualified candidates with disabilities, and an increase in the monthly pension from 1,250 to 3,000. It also sought implementation of reservation provisions in government and semi-government employment, including 4 per cent reservation in promotions and transfers for employees with disabilities, and the re-advertisement of backlog vacancies dating back to 1998.

Among its other demands, the Association sought greater representation of persons with disabilities in elected and government bodies, including the Assembly, municipalities and panchayats, as well as their inclusion in decision-making committees and district development meetings. It also called for improved access to educational institutions, better reservation opportunities in colleges and universities, accessible textbooks and digital platforms, and Braille schools in every district.

The Association further demanded accessible roads, bridges, parking areas, offices and banking facilities, along with separate service counters for persons with disabilities in government offices, semi-government institutions and banks. It called for low-interest loans, subsidies, employment opportunities under MGNREGA and other government schemes, exemption from job application fees, tax relief and at least 4 per cent reservation in shopping complexes and plots developed by government departments. [KNT]

Zainapora Residents Seek Upgradation Of CHC

SHOPIAN: Residents of Zainapora and adjoining areas of south Kashmir's Shopian district have urged the government to upgrade the Community Health Centre (CHC) Zainapora by strengthening its infrastructure, ensuring adequate manpower and introducing essential diagnostic and specialised services, saying the facility caters to a large population and serves as a crucial healthcare institution for the area.

Residents have called for round-the-clock X-ray services, installation of laparoscopic equipment, ultrasound (USG) facilities, adequate deployment of doctors and paramedical staff, comprehensive laboratory testing services, and the immediate operationalisation of a dialysis centre inaugurated months ago but still not functional. (KNO)

Scooter Rider Killed In Hit-and-Run At Dogra Chowk

JAMMU: A young man was killed on the spot after his scooter was hit by an unidentified vehicle at Dogra Chowk in Jammu on Wednesday morning.

The deceased has been identified as Harpreet Singh, a resident of Gandhi Nagar. He was riding scooter bearing registration number JK02AT-6455 and was reportedly returning home after dropping a child at school when the accident occurred.

Police have registered a case and initiated an investigation to identify and trace the vehicle involved in the accident and apprehend its driver. [KNT]

DC Jammu Inspects Old City Bazaars Ahead Of Festive Season

JAMMU: Deputy Commissioner Jammu Minga Sherpa conducted an extensive tour of different parts of the old city including Rag-hunath Bazar, Hari Market, Kanak Mandi, Parade and Purani Mandi area to review arrangements ahead of the upcoming festive season.

The DC was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Anusya Jamwal; Additional CEO Jammu Smart City, Kulbhushan Khajuria; Joint Commissioner JMC, Abdul Sattar; Executive Engineers of Jal Shakti, JPCL, PWD, officers of JMC and other concerned departments.

During the visit, the DC along with a team of officers walked through the bazaars and took stock of traffic management, street lighting, condition of footpaths and the overall upkeep of the market areas. He also interacted with shopkeepers and representatives of bazaar associations and listened to their concerns and suggestions.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said the district administration is committed to ensuring that all arrangements are in place so that residents and visitors can celebrate the festivals in a safe, smooth and hassle-free atmosphere. He also responded to queries raised by members of the public. (Observer News Service)

Shehlat Foundation Women's Wing Holds First Interactive Session

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Women's Wing of Shehlat Foundation organised its first interactive session in Srinagar, bringing together women from different districts for discussions on women's empowerment, drug addiction and the role of community participation in addressing pressing social challenges.

The session featured deliberations on the responsibilities of women in social transformation, the need to protect younger generations from substance abuse and the importance of informed and sustained engagement in community welfare.

Dr Shabeena Yaseen, Academic Officer, shared insights from her field survey experiences, highlighting the challenges confronting young people and the devastating consequences of drug addiction for individuals, families and society.

She stressed the need for collective responsibility and urgent intervention to address the growing menace, urging women and other concerned citizens to actively participate in efforts to safeguard future generations from substance abuse and other social problems.

