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Home Secy Reviews J&K Security, Counter-Terror Ops

Focus on foreign terrorists, infiltration & OGW networks

Top Army, police and intelligence officials attend meeting in Jammu



Observer News Service

Srinagar - With the focus of counter-terrorism operations shifting towards tracking down foreign terrorists operating in Jammu and Kashmir, Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan on Thursday chaired a high-level security review meeting at Police Headquarters in Jammu to assess the prevailing situation and measures to dismantle remaining terror networks in the Union Territory.

The meeting was attended by Director of the Intelligence Bureau (IB) Mahesh Dixit, Northern Army Commander Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma, Chinar Corps Commander Lieutenant General Balbir Singh, IGP Kashmir Sujit Kumar, IGP Jammu Tejinder Singh and CRPF Director General G P Singh, besides chiefs of other Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), senior officials of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs and representatives of various security and intelligence agencies.

The meeting focused on the presence of foreign terrorists in mountainous and forested areas, infiltration attempts from across the borders, intelligence coordination and measures to prevent local youth from joining militant groups.

The review assumes significance as security agencies intensify operations against foreign terrorists following the killing of Lashkar-e-Taiba operative Mohammad Lateef Bhat in an encounter in Kulgam earlier this month. Bhat was the last identified active local terrorist in the Kashmir Valley, according to security sources.

A major focus of the deliberations was the presence of foreign terrorists suspected to be operating in the upper reaches and forest areas, particularly in the Jammu region.

A source | More on P2

PM: J&K's 2019 Changes Corrected Historical Injustice

KO Web Desk



Srinagar: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said the continued existence of Article 370 and Article 35A had deprived several communities in Jammu and Kashmir of certain constitutional rights, asserting that the changes made in 2019 had corrected a "historical injustice".

In an opinion article marking Constitution Day, Modi said the provisions had prevented the full implementation of the Constitution in Jammu and Kashmir for decades.

The Prime Minister said Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and women had been deprived of certain rights due to the constitutional provisions.

He described the 2019 changes as part of the NDA government's efforts to strengthen constitutional values and advance social and economic justice.

Modi also criticised the Congress, accusing it of undermining constitutional principles during its decades in power. He alleged that the party had increasingly shifted from being a "Virodh Paksh" (opposition) to an "Avrodh Paksh" (obstructionist).

He said a constitutional democracy assigned an important responsibility to the Opposition, but disrupting democratic proceedings could not substitute for fulfilling that role.

The article was published on November 26, observed as Constitution Day to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution by the Constituent Assembly in 1949.

Paying tribute to Dr Rajendra Prasad, Dr B R Ambedkar and other members of the Constituent Assembly, the Prime Minister said the Constitution had provided people from modest backgrounds an opportunity to aspire to positions of responsibility.

Describing the Constitution as an inseparable part of his own journey, Modi said it | More on P2

J&K Braces For Two WDs Between Dec 4 & 10

Srinagar Records Season's Lowest at -1.9°C

Observer News Service

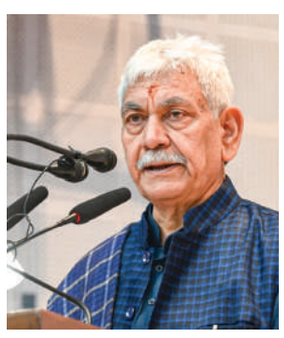
Srinagar: Two successive Western Disturbances are likely to affect Jammu and Kashmir between December 4 and 10, potentially bringing rain and snowfall to parts of the region and bringing an end to the prolonged dry spell.

According to the latest indications from various weather models, the first weather system is expected to influence Jammu and Kashmir between December 4 and 6, while a second, potentially stronger Western Disturbance may affect the region from December 7 to 10.

Meanwhile, cold and dry weather conditions are likely to continue across Kashmir until December 3, | More on P2

Justice, Equality Must Drive India's Growth: LG

Observer News Service



Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday called upon citizens to uphold constitutional values and make the principles of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity the guiding force in building a developed, inclusive and progressive India.

