29th year OF PUBLICATION

# KASHMIR OBSERVER®

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## 2 Missing SPOs Found Shot Dead in Kishtwar

### Service rifles missing; drones, helicopters, sniffer dogs deployed; Political leaders condemn killings




**Observer News Service**

Srinagar: The bullet-riddled bodies of two Special Police Officers (SPOs), who went missing while on duty in the remote Dachhan-Marwah area of Kishtwar district, were recovered on Thursday, triggering a massive counter-terrorist operation to track down the assailants, officials said.

The slain personnel have been identified as Babi Chand (57) and Rashpal Kumar(45).

Both were deployed at Police Post Kiyar and were proceeding towards a temporary operating base of the Army's 17 Rashtriya Rifles at Deherna Top to relieve their colleagues when they went missing on Wednesday.

Officials said the two SPOs had proceeded towards the Army post along with pony porters after being accompanied up to Kiyar Top by a Special Operations Group (SOG) party from Police Post Kiyar.

Firing involving | More on P6

### Kulgam Attack: Hunt for 2 Terrorists On

Security forces on Thursday resumed the search operation in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district to track down two terrorists, who attacked a CRPF post injuring three personnel, officials said. Two heavily armed terrorists emerged from a dense cluster of trees and opened fire at a Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) post in the South Kashmir district on Wednesday, injuring three CRPF personnel, one of them critically. | More on P6

## KPs' Return to Restore Valley's Social Fabric: LG Sinha

» 106 Heritage Projects Taken Up, 40 Completed In J&K

» 43,000 Manuscripts Identified Under Mission Gyan Bharatam

**Observer News Service**

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday said the contribution of Kashmiri Pandits to the Valley's literary, spiritual and cultural heritage was invaluable, asserting that their dignified return would help restore Kashmir's complete social and cultural fabric.

Addressing a two-day National Seminar on 'Revival, Preservation and Sustainability of Cultural Heritage of Kashmir', organised by Kakini Building Humanity, Sinha emphasised the need to preserve the cultural heritage of all communities and uphold Jammu and Kashmir's tradition of harmony and equal respect for all faiths.

"The contribution of Kashmiri Pandits to Kashmir's literary, spiritual and cultural heritage is invaluable and their dignified return would help restore the Valley's complete social and cultural fabric," he said.



The Lieutenant Governor called for a people-centric movement to preserve, document and disseminate Jammu and Kashmir's civilisational heritage, stressing that cultural heritage must remain a living force in society rather than merely a subject of academic preservation.

The event was also attended virtually by Union Minister for Culture and Tourism Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.

Highlighting Kashmir's rich intellectual and spiritual traditions, Sinha referred to Acharya Abhinavagupta and said the younger generation needed to be | More on P6

### LG Announces Rs 38 Lakh Relief For Fire-Hit Jammu Traders

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday announced Rs 38 lakh in immediate financial assistance for shopkeepers affected by recent fire incidents at Warehouse, Nehru Market and Shiv Market in Jammu, assuring the business community of all possible support to help them rebuild their businesses.

The Lieutenant Governor visited the fire-affected markets to assess the damage and interacted with shopkeepers and members of the trade and business community. He listened to their concerns and reviewed the extent of losses along with senior officials. As part of the relief measures, Sinha announced | More on P6

### JOB POLICY, PAY REVISION

## NHM Employees Threaten Fresh Agitation

**Observer News Service**

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir National Health Mission Employees Association (JKNHMEAK) on Thursday sought the personal intervention of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah for implementation of commitments made by the government in a meeting on September 18, warning that employees may resume their agitation if their demands remain unaddressed.

Addressing a press conference here, the association expressed resentment over the delay in translating assurances given during the meeting, chaired by Health and Medical Education Minister Sakina Itoo, into concrete decisions and official government orders.

The association said NHM employees had called off their strike in September following an appeal by the Chief Minister, | More on P6

## Major Reshuffle: 136 DySPs Transferred Across J&K

**Observer News Service**

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Police Headquarters has ordered a major reshuffle, transferring and posting 136 Deputy Superintendents of Police (DSPs) across the Union Territory with immediate effect.

According to an order issued by Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat, the transfers have been carried out in the interest of administration.

The reshuffle covers district police establishments and various wings, including CID, Security, Traffic, Economic Offences Wing (EOW), Special Operations Group (SOG) and Armed Police.

Among the key postings, Tejinder Kour has been transferred from SO to DIG HG Jammu to Principal CTI Jammu, while Nisar Ahmad Khan has been

| Full story on kashmirobserver.net

## J&K Cabinet To Take Up Key Proposals Today



**Agencies**

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Cabinet will meet on Friday to take a final call on several proposals submitted by different government departments.

Sources said that Chief Minister Omar Abdullah will chair the meeting at 3:30 pm.

The meeting comes against the backdrop of dissent among a section of NC legislators following the October 27 Cabinet expansion, with several MLAs seeking a comprehensive reshuffle and raising concerns over ministerial representation and the functioning of the government.

The legislators had also sought the removal of the Chief Minister's adviser, greater coordination between ministers and elected representatives, and time-bound implementation of the party's election promises.

In a recent move to address the concerns, NC president Farooq Abdullah has initiated the process of forming informal advisory groups of MLAs for each minister. The groups are expected to act as a bridge between the party and the government.

This will be the first Cabinet meeting since the Darbar Move shifted the government offices to Jammu for the winter months.

Further details about the agenda were not immediately available.

## Rising Food Prices Squeeze Kashmir Households

**Agencies**

Srinagar: The rising cost of essential food items is eating into household budgets across Kashmir, with milk, eggs, vegetables and fruits becoming increasingly expensive and leaving families struggling to meet even their routine kitchen expenses.

From breakfast to dinner, the impact of inflation is being felt in almost every household. Items once considered basic necessities are increasingly becoming expensive purchases, forcing families to cut down on quantities, adjust their grocery lists and reconsider everyday spending.

The price of an | More on P6

## Fresh Snowfall, Rain Bring Chill To Kashmir Valley

» Bandipora-Gurez, Mughal Road, Srinagar-Leh Highway closed

» Wet Spell Likely to Continue Till Friday; Temps Likely to Drop 6-8°C

**Observer News Service**



Srinagar: Fresh snowfall in the higher reaches and rainfall across the plains brought a chill to Kashmir on Thursday, disrupting traffic on several key roads, including the Bandipora-Gurez Road, Mughal Road and Srinagar-Leh Highway, as the Meteorological Department forecast more rain and snow across Jammu and Kashmir.

Under the influence of an active Western Disturbance, several higher reaches of the Valley, including Gulmarg, Sonamarg, Zojila Pass, Margan Pass, | More on P6

## Exams Must Be Secure, Transparent: Omar

### Calls for computer-based tests, transparent interviews and merit-based selections

**KO Web Desk**



Srinagar: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday called for comprehensive reforms in the examination system, stressing the need for secure, transparent and technology-driven processes in the wake of the cancellation of NEET-UG 2026.

Chairing a meeting of the High-Powered Task Force (HPTF) on examination reforms, Omar said the credibility of examinations was essential to maintaining public confidence and ensuring fairness for aspirants.

He called for a gradual transition towards computer-based testing, supported by adequate infrastructure and student familiarisation programmes to ensure a smooth shift.

The Chief Minister also proposed exploring the possibility of considering board examination performance in competitive selections, while ensuring a level playing field for students from JKBOSE, CBSE and ICSE boards.

Emphasising transparency in recruitment and admission processes, he said interviews and viva voce examinations should be conducted through objective and clearly defined criteria, with merit remaining the sole basis for selection.

The meeting | More on P6



Government of Jammu and Kashmir

## Office of the Chief Executive Officer Municipal Council Shopian.

Subject: Supply and installation of accessories for Official Bolero at MC Shopian and PA System.

TENDERNOTICE.

E-NITNO:MCS/Trans/14 OF 2026. Dated:03.11.2026.

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K UT, term e-tenders (in single cover system) are invited from the interested persons / parties for tender for Supply and installation of accessories for Official Bolero at MC Shopian.

| S.NO | Product | Type | Qty |
|---|---|---|---|
| 01 | Seat Cover | Branded | Full Set |
| 02 | Matting | Branded | Full Set |
| 03 | Stearung Cover | Branded | 01 No |
| 04 | Floor Mat | Branded | Full Set |
| 05 | PA System with Cordless mikes | Branded | Full Set |

The details of the work is as under and the successful lowest bidder is bound to supply a reputed brand only.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Date of issue of Tender Notice | 12.11.2026 |
| 2 | Period of downloading of bidding documents | From 12.11.2026 |
| 3 | Bid submission Start Date | 12.11.2026 from 04:00 PM |
| 4 | Bid submission End Date | 17.11.2026 up to 04.00 PM |
| 5 | Date & Time of opening of Bids (Online) | 17.11.2026 at 05.00 PM in the office of the Chief Executive Officer, Municipal Council Shopian. |
| 6 | Submission of CDR. | The bidder shall be bound to accompany hisbids offerswith Call Deposit Receipt (CDR) of **Rs.5000/-** amount drawn from any Nationalized bank, pledged to the Chief Executive Officer, Municipal Council Shopian , **(without Which offers shall be liable for rejection)** |

**The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (BOQ) set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded**

The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (BOQ) set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded
from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in, as per the schedule of dates given below:
1. Bids must be accompanied with the cost of tender document in shape of BankChallan /Receipt (Credited to A/c No. 0018040100000611 JRY maintained withJammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd. Branch: Shopian Main Branch in favour of Executive Officer, Municipal Council Shopian amounting to Rs. 200/- (Two HundredOnly) and Bid securing declaration as per format Annexure 1, below on stamppaper duly attested by Notary in favour of Executive Officer, Municipal CouncilShopian, failing which tender will be rejected.
2. The date and time of opening of bids shall be notified on website www.jktenders.gov.in. The bids of the responsive bidders shall be opened onlineon the same website in the office of the Executive Officer, Municipal Council Shopian.
3. The bids for the tender shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids.
4. BIDSECURITY.
a) Bid Security Declaration: The bid security declaration shall be submitted as perthe Format Annexure - 2 (format for the bid security declaration).
b) Any bid not accompanied by the Call Deposit Receipt (CDR) and BID security declaration shall be summarily rejected by the Authority as non responsive.
Terms & Conditions :
01. The product must be of appropriate specifications as Mentioned.
02. The bidder shall be bound to supply all products and accessories of reputed brand only.
03. Bidder shall be bound to produce a Sample before Technical Evaluation on the basis of approval of Sample bidder shall be qualified.
04. EMD is compulsory for all bidder no bidder shall be qualified without EMD
05. Bidder Shall be bound to supply and installation of the said item and replacement warranty for 02 Years, for which an affidavit duly sworn in the court of Law shall be provided in advance.
06. Bidder shall be bound to produce an affidavit dully attested by Judicial magistrate for Warranty period and replacement of Cut and damage of the Items.
07. bidder shall have service center within the nearest location of Consignee location for immediate service and replacement without which bidder shall not be qualified.
08. The successful bidder shall be responsible for the comprehensive supply, transportation, installation, testing, and commissioning of the Item at the designated sites along with requisite Accessories.
09. The products shall carry a minimum comprehensive warranty of 02 years from the date of final acceptance.
10. The Payment shall only be released subject to Satisfactory report of requisite items by any competent authority.
Instructions to the Bidders regarding E-Tendering process:
a) Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
b) To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get, Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendor.
c) The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
d) Bids will be opened online as per time schedule.
e) Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid.
Note:-Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.
f) The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
g) Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Bank Receipt/challan in favour of Executive Officer, Municipal Council Shopian and bid securing declaration must be uploaded with the bid.
h) The Bidder must have to upload (softcopies) of the following documents (Photostat/Original should be clearly seen in all respect with Ink signed and Seal):-
i) Valid original Bank Challan/ Receipt
j) Call Deposit Receipt (CDR)
k) BID Securing Declaration on stamp paper duly attested by Notary.
1) Valid GSTIN/PAN Card No.
m) The Bidder should upload the Tender Document form attached below (Not Mandatory).
n) Bidder must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including
o) BID Securing Declaration and tender documents fee in terms of soft copies with technical Bid. No document (s) which has /have not been uploaded shall not be entertained in the form of hard copy. However, in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.
p) The Highest Bidder will have to submit hard copies of all documents uploade done-tending portal before issuance of Allotment.

No:MCS/Trans/4649-52
DIPK-NB-2104/26 Dated: 12/11/2026.

Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer
Municipal Council Shopian.

## HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH

(Office of the Registrar Judicial Srinagar)

AUCTION NOTICE

No. 304/Rys Dated 12-11-26

It is hereby notified that the obsolete/unserviceable scrap/furniture and other items lying in the premises of High Court of J&K and Ladakh at Srinagar Wing, shall be disposed of through open auction to be held on 26th November, 2026 at 1:00 PM sharp subject to the following terms and conditions.
1. For the auction of aforementioned items, all the stock holders will be permitted to examine the auction material on the date fixed ize 26th November, 2026 from 11:00 am to 12:00 o'clock who would thereafter submit their respective bid for upliftment of the auction material by 2:00 p.m on the very date.
2. That before putting the material on auction, all the bidders shall deposit an amount of Rs.10,000/- as security deposit with the office of the undersigned.
3. The successful bidders shall deposit the full bidding amount on the auction day by 3:00 p.m and would lift the auction material and remove from the site at his/their own costs within two days from the date of auction for which purpose he/they will be provided gate pass, failing which security amount shall forfeit.
4. The security amount deposited by the unsuccessful bidders will be remitted to them on the very date of auction.
5. The Auction Committee, shall reserve the right to accept /reject any or all bids without assigning reason/notice thereof.

