29th year OF PUBLICATION

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Wednesday 11 November 2026 | Srinagar | Vol: 29 | Issue: 276 | Pages: 08 | Price: ₹3

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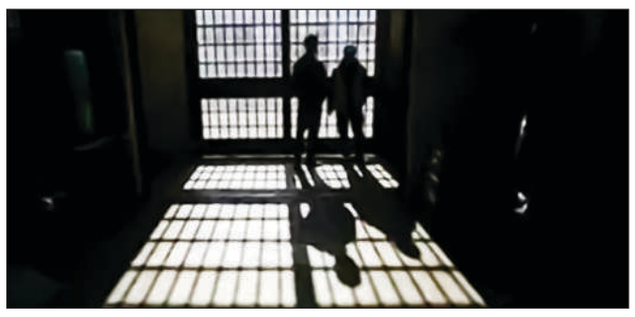
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After 6 Years In Jail, 2 Youths Walk Free

Court Finds Prosecution Evidence Unreliable; Cites Material Inconsistencies



Observer News Service

Srinagar: A special court in Baramulla has acquitted two youths who spent nearly six years in jail while facing trial under anti-terror laws, holding that the prosecution failed to establish the charges through reliable and dependable evidence.

Special Judge (UAPA/NIA Cases) Baramulla, Feroz Ahmad Khan, acquitted Huzaif Firdous Bhat and Aijaz Ahmad after finding material inconsistencies and contradictions in the prosecution's case.

The two youths were arrested in September 2020 during a joint naka checking by police and the Army at Kanispora in Baramulla district.

Police had registered a case against them under Sections 18, 23 and 39 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) and Sections 7/25 of the Arms Act, alleging that two hand grenades, 100 rounds of ammunition and posters of the militant outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba were recovered from their possession.

However, the court found that the prosecution evidence suffered from significant inconsistencies that made it unsafe to base a conviction on the material presented.

"On an overall assessment, the court finds that the prosecution evidence suffers from such material inconsistencies and infirmities that it would be unsafe to base a conviction upon it," the court observed in its 71-page order.

The court further held that the prosecution | More on P6

3-Day Wet Spell Ahead: Advisories Issued; Road Closures Feared

Day temperatures likely to drop by 6-8°C; heavy snowfall expected in north Kashmir's higher reaches

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir is likely to witness widespread rain and snowfall over the next three days, with heavy snowfall expected in higher reaches of north Kashmir, prompting authorities in Bandipora and Anantnag districts to issue travel advisories amid fears of road closures and disruption of connectivity.

The Meteorological Centre Srinagar has forecast generally dry weather with brief spells of light rain or snow at isolated places on November 11. However, a fresh Western Disturbance is likely to affect the region from November 12, bringing light to moderate rain and snowfall at many places across Jammu and Kashmir.



According to the forecast, higher reaches of Kupwara and Bandipora districts are likely to receive moderate to heavy snowfall from the forenoon or afternoon of November 12 till late night on November 13.

Popular tourist destinations, including Gulmarg and Sonamarg, may also witness the season's first snowfall. While snowfall over the plains is unlikely, it cannot be ruled out in some middle reaches, including parts of Shopian district.

The weather system is also likely to trigger thunderstorms and gusty winds at a few places, besides bringing down day temperatures by 6-8 degrees Celsius during November 12 and 13.

In view of the forecast, the Bandipora administration issued a weather advisory warning of possible snowfall and disruption of road connectivity in far-flung areas, particularly Gurez.

Candidates from these areas scheduled to appear in the Accounts Assistant examination of the Finance Department on November 15 have been advised to plan their journeys well in advance and reach nearby examination stations before the test date, keeping in view the possibility of road closures.

Tourists currently staying in Gurez have | More on P6

WINTER HEATING

Fire Dept Flags Fire, Suffocation Risks

The Jammu and Kashmir Fire and Emergency Services Department on Tuesday issued a winter safety advisory, urging people to exercise caution while using heating appliances to prevent fire incidents, suffocation and loss of life and property.

Director, Fire and Emergency Services, Alok Kumar (IPS), advised people to use only standard-marked heating appliances and ensure that all equipment is properly checked before use. He urged people to switch off and unplug electric heaters before going | More on P6

8 Tourists Injured In Ganderbal Road Accident

LG Directs Best Possible Treatment

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Eight tourists from Gujarat and West Bengal, including the driver, were injured after a tempo traveller plunged into a gorge at Gund in the Kangan area of Ganderbal district on Tuesday, officials said.

The vehicle was carrying the tourists back to Srinagar after a visit to the popular Sonamarg tourist destination when the accident occurred.

The injured were shifted to a nearby hospital for initial treatment before being referred to the Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura, Srinagar, officials said.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha spoke with senior officials, the Director of SKIMS and the Deputy Commissioner of Ganderbal to take stock of the situation and the medical care being provided to the injured.

In a post on X, Sinha said eight injured tourists from Gujarat and West Bengal had been referred to SKIMS.

"I have directed the officials and the Director, SKIMS, to ensure the best possible treatment for the injured. Praying for their speedy recovery," he said.

The accident triggered a rescue response, with local residents and | More on P6

Govt Jobs, Transfers on Sale

EOW Chargesheets Fake CID Officer

Agencies

Srinagar: The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) Kashmir of Crime Branch J&K has filed a chargesheet against a Hazratbal resident for allegedly impersonating a CID officer and cheating people on the pretext of securing government favours, including employee transfers and appointments.

The chargesheet in case FIR No. 24/2023, registered under Sections 420 and 468 of the IPC, has been filed before the Court of Sub-Judge, Srinagar, against Ghulam Hassan Dar, son of Mohammad Yousuf Dar, resident of Dhobi Ghat, Hazratbal.

According to the investigation, the case originated from a written complaint alleging that Dar posed as a CID officer posted in Delhi and fraudulently induced people by promising to arrange government-related favours.

The accused allegedly assured the transfer of an employee of the Railway Department from Uttarakhand to Srinagar. He also promised to secure an appointment as a Nursing Orderly in the Health Department and allegedly handed over fake appointment orders and a forged deputation letter to the victim.

The investigation found that the accused had cheated the victims of lakhs of rupees, the | More on P6

J&K Utilises Only 65% Of SASCI Allocation In 2025-26

Omar Sets March 2027 Deadline for Fund Utilisation, Stresses Faster Project Execution

Observer News Service

Srinagar:Jammu and Kashmir utilised 3,367.64 crore, around 65 per cent of the total 5,166.46 crore allocation under the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) during the financial year 2025-26, the government said on Tuesday.

The expenditure details were shared during a high-level review meeting chaired by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to assess the physical and financial progress of projects undertaken under the scheme, fund utilisation and preparations for the coming financial years.

The meeting reviewed projects across key sectors, including Public Works, Jal Shakti, Youth Services and Sports, Power Development, and Housing and Urban Development.



Omar directed departments to expedite works under SASCI Part-I and ensure full utilisation of approved funds by March 2027 to qualify for the second instalment. He also stressed adherence to revised deadlines for projects under the 2025-26 Disaster Management Component and asked departments to achieve prescribed expenditure targets within the stipulated timeframe.

Emphasising financial discipline and transparency, the Chief Minister directed strict compliance | More on P6

NC INTERNAL DISCONTENT

Party Plans Minister-Wise Advisory Groups For MLAs

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: In a move to address growing discontent among its lawmakers, National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah has approved a proposal to constitute informal minister-wise advisory groups of party MLAs to strengthen coordination between the party and the Omar Abdullah-led government, party sources said.

The NC chief has written to all party legislators, seeking their preferences for the ministerial departments they wish to be associated with, days after a meeting in Srinagar where several MLAs raised concerns over an alleged disconnect between the party leadership and the government.

Under the proposed arrangement, each MLA will be part of two advisory groups, allowing legislators to remain informed and involved in key administrative matters concerning different departments.

The party leadership has asked all NC MLAs to submit three preferences for ministerial sectors within two weeks. Two of these preferences will subsequently be allotted to each legislator, the sources said.

The move follows a November 6 meeting between Farooq Abdullah, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and a group of party legislators who had expressed dissatisfaction following the recent expansion of the Council of Ministers.

The meeting was convened to address the concerns of the lawmakers and improve coordination between the party organisation and the government.

After the meeting, Farooq Abdullah had | More on P6

KPDCL Maps Out Winter Power Restoration Plan

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) on Tuesday launched its Digital Handbook on Winter Preparedness 2026–27, outlining measures to minimise power disruptions, ensure faster restoration of electricity supply and strengthen consumer grievance redressal during the winter season.

The handbook provides an overview of KPDCL's distribution network, which caters to 13.53 lakh consumers across Kashmir through 353 receiving stations with an installed capacity of 5,021.65 MVA, 135 33 kV feeders, 1,334 11 kV feeders and 49,935 distribution transformers.

According to the corporation, the document | More on P6

SC Seeks WhatsApp's Plan To Curb Digital Arrest Scams

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: The Supreme Court has asked WhatsApp and other intermediaries to submit details of measures they propose to undertake to prevent digital arrest scams and related cybercrimes, directing them to simultaneously share their proposals with the Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C).

A bench headed by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant, also comprising Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana, issued the directions in an order uploaded on the court's website following a hearing on October 29 in the suo motu case titled In Re: Victims of Digital Arrest Related to Forged Documents.

The court has listed the matter for further consideration on November 23.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for WhatsApp, had informed the bench that the platform had taken preventive measures, including action against 9,400 accounts, and would file an affidavit detailing the steps undertaken.

He had also told the court that WhatsApp was developing software to identify suspicious accounts and alert users.

"WhatsApp LLC (A Meta company) and other concerned intermediaries are also directed to apprise this Court of the measures they propose to undertake to prevent the | More on P6

The Man Behind Kashmir's ₹2,000 Crore Meteorite Mystery

Investigators trace an elaborate trail of alleged deception involving bogus scientific projects, fabricated agency connections, highway compensation money and business partnerships that ended in court.

Haziqah Shaheen

Srinagar: The stone lay beneath a piece of cloth inside a Gujjar hut in Larnoo, in south Kashmir. Around it, a group of men spoke of a fortune buried beneath its surface.

They called it a meteorite, a rare scientific discovery that could unlock a project worth 2,000 crore.

A retired government official had come to see it. He was told that an investment of 20 lakh could earn him 2 crore.

But there was one catch.

He could look at the stone, but nobody was allowed to remove the cloth covering it. The



radiation, the men claimed, was too dangerous.

The deal seemed almost too good to be true. A man who had just hung up his government boots and put his life savings on the line was being promised a fortune. But he was expected to invest without knowing what lay beneath the cloth.

The mastermind behind the deal had allegedly built a collection of identities that helped him approach people, gain their trust and persuade them to part with their savings.

At Larnoo, shortly after the government official handed over his money, panic broke out. Men scattered in different directions. Before he could make sense of what was happening, the retired government official was told that the area had been sealed.

When the retired official returned the following day to recover his investment, the men had an explanation ready. The police, they told him, had seized both | More on P6

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that we the parents of our ward namely Hareem Ishaal are applying for the correction in her father's and mother's name who is studying in Tyndale Biscoe & Mallinson School sheikhbagh Srinagar in Class 9th Section Blue under Roll No. 09, Admission No: 5482-17M. The Correction is as follows:

FROM
Father's Name: Tanveer Hussain Farooqi
Mother's Name: Shabnum
TO
Father's Name: Tanveer Hussain
Mother's Name: Shabnam Mehraj

If anyone has any objection, they may contact office of the Principal Tyndale Biscoe & Mallinson school Sheikhbagh Srinagar within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection will be entertained after this period.

Tanveer Hussain & Shabnam Mehraj
Contact No. 9419517011

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Masooma Zenab, D/o Munshi Tasaduq Hussain, R/o Mirgund, Budgam, hereby inform the general public that my name has been wrongly recorded as Masooma Zenab in my passport, whereas my correct name is Masooma Tasaduq. My father's name is Munshi Tasaduq Hussain, mother's name is Shameema Bano, and my date of birth is 14/11/2003. Now, I have applied for correction of my name in my passport. Any person having any objection in this regard may file the same in the concerned office within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that, no objection shall be entertained.

