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DURBAR MOVE

Civil Secretariat Resumes In Jammu

CM Omar Takes Guard Of Honour; Speaker Says People Wanted Practice Restored



Observer News Service

Jammu: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Monday resumed functioning from the winter capital, Jammu, with the Civil Secretariat and other government offices, including the Lok Bhawan, reopening here as part of the 154-year-old biannual Durbar Move practice.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah was accorded a ceremonial guard of honour upon his arrival at the Civil Secretariat, the seat of the Union Territory government, and took the salute as offices resumed functioning, two days after closing in the summer capital Srinagar.

Abdullah conducted a tour of various offices at the Secretariat and interacted with officials.

The reopening | More on P6

Next 6 Months Crucial For Accelerating Development: Omar

Observer News Service

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday said the next six months were crucial for accelerating developmental activities and ensuring optimal utilisation of funds, urging ministers and senior officers to step up the execution of projects and ensure timely completion of | More on P6

Children With Special Needs

HC Notice On PIL For Rehab, Therapy Services

M Ahmad



Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh on Monday issued notice to the government on a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) seeking intervention to address alleged deficiencies in early intervention, rehabilitation and therapy services for children with special needs and developmental and neurodevelopmental conditions across Jammu and Kashmir.

A lawyer, representing petitioner Zaheer Abbas Jan, a social worker and child and disability rights activist, said that a division bench issued notice to the authorities while listing the PIL for further consideration on December 16.

The PIL highlights the difficulties faced by children and their families due to the non-availability of qualified professionals, inadequate infrastructure and irregular delivery of essential therapeutic services at government institutions.

The petitioner has particularly flagged the shortage of Occupational Therapists, Speech Therapists, psychologists and other multidisciplinary | More on P6

Cops, Courts, Counsellors Confront Kashmir's Growing Marital Mess

As more women seek help for domestic abuse, police stations, One Stop Centres and courts face growing pressure. Behind the figures are women living with sexual violence, confinement, humiliation and years of silence.

Haziqah Shaheen



Srinagar: This autumn, Beenish, 29, walked into a women's police station in Srinagar, hoping to end the abuse she had suffered in her marriage.

She was crying so hard that police officers gathered around her, trying to console her. Her sobs filled the station. She struggled to speak, and the cops struggled to find words to comfort her.

Someone eventually took her into the Station House Officer's chamber. There, Beenish began telling a story that had started on the first day of her marriage.

She had entered the relationship hoping for companionship and a new life. Instead, she said, her husband subjected her to years of physical and emotional abuse.

The abuse eventually turned sexual.

She showed the officers hospital reports documenting injuries allegedly inflicted by her husband, including injuries to her genitals.

The officers listened with visible dismay. Other women waiting to file complaints stopped to hear her account. Some began to cry. Their own experiences may have helped them understand what Beenish was struggling to explain.

Someone brought her a glass of water. The police asked her to write an application so they could begin proceedings.

Beenish's visit revealed the domestic distress women bring to a police station set up to help them. Several others had come seeking intervention that day. Their complaints were different, but their stories had a common setting: homes and marriages that had become places of fear.

Such cases are bringing more women into contact with Kashmir's police stations, support centres and courts. The rising number of complaints has also raised questions about whether these institutions have enough resources to respond.

Figures presented by the Jammu and Kashmir Government in the Legislative Assembly in October 2025 give an indication of the demand.

Social Welfare Minister Sakina Itoo told the House that 2,872 domestic violence cases had been registered through One Stop Centres for Women and the Mission Shakti dashboard during 2023-24 and 2024-25.

The number rose from 893 in the first year to 1,979 in the second, an increase of 121.6 per cent.

The figures show that more women are approaching support institutions. They also raise questions about the capacity of police officers, counsellors, legal aid providers and courts to respond to complaints involving different forms of abuse.

At Srinagar's One Stop Centre in Bemina, the demand is visible in the number of women seeking help.

A review meeting chaired by then Deputy Commissioner Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat in April 2025 was told that 727 women had visited the centre and registered complaints. Of these, 310 received counselling, 188 received free legal assistance, 17 received medical assistance, 76 sought police | More on P6

Security Tightened Along LoC Ahead Of Diwali

Joint Mock Drills Conducted In Kathua, Bandipora

Agencies

Srinagar: Security has been strengthened along the Line of Control (LoC) and International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir ahead of Diwali, with security forces stepping up surveillance and conducting joint mock exercises to prevent any attempt to disrupt the festive celebrations.

An official told the news agency Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that security forces were conducting a series of joint mock drills and intensifying surveillance along vulnerable stretches of the borders.

Security grids have been strengthened along sensitive stretches in Poonch and Rajouri districts of the Jammu region, while additional vigilance is being maintained along traditional infiltration routes in Kathua district, the official said.

He said a joint mock exercise was recently conducted by security forces along old infiltration routes in Kathua to assess preparedness and strengthen coordination in responding to potential security threats.

In north Kashmir, heightened vigilance is being maintained in Gurez, Uri, Karnah and Tangdhar | More on P6



Freshly harvested saffron flowers spills from a farmer's bucket onto a cloth during the harvest season in Kashmir. KO Photo By Abid Bhat

Mostly Dry Weather Likely In J&K Till Nov 9

- Light Rain, Snowfall Over Higher Reaches Possible On Nov 5, 6
- Gulmarg Records Season's Low Of -0.2°C

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Weather across Jammu and Kashmir is likely to remain largely dry till November 9, with brief spells of light rain and snowfall over higher reaches possible on November 5 and 6, the Meteorological Department said on Monday.

According to the Meteorological Centre Srinagar, dry weather is expected on November 3 and 4. However, isolated places may receive light rain or experience light snowfall over higher reaches during the evenings of November 5 and 6.

Dry conditions are likely to return from November 7 to 9, with no significant weather activity forecast during the period, the department said.

Meanwhile, Gulmarg recorded the lowest minimum temperature in Kashmir at minus 0.2 degrees Celsius.

Srinagar recorded a minimum temperature of 5 degrees Celsius, while the mercury settled at 2.8 degrees Celsius in Pahalgam, 2.6 degrees in Qazigund, 4.3 degrees in Kupwara and 4 degrees in Kokernag. The Meteorological Department has advised farmers to continue harvesting and other agricultural activities in view of the favourable weather conditions. | More on P6

My Resignation Won't Destabilise J&K Govt: Ruhullah

Says He Will Build An Organised Political Movement After Nov 3; Rules Out Immediate Plans To Form Party

Aabroo Hussain



Srinagar: Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi's impending resignation from Parliament has brought his growing confrontation with the National Conference into sharp focus, raising questions about the party's ideological direction, the future of his political career and the possibility of a new political mobilisation in Jammu and Kashmir.

At the centre of the rift is Ruhullah's criticism of the National Conference government for what he describes as its failure to challenge the post-2019 political status quo, despite securing a public mandate in the 2024 Assembly elections on promises of restoring the region's political rights and autonomy.

As he prepares to resign on November 3, the Srinagar MP has said he intends to build an organised political movement, although he has ruled out an immediate decision to form a new political party.

In an interview with Kashmir Observer's Aabroo Hussain, Ruhullah spoke at length about his differences with the National Conference, the circumstances leading to his resignation, the party's ideological trajectory, the future of his political movement and his assessment of the constitutional and political situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

He also defended his political and developmental record, spoke about his parliamentary interventions, his vision of inclusive politics and the need to rebuild Kashmir's indigenous intellectual and ethical traditions.

"Whether a political party will be formed or not is not something occupying my mind at the moment. However, after November 3, I will certainly make an effort to build an organised movement," Ruhullah said. Excerpts:

Q: Your political profile changed considerably after 2019, particularly during the 2024 elections. How is the Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi of today different from the person you were before 2019?

Ruhullah: Perhaps the circumstances brought out certain things that had always existed in my thinking and upbringing. This was not a sudden transformation. The ideology, thoughts, values and convictions that I had been developing over the last 20 to 25 years found their context in a particular situation.

A human being continues to evolve over time. My upbringing, family background, the intellectual | More on P6

Centre Gets Powers To Intervene In Airline Ticket Prices

New Rules Allow Fare Directions In Extraordinary Situations; Airlines Must Disclose Full Ticket Costs

KO Web Desk



Srinagar: The Centre has notified new rules empowering it to intervene in airline ticket prices in extraordinary situations and in the public interest, amid concerns over rising airfares linked to elevated crude oil and Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) prices.

Under the Bharatiya Vayuyan Niyam, 2026, notified by the Union Ministry of Civil Aviation, the government can issue directions to airlines on fares if it considers intervention necessary in an extraordinary situation. Such directions must be proportionate to the circumstances and remain in force only for a specified period.

Rule 192 requires airlines operating scheduled air services to determine fares based on factors including operational costs and submit tariff details to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

The rule provides that the government may issue written directions if it is of the opinion that an extraordinary situation | More on P6

Body Pain Rises Most Sharply Before Age 55: Study

Press Trust Of India

Body pain does not rise linearly with age and may increase most sharply before age 55, according to a global analysis of more than six million people.

The findings, published in the journal Nature Medicine, showed that prevalence of pain ranged from two per cent for facial pain to 40 per cent for back pain.

Researchers, including those from Canada's McGill University, found that women reported more pain than men across 11 body areas studied, with the largest differences in facial pain, headaches, and stomach or abdominal pain.

Other areas examined included neck and shoulder, foot and ankle, chest, hip and knee. The analysis covered self-reported pain data collected between 1990 and 2025 from 6,125,459 people aged five to over 100 across 118 countries and territories.

"Pain prevalence ranged from roughly two per cent for facial pain to 40 per cent for back pain, was consistently higher in women across all 11 anatomical sites and increased most steeply before age 55 years," the authors wrote.

Pain is a leading cause of disability worldwide, but there is no standard way to compare self-reported pain across ages and regions, the researchers said.

They noted that existing estimates often focus on diagnosed conditions, which may overlook pain among people with limited access to healthcare.

The findings could help scientists compare pain across populations and improve global pain monitoring and prevention, the team said.

Across all body areas studied, pain prevalence was found to increase most sharply before age 55.

However, headaches and abdominal pain peaked earlier in life, while back, hip and knee pain continued to rise with age. From age 40, pain overall, joint and back pain increased more rapidly in countries with lower Human Development Index (HDI) values.

By age 80 or older, the prevalence of any bodily pain was around 31 percentage points higher in countries with lower HDI values than in those with higher HDI values, and low back pain was nearly twice as common, the analysis found.

Known risk factors, including smoking, obesity and low income, explained less of the pain burden in lower-development settings, the researchers said, adding that the reasons for higher pain levels are unclear. The authors suggested that pain prevention may need to start earlier in life and be tailored to different regions. However, most data in the study were collected at a single point in time, so the data show differences between age groups rather than changes in the same people as they aged, they said.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL SHOPIAN

Subject: Hiring of Machinery and Vehicles for Snow Clearance during ensuing winters of 2026-27-MC Shopian.

TENDER NOTICE
E-NIT No: MCS/ACCTS/13 of 2026
Dated: 02.11.2026

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K UT, term e-tenders are invited from the interested persons /agencies for providing following machinery for Snow Clearance during ensuing winters of 2026-27 within the limits of MC Shopian.

S. No	Name of the Machinery/Vehicle	Quantity	Rate to be quoted as per
01	Back Hoe Loader	*06	Per Hour
02	Tipper	*05	Per Trip
03	Tractor with trolley	*04	Per Trip
04	Tractor with Snow Leveler	*01	Per Hour

*The trip of the vehicle shall be within 04 Kilometers in the Town.
*Quantity May increase or decrease as per requirement.

The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (BOQ) set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the portal viz: https://jktenders.gov.in/, as per the schedule of dates given below:

1	Date of issue of Tender Notice	03.11.2026
2	Period of downloading of bid documents	From 03.11.2026 to 12.11.2026
3	Bid submission Start Date	03.11.2026 from 12.00 PM
4	Bid submission End Date	12.11.2026 up to 2.00 PM
5	Date & Time of opening of Bid (Online)	13.11.2026 at 04.00 PM in the office of the Chief Executive Officer, Municipal Council Shopian.
6	Submission of CDR.	The bidder shall be bound to accompany his bid offer with Call Deposit Receipt (CDR) of Rs. 5000/- (Rupees Five Thousand only) drawn from any Nationalized bank, pledged to the Accounts Officer, Municipal Council Shopian, (without which offers shall be liable for rejection)