Accounts Officer
High Court of J&K and Ladakh
Srinagar

No. 25737-40
DIPK-7614/26
dated: 12-11-2026

## PUBLIC NOTICE

In my Passport No. P1710075, my name is wrongly mentioned as "Rafique" instead of my correct name "Rafiqa Dar". I am applying for passport renewal. Anyone having any objection may submit the same to the Regional Passport Office, Srinagar, within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice.

Rafiqa Dar
W/o Abdul Khaliq Dar inf
R/o Madhav mohalla, Allochi Bagh, Srinagar

## PUBLIC NOTICE

In my MetLife policies bearing no(s): 00000617, 25717177. My name and my parentage has been wrongly admitted as Syed Sajad Hussain S/o Syed Qawam-u-din while as my correct name and parentage is Syed Sajad Hussain Bukhari S/o Late Syed Qammar-ud-din Bukhari. Now I am applying for its correction. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the office of the Met Life Office Sopore within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Syed Sajad Hussain Bukhari
S/o Late Syed Qammar –Ud-Din Bukhari fko
R/o Kreeri -193108

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of all concerned that the electricity connection pertaining to:
Consumer ID: 0204020007320 Installation No: 105384
Address: Dhobi Ghat, Hazratbal, Srinagar (Kashmir)
presently recorded in the name of Abdul Salam Gujree, is required to be transferred / changed in favour of Ms. Jawahira, as per her Aadhaar Card and other valid identity documents.
Any person having any objection to the proposed transfer / name change may submit the same in writing before the concerned Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE), Power Development Department, PDD Sub-Division concerned, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.
If no objection is received within the stipulated period, the department shall carry out the necessary change in the electricity records in favour of Ms. Jawahira.

inf

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as SEERATUL NISA While as my actual name is SEERAT UN NISA C/O SHABIR AHMAD LONE R/O TREHGAM KUPWARA District KUPWARA 193224 Now I want to apply for the correction of the same if anybody is having any objection he/she may contact concerned authority within the period of seven days after that no objection will be entertained.
SEERAT UN NISA
C/O :- SHABIR AHMAD LONE
R/O :- TREHGAM , KUPWARA FKO

## PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Mohd Yousuf Bhat, F/o Hadin Yousuf, R/o Tang Mohalla, District Shopian, do hereby inform the general public that my ward's name has been wrongly recorded as Hadim Yousuf in his Aadhaar Card bearing No. 7922 5552 0541, whereas his correct name, as per personal and official records, is Hadin Yousf.
Now, I have applied for correction of the same before the concerned authorities. If anybody has any objection in this regard, he/she may file the same before the concerned office within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that, no objection shall be entertained.
Sd/-
Mohd Yousuf Bhat
F/o Hadin Yousuf
R/o Tang Mohalla, Shopian fko

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**I Aijaz Ahmad Bhat S/o Ab Aziz Bat R/o Housing colony Ellahibagh Srinagar hereby inform that my father Ab Aziz Bhat Expired in Dec 2017 who was the Registered Consumer of PDD having Electric Connection bearing Consumer (no.0204040018271) I paid our bill regularly now I intend to transfer the electric connection on my name "'0204040018271".**
**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 Hawal Srinagar within 7 (seven) days from the Date of Publication.No objection shall be entertained after stipulated Time Period.**
**Aijaz Ahmad Bhat**
**S/o Late Ab Aziz Bhat**
**R/o Housing colony Ellahibagh Srinagar**
**phone 7006400427**
**Media Line Advt**

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that in Adhar card bearing No 5872 8965 8583 the name is entered as RAYEES AHMAD SHEIKH while my actual name is RAHEES AHMAD. Now i want its correction, in this regard if anybody having any objection may contact Concern department with in a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that. RAHEES AHMAD S/O SHAKOOR AHMAD SHEIKH R/o TANGDHAR KUPWARA.

mcb

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Where as I DANISH MAQBOOL MIR S/O MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL MIR R/O HOUSING COLONY OMPORA BUDGAM KASHMIR intends to apply in the Department of Tourism for Registration of my proposed Travel Unit under the name and style M/S ABODE TRAILS TOUR & TRAVELS Travel company situated at Ompora Budgam, Kashmir under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12. Whereas, I will submit State Subject/ Domicile Certificate, Qualification Certificate, Pan Card, Experience Certificate (Minimum 05 Years), Character Certificate (Police Department), Bank Statement (Minimum Balance 10000). Site Plan, Affidavit, Rent Deed duly attested by Sub - Registrar, Printing Material (Letter Head/ Visiting Card), Photograph of the Unit (indoor and Outdoor) and Two passport size photographs to the Department of Tourism as per prescribed checklist prior to Registration of my unit as an Excursion Agency / Adventure Tour Operator. Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011/12, before my case is processed for registration by the Competent Authority, the matter is hereby notified for information of general Public / Financial Institute/ Bank / Organization, etc for objection, if any and the same should reach to the Deputy Director Tourism Registration within a peiod of 7 days from the publication of this notice in leading local newspaper of the valey. No objection beyond a period of 7 days shall be entertained.

mcb

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Where as I ASHAQ HUSSAIN DAR S/O ABDUL AHAD DAR R/O NAZBAL ARIGAM BUDGAM KASHMIR intends to apply in the Department of Tourism for Registration of my proposed Travel Unit under the name and style M/S OMNI SAFAR TOURS & TRAVELS Travel company situated at Arigam Khansahib Budgam, Kashmir under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12. Whereas, I will submit State Subject/ Domicile Certificate, Qualification Certificate, Pan Card, Experience Certificate (Minimum 05 Years), Character Certificate (Police Department), Bank Statement (Minimum Balance 10000). Site Plan, Affidavit, Rent Deed duly attested by Sub - Registrar, Printing Material (Letter Head/ Visiting Card), Photograph of the Unit (indoor and Outdoor) and Two passport size photographs to the Department of Tourism as per prescribed checklist prior to Registration of my unit as an Excursion Agency / Adventure Tour Operator. Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011/12, before my case is processed for registration by the Competent Authority, the matter is hereby notified for information of general Public / Financial Institute/ Bank / Organization, etc for objection, if any and the same should reach to the Deputy Director Tourism Registration within a peiod of 7 days from the publication of this notice in leading local newspaper of the valey. No objection beyond a period of 7 days shall be entertained.

mcb

## PUBLIC NOTICE

1, ANNAM SALEEM D/o MOHAMMAD SALEEM WANI, hereby declare that my correct name is ANNAM SALEEM and my Date of Birth is 15-10-2009. However, in the school records of ASPIRE WORLD SCHOOL, HUMHAMA, my name has been wrongly recorded as ANNAM SALEEM WANI and Date of Birth as 15-09-2009. Any person having any objection may contact the concerned school authority within 7 days from the date of publication. Thereafter, no objections shall be entertained.

fko

## PUBLIC NOTICE

1, IMTIYAZ AHMAD MALIK S/o GH HASSAN MALIK, hereby declare that my correct name is IMTIYAZ AHMAD MALIK and my Date of Birth is 01-12-2013. However, in the school records of ASPIRE WORLD SCHOOL, HUMHAMA, my name has been wrongly recorded as IMTIYAZ AHMAD and Date of Birth as 01-12-2011. Any person having any objection may contact the concerned school authority within 7 days from the date of publication. Thereafter, no objections shall be entertained.

fko

## PUBLIC NOTICE

1, SHAMIM D/o LT SAMS KHAN, hereby declare that my correct name is SHAMIM However, in the school records of ASPIRE WORLD SCHOOL, HUMHAMA, my name has been wrongly recorded as SHAMIM AKHTER. Any person having any objection may contact the concerned school authority within 7 days from the date of publication. Thereafter, no objections shall be entertained.

fko

## PUBLIC NOTICE

1, AQEELA ALTAF D/ ALAF AHMAD WANI, hereby declare that my correct Date of Birth is 15-08-2015. However, in the school records of ASPIRE WORLD SCHOOL, HUMHAMA, my Date of Birth has been wrongly recorded 15-07-2015. Any person having any objection may contact the concerned school authority within 7 days from the date of publication. Thereafter, no objections shall be entertained.

fko

## PUBLIC NOTICE

1, SYED MUHAMMAD ABSAAR S/O SYED MUBASHIR AHMAD, hereby declare that my correct Date of Birth is 02-06-2011. However, in the school records of ASPIRE WORLD SCHOOL, HUMHAMA, my Date of Birth has been wrongly recorded 02-06-2013. Any person having any objection may contact the concerned school authority within 7 days from the date of publication. Thereafter, no objections shall be entertained

fko

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as ZAHIDA BANU While as my actual name is ZAHIDA HASSAN C/O GH HASSAN GANIE R/O WANI MOHALLA VOORA 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.
ZAHIDA HASSAN
C/O :- GH HASSAN GANIE
R/O :- WANI MOHALLA VOORA , KUPWARA fko

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as PEER MOHD SHAFI While as my actual name is MOHD SHAFI PEER C/O MOHD YOUSF PEER R/O WARPORA 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.
MOHD SHAFI PEER
C/O :- MOHD YOUSF PEER
R/O :- WARPORA , KUPWARA fko

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as SHAHMALA BEGUM While as my actual name is SAHMAL BEGUM C/O LATE ATTA MOHD KHAN R/O SHATHPORA 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.
SAHMAL BEGUM
C/O :- LATE ATTA MOHD KHAN
R/O :- SHATHPORA HAYIHAMA , KUPWARA fko

## PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Roza Akhter W/o Mohammad Ashraf Kumar, M/o Mohammad Hazim Kumar, R/o Kralweth, Tehsil Kunzer, District Baramulla, do hereby inform the general public that my ward's name has been wrongly recorded in his Aadhaar Card bearing No. 8105 1891 5666 as "Hazim Ashraf", whereas his correct name is "Mohammad Hazim Kumar". Now, I have applied for correction of the same in the Aadhaar records. Anybody 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. After that, no objection shall be entertained.
Sd/-
Roza Akhter
Mother of Mohammad Hazim Kumar fko

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**I, Afia Ashraf Mir, wife of Arif Ahmed mir, resident of naseem abad kanitar Srinagar, hereby declare that my correct name, as per my Aadhaar Card, is Afiya Ashraf. My name has been recorded as Afia Ashraf Mir in my savings bank account maintained at Jammu & Kashmir Bank, Nalamar Road Branch, Srinagar.I hereby declare that both names refer to one and the same person and request the concerned authorities to update my bank records as per my Aadhaar Card.This notice is being published for official and banking purposes.**
**Afia Ashraf**
**W/o Arif Ahmed mir**
**Media line advt**

# Paras Srinagar Promotes Normal Deliveries Through Special Maternity Packages

Observer News Service

Srinagar- Reinforcing its commitment to safe motherhood and accessible maternity care, PARAS Health Srinagar is encouraging expectant mothers to consider normal delivery wherever medically appropriate, through specially designed maternity packages and comprehensive clinical support.

The initiative aims to promote natural childbirth, empower women with informed choices and ensure that mothers receive personalised care throughout pregnancy and delivery. With a focus on clinical expertise, regular antenatal monitoring and compassionate support, the hospital seeks to make childbirth a safe and reassuring experience for mothers and their families.



Dr Sadia, Senior Consultant, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, PARAS Health Srinagar, said normal delivery remains a preferred option in uncomplicated pregnancies, provided there are no medical contraindications.

"Every pregnancy is unique, and the mode of delivery must always be determined by the mother's health, the baby's well-being and a thorough clinical assessment. Wherever medically appropriate, normal delivery offers several benefits, including a generally shorter recovery period, reduced surgical intervention and an earlier return to routine activities. Our priority is to counsel expectant mothers, address their concerns and ensure they receive the right medical support at every stage," she said.

Dr Najma Saqib, Consultant, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, PARAS Health Srinagar, emphasised the importance of promoting normal deliveries while ensuring that high-risk pregnancies receive specialised medical attention.

"Normal delivery is a natural process that can offer several benefits to both mother and baby when the pregnancy is progressing without complications. However, every case requires careful assessment. High-risk pregnancies demand close monitoring, timely intervention and a well-coordinated medical approach to prevent complications. Our focus is to ensure that every woman receives individualised care, whether she is opting for a normal delivery or requires specialised management because of medical risks," Dr Saqib said.

Dr Murtuza Habib, Facility Director, PARAS Health Srinagar, said the initiative reflects the hospital's broader commitment to patient-centric, quality and affordable healthcare.



Specially abled women and girls participate in a friendly wheelchair basketball match at Presentation Convent School. KO Photo Abid Bhat

# SMC Activates Helplines, Puts 55 Snow Clearance Machines On Standby

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 12: The Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) has stepped up its preparedness for the upcoming winter, establishing a 24x7 snow clearance control room and deploying a fleet of machinery to ensure timely snow clearance and uninterrupted access to essential services across the city.