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I,HARIS RASHID, S/O:ABDUL RASHID GANIE R/O:NEAR MAIN ARIGAM BUDGAM, am seeking correction with regard to my name, which has been erroneously written as "MOHD HARIS GANIE " in official records, including bank records, instead of my correct name, i.e. "HARIS RASHID." Account No: 043504100001248
If anyone has any objection in this regard, he/she may inform the competent authority (J&K Bank Branch Kremshora) within seven days from the date of publication of this notice.
HARIS RASHID
S/O:ABDUL RASHID GANIE
R/O:NEAR MAIN ROAD ARIGAM BUDAGM. x

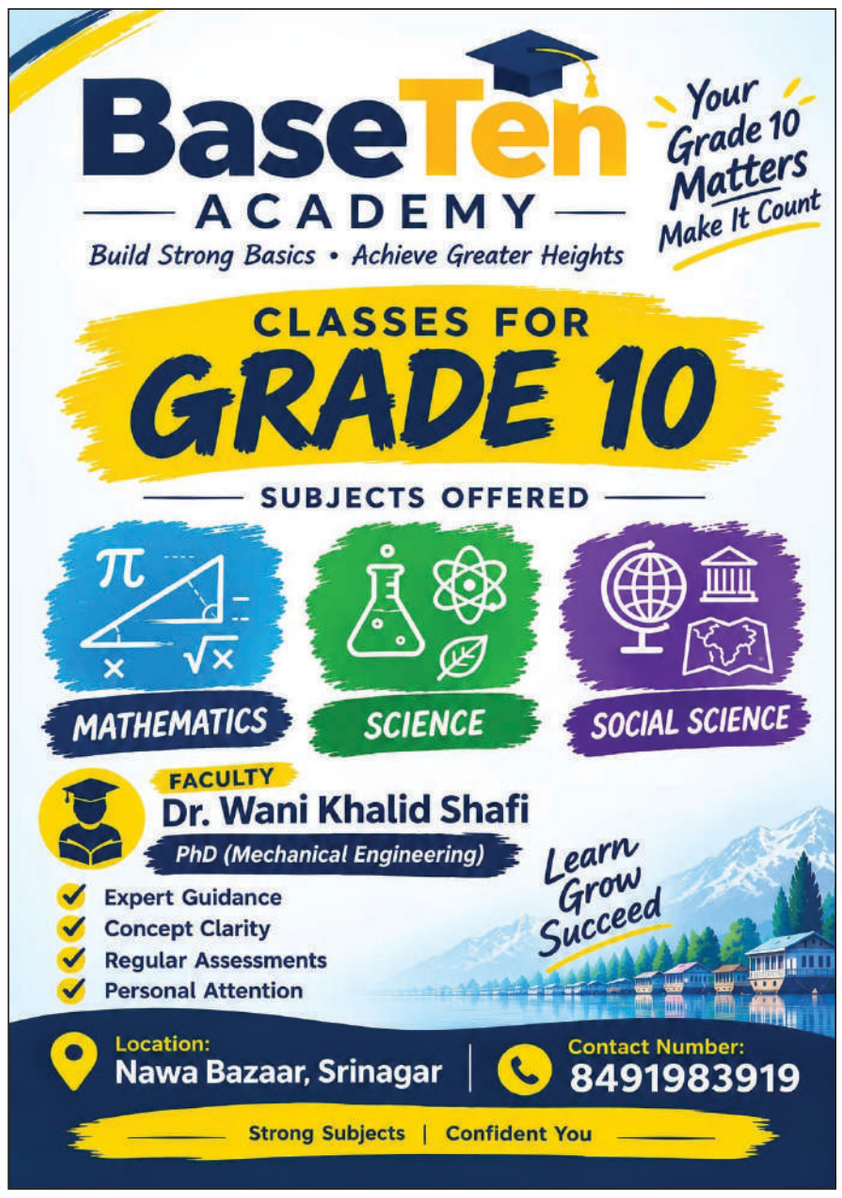
PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Parvaze Ahmad Dar, S/o Ghulam Mohammad Dar, R/o Turkawangam, Shopian, J&K UT, do hereby inform that my name and parentage have been wrongly recorded in my service book as Parvez Ahmad Dar S/o Gh Mohd Dar, whereas my correct name and parentage, as per my school records, are Parvaze Ahmad Dar S/o Ghulam Mohammad Dar. I am presently serving in the Police Department and posted at JKAP 3rd Security, Humhama (ARP No. 013300). Now, I have applied to the concerned department for correction of my name and parentage in my service record. If anybody has any objection in this regard, he/she may file the same in The Commandant JKAP 3rd Security Humhama within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that, no objection shall be entertained.
Sd/-
Parvaze Ahmad Dar
S/o Ghulam Mohammad Dar
R/o Turkawangam, Shopian, J&K UT fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to change the name on electricity bill bearing Consumer ID No: 0206030011065 from Ali Mohd Sofi S/o Gh Hassan Sofi R/o Sofipora Magam to Bashir Ahmad Sofi S/o Ali Mohd Sofi R/o Sofipora Magam . If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned PDD office within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Bashir Ahmad Sofi
S/o Ali Mohd Sofi bmg
R/o Sofipora Magam



SRINAGAR MUNICPAL CORPORATION
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER LEFT RIVER WORKS DIVISION

Ph. No. 0194-2458118
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE INVITING E- TENDERS

NIET NO:53 e-Tendering/2026-27 Dated: 06-Nov-2026

For and on behalf of the Srinagar Municipal Corporation, e-tenders are invited on Percentage Basis from approved and eligible Contractors for the following work: -

- **Accord of Administrative Approval:**
  Available

Sl. No.	Name of work	Est. Cost (In Lacs)	Cost of Tender Document (Non-refundable)	Earnest Money (EMD)	Class of Contractor (Civil)	Technical Sanction/ Dated	Head of Account
01.	Construction of lane and drian from House of Bashir Ahmed to House of Gh Hassan Sheikh at Iqra Colony lane No 24 SD colony Batamaloo	Rs. 5.71/-	Rs. 300/-	Rs. 11420/-	CEE/ DEE	309 Dated: 06-11-2026	CDF
02.	Construction of lane and drain from the House of Maqsood Ahmed Khan to the Apollo Footwear at Baran Pather A Batamloo	Rs. 1.54/-	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 3080/-	DEE	310 Dated: 06-11-2026	CDF
03.	Upgradation of lane and drain from the house of Ghulam Rasool Sheikh Mohammed Shaban Sheikh & others at Hilal Colony Batamaloo	Rs. 2.53/-	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 5060/-	DEE	311 Dated: 06-11-2026	CDF
04.	Construction of lane and drain from House of Ahmer Ahmad to main road Salfiya Colony at Iqra Colony near old Guzar Batamaloo.	Rs. 4.19/-	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 8380/-	DEE	312 Dated: 06-11-2026	CDF
05.	Construction of lane and drain at Batpora Chanapora from main road upto the House of Jaladin Sheikh ward No 12	Rs. 1.41/-	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 2820/-	DEE	313 Dated: 06-11-2026	MPLADS
06.	Construction of lane and drian from the shop of Abdul Rashid to the Shop of Reyaz Ahmad Mir lachmanpora A Batamaloo	Rs. 8.51/-	Rs. 600/-	Rs. 17020/-	CEE/ DEE	314 Dated: 06-11-2026	CDF
07.	Construction of lane and drain from the House of Late Abdul Ahad Sheikh to Abdul Hamid Sheikh at S.D Colony lane No.7 Batamloo	Rs. 4.72/-	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 9440/-	DEE	315 Dated: 06-11-2026	CDF

Other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below: -

CRITICAL DATE SHEET

1	Publish date	05-11-2026
2	Document download date	09-11-2026 09:00 AM To 24-11-2026 06:00 PM
3	Bid submission/uploading date	09-11-2026 09:00 AM To 24-11-2026 06:00 PM
4	Bid Opening date	25-11-2026 11:00 AM
5.	Submission of hard copy for successful bidder	26-11-2026 10:00 AM To 04:00 PM

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

1. As Per the Government Circular No. 01 (ADM) FD of 2025 Dated: - 08.07.2025 Endorsement No. FD-ST/75/2025-03 Dated: - 08-07-2025 issued by the J&K UT Finance Department. "Every participating supplier/contractor to mandatorily disclose/Upload the bank account number which is linked with their GSTIN at the time of bid submission. No payments shall be released by the Government Department/Agency to any other bank account except the one linked with the GST registered number of the successful bidder."

2. **The intending tenders should attach an Online receipt/ Bank challan equivalent to 2% of the advertised cost / total cost.** In compliance to the SMC circular No.SMC/PS/CAO/748-753, Dated: 05/08/2026, the EMD of 2%, Tender Fee and performance security shall be accepted only through Online Transaction pledged in favour of FA/CAO SMC which is to be deposited as per the given details below;
   Name of the Account: Srinagar Municipal Corporation
   Name of the Bank: -Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd.
   Branch: -Balgarden, Srinagar
   Bank Account No: -0216010200000007
   IFSC code: -JAKA0GARDEN
   MICR CODE: 190051008

3. The bidder shall upload the payment receipt of EMD & tender Fee along with technical Bid on JK Tenders Portal. Bids without valid online payment receipt shall be rejected as Non responsive. If any bidder is found to have submitted fake, forged, manipulated or invalid payment receipt towards EMD/Tender Fee the bid of such bidder shall be rejected. In addition to rejection of bid the contractor/ firm shall automatically be treated as debarred from participating in any tenders in LRWD for a period of Six Months from the date of detection.

4. **The Lowest successful bidder shall have to submit performance security guarantee in shape of Bank Challan/E-Receipt pledged to FA/CAO (SMC) after opening of tenders. The value of performance security shall be as per the Circular issued by the Principal Secretary to the Government Finance Department under endorsement No. FD-Code/441/2021-02-158 Dated:08.08.2025 and amendment made by the Government Finance Department (J&K) time to time illustration (enclosed).**

5. The Additional performance security shall be treated as part of the performance Security and will be released after completions of defect liability period (DLP)

4. **Circular issued by the Commissioner/Secretary to Govt. Housing &Urban Development Department (J & k UT) vide No: -7760278-hud-plan/106/2026-01 Dated: - 06.06.2026**

5. **That Pre/Post Geo-Tagged Photographic evidence of the instant work(s) shall be maintained.**

6. **That the work or part of the work is not reflected in State/District Sector Plan/CDF/MPLADS/AMRUT or any other program nor have the works or part of the works earlier executed by the SMC or through any other Agency.**

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Left River Works Division,
Srinagar Municipal Corporation.

DIPK-NB-2081/26
dated: 10-11-2026

No.SMC/EELRWD/2305-14 Dated:06-Nov-2026.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Arif Ahmed wani S/o Farooq Ahmad (resident of Lalpora Tehsil Kunzir Baramulla), hereby inform the general public that in the birth certificates of my daughters, Sadaf Fatima (Date of Birth: 13/09/2021) and Aisha Arif (Date of Birth: 15/07/2019), issued by the Municipal Council Magam Badgam, their mother's name has been incorrectly recorded as Ruksana. Whereas, their mother's correct and complete name is Ruksana Bano (as recorded on her Aadhaar card). Henceforth, she should be known and recognized by the name Rukhsana Bano for all purposes.

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as NELOFAR JAN While as my actual name is NEELOFAR MOHI U DIN C/O GHULAM MOHI U DIN BHAT R/O KARIHAMA KUPWARA District KUPWARA 193222 Now I want to apply for the correction of the same if anybody is having any objection he/she may contact concerned authority within the period of seven days after that no objection will be entertained.
NEELOFAR MOHI U DIN
C/O :- GHULAM MOHI U DIN BHAT
R/O :- KARIHAMA, KUPWARA qns

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as SAIMA JAN While as my actual name is SALMA NABI C/O GH NABI GOJAR R/O JUGTIYAL HAYIHAMA KUPWARA District KUPWARA 193222 Now I want to apply for the correction of the same if anybody is having any objection he/she may contact concerned authority within the period of seven days after that no objection will be entertained.
SALMA NABI
C/O :- GH NABI GOJAR
R/O :- JUGTIYAL HAYIHAMA, KUPWARA qns

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Nazima Yousuf W/o Basharat Fayaz R/o Arifeen colony Dangerpora hereby inform that I have purchased a property of Ali Mohammad Wafsoo S/o Ghulam Mohammad Wafsoo R/o Achabagh Malabagh Srinagar on 10 August 2017 who was the Registered Consumer of PDD having Electric Connection bearing Consumer (No.0204020010257) I have paid all the bills since 2017 regularly now I intend to transfer the electric connection on my name "'Nazima Yousuf W/o Basharat Fayaz ".
If any person or party has any objection in this transfer.He or they may file their objection in writing in the office of the AEE Sub Division Rainawari Srinagar within 7 (seven) days from the Date of Publication. No objection shall be entertained after stipulated Time Period.
Nazima Yousuf
W/o Basharat Fayaz
R/o Arifeen colony presently ar Achabagh Malabagh Srinagar
phone 9906615617
Media line advt

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as SHAFIDA BAGUM While as my actual name is SHAFIQA C/O ASHAQ HUSSAIN HAJAM R/O KULIGAM LOLAB KUPWARA District KUPWARA 193223 Now I want to apply for the correction of the same if anybody is having any objection he/she may contact concerned authority within the period of seven days after that no objection will be entertained.
SHAFIQA
C/O :- ASHAQ HUSSAIN HAJAM
R/O :- KULIGAM LOLAB, KUPWARA fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as SHAZIYA BASHIR While as my actual name is SHAZIYA AKHTER C/O BASHIR AHMAD GANIE R/O DHAL PAYEEN KUPWARA District KUPWARA 193222 Now I want to apply for the correction of the same if anybody is having any objection he/she may contact concerned authority within the period of seven days after that no objection will be entertained.
SHAZIYA AKHTER
C/O :- BASHIR AHMAD GANIE
R/O :- DHAL PAYEEN , KUPWARA fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Shakeel Ahmad Bagwan, R/O:- Kocha Nidaan Rainawari, Srinagar hereby inform through this public notice that my daughter **Hadya Jan is studying in Class 6th, Section Orange, Roll No. 34** at Motherland High School, Kaka Mohalla, Khawaja Bazar, Nowhatta, Srinagar. It has been found that in the school records, her father's name has been mentioned as "**Shakeel Ahmad Baghwan"** instead of correct name **"Shakeel Ahmad Bagwan"** and her mother's name has been mentioned as **"Shaheena Akhter"** instead of correct name **"Shaheena"**. Now I have applied for the correction of my daughter's father's name and mother's name in her 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.
Shakeel Ahmad Bagwan
F/O:- Hadya Jan
R/O:- Kocha Nidaan Rainawari, Srinagar
Medai line advt

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as MUDASIR AHMAD KHATARA While as my actual name is MUDASIR AHMAD KATARIYA C/O DIN MOHAMMAD KATARIYA R/O LADAH KALAROOSE KUPWARA District KUPWARA 193222 Now I want to apply for the correction of the same if anybody is having any objection he/she may contact concerned authority within the period of seven days after that no objection will be entertained.
MUDASIR AHMAD KATARIYA
C/O :- DIN MOHAMMAD KATARIYA
R/O :- LADAH KALAROOSE , KUPWARA fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

The electricity connection with consumer ID: 0204040005680 registered in the name of Najeeb Ali is proposed to be transferred in favour of Gowher Najeeb, R/o Malik Bagh,Baghwan pora ,Lal Bazar,Srinagar. If anybody has any objection, he/she may contact concerned department within 7 Days after that no objection shall be entertained.
Media Line Advt