1. Bids must be accompanied with the cost of tender document in shape of Bank Challan /Receipt (Credited to A/c No. SB-0018040100000611 maintained at Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd. Branch: Shopian (Main) in favour of Chief Executive Officer, Municipal Council Shopian amounting to Rs. 200/- (Two Hundred Only) and Bank Challan as perform at Annexure– 1, below in favour of Executive Officer, Municipal Council Shopian.
2. The date and time of opening of bids shall be notified on website. The bids of the responsive bidders shall be opened online on the same website https://jktenders.gov.in/ in the office of the Chief Executive Officer, Municipal Council Shopian.
3. BID SECURITY.
a) Bid Security Declaration: The bid security declaration shall be submitted as per the Format Annexure – 2 (format for the bid security declaration).
4. That, the successful bidder shall have to provide Back Hoe Loader, Dumper, and Tractor with snow leveller, whenever required by MC Shopian for snow clearance of the Town Shopian.
5. The Quantity of the machinery and vehicles to be engaged for Snow clearance may increase or decrease depending upon heaviness /depth of snow fall from time to time and rates to be provided for extra machinery and vehicles will be same (including T & Cs) as quoted in response to this tender.
6. The Machinery/ Vehicle operators must operated day and night as and when required by MC Shopian. Further the vehicles / machinery must operate / engage in close supervision of the officials of the MC Shopian only.
7. The work done claim shall be valid and entertained only after successful report and clearance/work done statement from deputed nodal officials/ supervisory staff, countersigned by Sanitary Inspector of MC Shopian.
8. The successful bidder shall provide the Machinery and vehicles along with fuel charges and no separate fuel will be provided by this institution. Hence rates quoted must be inclusive of fuel.
9. The Machinery/ Vehicles must be readily available as and when predictions will be announced by meteorological department J&K and no eleventh-hour arrangement will be allowed.
10. The interested Agencies/ Contractors must quote their rates for each machinery either hour wise or trip wise as applicable as per above vehicle table.The Lowest quoted rates shall be treated as successful bidder. However, its important to note that the rates quoted shall be inclusive of All Taxes like GST/Cess/other Taxes etc i,e the taxes are to be borne by the successful agency only.
11. The Machine operators must be having a valid License as applicable under MV Act.
12. The Contractor/Agency must not act/ do any job without supervisory staff, if so same work done shall be treated as null & Void.
13. The Successful Contractor must keep the requisite vehicles ready in the office premises of MC Shopian, as & when requested or at the time of Forecast.
14. The Contractor must ensure engaging the operating staff who have good/ satisfactory conduct and character, any illegal part/ behavior shall result in Lawful action.
15. No Haltage charges for any machinery shall be paid and the Amount due shall be paid for working hours only.
16. The work is of Public Importance (Essential service),Negligence (any) by successful bidder shall invite both Penal & Legal Action as applicable under Law , including Criminal Proceedings.
17. The onus of Damage to any public/private property or any life shall be on the Agency/ Contractor only. Hence the job must be carried out with utmost responsibility.
18. The Condition of the Machines must be good for avoiding any laxity.
19. The buyer reserves the right to cancel the bid any time without any reason/ explanation.
20. Spike less bucket/other measures must be only used for Snow clearance to prevent any road damage.
21. The successful agency shall furnish an affidavit duly sworn before Hon'ble Judicial Magistrate regarding the acknowledgement of the Terms and conditions and providing of machinery on due time, failing which the the allotment shall not be issued and the shall be cancelled ab-initio.
22. The Food/refreshments and accommodation of the Drivers of Vehicles engaged shall be responsibility of the concerned Successful agency/Contractor and Same in no case shall not be claimed from Municipal Council Shopian.

Instructions to the Bidders regarding E-Tendering process:
a) Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit"on website jktenders.gov.in acquaint bid submission process.
b) To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendor.
c) The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
d) Bids will be opened online as per time schedule.
e) Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid.
Note:-Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.
f) The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
g) Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Bank Receipt/challan in favour of Executive Officer, Municipal Council Shopian and bid securing declaration must be uploaded with the bid.
h) The Bidder must have to upload (soft copies) of the following documents (Photostat/ Original should be clearly seen in all respect with Ink Signed and Seal):-
i) Valid original Bank Challan/ Receipt
j) Call Deposit Receipt (CDR)
k) BID Securing Declaration on stamp paper duly attested by Notary.
l) Valid GST IN/PAN Card No.
m) The Bidder should upload the Tender Document form attached below (Not Mandatory).
n) Bidder must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including
o) BID Securing Declaration and tender documents fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid. No document (s) which has / have not been uploaded shall not be entertained in the form of hard copy. However, in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.
p) The Highest Bidder will have to submit hard copies of all documents uploaded one-tending portal before issuance of Allotment.

No: MCSPN/SBM/WAP/SC/2026-27/4599-4601
DIPK-NB-1998/26 Dated: 02.11.2026.

Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer
Municipal Council Shopian.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Mohammad Rafiq Din, R/O:- Pandan Nowhatta, Srinagar hereby inform through this public notice that my son namely Saiful Islam Din is presently studying in Class 9th, Section Blue, Roll No. 4 at Motherland High School, Kaka Mohalla, Khawaja Bazar, Nowhatta, Srinagar. It has been found that in the school records, his name has been mentioned as **"Saif Ul Islam Ud Din"** instead of the correct name **"Saiful Islam Din"** and his father's name has been mentioned as **"Mohammad Rafiq Ud Din"** instead of correct name **"Mohammad Rafiq Din"** and his mother's name has been mentioned as **"Asiya"** instead of correct name **"Asiya Rafiq"**. Now I have applied for the correction of my son's name, father's name and mother's name in his school records. If anybody has any objection in this regard, he/she may file the same in the office of the Principal, Motherland High School within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, after which no objection shall be entertained.

Mohammad Rafiq Din
F/O:- Saiful Islam Din
R/O:- Pandan Nowhatta, Srinagar

Media Line Advt

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform all concerned that under PNB Metlife policy number 20930557 issued on 28 September 2012 for a term of 15 years, the existing policy holder details are recorded as Tabasum Reshi R/O Adalat Masjid, Hawal, Srinagar DOB 15/08/1972 are requested to be updated to Tawheeda Tabasum R/O Nari Bal, Soura, Srinagar DOB 27/06/1972. Henceforth, I shall be known by my new name, date of birth and address for all purposes. This change is being requested based on all valid KYC documents. If anybody has any objections he/she may report to Branch office (Baghat) of PNB Metlife within 7 days from publishing of this notice. No objections can be entertained after that time period.

Media Line Advt

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my Scooter number plate JK04G 1238
If some one found please return. In other case I have applied for duplicate. In this regard in any body having any objection contact ARTO BUDGAM within 7 days.
MOHD ASHRAF MALIK. S/O ABDUL AZIZ MALIK R/O HARIPORA BUDGAM CELL. 7006284734

mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is the information for general public, I have lost my original drug licence under licence no: SW16584/85 under style of JAY-ENN PHARMACEUTICALS Rambagh srinagar (JandK) . I have applied for the cancelation of the same above said .Objection if any may be informed to deputy drug controller srinagar within 7 days from the date of publication of the notice.
Nissar Ahmad Allaie
S/o :Ali Mohd Allaie
R/o:Pulwama

fko

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub.. Application of Waseem Hassan s/o Ghulam Hassan Khan R/o Babagund Mamoosa for issuance of dependent certificate..

PUBLIC NOTICE

IT is inform to general public that applicant's father dependent certificate is under process in this office in this matter report was sought from Patwari concerned which reveals that applicants father namely Ghulam Hassan Khan s/o Mohd Amin Khan R/o Babagund Mamoosa passed away on 11/07/2026 and the dependents at the time of death on deceased are as under...
1 Waseem Hassan son of deceased .
2 Asha Bano wife of deceased.
In this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he/she may contact to this office within 07 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

SD
fko Naib Tehsildar Pattan

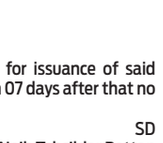
PUBLIC NOTICE

I, ZIAUL REHMAN RATHER, F/o MOHAMMAD ANAS RATHER , R/o Sharkwara Jahangirpora Baramulla, hereby notify the general public that the name of my child, MOHAMMAD ANAS RATHER, bearing Date of Birth 16/07/2020, has been wrongly recorded in the Date of Birth Certificate issued by the Block Medical Officer (BMO), Kreeri, as MOHAMMAD ANAS S/O ZIA-UL -REHMAN
The correct name of my child is MOHAMMAD ANAS RATHER S/O ZIAUL REHMAN RATHER instead of MOHAMMAD ANAS S/O ZIA-UL -REHMAN
I, therefore, request the concerned authorities to kindly take note of the above-mentioned correction and update the records accordingly.
If anybody has any objection regarding the said name correction, he/she may submit the same before the Block Medical Officer (BMO), Kreeri, within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice.
Mobile No.: 9906472686
ZIAUL REHMAN RATHER
Father of the Minor Child
R/o Sharkwara Jagirp ora, Baramulla

fko

The Jammu And Kashmir Board Of School Education

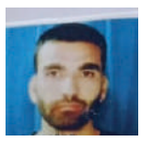
New Campus Bemina Srinagar



I have passed / appeared in SSE/HSE/HSE- (Class 10/11/12") under Roll No: 913361 session: Annual 2015 Year 2013 through THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION. The error has been committed by the state Board of School Education against my name as Showkat Ahmad Shheikh Instead of Showkat Ahmad Mochi
Now have applied for correction in the The Jammu And Kashmir Board Of School Eduration, Sub Office Ganderbal. If any person has any objection in this regard may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Sub Board Office Ganderbal within seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after the expity of said period, no
objection will be entertained This is published for the information of the general public. The correct particulars be recorded as under
Name Showket Ahmed Mochi
Fathers Name: Ali Mohd Mochi
Mothers Name: Jane
Date of Birth: 25/03/1988
Residence Wakura Genderbel
Mobile No: 7006274784

inf

Public Notice



I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class- 10th)under Roll No:. 121004212 Session: Annual (PVT) Year 2026 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. The error has been committed by the self error against my name as Altaf Ahamd Hajam Instead of Altaf Ahmad Hajam
Now, I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. New Campus Bernina. Srinagar, if any person has any objection in this regard, may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Certificates-KD within seven days from the date of Publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period no objection will be entertained.
Altaf Ahmad Hajam
Father's Name : Bashir Ahmad Hajam
Mother's Name : Rahti
DOB: 09-02-199
Residence: Batapora Kanihama
Mobile no: 7889312074

bmg

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Waseem Ahmad Lone, S/o Ghulam Nabi Lone, R/o Lone Mohalla, Kreeri, Baramulla, Jammu & Kashmir, do hereby notify the general public that my daughter's name has been recorded as Lone Haniya in her birth records, whereas her correct and intended name is Haniya Waseem. Her date of birth is 25/06/2025, and she was born at Kreeri, Baramulla. Both names refer to one and the same person. I have applied for correction of her name in the official birth records. Any person having objections, if any, may submit the same to the competent authority within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. No objections shall be entertained thereafter.

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Nasima Begaum, W/o Bashir Ahmad Hurah, R/o Yadipora Palhallan, Post Office Pattan, Tehsil Pattan, District Baramulla, Jammu & Kashmir UT, do hereby notify the general public that my name has been wrongly recorded as Nasima Begum in my Aadhaar Card bearing No. 6141-2308-2394, whereas my correct name is Nasima Begaum. I have applied for correction of my name in the official records and for publication of the requisite notice in the Government Gazette. Objections, if any, may be submitted to the concerned authority within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. No objections shall be entertained thereafter.

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Fayaz Ahmad Wani, F/o Muhammad Khuzaim Wani, R/o Hanjiwera Bala, Tehsil Pattan, Post Office Pattan, District Baramulla, Jammu & Kashmir UT, do hereby notify the general public that my son's name has been wrongly recorded as Khuzaim Fayaz Wani in his Aadhaar Card bearing No. 4861-9412-8001, whereas his actual and correct name is Muhammad Khuzaim Wani. I have applied for correction of his name in the official records and for publication of the requisite notice in the Government Gazette. Objections, if any, may be submitted to the concerned authority within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. No objections shall be entertained thereafter.

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to change the name of my son from Bilawal Bilal to Mohammad Jasir Bhat in school records. in future he will be known as Mohammad Jasir Bhat. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the Fayaz Education Institute Nowgam Srinagar . within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Shafqat Bilal
F/o Mohammad Jasir Bhat
R/o Nowgam Chowk Srinagar

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Azad Ahmad Magray, S/o Bashir Ahmad Magray, R/o Kutpora, Tehsil and District Shopian, Jammu & Kashmir, hereby notify the general public that I maintain a Cash Credit (CC) Account bearing No. 0018020550000165 with J&K Bank, Main Branch Shopian, in my individual name. I have decided to change the title of the said account from my individual name to M/s Azad Fruit Company for carrying out fruit business activities. Any person having objections, if any, may submit the same to J&K Bank, Main Branch Shopian, within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. No objections shall be entertained thereafter.

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost the number plate of my bike bearing regd no: JK01AQ 5340 from Magam to Mazhama. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned ARTO within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Rahil Reyaz
R/o Mazhama Magam

bmg

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Nazma Bano, D/o Mohd Abdullah Pallah, R/o Parray Mohalla, Raipora Palhallan, Tehsil Pattan, District Baramulla, Jammu & Kashmir UT, hereby notify the general public that my name has been wrongly recorded as Nazima Jan in my Aadhaar Card bearing No. 4267-9961-7826, whereas my correct and actual name is Nazma Bano. I have applied for correction of my name in the official records and publication of the requisite notification in the Government Gazette through Govt. Ranbir Press, Jammu. Objections, if any, may be submitted to the concerned authority within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. No objections shall be entertained thereafter.

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Tariq Ahmad Sheikh, F/o Sheikh Aazim, R/o Tantray Pora, Palhallan, Tehsil Pattan, Post Office Pattan, District Baramulla, Jammu & Kashmir UT, hereby notify the general public that my son's name has been wrongly recorded as Sheikh Yamin in his Aadhaar Card bearing No. 3978-6167-3004, whereas his actual and correct name is Sheikh Aazim. I have applied for correction of his name in the official records and publication of the requisite notice in the Government Gazette. Objections, if any, may be submitted to the concerned authority within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. No objections shall be entertained thereafter.