Miss Heena Khan, Telecom Officer, spoke about the role and status of women in society in the light of the teachings of the Holy Quran and Sunnah. She emphasised

that meaningful social progress and justice could not be achieved without the active involvement of women, who constitute a substantial section of society.

She called for recognising women as equal stakeholders in decision-making and community development rather



than confining them to passive roles.

Highlighting the importance of effective upbringing, Khan advocated experiential learning over merely prescriptive approaches within families. She said values were best inculcated through personal example, practical engagement and everyday conduct. She also encouraged women to embrace volunteerism and contribute actively to the welfare and development of their communities.

Muzamil Karim, Clinical Psychologist, emphasised the importance of understanding the underlying causes of social problems before attempting to address them. He said informed and evidence-based approaches were es-

sential for tackling the challenges affecting society.

Karim also underscored the need to encourage greater participation of women in social service, noting their potential to contribute to meaningful and lasting social change.

The programme began with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Shanaz, a teacher, followed by a Naat written and presented by Irshada, also a teacher. Advocate Laila Tu Nisa conducted the proceedings, facilitating the exchange of ideas and discussions among the participants. The session concluded with a Dua offered by Suriya, seeking peace, prosperity and the well-being of society.

In his concluding remarks, the Chairman of Shehlat Foundation thanked the women participants who travelled from different districts to attend the inaugural session. He appreciated the speakers for their contributions and commended the participants for their enthusiasm and intellectual engagement.

Reaffirming the Foundation's commitment to women's empowerment and community development, the chairman said similar intellectual and socially relevant programmes would be organised across districts to provide women with opportunities to learn, exchange experiences and contribute to addressing social challenges.

Pakistan, Türkiye, Qatar, Indonesia Sign Defence Pact

Press Trust of India

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan, Türkiye, Qatar and Indonesia on Wednesday signed an agreement in Doha to bolster defence cooperation and strengthen their defensive capabilities.

The 'Badr Memorandum of Understanding' was signed by Pakistani Defence Minister Khawaja Asif, his Turkish counterpart Yasar Güler, Qatar's Deputy PM and Minister of State for Defence Sheikh Saud bin Abdulrahman and Indonesia's Deputy Minister of Defence Yusuf Jauhari, the Turkish defence ministry said in a statement.

Pakistan's Foreign Office has yet to comment on the signing of the Badr pact, which seems to be named after the site of the first major military engagement between the early Muslims

and the tribes of Makkah in modern-day Saudi Arabia.

The development comes months after Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Türkiye signed the Makkah Joint Defence Agreement in August, under which an attack against one of the countries will be treated as an attack against all of them.

"In a step that reflects the commitment to strengthening joint co-operation and developing strategic partnerships, the 'Badr' multilateral memorandum of understanding was signed in the Qatari capital," Qatar's Ministry of Defence said in a post on X.

It said the pact "aims to foster cooperation in the field of defence manufacturing, enhance defence capabilities among the four countries,

and promote collaboration in technical defence training and research and development fields, thereby contributing to the creation of solutions and industries befitting the development of modern defences."

This agreement "holds significant economic importance for the signatory countries, as it will leverage each country's capabilities in defence manufacturing, achieving cooperation, integration, and the development of defence industry capacities to meet the needs of allied and friendly nations," the Qatari defence ministry said.

The development comes amid escalating tensions in the Gulf region and indications that the US might be preparing for another round of fighting with Iran.



Iran To Pakistan's Army Chief: No Talks With Washington Before Our Demands Are Met

Agencies

CAIRO: Iranian media reported that Tehran informed Pakistan's Army Chief Asim Munir on Tuesday that there would be no talks with Washington until its demands are met, reinforcing its position despite mediation efforts by Islamabad.

The Iranian news agency Nour News stated that President Masoud Bezakian discussed mediation efforts and regional developments during a meeting in Tehran with Munir.