نام کی درستگی

میں، عارف احمد وانی (والد: فاروق احمد، ساکن: للپورہ، تحصیل کنزر، ضلع: بارہمولہ)، عام لوگوں کو اس نوٹس کے ذریعے مطلع کرتا ہوں کہ میری بیٹیوں — صدف فاطمہ (تاریخ پیدائش: 13/09/2021) اور عائشہ عارف (تاریخ پیدائش: 15/07/2019) کے پیدائش کے سرٹیفکیٹ (برتھ سرٹیفکیٹ) میں ان کی والدہ کا نام غلطی سے صرف 'رخسانہ' درج ہو گیا ہے (جو کہ میونسپل کونسل مگام، بڈگام سے جاری کیے گئے ہیں)۔ جبکہ ان کی والدہ کا صحیح اور مکمل نام 'رخسانہ بانو' ہے (جیسا کہ ان کے آدھار کارڈ پر درج ہے)۔ لہٰذا، اب سے ان کی والدہ کو تمام سرکاری و غیر سرکاری مقاصد کے لیے 'رخسانہ بانو' کے نام سے ہی جانا اور پہچانا جائے۔

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as SHAFIQA BAGUM While as my actual name is SHAFIQA C/O ASHAQ HUSSAIN HAJAM R/O KULIGAM LOLAB KUPWARA District KUPWARA 193223 Now I want to apply for the correction of the same if anybody is having any objection he/she may contact concerned authority within the period of seven days after that no objection will be entertained.
SHAFIQA
C/O :- ASHAQ HUSSAIN HAJAM
R/O :- KULIGAM LOLAB, KUPWARA fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Mushtaq Ahmed Sheikh S/o Abdul Ahad Sheikh R/o Dard Mohalla Shanpora Habak Hazratbal hereby inform that my father Abdul Ahad Shah Expired in 2007, who was the Registered Consumer of PDD having Electric Connection bearing Consumer (no.0204050000077) We paid our bill regularly now I intend to transfer the electric connection on my name "'Mushtaq Ahmed Sheikh".
If any person or party has any objection in this transfer.He or they may file their objection in writing in the office of the Sub Division Zakura within 7 (seven) days from the Date of Publication.No objection shall be entertained after stipulated Time Period.
Mushtaq Ahmad Sheikh
S/o Late Abdul Ahad Sheikh
R/o Shanpora Habak Hazratbal Srinagar
phone 9541571012
Medai line advt

از نیابت بوئی

عنوان: درخواست منجانب اسرار منظور حجام ولد منظور احمد حجام ساکنہ واڈورہ زینہ گیر بمراد اجرائی OBC سرٹیفکیٹ بحق خود

اشتہار بمراد آگاہی ہر خاص وعام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سائل دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس نسبت پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کے گئے جس سے عیاں ہوتا ہے کہ سائل / سائلہ موضع واڈورہ تحصیل زینہ گیر کا سکونت دار ہے اور حجام زات سے تعلق رکھتا ہے سائل کا افراد کنبہ بذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے

محمد شعبان حجام ولد عبدالرحمان حجام	95سال	عمر رسیدہ
منظور احمد حجام ولد محمد شعبان حجام	48سال	مزدوری
گلشنہ بیگم زوجہ منظور احمد	47سال	گھریلو کام
حیدر منظور پسر۔۔	25سال	زیر تعلیم
عادل منظور پسر۔۔	24سال	۔۔
شاکر منظور۔۔	21سال	۔۔
اسرار منظور۔۔	20سال	۔۔

اسکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کنبہ نہیں ہے سائل / سائلہ کی ماہوار آمدنی 6000 روپے تک ہے ۔ سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض سات یوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابلِ قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار
fko

Scooty Rider Succumbs After Being Hit By Vehicle

Agencies

Srinagar: A 27-year-old scooty rider succumbed to his injuries after being hit by a vehicle near Ahmad Nagar in Soura on Monday late evening, officials said.

An official told KNO that at least three persons travelling on a scooty were injured after a vehicle hit them at Umarhair, Soura, on Monday.

He said the injured were shifted to a hospital in Srinagar, where one of them succumbed to his injuries this morning, while the other two are undergoing treatment.

The deceased was identified as Bashir Ahmad Khan, son of Ghulam Nabi Khan, a resident of Khaitengan, Baramulla. The two injured were identified as Manzoor Ahmad Khan and Mehraj-ud-Din Wani, both residents of Sheeri, Baramulla.

Meanwhile, cognisance of the incident has been taken and a probe has been initiated—(KNO)

Cluster University Hosts Musical Opera "Chand Harich Zoon"

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Abdul Ahad Azad Memorial Chair, Cluster University of Srinagar, in collaboration with Adbi Markaz Kamraz, presented the musical opera "Chand Harich Zoon" at the auditorium of Amar Singh College. The opera, based on the life and legacy of Habba Khatoon, Kashmir's most celebrated and revered poetess, brought alive her poetic journey, whose verses of longing and lament continue to occupy a cherished place in the literary and musical traditions of Kashmir.

Through soulful renditions, poetry, and dramatic enactments, the production traced the life and artistic journey of Habba Khatoon, introducing her timeless legacy to a large gathering of students, faculty members, and admirers of Kashmiri art and literature.

The welcome address was delivered by Shabnum Tailgami, General Secretary, Adbi Markaz Kamraz, who warmly welcomed the distinguished guests, dignitaries, faculty members, and students present on the occasion.

The Vice Chancellor of Cluster University of Srinagar, Prof. Mohammad Mobin, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Addressing the gathering, he emphasised the need for establishing the Abdul Ahad Azad Memorial Chair. He clarified that although the Chair is named after the celebrated Kashmiri poet Abdul Ahad Azad, its cultural vision is inclusive, with the primary objective of promoting and strengthening the Kashmiri language and literature.

FCIK, KSSIA Mourn Demise of Prominent Industrialist Ghulam Mohammed Khan

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Federation of Chambers of Industries Kashmir (FCIK), Kashmir Small Scale Industrial Association (KSSIA) and several other industrial associations have expressed profound grief over the demise of prominent industrialist Ghulam Mohammed Khan, one of the promoters of Khan Wood Industry at Industrial Estate Baghi Ali Mardan Khan, Srinagar.

Khan breathed his last on Monday. His funeral prayers were offered at the historic Jamia Masjid, Nowhatta, where a large gathering of entrepreneurs, relatives, associates and well-wishers joined in bidding him a final farewell. He was laid to rest at his ancestral graveyard near Islamia College.

FCIK Advisory Committee Head Shahid Kamili described Khan's passing as a significant loss to Kashmir's industrial fraternity. Remembering him as a respected and longstanding member of the industrial community, Kamili conveyed his sympathies to the bereaved family.

Meanwhile, KSSIA convened a condolence meeting at its association office under the chairmanship of President Syed Fazal Illahi. Members paid rich tributes to the deceased, recalling his decades-long association with the estate and his contributions to its entrepreneurial community. They remembered him as a familiar and respected figure whose absence would be deeply felt by fellow industrialists. A KSSIA delegation led by its President also participated in the funeral procession and prayers.



Laying the Groundwork for a Colourful Spring: Workers busy themselves planting tulip bulbs at Srinagar's Tulip Garden. KO Photot Abid Bhat.

50-Km Hostel Eligibility Rule Leaves Over 300 Female PG Students Without Accommodation at KU

Agencies

Srinagar: More than 300 female postgraduate students at the University of Kashmir have been left without hostel accommodation under the existing 50-kilometre eligibility rule, prompting students and parents to seek the intervention of the Chancellor and demand an urgent review of the policy.

As per KNT, the students said the present criterion, under which those whose permanent residences fall within 50 kilometres of the University are ordinarily ineligible for hostel accommodation, has placed them in a difficult situation, forcing them to undertake exhausting daily journeys even when their academic commitments extend into the evening.

They argued that geographical distance alone cannot determine the need for hostel accommodation, particularly for female students who have to attend practical classes, laboratory sessions, research work and other academic activities beyond regular university hours.

Shaiza Aslam, a postgraduate student from Khansahib in Budgam, said she lives around 47 kilometres from the University's Main Campus and was denied the opportunity to apply for hostel accommodation because of the existing eligibility restriction.

"It is injustice with us. We reach our residences very late in the evening after attending classes and completing academic activities at the University," she said, appealing to the Chancellor to intervene.

> **Being a farmer**, how can I afford such a huge amount?" he asked, suggesting that the eligibility distance for female students be reduced from 50 kilometres to 40 kilometres so that those facing genuine commuting difficulties could be considered for accommodation

The financial burden of private accommodation has further compounded the problem for families unable to afford rental expenses near the campus.

A parent from Airzal, Beerwah, said his daughter reaches home at around 7 pm after attending university activities. He said he had explored the possibility of arranging rented accommodation for her at Nigeen Lane, Hazratbal, but the landlord demanded Rs 10,000 per month for a room.

"Being a farmer, how can I afford such a huge amount?" he asked, suggesting that the eligibility distance for female students be reduced from 50 kilometres to 40 kilometres so that those facing genuine commuting difficulties could be considered for accommodation.

Another postgraduate student from the Department of Chemistry said Science students deserved special consideration in hostel allotment because their academic programmes involve extensive practical work, laboratory sessions and research activities that frequently require them to remain on campus for longer hours.

She said adequate practical exposure was essential to science education and that students should not be compelled to choose between fulfilling their academic requirements and managing difficult daily commutes.

Students and parents have demanded that the University review the existing hostel policy and introduce suitable relaxation for female postgraduate students, particularly those enrolled in Science departments and programmes involving extended practical schedules.

Beyond an immediate policy review, parents have called for a substantial expansion of hostel infrastructure. One parent suggested that the University approach the Jammu and Kashmir Government for financial assistance to construct a mega Girls' Hostel with a capacity of around 1,000 rooms, on the lines of the hostel infrastructure developed by the National Institute of Technology.

They said such a facility would offer a long-term solution to the accommodation shortage and reduce the financial and logistical difficulties faced by female students coming from different parts of Kashmir.

The students and parents have appealed to the Chancellor and the University administration to take cognizance of their concerns, reconsider the 50-kilometre restriction and initiate measures to ensure that deserving female students are not deprived of residential facilities because of an inflexible distance-based criterion. [KNT]

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
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- CAPD: 18001807011
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- Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

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SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

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- BIJBHERA: 01932-228243
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- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

HIJRI CALENDAR

1448

PRAYERS

FAJR	5: 35
ZUHR	12:14
ASR	3: 52
Magrib	5: 32
ISHA	6: 54

This Day In History

- 1945 - Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Cordell Hull (establishing UN)
- 1953 - David Ben-Gurion, resigns as Prime Minister of Israel
- 1963 - Train crash in Japan, kills 164
- 1970 - Scientists perform 1st artificial synthesis of a live cell
- 1974 - A salmon is discovered in the River Thames, England, for the first time since 1833.
- 1979 - US President Carter announces a halts to Iranian oil imports & freezes Iranian assets
- 1981 - 2nd shuttle mission-1st time spacecraft launched twice (Columbia 2)
- 1981 - Great Britain performs nuclear test
- 1984 - Space shuttle astronauts snared a satellite 1st space salvage
- 1985 - STS 61-B vehicle moves to launch pad
- 1989 - Brazil holds its 1st free presidential election in 29 years
- 1990 - Crown Prince Akihito is formally installed as Emperor Akihito of Japan, becoming the 125th Japanese monarch.
- 1990 - Tim Berners-Lee publishes a formal proposal for the World Wide Web
- 1991 Atlanta Brave Tom Glavine wins NL Cy Young Award
- 1991 - Dili Massacre, Indonesian forces open fire on a crowd of protesters in Dili, East Timor, killing at least 250
- 1995 - STS 74 (Atlantis 15), launches into orbit
- 2001 - Taliban forces abandon Afghanistan's capital Kabul, ahead of advancing Afghan Northern Alliance troops
- 2001 - In New York City, American Airlines Flight 587, an Airbus A300 on its way to the Dominican Republic, crashes minutes after takeoff from John F. Kennedy International Airport, killing all 260 on board and five on the ground.
- 2003 - With 501 km/h (311 mph) Shanghai Transrapid sets up a new world record for commercial railway systems.

From KO Archives

US Election Drama Drags On; Trailing Gore Wants Hand Count, Loses Faith In Machines

AGENCIES

WASHINGTON: Republican George W. Bush's lead over Democrat Vice-President Al-Gore has been pegged at 327 votes after a final unofficial recount in Florida, prompting the Bush camp to ask Gore to concede defeat but the outcome of the US Presidential election will not be known till next week as several thousand postal ballots are expected from abroad.

Vice president Al-Gore, who the recounts showed was trailing by 327-votes to Republican George W Bush has demanded more vote recounts in crucial Florida state particularly hand counts in four of the 67 counties. Saying machines make mistakes.

Meanwhile, news reports said a court in Palm Beach had or¬dered a freeze on the recount process in the county pending a hearing next week on alleged irregularities that could hurt Gore.

Three days after the voting, the election to the White House was mired in uncertainty facing legal challenges and the world yet to know as to who is the next incumbent.

The unofficial count by the Associated Press county-by-county slightly boosted Bush's tally after earlier counts had showed the margin as 225 votes.

The recount shoved Bush won Florida, Bush's communica¬tion director Karen Hughes claimed in a statement in Austin, Texas, asking Gore to concede.

The Gore camp hit back saying contrary to claims by the rival side this election is not over.

Again we want the true and accurate will of the people to prevail and that means the legal system to run its course. If at the end of that process, George Bush is the victor, we will respect that result, Gore campaign chairman William Daley said in a statement.

(Kashmir Observer, November 11, 2000)

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Posha Bano W/O Mohd. Shafi Ganai, R/O Marazigund, Watragam, Tehsil Watergam, District Baramulla, do hereby inform the general public that the name of my ward has been wrongly recorded in his Aadhaar Card bearing No. 9681 7563 9732 as Muhammad Abu Bakar, whereas his correct name, as per Municipal Records, is Abu Bakar Bin Shafi Ganai. Now, I have applied for correction of the same in the Aadhaar records. Any person having any objection in this regard may file the same before the concerned authority within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained thereafter.

Posha Bano fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

it is hereby notified for the general public i fahmeeda Begum my ward name has been wrongly recorded as Aarif Rasool instead of Muhammad Aarif Ganaie in my aadhaar card bearing number 3059 8370 8091.
i have applied for the correction/rectification of my name to Muhammad Aarif Ganaie . any person having any objection regarding this correction may file it in writing before the concerned Aadhaar centre/authority within seven days from the date of publication of this notice.