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to change the name on of my ward from Muhammad Deyaar Malla to Muhammad Ehaan Malla. In future He will be know as Muhammad Ehaan Malla. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the office of the Concerned School within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Mudasir Ahmad Malah F/o Mohammad Ehaan Malla
R/o Uttarpora Pahlipora Distt Shopian

fko

The Jammu And Kashmir Board Of School Education

New Campus Bemina Srinagar



I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class- 10th) under Roll No:. 112002210 Session: Annual (PVT) Bi-Annual Year 2025 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. The error has been committed by the self error against my name , father's name and Mother's Name as Faizan Lateef Mir Father's Name: Mohammad Lateef Mir , Mother's Name Rehana Mir instead of Faizan Latif Mir Father's Name Mohd Latif Mir , Mother's Name Rehana Begum
Now, I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. New Campus Bernina. Srinagar, if any person has any objection in this regard, may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Certificates-KD within seven days from the date of Publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period no objection will be entertained.
Faizan Latif Mir
Father's Name : Mohd Latif Mir
Mother's Name : Rehana Begum
DOB: 01-02-2009
Residence: Kehnusa Bandipora
Mobile no:

fko

Strengthen Srinagar Security Grid In Line With Winter Strategy: IGP Kumar Directs Officers

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir, Sujit Kumar, on Monday chaired a comprehensive review meeting on the Srinagar City security grid and directed the officers to strengthen it in line with winter security strategy.

In a post on X, Kashmir Police posted: "IGP Kashmir chaired a comprehensive review meeting on the Srinagar City Security Grid today at Cargo, attended by DIG CKR, DIG SKR, SSPs Srinagar, Budgam, Ganderbal, Pulwama and Awantipora, along with concerned Zonal SPs and SP SOG."

The post further said: "During the meeting, the prevailing security scenario, threat inputs concerning Srinagar and adjoining districts and measures to further strengthen the security grid under the Winter Security Strategy were discussed in detail. The security arrangements and ongoing operational measures along the Jhelum Corridor, particularly in Pulwama and Awantipora, were also reviewed, with emphasis on enhanced inter-district coordination and effective implementation of the Winter Security Strategy."

SMC Suspends Two Officials, Orders Inquiry Into Unauthorised Constructions

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) has placed two officials under suspension over alleged dereliction of duties and ordered a departmental inquiry into the matter.

The Commissioner SMC Dr Basharat Qayoom, IAS, placed Ghulam Hassan Sheikh, Incharge Ward Officer, under suspension with immediate effect, pending an inquiry and until further orders.

The order also appointed Joint Commissioner (Administration) Nuzhat Khurshid Qureshi, JKAS, to conduct an in-depth inquiry into the supervision and monitoring of unauthorised constructions within the officer's jurisdiction.

She has been directed to submit a comprehensive report with specific recommendations.

In a separate order, Jameel Mohammad Sheikh, Senior Building Inspector (In-charge Ward Officer), has also been placed under suspension for dereliction of duties, as per rules.



PDP workers participated in a party convention at Sher-e-Kashmir Park in Srinagar on Monday. KO Photo Abid Bhat

SKIMS Pushes Referral Reforms To Reduce Patient Burden

Director says new college, OPD and IPD blocks planned, focus on specialised treatment within J&K

Agencies

Srinagar: Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) is expanding infrastructure at its main campus and SKIMS Medical College, alongside procuring advanced medical equipment, to strengthen specialised healthcare services and reduce patient dependence on hospitals outside Jammu and Kashmir.

Director SKIMS, Prof Mohammad Ashraf Ganie, according to KNO, said new college, inpatient department (IPD) and outpatient department (OPD) blocks were under construction at SKIMS Medical College as part of efforts to expand capacity.

"We are not focusing only on the main campus. Both institutions are under the same administrative setup, and efforts are being made to improve facilities at both places," he told reporters on the sidelines of a sports programme on Monday.

Prof Ganie said the institute was also acquiring new medical equipment and exploring additional funding sources beyond regular government support to upgrade services.

"Our priority is to continuously improve patient care so that people can receive the treatment they need here instead of having to travel outside Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

On overcrowding and long waiting times, Prof Ganie said the heavy patient load reflected SKIMS' role as a tertiary-care referral centre, with many patients arriving from district and peripheral hospitals, including cases that could be managed at lower levels of care.

He said infrastructure expansion alone would not ease pressure unless the referral system was streamlined.

"As long as the referral system at the peripheral level is not properly organised, the rush at our hospitals will continue. Even when we expand facilities, people still prefer to come to SKIMS," he said.

According to him, the institute is working with peripheral hospitals to ensure that only patients needing specialised treatment are referred to tertiary-care centres.

"We want smaller medical issues to be addressed at the peripheral level and referrals to be made selectively. This will help us focus our resources on patients who genuinely require specialised care," he said.

He stressed that better coordination between district hospitals and tertiary institutions was essential to improve patient flow and optimise healthcare resources.

Meanwhile, Prof Ganie said SKIMS would continue promoting sports and cultural activities across its campuses to support the overall well-being of students and staff.

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

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

HIJRI CALENDAR

22 Jumada al-Awwal 1448

PRAYERS

FAJR	5: 27
ZUHR	12:14
ASR	3: 59
Magrib	5: 40
ISHA	7: 01

This Day In History

- 644 - Umar ibn al-Khattab, second Muslim caliph, is killed by a Persian slave in Medina
- 1493 - Christopher Columbus discovers island of Dominica
- 1861 - Battle of Port Royal, fought in Port Royal Sound, South Carolina begins, Union victory (US Civil War)
- 1862 - Battle until the 5th November between gunboats at Bayou Teche, a waterway in Louisiana
- 1863 - Battle of Grand Coteau in Southwestern Louisiana in the American Civil War
- 1928 - Turkey switches from Arabic to Roman alphabet
- 1931 - First commercially produced synthetic rubber manufactured
- 1936 - President Franklin D. Roosevelt wins a second term in office, defeating Republican candidate Alf Landon in the most lopsided election in American history in terms of electoral vote
- 1944 - Pro-German government of Hungary flees
- 1946 - Emperor Hirohito proclaims a new Japanese constitution
- 1952 - Egypt protests German retribution payments to Israel
- 1954 - Nobel for physics awarded to Max Born & Walter Bothe
- 1955 - First virus crystallized (announced)
- 1957 - USSR launches Sputnik 2 with a dog (Laika), 1st animal in orbit
- 1958 - USSR performs nuclear test
- 1961 - UN General Assembly unanimously elects U Thant as acting
- 196 7 - Vietnam War: The Battle of Dak To begins, becoming one of the bloodiest battles of the war
- 1970 - US President Richard Nixon promises gradual troop removal of Vietnam
- 1970 - Marxist Salvador Allende inaugurated as President of Chile
- 1978 - USSR & Vietnam sign peace & friendship treaty
- 1984 - 3,000 die in 3 day anti-Sikh riot in India
- 1984 - Body of assassinated Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi cremated
- 1986 - Lebanese magazine Ash Shirra reveals secret US arms sales to Iran
- 1988 - Pakistan claims it downed Afghan warplane
- 1988 - President Reagan signs credit-card disclosure-bill
- 1988 - Soviet Union agrees to allow teaching of Hebrew
- 1992 - Bill Clinton (D) wins US presidential election over President George H. W. Bush (R)
- 1994 - Dutch & British astronomers find spiral nebula

Over 100 Screened at Special Health Check-up Camp

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Akshay Labroo inaugurated a special health check-up camp at the DC Office Complex under the District Red Cross Society initiative, aimed at promoting preventive healthcare and early detection of health conditions.

The camp was organised by the District Red Cross Society, Srinagar, in collaboration with Government Gousia Hospital, Khanyar, and the Office of the Chief Medical Officer.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner stressed the importance of regular health check-ups, proactive health monitoring and timely medical intervention, saying such initiatives were essential for ensuring a healthy workforce.

NIT Concludes Vigilance Awareness Week 2026

Observer News Service

Srinagar: As Vigilance Awareness Week 2026 celebrations concluded at the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar, the Institute organised friendly cricket and football matches between faculty members and non-teaching staff, highlighting the importance of integrity, teamwork, discipline and fair play in institutional life.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of President of India, Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer/J&K, Northern Railway, invites open Tender through e-tendering system from reputed Contractors with adequate experience and financial capability for the under mentioned work.

Name of Work	Finish painting with full gloss Polyurethane Enamel with dressing, touching repair, writing and stencilling work of DMU Coaches at DEMU Car shed Budgam for a period of 02 Years
Estimated Cost of Work (Approximate)	Rs.68,36,717.60 (Rs. Sixty-Eight Lakh thirty-six Thousand Seven Hundred seventeen and sixty Paise Only)
Tender Security Amount (Earnest Money Deposit)	Rs. 1,36,700.00 (Rs. One Lakh thirty-six Thousand Seven Hundred Only)
Tender document available for sale on website	As per www.ireps.gov.in
E-Tender closing Date & Time	23.11.2026 at 15:00 Hrs.
Date and time of opening of E-Tender on IREPS website	23.11.2026 at 15:15 Hrs.
Contract Period	24 Months (02 Years)
Type of Tender	Open Tender (Single Packet System)
Validity of Tender	60 Days from the last date of submission of tender
Website	http://www.ireps.gov.in/

Tender No. 09-2026-DEMU_BDGM Dated 30.10.2026 3810/2026

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

From Office of the Advocate M.Afzal And Associates.

In the case of
1. Saif-Ud-din Tantray
2. . Ghulam Rasool Tantray All sons of Late Qadir Tantray3. Mst. Sarwa W/o: Ghulam Mohd Wani
All residents of Khyambyar Tehsil Pattan Baramulla.

(Caveator)

V/s
Public at large

In the Petition in terms of Section 148-A

The caveators have reason to believe that Non-Caveator may file any Application, Petition, Ap- peal, Suit or any other type of proceeding before the Hon'ble Court and on the ground of distorted facts/misrepresentation and cooked story and may seed in obtaining some relief/ order at their back/in exparte against the caveators and in such eventuality the caveators will be put in irrepa- rable loss and inconvenience. It would be proper that caveators be given an opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble court before passing any order.

fko Sd/advocate

J&K Bank

The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd.
IAPM Department,Zonal Office Srinagar,
M. A. Road, (Opposite Women's College), Srinagar-190001, Kashmir.
0194-2452658, Ext.:132;iapmd.kmr@jkbmail.com

POSSESSION NOTICE

Notice under Section 13 (4) of the SARFAESI ACT, 2002 read with Rule 8 (1) of the Security (Enforcement) Interest Rules, 2002

Whereas the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under Section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notice dated 11.08.2026 thereby calling upon the Borrowers namely 1) Abdul Ahad Reshi S/O Ghulam Mohammad Reshi R/O Jeelanabad, Batpora, Zakura, Srinagar (Borrower/Mortgagor) and guarantors namely 2) Jehangir Hussain Mir and Munawar Akeel Shah to repay an amount of Rs. 39,33,772.50 (Rupees Thirty Nine Lacs Thirty Three Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy Two and Paise Fifty Only) being the balance outstanding as on 5.08.2026 in the account of the borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon.

The said borrowers having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrowers in particular and the public in general that the undersigned being authorized officer of the J&K Bank Ltd. has taken symbolic possession of the mortgage property described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on me under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on 31.10.2026.

The borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the J&K Bank Limited for the amount aggregating to Rs.30,93,419.96(Rupees Thirty Lakh Ninety Three Thousand Four Hundred Nineteen & paisa Ninety Six only) as on 31.10.2026 together with future interest thereon from 01.11.2026 and other charges incurred or to be incurred.

The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of the time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable Property

Land Measuring 01 Kanal along with residential house constructed thereon falling under Khasra Nos. 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 174, 175, 179, 185, 186,187, 192, 193, 199 and 200 min of Khata Nos. 1041, 1042 and 1043 and Khewat Nos. 183, 184 and 185 situated in Mouza Batpora, Tehsil Khas, District Srinagar standing in the name of Mr. Abul Ahad Reshi.

Sd/ Authorized Officer

From KO Archives

DTH TV Okayed

Agencies

New Delhi: The Union cabinet today gave its nod for al¬lowing direct-to-home (DTH) television services, which would revolutionize broadcasting in the country. The decision came three days after an eight-member Group of Ministers (GoM) headed by Home Minister L K Advani prepared a unanimous, report favouring DTH, official sources said.

The KU-band DTH service offers greater and direct connectiv¬ity to the viewer providing over 100 channels through a small dish antenna doing away with intermediaries like cable op¬erators. It has enormous penetration power to cover far flung and remote areas.

Promising enhanced picture quality, it also has the scope for interactive TV services like movie on demand and possibil¬ity of introducing value-added services like internet access, e-mail, home-shopping, banking and tele-education.

The GoM was formed nearly two years ago to go into the controversial DTH issue and place its recommendations to the Union Cabinet when Pramod Mahajan was the Information and Broadcasting Minister.

Besides Advani, others in the group are Finance Minister Yashwant Sinha, Defence Minister George Fernandes, Information and Broadcasting Minister Sushma Swaraj, Information Technology Minister Mahajan, Communications Minister Ram Vilas Paswan, Minister Vasundra Raje and Law Minister Arun Jaitley.

(Kashmir Observer, November 03, 2000)

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KO VIEW

Stop Sending Patients Away

Kashmir's public healthcare system has a basic problem: access to treatment still depends largely on where a patient lives.

People in several districts have to travel to Srinagar or other major centres for specialist consultations, medical tests and essential treatment.

This puts an added financial and physical burden on patients and exposes the weakness of healthcare services outside major cities.

The difficulties surrounding dialysis services at Zainapora hospital in Shopian illustrate the problem.

Kidney patients need regular dialysis, often several times a week. Travelling to another district for treatment adds to their expenses and disrupts their routine.

Access to such essential services should not depend on how far patients can travel or whether their families can afford the journey.

The same problem affects emergency and specialist care.

Bandipora's prolonged wait for a trauma hospital shows how patients in remote districts face limited access to emergency treatment. Long journeys to reach an adequately equipped hospital can cost precious time when someone needs immediate medical attention.