As part of its winter preparedness measures, the corporation has kept 43 tractors fitted with snow ploughs, 10 JCBs/loaders and two skid-steer machines ready for deployment during snowfall.

The SMC has designated Joint Commissioner Syed Abul Qasim as the overall nodal officer to coordinate and monitor snow clearance operations, while Joint Commissioner (Administration) Nuzhat Khurshid Qurashi will supervise the round-the-clock control room.

The corporation has also activated two public helpline numbers — 0194-2470465 and 0194-2474499 — to receive and address complaints related to snow clearance and other winter-related issues.

An official said all 35 ward officers have been directed to submit daily reports on snow clearance in their respective jurisdictions, with particular focus on roads, lanes, by-lanes, hospitals, ration depots, water supply stations and electricity installations.

"The Mechanical Wing has been directed to ensure that all snow clearance machinery remains operational, with workshop teams available round-the-clock to attend to any emergency. Three water tankers will also remain available for de-icing operations," the official said.

The Sanitation Wing has been tasked with mobilising manpower and machinery to clear snow from footpaths, pavements, hospitals, religious places, government offices and other vital installations to facilitate public movement.

Meanwhile, the Drainage Wing has been directed to ensure the proper functioning of all 104 permanent dewatering stations and 281 mobile pump units. Adequate diesel stocks will also be maintained to tackle waterlogging and other eventualities during snowfall.

# Food Cart Demolished At Lal Chowk

Agencies

Srinagar: A newly installed food cart near the Clock Tower at Srinagar City Centre was demolished by the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) after shopkeepers protested against its installation, raising serious questions over the conflicting actions of government agencies and the manner in which the administration handled the matter.

The cart had been installed during the night near Ghanta Ghar. After receiving information about its installation, SMC officials, accompanied by police personnel, reached the spot and dismantled the structure.

The demolition followed protests by shopkeepers in the area, who objected to the placement of the food cart and threatened to call for a shutdown. Several shopkeepers reportedly kept their establishments closed until the structure was removed, turning the issue into a confrontation between traders and the authorities.

However, the most pressing question emerging from the episode is whether the food cart owner had been granted official permission in the first place and, if so, under whose authority was the structure demolished?

Speaking to KNT, the owner, Lateef Ahmad, claimed that he had obtained permission from Srinagar Smart City Limited through the proper e-tendering process and was supposed to pay a monthly rent of Rs 15,000.

Ahmad said he was unable to understand how an installation permitted through an official process could subsequently be demolished by government agency.

# Vice Chairman JKLCMA reviews Development Works At Dole Demb In Dal Lake

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Vice Chairman, JKLCMA, Khurshid Ahmad Shah, visited the Dole Demb area of Dal Lake to review the ongoing works related to the removal of bushes, clearance of the identified area for its proposed development, and dredging of internal channels to facilitate smooth navigation and flushing of water.

During the visit, the Vice Chairman inspected the site and took stock of the progress of the ongoing operations. He was briefed by the concerned officers on the work being undertaken, including the removal of aquatic vegetation, bushes, and dredging of internal channels.

Emphasizing the importance of planned and sustainable development, he stressed that the works should be carried out systematically, with due attention to the ecological sensitivity of the area. He underscored that the proposed park should enhance the scenic and recreational appeal of the identified stretch while preserving the natural character of Dal Lake and to promote Tourism.



He also stressed the importance of dredging internal channels and flushing of waters to ensure smooth navigation and improve connectivity within the lake. He directed the concerned officers to maintain close supervision of all ongoing activities and ensure timely progress while adhering to appropriate environmental safeguards.

The initiative is aimed at improving the overall lake environment, enhancing navigational facilities and developing a designated recreational space to promote tourism and provide an attractive experience for visitors. It also forms part of the Authority's efforts towards the responsible and sustainable utilisation of Dal Lake's surrounding spaces as tourism attractions.

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

**AIRPORTS**

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

**RAILWAYS**

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

**HIGHWAY STATUS**

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

**HIJRI CALENDAR**

2 Jumada al-Sani
1448

**PRAYERS**

| | |
|---|---|
| FAJR | 5: 36 |
| ZUHR | 12:14 |
| ASR | 3: 51 |
| Magrib | 5: 31 |
| ISHA | 6: 53 |

## This Day In History

- 1642 - Battle at Turnham Green outside London: King Charles I vs English parliament
- 1673 - Prince Willem III/Raimundo earl Montecuccoli conquer Bonn
- 1715 - Battle of Sheriffmuir during Jacobite rebellion. Battle inconclusive but Government forces halt advance of Jacobite army lead by Scottish Earl of Mar
- 1775 - American Revolutionary forces capture Montreal
- 1781 - British troops occupy Negapatam, Ceylon (Sri Lanka)
- 1851 - Telegraph connection between London-Paris linked
- 1865 - US issues 1st gold certificates
- 1918 - Russia cancels Treaty of Brest-Litovsk
- 1921 - US, France, Japan and British Empire sign a Pacific Treaty.
- 1935 - Anti-British riots in Egypt
- 1954 - 1st Rugby League World Cup: Great Britain beats France 16-12
- 1979 - Ronald Reagan in New York announces his candidacy for US President
- 1986 - NASA launches space vehicle S-199
- 1986 - US President Reagan confesses weapon sales to Iran
- 1990 - Saudis ask US for rights to bid on SPR (Strategic Petroleum Reserve) crude
- 1993 - Pakistani minister of Foreign affairs Faruk Leghari elected president
- 1994 - Sweden agrees to join European Union
- 1997 - UN pulls out arms inspection teams from Iraq
- 2001 - War on Terrorism: In the first such act since World War II, US President George W. Bush signs an executive order allowing military tribunals against foreigners suspected of connections to terrorist acts or planned acts on the United States.
- 2002 - Iraq disarmament crisis: Iraq agrees to the terms of the UN Security Council Resolution 1441
- 2008 - Equity research by Deutsche Bank states that Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines should not experience a recession, despite potential harm to economic growth from falling commodity prices and possible weaker exports
- 2009 - The Netherlands officially exits the recession after experiencing 0.4% growth in the third quarter, but recovery for the Netherlands still remains fragile as the country is highly dependent on exports to maintain the recovery
- 2009 - Germany's growth of 0.7% in the third quarter helps lead the Eurozone out of the recession after providing overall growth of 0.4% in the same period, with the whole European Union growing 0.2%, it is reported today
- 2014 - Rohit Sharma of India sets a new record of 264 runs against Sri Lanka in an ODI innings in cricket
- 2015 - Terror attacks in Paris at 3 locations leave at least 129 dead. Isis claim responsibility.
- 2017 - Italy fails to qualify for 2018 Football World Cup (first time since 1958), after play-off defeat against Sweden.
- 2017 - Italy fails to qualify for 2018 Football World Cup (first time since 1958), after play-off defeat against Sweden
- 2017 - First Barbie doll to wear a hijab, modeled on Olympic fencer Ibtihaj Muhammad unveiled in New York

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**

**E-Tender Notice**

**DEN-HQ/FZR** acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open E-Tenders against the below-mentioned works and available on **www.ireps.gov.in** with closing date **03/12/2026 up to 15:00 Hrs.** Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids only up to the closing date and time. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments towards the tender document cost and Earnest Money only through the payment modes available on **www.ireps.gov.in** portal, like Net Banking, Debit Card, Credit Card, etc. Manual payments through Demand Draft, Banker's Cheque, Deposit Receipt, FDR, etc. are not allowed. For more information, log on to **www.ireps.gov.in.**

| Tender Type | Tendering Section | Bidding System |
|---|---|---|
| Open | Works | Single Packet System |
| **Date of Uploading Tenders** | **Bid Starting Date** | **Bid Closing Date/Time** |
| 09.11.2026 | 19.11.2026 | 03.12.2026 15:00 Hrs. |

| S.No. | Tender No. | Details of Tender | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 216-2026-27-DEN-HQ-FZR | Provision of Rubberized level crossing at existing level crossings in the section of SSE/PWAY/FKA under ADEN-II/FZR in the jurisdiction of DEN-HQ/FZR. | | | |
| | **Advertised Value (Rs.)** | **Earnest Money** | **Validity of Offer** | **Period of Completion** | |
| | 15557325.10 | 311200.00 | 60 Days | 12 Months | |
| | **Similar nature of work :-** "Road Work or LC Gate Road or Paving Work". | | | | |
| 2. | 217-2026-27-DEN-HQ-FZR | Provision of Rubberized level crossing at existing level crossings in the section of SSE/PWAY/KKP under ADEN-I/FZR in the jurisdiction of DEN-HQ/FZR. | | | |
| | **Advertised Value (Rs.)** | **Earnest Money** | **Validity of Offer** | **Period of Completion** | |
| | 32724174.68 | 654500.00 | 60 Days | 12 Months | |
| | **Similar nature of work: -** "Road Work or LC Gate Road or Paving Work". | | | | |
| 3. | 218-2026-27-DEN-HQ-FZR | Provision of Rubberized level crossing at existing level crossings in the section of SSE/PWAY/MOGA & SSE/PWAY/MKS under ADEN-I/FZR in the jurisdiction of DEN-HQ/FZR. | | | |
| | **Advertised Value (Rs.)** | **Earnest Money** | **Validity of Offer** | **Period of Completion** | |
| | 41230718.24 | 824600.00 | 60 Days | 12 Months | |
| | **Similar nature of work: -** "Road Work or LC Gate Road or Paving Work". | | | | |
| 4. | 219-2026-27-DEN-HQ-FZR | Provision of Rubberized level crossing at existing level crossings in the section of SSE/PWAY/LNK & SSE/PWAY/FZR under ADEN-II/FZR in the jurisdiction of DEN-HQ/FZR. | | | |
| | **Advertised Value (Rs.)** | **Earnest Money** | **Validity of Offer** | **Period of Completion** | |
| | 34772430.56 | 695500.00 | 60 Days | 12 Months | |
| | **Similar nature of work: -** "Road Work or LC Gate Road or Paving Work". | | | | |

**Note 1:-** Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender. **Tender No: 216, 217, 218 & 219-2026-27-DEN-HQ-FZR Date: 12.11.2026** **3963/2026**

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**




## PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to correct my name in my bank records at JK Bank branch office Ahmad Nagar, Srinagar bearing A/c No. 0889040100001136 from RASHIDA MUSHTAQ W/O MUSHTAQ AHMAD SHERA R/O ZADI MASJID SAFAKADAL, SRINAGAR Presently at R/O GANNA COLONY, AHMAD NAGAR to ZAHOORA W/O MUSHTAQ AHMAD SHERA as per my Aadhaar card. If anybody has any objection, he/she may contact the above mentioned bank within 7 days. After 7 days, no objection will be accepted

*Abass Advt.*

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

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KO VIEW

# Tourism Beyond Concrete

A wave of soul-searching has hit social media in Kashmir lately, with people questioning how the valley's famous tourist destinations have changed over the years.

Much of the debate centres on Sonamarg, Gulmarg and Pahalgam, where hotels and concrete structures are taking up an increasing amount of space.

People are asking what has happened to the green retreats where families once went to spend a day, enjoy nature and take a break from their daily routines.

It is also time to ask what these places should look like in the years ahead.

Kashmir's tourism has always drawn its strength from nature. People visit these destinations for their mountains, meadows, forests and open spaces. Hotels and other facilities are needed, but they should add to the experience of visiting these places.

When construction begins to dominate the landscape, the purpose of tourism itself comes into question.

There is little doubt that Kashmir needs better tourism facilities. More accommodation, improved roads, sanitation and other services can help local businesses and create employment. The hospitality sector also needs room to grow.

But this growth must have limits. The idea that every popular tourist destination needs more hotels and concrete structures is a poor way to plan its future.

The real concern is that the very things drawing tourists to Kashmir are being put under pressure by the development meant to support tourism.

More hotel rooms may increase the capacity to accommodate visitors, but they cannot replace green meadows or open natural spaces. Once these places lose their original character, the tourism industry itself stands to lose.

There is also no reason to follow the same development model everywhere. Some destinations may need better facilities, while others can remain largely untouched. Tourism planning should recognise this difference.

Switzerland provides a useful example of how a country can attract tourists while retaining its natural landscapes. Kashmir can learn from this approach without copying it entirely. Development and nature can go together when the right choices are made.

The government needs to set clear limits on construction in sensitive areas, enforce land-use rules and make environmental concerns a part of all major tourism decisions.

The hospitality sector, too, should see the value of protecting the natural surroundings on which its business depends.

The debate on social media should lead to a serious rethink of tourism policy.

Kashmir has been gifted mountains, forests and meadows that no investment can recreate once they are lost. These places need protection as much as they need development.

# The Emergency Srinagar Cannot Ignore

As residential colonies grow and vehicle numbers climb, narrow lanes and unchecked parking are turning emergency access into a public safety concern.



Farooq Ahmad Khan




A family calls an ambulance. Its siren signals that help is on the way, but the vehicle stops at the entrance to their neighbourhood.

A car parked outside a gate, a sharp bend or a narrow lane blocks its path.

Inside the house, a patient waits as precious minutes pass. The ambulance is nearby, the medical crew is ready, but the road stands in their way.

This is a reality Srinagar must confront as it pursues its Smart City ambitions.