Faheemda Begum fko
M/o Muhammad Aarif Ganaie
R/o Seer Jagir Sopore baramulla j&k 193202

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as AADIL ALTAF DAR While as my actual name is AADIL AHMAD HANJI C/O MOHD ALTAF HANJI R/O MUGALPORA KUPWARA District KUPWARA 193222 Now I want to apply for the correction of the same if anybody is having any objection he/she may contact concerned authority within the period of seven days after that no objection will be entertained.
AADIL AHMAD HANJI
C/O :- MOHD ALTAF HANJI
R/O :- MUGALPORA, KUPWARA qns

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Notice Inviting Tender

Sr.DEE/TR/JAT acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders for the works as under. Bidders will be able to submit their original / revised bids up to closing **date 02.12.2026 at 15:00 Hrs** only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall not be considered.

Tender No.	Name of work	App. Cost. (Rs.)	Cost of Tender form (Rs.)	Date & time for submission of tender	Earnest Money # (Rs.)	Completion period	Opening of tender	Website Particulars
853A-TRD-JAT-2026-27	Outsourcing of maintenance activities for OHE & PSI assets of TRD depots at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra (SVDK), MCTM Udhampur (MCTM) and Samba (SMBX) under the jurisdiction of DEE/TRD/JAT over Jammu division for 02 years	2,95,71,160.66	NIL	Up to 02.12.2026 15:00 Hrs	5,91,400/-	Twenty Four (24) Months	02.12.2026 after 15:00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.in

Note: # Tenderer (s) may please note that offers received without Bid Security either in cash through e-payment gateway or as Bank Guarantee bond from a scheduled commercial bank of India or as mentioned in tender documents (as per Annexure-21) valid for a period of 90 days beyond the bid validity period, will be considered as incomplete & invalid offer and for which contractor shall have no claim on Railway. **No.: 853A-TRD-JAT-2026-27 Dated: 09.11.2026** 3927/2026

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Department of Information Office of the District Information Officer, Budgam

Phone No:01951350151 Email Id: dic.budgam@nic.in

No: INF/DIC/BUD/2026/267 Dated: 10-Nov-2026

Expression of Interest

Interested videography agencies are invites through this EOI notice for the providing of services of 27 videographers, 26 for the examination centres and 1 videographer for the headquarter on 15.11.2026 (Sunday) on the approved rates, Rs 1500 per cameraperson per day for the recording of video footages like opening of question booklets, OMR based sheets and at the start of examination and packing back of the used OMR based sheets and other examination-based activities during the SSB Examination.
The agency has to provide services of videographers for the for the full day during the examinations. The video recorded shall be in the MP4 format with HD quality.
Also, the agency has to provide the compiled video footage in a suitable pen drive or hard disk for further submission to concerned authorities.
The interested agencies shall reach the office of the undersigned by or before 13th of Nov. 2026 up to 2.30 pm.

Terms & Conditions

1. The price quoted above can't be changed in any condition.
2. If the office of undersigned shall receive more than one EOI, then the selection shall be made on the draw of lots.
More information can be obtained from the Office of District Information Officer, Budgam during office hours.

DIPK-7555/26 District Information Officer
dated: 10-11-2026 Budgam

KASHMIR OBSERVER™

Printed & Published by Sajjad Haider on behalf of Kashmir Observer LLP
Printed at: K.T Press Pvt. Ltd 120-Electronic Complex, Industrial Estate, Rangreth-Budgam
Published from: 5-Boulevard Srinagar J&K
Editor-in-Chief : Sajjad Haider
Managing Editor: Bilal Handoo
News Editor: Farzana Nisar
Online Editor: Syed Hamid
Head Layout & Design: Muntazir Yaseen,
Digital Media Head: Amir Ali Shah
Distribution & Advertising: Firdous Ahmad
RNI Registration No: 69503/98
Postal Registration No-L/159/KO/SK/2014-16
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KO VIEW

Science Beyond Security

Kashmir is facing climate changes that call for a better understanding of its mountains.

Glaciers are shrinking, snowfall is changing and the risks associated with glacial lakes are growing.

Scientists need access to high-altitude areas to track these changes and understand their consequences. But restrictions on movement in several sensitive locations are making research difficult.

Security concerns are understandable, but they should not come at the cost of scientific work.

Reports suggest that researchers often struggle to obtain permission to visit the high-altitude areas. They have to approach several authorities, including the police, civil administration, Forest Department and Army. Delays have disrupted fieldwork, prevented sample collection and made it difficult to maintain monitoring equipment.

Some researchers have also been unable to verify findings obtained through satellite images.

The effects go far beyond academic research.

A study published in Scientific Reports in July 2026, based on temperature records from 10 weather stations between 1980 and 2024, found significant warming in parts of Jammu and Kashmir. Temperatures in Pahalgam and Gulmarg have risen by nearly 1 degree Celsius over the past two decades.

The shortage of observations from higher elevations makes it harder to understand the full extent of these changes.

The latest snow assessment by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development found that snow persistence in the Hindu Kush Himalaya during 2026 was 27.8 per cent below the long-term average. It was the fourth consecutive year of below-normal snow conditions. Reduced snow reserves in the Indus basin could affect early-summer water availability, with consequences for agriculture, drinking water and hydropower.

Research into glacial lakes presents another concern.

A study of 155 such lakes in Jammu and Kashmir identified five with very high susceptibility to glacial lake outburst floods. Satellite images help track potential changes, but field investigations remain essential to verify risks and assess conditions accurately.

Restricted access can leave authorities with incomplete information when planning for disasters.

The government needs a clear system that allows genuine scientific research while respecting security concerns. Researchers working through recognised institutions should receive time-bound permissions, designated routes and access through a single-window clearance mechanism.

Multiple departments should not leave scientists waiting while valuable research seasons pass.

Kashmir's mountains sustain its rivers, agriculture and communities. Understanding their changing conditions is a public necessity.

Security agencies have a duty to protect the region, while the government must ensure that scientists can study it.

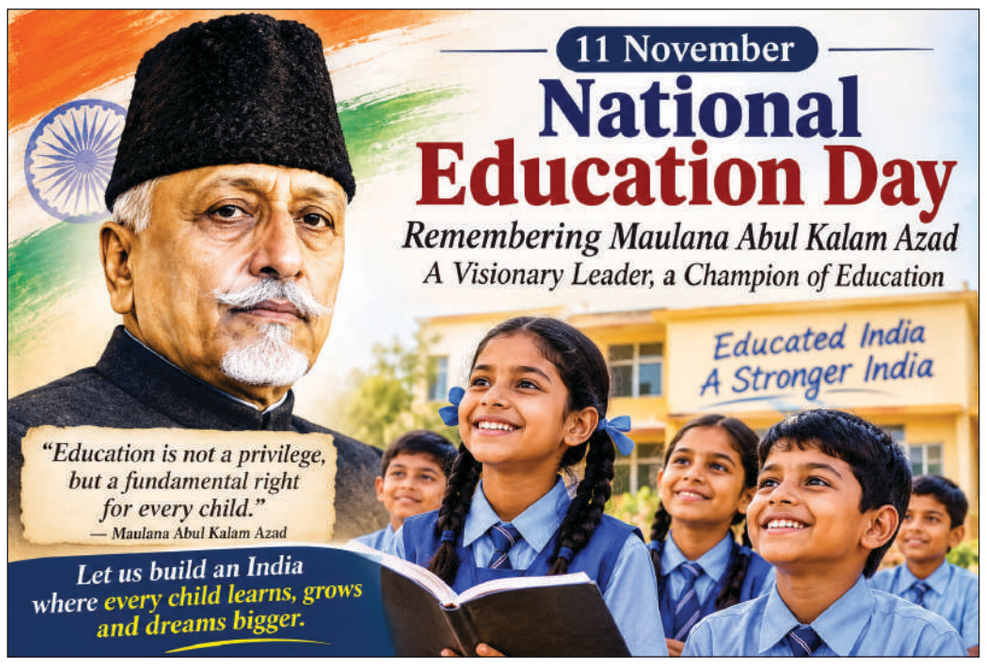
Protecting Kashmir also means allowing those who study its mountains to do their work.

Maulana Azad's Dream Remains Unfinished

India has expanded its education system since independence, but children in remote villages still face long journeys, poorly equipped schools and unequal opportunities.



Mudasir Gani Khan



On November 11, India remembers Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the country's first Education Minister, whose birthday is observed as National Education Day.

His name is associated with the early years of independent India's education system, when a newly freed country had to decide what type of future it wanted to build.

Azad believed that education should reach the poorest child as much as the privileged one.

Decades later, that simple idea remains an unfinished task.

Born on November 11, 1888, Azad was a scholar, freedom fighter, writer and national leader. He understood that political independence alone could not build a strong country. People needed schools, universities, scientific institutions and opportunities to learn.

His work as Education Minister helped lay the foundations of modern education in India, with support for higher education, technical learning, research and cultural development.

He also believed that women should have greater access to education.

His vision was wider than the establishment of institutions in major cities. He wanted children from poor families and communities long excluded from educational opportunities to have access to learning.

The idea was clear and concise: a child's future should not be decided by the circumstances of his birth.

India has made considerable progress since those early years. Its school network has expanded, digital learning has opened new possibilities and successive education policies have sought to improve the way children learn.

The National Education Policy 2020 places emphasis on foundational literacy, critical thinking, practical learning and the overall development of students.

These are worthwhile goals, but their success depends on what happens inside a classroom and what a child encounters on the way to school.

A school building may appear on a government record as evidence of progress. A child entering it may find limited learning resources, inadequate infrastructure or little guidance.

The difference between educational facilities in cities and remote villages remains a serious concern. The distance between policy announcements and a child's daily experience can be considerable.

The problem becomes particularly visible in the far-flung areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

Geography makes schooling difficult for children in many remote settlements. Some walk considerable distances to reach their classrooms, while limited facilities add to the difficulties they face once they get there.

A student in a city may have access to several learning resources, while a child in a distant village may depend almost entirely on the school and the teacher available locally.

Such differences influence a child's chances even before an examination begins.

A long journey to school, limited access to learning materials and inadequate guidance can affect attendance, confidence and academic progress.

Families also face the challenge of supporting children whose educational opportunities depend heavily on public institutions.

These circumstances call for schools equipped to meet the needs of the communities they serve.

Our understanding of educational success also needs a closer look. Examination results and certificates have become the most visible measures of a student's ability. Parents often compare marks, schools compete over results and children learn to associate achievement with numbers printed on a sheet of paper.

Academic performance has its place, but education should help a child develop confidence, curiosity, creativity, practical knowledge and the ability to make responsible decisions.

A student who scores well in an examination may still need guidance in understanding the world beyond textbooks. Schools should give children room to ask questions, express ideas and discover their interests. Learning should prepare them for life, work and participation in society, rather than become a race towards higher marks.

Teachers have a central role in making this possible. Their work reaches well beyond completing the syllabus and preparing students for examinations.

A teacher can recognise a child's ability, encourage an uncertain student and help young people develop habits that remain with them after school.

Such responsibilities call for proper training, adequate resources, encouragement and professional respect. Expectations of teachers must go hand in hand with institutional support.

Parents, too, influence the way children experience education. A few minutes spent discussing school, encouragement to read or interest in a child's daily learning can strengthen the connection between home and classroom.

Children need encouragement to improve at their own pace. Comparing their marks with those of siblings, classmates or neighbours can turn learning into a source of anxiety.

Digital technology has added another dimension to this responsibility. Mobile phones, computers and online platforms have made learning resources more accessible, but access to a device alone does not guarantee education.

Students need guidance in using technology responsibly, identifying false information and giving priority to genuine learning. Digital access should expand a child's understanding rather than become another distraction.

Azad's belief in education for all also calls attention to the opportunities available to girls, children from tribal communities, economically weaker families and students in remote areas. Poverty, distance and social circumstances should never determine who gets to learn and who gets left behind.

Equal access must be visible in the facilities available to children, the support they receive and the opportunities they can pursue.

National Education Day should encourage us to look beyond speeches and commemorative programmes. It should prompt a closer examination of our schools, the difficulties faced by students and the support available to teachers and families.

A child walking a long distance to reach an inadequately equipped school tells us something about the distance India still has to cover.

Azad helped establish an educational vision for a country emerging from colonial rule. Its success today should be judged by the opportunities available to a child in a remote Himalayan village as much as by the achievements of universities in major cities.

The real test of his legacy lies in a classroom where a child has the books, guidance and encouragement to discover what they can become.

A nation can build roads, bridges and impressive institutions, but its future also depends on the child sitting at the back of a poorly equipped classroom, waiting for a chance to learn.

That child should never have to settle for less because of where he was born.

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

Beyond Bridges and Big Projects

Infrastructure can connect cities, but real development begins when children get better schools, graduates find meaningful work and artisans can earn from their skills.



Zobiya Bhat

The children of Dhundalwadi, a village in Maharashtra, walked without proper footwear. I had travelled there with Yuva Sangam Phase VII, hosted by IIT Bombay, expecting new places and new faces, and I found both.

The image I brought home was this one, set against the urban landscape of Mumbai, along with the limits in the village's healthcare and educational facilities.

We tend to measure progress by what gets built. A better measure is what reaches the people living beside it, and Kashmir, the place I call home, shows how wide that gap can grow.

Our visit to the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Corporation took us to the Atal Setu project, and its scale impressed me. What held my attention was the thinking behind connectivity.

A bridge links two places, and it also changes how people travel, brings markets closer and opens opportunities for businesses and communities.

Kashmir's geography and environment differ from Mumbai's, so copying another city would solve nothing.

Any such project would need feasibility studies, financial planning and environmental consideration.

Still, better connectivity could bring markets, workplaces and educational institutions within reach, and it could support shopkeepers, artisans, food businesses and tourism enterprises.

Those are the people Kashmir already has. We speak often of its potential in tourism, handicrafts, agriculture and small business, and the artisans, local products and capable entrepreneurs exist.

But potential grows only where opportunity and access reach it.

In Maharashtra, I watched traditional performances, dance and craftsmanship, and understood that culture survives because people keep practising it and passing it on.