Building hospitals is only one part of improving healthcare. A functioning hospital needs specialist doctors, nurses, technicians, diagnostic equipment, medicines and emergency services. Without these essentials, new buildings cannot deliver the treatment people expect.

The number of hospitals built tells only part of the story. What matters is whether patients can actually receive care there.

The shortage of specialists in district hospitals also points to weaknesses in recruitment and staff management.

Doctors posted in remote areas often work with limited facilities and professional support. The government needs a clear recruitment policy, better working conditions and incentives to attract specialists to underserved districts.

Telemedicine can help local doctors consult specialists, but it cannot replace physical examinations or specialised treatment.

District hospitals should be equipped to treat common illnesses, manage chronic conditions and handle emergencies within their capacity. Tertiary hospitals should focus on cases that need advanced medical care.

Such a system would reduce unnecessary referrals and ease the pressure on major hospitals.

The government should also publish district-wise figures on vacant specialist posts, available medical facilities, diagnostic services and patient referrals.

This would help identify areas facing the greatest shortages and make health administrators answerable for them.

Public healthcare cannot be judged by the number of buildings constructed or announcements made. Its real test is whether a patient in Shopian, Bandipora or Kupwara can receive timely treatment close to home.

Kashmir needs hospitals that can treat people where they live, rather than a system that sends them elsewhere whenever they fall ill.

Faith as an Investment Pitch

An investment backed by friendship, community goodwill or religious sentiment still needs financial scrutiny. The real test is whether the company can justify your money and provide a credible exit.



Irshad Mushtaq



> Guaranteed returns, demands to pay immediately, refused accounts, testimonials in place of proof, false claims of regulatory approval and vague exit terms are the signs SEBI treats as scam markers.

The proposal often comes from someone you know and trust.

It promises ethical earnings, local jobs, better schools or development in your own community. The intentions may be genuine, but SEBI takes a different view: good intentions alone do not make an investment safe.

The regulator cautions against guaranteed returns, pressure to pay at once, misleading testimonials and thin paperwork. It says friendship, religious sentiment or fear of missing out should never replace independent examination.

The first question is what the buyer is actually holding.

Equity shares, preference shares and debentures behave differently. In a fresh issue the company receives the subscription money, but when an existing shareholder sells, the payment generally goes to that seller and none of it funds the expansion the promoter describes.

The buyer should check the rights attached to the security, the seller's ownership, the approvals needed and how the purchase will be recorded.

Public records exist for exactly this purpose.

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs runs online services where company filings can be inspected, subject to procedures and fees, while the Registrar of Companies registers firms, maintains their records and oversees compliance within its jurisdiction.

An investor can pull the legal name and Corporate Identification Number, the company's status and registered office, its directors and authorised signatories, annual filings, financial statements, annual returns, charges registered over assets, constitutional documents and transaction filings.

A company secretary can read them for missing or overdue entries. The records let a buyer set the promoter's claims beside the paperwork. They stop short of vouching for returns, because the Registrar neither endorses an asking valuation nor undertakes to find anyone to buy the shares later, and registration is no approval of an investment.

Electronic ownership gets sold as comfort too. Unlisted companies can admit shares into the depository system, which removes the risks of lost, stolen or forged certificates, so the buyer should ask whether the company has an ISIN, whether the shares can be credited to a demat account, when, and who handles the depository arrangements.

If physical certificates are proposed, the buyer needs to know what exemption applies. Rule 9B covers private companies, but exemptions and timelines vary, small and government companies included, so a company secretary should confirm the position for that company.

Demat records who owns the shares and says nothing about profit, fair valuation or ease of sale.

The numbers need an independent chartered accountant. Audited accounts for past years should reveal sales, profits, operating cash flow, loans and the security given for them, repayment obligations, unpaid taxes, auditor qualifications, related-party payments, litigation, contingent liabilities and who owns the important assets.

A forecast is a profit not yet earned. A written plan for the funds should say whether the money will finance expansion, repay debt or flow to related entities.

Earnings per share tells the buyer the profit attributable to one equity share, and the buyer should ask whether it comes from audited history or management projection, whether exceptional gains or future dilution distort it, and whether the figure is basic or diluted.

A price-to-earnings multiple of 20 means paying 20 units for one unit of annual earnings, which is a price and no promise that the money returns in 20 years.

Different earnings periods produce different multiples. A low multiple or an impressive growth forecast leaves debt, governance and liquidity unexamined, and unlisted shares can carry limited pricing transparency.

Ownership can shrink without investors realising it. A shareholding table should show the position before and after the investment, including options, warrants and convertible securities that could reduce an investor's stake later.

An independent lawyer should read voting, information and inspection rights, board representation, approval rights over major decisions, further fundraising, dividends, lock-in and transfer limits, promoter warranties and default remedies against the Articles of Association and existing shareholder arrangements.

A verbal assurance has no standing beside any of it.

The sharpest question concerns the exit, and it belongs before the cheque.

Who could buy the shares? Is anyone bound to? How will the price be set, can an outside buyer be found, which approvals apply and when must payment be completed?

An answer in writing is the only kind worth having. A promoter's willingness to consider buying differs from a duty to buy, a buyback comes with legal conditions, and a future IPO is a possibility with no date attached.

Ending an agreement, ending a lock-in and receiving money back are three separate events, and the first two guarantee nothing about the third.

Words such as "halal," "ethical" or "community investment" describe intended values, and they establish no regulatory compliance, financial strength or dependable exit.

The investor should ask two questions apart: whether the investment meets his beliefs, and whether it is sound, lawful and suitable for him.

Anyone who calls a request for accounts disloyalty, or who claims a religious endorsement removes risk, is asking for trust in place of evidence.

Reporting on Heera Gold showed how claims of halal investments and trust within the community attracted investors. The Enforcement Directorate has alleged that the company promised unusually high returns and failed to repay investors.

Those remain allegations by an investigating authority. The concern is the misuse of trust, and no religion or community is its target.

Other Indian cases show how legal labels mislead.

Proceedings over debentures issued by two unlisted Sahara companies showed that calling fundraising private did not settle its legal character.

SEBI found that PACL had mobilised 49,100 crore through collective investment schemes without the registration the law demands, and recovery proceedings followed non-compliance.

Neither case should be called a religious fraud without evidence, and neither should be used to accuse an unrelated company.

Guaranteed returns, demands to pay immediately, refused accounts, testimonials in place of proof, false claims of regulatory approval and vague exit terms are the signs SEBI treats as scam markers.

It has also cautioned that exchange-based protections are unavailable for dealings on unauthorised platforms in unlisted public-company shares.

A company can be genuine, its promoters respected and its purpose worthy, and the investment can still be wrong for the person holding the shares.

The better question to put to a trusted friend, before any signature, is who buys these shares if nobody wants them.

The author is a Srinagar-based financial educator, and can be reached at drm757@gmail.com.

The Tribal Education Test

Educational equality begins when schools recognise individual learning needs and give tribal students the resources, guidance and confidence to pursue their ambitions.



Mudasir Gani Khan

I teach in a school where all enrolled students belong to the Scheduled Tribe community.

Over time, I have realised something that often gets lost in discussions about educational disadvantage: these children have the ability, curiosity and ambition to succeed. Their circumstances, however, can make the road to learning considerably harder.

A child may enter a classroom with the same curiosity as any other student, but the opportunities waiting outside that classroom can be very different.

Geography, household finances, limited educational support at home and inadequate school facilities all influence how much a child learns.

We often see school admissions as a sign of progress, but pay less attention to whether children are actually learning once they enter the classroom.

Scheduled Tribe students in remote parts of Jammu and Kashmir need good teaching, proper support and equal opportunities to pursue their ambitions.

My experience as a teacher has shown me that learning difficulties are often mistaken for a lack of ability. Some students struggle with basic reading, writing and numeracy. Many depend almost entirely on their teachers for academic guidance because their parents have limited formal education or face economic pressures that leave little time for school-related involvement.

These circumstances call for greater attention from schools.

A student who struggles with reading needs patient instruction and individual support, rather than another examination that records poor performance. Regular attendance, continuous assessment and timely remedial teaching can help identify learning gaps before they become harder to address.

Classroom teaching also needs to connect with children's everyday experiences.

Storytelling, educational games, practical exercises and locally available learning materials can make lessons easier to understand. A child who finds a textbook difficult may respond better when an idea is explained through an activity or a common example.

Such approaches demand commitment from teachers, particularly in remote schools where educational resources remain limited. They also demand an understanding that children learn at different speeds and need different forms of encouragement.

The family plays an equally important part in this process. Parents are often described as partners in education, but that partnership can be difficult to build when households face economic hardship and adults have had limited opportunities for formal schooling themselves.

Some parents may struggle to help with homework or understand the academic expectations placed on their children. Their limited involvement should not automatically be interpreted as indifference.

A parent who cannot explain a mathematics problem can still ask a child about school, check attendance, encourage reading and appreciate an effort made in the classroom.

Schools can help establish this connection through regular parent-teacher meetings, direct communication and awareness programmes. Teachers should make parents feel welcome rather than treating school engagement as another responsibility they have failed to fulfill.

A child who receives encouragement at home and guidance at school has a stronger foundation for learning. Building that support requires patience from both sides.

The physical condition of a school also influences what happens inside it. Textbooks and teachers alone cannot provide a satisfactory learning environment. Safe classrooms, clean drinking water, functional toilets, electricity and appropriate teaching materials are basic necessities.

Children need classrooms where they feel comfortable asking questions, making mistakes and participating in activities. Emotional security is as important as physical infrastructure.

A student who feels ignored or embarrassed may gradually withdraw from classroom participation, even when the ability to learn is present.

Teachers can improve learning through creativity and practical classroom activities, but their commitment cannot compensate indefinitely for shortages in basic facilities. Educational authorities and school management must ensure that remote institutions receive the resources they need.

Teachers have many responsibilities. We are expected to complete the syllabus, assess students, identify their learning difficulties and prepare them for examinations. But our work goes beyond helping children score good marks. We must also help them communicate clearly, build confidence, think creatively and solve problems.

A child who begins to read independently after struggling with basic words has made genuine progress. A student who finds the confidence to speak in class has achieved something that a marksheet may never capture. Schools should recognise these improvements alongside academic performance.

Teachers also need professional development, adequate learning materials and constructive support from school leadership. Educational authorities must recognise the difficulties faced by schools in geographically isolated communities rather than expecting identical outcomes from institutions working under very different conditions.

School admission should lead to wider opportunities. Scheduled Tribe students need equal access to higher education, career guidance and the freedom to pursue their ambitions.

Many students may be unaware of scholarships, government educational support schemes or the range of careers they can pursue. Schools can help by guiding them through these opportunities and introducing them to pathways beyond their immediate surroundings.

Such guidance can change how a child imagines the future. A student who has spent most of childhood in a remote village should be able to consider higher education, professional careers and public life without feeling that geography or family income has already decided the limits of ambition.

This responsibility belongs to more than teachers. Parents, school management committees, educational authorities, local representatives and civil society must work together to improve educational outcomes. Authorities must provide facilities and learning resources, schools must maintain inclusive classrooms, and families must encourage attendance and participation.

My experience has strengthened my belief that the children I teach are capable of much greater progress when given appropriate support. Their circumstances should inform how we teach them, rather than determine what we expect from them.

A school should open doors to learning, higher education and wider opportunities. Our education system must be judged by how well it prepares a child from a remote tribal community to pursue those opportunities, long after admission is complete.

The author is a teacher based in Banihal, Jammu and Kashmir. He can be reached at ganimudasir@gmail.com.

A Kashmiri Scientist's Quest to Clean Water

Environmental chemist Aaliya Qureashi discusses her research into affordable pollution-detection technologies, the challenges facing researchers in Kashmir and her ambitions for young women in science.



Aashiq Hussain Andrabi

What began as a disappointing academic choice has brought Aaliya Qureashi international recognition and immense pride for her family and friends.

The Kashmir-born scientist, who initially wanted to study botany, has now been named among the world's top 2 per cent of scientists in the Stanford-Elsevier ranking for her work in environmental chemistry.

Qureashi, an environmental chemist, specialises in developing sustainable materials to detect and remove pollutants, particularly from water.

Her research explores how agricultural waste can be converted into useful materials for tackling contamination by heavy metals and pesticides. Her work also includes magnetic nanomaterials and carbon-based materials such as biochar.

Her scientific journey has included a Department of Science and Technology-funded Women Scientist project and the Best Thesis Award from the Indian National Young Academy of Science.

It has also involved failed experiments, limited access to advanced laboratory equipment and delays in research funding, challenges that researchers in Kashmir routinely encounter.

After completing her master's in chemistry at the University of Kashmir in 2014, Qureashi went on to build a research career with the support of her teachers, mentors and family. Her parents, in particular, encouraged her to pursue higher education despite the social expectations often placed on women.

Today, she hopes to take her research beyond the laboratory and develop affordable technologies that could help protect Kashmir's lakes, rivers and groundwater. She also wants to mentor young researchers, especially women, and help them pursue careers in science.

In this interview, Qureashi discusses her unexpected journey into chemistry, the science behind her research, the challenges facing Kashmir's research community and why she believes a student's geographical location should never limit their scientific ambitions.

Congratulations on being named among the Stanford-Elsevier Top 2% Scientists. What went through your mind when you saw your name on the list? Does the recognition mean something beyond the title?

I was very pleased to see my name on the list. I see this recognition as an acknowledgment of the hard work, dedication and perseverance that have gone into my research.

What made it particularly special was seeing how happy my family, friends and teachers were. Their support has been invaluable throughout my journey, and sharing this moment with them made the achievement even more meaningful.

I feel humbled and grateful. The recognition also motivates me to keep learning, explore new ideas and contribute further to science. For me, the real value of such recognition lies in the encouragement it gives me to continue doing meaningful work.