Urban development is often measured by illuminated streets, improved public spaces and new infrastructure. But for families living in congested residential colonies, a city's real test may be much simpler: can an ambulance or fire tender reach their doorstep when an emergency strikes?

A trip along the Waanbal-Airport Road brought this concern into clear view.

Driving behind a dumper, I encountered another heavy vehicle approaching from the opposite direction. The road gave insufficient space for them to pass. After some discussion, the oncoming driver began reversing, forcing scores of vehicles behind him to do the same until he could enter a side lane.

More than half an hour passed before traffic resumed.

The episode left an uncomfortable thought: what if an ambulance carrying a critically ill patient had been trapped in that queue?

Similar conditions exist in Green Land Colony near Sannat Nagar, Yayel Colony along the Waanbal-Gogoo stretch of the New Airport Road, Chanapora, Natipora, Peerbagh, Gulshan Nagar and Bachpora.

New houses continue to appear, bringing more residents and vehicles into neighbourhoods where roads were already narrow. At some locations, two vehicles struggle to pass, while even a single vehicle has difficulty negotiating the available space.

The numbers explain how the pressure has grown.

Transport Department figures reproduced in a study of Srinagar's traffic put the district's registered vehicles at approximately 1.31 lakh in 2006. By March 2025, the J&K Economic Survey recorded 4.72 lakh, more than three and a half times the earlier figure.

Srinagar alone registered 25,347 new vehicles during 2024-25. The Union Territory recorded 1,69,012 new registrations during the same financial year.

This expansion has severe impact for roads designed around a much smaller number of vehicles.

The Smart Cities Mission recognised efficient urban mobility and public transport as essential components of urban infrastructure. Its guidelines envisaged walkable neighbourhoods, reduced congestion and streets that accommodate pedestrians and cyclists. Srinagar's proposal included electric buses, footpaths, cycle tracks, road improvements and intelligent traffic management, alongside fire protection and emergency response.

These commitments need to extend into residential colonies.

An electric bus can improve connectivity between neighbourhoods, while a widened bend can determine whether an ambulance completes the final few hundred metres to a patient's home.

Both are measures of urban mobility, although the consequences of the latter can be immediate and irreversible.

Kashmir has a satirical proverb, "Gaeri goud to masheedi tchoong", describing a man whose own house remains dark while he donates a lamp to the mosque. The saying questions misplaced priorities.

Srinagar invites the same criticism if attractive public spaces become the visible face of development while residential streets remain inaccessible to emergency vehicles.

Good lighting can improve a neighbourhood, but a family also needs to know that a fire tender can reach its house.

Widening all existing colony roads would be prohibitively expensive and disruptive. Boundary walls may have to move, private land may need acquisition, and some houses could be affected. Compensation and residents' concerns must enter the planning process.

A more practical approach would begin with the worst bottlenecks, where relatively small interventions could improve access for an entire neighbourhood.

A narrow section may obstruct an otherwise usable road. A badly designed bend may prevent a fire tender from turning, while the absence of a small passing space can bring two vehicles to a standstill.

Municipal authorities and road-owning agencies should jointly survey these locations with the Traffic Police, Fire and Emergency Services, Health Department and residents.

The survey should assess actual vehicle dimensions, turning requirements and available clearance. Emergency vehicles should test proposed routes under controlled conditions. Identified obstructions should have a designated agency, an estimated cost and a deadline for correction. Colonies with a single access road need particular attention.

Parking needs equally firm regulation. Private vehicles should be prohibited from parking on these already narrow roads, during the day or overnight. Residents must understand that a car left outside their gate can obstruct an ambulance summoned for someone in their own household or a neighbour's family.

The government should also consider requiring proof of lawful parking space when a person purchases and registers a private vehicle. Those without space inside their premises could identify a rented garage or a secured place in a shared parking facility.

Mizoram's vehicle registration form, which includes provision for a garage certificate, provides a precedent worth examining. Such a system would need verification, enforcement and practical arrangements for shared facilities.

Future residential development needs clearer rules.

No new colony should receive approval without a proposed minimum road width of 30 feet along its access and internal streets, with greater widths wherever density, applicable standards or emergency access call for them. Approved layouts should include adequate turning space and a usable connection to the main road. Authorities must verify these provisions on the ground before residents occupy the buildings.

Srinagar also needs a coordinated ambulance service equipped with trained personnel, appropriate medical equipment, GPS-based dispatch and direct communication with receiving hospitals.

The Health Department, Fire and Emergency Services and Traffic Police should share information about accessible routes and obstructions. Response times should account for the journey to the patient's door, since an ambulance stranded at the entrance offers little reassurance to a family waiting inside.

These measures will involve public expenditure, administrative effort and changes in how residents use their streets. Delaying them will leave future generations with denser colonies, more vehicles and fewer ways to address emergencies.

Children growing up in these neighbourhoods should be able to assume that help can reach their homes when they need it.

A city reveals its priorities through the roads it builds and the people it allows to move through them.

Srinagar's Smart City ambitions will find their real test in its narrow residential passages, where a few metres of clear road could decide the difference between a timely rescue and a family waiting helplessly behind a closed gate.

—

*The author is an Advocate and former District Development Commissioner. He writes on governance, public affairs and social issues. He can be reached at advofarooqahmadkhan@gmail.com.*

# The Cost of the 5G Boom

Researchers are examining how electromagnetic radiation may affect bee behaviour and colony survival, while beekeepers in Kashmir report unusual changes in their hives.



Dr. Waseem Ahmad

The orchards of Kashmir feel emptier these days. Bees that used to hum through the blossoms are disappearing from the trees.

Honey bees have long been a lifeline for Kashmiri farmers and orchards. They pollinate fruit, vegetables, and oilseeds, sustaining the livelihoods of thousands of small farmers across the valley.

Their disappearance would disturb the very pulse of life here.

The concern stems from Kashmir's leap into the digital future with 5G towers rising in towns and villages.

Researchers around the world are increasingly focused on the unseen impact of electromagnetic radiation (EMR) from mobile networks on honey bees. The science is still evolving, but early signs suggest this invisible energy may be disrupting the bees' navigation, foraging, and reproduction.

Honey bees have a remarkable internal compass. They sense the Earth's magnetic field through tiny iron-rich structures in their bodies, helping them cruise back to their hives.

When radiation interferes with these magnetoreceptors, bees can lose their way, leaving hives abandoned.

This phenomenon, known as Colony Collapse Disorder, has long troubled scientists, with traditional causes like pesticides, habitat loss, and disease only partially explaining the crisis.

Now, EMR is being considered as a silent, yet serious, factor.

5G technology operates on high-frequency "millimetre waves" that require dense networks of small towers every 100 to 200 meters. These towers are often installed near homes, roads, and farms, placing bees in constant proximity to EMR.

Insects, because of their small size and unique physiology, absorb more radiation than larger animals, increasing their vulnerability.

Experiments have shown that bees exposed to mobile phone radiation lay fewer eggs, return late or not at all, and display stress behaviours that threaten colony survival.

Anecdotal reports in Kashmir mirror these global findings.

> **India's fast-tracked** 5G rollout has proceeded with little attention to ecological impacts, leaving farmers and pollinators vulnerable.

Beekeepers in Anantnag and Shopian describe hives behaving unusually, with fewer foragers returning and colonies weakening faster than in previous years.

India's fast-tracked 5G rollout has proceeded with little attention to ecological impacts, leaving farmers and pollinators vulnerable.

Research on how native bee species respond to EMR remains minimal, and structured monitoring is almost nonexistent.

Notably, honey bees are essential to apples, walnuts, almonds, and other cash crops in the valley. Pollination services have a direct economic value that runs into billions of rupees across India.

Beyond economics, bees maintain biodiversity and support ecosystems that sustain other wildlife. The loss of bees could ripple across Kashmir's delicate environmental and agricultural systems, with consequences felt from village gardens to city markets.

Experts argue that technology and ecology need not be in conflict. Scientific studies and local observations should inform policies for tower installation and EMR exposure limits.

Creating EMR-free zones for bees, especially near farms and protected forests, could help safeguard pollination. Beekeepers can be encouraged to monitor hive behaviour and document anomalies correlated with tower proximity.

Telecom regulations should consider pollinator health as part of environmental impact assessments before approving new towers.

Importantly, electromagnetic radiation does not respect borders, and bees migrate and forage across landscapes.

Coordinated efforts from scientists, regulators, farmers, and telecom companies are needed to create safe standards for EMR exposure that protect all living organisms, not only humans.

—

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KASHMIR OBSERVER®
SRINAGAR | FRIDAY | 13.11.2026



# Kashmir in a German Kitchen

## Through videos about Kashmiri food, language, festivals and everyday life, Raina connects a scattered community while exploring what it means to belong to a homeland from afar.



Aashiq Hussain Andrabi

When Sonika Raina moved to Germany with her family in 2020, she found herself missing the sounds, food and traditions that had connected her to Kashmir.

One day, while celebrating Shivratri, she recorded a video and shared it online. The response surprised her.

The video went viral, reaching Kashmiris who, like her, lived far from the valley but remained attached to its memories.

That video eventually opened a new chapter for Raina, a Kashmiri Pandit digital creator who has built an online community around the everyday culture of Kashmir.

Her videos feature traditional food, Rouf dance, festivals, childhood memories and the distinctive expressions of the Kashmiri language. They also bring out the shared experiences that connect people from different communities.

Her own relationship with Kashmir carries an unusual history.

Her family migrated to Jammu when she was three, and she first visited the valley in Class 11. Much of what she knows about Kashmir came through her parents, their stories and the traditions they preserved at home.

Now raising her children in Germany, Raina is passing on that inheritance while discovering new ways to connect with her roots.

In this interview, she discusses language, identity, migration, Kashmiriyat, parenting and the lessons Kashmir could learn from Europe.

**Your digital journey began with a Shivratri video that unexpectedly went viral. Take us back to that moment. What was going through your mind when you decided to put that first video online?**

When I moved to Germany with my family in 2020, I experienced the loneliness that often comes with settling in a new country. You naturally begin to miss your people, your culture and the sense of belonging that home provides.

On that Shivratri, again, I was missing my family and wanted to feel connected to my people back home, so I created a video to express that emotion.

To my surprise, it went viral and received an overwhelming response. That encouraged me to continue creating content.

**So the first video came out of personal longing rather than a planned attempt to become a content creator?**

Absolutely. It came from something very personal. I wanted to express what I was feeling at that particular moment. The response made me realise that many other people shared those emotions.

People living away from Kashmir could relate to the memories, the traditions and the feeling of missing home. That connection encouraged me to share more.

**You have retained a strong command of Kashmiri despite growing up away from the valley. How important has your mother tongue been in preserving your identity as a Kashmiri Pandit?**

I grew up in a Kashmiri household, and speaking Kashmiri has always been an integral part of who I am. Even though I have lived away from the valley, the language has remained a strong connection to my roots and identity.

I feel a special sense of joy when I meet Kashmiri families in Europe and we connect effortlessly through our language, food and culture. There is something truly wonderful about meeting your own people in a foreign land and finding that familiar sense of belonging.

I strongly believe that preserving our mother tongue is essential to preserving our identity. Social media has played an important role in this regard.

Today, many young content creators are producing engaging content in Kashmiri, and there is a growing sense of pride in speaking, learning and embracing the language.

**Does social media have the potential to make Kashmiri relevant to a generation growing up thousands of kilometres away from the valley?**

Definitely. Young people now have access to content in their own language, even while growing up in different countries. They can listen to Kashmiri, learn expressions and discover traditions through people creating content online.

It also gives them an opportunity to see other young people embracing their culture. That can create a sense of pride and encourage them to learn more about their roots.

**Kashmir's public image is often dominated by political developments and discord. Your videos focus on food, humour, childhood memories and ordinary human experiences. What can digital storytelling reveal about Kashmir that conventional news coverage often misses?**

I think digital storytelling has the ability to capture the everyday spirit of Kashmir. Our lives are filled with warmth, humour, laughter, traditions and beautiful human connections, and these are stories worth sharing.

One thing I absolutely love about Kashmiris is their incredible sense of humour. Spend an evening around a dining table with a few Kashmiris, and you will probably find yourself laughing endlessly. That natural wit is an integral part of our culture and personality.

Digital platforms provide an opportunity to bring these everyday emotions, experiences and little moments to a much wider audience. With the reach of social media, these stories can travel far beyond geographical boundaries.

I believe this is how digital storytelling helps showcase the authentic, vibrant and human side of Kashmir.

**Can a video about a childhood food memory or a familiar Kashmiri expression sometimes connect people more deeply than a political headline?**

Stories about everyday life, traditions and shared memories can definitely connect people on a much deeper, more personal level. They evoke nostalgia, bring back beautiful memories and remind us of the things we share as a community.

Sometimes, a simple story about food, childhood, a festival or a familiar Kashmiri expression can make someone feel instantly connected to home.

Political news and cultural storytelling serve different purposes. Ultimately, media coverage is also shaped by what audiences choose to watch and engage with. The more interest people show in a particular kind of content, the more space it tends to receive.

**You are raising children in Germany while keeping Kashmiri traditions alive at home. How do you introduce them to practices such as Doad Dyun, Navreh and preparing Haakh?**

I don't think of it as formally introducing my children to our traditions. I simply live them. We celebrate Shivratri just as we did back home, and the children grow up watching and participating in these rituals.