A craft stays alive when the craftsperson can find buyers, which makes access a question of heritage as much as income.

Education poses the same test.

Children in Dhundalwadi sat in a system with visible gaps, and the thought followed me to a conversation with Dr. Deepak Phatak, honoured with the Padma Shri.

I asked him about children with disabilities and whether our schools do enough to give them equal opportunity.

> **I had seen an** expensive bridge and, in the same country, children walking without proper footwear. Both are presented as signs of development. I returned wondering what a school can achieve when children lack the basic support they need to learn, and what a doctorate means when there is no laboratory, company or university waiting to put that knowledge to use.

We call education a right, and I wonder whether every child can reach it. Inclusion has to appear in classrooms, buildings, teaching methods and attitudes, because a promise on paper changes little for a child who cannot enter the room.

I put a second question to him about home: the growing number of PhD graduates in Kashmir and the unemployment that greets many educated young people.

A doctorate holds years of dedication, research and specialised knowledge. When no position uses it, the loss spreads beyond the individual, because society forgoes the ideas and skills too.

Unemployment brings financial strain and frustration, and it sends talented young people away in search of better prospects.

Having said that, I would never discourage higher education. I would rather ask whether enough research opportunities exist, whether institutions have the funding and facilities to support researchers, and whether universities connect with industry and the needs of society.

A degree should open doors, but too many graduates find them closed.

A similar difference between honour and practice appeared in how Maharashtra's traditions present women.

Figures such as Mata and Devi are revered, but reverence in ritual does not always become equality in daily life. Real respect appears in education, safety, independence and the freedom to make one's own decisions.

Any community can ask that question of itself, and mine can too.

History raised a related problem. We learn it through dates, events and important personalities, while the ordinary people whose lives those events altered stay out of view.

I believe we should examine the past with honesty, evidence and context, so that it helps us understand the present rather than divide us over what is finished.

The programme ended with a writing competition based on our experiences during the trip. My piece won first place, and faculty members at NIT honoured me with an Award of Appreciation.

The award and the appreciation remain fond memories of the trip, but the questions I brought home have remained with me longer.

I had seen an expensive bridge and, in the same country, children walking without proper footwear. Both are presented as signs of development.

I returned wondering what a school can achieve when children lack the basic support they need to learn, and what a doctorate means when there is no laboratory, company or university waiting to put that knowledge to use.

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Remembering Riffat Buch and Agha Shahid's Srinagar

The passing of Riffat Buch recalls the friendships, debates and youthful ambitions she shared with Agha Shahid and other contemporaries in Srinagar.



Syed Nissar H. Gilani

The news of Professor Riffat Buch's passing in the United States brought back memories of a generation of Kashmiris whose friendships, intellectual pursuits and public contributions defined an important period in our lives.

Her death has saddened me deeply, partly because I knew her as a contemporary from our college years, and partly because her life was connected to a remarkable family whose members contributed to Kashmir in education, administration, engineering, literature and public service.

When someone from that generation passes away, memories of people and places return together. I find myself thinking of Srinagar between 1966 and 1969, when inter-college debates brought some of the brightest young minds of the valley into the same rooms.

Those were formative years for many of us, defined by two neighbouring institutions, S.P. College and Government College for Women on M.A. Road.

The colleges were led by two distinguished principals, Professor Saifuddin and Professor Miss Mohammadi Ahamed Shah, whose leadership encouraged young students to develop their intellectual abilities.

Debating competitions became an important part of college life, bringing students together in spirited contests that reached well beyond their respective campuses.

Riffat was among the talented young women who made those occasions memorable.

Her debating team included Indu Bal, sister of the internationally renowned fashion designer Rohit Bal, and several other gifted students.

Our contests took us to venues such as Tagore Hall, Oberoi Palace Hotel, now The Grand Palace, and Government Medical College Srinagar.

Those gatherings brought together young people who enjoyed testing their arguments, listening to opposing views and discovering the intellectual strengths of their contemporaries.

I represented S.P. College alongside the late Agha Shahid, the son of the celebrated educationist Dr. Agha Ashraf Ali.

We frequently found ourselves debating against the accomplished students of Government College for Women.

Shahid possessed an exceptional intellect, and his ability to express an argument was already evident during those years.

He would go on to become one of Kashmir's most celebrated poets. His collection The Country Without a Post Office, published in 1997, and his final masterpiece, Rooms Are Never Finished, which became a finalist for the National Book Award, introduced readers around the world to Kashmir's pain, beauty and history.

Remembering Shahid today also brings back the young student with whom I shared those debating platforms.

Riffat came from a family whose contributions reached far beyond Kashmir.

Her father, the late M. Amin Buch, was a distinguished scholar, writer and newspaper editor. Her wider family included people who occupied important positions in international diplomacy, state administration and professional life.

Her uncle, M. Yousuf Buch, retired as Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations and served as an adviser to the late Pakistani Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.



Another uncle, Ghulam Naqashband Buch, served as Principal Chief Conservator of Forests in Jammu and Kashmir.

Her brother, Misbah Buch, was an accomplished engineer who spent many years working in Saudi Arabia. He is particularly remembered for his contribution to the design of Hotel Jahangir in Srinagar, the city's first multi-storied building, an achievement that earned considerable appreciation from the engineering fraternity.

Riffat's personal life also included years of considerable hardship.

Her husband, the late Engineer Yaqoob Qureshi, battled kidney failure and underwent dialysis for fourteen years. His ability to live through such a prolonged illness with grace and courage remains part of the family's memory. He passed away some time before Riffat.

My association with the Buch family also brings back memories of another dear friend and class fellow, the late Mushtaq Ali Buch. He died of bladder cancer on November 11, 2007, just months after returning to Kashmir following sixteen years of service in Saudi Arabia.

> **RIFFAT CAME FROM A FAMILY WHOSE CONTRIBUTIONS REACHED FAR BEYOND KASHMIR. HER FATHER, THE LATE M. AMIN BUCH, WAS A DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR, WRITER AND NEWSPAPER EDITOR.** Her wider family included people who occupied important positions in international diplomacy, state administration and professional life. Her uncle, M. Yousuf Buch, retired as Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations and served as an adviser to the late Pakistani Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Mushtaq was a gifted cricketer, writer and commentator. His pleasing personality made him popular among friends and acquaintances, but I remember him above all as a genuinely good human being.

His father, Mohammad Ali Buch, was a law graduate with a postgraduate degree in history from Aligarh Muslim University. He served as a capable revenue officer, while Mushtaq's three younger brothers also distinguished themselves in their respective professions.

His uncle, Engineer M. Yousuf Buch, retired as a Superintending Engineer. Mushtaq is survived by his wife and two children, Imran and Maria, who are settled in Italy.

The passing of Riffat, Mushtaq and Agha Shahid has brought home the passage of time and the changes in our generation. I also remember Dr. M. Shaffi Wanchoo, who represented Government Medical College Srinagar in those inter-college debates, along with numerous other friends and contemporaries whose contributions and companionship enriched our youth.

Our generation shared an educational culture in which public speaking, reading, writing and intellectual competition occupied an important place. The young men and women who met at those colleges went on to pursue very different careers, but their early friendships connected them through a common experience of learning and discovery.

I feel a particular sadness when I think of Riffat because her passing brings together so many memories of people who once occupied an important place in my life.

Her family's history also recalls a period when Kashmiri professionals and intellectuals made their presence felt in institutions at home and internationally.

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Chasing the Blue Lakes of Kashmir

Nearly ten years after his first major trek, Mohammad Omer has become one of Kashmir's most prolific alpine lake explorers. His greatest satisfaction, however, comes from seeing others follow the trails he once discovered.



Mohammad Anamul Haque Ahanger

The wind at a high pass does not blow so much as it files.

It files the skin, the spirit, and the soft edges of a man's certainty.

Mohammad Omer has stood in that wind more times than he cares to count, and each time, on the far side of it, there has been water: still, impossibly blue, and utterly silent.

An alpine lake reveals itself slowly. It rests above the tree line, far from the noise of everyday life, waiting for the trekker who makes the journey with an open heart.

Omer has arrived at 168 of them. The 38-year-old from Asham Sumbal in Bandipora district, a tour and travel operator by profession, a mountain explorer by passion, reached his 168th alpine lake on 8 August 2026, during the Nagaander and Nilgrur Lakes expedition in Kishtwar's Warwan Valley.

through one of the most remote folds of the Kashmir Himalaya, where trails thin out and maps go silent.

His personal log now stands at 168 alpine lakes across Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh.

This figure extends a record he first set in August 2024, when he became the first trekker from Bandipora district, and only the second from North Kashmir after Mudwir Bashir Shah of Sopore, to reach 100 alpine lakes.

That milestone was formally acknowledged by the Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, the same year.

His relationship with the mountains began, as most do, without pomp and show.

Returning home from abroad in 2018, Omer did not head for the high passes. He walked through the lower meadows around Manasbal, Mohand Marg, Marchoi, Dumail and Trag. He took modest, unhurried steps into a landscape he had lived beside all his life but never truly entered.

The turning point came in 2019, on a seven-day Kashmir Great Lakes trek. He crossed the Nichnai, Gadsar, and Zojila passes, and for the first time stood before Krishansar, Vishansar, Gadsar, Satsar, Gangbal, Jawdora, and Nundkol.

Something shifted in those heavenly heights.



> **WATCHING KASHMIR'S OUTDOOR COMMUNITY EVOLVE, HE HAS GROWN UNEASY AT WHAT HE SEES:** a creeping tendency to treat the mountains as a competition, a ledger of who has explored fifty, a hundred, two hundred lakes.

In the same expedition, he crossed the 150-lake mark. He added twenty lakes in a single four-day push

"The stillness of the water, the silence of high passes, and the distance from everyday noise left a permanent impression," Omer writes in a personal account of the decade. "Captivated by alpine lakes, I never looked back."

He truly never did.

Not through the pandemic year of 2020, when he completed the Barafsar Lakes expedition from Sarbal in Sonamarg and pushed into the Greater Lakes of Tosamaidan, the Hirpora Lakes, and the Choharnag, Shilsar, Sarbal and Shirazsar lakes of Bandipora. Not in 2021, when he scaled Mahadev Peak with the AJKMF and Crampon Adventurers, and later Buzune Top in Pahalgam. Not in 2022, when he explored Bagh Sar in the Hirpora range and Salnai Lake in the Harmukh massif, the year he crossed fifty lakes. Not even in 2023, when Damam Sar in the Greater Lakes and Lashan Pinjan in Bandipora followed.

By 2024, returning to the Kashmir Great Lakes to gather the ones he had missed the first time, including Upper Gadsar, he reached the century.

It was never a cakewalk, as the mountains test a trekker through steep climbs, river crossings, injuries and unpredictable weather. They also mean long days away from home and a family that impatiently waits for his return.

"It took nearly ten years," Omer writes, "but the number itself is secondary. Every lake carries its own story of struggle, peril, and camaraderie."

There were teams that formed and dissolved. Circumstances changed. People came and went. Through it all, one thing held: a connection to the wilderness that refused to loosen its grip.

Crampon Adventures, he says, gave him the platform to push further and introduced him to companions whose stories he will carry for life.

In 2025, he fulfilled a long-pending dream by summiting Harmukh Peak.

Standing on that summit brought immense satisfaction, but it is the lakes, he insists, that keep drawing him back into the wild.

Here is where Omer's story departs from the template of the modern adventure narrative.

He has the numbers, the records, the recognition. And he would like the trekking fraternity to stop caring about them.

Watching Kashmir's outdoor community evolve, he has grown uneasy at what he sees: a creeping tendency to treat the mountains as a competition, a ledger of who has explored fifty, a hundred, two hundred lakes.

"These numbers mean nothing in the real world," he says, with the plainness of a man who has earned the right to say it. "No one is waiting at the finish line with a job offer or a cash prize. The mountains are an experience, not a stadium."

He believes trekking should come from passion and a willingness to learn. Young people, he says, should find purpose, stay away from drugs and gain proper climbing and rescue skills. Experienced mountaineers, meanwhile, should guide and encourage the next generation.

Beyond these life lessons, Omer's achievements speak for themselves. More importantly, they have inspired others, perhaps his greatest achievement of all.

When he introduced Fayaz Bhat to high-altitude trekking in the 2021-22 season, he recognised in him a strong and relentless companion. Fayaz climbed with him on major expeditions and, during the Warwan Valley trip this year, reached his own milestone of 100 alpine lakes. Waheed Ahanger, another local trekker, crossed the same mark last year.

For a man from Asham Sumbal, in the Sonawari belt of Bandipora, watching his own neighbours reach these heights matters more than any personal tally.

It reinforces, he says, that the journey has helped empower others to pursue their own.

He is grateful to his family, friends, teammates and supporters who stood by him. He is grateful, too, with a certain wry grace, to the critics and naysayers, whose doubt fuelled his determination to keep moving and let the work speak.

After nearly a decade, 168 alpine lakes and Harmukh, Omer is clear about one thing: "This is not the end."

Many valleys, passes and lakes still await him. Omer hopes to keep exploring so his children will one day know what he did in the mountains.

His 168 lakes tell that story.

Reaching a hundred was only the beginning for him. The mountains still have stories to tell, and Omer still has miles to walk.

— The author is a Political Science graduate from Amar Singh College, Srinagar, and is currently pursuing a Master's degree at Jamia Millia Islamia. He can be reached at inaamahangar29@gmail.com.

IUST holds 7th University Library Committee Meeting

Awantipora, Nov 11: The Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) convened the 7th meeting of its University Library Committee on November 9 to deliberate on measures for strengthening the Rumi Library and enhancing its role in supporting the University's academic and research ecosystem.

The meeting was chaired by Vice Chancellor Prof. Shakil A. Romshoo and attended by Prof. Sheikh Ajaz Bashir (Dean Academic Affairs), Prof. Shamin Ahmad Shah (Registrar, IUST), Prof. Sumeer Gul (Head, Department of Library and Information Sciences, University of Kashmir), Dr. Nazir Ahmad Bhat (Librarian, Central University of Kashmir), Finance Officer Mr. Sameer Wazir, Dr. Sheikh Shueb (In-charge, Rumi Library, IUST), Deans, Head of the Departments and other officials of the Rumi Library.