You initially gravitated towards botany, and chemistry came into your life through your master's admission at the University of Kashmir. How did a subject you were initially apprehensive about become your career?

At Government College for Women, M.A. Road, I was more interested in botany. When I was selected for a master's programme in chemistry at the University of Kashmir, I initially felt disappointed. I had heard how challenging the subject could be.

My teachers gradually changed that perception. Their enthusiasm, practical experiments and hands-on training helped me understand chemistry in a completely different way. I began enjoying the subject and developed a genuine interest in exploring it further.

After completing my master's in 2014, I prepared for the Junior Research Fellowship examination, although I did not qualify. I then appeared for the University of Kashmir's regular PhD entrance examination and cleared it. That experience taught me an important lesson: one setback should never be allowed to end an ambition.

My family's support was equally important. In our society, parents often face questions about their daughters' marriage when they pursue higher education for several years. My parents never allowed those expectations to become a burden on me. They trusted my decisions and gave me the freedom to continue studying.

That faith gave me the confidence to pursue research.

Your research deals with detecting and removing pollutants from water. How would you explain your work to someone who has never stepped inside a chemistry laboratory? What problem are you ultimately trying to solve?

Water can look perfectly clear while containing pollutants that are invisible to the human eye. My research addresses two closely connected questions: how do we detect those contaminants, and how can we remove them?

I usually explain it through a medical analogy. Think of sensing as a medical test that identifies a problem. Once we know what is present, removal becomes the treatment process.

My work explores materials that can perform these functions. Some help detect contaminants, while others can capture unwanted substances from water.

The larger aim is to develop technologies that make water cleaner and safer for people and the environment. I am particularly interested in approaches that combine effectiveness with affordability and environmental sustainability.

You have explored low-cost materials such as biochar and waste-derived carbon. Why did you choose this approach, and what potential does it hold for a region like Kashmir, with its extensive agricultural and horticultural activity?

I wanted to explore materials for water treatment that could be effective, affordable and environmentally responsible.

My mentor, Professor Altaf Hussain Pandith, and senior colleagues encouraged me to investigate alternatives to





conventional materials, particularly those with lower toxicity and a smaller environmental footprint.

One interesting possibility involves agricultural residues. Certain forms of agricultural waste can be converted into biochar and other carbon-based materials. These materials have properties that allow them to capture certain pollutants from water.

This approach is particularly interesting for Kashmir because we have considerable agricultural and horticultural activity. Suitable waste materials could find a useful second life in environmental applications, creating opportunities to address local pollution problems through locally available resources.

There are several considerations, though. The cost of raw materials represents only one part of the process. Preparation, treatment performance and the safe handling of pollutants captured by these materials also need attention.

The broader idea is to develop sustainable materials that make environmental protection more accessible.

Your work includes sensors for detecting heavy metals, pesticides such as glyphosate and chlorpyrifos, and even dopamine. Which of these projects has given you the greatest satisfaction? What have you learned from developing materials for such different applications?

It is difficult to single out one achievement because different projects have presented different scientific challenges and lessons.

Our work progressed through several generations of materials, beginning with magnetite and moving towards magnetic zero-valent iron, including systems combined with biochar.

We explored how the properties of these materials could be modified for different applications. Some of our work focused on detecting heavy metals, while other projects examined pesticides such as glyphosate and chlorpyrifos. We also explored applications involving dopamine.

The interesting part is understanding how changes in a material's composition and properties can make it suitable for a particular purpose.

I am proud of the progress we have made because these projects have expanded our understanding of the potential applications of magnetic materials. At the same time, translating laboratory findings into reliable technologies for practical use remains an important part of the work ahead.

Research often looks very different from the finished scientific paper. What were the hardest moments during your PhD? Were there times when experiments failed repeatedly and you wondered how to move forward?

Absolutely. Some of the most difficult moments came when an experiment that had worked perfectly the previous week suddenly started producing inconsistent results.

We would sometimes spend weeks preparing samples, only to face long waiting periods for instrument time at external research centres. Access to advanced characterisation facilities was limited, and that could slow down an entire project.

Kashmir's harsh winters created another set of challenges. Maintaining consistent experimental conditions could become difficult during particularly cold periods.

These experiences taught me that research demands patience, adaptability and the willingness to start again when something goes wrong.

What made those difficult days manageable was the support of my supervisor, colleagues and labmates. They became like family. We helped one another troubleshoot experiments, exchanged ideas and celebrated even small breakthroughs.

And, of course, there was always chai!

Those tea breaks were an important part of our laboratory life. We discussed science, shared frustrations and laughed about the challenges we faced. Some of my fondest memories of the PhD years come from those moments as much as from successful experiments.

I learned that science tests your patience as much as your knowledge. A failed experiment can teach you something valuable, and a small breakthrough can give you the motivation to continue.

You received the Best Thesis Award from the Indian National Young Academy of Science and led a DST-funded Women Scientist project during your PhD. How did these experiences change your confidence as a researcher, particularly as a woman working in science?

Leading a DST Women Scientist project during my PhD was a turning point. It gave me the opportunity to take ownership of my work, make scientific decisions and understand the responsibilities involved in leading a research project.

I learned that independence means having the confidence to make decisions, seeking guidance when necessary and accepting responsibility for your work.

Financial independence also gave me greater security and freedom to pursue my ambitions.

Receiving the Best Thesis Award later was deeply emotional. It meant a great deal to me, particularly after the challenges of conducting research with limited resources in Kashmir.

I am also fortunate to have a supportive family and a husband who understands the demands of scientific research and believes in my abilities.

My advice to young women is to avoid measuring their journey against someone else's timeline. Find good mentors, believe in your potential and allow yourself the freedom to pursue your ambitions.

Supporting others does not diminish your own success. It makes the journey more meaningful.

Your materials have shown promising results in the laboratory. How close are they to being used in actual water-treatment systems or environmental monitoring? What stands between a scientific discovery and a technology that people can use?

Our research has indeed demonstrated promising potential. We have developed materials capable of detecting different contaminants and, in certain cases, removing them from water. Their relatively low cost and magnetic recoverability are encouraging features.

However, laboratory performance is only the beginning. Real water samples contain complex mixtures of substances, and these can influence how a sensor performs. A material that works well under controlled laboratory conditions must also demonstrate reliable performance in actual environmental settings.

We need further field validation, improved selectivity and reproducibility, long-term stability studies and realistic assessments of cost and scalability.

Collaboration will be particularly important at this stage. Industries, environmental agencies and research institutions can help bridge the distance between laboratory discoveries and practical applications.

I believe scientific research should contribute to solving real-world problems. Publications and academic recognition are valuable, but the larger achievement comes when research produces something useful for society.

You have worked within Kashmir's university research system. What strengths do you see in its scientific environment? Can researchers here produce work that competes internationally despite limited resources?

Kashmir's greatest strength is its talented and determined young researchers.

At the University of Kashmir, I have seen how scientific curiosity, mentorship and teamwork can produce meaningful research even when resources are limited.

Our work on magnetic materials for detecting environmental contaminants is one example. Through resourcefulness and collaboration with external institutions, we explored different material designs despite having limited access to advanced characterisation facilities.

There is considerable scientific talent here. Young researchers have ideas, ambition and the willingness to work hard.

What we need is stronger research infrastructure, easier access to specialised scientific facilities and closer partnerships between universities and industries. These improvements would help researchers take their work beyond laboratory experiments and towards practical applications.

Kashmir has the intellectual capacity to contribute to international scientific research. We need an environment that allows that potential to grow.

You have spoken about limited access to instruments and funding delays. Could you explain how these difficulties affect the actual process of conducting research in Kashmir? What changes would make the biggest difference?

Limited access to advanced scientific instruments and delays in research funding have been two major challenges in my experience.

Researchers often depend on external institutions for specialised analyses. Waiting for instrument time can delay experiments and hold up entire research projects.

Funding delays create another set of problems. Even when a project has received financial approval, purchasing chemicals, accessing contingency funds or clearing expenses for characterisation can take considerable time.

Sometimes the challenge comes down to accessing approved funds when the research actually needs them.

Kashmir's harsh winters can also complicate experimental work, particularly when maintaining consistent laboratory conditions becomes difficult.

Well-equipped shared research facilities would make a significant difference. Researchers should have easier access to advanced instruments without depending so heavily on institutions outside the region.

We also need simpler administrative procedures, timely access to research funds, more opportunities for international collaboration and advanced scientific training.

Researchers in Kashmir have ideas and determination. They need institutional systems that allow them to devote more time to science and less time to administrative hurdles.

You repeatedly mention the role of mentors and colleagues in your journey. Who influenced you most, and how important has that support been in helping you become an independent researcher?

My achievements have never been an individual effort. I am deeply grateful to my mentor, Professor Altaf Hussain Pandith, who encouraged me to think independently, explore new ideas and develop confidence in my abilities.

His trust in me to guide other students also taught me an important lesson about mentorship. A mentor shares knowledge, encourages independent thinking and helps others recognise their potential.

I am equally grateful to Dr Faheem Arjamend for his encouragement.

The Department of Chemistry at the University of Kashmir has also played a central role in my development. I completed my master's there in 2014, and my teachers and senior colleagues later entrusted me with responsibilities involving the organisation of conferences, chemistry camps and training programmes.

These experiences helped me develop skills beyond laboratory research and understand the wider responsibilities of an academic career.

My colleagues, family, friends and husband have also been extremely supportive.



As a woman in science, working in an environment where you feel safe, respected and encouraged makes an enormous difference. A good mentor helps you recognise what you are capable of achieving and inspires you to extend the same support to others.

Kashmir's lakes, rivers and groundwater face growing pollution pressures. Could your research eventually contribute to monitoring and protecting these water bodies? Would you like to work directly with local communities and policymakers?

Absolutely. Kashmir's lakes, rivers and freshwater resources are integral to its environment, livelihoods and cultural identity. Their vulnerability to pollution makes environmental protection a responsibility that researchers should take seriously.

My research on magnetic nanomaterials for detecting and removing contaminants, including heavy metals and pesticides, could eventually contribute to affordable water-quality monitoring.

However, most of our work remains at the laboratory stage. We need further testing and field validation before these materials can become part of practical monitoring or treatment systems.

I would welcome stronger collaboration between universities, environmental agencies, local communities and policymakers.

Monitoring pesticide residues in agricultural runoff could be one useful area of cooperation. We could also explore ways to detect contaminants in local water bodies and assess the potential of these materials for environmental applications.

Such partnerships would help connect scientific research with the problems communities experience.

Seeing my work contribute to the protection of Kashmir's lakes, rivers and freshwater resources would be deeply rewarding.

Young students in Kashmir often look at well-funded universities and internationally recognised research institutions and wonder whether they can compete with scientists elsewhere. What would you tell someone who has those doubts?

Never allow your geographical location or limited resources to define your potential.

Coming from Kashmir, I understand that accessing certain opportunities can be difficult. However, those challenges should never make you doubt your abilities.

Make the most of the opportunities available to you. Find good mentors, build collaborations and reach out to researchers beyond your institution. Scientific curiosity and determination are valuable wherever you begin your journey.

Also, avoid measuring your progress against someone else's achievements. You do not need to come from a prestigious institution to ask important scientific questions or make valuable discoveries.

Kashmir has no shortage of talent. Young researchers need confidence, opportunities and the courage to pursue their ambitions.

I would encourage students to remain curious, work hard and believe that their ideas can contribute to science at an international level.

Looking five to ten years ahead, what would you like your scientific career to look like? Beyond awards, rankings and publications, what would give you a sense of having achieved something meaningful?

I hope to establish myself as an independent researcher, lead meaningful scientific projects and develop sustainable materials for environmental protection and clean energy technologies.

One of my main ambitions is to help translate promising laboratory discoveries into affordable and practical solutions.

I also want to give back to Kashmir by mentoring young researchers, building collaborations and helping students access opportunities beyond the region. Having experienced the challenges of conducting research with limited resources, I understand how much the right guidance and encouragement can mean.

Encouraging young women to pursue science with confidence and independence is particularly close to my heart.

Success for me goes beyond awards, publications and international rankings. It means contributing to meaningful discoveries, helping other researchers grow and giving something valuable back to the community that has supported my journey.

I would feel particularly fulfilled if a young researcher from Kashmir found the confidence and opportunities to pursue an ambitious scientific career, perhaps with some encouragement from me.

Ultimately, I want my work to contribute to science while helping create opportunities for others to follow their own paths.

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SRINAGAR | TUESDAY | 03.11.2026

Civil Secretariat

marked the resumption of the biannual administrative arrangement under which the government shifts its offices between Jammu and Srinagar.

Security arrangements were strengthened across Jammu, with police and paramilitary personnel deployed in key areas, particularly around the Secretariat. Security was also stepped up along important roads and around vital installations, officials said.

Ahead of the reopening, the Civil Secretariat underwent renovation and a facelift. Government buildings and residential accommodation for employees were also renovated.

Introduced by the Dogra rulers in 1872, the Durbar Move was aimed at allowing the administration to escape the harsh winter conditions of the Kashmir Valley by shifting its base to Jammu during the colder months.

The practice continued after Independence and evolved into an important administrative and economic link between the two regions. The biannual movement of thousands of government employees and their families to Jammu provided a significant boost to the local economy, particularly businesses and markets during the winter season.

However, the practice was discontinued in 2021 by the Lieutenant Governor-led administration, citing the transition to e-office and the need to save crores of rupees in expenditure.

The decision had triggered criticism, particularly from the business community in Jammu, which viewed the movement of the administration as a major source of economic activity.