When children see you practising your traditions, they naturally absorb them. You don't always have to teach culture through words. Sometimes, living it is the best way to pass it on.

We also celebrated Navreh with the Kashmiri Pandit community in Europe. We travelled to the Netherlands, where several Kashmiri Pandit families came together for three days. It was a wonderful experience for the children to meet other families, celebrate together and experience that sense of community.

**Three days with Kashmiri families in the Netherlands must have felt like bringing a little piece of Kashmir to Europe. How important are such gatherings for children growing up there?**

They are very important. Children get to meet other Kashmiri families, interact with people who share their background and experience traditions together. They begin to understand that their culture extends beyond their own household.

Food is another important part of keeping our culture alive. We prepare traditional Kashmiri dishes at home, including Haakh and the non-vegetarian preparations so familiar in Kashmiri households.

Living in Europe, we are fortunate to find many vegetables and fruits, some imported from other countries, that are familiar to us from Kashmir. In many ways, we are able to recreate the flavours of home.

**Your Rouf dance videos and cultural posts have attracted considerable attention. Social media audiences can also be very particular about language and pronunciation. Have you faced criticism over the way you speak Kashmiri?**

I wouldn't necessarily describe any of my videos as having failed to connect with the audience. However, one interesting experience has been the feedback I receive on my Kashmiri pronunciation and vocabulary.

I come from South Kashmir, and my accent is quite distinct. People from Central or North Kashmir sometimes point out that they pronounce certain words differently or that a particular expression is used differently in their region.



**AUSTRIA, SWITZERLAND AND MANY OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ARE EXCEPTIONALLY CLEAN, WHEREVER YOU GO.** But what really stands out is that cleanliness is not just the government's responsibility. It comes from the people themselves. You will often see someone walking along, noticing a piece of litter, picking it up and putting it in a dustbin. It is part of their upbringing and civic sense. People genuinely feel that keeping their surroundings clean is their own responsibility. I think this is an attitude we really need to develop back home.

There are also interesting linguistic differences between Kashmiri Pandits and Kashmiri Muslims. For instance, Kashmiri Pandits might use the word "Poen" for water, while Muslims mostly use "Aab".

These differences often lead to interesting discussions and friendly corrections in the comments.

**Do these exchanges tell you something about the diversity of Kashmiri culture that people sometimes overlook?**

Absolutely. They have taught me just how diverse the Kashmiri language and culture are, even within such a small geographical region.

Our accents, vocabulary, food habits and traditions can vary between regions and communities.

I find these discussions very interesting because they help us learn about one another. People share expressions from their own areas, explain how their families use particular words and sometimes introduce me to something I haven't heard before.

**Social media rewards consistency, short videos and frequent engagement. You seem to follow a rather different approach. How do you balance the pressure to keep posting with the responsibility of preserving language and culture?**

Honestly, I don't create a lot of content on social media because I don't want to put myself under pressure to create a reel every day, every week or every month. I want whatever I create to come from the heart and reflect something I genuinely wish to express or share.

There have been times when I haven't posted anything for an entire month, simply because I didn't feel I had something meaningful to say. I don't believe in creating content simply to stay active or keep up with a schedule.

For me, it's important that whatever I put out there has some value, whether it's a beautiful cultural memory, a Kashmiri expression or something people can relate to. I would rather share less and ensure that what I share is genuine and meaningful.

**Your audience includes Kashmiris from different religious communities. Have you been surprised by the way people connect with memories drawn from your own Kashmiri Pandit upbringing?**

I am really glad that people from different communities are able to connect with my content. Most of what I share comes from my personal experiences: the childhood I lived, the home I grew up in, and the environment and culture that shaped me. I think that is why people from different communities can relate to it so deeply.

Although our backgrounds may be different, there are so many things we have shared: the same values, food, surroundings, traditions and everyday experiences. These cultural memories have a way of bringing people together because they give us something to bond over and remind us of what we have in common.

**That brings us to Kashmiriyat, a word that often features in discussions about the valley's shared cultural identity. Can childhood memories, food and ordinary experiences help reconnect communities through that idea?**

I believe they can. People may come from different backgrounds, but they often recognise the same childhood experiences, food preparations, expressions and family traditions.

When someone watches a video and says, "We used to do exactly the same thing", it creates an immediate connection. These shared experiences remind us of our common cultural roots and the many things we have experienced together.

**You receive comments from people saying, "We wish you would all come back home." What goes through your mind when you read those messages?**

Honestly, it melts my heart whenever people leave comments like that. I receive quite a lot of such messages. They make me incredibly happy because they remind me that, despite all the distance, there is still so much warmth and affection.

For me, the story is a little different because I haven't just lived away from the valley. I actually grew up away from it. I was only three years old when my family migrated from Kashmir to Jammu, so I never really experienced growing up in my homeland.

In many ways, I have experienced Kashmir through my parents, their memories, stories, traditions and the way they kept our culture alive at home.

I visited Kashmir for the first time when I was in 11th class. Despite having grown up elsewhere, that sense of belonging has always been part of my identity.

**So much of your connection with Kashmir comes through memories inherited from your parents. Has creating content helped you discover parts of your own cultural identity that you might otherwise have experienced only through family stories?**

I think creating content has certainly helped me connect more deeply with my culture. When you begin sharing something, you also become more conscious of its significance. You learn about different traditions, hear people's experiences and discover how other families practise them.

The response from people also makes you realise how much affection and emotional attachment people have towards these memories. It has been a beautiful way of strengthening my own connection with Kashmir.

**What would you tell teenagers growing up in Germany or elsewhere in Europe who feel increasingly disconnected from their Kashmiri roots? Why should they make an effort to retain that connection?**

It is very important for teenagers to remain connected to their roots, especially when they are growing up in a country where they are not originally from. At some point, questions like "Who am I?" and "Where do I belong?" naturally arise. A strong connection with their roots gives them a sense of identity, belonging and security.

Social media can play an important role in helping them discover and stay connected to their Kashmiri language, culture and traditions, regardless of where in the world they grow up.

**You recently shared a post about your daughter reusing her schoolbooks in Germany. It attracted attention because such practices can look quite different in Jammu and Kashmir, where families often associate expensive school materials with better education. What did you find interesting about the German approach?**

That's a topic in itself, and there is a lot to discuss. The education system in Germany is quite different from that in Kashmir, so I don't think the two can be directly compared.

However, one thing I have particularly noticed is the sense of responsibility among children. Reusing schoolbooks is completely normal here. Children use books that may be several years old, and there is no stigma or showing off attached to it. It teaches them to value resources and understand the importance of reuse from an early age.

Another interesting aspect is that the vast majority of children in Germany attend public schools, as private schools are generally very expensive. This seems to contribute to a culture in which children are less concerned with showing off and develop a stronger sense of responsibility.

**Could this attitude towards education and the use of resources teach something to parents and schools back home?**

I think the biggest lesson is to teach children responsibility from an early age. Reusing books becomes a normal part of their lives, and children learn to appreciate the value of resources. It also creates an environment where using an older schoolbook carries no social stigma.

These are everyday practices that can make a difference in how children think about consumption, education and their responsibilities.

**You have travelled through the Swiss Alps and Austria and have often said Kashmir is naturally more beautiful. That is a strong comparison, particularly when tourism is such an important part of Kashmir's economy. What have these European destinations taught you about developing tourism while protecting the landscape?**

The first thing I would point to is cleanliness. Austria, Switzerland and many other European countries are exceptionally clean, wherever you go. But what really stands out is that cleanliness is not just the government's responsibility. It comes from the people themselves.

You will often see someone walking along, noticing a piece of litter, picking it up and putting it in a dustbin. It is part of their upbringing and civic sense. People genuinely feel that keeping their surroundings clean is their own responsibility. I think this is an attitude we really need to develop back home.

The second important aspect is infrastructure. Tourism is a major part of these countries, and they have developed facilities to support it throughout the year, whether it is skiing in winter or other outdoor activities in summer. The infrastructure is planned to make tourism accessible, comfortable and enjoyable.

**Kashmir has enormous natural advantages, from its mountains and lakes to its meadows and winter landscapes. Does it need a different approach to tourism development, one that gives equal importance to the environment and public infrastructure?**

I think cleanliness and infrastructure are two very important areas where we can learn from these countries. People need to develop a sense of ownership towards their surroundings. The government also has a role in creating proper facilities and planning tourism activities throughout the year.

Kashmir has extraordinary natural beauty. We have the potential to attract visitors for different activities in different seasons. Proper infrastructure can make these experiences more accessible and enjoyable while encouraging people to respect the environment.

**You have experience in traditional newsrooms as well as the digital media space. What would you tell young women journalists in Kashmir who want to build an audience beyond the valley and take their stories to an international readership?**

I would say that a story can reach a global audience when it strikes a chord with people. It is all about creating a connection. When people relate to a story, feel something through it or find something meaningful in it, they naturally want to share it.

It doesn't necessarily have to be an emotional story. It can belong to any genre. What matters is that it resonates with the audience.

My advice would be to focus on telling genuine, engaging stories that people can connect with, because a story that creates a connection has the potential to travel far beyond geographical boundaries.

**After everything you have shared through your videos, what does Kashmir mean to you today? Is it a geographical place, a family inheritance or something you continue to discover through the people who watch your content?**

I think it is all of these things. Kashmir has been part of my identity through my parents, their memories, our language, food and traditions. Living away from the valley has given me a different experience of being Kashmiri, and creating content has helped me connect with people who share that experience.

The affection people express through their comments makes me very happy. It shows that cultural connections can remain strong despite geographical distance.

For me, keeping our traditions alive at home, speaking our language and sharing these memories with the next generation are all ways of staying connected to Kashmir.

*— The author is a senior scribe from Pulwama, and can be reached at cj.saha.18@gmail.com.*

CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

## 2 Missing SPOs

around 20 to 25 rounds was reportedly heard in the Bachnan forest area, falling within the Anderwan Forest Block of Deherna, at around 4:30 pm on Wednesday.

Their mobile phones were initially reachable but were subsequently switched off, prompting security agencies to launch an extensive search operation.

The bodies were eventually located by a search party in the Deherna Top area early Thursday. According to sources, one of the personnel had sustained a bullet injury to the head, while the other had a gunshot wound to the back.

The service weapons of the slain personnel, including an INSAS rifle and a .303 rifle, along with magazines and ammunition, were missing and are suspected to have been taken away by the assailants.

Empty cartridges of Pakistani-origin armour-piercing (AP) steel-core ammunition were also recovered from the scene, officials said.

DGP REACHES KISHTWAR, MASSIVE OPERATION LAUNCHED

Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat reached Kishtwar following the killings and reviewed the security situation with senior Army and police officers.

A massive joint search and cordon operation involving the Army, Jammu and Kashmir Police's Special Operations Group (SOG) and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has been launched to identify and apprehend the suspected attackers.

Additional security personnel have been rushed to the area, with specialised teams deploying drones, sniffer dogs and helicopters to comb the difficult mountainous and forested terrain.

The operation has been intensified across the forest belt of Deherna and adjoining areas of Marwah to track down the assailants and recover the missing service weapons.

"The operation is underway to identify, track and neutralise the assailants," an official said.

The dense forest cover and difficult terrain have added to the challenges facing security forces, who are also trying to establish the sequence of events leading to the killings.

CM OMAR CONDEMNS KILLINGS

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah expressed profound grief and anguish over the killing of the two SPOs and strongly condemned the attack.

The Chief Minister extended his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and prayed for strength and courage to bear the irreparable loss.

The killings come a day after terrorists targeted a CRPF checkpost in south Kashmir's Kulgam district, leaving three security personnel injured, one of them critically.

The twin incidents within 24 hours triggered widespread condemnation from political parties, including the National Conference, BJP, Congress, PDP and CPI(M).

National Conference president Farooq Abdullah strongly condemned the killings, extended his condolences to the bereaved families and expressed solidarity with them in their hour of grief.

He said those harbouring ambitions of taking Kashmir must abandon such notions, asserting that terrorism would never succeed in its designs.

Expressing concern over claims in Delhi that terrorism had ended in Jammu and Kashmir, Abdullah called for concrete measures to address the continuing incidents of violence.

"I have already said such incidents are still happening. One never knows where the next attack might take place," he said.

Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary termed the twin attacks within 24 hours a matter of serious concern, saying they contradicted the BJP government's claims of having made Jammu and Kashmir terrorism-free.

He said statehood had been taken away from Jammu and Kashmir in the name of security and combating terrorism, yet militant attacks continued much as they did when the region was a state.

OLD TERROR-SUPPORTING NETWORK NOT COMPLETELY DISMANTLED: SUNIL SHARMA

BJP leader and Leader of Opposition in the J&K Assembly Sunil Sharma condemned the killing of the two SPOs and called for decisive action against remaining terrorist elements.

He termed the incident extremely unfortunate and said remnants of the terror-supporting ecosystem were still active in the region.

"Peace is gradually being established in Jammu and Kashmir, yet frustrated elements, frustrated terrorists, carry out such acts just to signal their presence," Sharma said.

He alleged that the two SPOs were kidnapped while travelling through a dense forest from Deherna towards Kiyar and maintained that the old terror-supporting network had not been completely dismantled.

Sharma said the remaining elements would be dealt with and called for the complete dismantling of the terrorist ecosystem.