Addressing the UT-level Constitution Day celebration in Jammu, the Lieutenant Governor said the occasion provided an opportunity to reconnect with the ideals that define the Republic and renew the commitment to the principles enshrined in the Constitution.

Recalling the adoption of the Constitution by the Constituent Assembly on November 26, 1949, Sinha described it as a historic milestone that provided constitutional | More on P2

LG Urges Students To Look Beyond Academic Scores

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday urged students to look beyond academic scores and focus on building character, compassion and wisdom, saying marks alone cannot determine success in life. Addressing the Amar Ujala Medhavi Chhatra Samman Samaroh in Jammu, where he felicitated meritorious students, Sinha said the country's future lay in its youth | More on P2

Support Pours In for Sheshnag Lake Petitioner's Stand

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Support is growing for the businesswoman who started an online petition against construction near Sheshnag lake along the Amarnath Yatra route after police allegedly summoned her family members.

Zarqua Banday earlier claimed that cyber police asked her to remove the online petition.

"Is it legal to drag my family into this matter? Please take a moment and read the content, and show me where did I exactly challenge the government, or break any laws?" Banday wrote on LinkedIn.

In a post on Wednesday, Banday said that the Cyber Police asked her to remove the online petition, calling it illegal.

Outrage was sparked when a video recently showed an excavator at work near the high-altitude Sheshnag Lake, a high-risk glacial lake in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Political parties, religious leaders, and environmentalists have demanded an immediate halt to the activity along the Amarnath cave route.

The Border Roads Organisation | More on P2

Ex-Terrorist Held After Evading Arrest For 25 Yrs

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir Police have arrested a former terrorist who had been evading arrest for more than two decades in 13 criminal cases, including the killing of a Special Police Officer (SPO), officials said on Thursday.

The accused, identified as Mohd Mansha, a resident of Thuroo Lassoli in Reasi district, was arrested by a special team of Reasi Police from Tral in Awantipora district with the assistance of local police, they said.

According to officials, Mansha was wanted in a case registered at Mahore police station in 2000 under various sections of the Ranbir Penal Code (RPC) and the Arms Act. An SPO was killed in the incident.

Following the investigation, a chargesheet was filed against him before the competent court, after which he was declared an absconder.

The Court of | More on P2

HC Seeks Updated Compliance On Flood-control Measures

Seeks Utilisation Certificates For Rs 41,323 Lakh Released For Flood-Management Works

M Ahmad



Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has sought updated instructions from the authorities regarding implementation of its May 29 directions concerning flood management, removal of encroachments and protection of water bodies across Kashmir Valley.

A Division Bench of Chief Justice Dr Pushpendra Singh Bhati and Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal passed the directions while considering a long-pending Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed by Environmental Policy Group.

The court directed the authorities to "update their instructions" regarding compliance with the order dated May 29, 2024. The matter has been listed for further consideration on December 23, 2026.

In its May 29, 2024 order, the High Court had issued a series of directions to the authorities, taking note of the need to prevent a recurrence of the devastating September 2014 floods and ensure the protection and restoration of the River Jhelum and other water bodies.

The Court had directed the authorities to file a detailed affidavit explaining the steps taken in compliance with its earlier orders.

The Government was also directed to furnish utilisation certificates for Rs 41,323.17 lakh released by the Union Government for various flood-management projects undertaken in the Union Territory.

The Bench had further sought an updated compliance report regarding the prohibition on construction near water bodies and details, in tabulated form, of encroachments removed along the River Jhelum.

Additionally, | More on P2

Are They Journalists Or Reel-Makers?

SC Flags Question Of Media Protection

Press Trust Of India



New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Thursday said it will consider who qualifies to be a journalist and whether accredited media persons should enjoy greater protection than self-proclaimed reporters while covering protests.

A bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana observed that journalistic freedom has to be balanced with the administration of public order and law.

The top court relegated to the high-powered committee headed by former top court judge R Subhash Reddy to examine pleas over the alleged detention of seven journalists, assault, and obstruction of journalists covering protests in Delhi on 10 and 11 October 2026.

It asked the petitioners to submit material before the five-member committee.