The Omar Abdullah-led government restored the Durbar Move in October 2025, fulfilling an electoral promise and reviving the decades-old administrative arrangement between Jammu and Srinagar.

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather on Monday defended the restoration of the practice, saying the decision was taken after careful consideration and in response to people's wishes.

"The government has taken a decision after careful consideration that the Durbar Move should be restored. The people here wanted it to be restored, and we respect their wishes," Rather told reporters at the Legislative Assembly Chamber on the first day of the Durbar Move in Jammu.

Rather said there was nothing new about the practice, which had been followed for decades before being discontinued for a few years.

He said the restoration was in accordance with the wishes of the people and asserted that the long-standing tradition would continue to serve the people of both regions.

On the Budget Session, likely to be held early next year, Rather expressed confidence in its smooth conduct, saying handling legislative sessions was not a new challenge for him, given his four decades of experience.

Referring to the previous Budget Session, he said representatives of all political parties, including the Opposition, had been given an opportunity to express their views and concerns.

He said almost all members had expressed satisfaction with the manner in which the proceedings were conducted.

On the induction of four new ministers into the government, Rather said he expected both new and experienced ministers to work in accordance with the wishes and aspirations of the people.

Next 6 Months

ongoing works.

Chairing an introductory meeting with ministers and senior officers of the civil administration at the Civil Secretariat here, following the resumption of the traditional biannual Darbar Move, Omar stressed that administrative functioning must remain focused and unaffected by external distractions.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, all ministers, Advisor to the Chief Minister, Acting Chief Secretary Shailendra Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, administrative secretaries, heads of departments and senior civil and police officers. Officers stationed outside Jammu joined through video conferencing.

At the outset, Acting Chief Secretary Shailendra Kumar briefed the meeting on administrative arrangements and key issues concerning the functioning of various departments, including preparations for the 2027-28 Budget.

The Deputy Chief Minister and other ministers also highlighted issues of public importance and sought the administration's cooperation for their timely resolution.

Addressing the meeting, Omar asked newly inducted ministers and those assigned new portfolios to undertake detailed reviews of their respective departments and assess the implementation status of commitments made during the previous Budget.

He said the reviews should identify completed projects, ongoing works and projects yet to be initiated, along with the reasons for delays and measures required to expedite implementation.

The Chief Minister also called for a comprehensive review of the government's manifesto commitments to assess progress and identify further steps needed for their fulfilment.

Emphasising the need for close monitoring of developmental projects, particularly those being implemented under the Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI), he directed ministers to regularly review their progress and ensure timely execution.

For the financial year 2027-28, Omar asked all departments to prepare project proposals and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) well in advance for projects proposed under SASCI. Departments were also directed to keep DPRs and tender documents ready so that tendering and other preparatory formalities could be completed ahead of time, enabling work to begin immediately after allocations were received.

He said the directions had already been conveyed to departments and reiterated the need for their effective implementation.

The ministers were also asked to undertake reviews of the districts assigned to them at the earliest and ensure close monitoring of developmental works.

Reviewing winter preparedness, the Chief Minister stressed the need to maintain uninterrupted essential services through effective inter-departmental coordination. Taking note of concerns regarding ration dumping in certain areas, he asked the concerned department to address the issue and ensure adequate availability of essential commodities.

Omar also called for a proactive approach towards budget formulation, directing departments to initiate consultations with the Finance and Planning Departments well in advance for preparation of the next financial year's Budget.

He observed that early identification of priorities and preparation of realistic proposals would provide adequate time for proper consideration and help avoid last-minute inclusion of commitments that might be difficult to implement.

The Chief Minister also emphasised the need to ensure comfortable working and living arrangements for employees who have shifted to Jammu in connection with the Darbar Move.

He directed the administration to address shortcomings relating to accommodation, office facilities and other essential requirements to ensure smooth and efficient functioning of the Secretariat.

Calling upon ministers and officers to work in close coordination, Omar stressed the need for a focused approach towards effective implementation of developmental commitments and public welfare initiatives.

Later, the Chief Minister visited the chambers of newly inducted ministers and inspected various rooms, sections and offices of the Civil Secretariat. He interacted with staff and officials and took stock of the facilities and arrangements put in place following the reopening of the Secretariat.

He was accompanied by his Cabinet colleagues and other senior officers.

Cops, Courts,

intervention and 20 received shelter.

The centre handles complaints involving domestic violence, sexual harassment, dowry demands and property disputes. Its work often involves connecting women with medical services, legal assistance and police intervention.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development's published dashboard gives another indication of the demand.

Jammu and Kashmir's 20 operational One Stop Centres assisted 3,605 women during 2024-25. Another 2,251 received assistance between April and June 2025, according to the dashboard.

These figures cover women seeking help for different forms of violence and distress. They do not refer to domestic violence alone.

Behind these numbers are personal stories that statistics cannot fully explain.

At a family wedding, relatives once wondered why a second cousin, a postgraduate in English and a trained beautician, had stopped attending family gatherings. Her sister eventually explained that the woman had withdrawn from family life after marriage.

Her husband allegedly subjected her to repeated physical abuse and restricted her movements. Visits to her parents became difficult, and she stopped attending family gatherings. She also faced abuse from her husband and mother-in-law for failing to give birth to a male child.

"The cruelty is especially disturbing because science is clear," says Dr. Tasleema Akhtar, a general physician who treats women affected by domestic violence in Kashmir. "The father's sperm determines a child's biological sex. The mother contributes an X chromosome, while the father contributes either an X or a Y chromosome. Still, some women face humiliation and abuse for giving birth to daughters."

Another case involves a law student whose fiancé allegedly assaulted her, tried to cut her hair and attempted to tear her clothes during an aggressive episode.

Her experience shows the distance between studying the law and finding protection within an intimate relationship.

"These stories show how domestic abuse affects women in different ways," says Shafia Batool, a Srinagar-based sociologist. "Some suffer physical injuries. Others are cut off from their parents, forced to give up their careers or confined to their homes. Sexual abuse, emotional humiliation and financial control can accompany physical violence."

The National Family Health Survey-5 provides a wider picture of domestic violence in Jammu and Kashmir.

Its 2019-21 findings show that 12.9 per cent of ever-married women aged 18 to 49 had experienced emotional, physical or sexual violence by their husbands. The share reporting physical or sexual violence stood at 9.6 per cent.

The latest National Crime Records Bureau figures add another dimension. Jammu and Kashmir registered 3,366 crimes against women in 2024, compared with 3,653 in 2023.

"These figures cover a broader category of offences and cannot be treated as domestic violence counts," Batool says. "The decline in overall registered crimes against women also cautions against treating the rise in One Stop Centre complaints as proof that violence itself has increased. More women may be approaching support institutions, while the actual scale of abuse remains difficult to establish."

The figures show a growing demand for help, but provide little information about how institutions respond to complaints. How many lead to FIRs? How many reach the courts? How many women receive legal protection, medical care, counselling or shelter?

Without consolidated data, it is difficult to assess how well the support system is working.

"The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, provides remedies against physical, sexual, emotional, verbal and economic abuse," says Saim Bashir, a lawyer practising at Srinagar District Court.

"But laws alone cannot protect women facing family pressure, financial dependence and social stigma. They need accessible legal aid, safe accommodation, responsive police officers and support beyond the first complaint. Families and communities must also stop asking women to preserve marriages at the cost of their own well-being."

Beenish spent years enduring abuse before finding the courage to walk into a police station with her medical reports. Asked to put her pain into writing, she took the first step towards justice.

Her complaint is now in the hands of the police. What follows would determine whether she could finally live free of abuse, and whether other women who speak out would find the protection they came seeking.

Security Tightened

sectors, while Sunderbani remains among the sensitive areas in the Jammu region, another official said.

Along the International Border, Border Security Force (BSF) personnel have intensified round-the-clock patrolling and surveillance, particularly at vulnerable locations. Electronic monitoring systems, drones and other modern equipment are also being used to detect suspicious movement.

Officials said troops deployed along the LoC had increased area domination exercises and were maintaining close coordination with other security agencies to respond promptly to any infiltration attempt or ceasefire violation.

MOCK DRILLS IN BANDIPORA

Meanwhile, security forces in Bandipora district have conducted several counter-terrorism exercises over the past few days to assess their operational readiness.

Bandipora Police, Army's 13 Rashtriya Rifles and 45 Battalion CRPF, along with other agencies, conducted a joint Cordon, Intervention and Rescue (CIRS) drill at PM High School, Gundgahagir in Hajin.

The exercise was based on a simulated situation in which two civilians were held hostage by terrorists inside the school building.

After receiving information at 11 am, participating teams reached the location within 15 minutes, cordoned off the area and evacuated students and other civilians.

A coordinated intervention was subsequently carried out in which both simulated terrorists were neutralised. One hostage was rescued unharmed, while another, shown as injured during the exercise, was given first aid and CPR before being shifted to hospital.

A thorough search of the school and adjoining areas was conducted following the operation.

A day earlier, Bandipora Police and 13 RR conducted an anti-fidayeen mock drill at Aragam, where a simulated terrorist hiding in an under-construction building was neutralised. Joint teams subsequently sanitised the area to check for suspected explosive material and assess casualty evacuation arrangements.

In another exercise, District Police Bandipora conducted an anti-fidayeen drill at the District Police Lines, involving SOG Bandipora, 3rd Battalion CRPF, 14 RR and 27 Assam Rifles.

During the exercise, four simulated terrorists hiding in two under-construction buildings were neutralised, followed by an area sanitisation operation involving an explosive detection team and a sniffer dog.

Officials said the exercises were aimed at improving response time, testing operational preparedness and strengthening coordination among agencies in dealing with emergency situations.

With Diwali falling on November 8, security agencies have maintained heightened alert across vulnerable areas to ensure that the celebrations pass off peacefully.

HC Notice On

professionals, besides inadequate facilities at Composite Regional Centres (CRCs), Government Medical Colleges and district-level healthcare institutions.

According to the petition, parents and caregivers from different parts of Jammu and Kashmir, including Srinagar, Budgam, Anantnag, Handwara, Kupwara, Jammu and Leh, have reported difficulties in accessing regular therapy and early intervention services.

The petition states that several families are compelled to travel repeatedly to Srinagar or Jammu, or temporarily relocate, to ensure continuity of treatment for their children. This, it maintains, results in substantial private expenditure, loss of wages and disruption of children's education.

The petitioner has relied upon official communications to substantiate the concerns raised in the litigation.

The petitioner has argued that delays in early intervention can have lasting consequences for children requiring speech, occupational, behavioural and psychological support, particularly when families from remote and economically weaker areas face difficulties accessing specialised services.

Invoking provisions of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, particularly Sections 3, 25 and 27, the PIL seeks effective implementation of the existing statutory and policy framework rather than creation of an entirely new medical programme.

Among the principal reliefs sought is a verified, district-wise disclosure of available facilities, vacancies, qualified professionals, equipment, waiting periods and referral mechanisms for children requiring rehabilitation and early intervention.

The petition also seeks a time-bound roadmap for making district-level early intervention and rehabilitation services functional, strengthening existing facilities at GMCs and CRC Srinagar and Jammu, and establishing effective referral linkages between healthcare institutions.

Centre Gets Powers

has arisen and intervention is necessary in the public interest.

The new framework also makes it mandatory for airlines to publish fares on their websites and other digital platforms to ensure transparency. The DGCA will monitor tariffs fixed by scheduled airlines.

Strengthening disclosure requirements, the rules require airlines to display the total amount payable by passengers during the booking process and on tickets.

Carriers will also have to provide a separate breakdown of the base fare, taxes, fees, cancellation charges, refund conditions and other applicable charges.

The rules distinguish between taxes payable to the government and fees collected by airlines for services or facilities provided to passengers.

India deregulated airline fare fixation in 1994, allowing carriers to determine ticket prices according to market conditions. The Civil Aviation Ministry has maintained that airlines generally fix fares based on demand, operating costs and the time of booking, with different pricing bands available to passengers.

Under the earlier Aircraft Rules, 1937, Rule 135(4) empowered the DGCA to issue directions if it found excessive or predatory pricing or oligopolistic practices in the aviation sector.

While the newly notified Rule 192 retains the provision for monitoring airline tariffs, it does not specifically list excessive or predatory pricing and oligopolistic practices as grounds for government intervention.

The new framework, however, empowers the Centre to issue directions on airline fares in extraordinary circumstances, subject to the conditions specified under the rules.

My Resignation Won't

legacy of religious scholars in my family and the ethical lessons I derived from religion have all played a role in shaping my thinking.

The events of 2019 raised fundamental questions about principles and values. We belong to the category of people who accepted accession to India, but our accession was based on certain conditions. We secured our autonomy through this accession, which was fundamental to our understanding of the relationship with India.

That autonomy was meant to protect our cultural, religious and political rights. Our demography, right to land, right to jobs and right to decide our own affairs were supposed to remain protected.

When all those safeguards were removed in 2019 through the decisions taken by the BJP, the question arose whether we would continue accepting the new status quo or challenge it on the basis of our principles.

Challenging it would inevitably involve difficulties and risks. The question was whether we had sufficient conviction to stand up for our values and principles. I believe politics must be guided by principles, values and conviction. The evolution that had been taking place within me over the years found its context in that particular situation.

Q: If we look at the history of the National Conference, we see that the Sadr-e-Riyasat eventually became the Chief Minister, and now the Chief Minister of a state has become the Chief Minister of a Union Territory. How do you understand this evolution, or rather, this regressive evolution?

Ruhullah: You have described this as evolution. But is it really evolution or degradation?

We have moved from being an autonomous state to becoming a Union Territory. The Chief Minister of what I would call a glorified municipality has been given to us as the head of our government. This is degradation, not evolution.