At the outset, the Vice Chancellor emphasised the importance of institutional committees in ensuring periodic review, policy refinement and effective institutional functioning. He mentioned that convening of Library committee is a regular affair in the University and sustained deliberations and collective decision-making has ensured that institutional systems remain responsive to emerging requirements.

Prof. Romshoo underscored that libraries are the vital engines of academic institutions and reaffirmed the University's commitment to strengthening the Rumi Library as an important academic and research resource. He observed that the rapidly changing knowledge ecosystem, particularly with the emergence of Artificial Intelligence (AI), calls for libraries to move beyond their traditional role as repositories of information and evolve into dynamic spaces that facilitate innovation, critical thinking, research and lifelong learning.

The In-Charge library provided a detailed presentation about the progress made by the Rumi Library over the years and highlighted the state-of-the-art facilities that the library have to support reading, research, collaboration, and scholarly engagement. The proposal to establish a dedicated Rumi Heritage Corner was also discussed as an initiative to preserve, promote, and showcase the rich literary, intellectual, and cultural legacy of Rumi.

The deliberations focused on strengthening the Rumi Library's academic and research support infrastructure through enhanced print and digital collections, wider access to specialised research resources and the integration of emerging technologies into library services.

CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

After 6 Years

had failed to establish through "cogent and dependable evidence" that the arms and ammunition produced before it had been recovered from the conscious possession of the accused in the manner alleged.

The court's findings came after the prosecution case was examined during the trial, with the judge concluding that the evidence was insufficient to establish the alleged offences against the two accused.

Meanwhile, Kashmir's chief cleric Mirwaiz Umar Farooq on Tuesday called on authorities in Jammu and Kashmir to review their approach towards booking young people under anti-terror laws.

In a statement, the Mirwaiz referred to the acquittal of the two Baramulla youths, saying they had spent six years in jail under stringent anti-terror laws before the court found the evidence against them unreliable.

He said the case highlighted the human cost of prolonged detention when the evidence ultimately fails to sustain a conviction.

"The years lost by the two young men cannot be returned," he said, adding that their case raised wider concerns over the arrests and continued detention of Kashmiri youth.

In a post on X, the Mirwaiz urged authorities to review their approach and "relook and do justice to the thousands of youth under prolonged detention".

The acquittal has brought an end to the trial against the two youths in the case registered in 2020.

3-Day Wet Spell

been asked to plan their departure immediately in consultation with the District Control Room. The administration has also temporarily declared the Gurez sector out of bounds for tourists in view of the anticipated weather conditions.

Expectant mothers residing in upper reaches, whose delivery dates fall within the next month, have been advised to shift to nearby hospitals to ensure access to medical care. Residents have also been urged to avoid unnecessary travel towards Gurez and other higher reaches.

Meanwhile, Bandipora Police issued a separate travel advisory asking tourists and visitors currently in Gurez to leave the valley by November 10 and postpone fresh travel plans in view of the possibility of road blockages from November 11.

The advisory also covers examination candidates, patients requiring regular medical care, people travelling for scheduled weddings and other urgent engagements, and those having time-bound official duties outside the subdivision.

Police have urged travellers to plan their journeys in advance, preferably during daylight hours, avoid unnecessary movement and remain in touch with local authorities for updates on road conditions.

In Anantnag, the Deputy Commissioner's office also issued an advisory asking people to avoid unnecessary travel towards high-altitude passes and roads during the forecast period.

Various departments, including Public Works (R&B), Mechanical Engineering, Revenue, Flood Control, PMGSY, Urban Local Bodies, JKPDCL, Jal Shakti and Health and Medical Education, have been asked to take precautionary measures and activate their respective control rooms.

Farmers have been advised to safely store harvested crops ahead of the wet spell, while travellers and transporters have been asked to plan their journeys accordingly and follow official traffic advisories.

Meanwhile, the Meteorological Centre has forecast generally dry weather from November 15 to 19.

According to the IMD's daily weather parameters, Srinagar recorded a maximum temperature of 19.5 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 4.9 degrees on Tuesday, against the normal maximum of 17.3 degrees and minimum of 1.9 degrees.

Jammu recorded a maximum temperature of 28.6 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 14.2 degrees, while Pahalgam recorded a maximum of 18 degrees and a minimum of 1.4 degrees.

Gulmarg recorded a maximum of 12 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 2.5 degrees, while Qazigund registered a maximum of 21.8 degrees and a minimum of 2.8 degrees.

Kupwara recorded a maximum temperature of 21.6 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 2.8 degrees, while Kokernag recorded 19.6 degrees and 5.4 degrees, respectively.

Fire Dept Flags

to sleep or leaving their homes, warning against leaving heating appliances unattended.

Regarding LPG heaters, the department stressed the need for adequate ventilation and advised people against keeping them switched on while sleeping or leaving a room unattended. It also asked users to regularly inspect gas pipes, regulators and connections for leaks and ensure that cylinder valves and stove knobs are properly shut after use.

The advisory also called for careful handling of traditional heating devices such as Bukharis and Kangris. People were asked to place Kangris on stable surfaces, keep them away from bedding, curtains and other combustible materials, and never leave them unattended.

The department urged residents to follow the safety guidelines and remain vigilant throughout the winter months to minimise the risk of fire-related accidents and other emergencies.The Jammu and Kashmir Fire and Emergency Services Department on Tuesday issued a winter safety advisory, urging people to exercise caution while using heating appliances to prevent fire incidents, suffocation and loss of life and property.

Director, Fire and Emergency Services, Alok Kumar (IPS), advised people to use only standard-marked heating appliances and ensure that all equipment is properly checked before use.

He urged people to switch off and unplug electric heaters before going to sleep or leaving their homes, warning against leaving heating appliances unattended.

Regarding LPG heaters, the department stressed the need for adequate ventilation and advised people against keeping them switched on while sleeping or leaving a room unattended. It also asked users to regularly inspect gas pipes, regulators and connections for leaks and ensure that cylinder valves and stove knobs are properly shut after use.

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8 Tourists Injured

police personnel assisting in evacuating the injured from the site.

The circumstances leading to the accident were not immediately known.

Party Plans

dismissed reports of divisions within the party as "baseless rumours", asserting that the National Conference remained united and organised.

"These baseless rumours being spread that the National Conference is fractured into factions are completely false. This party is united and organised. And those who think they can stop this party, this party has never been broken, nor will it ever be broken, God willing," he had told reporters in the presence of the Chief Minister and 15 legislators.

However, acknowledging the concerns raised by the MLAs, the NC president said their grievances were genuine and had been examined thoroughly.

"They were examined very thoroughly. Everyone was heard," he had said, adding that some measures would be taken immediately while others would be introduced gradually to strengthen both the party and the government.

The proposed advisory groups are being seen as an effort to give party legislators a more formal channel to communicate their concerns, offer inputs on departmental functioning and remain engaged with government decisions.

The arrangement is expected to facilitate greater interaction between MLAs and ministers while addressing complaints about inadequate consultation and coordination within the party and the government.

J&K Utilises Only

with Public Financial Management System (PFMS) uploads and timely submission of action plans on BEAMS. He also called for the closure of all Single Nodal Agency (SNA) bank accounts relating to Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

The Chief Minister called for special attention to the Disaster Management component, aimed at strengthening disaster mitigation and resilience and restoring infrastructure damaged in natural disasters.

The meeting was informed that the State Executive Committee (SEC) had approved 1,416 crore for the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) across social, infrastructure, productive and cross-cutting sectors, against the National Disaster Management Authority's ceiling of 1,534.58 crore. An amount of 424.79 crore has been proposed for immediate release.

For the financial year 2026-27, 811 crore is available under SASCI Part-I Untied Funds, comprising 541 crore in current-year receipts and 270 crore carried forward as unutilised funds from the previous financial year.

Departments have been assigned an expenditure target of 608 crore to qualify for the second instalment.

Under Part-II, covering Centrally Sponsored Schemes, J&K has received 116 crore, accounting for 66 per cent of the 176 crore loan assistance sought for 10 major schemes.

The meeting also reviewed efforts to secure funding from the incentive-based pool of 2,890.51 crore available for 2026-27, linked to governance reforms, financial management and sector-specific performance benchmarks.

Significant progress was reported under the Digital Public Infrastructure for Agriculture initiative (AgriStack), with 7.59 lakh Farmer IDs generated, representing 59 per cent of the target. The Digital Crop Survey has been completed in 5,714 villages, covering 83.3 per cent of the target and more than 30.27 lakh land parcels.

The pilot distribution of AgriStack-enabled fertilisers through Farmer IDs commenced on November 5 in Jammu and Srinagar districts.

Progress was also reviewed under other incentive-linked reform areas, including mining reforms, with a target of 350 crore; livestock sector reforms (150 crore); efficiency in financial management (400 crore); implementation of Right of Way (RoW) Rules (50 crore); and achievement of capital expenditure targets (218 crore).

Proposals in these areas have either been submitted or are at various stages of verification.

In view of the forthcoming visit of the Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) to assess damages, departments were asked to finalise comprehensive, sector-wise damage assessment reports to facilitate the assessment process.

Omar further directed departments to identify and prepare a shelf of encumbrance-free projects by March 2027 to facilitate timely tendering and execution during the 2027-28 financial year. He stressed advance planning and close inter-departmental coordination to ensure that the next year's SASCI plan is finalised well in advance.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, Ministers Ali Mohammad Sagar, Javed Rana, Javid Dar, Mir Saifullah and Shamim Firdous, Acting Chief Secretary Shailendra Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, administrative secretaries, heads of departments and senior officers.

The Chief Minister said SASCI should be leveraged not merely as a special funding window but as a strategic instrument for accelerating capital investment, strengthening public infrastructure and improving governance outcomes across Jammu and Kashmir.

He underscored the importance of timely execution, efficient financial management and sustained coordination among departments to maximise the benefits available under the scheme.

EOW Chargesheets

Crime Branch said.

The EOW said the allegations were substantiated during the investigation, which was concluded as proved. The chargesheet has been filed in absentia under Section 512 CrPC as the accused is absconding, leaving the matter for judicial determination. (KNT)

The Man Behind

the meteorite and the money.

The stone had disappeared overnight, so had the retired official's life savings.

J&K Police say the man behind the elaborate deception was Raoof Ahmad Wani, a resident of Khudhamam in Dooru, Anantnag district. He called himself Dr. Fahim. At other times, he went by Raoof Kasab.

Investigators say Wani used routine security procedures to pull off the fraud. He allegedly sent fake alerts about suspicious movements, prompting an official response in the area.

As the gathering scattered at Larnoo, he used the confusion to claim that the stone and the cash had been seized by the authorities.

His latest detention under the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, announced by Anantnag Police on November 9, has reopened questions about an alleged fraud network that sleuths believe operated for years and reached well beyond south Kashmir.

Wani's greatest asset, investigators say, was his ability to become whoever his potential victim wanted him to be.

"That made him a man of many masks, someone who could easily sell ice to Eskimos," said an investigating officer involved in the case. "In corporate language, he was good at R&D. He knew his targets, understood them well, and sold them deception disguised as investment."

According to police officials, Wani's conman character come of age soon after his militant stint in 2005.

After his release from prison, he started claiming links with intelligence agencies and security forces. He used these claims to impress people, intimidate potential targets and make himself appear untouchable.

"He built his influence on these false connections, convincing people that he had powerful backing," a police official involved in the investigation said.

By 2012, he had taken the act a step further.

"He began presenting himself as a doctor and meteorite expert, claiming to be associated with a Japanese research centre," the investigator said. "The credentials lent an air of scientific legitimacy to his supposed ventures."

Authorities detained him under the PSA that year. He spent approximately 18 months in prison, investigators say. His release, however, did little to alter the methods that police now associate with his alleged activities.

The retired official who encountered the supposed meteorite had received his retirement benefits from the Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department. Investigators say Wani's associates identified him as someone with money and began approaching him through a mosque.

The introductions developed into friendship. The men gained his confidence before bringing him to their supposed scientific expert, Dr. Fahim.

By the time they took him to Larnoo, the groundwork for the investment pitch had already been laid. The covered stone completed the illusion.

The episode, investigators say, formed part of a wider pattern.

"Wani's network allegedly looked for people who had suddenly acquired substantial sums through government payments and compensation schemes," the investigator said. "The money that was supposed to help families rebuild their lives became a potential target."

Banihal was among the places where investigators believe the network found victims.

Highway widening had displaced families and affected houses and land, bringing compensation payments to people who had suffered property losses. Police say Wani's associates kept watch on beneficiaries who received substantial amounts and approached them with investment proposals.

The network allegedly extracted significant sums from members of this community. Investigators are examining the complaints and financial transactions to establish the extent of the losses.

The alleged operation also reveals how little loyalty existed within Wani's inner circle.

An accomplice from south Kashmir, who investigators say helped him run his operations, was brought into a proposed hospital venture in Duroo. The deal appeared to promise a shared business. But Wani had allegedly registered the hospital property in his wife's name, leaving his associate with no ownership stake despite believing he was a partner.

The partner-in-crime, who had himself fallen victim to Wani, eventually moved court, which stayed the hospital project.

An investigator described it as a classic case of a thief stealing from another thief, with Wani allegedly cheating even those who had helped him run his con game.

But Wani's alleged dealings stretched well beyond Kashmir. Investigators say he had contacts in Lucknow, where he posed as a respectable businessman. Police eventually traced him to the city while tracking his wider network.

His past arrests and detentions reveal an even more troubling history.

Wani had earlier challenged a 2024 detention order under the Public Safety Act in the Jammu and Kashmir High Court. Despite the legal challenge, Anantnag Police detained him again under the Act on November 9, in what appears to be a fresh attempt to bring his alleged network to an end.

"Under the leadership of SSP Amod Ashok Nagpure, we have taken a tough stand against financial fraud," a young investigator part of the case said. "Our investigation is now focused on identifying Wani's associates, tracing the money and establishing who else benefited from the network."

The latest detention has also brought fresh complaints to police. People who may have lost money through the alleged operation have begun approaching investigators, giving them new leads to examine.