"You will go back to the committee which we have constituted to factually demonstrate whether your petitioners were, in fact, present there. If present, whether they were subjected to excessive force.

"Whether they were subjected to force and, if subjected, whether such force was excessive in relation to the proportion necessary for maintenance of public order," Justice Bagchi observed.

Self-proclaimed journalists may not have the same protection as accredited journalists, | More on P2

FAA EXAM ROW

JKSSB Tightens Security For Upcoming Tests

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Amid mounting criticism over alleged cheating in the recently held Finance Accounts Assistant (FAA) examination, the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) has announced a series of additional security measures for upcoming examinations to prevent the use of unfair means.

The move comes amid demands by several political leaders for the cancellation of upcoming JKSSB examinations, citing concerns over the credibility and fairness of the recruitment process following the alleged malpractice in the FAA examination. The Jammu and Kashmir Police have arrested 20 people in connection with the cheating case.

In a fresh set of instructions issued by the Board's Controller of Examinations, JKSSB said the measures | More on P2



Poor Diabetes Control May Complicate Cancer Surgery, Delay Recovery, Say Experts

Press Trust Of India



Uncontrolled diabetes can significantly raise the risk of post-operative infections and slow wound healing in cancer patients, experts have warned, stressing the need for blood sugar management before treatment for safer recovery.

For cancer patients with diabetes, surgery requires additional clinical care as poorly controlled glucose levels can trigger complications and prolong hospital stays, experts noted.

"Persistently high blood sugar levels can affect blood circulation, weaken the body's ability to fight infections and slow down tissue repair. Following cancer surgery, these factors may increase the chances of wound-related complications, including infection, delayed closure of surgical wounds and, in some cases, the need for additional medical intervention," Dr Amit Chakraborty, head and neck cancer surgeon at SSO Hospital Mumbai, told PTI.

Patients are advised to undergo blood glucose testing, including HbA1c assessment, to understand how well their diabetes is controlled, he said.

"Good glucose management before and after surgery can help reduce complications and support recovery. However, cancer treatment should not be unnecessarily delayed while attempting to achieve perfect blood sugar levels; decisions must be individualised by the treating team," he noted.

Dr Bhavik Saglani, endocrinologist at Apollo Spectra Mumbai, said that patients should never stop or change their diabetes medication or insulin dosage on their own before surgery.

"The treating team will provide instructions regarding medication adjustments, fasting, and blood sugar monitoring around the time of the procedure. Watch for warning signs after surgery, including increasing redness, swelling, unusual discharge, fever, worsening pain, or a wound that does not heal. Reporting these symptoms early can help prevent minor complications from becoming serious," he said.

He stressed that careful preparation, open communication with doctors, and regular blood sugar monitoring can make a meaningful difference to surgical safety and recovery.

Cancer treatment can be physically demanding, mainly for patients who also have diabetes, said Dr Deep Vora, consultant medical oncologist and haemato-oncologist at Zynova Shalby Hospital Mumbai.

"Patients should keep their blood sugar levels under control and follow medical advice given by the doctor throughout the treatment journey. Know that managing diabetes is not separate from cancer care. It is also an essential part of preparing the body for surgery and supporting a smoother recovery," he added.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as KUSAR MAJEED While as my actual name is KOUNSAR MAJEED C/O AB MAJEED MALIK R/O AUDOORA KUPWARA District KUPWARA 193302 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.

KOUNSAR MAJEED
C/O :- AB MAJEED MALIK
R/O :- AUDOORA , KUPWARA
fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as NASIR BASHIR While as my actual name is NASIR AHMAD DOOM C/O BASHIR AHMAD DOOM R/O WILGAM AUDOORA 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.