How long will we continue to tolerate, accept, legitimise and normalise this degradation? At some point, we have to draw a red line. We must establish that beyond a certain point, we will not tolerate things any further.

My question to my party is simple: Where is that red line?

From the position of autonomy in 1953 until 2019, we gradually lost almost everything. After losing all of it, we began normalising the situation that followed. How long will we continue normalising this status quo? When will we finally challenge it?

The greatest responsibility for doing so rested with the National Conference. The movement for autonomy and the argument for the terms of accession were central to the party's political identity. People accepted that ideology, and the party earned respect and political stature because of it.

But look at what happened after 1953. Our autonomy was gradually eroded. Today, we are not even a state; we have been reduced to a Union Territory.

Even after all this, will the National Conference continue behaving like an ordinary electoral party, concerned only with securing power, ministries and the Chief Minister's position? Or will it act as a movement, challenging the status quo for the sake of the political identity and autonomy of Jammu and Kashmir?

Unfortunately, in 2024, people once again placed their trust in us, overlooking our past mistakes and shortcomings. They gave us this mandate so that we could challenge the status quo, draw a red line and make it clear that anything beyond that line was unacceptable.

But the institutional efforts made by the government and its leadership have largely been directed towards normalising the status quo rather than challenging it.

Perhaps the BJP is willing to allow us to demand statehood. Consequently, we restrict our demands to statehood because that is what the BJP permits. But what about our fundamental rights? What about the principles on which our political relationship was based?

The National Conference has wasted the mandate it received. By normalising the status quo, it has undermined the legitimacy of challenging it.

Anyone who wants to challenge the existing arrangement or protest against it faces criticism, including people like me. There are different voices within the organisation asking me to leave the party. I am told that I should not be raising certain issues, even though these were precisely the issues the National Conference spoke about before the elections.

The party is now trying to undermine the legitimacy of challenging the status quo and the very idea of a political movement. It wants to normalise the existing arrangement. That, in my view, is degradation, and it has now crossed its limits.

Q: You are someone who speaks about principles, the Constitution, ideals and federalism. But we have seen that you are now being compelled to leave your position because of those very principles. Does this mean that an honest and principled person cannot practise politics in India?

Ruhullah: I will speak specifically about my own organisation, the National Conference.

I have questioned the party on the basis of the very ideology that the National Conference itself formulated and presented to the people, an ideology through which it built its political support. I have used those same principles as a benchmark and pointed out that we are moving away from our ideology and abandoning our principles.

I have not demanded any position from the party. I have not sought any personal benefit, nor is this a power struggle. My only demand has been ideological correction.

Unfortunately, the National Conference is unable to tolerate this principled position. It is unable to accept accountability.

Let anyone accuse me of fighting for a position. Let them prove that my disagreement with the National Conference is motivated by a desire for power.

We were given this responsibility to fight for the autonomy of the state, constitutional guarantees, constitutional protections, our federal identity and our federal status. The National Conference must stand up for these principles and must not waste the mandate it has received.

It must not work against the very mandate on which it came to power. It must not act according to the wishes of the BJP.

The BJP wants to normalise the existing status quo. Through this mandate, the National Conference should challenge that status quo instead. That is my only wish. Those are my only differences with the National Conference.

These are fundamentally ideological disagreements. I am simply inviting the party to return to the principles it itself established.

But the response I receive is there for everyone to see. Sometimes I am called an agent of Delhi. At other times, I am told that I consider myself too important or that I have an inflated sense of myself.

Eventually, Dr Farooq Abdullah Sahib said that if I consider myself capable of bringing back Article 370, I should go ahead and fight for it.

The party's position has effectively become that anyone who wants to remain committed to principles should leave the organisation.

The party does not seem to have room for accountability, principles, values and conviction. It wants a smooth passage into the corridors of power, where people can occupy positions, enjoy the privileges and follow the protocols associated with those positions.

But in doing so, it is abandoning its convictions, principles and values. And it is doing so right before our eyes.

Q: What gap do you see between the constitutional rights guaranteed to us and the way the government is treating us, whether at the Union Territory level or at the national level?

Ruhullah: This country was not united by the ideology of any single political organisation. The different states that came together to form this country did so on the basis of the Constitution. They were brought together through a constitutional framework.

Today, the government sitting in Delhi is gradually weakening and undermining that very Constitution. It is attempting to distance the country from the constitutional principles on which it was founded.

For this purpose, institutions have been compromised. Their independence has been weakened so that there are no effective checks on the executive.

Over the last twelve years, the BJP has compromised several institutions. Instead of protecting and upholding the Constitution, these institutions are increasingly being used to promote the ideology of the RSS.

This institutional degradation is something we are witnessing today. Its consequences will not remain confined to Jammu and Kashmir. There is no doubt that Jammu and Kashmir has been the first victim and that its people have suffered disproportionately. But this process will not stop in Kashmir. It will eventually damage the entire country.

We are already seeing signs of this across India. There are protests and challenges against the Election Commission. Questions are being raised about the judiciary and other institutions across the country.

People are increasingly feeling that the constitutional mechanism which was supposed to protect every identity, every religion and every individual's rights is itself being compromised.

The solution is to strengthen our institutions. Institutions must function independently. The Constitution must be strengthened, and federalism must become an active and functioning system within the federation rather than remaining merely an idea.

Every state must receive constitutional protection as well as sufficient federal powers. Every state must have autonomy. Every indigenous cultural and religious identity must be protected.

If this country is to survive, and we all want it to survive, we must strengthen the Constitution and its institutions. We must make federalism a practical reality within the Indian federation.

Q: Some critics argue that you are choosing to resign at a particularly sensitive political moment. They believe your resignation could destabilise the government in Jammu and Kashmir, something that the BJP would like to see happen. Could your resignation indirectly benefit the BJP?

Ruhullah: I am a Member of Parliament. How can my resignation destabilise the government in Jammu and Kashmir?

I am resigning from Parliament at the request of my party because the party does not want to follow the path that I believe in. The party wants to compromise on its principles, whereas I do not want to compromise on my principles and values.

I am resigning as an individual Member of Parliament. My resignation has no impact on the Legislative Assembly. I am neither an MLA nor does the government in the Assembly depend on my vote.

I do not want to take any MLA out of the party along with me. I do not want to bring down this government. If an MLA has ideological differences with the party, that is an individual matter. They must make their own decisions.

But I do not intend to take any MLA out of the party, engage in any conspiracy or attempt to destabilise the government. Nor do I want any other force to do so.

This government has been given five years. It should complete its full term. After that, the people will decide its fate.

Q: Many Kashmiris look towards you as a source of hope. You are a Member of Parliament and currently hold a position that comes with certain powers and responsibilities. If you resign, you will no longer have those powers. Could this create a political vacuum?

Ruhullah: Yes, there will be a temporary loss, and a vacuum will emerge. But sometimes, taking a major decision requires accepting temporary losses.

Full interview on kashmirobserver.net

As Paddy Loses Ground, Kulgam Bets Big On Apple Economy

Two cold storages with 10,000 MT capacity operational, 250 kanals identified for second fruit mandi

Agencies



KULGAM: Once widely known as the 'Rice Bowl of Kashmir', Kulgam district is witnessing a big shift in its agricultural landscape, with apple cultivation increasingly replacing paddy fields and emerging as a major driver of its rural economy.

In a major push to strengthen the growing apple economy, two cold storage facilities with a combined capacity of around 10,000 metric tonnes have become operational in the district, while the administration has identified around 250 kanals of state land at Adipora for establishing a second fruit mandi.

Bashir Ahmad Lone, General Manager, District Industries Centre (DIC) Kulgam, said both cold storage facilities were functional, had received bookings and could collectively accommodate around five lakh apple boxes.

"Both facilities are operational, have received bookings and are currently functioning. Their combined capacity is approximately five lakh apple boxes," he said.

Lone said that work was underway on two additional cold storage projects, each having a proposed capacity of around 10,000 metric tonnes. "Taking all four projects together, the total investment is expected to exceed Rs 100 crore," he said.

The General Manager said the projects are expected to generate around 120 permanent employment opportunities, besides providing seasonal employment to nearly 200–250 people at each cold storage facility.

He said the facilities would also generate indirect employment for truck operators, auto drivers, apple box suppliers and other associated workers, giving a further boost to economic activity in the district.

Inviting entrepreneurs to invest in the sector, Lone said the Single Window Portal was currently open for applications for land allotment. He added that entrepreneurs could also establish cold storage units on private land after completing the required formalities, including Change of Land Use (CLU).

Meanwhile, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam Shahzad Alam said around 250 kanals of state land at Adipora had been identified for establishing a second fruit mandi.

He said the existing fruit mandi, located near District Hospital Kulgam, frequently witnesses traffic congestion, particularly during the apple season, prompting demands for an additional facility.

"Keeping in view the growing demand, around 250 kanals of state land at Adipora have been identified for the proposed fruit mandi. A proposal for transfer of the land has already been submitted to the government," Alam said.

The DC said the initial steps would include clearing encroachments and undertaking walling work to secure the site, followed by preparation of a Detailed Project Report (DPR) and development of the mandi in phases.

He said the proposed mandi's proximity to the National Highway would ensure better connectivity and help ease traffic congestion in Kulgam town.

Alam said that fruit growers from neighbouring Shopian district would also be able to utilise the facility.

The changing agricultural profile of Kulgam is evident in government figures. Once predominantly known for paddy cultivation, the district now has more than twice the area under apple cultivation compared to rice.

According to government data, only 6,951 hectares remained under paddy cultivation in 2024-25, against 18,255 hectares under apple orchards.

A spatial land-use analysis published in 2020 had also documented this transition. Between 2011 and 2020, the area under rice cultivation declined from 18,500 hectares to 12,900 hectares, while land under apple orchards increased from 14,667 hectares to 20,787 hectares—(KNO)

Patients Suffer As GMC Baramulla Sans MRI, Cath Lab Facilities



SRINAGAR: Residents of North Kashmir continue to face difficulties in accessing advanced diagnostic and cardiac care at Government Medical College (GMC) Baramulla due to the absence of a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) facility and a Cardiac Catheterisation Laboratory (Cath lab).

A group of people told KNO that patients have to travel to Srinagar for specialised investigations and treatment. "The absence of these essential facilities at a major government healthcare institution is causing immense hardships to patients, particularly those suffering from serious illnesses, who require timely diagnosis, specialised cardiac procedures and regular medical follow-ups," they added.

Residents said that patients from Baramulla, Bandipora and Kupwara districts often have to travel long distances to undergo MRI scans or seek specialised cardiac interventions that are not available at GMC Baramulla.

They said the additional travel not only increases the financial burden on patients and their attendants but also causes inconvenience to those who are already dealing with serious health conditions.

"People come to GMC Baramulla with the hope of receiving treatment close to their homes, but return disappointed," said Shabir Ahmad, a resident.

Another resident said: "Cardiac patients often need immediate medical attention and patients lose the golden period while travelling to Srinagar. Travelling for specialised treatment becomes stressful for both patients and their families. A Cath lab at GMC Baramulla can provide much-needed relief to people across North Kashmir."

MRI ORDERED, CATH LAB UNDER TENDERING PROCESS: PRINCIPAL

Principal GMC Baramulla, Majid Jahangir told KNO that the process for establishing the MRI facility had been initiated, but the machine has not yet been received. "The MRI machine has been ordered through the Jammu and Kashmir Medical Supplies Corporation Limited (JKMSCL), but it has not been received yet," he said.

Regarding the Cath lab, Jahangir said the project was currently at the tendering stage through JKMSCL.

He said the establishment of these facilities would help strengthen specialised healthcare services at the medical college. (KNO)

CM Omar Meets Fire-Hit Shiv Market Traders, Takes Stock Of Losses

Observer News Service



JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday visited the fire-ravaged Shiv Market near Jammu Railway Station and interacted with traders whose shops were gutted in a massive blaze last month, leaving them with huge financial losses.

The visit marked Omar Abdullah's first public engagement in Jammu on the opening day of the annual Durbar Move.

During the visit, the Chief Minister took stock of the damage caused by the fire, which destroyed around 40 shops and listened to the grievances of the affected shopkeepers.

He also assessed the difficulties being faced by traders following the incident.

The shopkeepers apprised him of the scale of destruction and the hardships they were facing after losing their businesses, goods and sources of livelihood. They are now seeking financial assistance from the government to recover from the losses, which are estimated to run into crores of rupees.

The blaze broke out late on October 25 and continued for more than five hours. Fire tenders from seven fire stations were pressed into service and the flames were brought under control in the early hours of October 26, followed by cooling operations to prevent reignition. No casualties were reported.

Earlier, Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary had also visited the affected traders and expressed solidarity with them. He assured the shopkeepers that the government was aware of their difficulties and would extend necessary support.

The Deputy Chief Minister had also informed the traders that the district administration had forwarded the relief cases of all affected shopkeepers to the Chief Minister for consideration and approval of appropriate financial assistance.

GMC Jammu's Pediatric Surgery Dept Wins Best Paper Award

Agencies



JAMMU: The Department of Pediatric Surgery, SMGS Hospital, Government Medical College (GMC) Jammu, has brought laurels to the institution by winning the Best Paper Award at the 14th National Conference of the Society of Pediatric Urology, held at King George's Medical University (KGMU), Lucknow.

The award-winning paper, titled "Laparoscopic and Endourological Management of Rare Urological Disorders in Children," was presented by Dr Saalim Nazki, Head of the Department of Pediatric Surgery, GMC Jammu.

The department, presented three scientific papers at the national conference, reflecting its growing academic and research activities. Notably, one of the papers was presented by a DrNB resident doctor, highlighting the department's commitment to academic growth, research and nurturing young surgical talent.