Kishtwar MLA Shagun Parihar also expressed grief over the killings, describing the incident as deeply tragic.

She said the bodies of the two SPOs were recovered at around 8 am and 9 am, respectively, and urged Union Home Minister Amit Shah to ensure that those responsible were brought to justice.

"Pakistan continues to persist with its nefarious conspiracies. We urge the Home Minister to ensure that those responsible for the deaths of these two SPOs are brought to book as soon as possible," she said.

Demanding a strong response, she added, "We want exact price. For these two, we want to take down four."

Former Lok Sabha MP Ruhullah Mehdi condemned the attack on the CRPF in Kulgam and the killing of the two SPOs in Kishtwar, saying violence had never solved anything.

"Devastated by the cowardly terror attacks that took place in Kulgam and the tragic targeted killing of two SPOs in Kishtwar," Mehdi said in a post on X.

He said the incidents would fracture the dignity of the land and its people, adding that Kashmiris, whether in the Valley or outside, could face humiliation and be held collectively responsible for the acts of terrorism.

"These atrocities bring nothing but collective misery and a crisis of peace within the Valley. These cowardly attacks are intentionally planned to fracture our communal harmony, hold back the progress towards peace, and trap innocent families in endless cycles of pain and hardship," he said.

Former Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad also condemned the killing of the two SPOs and the attack on CRPF personnel in Kulgam, describing the acts of terrorism as deeply disturbing.

He urged the government and security agencies to take strong and decisive action against terrorist elements and dismantle networks supporting and facilitating terrorism.

Azad also appealed to people to stand united against terrorism and work collectively towards lasting peace. He extended condolences to the families of the slain SPOs and wished a speedy recovery to the three injured CRPF personnel.

CPI(M) MLA Mohammad Yousuf Tarigami said violence had never yielded positive results and only inflicted pain and suffering on society, adding that there was no justification for taking innocent lives.

PDP senior leader and spokesperson Firdaus Tak questioned the sudden escalation in violence and urged the government to take serious note of the security situation. He also called for adequate support and rehabilitation for the families of the slain personnel and demanded that those involved be brought to justice.

Congress leader Ravinder Sharma said such attacks would not deter security forces from eliminating terrorists.

Meanwhile, right-wing groups, including the Shiv Sena Dogra Front and Bajrang Dal, staged anti-Pakistan protests in Jammu and demanded action against those responsible.

Kishtwar, located around 200 kilometres from Jammu, has remained a focus of counter-insurgency operations, with security forces continuing efforts to track down active terrorists operating in its remote and forested areas.

According to available figures, five people, including four terrorists and one Army soldier, have been killed in terror-related incidents in 2026.

The latest incident comes amid repeated appeals by the district administration and security agencies for greater public cooperation in tackling terrorism.

On October 4, Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pankaj Kumar Sharma had urged residents of the remote Marwah, Warwan and Dachhan areas to share timely information about the movement of suspected terrorists with security forces.

He had said the areas had considerable tourism potential, but the presence of active militants remained one of the key factors restricting tourist movement, stressing that peace and security were essential for promoting tourism and sustainable development.

Pertinently, the incident comes weeks after another SPO, Bashir Ahmed, was found dead near his residence in Wanipora Trigam on October 16. Ahmed, who was posted at Pedil Police Post, had gone missing while returning home from duty with his service-issued rifle and magazine. A subsequent police investigation established that he had been murdered by relatives over an ongoing land dispute.

## Kulgam Attack: Hunt for

The two men disappeared into the forested area after the attack that took place around 2.15 pm near Mir Bazar, about 75 km from Srinagar and just a km from the strategic Jammu-Srinagar National Highway.

Immediately after the attack, security launched a massive cordon and search operation in the area to track down the terrorists.

On Thursday morning, the security forces resumed the searches, the officials said.

They said the forces have erected barricades and deployed armoured vehicles at several places in the district.

Checking and frisking of vehicles is being undertaken at the security check-points as a tight vigil is being maintained.

The security agencies are using human and technical intelligence to aid the operation, the officials added. (PTI)

## KPs' Return

introduced to the Valley's remarkable thinkers and their contributions to philosophy, spirituality, language, aesthetics and human thought.

He called upon universities, teachers and cultural institutions to encourage research, translate important classical texts and provide scholars and students with common platforms.

"Every university, every teacher, and every cultural institution of this land should work on translating important texts, encourage research, and provide scholars and students with a common platform. I believe that heritage must be alive, it must converse, and it must guide our new generation," he said.

The LG said communities derived confidence and self-respect from a deeper understanding of their history and heritage. He underlined the importance of preserving ancient religious sites, manuscripts, museums and cultural institutions to strengthen identity and promote mutual understanding.

Highlighting the ongoing heritage conservation initiatives in Jammu and Kashmir, Sinha said preservation work had been initiated on 106 heritage projects under the first two phases, with more than 40 projects already completed.

Under Phase III, 321 projects had been identified, of which 312 had received administrative approval.

He said nearly 96.8 lakh pages of historical records had been digitised in the Jammu and Srinagar archives, accounting for around 68 per cent of the available documents.

Under Mission Gyan Bharatam, surveys had identified 43,000 manuscripts, while digitisation efforts were progressing.

The LG also referred to ongoing initiatives concerning the Sufiana School in Srinagar, modernisation of Abhinav Theatre and Kala Kendra in Jammu, restoration of Mubarak Mandi and research into recently discovered Kushan-era Buddhist remains in Baramulla district.

Speaking about the Naranag Heritage Complex in Ganderbal, he welcomed the research and documentation initiatives undertaken by Kakini Building Humanity and expressed hope that conservation and restoration work would commence after completion of the necessary procedural requirements.

He also appreciated efforts connected with the Harmukh-Gangbal pilgrimage, describing it as a symbol of the region's enduring cultural and spiritual traditions.

Reaffirming the region's shared cultural legacy, Sinha referred to the spiritual teachings of Yogini Lalleshwari and Nund Rishi, saying their words continued to resonate with people across generations.

"The vaakhs of Yogini Lalleshwari and Nund Rishi still reach people's hearts across centuries, because their words contain eternal truths that are untouched by the passage of time. Preserving this tradition of harmony is our collective public responsibility," he said.

The LG commended the Department of Archives, Archaeology and Museums, scholars, archivists, museum professionals and other stakeholders associated with heritage conservation. He also appreciated former Army officers and civil society organisations for their contribution to cultural preservation and nation-building.

During the seminar, Padma Vibhushan awardee Dr Padma Subrahmanyam, Kuldeep Krishan Sidha, Advocate Raja Ashraf Ali Khan, Swamini Vishwa Nireeshwari Lakshmi Priya Mata, Ramesh Hangloo, Architect Balaji Dhar and Architect Shravanthi were felicitated for their contributions to culture and heritage.

## LG Announces Rs 38 Lakh

Rs 1 lakh each for affected shopkeepers through the Red Cross. Immediate financial assistance amounting to Rs 11 lakh has been provided to affected traders at Warehouse, while Rs 27 lakh has been provided to shopkeepers at Shiv Market.

Acknowledging that the assistance was limited compared to the losses suffered by the traders, the LG said he had approached the Red Cross in his capacity as its President to arrange immediate support.

"I have no relief funds at my disposal, but as the President of the Red Cross Society, I requested them to provide some assistance through the Red Cross. They have arranged cheques of Rs 1 lakh each, which is the maximum support they can offer as per the rule," he said.

"I understand that this amount is very small compared to the losses you have endured, but I hope it provides at least some help during this difficult time," he added.

Sinha said the Divisional Commissioner Jammu and Deputy Commissioner Jammu were making every effort to ensure that insurance claims of the affected traders were settled at the earliest.

He directed officials to expedite the damage assessment process and ensure that relief measures were extended promptly to all those affected.

The LG also stressed the need to review and strengthen fire safety protocols across major commercial hubs to prevent such incidents in the future.

"The entire UT administration stands with you. I assure the business community of all possible support from the Administration to help you rebuild your business at the earliest," he said.

Meanwhile, the Lieutenant Governor said an inquiry committee had already been constituted to ascertain the cause and circumstances of the fire incident at Warehouse, Nehru Market.

The committee comprises the Inspector General of Police, Jammu, and the Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, and has been directed to investigate any lapses or negligence, fix responsibility and submit its report within 15 days.

Sinha said the inquiry would be completely impartial and accountability would be fixed. He made it clear that strict action would follow if any negligence was established.

The visit comes amid concerns over the losses suffered by traders in the fire incidents, with the administration being directed to ensure timely assistance and examine measures to strengthen fire safety arrangements in commercial areas.

The Lieutenant Governor was accompanied by Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat, Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor Govind Jaiswal, Divisional Commissioner Jammu Vikas Kundal, DIG JSK Range Shridhar Patil, Deputy Commissioner Jammu Minga Sherpa, Municipal Commissioner Jammu Aayushi Sudan, Vice Chairman Jammu Development Authority Vidhu Shekhar and other senior officials.

## Major Reshuffle: NHM Employees

who had expressed willingness to hold discussions with them on the condition that they first withdraw their agitation.

"We honoured the Chief Minister's appeal and called off our strike in the hope that our concerns would be addressed through dialogue. We now expect the same commitment from the government and request the Chief Minister to personally intervene and provide an opportunity for meaningful discussions," the association said.

Reiterating its demands, JKNHMEAK spokesperson Rouf Ahmad called for a comprehensive salary revision, a dignified job policy, implementation of equal pay for equal work, social security coverage, retirement benefits and resolution of other long-pending service-related issues.

The association maintained that the demands required policy-level decisions to ensure job security, financial stability and dignity for thousands of NHM employees working across Jammu and Kashmir.

It also said the recently sanctioned five per cent annual increment for eligible contractual NHM employees could not be treated as fulfilment of the commitments made by the government.

The employees, it said, were expecting a comprehensive package addressing their service conditions and longstanding financial concerns rather than routine annual increments.

"NHM employees have demonstrated considerable patience and restraint. However, they cannot be expected to wait indefinitely. The commitments made on September 18 must now translate into concrete government orders instead of remaining confined to assurances," the association's leadership said.

It warned that failure to address the demands within a reasonable timeframe could compel employees to resume their agitation.

"We do not want confrontation with the government, but our legitimate demands cannot be ignored any longer. If the issues remain unresolved, the association will have no option but to return to the streets to seek justice for its members," it said.

The association urged the Chief Minister and Health Minister Sakina Itoo to take immediate cognisance of the matter and ensure time-bound implementation of the commitments.

Highlighting the role of NHM employees in healthcare delivery, the association said its workforce had been providing services in urban as well as remote and underserved areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

It maintained that employees serving under contractual arrangements deserved a clear service policy, financial security and recognition of their contribution.

## Fresh Snowfall,

Drass, Machil Valley and Jumagund in Kupwara district, received fresh snowfall.

The plains of Dawar in Gurez Valley also witnessed the season's first snowfall, officials said.

Razdan Pass in Bandipora district recorded around six inches of fresh snow, while approximately two inches accumulated at Peer Ki Gali along the Mughal Road in Shopian district.

Following the snowfall and slippery road conditions, vehicular movement on the Bandipora-Gurez Road, Mughal Road and Srinagar-Sonamarg-Gumri Road, which connects Kashmir with Ladakh through Zojila Pass, was suspended.

The Border Roads Organisation's 56 RCC has launched snow-clearance operations at Razdan Pass to restore connectivity along the strategic Bandipora-Gurez road.

Meanwhile, the plains of Kashmir, including Srinagar and parts of north and central Kashmir, received rainfall, bringing down daytime temperatures and intensifying the chill.

The wet weather also triggered a landslide along the Uri-Baramulla National Highway at Rajanwani in north Kashmir, disrupting vehicular movement and leaving commuters stranded.

Officials said debris and boulders accumulated on the road following the landslide, bringing traffic to a halt. Road clearance operations were initiated to restore movement.

According to the Meteorological Department, an active Western Disturbance is affecting Jammu and Kashmir on November 12 and 13, bringing light to moderate rainfall in the plains and moderate to heavy snowfall in higher reaches.

Director Meteorological Centre Srinagar Mukhtar Ahmad said several mountainous areas were likely to receive significant snowfall under the influence of the weather system.

The higher reaches of Kupwara, Bandipora and Ganderbal districts are likely to witness moderate to heavy snowfall, while mountainous areas of south Kashmir, the Pir Panjal range and Chenab Valley may also receive fresh snow.

Popular tourist destinations, including Gulmarg, Sonamarg, Pahalgam and Doodhpathri, are also likely to experience snowfall.

In the Jammu region, Poonch and adjoining areas may receive moderate to heavy rainfall, while other parts are expected to witness light to moderate precipitation. Thunderstorms, hailstorms and gusty winds are also likely at isolated places.

The MeT department has forecast a fall of 6-8 degrees Celsius in daytime temperatures across Jammu and Kashmir during November 12 and 13.

A brief spell of light rain and snowfall at a few places is expected on November 14 and 15, while generally dry weather is likely from November 16 to 20.

The anticipated snowfall could affect traffic movement on several high-altitude roads and mountain passes, including Zojila, Razdan Pass, Sadhna Pass, Sinthan Top, Margan Top and Peer Ki Gali on the Mughal Road.