Pakistan is a key mediator between the United States and Iran.

Previous mediation efforts led to the signing of a temporary peace agreement in June.

However, the "Islamabad memorandum" quickly faltered with renewed fighting between Iran and the United States just weeks after its signing. Munir also met with Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf.

An Iranian statement regarding the meeting indicated that the Iranian official emphasized that Washington would not be able to gain Tehran's trust unless it meets the seven conditions proposed last month for reopening the Strait of Hormuz.

The Iranian conditions include ending the US blockade of its



ports, lifting sanctions on its oil exports, and ending hostilities on all fronts in the region.

The Secretary-General of the Iranian Supreme National Security Council, Mohsen Rezaei, conveyed a similar message during a separate meeting with Munir, stating that there would be no talks with Washington until Tehran's demands are met.

Rezaei also mentioned that all enriched nuclear materials would remain in Iran, reaffirming the Supreme Leader Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei's position that uranium enriched to weapon-grade levels should not be sent abroad.

US Vice President JD Vance stated this month that Iran must significantly reduce its uranium enrichment capacity to meet US demands and end the ongoing war between the two countries that has lasted for eight months.

Israel, the United States, and other Western countries have long accused Iran of seeking to acquire nuclear weapons, pointing to its uranium enrichment at 60 percent, a level far higher than what is needed for civilian uses and closer to the 90 percent required to produce a weapon.

Iran denies seeking to acquire nuclear weapons.

Rubio Meets Adani, Tata Chiefs Before Reliance Refinery Visit

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: US Secretary of State Marco Rubio met Adani Group chairman Gautam Adani and Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekaran in Mumbai on Wednesday morning before heading to Jamnagar in Gujarat to visit Reliance Industries' giant oil-refining complex, the world's largest single-site refinery, along with Vantara and giga factories being developed by the conglomerate.

Rubio, who arrived in Mumbai on Tuesday afternoon, first met Adani, followed by a meeting with Chandrasekaran, sources said.

Neither side released details of the meetings.

Adani heads one of India's largest conglomerates, with interests spanning ports, airports, energy, logistics and infrastructure. The group has also been expanding its renewable-energy and manufacturing businesses, sectors that are central to India's ambitions to strengthen domestic supply chains and attract global investment.

Chandrasekaran, who leads Tata Sons, the Tata Group's holding company, oversees a sprawling business empire with interests in automobiles, steel, information technology, aviation, electronics, and

advanced manufacturing. The group has been investing in semiconductors and battery technology as India seeks a larger role in global technology and manufacturing supply chains.

Rubio's Jamnagar itinerary



brings the focus to Reliance's industrial complex, which houses the world's largest single-site oil refinery, with a combined processing capacity of about 1.4 million barrels per day.

The site also hosts Vantara, a wildlife rescue, treatment, and rehabilitation initiative launched by Reliance Industries and Reliance Foundation under Anant Ambani's leader-

ship. Spread across more than 3,500 acres, the centre focuses on the care and rehabilitation of injured, threatened and rescued animals, alongside wildlife conservation efforts.

Another major component of the Jamnagar complex is Re-

Ambani's strategy to build a large integrated clean-energy business alongside the group's established oil refining and petrochemicals operations. The facilities are intended to support India's energy transition and reduce dependence on imported clean-energy equipment.

Sources said Rubio will visit all three before flying back to the US.

The visit comes as India and the United States seek to deepen commercial and strategic ties, with energy security, manufacturing and technology among the areas of potential cooperation.

Rubio's Jamnagar visit puts energy and industrial investment at the centre of his India trip, with the Reliance complex emerging as a focal point for potential cooperation between Washington and New Delhi on global oil supplies.

The refinery's ability to process a wide range of crude grades makes it strategically significant as the United States explores expanding markets for Venezuelan oil and India seeks to diversify its energy supplies.

Rubio has said Washington is in discussions with Reliance about refining more Venezuelan crude as production in the South American country rises.

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