Expressing his happiness, Dr Nazki said the achievement was a matter of great pride and prestige for the department as well as the institution. He added that despite being a recently established department, it has already earned recognition and won several awards at various academic and scientific forums.

Dr Nazki expressed his gratitude to the GMC administration and the Government for their continued support and encouragement, which has enabled the department to showcase its clinical achievements and academic work at national and international platforms—(KNO)

Over 5,800 Patients Avail Free Healthcare At Army's Medical Camp

KISHTWAR: More than 5,800 patients availed free specialised healthcare services during a two-day mega medical camp organised by the Indian Army under Operation Sadbhavana in Kishtwar, officials said on Monday.

In a statement issued, the camp offered specialist consultations, diagnostic services, including Complete Blood Count (CBC), haemoglobin and Random Blood Sugar (RBS) tests, along with ABHA registration and free distribution of medicines and assistive aids.

Wheelchairs, crutches, walking sticks, walkers and hearing aids were also distributed, while special medical awareness sessions were held for women, elderly people and children.

Dedicated stalls for Veer Naris and ex-servicemen addressed issues related to veterans' welfare, pensions and documentation. A youth facilitation stall also provided guidance on Agniveer recruitment and career opportunities in the armed forces.

Besides, stalls set up by J&K Bank, HDFC Bank, SBI and the departments of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Health provided information about government schemes, banking services, horticulture and livelihood opportunities.

The Army said the initiative was aimed at addressing critical local needs and promoting community welfare in remote areas. The local population appreciated the joint efforts of the Army, civil administration and health authorities, the statement said. (Observer News Service)

AIMSA Seeks Stipend Hike For PG Residents In J&K

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The All India Medical Students Association (AIMSA) on Monday urged the Jammu and Kashmir government to address the long-pending demands of Postgraduate (PG) resident doctors regarding revision of their stipend structure.

The association expressed concern over the existing stipend rates for PG medical and dental residents in the Union Territory, arguing that their remuneration does not adequately reflect their demanding clinical responsibilities, extended duty hours and contribution to patient care.

Addressing a press conference at Government Medical College (GMC) Jammu, the AIMSA representatives highlighted the disparity between the stipends paid to PG resident doctors in Jammu and Kashmir and those offered in several other states, calling for an urgent revision of the existing structure to ensure fair and competitive remuneration.

The press conference was addressed by AIMSA Chief Advisors Dr Sanah, Dr Abhishek Mittal, Dr Fazan Lone and Dr Sidhant Sharma. Dr Danish Hamid, Joint Secretary of AIMSA, represented PG dental residents across Jammu and Kashmir and highlighted the dental resident fraternity's concerns and demands. Dr Shahnawaz Malik, the association's Additional Secretary, was also present.

AIMSA representatives pointed out that PG resident doctors in Jammu and Kashmir currently receive a stipend of Rs 64,000 during their first year and Rs 67,000 in subsequent years, raising questions over the disparity with the remuneration offered to resident doctors in several other states.

They maintained that postgraduate residents play a crucial role in the functioning of government medical colleges and associated hospitals, where they are actively involved in patient management, emergency services, ward duties and other essential clinical responsibilities.

The association stressed that the demanding nature of postgraduate medical training requires residents to work for extended hours while balancing academic commitments with clinical duties. It said their financial concerns should be addressed through a fair and transparent stipend policy.

Seeking government intervention, AIMSA submitted a representation to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, urging him to intervene and ensure an early resolution of the issue.

The representation was signed by AIMSA President Dr Mohammad Momin Khan, who sought the government's attention towards the concerns of PG medical and dental residents and called for a concrete decision on the long-pending demand.

The association has set November 12, 2026, as the deadline for the government to provide a concrete response and take steps towards resolving the stipend-related grievances.

AIMSA representatives said the demand was aimed at securing a fair and uniform stipend policy for postgraduate medical and dental residents in Jammu and Kashmir, in line with prevailing standards elsewhere in the country.

Kishtwar Youth Postpones' Wedding To Attend Ruhullah's Resignation Gathering

Agencies

SRINAGAR: In strong display of political support, a youth from Kishtwar has postponed his wedding to attend the public gathering scheduled to be addressed by Srinagar Member Parliament Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi on Today at Behisht-e-Zehra Park, Budgam, where the MP is expected to announce his resignation from the National Conference and Lok Sabha.

The youth, identified as Abrrar Ahmad, said that his wedding had been scheduled for November 2-3, but he decided to reschedule it after Ruhullah announced the date of his resignation programme, so that he could participate in the gathering.

Ahmad said he had met Ruhullah earlier and informed him about his fixed wedding date. However, following the announcement of November 3 for the public gathering, he decided to postpone the wedding to attend the event.

Explaining his admiration for the MP, Ahmad said he was impressed by Ruhullah's commitment to his words and promises, adding that he believed principles and commitments should take precedence over political positions.

He said that despite holding the position of an MP, Ruhullah has decided to relinquish his seat, which, according to him, reflects his commitment to the concerns of the people.

Asked whether Ruhullah would receive widespread public support after resigning, Ahmad said, "Standing up for what one believes to be right requires courage," he added.

He also referred to Ruhullah's parliamentary speeches, particularly his interventions on Article 370, and said issues concerning unemployment, youth distress and drug abuse needed greater attention.—(KNO)

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
SCHOOL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER SRINAGAR
(NON-TEACHING)

Sub: Absorption of Qualified CPWs/LFWs against MTS/Class-IV Promotion Quota Vacancies – Inviting of Objections Thereof.

NOTIFICATION

The Departmental Promotion Committee in its meeting held on 22-08-2025 has recommended the cases of 06 CPWs/LFWs for absorption against the vacancies under the MTS/Class-IV Promotion Quota subject to the condition that the names of the recommended candidates are published in local dailies for inviting objections, if any.

Accordingly, the list of 06 CPWs/LFWs recommended by the DPC for absorption against the MTS/Class-IV Promotion Quota vacancies is hereby notified for inviting objections, if any, from all stakeholders within a period of 21 days from the date of publication of this Notification.

No objection whatsoever shall be entertained after the expiry of the stipulated period.

LIST OF CANDIDATES

S. No.	Name of the CPW/LFW and place of Engagement	Date of Birth	Date of Engagement	Engagement Authority	Qualification
1	Ms. Rafeeqa, D/O: Ghulam Qadir Bhat engaged at GPS Wani Hama, Zone Gulab Bagh.	18-06-1975	01-03-1997	GPS Wanihama/ ZEO Gulab Bagh Vide No: ZEO/GB/345, Dated: 28/02/1997	8th Pass
2	Mr. Noor Din Laali, S/o: Alam Din Laali engaged at BMS Dara Faqir Gujri, Zone Gulab Bagh.	01-02-1986	01-04-2000 (Date of Eligibility 01-02-2004)	HM GPS Dara Faqir Gujri No: GPS/DFG/03/2000, Dated: 01-04-2000	8th Pass
3	Mr. Shamim Ahmad Sheikh, S/o: Late Ab. Rehman Sheikh engaged at GHS Harwan	25-03-1983	15-03-2007	Chief Education Officer Srinagar vide No. CEO/ Estt/5337 Dated: 15-03-2007	8th Pass
4	Ms. Haseena Akhter, D/O: Khazir Mohd Sheikh engaged at MS Sheikh Colony, Zone Iddgah.	03-04-1986	Jun-07	Zonal Education Officer Iddgah	8th Pass
5	Mr. Mumtaza, D/O: Ghulam Ahmad Najar engaged at MS Kashi Mohalla Talibal, Zone Gulab Bagh.	15-07-1976	06-03-2010	Headmaster MS Kashipora Tailbal vide No. 145 M/ S KT, Dated: 06/03/2010	8th Pass
6	Ms. Taja Bano, D/O: Gh. Rasool Sheikh W/o: Mohammad Ashraf Sheikh engaged at GHS Fateh Kadal	05-06-1980	Sep-06	Headmaster HS Fatehkadal vide No: GSSF/K/12, Dated: 12-09-2006	8th Pass

No: CEO/SGR/Estt/NT/1251
Date: 02-11-2026

DIPK-7291-26
DT: 02/11/2026

Chief Education Officer,
Srinagar.

Trump Weighs Nuclear Strike on Iran? Carlson Sounds Alarm

Agencies



LONDON: Is the United States moving closer to an unprecedented nuclear strike on Iran? A startling warning by prominent American conservative commentator Tucker Carlson has triggered fresh alarm, with Carlson claiming that President Donald Trump could be days away from deciding whether to use nuclear weapons against an underground Iranian site.

In a lengthy post on X on Monday, Carlson alleged that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was putting intense pressure on the Trump administration to launch a nuclear attack on Pickaxe Mountain in central Iran, where Israeli intelligence reportedly believes Tehran has resumed its nuclear enrichment programme.

Carlson claimed that the suspected facility is buried beneath nearly 300 feet of solid granite and that conventional American weapons cannot penetrate deep enough to destroy the underground tunnels.

"The only military option is a nuclear strike," he wrote, alleging that Netanyahu had been lobbying Trump relentlessly. Citing an unnamed informed observer, Carlson added: "Bibi calls Trump about it every day."

The most alarming part of Carlson's post was his claim that Trump could decide by November 7 whether to authorise the use of nuclear weapons.

However, Carlson's allegations have not been independently established, and the post does not provide documentary evidence of a decision to use nuclear weapons.

Who Is Tucker Carlson — And Why His Warning Matters?

Carlson is no ordinary social media commentator. A prominent conservative political voice in the United States, he hosted Tucker Carlson Tonight on Fox News from 2016 until 2023, becoming one of the most recognisable figures in American television commentary.

He now operates independently, reaching audiences through his online platforms, including X. His political influence and large following have made his interventions in US foreign policy widely discussed, particularly among conservative audiences.

His latest post has drawn attention because it raises the possibility of a nuclear escalation involving the United States and Iran at a time when the region is already facing the consequences of prolonged conflict.

But his prominence should not be confused with official access or confirmation: the specific nuclear-strike scenario he describes remains an allegation.

Netanyahu Accused of Pushing Trump Towards War

Carlson linked the alleged pressure for an attack to Netanyahu's domestic political troubles, claiming the Israeli prime minister was struggling to secure the parliamentary numbers needed to remain in power.

According to Carlson, Netanyahu needs Trump's intervention to help assemble a coalition commanding 61 seats in the Knesset.

He alleged that the Israeli leader was therefore keen to maintain close ties with Trump and viewed continued military confrontation with Iran as politically advantageous.

Carlson further claimed that Netanyahu had approached senior figures in the Trump administration, including Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth and CENTCOM commander Brad Cooper, to push for renewed major combat operations.

He also named Secretary of State Marco Rubio and CIA Director John Ratcliffe among officials he alleged were following Netanyahu's position.

Carlson claimed that Vice President JD Vance and Trump's envoy Steve Witkoff were instead urging the president to pursue a negotiated settlement with Tehran.

These claims about internal administration discussions and Netanyahu's motives have not been independently verified.

US Senator Calls War Plan 'Insane'

Carlson's warning comes amid a separate alarm raised by Democratic Senator Chris Murphy, who says he has been briefed on a possible plan to restart military operations against Iran after the US election.

In a post on X on October 29, Murphy wrote:

"Trump is reportedly planning to restart war with Iran after the election. Some of us have been briefed on the war plan. And while I cannot disclose any details, I can say this: the plan is insane. It will not achieve objectives and will set off a new cycle of escalation."

Murphy, who represents Connecticut and serves on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, made the remarks after speaking at a Middle East Institute event in Washington.

He warned that renewed military action could lead to a devastating escalation and said there had been open reporting about possible targets, including civilian infrastructure.

Murphy's remarks do not confirm Carlson's specific allegation of a nuclear strike. They do, however, add to concerns in Washington over the possibility of renewed military operations against Iran.

Carlson Warns of Global Nuclear Fallout

Carlson also warned that a nuclear attack on Iran could have consequences far beyond the Middle East.

He claimed that a ground-level nuclear explosion at Pickaxe Mountain could contaminate the Persian Gulf and threaten water supplies for millions of people across the region.

He further argued that any American use of nuclear weapons would set a dangerous international precedent, potentially emboldening other nuclear-armed states.

Carlson specifically raised the prospect of Russia invoking such an attack to justify nuclear weapons use in the Ukraine conflict, while warning of possible escalation involving India and Pakistan and North Korea and South Korea.

These are Carlson's projections of possible consequences, not established outcomes.

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VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK CELEBRATED AT PNB CIRCLE OFFICE SRINAGAR; MESSAGE OF AWARENESS CONVEYED THROUGH INTEGRITY PLEDGE, BLOOD DONATION CAMP AND WALKATHON



Punjab National Bank (PNB), Circle Office Srinagar, successfully organized various public awareness programmes under Vigilance Awareness Week 2026 in accordance with the guidelines of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC). The theme for this year's Vigilance Awareness Week is "Probity for Prosperity."

On the occasion of the inauguration of the week, all officers and employees of the Circle Office and its subordinate branch offices collectively took the Integrity Pledge, reaffirming their commitment to upholding transparency, honesty and ethical values in the workplace.

With the objective of promoting social responsibility and the spirit of philanthropy, a voluntary Blood Donation Camp was organized at the Circle Office premises. Staff members from the Circle Office as well as its subordinate branches participated enthusiastically and voluntarily donated blood, contributing towards the noble cause of serving humanity.

Furthermore, a grand Walkathon was organized to spread awareness among the general public about vigilance, ethical conduct and the importance of building a corruption-free society. Staff members of the Bank participated enthusiastically in the Walkathon and conveyed the message of integrity and honesty to citizens through banners and placards.

Abass Advt.