Authorities have advised commuters and travellers to avoid travelling on affected roads until further notice and follow official traffic advisories. Travellers, transporters and tourists have also been advised to plan their journeys in view of the possibility of disruptions on mountain passes and hilly roads.

Farmers have been advised to safely store harvested crops during November 12 and 13 to prevent possible damage from rainfall.

Meanwhile, the Mechanical and Hospital Engineering Department (MHED), Division Anantnag, conducted mock drills of snow-clearance machinery across Tehsil Kokernag to assess operational preparedness ahead of the forecast wet spell.

SRINAGAR RECORDS 17.3°C

Meanwhile, according to the latest weather data issued by the Meteorological Centre Srinagar on Thursday, Srinagar recorded a maximum temperature of 17.3°C and a minimum of 5.6°C.

Qazigund recorded a maximum of 16.7°C and a minimum of 5.8°C, while Pahalgam recorded a maximum of 14.5°C and a minimum of 2.7°C.

Kupwara recorded a maximum temperature of 17.3°C and a minimum of 3.7°C, while Kokernag recorded 15°C and 6.4°C, respectively.

Gulmarg recorded a maximum temperature of 9.9°C, while the minimum settled at minus 0.6°C, making it the coldest among the weather stations in the Kashmir division.

Among other automatic weather stations, Bandipora recorded a maximum of 19.9°C and a minimum of 6.1°C, Baramulla 18.1°C and 6.4°C, Shopian 16.8°C and 2.2°C, while Sonamarg recorded 11.9°C and 2.6°C, respectively.

The maximum rainfall recorded was 7.5 mm at the AWS Gulmarg station, according to the weather bulletin.

In the Jammu division, Jammu city recorded a maximum temperature of 27.6°C and a minimum of 15.3°C.

The MeT department has advised people, particularly those travelling through higher reaches and mountain passes, to remain cautious and follow weather and traffic advisories in view of the prevailing conditions.

## Rising Food Prices

egg tray has reached Rs 230 in local markets, adding to the mounting pressure on household budgets. Milk prices have also been revised, while consumers continue to face high prices of vegetables and fruits, making routine grocery shopping an increasingly expensive exercise.

For salaried employees, daily wagers, pensioners and families dependent on limited incomes, the situation is particularly difficult. While household incomes remain largely unchanged, the cost of maintaining a kitchen continues to climb, leaving little room for savings or other essential expenses.

Apart from rising prices, consumers have expressed concern over what they describe as the absence of effective market regulation, questioning whether authorities are adequately monitoring prices and taking action against traders found overcharging customers.

"What has particularly angered consumers is the apparent absence of effective market regulation," a consumer told the news agency Kashmir News Trust.

Questions are being raised over who monitors the prices being charged by traders, whether regular market inspections are being conducted and what action is taken against those found charging beyond prescribed rates.

Consumers said there appeared to be no effective mechanism to ensure that prices remain reasonable or that traders adhere to prescribed rates. In the absence of visible and consistent enforcement, market conditions are increasingly being perceived as arbitrary, leaving ordinary buyers to bear the consequences.

The concern, they said, is not merely about the increase in the price of one or two commodities. Rather, it is the cumulative burden of rising prices across almost every essential food category that is putting household finances under strain.

People have also questioned the role of the concerned departments and market regulatory authorities, asking why consumers are repeatedly expected to absorb price increases without any visible intervention to protect their interests.

"The administration needs to move beyond routine assurances and undertake regular market inspections, verify prevailing rates, check for unjustified profiteering and ensure that consumers are not exploited," consumers said.

They maintained that access to affordable food is a basic necessity and not a luxury, urging the administration to take immediate steps to protect households from the burden of unchecked price increases.

"When milk, eggs, vegetables and fruits become increasingly difficult for ordinary families to afford, the issue goes beyond market fluctuations and becomes a matter of public concern demanding immediate attention," they added. [KNT]

## Exams Must Be

discussed vulnerabilities associated with centralised examination systems and the need to strengthen safeguards against paper leaks and other malpractices.

It also deliberated on the use of emerging technologies, including Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain, to improve examination security, transparency and accountability.

The Task Force reviewed the arrangements made for NEET-UG 2026 in Jammu and Kashmir, including question paper custody, strong room security, police escort and CCTV surveillance.

The discussions also covered the functioning of national-level examinations conducted by the National Testing Agency, including NEET-UG, JEE Main, CUET-UG and UGC-NET, besides examinations conducted by the Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission, Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board and universities.

The Chief Minister stressed the importance of institutional accountability, inclusivity and student well-being while undertaking reforms in the examination system.

The meeting was attended by Education Minister Sakina Itoo, MLA Shamim Firdous, Acting Chief Secretary Shailendra Kumar, Dheeraj Gupta, members of the Task Force Tapan Kumar Deka and Prof V Kamakoti, and the Director of the National Recruitment Agency, among others.

# CM Omar Seeks Permanent Halt For Vande Bharat At Anantnag Railway Station

**Press Trust Of India**

**JAMMU:** Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has written to Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, requesting that the experimental halt of the Vande Bharat Express at Anantnag Railway Station be made permanent.

In a November 2 letter, Abdullah appreciated the Centre's initiatives to strengthen railway connectivity in the Union Territory, particularly the introduction of the Vande Bharat Express service between Jammu and Srinagar.

The chief minister said people of Jammu and Kashmir have welcomed the experimental halt at Anantnag Railway Station.

Highlighting Anantnag's importance as a major commercial and transportation hub in South Kashmir, he said a permanent halt at the station would benefit many passengers from several adjoining districts, improve access to railway services, and promote trade, tourism, and economic activity across the region.

The chief minister urged the Union Railway Minister to intervene personally and make the experimental halt permanent, hoping the request would receive favourable consideration.



KO FILE PHOTO ABID BHAT

# Kashmir Will Always Remain India's Integral Part: Dr Farooq Reminds Pak

**Agencies**

**JAMMU:** Reminding Pakistan that Kashmir was, is and will always remain India's integral part, National Conference president Dr Farooq Abdullah on Thursday told the neighbouring country that nothing can be achieved through terrorism.

Talking to reporters here, Dr Farooq said, "I have always told Pakistan to put an end to terrorism. Nothing will come out of terrorism. Find a solution through talks. That is the only way a solution can be found."

"Kashmir was, is and will always remain a part of India," he said, asserting that



violence could not resolve the issues between the two countries.

He said nothing could be achieved through violence and called for reviving South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) to bring regional countries together for resolving their differences. "Regional countries must come together, resolve their differences and work towards progress. We have to revive that SAARC again. We must all sit together, resolve our issues and move towards progress," he said.

"Every day Pakistan is shouting Kashmir, Kashmir, Kashmir. They don't know that what has happened has happened. But the issues will not be solved by violence," Dr Farooq added.

Referring to the violence which Jammu and Kashmir witnessed, Dr Farooq said people should not forget the painful history of the region.

He also referred to international conflicts, including those involving Iran, the United States and Ukraine, to underline the destruction caused by wars and the need to resolve disputes through dialogue—(KNO)

# Altaf Bukhari Urges Centre To Grant Amnesty To Those Involved In Anti-National Activities

**Press Trust Of India**

**SRINAGAR:** Apni Party chief Altaf Bukhari on Thursday appealed to the Centre to grant a general amnesty to those involved in anti-national activities after getting influenced by circumstances in 1990.

Bukhari, a former minister, said he firmly believes that the people of Jammu and Kashmir have moved on and chosen the path of peace and normalcy.

"I earnestly appeal to the Government of India to consider granting a general amnesty to all those who, under the circumstances prevailing in the 1990s, were influenced by and became involved in anti-national activities," Bukhari told reporters here.

"Many of those who were once associated with anti-national narratives have since joined the mainstream. Even the children and grandchildren of some leaders who were at the forefront of those developments are now participating in mainstream politics," he said.

He said that the people have realised that lasting peace is the only way to secure a better and brighter future.

"This change in people's thinking must be reciprocated by the Government of India. It is time to extend the hand of reconciliation and ensure that the benefits of peace, stability and normalcy reach everyone, including those who may have taken the wrong path in the past," he added.



Referring to the incidents in Kulgam and Kishtwar, the Apni Party president said it must also be realised that J-K is a border region, where occasional incidents may occur.

"We cannot afford to wait for the last gun to fall silent before taking steps towards reconciliation and lasting peace. Our approach must be forward-looking and inclusive, taking everyone along in this journey.

"We must continue to strengthen peace and stability, create opportunities for reconciliation, and work collectively towards our ultimate goal of lasting peace, stability and normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

# Gulmarg Hosts 'Winter Caddy Golf Tournament'

**Agencies**

**SRINAGAR:** In an effort to promote participation of grassroot players in golf, the Directorate of Tourism Kashmir organised the 'Winter Caddy Golf Tournament 2026' here in North Kashmir on Thursday.

According to the details, MLA Gulmarg Farooq Ahmad Shah, who as the Chief Guest on the occasion, inaugurated the tournament with a ceremonial tee-off. MLA Pattan Javed Reyaz Bedar and Director Tourism Kashmir Syed Qamar Sajjad were present as Guests of Honour.

An official said that the tournament was organised to recognise the contribution of golf caddies, who play an important role in supporting golf tourism in Gulmarg, while providing them an opportunity to showcase their golfing skills. Winners were given awards and cash prizes.

A key highlight was the Junior Golf Initiative, under which local students aged 12 to 18 participated in golf activities. Junior golf kits were also provided to encourage young participants to take up the sport.

The Director Tourism said regular golf learning sessions would be organised every weekend to help children develop their skills.

A separate competition was also held for junior participants, with winners receiving awards.

The department also distributed paper bags as part of a cleanliness initiative to promote environmentally responsible practices and keep Gulmarg clean.

The initiative aims to promote golf among local communities, encourage youth participation and strengthen Gulmarg's position as a destination for sports tourism and sustainable tourism practices—(KNO)

# Indoor Smoke Can Worsen Lung Conditions, Health Expert Warns

**Agencies**




**SRINAGAR:** With the onset of winter, respiratory infections and pneumonia cases are expected to increase across Kashmir, with health experts urging people, particularly vulnerable groups, to take precautionary measures to minimise the risk of seasonal illnesses.

Dr Syed Mudasir Qadri, Professor of Internal and Pulmonary Medicine at SKIMS Soura, said that, as in other regions experiencing harsh winters, Kashmir also witnesses an increase in respiratory infections and pneumonia during the colder months.

Dr Qadri said people at the extremes of age, particularly children below five years and elderly persons above 65 years, are more vulnerable to respiratory infections and pneumonia.

He said patients suffering from chronic lung diseases and those with compromised immunity, including cancer patients, transplant recipients and people taking systemic steroids or other immunosuppressive medications, are also at increased risk of developing serious complications.

"During the winter season, we do see an increase in the inflow of patients with respiratory ailments in hospitals. However, the healthcare system tries its best to prepare for such eventualities well in advance," he said.

Highlighting another major concern, Dr Qadri said indoor air pollution remains a significant contributor to respiratory complications, particularly among people living in rural and tribal areas where traditional heating arrangements are still widely used. (KNO)

# Tribal Heritage At Risk Of Disappearing Without Scientific Documentation: Javaid Rahi

**Observer News Service**

**JAMMU:** Noted tribal researcher and scholar Dr Javaid Rahi has warned that the rich intangible cultural heritage of tribal communities is facing the threat of extinction unless it is systematically documented, preserved and passed on to future generations.

He was speaking at a special programme organised by the



Government College of Education, Jammu, in connection with National Tribal Pride Day (Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas), as part of the ongoing Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwada being observed from November 1 to 15.

Highlighting the cultural diversity of tribal communities, Dr Rahi said Jammu and Kashmir was home to 16 Scheduled Tribe communities speaking eight distinct tribal languages, each with its own cultural identity, traditions and indigenous knowledge systems.

Presenting his scholarly paper, he said tribal heritage comprised a vast repository of indigenous knowledge, oral traditions, folklore, folk music, dances, customary practices, traditional healing systems, craftsmanship and ecological wisdom.

He cautioned that globalisation, rapid modernisation, changing lifestyles and the growing influence of artificial intelligence and social media were posing unprecedented challenges to the survival of traditional knowledge and cultural practices.

# Man killed As Vehicle Plunges Into Gorge

**KUPWARA:** A man was killed and two others sustained injuries after a Mahindra Xylo vehicle skidded off the road and plunged down a slope in the Dub area of Sadhna Top in Kupwara district on Wednesday evening, officials said.

An official said that the vehicle, while travelling through the Sadhna Top area of Kupwara, skidded off the road and plunged down a slope, leaving three persons injured.

He said the injured were shifted to Kralpora Hospital for treatment, where one of them succumbed to his injuries, while the remaining two are undergoing treatment.

The deceased was identified as Mumtaz Ahmed, a resident Karnah. The injured include the driver, Danish Ahmed, while the identity of the other injured person is yet to be ascertained.

Cognisance of the incident has been taken and further investigation has been initiated—(KNO)

# VDG Member Found Dead In Ramban

**RAMBAN:** A 57-year-old Village Defence Group (VDG) member was found dead under mysterious circumstances in the Dhandrath area of Ramban district on Thursday, officials said.

An official said that the body was found lying at Laggalli in Dhandrath, following which a police team rushed to the spot and took it into custody.