"We have only seen the tip of the iceberg," an investigating officer said.

Sleuths are now trying to establish how Wani found his victims, who brought them to him, where the money went and how many people helped run the alleged scam. They believe fresh complaints could provide some of the missing answers.

In Larnoo, a retired government official was asked to invest 20 lakh in a fortune he was never allowed to see. Beneath the cloth was a stone presented as a priceless meteorite. Around it, Wani had allegedly built an elaborate story of scientific expertise, intelligence connections and extraordinary wealth.

The police are now trying to uncover the truth behind that story, including the people who helped sell it.

SC Seeks WhatsApp's

digital arrest scams and related cybercrimes. They shall also simultaneously submit their proposals to the I4C," the bench said.

The court also reiterated the need to hold financial institutions accountable for digital arrest scams and other cyber frauds, emphasising that banks must compensate victims where investigations establish that fraud occurred due to their failure to exercise due diligence.

"We reiterate and emphasize that the regulatory measures proposed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) must mandate and incorporate suitable provisions that require financial institutions to indemnify victims of digital arrest scams and other cyber frauds and pay suitable compensation not less than the amount lost by the customer, where it is established that the fraud or crime occurred due to the failure on the part of the financial institution to exercise due diligence in preventing or reporting the act/incident," the bench said.

During the hearing, Chief Justice Surya Kant questioned why banks could not intervene when customers attempted to transfer unusually large sums of money that were inconsistent with their established transaction patterns.

The court emphasised the need for preventive safeguards, including temporarily suspending suspicious transactions that deviate from an account's past transaction history, automatically alerting the nearest police station and subsequently physically verifying such transactions to establish their genuineness.

The bench also directed the RBI to submit a list of all authorised financial institutions before the next hearing to facilitate effective implementation of the proposed regulatory measures.

Observing that cybercrime incidents had declined by 50 per cent but victims had still lost around 800 crore so far this year, the court stressed that the proposed regulatory framework must incorporate enforceable provisions for compensation, preventive intervention and institutional accountability.

The Chief Justice said the court would first examine the proposed RBI Know Your Customer (KYC) Amendment Directions, 2026, before allowing the regulatory process to proceed.

The proposed directions are scheduled to be notified by November 30 and operationalised by December 31.

Describing banks as a "protective umbrella" for vulnerable customers, the Chief Justice said financial institutions had access to account holders' transaction histories and should use that information to identify and prevent suspicious transfers before money leaves an account.

Attorney General R Venkataramani, appearing for the Centre and other authorities, informed the bench that substantial work had been undertaken to improve the detection of suspicious transactions and strengthen preventive mechanisms within the banking system.

The Supreme Court also directed law enforcement agencies of all states and Union Territories to submit reports detailing FIRs registered in digital arrest scam cases and the investigations conducted.

The agencies have additionally been asked to provide suggestions for preventing, detecting and prosecuting such offences.

The Directors General of Police of all states and Union Territories have been directed to ensure compliance. The reports are to be submitted to the inter-departmental committee coordinating the government's response, with copies of the reports furnished to the court also being forwarded to the committee.

KPDCL Maps Out

details pre-winter measures undertaken to improve the reliability of the distribution network, including clearance of power corridors, augmentation of overloaded distribution transformers, renovation of receiving stations and rectification of identified fault-prone areas.

A key component of the preparedness plan is the availability of buffer stocks to replace damaged equipment and facilitate quicker restoration of electricity during adverse weather conditions.

The handbook provides division-wise details of equipment reserves, including 1,096 and 824 distribution transformers, besides 33/11 kV power transformers and essential materials such as conductors, electric poles, transformer oil and AB cables.

These materials have been positioned across different divisions, including areas vulnerable to floods and landslides, to minimise delays in restoration work during emergencies.

KPDCL has also detailed the deployment of Swift Restoration Teams (SRTs) at district and divisional levels. The teams will be supported by dedicated personnel and control rooms to respond to power breakdowns and other emergencies.

For consumer assistance, the handbook provides contact details of Assistant Executive Engineers, Assistant Engineers and Junior Engineers across electric divisions and sub-divisions, enabling consumers to approach the concerned officials directly.

It also lists round-the-clock grievance redressal channels, including helpline 1912, toll-free number 18001807666, JK Samadhan 2.0, the Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS), and KPDCL's official website and social media platforms.

The document further outlines the statutory grievance escalation mechanism through the Internal Grievance Redressal Forum (IGRF), Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum (CGRF) and Electricity Ombudsman.

A separate section focuses on electrical safety during winter, advising consumers to immediately report snapped conductors, maintain a safe distance from damaged electrical installations and avoid touching fallen wires, climbing electric poles or attempting repairs themselves.

KPDCL said the handbook had been launched under the directions of the Power Minister to promote transparency, accountability and public participation in winter preparedness.

The digital handbook is available on the corporation's official website, kpdcl.jk.gov.in, and is also being disseminated through its social media platforms.

The corporation has urged consumers to promptly report power faults, damaged installations and unsafe conditions to the concerned authorities.

Pampore Saffron Fields Emerge As New Tourist Attraction

Agencies



SRINAGAR: Despite a relatively poor flowering this season, the saffron fields of Pampore in south Kashmir's Pulwama district are attracting tourists from different parts of the country, with hundreds of visitors arriving daily to witness the seasonal bloom and experience the fragrance of Kashmir's world-famous spice.

Known as the saffron capital of Kashmir, Pampore has witnessed a steady flow of tourists over the past few weeks, with visitors spending time in the fields, capturing photographs and purchasing saffron directly from local growers and young vendors.

Although the flowering has remained below expectations at several places, the flowers that have bloomed have added vibrant shades of purple, maroon and yellow to the fields, creating a picturesque landscape that has become a new attraction for tourists visiting the Valley.

"Tourists can be seen visiting the saffron fields throughout the day. The flowering has been late this year at several locations, and the number of visitors is increasing with each passing day," Ghulam Rasool Mir, av resident said.

He said many tourists are particularly interested in witnessing saffron cultivation closely, as they usually hear about the famous Pampore saffron but rarely get an opportunity to see the flowers in their natural surroundings.

Nadeem Ahmad, another resident, said saffron fields are gradually emerging as an additional attraction alongside established tourist destinations such as Dal Lake, Gulmarg and Pahalgam.

"Tourists are fascinated by the unique fragrance of saffron flowers. Many of them also purchase the spice directly from local sellers, which provides an opportunity for people associated with saffron cultivation to earn additional income," he said.

During their interaction, several tourists said they had planned their Kashmir visits around the saffron flowering season to experience something different from conventional tourist destinations.

Krishna, a tourist from Gujarat, said visiting Pampore's saffron fields had been a long-standing wish.

"Visiting Kashmir and spending time in these fields was my dream, and I am happy that it has finally come true. I have visited Gulmarg and Sonamarg and am now heading towards Pahalgam. Kashmir is truly a paradise, but spending time among the saffron flowers will remain one of the most memorable experiences of my trip," he said.

Other tourists described the visit as a unique experience, saying witnessing saffron flowers in the fields and learning about the cultivation of one of the world's most expensive spices made their Kashmir trip more memorable.

Meanwhile, local youth selling saffron in the fields said the seasonal flowering period provides them with an important opportunity to earn their livelihood.

They said the flowering season lasts for around a month, during which tourists not only visit the fields but also purchase saffron directly from them.

The youth said on-the-spot sales have helped them generate income while providing tourists an opportunity to buy the spice directly from local sellers.

However, they stressed the need for better tourism infrastructure to attract more visitors to Pampore's saffron belt.

They said although a Spice Park has been established in the area, its location away from the National Highway limits its visibility and accessibility for tourists travelling through the region.

"The government should establish a dedicated saffron tourism facility or promotional centre along the National Highway so that tourists travelling towards different destinations can easily visit the fields, learn about saffron cultivation and purchase authentic Kashmir saffron," they said.

Locals believe that promoting saffron tourism could provide an additional source of income to growers and unemployed youth while giving Pampore greater recognition on Kashmir's tourism map—(KNO)

Boy, 6, Mauled To Death By Leopard In Baramulla

BARAMULLA: A six-year-old boy was mauled to death by a leopard in Kalantra village of Kreeri in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, officials said. An official said that the boy was attacked by a leopard in Kalantra, Kreeri, leaving him injured.

He was shifted to a hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries. The deceased was identified as Kifayat Bhat (6), son of Mohammad Ramzan Bhat, a resident of Kalantra, Kreeri.

Meanwhile, cognisance of the incident has been taken and a probe has been initiated—(KNO)

Police Arrest Three Drug Peddlers In Anantnag & Kulgam

SRINAGAR: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Jammu and Kashmir Police have arrested three drug peddlers in multiple operations in Kulgam and Anantnag and recovered contraband substances from their possession.

According to a statement issued, in Kulgam, Police apprehended two drug peddlers during a naka checking operation at Khudwani Bypass, near SKUAST and recovered 747 grams of cannabis-like substance, including flowering tops. They have been identified as Murtaza Ashraf, resident of Chansar, Kulgam and Mohd Amir Kuttay, resident of Badi Jalan, DH Pora, Kulgam.

In Anantnag, a police party during naka checking at Semthan apprehended a person identified as Mushtaq Ahmad Rather son of Mohd Yousuf Rather, resident of Semthan. During his search, 15 grams of charas were recovered from his possession.

Accordingly, cases under relevant provisions of the NDPS Act have been registered at respective police stations, and further investigation have been taken up to ascertain the source and forward linkages of the recovered contraband. (Observer News Service)

Two Houses Damaged In Fire In Srinagar

SRINAGAR: Three buildings -- a hotel and two residential houses -- were damaged in a blaze in the Indira Nagar area of Srinagar city on Tuesday, officials said.

A fire broke out in the attic of one of the buildings in the afternoon and spread to the adjoining ones, they said.

Fire and emergency services personnel rushed to the spot and brought the blaze under control.

While the attics of the three buildings were damaged in the incident, there was no loss of life, the officials said. (Press Trust Of India)

19 Bitten By Stray Dogs in Mendhar Town

MENDHAR/JAMMU: At least 19 people, including eight women and children, reported dog bite cases at a sub-district hospital in Mendhar in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on Tuesday.

According to an official report, the dog-bite victims belonged to different areas of Mendhar and also included people from outside the region who were currently staying there.

Among the patients, 11 had suffered category 2 bites, involving minor scratches or abrasions without bleeding, while the rest had Category 3 bites, characterised by deep cuts, puncture wounds, tears or any bite that penetrates the skin and causes bleeding.

The victims' ages ranged from 14 to 65 years.

The affected persons were reported from Sagra, Ari Kasab, Dabraj, Sakhi Majdan, Dharana, Jara Wali Gali, Topa, BG, Chajjla, Basooni, Gohlad, Thera Topa and Mankote, among other areas.

Two of the patients were from Madhya Pradesh and Bihar and were presently residing in Mendhar, the report said. (Press Trust Of India)

Mehbooba Admires Sonia Gandhi For Her Memoir

Press Trust Of India



SRINAGAR: PDP president Mehbooba Mufti praised Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi on Tuesday for coming up with a book filled with happy memories despite having endured so much pain in her life.

Gandhi's memoir, "Belonging: A Journey of Love", was released on Tuesday.

"Sonia Gandhi evolving into a leader, then into a stateswoman, she has gone through a lot. I think no other woman politician would have endured as much she did," Mehbooba told reporters here.

The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister said the way Gandhi carried herself when her children faced the trauma, when their grandmother and later their father were killed, "that must have been very emotionally taxing".

"But still to come up with such a beautiful book with so many happy memories, of course, there are sad occasions as well, it's something I admire in her, she has the capacity and strength to bear it all," Mehbooba said.

On the book, she said that it "tells the truth that the ideology of BJP, RSS, Jansangh is the ideology of Godse... Sonia associates herself with the ideology of (Mahatma) Gandhi and secularism".

"So, it must be an interesting book," she said.

The PDP chief also criticised the BJP over allegedly attacking the legacy of country's first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

"The way BJP people are talking about Nehru, how they will understand Nehru. There is a legacy of him, he handled India when Hindus and Muslims were out for each other's blood... The BJP cannot understand Nehru, their mindset is divisive," she said.

Mehbooba said Nehru gave the country institutions like ISRO, and basic infrastructure "which now they (BJP) are handing over to Adani".

"Their thinking is limited to Hindu-Muslim, rather than science. They talk about cow dung, that's what their thought process is," she alleged.

Delina Flyover Battles Delays, Now Eyes May-2027 Opening

Agencies

BARAMULLA: The 1.7-kilometre Delina Flyover, being constructed as part of the four-laning project of the Srinagar-Baramulla National Highway, is nearing completion, with authorities setting May 2027 deadline to open it for the traffic.

The project faced delays due to land-related disputes and other bottlenecks. It had earlier been granted an extension, with its deadline pushed to May-June 2027. However, authorities are now making efforts to complete the work ahead of the extended timeline.

Project Manager Naveed Bashir told KNO that round-the-clock work is underway to ensure the flyover is completed and opened for commuters at the earliest. "The work is in its final stage, and by the end of May 2027, we will be all set to open it for traffic," he said.

Naveed said the first package, covering the Narbal-to-Delina stretch, is almost complete and has already been made through for traffic, while the focus is now on completing the Delina Flyover.

Naveed said: "We had around four to five cases pending, and the payment process for these has already been taken up. The payments will be released shortly. Almost all the bottlenecks have been cleared."

He said efforts are being intensified to complete the remaining work without further hurdles, keeping in view the importance of the project for commuters, particularly those travelling between Srinagar and North Kashmir.

Once completed, the flyover is expected to significantly ease traffic congestion at Delina, reduce travel time between Srinagar and Baramulla and ensure smoother movement of vehicles.

Locals have welcomed the progress, saying the long-awaited project would provide much needed relief to daily commuters while also giving a boost to economic activities through improved connectivity and faster transportation between Srinagar and Baramulla—(KNO)

Talks Between Ladakh Representatives & Centre To Resume After LAHDC Polls: CS

Prss Trust Of India

LEH: The next round of talks between Ladakh's representative groups and the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), which was scheduled for October 22, is expected to be held after the ongoing electoral process concludes, Ladakh Chief Secretary Ashish Kundra said on Tuesday.