NASIR AHMAD DOOM
C/O :- BASHIR AHMAD DOOM
R/O :- WILGAM , KUPWARA
fko

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Necessary Correction/change in address in data to the License No.JK-0420100010250
issued in favour of FEROZ AHMED PARRAY Parentage GH MOHI UD DIN PARRAY
Whereas an application has been recieved by one FEROZ AHMED PARRAY Parentage GH MOHI UD DIN PARRAY wherein he claimed that the Name has been wrongly recorded in the records of Driving Licenses as FEROZ AHMAD PARRAY Parentage GH MOHIUDDIN Which needs to be changed as FEROZ AHMED PARRAY Parentage GH MOHI UD DIN PARRAY. Also the address recorded in lisence is 4-5 GOVT HOUSING COLONY BAGH I MEHTAB SRINAGAR Which needs to be changed as 9 DOONI WARI CHADOORA BUDGAM.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any in this regard shal reach in written in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office Budgam within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper.After expiry of stipulated time no objection will be entertained.

Assistant Regional Transport officer
mcb Budgam Kashmir

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Abdul Majid Bhat, S/o haji Ali bhat, R/o Wahadatpora, Tehsil and District Budgam, Jammu & Kashmir, hereby notify the general public that the name of my son has been wrongly recorded in his Date of Birth Certificate issued by the Municipal Council Budgam.The name of my son has been mentioned as "Mehran Abbas", whereas his correct and actual name is "Mehran Abbas Bhat".I have applied for the addition of my surname "Bhat" in my son's Date of Birth Certificate so that his name may be corrected and recorded as "Mehran Abbas Bhat" instead of "Mehran Abbas" in the official records of the Municipal Council Budgam.Any person having any objection regarding the aforesaid correction may submit the same before the concerned authority within 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which, no objection shall be entertained thereafter.
Deponent / Parent: Abdul Majid Bhat
R/o Wahadatpora, BudgamTehsil & District Budgam, J&K
mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to change the name on electricity bill bearing consumer ID No: 0217020013121 From MOHD SHAFI GANIE to Aamir Shafi Ganie . If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the Pdd office sub division shopian within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Aamir Shafi Ganie
S/O Mohd Shafi Ganie
R/o Molu Shopian
fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified to the general public that my son, namely Taha Hussnain, S/o Khalid Mudasir, R/o Rambagh Payeen, Srinagar, has appeared & passed in the Middle Standard (Class 7th) Annual Regular Examination, 2026, under Roll No. 374, through Iqbal Memorial Institute, Iqbalabad, Sirsyedabad, Bemina, Srinagar.
It is submitted that an error has inadvertently occurred in the recording of my name in the school records & Municipality issued DOB of my son, wherein my name has been recorded as Khalid Mudasir Dar instead of the correct name, Khalid Mudasir.
I have accordingly applied to the concerned institutions for rectification of the aforesaid error in their records. Any person having any objection to the proposed correction may submit the same before the concerned authorities within seven (07) days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained after the expiry of the stipulated period.
This notice is hereby published for the information of the general public and for inviting objections, if any.
The correct particulars are as under:
Name of Father: Khalid Mudasir
Residence: Rambagh Payeen, Srinagar
Mobile No.: 7006779186
fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name & DOB has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as ATHER FAROOQ DOB :-11-06-2013 While as my actual name is ATHAR FAROOQ DOB 06-04-2014 C/O FAROOQ AHMAD AKHOON R/O GUSHI 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.
ATHAR FAROOQ
C/O :- FAROOQ AHMAD AKHOON
R/O :- GUSHI , KUPWARA
fko

IN THE COURT OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS AT PAMPORE

Case No. --/2026
Date of Institution:

In the case of
Mohammad Murtaza Dar
S/o: Parvaiz Ahmad Dar R/o: Kultreh Chadoora Budgam Through his father
(Applicant)

VERSUS

Registrar Birth && Deaths
Executive Officer Municipal Committee Pampore
(Non Applicant)

In the matter of:
Application for Registration of Date of Birth of applicant's son namely Mohammad Murtaza Dar S/o: Parvaiz Ahmad Dar R/o: Kultreh Chadoora Budgam, and issuing the certificate thereof under Section 13 of the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969.