He was shifted to hospital, where doctors declared him brought dead. The deceased was identified as Sukhdev Singh, son of Mehant Singh, a resident of Dugga Dhandrath in Ramban.

Meanwhile, police have initiated inquest proceedings to ascertain the cause of death—(KNO)

# Man Injured In Leopard Attack In Handwara



**HANDWARA:** A man was injured and three sheep killed after a leopard attacked a flock in the Budnambal area of Kralpora in north Kashmir's Kupwara district on Thursday, officials said.

An official said that the man was grazing his sheep near a forest area when a leopard suddenly attacked him and the flock.

He said the man sustained injuries, while three sheep were killed in the attack. The injured man was identified as Nazir Ahmad Khan, son of Mohd Aalam Khan, a resident of Budnambal. He was shifted to Sub-District Hospital (SDH) Kralpora, from where he was referred to Government Medical College (GMC) Handwara for specialised treatment.

Meanwhile, authorities have taken cognizance of the incident and initiated an investigation—(KNO)

# Teen Killed After Vehicle Rams Scooty In Nagrota

**JAMMU:** A 17-year-old boy was killed after the scooty he was riding was hit by another vehicle in the Nagrota area of Jammu district late Wednesday night, officials said.

An official said that the teenager was injured after the scooty he was travelling on was hit by another vehicle in Nagrota, Jammu.

He was shifted to Government Medical College (GMC), Jammu, where doctors declared him brought dead. The deceased was later identified as Nihal (17), a resident of Nagrota.

Meanwhile, an investigation has been initiated into the incident, while the body will be handed over to the family after medico-legal formalities—(KNO)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

**DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION**

**OFFICE OF THE, WILDLIFE WARDEN, WETLANDS DIVISION, KASHMIR. ZAINAKOOT, SRINAGAR.**

**SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDERS**

**E-NIT No. 06 OF 2026-27 Dated: 07/11/2026**

(Please read the tender document carefully before submission of bid)

For and on behalf of the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, UT of Jammu & Kashmir, e-tenders are hereby invited on percentage basis (in two cover system) from approved and eligible contractors registered with CPWD / PWD / MES / Forest / Wildlife Department / Central / State / UT Governments for execution of below work/s.

| S No | Name of Work | Tentative Adv. Cost in lacs. | Cost of T/Doc. (Rs.) | Earnest Money / EMD | Time of completion | Class of Contractor |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Habitat Management at Hygam (Development of Eco Park and Dockyard) (The work shall be completed in phased manner within in two financial years) | 64.86 | Rs 1000/- online submission. Wildlife Protection Department | 2 % of advertised cost, online submission. Wildlife Protection Department | 180 days | AAY |
| Note | The allotment of the work shall be made by the competent authority | | | | | |

Position of AA: Accorded.
Position of TS: Accorded.
Position of Funds: Partly Available.
Major Head of Account: CAMPA.

1. Schedule of Dates

| No | Event | Date / Time |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Date of Publishing of Tender Notice | 07/11/2026 |
| 2 | Period of Downloading of Bidding Documents (online) | 11/11/2026 from 06:00 PM to 23/11/2026 upto 06:00 PM |
| 3 | Bid Submission – Start Date | 11/11/2026 from 06:00 PM |
| 4 | Bid Submission – End Date | 23/11/2026 upto 06:00 PM |
| 5 | Opening of Technical Bids (Online) | 24/11/2026 at 03:00 PM (Office of the Regional Wildlife Warden, Rajbagh, Srinagar) |
| 6. | Opening of Financial Bids (Online) | To be notified after technical bid evaluation (Office of the Regional Wildlife Warden, Rajbagh, Srinagar) |
| 7 | Clarifications / Q&A | 02:00 PM – 04:00 PM on any day between Issue-Date and Closing-Date |
| 8 | Submission of Hard-Copy Documents by Lowest-First (L1) Bidder | Within 3 working days of Financial-Bid opening |

All dates are subject to change by notice on the e-tender portal.

2. Tender & Bidding Documents

- e-NIT (qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of Quantities, Terms & Conditions, annexures) – download from http://jktenders.gov.in.
- Complete Bidding Package (drawings, detailed specifications, BOQ, etc.) – download from https://jktenders.gov.in as per the schedule above.

Any violation of these conditions shall result in immediate stoppage of work, imposition of penalties as per rules, termination of contract, blacklisting of the contractor, and forfeiture of EMD and Performance Security.

No. WLW(WL)/Acctts/2026-27/231-33
Date: 07/11/2026
DIPK-7615-26
DT: 12/11/2026

Sd/-
Wildlife Warden
Wetland Division, Kashmir,
Srinagar

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

**JAMMU AND KASHMIR SERVICES SELECTION BOARD**

Muthi, Akhnoor Road, Jammu/ZamZam Complex, Rambagh, Srinagar | (www.jkssb.nic.in)

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**Subject: Edit Option for Online Application forms for the UT/Divisional/District Cadre posts in various Department(s), advertised vide Notification No. 08 of 2026 dated: 04.08.2026.**

The J&K Services Selection Board (JKSSB) has advertised posts in various Department(s) issued vide Notification No. 08 of 2026 dated 04.08.2026 under Item Nos. 104 to 181 with the date for submission of Online Application forms w.e.f. 10.09.2026 to 09.10.2026, which was later on extended upto 24.09.2026; vide Notice No. JKSSB-PLAN/6/2025-03 (E-7661495) dated 09.10.2026.

The J&K Services Selection Board (JKSSB) has received various representations from the applicants for providing Edit option, and as such, it is hereby notified for the information of all such candidates who have applied for the posts in various Department(s) advertised vide Advertisement Notification No. 08 of 2026 dated 04.08.2026, under Item Nos. 104 to 181 that the "EDIT OPTION" for modifying the permitted fields/particulars, shall remain operational for five days w.e.f. 16.11.2026 (12:00 AM) to 20.11.2026 (11:59 PM). However, the particulars/fields w.r.t Name of the candidate, Date of Birth, Category, Items Applied, Phone number and Email ID shall remain Non-Editable.

No. JKSSB-PLAN/6/2025-03 (E-7661495)
Dated: 11-11-2026

DIPK-7623-26
DT: 12/11/2026

(Khurshid Ahmad Sanai) JKAS
Secretary
J&K Services Selection Board

# Iran Mulls NPT Exit, Nuclear Doctrine Overhaul

**Trans Asia News**

**TEHRAN —** Iran's powerful Assembly of Experts has called for a review of the country's defence doctrine and consideration of withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), signalling a potentially significant escalation in Tehran's confrontation with the United States and its Western allies.

In a statement issued on Thursday, the Assembly described examining withdrawal from the international nuclear pact as an "inevitable necessity" in the face of continued threats against Iran, particularly those targeting its nuclear infrastructure.

The statement reflects growing pressure within Iran's political establishment to reconsider the country's long-standing commitment to the NPT, which Tehran has increasingly portrayed as offering inadequate protection against military threats and external aggression.

"Therefore, examining the issue of withdrawal from the NPT, reviewing the country's defence doctrine and establishing the necessary deterrence have become an inevitable necessity and a public and national demand," the Assembly said, urging officials to address the issue under the guidance of the country's Leader.

**A consequential nuclear shift**

Any move by Iran to withdraw from the NPT would carry consequences well beyond its immediate confrontation with Washington and Israel.

The treaty, which entered into force in 1970, forms the cornerstone of the global nuclear non-proliferation system. It seeks to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons, promote peaceful nuclear cooperation and advance nuclear disarmament.

Iran is a signatory to the treaty and has maintained that its nuclear programme is intended for peaceful purposes. Its membership also provides the framework for international monitoring and safeguards inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Withdrawal would potentially remove a major layer of



international oversight and intensify concerns about the future direction of Iran's nuclear programme.

Under Article X of the NPT, a member state may withdraw if it decides that extraordinary events related to the treaty have jeopardised its supreme interests. It must provide three months' notice to all other parties and the United Nations Security Council, explaining the extraordinary events it regards as having jeopardised its interests.

A withdrawal announcement, however, would not automatically establish that Iran was developing nuclear weapons. Nor would it eliminate all legal and political questions surrounding its nuclear activities and existing safeguards obligations.

Nevertheless, such a move could further undermine international confidence, complicate diplomatic efforts and increase the risk of another military confrontation.

The Assembly's intervention comes amid mounting hostility between Tehran and Washington, with Iranian officials arguing that international institutions have failed to protect the country's sovereignty and nuclear infrastructure from threats.

**Warning against concessions to Washington**

Alongside its call for a reassessment of nuclear policy, the Assembly cautioned the Iranian leadership against making concessions to the United States in the hope of securing an end to hostilities.

It cited the Leader's warning that those believing concessions could persuade Washington to abandon its hostility towards Iran were "seriously mistaken".

The statement further warned that surrendering to an adversary would squander the sacrifices made by the Iranian people and encourage further demands and aggression.

The Assembly called on government officials, the armed forces and the public to remain united in defending Iran's rights and national interests.

It also warned that Iran's adversaries were increasingly relying on economic warfare to weaken the country, citing attempts to impose air and land blockades and disrupt its economic lifelines.

To counter these pressures, the Assembly proposed establishing a wartime economic headquarters involving different branches of government and operating under the supreme oversight of the Leader's office.

**'No geographical limits' to retaliation**

The statement also carried a direct military warning, saying any renewed attack on Iran would trigger an immediate and effective response.

"If the unsuccessful enemies seek to test their ill-fated fortunes once again and launch another attack, they will certainly face an immediate and effective response from our heroic forces, without geographical limitations," it said.

Tehran also urged the Foreign Ministry to pursue what it described as dignified diplomacy, while firmly communicating Iran's position to the international community, particularly neighbouring countries.

The Assembly maintained that regional security could only be guaranteed by countries in West Asia and called for the withdrawal of foreign military forces, which it described as a major source of insecurity.

# Firing Near White House, 5 Injured

**AP**



**WASHINGTON:** Five people were shot Thursday in a trendy Washington, DC, neighbourhood within walking distance of the White House, police said, and the suspected gunman shot himself as a swarm of officers responded to a nearby apartment building.

One victim died in the shooting, said Jeffrey Carroll, interim chief with the Metropolitan Police Department.

Carroll said the suspect shot himself while barricaded inside an apartment. He added that the man apparently had a dispute with the building's homeowners association.

The shootings were reported in Logan Circle, about a mile north of the White House. Much of the block on 15th Street was cordoned off as police urged people to avoid the area, which includes a VIDA fitness centre, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, residences and a Whole Foods supermarket. Schools were on lockdown.

Law enforcement SWAT teams and other officers had their guns drawn on the roof of an apartment building or on the ground below.

Authorities believe the suspect shot at least one person inside the gym before going outside and firing again, according to a law enforcement official who was not authorised to publicly discuss the investigation and spoke to The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity.

Law enforcement agents believe the suspect shot another person in a parking garage elevator and then barricaded himself on the seventh floor of the building, the official said.

Witness James Spellman, who was at the gym, said there were about 50 people there around 8 am when the shooting began.

"Within seconds there was a man who fell to the ground, and a pool of blood came out," he said. "One gym member rushed to help him. He was instantly dead. He had been shot in the neck."

Spellman said he and others dashed out of the gym. He said he heard about two shots fired in the gym and about five or six fired outside.

Another witness, Ryan Dubicki, said he was in his nearby apartment around the same time when he "heard about five bangs."

"They were really spread out so I thought it was construction," he said. A short time later "there were cops everywhere."

# Russians Visit Kabul to Discuss Business with Taliban

**AP**



**KABUL:** A Russian delegation headed by Deputy Prime Minister Alexei Overchuk arrived in Kabul Thursday for trade and investment talks with Afghanistan's Taliban government, Afghan officials said.

Russia officially recognised the Taliban government in July 2025. It remains the only country to have done so since the former insurgent group seized power in Afghanistan in August 2021 in the wake of the withdrawal of US-led troops.

Largely isolated from the international community and with a struggling economy, Kabul has been keen to increase foreign investment and open new trade avenues.

Overchuk was met with an honor guard in Kabul before heading into meetings with Afghan Prime Minister Mohammad Hasan Akhund and Abdul Ghani Baradar, the deputy prime minister for economic affairs.

In posts on its official X social media account, the Afghan government said Baradar stressed Afghanistan's potential for economic development and investment, highlighting "its strategic location, rich resources and a large workforce of 24 million people of working age".

During the meeting, Baradar invited Russian companies to invest in Afghanistan in sectors including mineral extraction, the development of factories, infrastructure and special economic zones.

He also said there was scope to expand exports of Afghan agricultural products to Russia, and for Russian investment in Afghanistan's agriculture and livestock farming, the government posted.

Russia's Interfax news agency quoted Overchuk as saying that Russia intends to develop trade ties with Afghanistan.

"Today our delegation includes more than 70 businessmen representing dozens of Russian companies, many of which already work in Afghanistan, (while) many want to begin working," Interfax quoted him as saying. "For our part, first of all, we see the task in creating conditions for contacts between business communities to develop normally."

Overchuk said companies represented in the delegation are involved in transportation, logistics, agriculture, and pharmaceuticals. He said Kabul is interested in Russian fertilisers, including in "building fertiliser production plants directly in Afghanistan".