Panchayat and municipal elections in Ladakh are scheduled for November 11, while elections to eight Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils (LAHDCs) will be held on December 4.

Kundra said the proposal to hold the next round of talks between the representative groups -- the Leh Apex Body (LAB) and Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA)-- and the MHA was referred to the State Election Commission for clearance in view of the Model Code of Conduct currently in force.

He said the talks could proceed once the Commission's approval was received.

"Until we receive clearance from the Commission, we cannot take the matter forward. Only after that can further steps be taken," the chief secretary told a press conference here.

Asked whether the talks would take place after the elections, Kundra replied, "Yes, certainly. They will take place afterwards."

Emphasising the need to strengthen democratic institutions alongside the ongoing political dialogue, the chief secretary said the administration was committed to deepening democracy and expanding people's democratic rights

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES KASHMIR BEMINA SRINAAAR

Visit us at: www.dhskashmir.org Email:dhsk-pa@jk.gov.in

Subject: First Tentative Seniority List of Supervisory Theatre Technicians Division Cadre Kashmir

NOTIFICATION

It is hereby notified for the information of all concerned that the 1st Tentative Seniority List of Supervisory Theatre Technicians (Divisional Cadre Kashmir) working under the administrative control of the Directorate of Health Services Kashmir has been prepared on the basis of available service records maintained in this Directorate and information furnished by the subordinate offices.

While due diligence has been exercised in compilation of the said seniority list, the possibility of inadvertent omissions, clerical errors, or discrepancies in the sen/ice particulars cannot be ruled out.

Accordingly, the 1st Tentative Seniority List of Supervisory Theatre Technicians is hereby circulated for information of all concerned and for inviting objections, if any.

All DDOs working under the administrative control of this Directorate are hereby directed to circulate the aforesaid notification among all concerned officials. All Supervisory Theatre Technicians are advised to carefully verify the particulars recorded against their names.

In case of any discrepancy, the concerned official may submit a representation duly supported with documentary evidence through proper channel to this Directorate within a period of seven (07) days from the date of issuance of this circular.

That no objection received after the stipulated period shall be entertained and no claim shall be considered without supporting documentary proof.

The Tentative Seniority List shall also be uploaded on the official website of this Directorate (www.dhsk.gov.in) and will be published in two leading newspapers of the Valley for wider circulation.

In case no objections are received within the prescribed time, the Tentative Seniority List shall be deemed to have attained finality and will be treated as the Final Seniority List: -

S. No.	Name of the Employee	D.O.B.	D.O.A	D.O. Promotion as Sup. Theatre Tech.	Place of Posting	Category ,if any (Valid certificate as on date)	Remarks, if any.
1.	Amjad Ali Shah	18.12.1966	09.06.1988	14.12.2022	SDH Sopore		
2.	Fayaz Ahmad Fazili	03.08.1967	15.11.1988	14.12.2022	Gousia Hospital Srinagar.		Presently under suspension
3.	Gulzar Ahmad Dar	02.04.1968	18.04.1991	13.07.2023	CHC Tangmarg		
4.	Ghulam Ahmad Bhat	03.01.1969	16.08.1993	24.07.2025	ASYM DH Budgam		

No: Est-II/NG/E-8009021/6106-40
Dated: 07 /11/2026

DIPK-7535-26
DT: 10/11/2026

Sd/-
Director Health Services
Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, ELECTRIC DIVISION - IV, KPDCL. KHANYAR, SRINAGAR.

PHONE # 0194-2477608.

e-Notice Inviting Tender (e-NIT)

e-NIT No.:26 of ED-IV/2026-27. Dated: 10 /11/2026.

For and on behalf of the Managing Director, Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL). Executive Engineer, Electric Division-IV, Khanyar, Srinagar invites e-bids from reputed Contractors having valid A-Class Electrical Contractor License or equivalent license issued by Chief Electrical Inspector of J&K PDD/ Relevant issuing authority/ Registered firms/ Bidders enlisted with CPWD/MES/Railways for following works:

S.No.	Particulars	Est. Cost (Rs)	EMD (Rs)
01.	Creation of 3X100 KVA Distribution Sub-Station at Nowbugh near Gratbal, Daddi Nowbugh near Darul Aloom road and Daryadin Colony near Masjid Aii (R.A.) along with HT/LT Network under the jurisdiction of Sub-division Zakura under SASCI 2026-27."	25 Lacs	50000

The Complete tender document is available at website http://jktenders.gov.in. Interested bidder/ tenders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below. Bidding Documents contain Qualifying Criteria for Bidders, Specifications, Bill of Quantities, Terms and Conditions of Contract and other details.

S.No.	Particulars	Details
01.	Date and Time of downloading/ Sale (Start) of Tender Document.	10-11-2026; 10:00 Hrs
03.	Date and Time of Bid Uploading (Start).	11-11-2026; 10:00 Hrs
03.	Date and Time of Bid Uploading (End).	2-12-2026; 14:00 Hrs
04.	Online Commercial/ Technical Bid Openinq Date & Time.	4-12-2026; 14:00 Hrs
05.	Financial Bid Opening.	Shall be declared later for the technically qualified bidders.
06.	Venue of Commercial/ Technical Bid Opening.	Office of Executive Engineer, ED - IV, Khanyar, Srinagar.
07.	Cost of e-Bid document.	Rs. 1000 (Rupees One Thousand Only) Non-Refundable.
08.	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit.	Rs.50000 (Rupees fifty Thousand Only)

The Bidder needs to upload all the following documents to avoid cancellation In Technical Evaluation Process.

1) Cost of e-Bid Document, amount specified in the table. (Treasury Challan/ Treasury Receipt (TR) / DD (Non Refundable).
2) Earnest Money Deposit (EMD).

(Note: The Bidders shall mention the e-NIT No. and Name of the firm on both Treasury Challan and EMD in order to avoid using the same multiple times for different works.)

3. PAN Card along with latest ITR.
4. Valid Registration Card with validity up to date.
5. GST Registration along with return.
6. SBD Signed.
7. Earnest Money Deposit.
8. Experience as per Conditions (as per SBD)

The bidder must have successfully completed similar / electrical works during the last seven (07) years (i.e., up-to ending previous Financial Year) any of the following manners:

Three similar Electric completed works costing not less than the Amount equal to 40% of estimated cost in aggregate.

OR

Two similar Electric completed works costing not less than the amount equal to 50% of estimated cost in aggregate.

OR

One similar Electric completed work costing not less than the amount equal to 80% of the estimated cost.

9. Affidavit as per SBD (Latest)
10. Labour License along with Insurance.
11. The bidder must have an Average Annual Financial Turn Over of not less than 30% of the estimated tender value during the last three (03) years. Documents certified by Chartered Accountant regarding the same, should be submitted

DIPK-NB-2084-26
DT: 10/11/2026

Executive Engineer
ED - IV, Khanyar,
Srinagar.

Trump Says Iran War 'Effectively Over'

Tehran Warns of New Military Surprises

Agencies



LONDON – US President Donald Trump has declared that the war against Iran is "militarily effectively over", but his announcement has done little to silence the growing drumbeats of another confrontation, with outgoing Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu reportedly lobbying Washington to resume military strikes against Tehran.

Signalling a possible pause in hostilities, Trump said the United States would maintain the existing status quo and continue its blockade, while keeping a formidable military presence in the Middle East.

"We just had, just in case, another aircraft carrier sailing over and just arriving in the Middle East, so we have three. And they're all locked and loaded, and hopefully we don't have to use them," Trump told reporters on Monday.

His remarks followed a meeting with Qatari Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed Al Thani in Washington, amid diplomatic efforts led by regional countries to secure a temporary understanding between Washington and Tehran.

However, the apparent easing of tensions has been accompanied by reports of intense pressure from Israel.

According to The Financial Times, Netanyahu has been calling Trump every day, urging him to restart the war against Iran. People briefed on the discussions told the newspaper that officials opposed to renewed hostilities, both inside and outside the White House, were trying to counter the Israeli leader's pressure.

"Regional leaders are telling him not to escalate and prioritise negotiations," one source was quoted as saying.

Following his discussions with the Qatari premier, Trump indicated that fresh American strikes on Iran appeared unlikely, at least for now. Tehran, meanwhile, has made clear that any renewed aggression would invite a formidable response.

Brigadier General Seyyed Majid Mousavi, commander of the Aerospace Force of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC), warned that Iran would strike enemy capabilities across the region and beyond if necessary.

"If necessary, we will bring under fire all their capabilities in the region and beyond, leaving the enemy with nothing but defeat and retreat," Mousavi said during the unveiling of a new missile city belonging to the IRGC Aerospace Force on Tuesday.

The facility, part of Iran's expanding missile infrastructure, is intended to support operational capabilities and maintain the readiness of missile units.

Mousavi said the military capabilities inherited from previous commanders had provided the country with a dependable defensive shield. He also credited public support and sustained demonstrations of national solidarity with strengthening Iran's ability to withstand external pressure.

The commander warned that Iranian forces remained prepared for any future confrontation, drawing on their experience in previous wars.

In a separate but equally stark warning, Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces Major General Ali Abdollahi said any future conflict would bring a succession of unexpected developments for Iran's adversaries.

US Evacuates Base in England Due to Iran Threat: WSJ

AP

LONDON: The US Air Force has evacuated air refuelling tankers from their base in eastern England due to a threat from Iran, the Wall Street Journal reported Tuesday.

Two tankers stationed at RAF Mildenhall were diverted to Germany on Monday, and several other tankers were relocated to other bases in Europe later in the day, the newspaper reported, citing people familiar with the decision.

US officials decided to redeploy the aircraft after being alerted about the new threat on Monday, the Journal said.

A European Command official said they were aware of the reporting when contacted by The Associated Press, saying only that the service rotates aircraft between locations "for a variety of reasons including training and real world requirements."

"US military aircraft are hosted in accordance with access, basing and overflight agreements with our allies and partners," the official said while speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorised to speak on sensitive military matters. "Due to operations security, we will not provide further information on movement of assets."

Delhi Pollution: Doctors Advise N95 Masks, Air Purifiers

Press Trust of India



NEW DELHI: Wear properly fitted N95 masks while stepping outdoors, avoid morning and evening walks, shift exercise indoors and install air purifiers at home -- these are among the precautions doctors have advised Delhi residents to take as the city continues to grapple with high pollution levels.

Health experts have particularly cautioned children, people above 60 years of age and those with pre-existing respiratory, heart and kidney conditions, saying they are more vulnerable to the effects of polluted air.

Dr Abhinav Bhanot, director of Respiratory and Sleep Medicine at Medanta Hospital, advised people to wear N95 masks that cover both the nose and mouth properly instead of using other types of masks.

He suggested that people who exercise outdoors in the early morning or evening shift their routine to later in the morning, when the sun is out, as smog and pollution tend to be more concentrated during these hours.

"People should avoid outdoor exercise when the AQI is high and opt for indoor workouts at a gym or home. Once the AQI drops below 200, they can consider resuming outdoor activities," he said.

Bhanot also recommended installing high-quality air purifiers at home, particularly in rooms where children and elderly family members spend most of their time. Staying hydrated and eating green vegetables were among his other suggestions.

Dr Randeep Guleria, chairman of the Institute of Internal Medicine, Respiratory and Sleep Medicine at Medanta, said people above 60, children and those with pre-existing conditions such as asthma, heart disease and kidney ailments were among the worst-affected by high pollution levels.

He said pollution levels, which were already high before Diwali, rose further following the festival due to firecrackers, increased vehicular movement as people travelled to meet relatives and distribute gifts, and other emissions.

"People should try to stay indoors as much as possible. If there is fog, smog and poor AQI, they should avoid going outdoors. Work from home, if possible, and avoid outdoor walks and jogging. Exercise indoors where the air quality is good," Guleria said.

Al-Falah University Now Functioning Under Haryana Govt

Press Trust of India



FARIDABAD: A year after the Red Fort blast, the Al-Falah University, which came under intense scrutiny during the anti-terror probe, is functioning under the administrative control of the Haryana government with strict security arrangements on the campus.

All 200 MBBS seats at the university have been completely filled during the recent admission cycle, said an official.

Following the suicide bomb blast in November 2025 that claimed 15 lives, investigative agencies examined the alleged involvement of certain doctors and staff members working at the university, putting a question mark over its fate.

The university's founder-chairman Jawad Ahmed Siddiqui was arrested in connection with money laundering cases.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) and the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) also flagged "major irregularities" during their review of the institution's functioning.

Following an investigation report that revealed numerous shortcomings and statutory violations, the state government took over the management of the university in March 2026.

A police post has now been set up on the college campus. The family of a cleric, who was associated with the mosque adjacent to the medical college and was arrested in the anti-terror probe has vacated their home.

Police personnel remain stationed at the medical college at all times, and activities within the campus are being monitored. A verification process has also been initiated for everyone on campus, ranging from staff members to students, the official said.

However, academic activities have now fully returned to normal under government supervision, he said.

IAS officer Amit Kumar Agarwal was appointed as the administrator of the university on March 21, 2026. Ajay Ranga, the Registrar of J.C. Bose University of Science and Technology (Faridabad), was given additional charge as the Vice-Chancellor (VC) of Al-Falah University.

Through the centralised counselling process conducted by the Pandit Bhagwat Dayal Sharma University of Health Sciences in Rohtak, Haryana, all 200 MBBS seats were allocated in a transparent manner.

US Mid-term Elections Internal Matter: MEA

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The US mid-term elections were an internal matter of the country and are unlikely to impact ties between New Delhi and Washington, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Tuesday.

MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal emphasised that the India-US partnership enjoys strong bipartisan support in Washington and both sides remain committed to further expanding it.

"The mid-term elections are an internal matter of the US. I have no specific comment on them, beyond underlining that the India-US relationship enjoys strong bipartisan support," Jaiswal said at a regular media briefing.

"We continue to work to further strengthen our Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership with the US," he added, responding to a question. The remarks were New Delhi's first response following the outcome of the US mid-term polls that saw severe drubbing of the Republican party.