CORAM: Mahjabeen Akhter JO CODE: JK00280

NOTICE FOR GENERAL PUBLIC

Whereas, the above titled petition has been filed by the applicant in this Court seeking direction to the non-applicant for Registration of Date of Birth. Whereas through the medium of this notice, the public at large is informed that in case, anyone has any objection in issuance of direction with respect to the Registration of Date of Birth of Applicant's granddaughter Mohammad Murtaza Dar S/o: Parvaiz Ahmad Dar R/o: Kultreh Chadoora Budgam (who has been born on 11-01-2021 at Kongposh Hospital cum Nursing Home, Pampore) to the non-applicant he/she/they shall file the same before this Court in person or through counsel within 07 (Seven) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which no objection will be entertained and matter will be taken up for disposal in according with law.
Given under my hand and Seal of the Court today on 26/1/126.
No.
Dated: 26/11/2026

(Mahjabeen Akhter)
U.I.D No. JK00280
FKO Munsiff/JMIC Pampore

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice It is informed to general public that in my aadhar card bearing aadhaar number 486914252782 my name was wrongly entered as Kawsara Parveen instead of Kousar Jan now it needs to be corrected so in this regard have any body any objection he or she may file his or her objection at concerned office within a period of one week from the date of publication of this notice after due date no objection will or shall be accepted or entertained.
Name:Kousar Jan.W/O:John Mohammad Mir.
R/O:Khonmoh .Tehsil:Panthachowk.District :Srinagar FKO

The Jammu And Kashmir Board Of School Education

New Campus Bemina Srinagar



I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class- 10th, 11th, 12th)under Roll No:. 112005025 Session: Annual Year 2024 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. The error has been committed by the self error against my mother's name as Zareena Begum instead of Zarina Begum
Now, I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. New Campus Bernina. Srinagar, if any person has any objection in this regard, may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Certificates-KD within seven days from the date of Publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period no objection will be entertained.
Name: Irfan Ahmad Shah
Father's name: Shams-ud-din Shah
Mother's Name: Zarina Begum
DOB: 25-09-2008
Residence: Khandiyal Gurez Bandipora
Mobile no: 9419988293
fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as FAISAL AHMAD DAR While as my actual name is FASIL AMIN DAR C/O MUHAMMAD AMIN DAR R/O CHERAKOOT 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.
FASIL AMIN DAR
C/O :-MUHAMMAD AMIN DAR
R/O :- CHERAKOOT,KUPWARA fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Shakeela Hasaan W/o Gh Hassan Baba R/o Rangpora, Buchpora, Srinagar, PIN Code: 190006, hereby inform the general public that my name has been wrongly recorded as Shakeela Banoo in the records of J&K Bank, Naallamar Branch, Account No. 0217040100025587, whereas my correct name is Shakeela Hasaan.
I have applied for the necessary correction of my name in the bank records. Any person having any objection in this regard may submit the same to the concerned Branch Manager, J&K Bank, Naallamar, within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained thereafter.
MDL

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as FIZATUL AKHTER While as my actual name is FAIZA JAN C/O AKHTER HUSSAIN WANI R/O DARZIPORA 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.
FAIZA JAN
C/O :-AKHTER HUSSAIN WANI
R/O :- DARZIPORA ,KUPWARA fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Mohammad Farooq Bhat S/o Nizam Ud Din Bhat R/o Kaloosa, Bandipora, Kashmir, UT of Jammu & Kashmir, hereby inform the general public that I have changed my name from Mohmad Farooq Butt to Mohammad Farooq Bhat. Henceforth, I shall be known as Mohammad Farooq Bhat for all purposes.
The change of name has been published in local English and Urdu newspapers. I have applied to the concerned Passport Authorities for necessary correction of my name in my passport and passport records as per my supporting documents.
Any person or authority having any objection in this regard may raise the same before the concerned authorities.
iko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as AAINA GAFFAR While as my actual name is AAYEENA GAFFAR C/O ABDUL GAFFAR HAJAM R/O ZACHALDARA KUPWARA District KUPWARA 193221 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.
AAYEENA GAFFAR
C/O :-ABDUL GAFFAR HAJAM
R/O :- ZACHALDARA KUPWARA fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as DILSHADA BANO While as my actual name is GULSHADA BANO C/O GH HAYDER KHAN R/O AWOORA 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.
GULSHADA BANO
C/O :-GH HAYDER KHAN
R/O :- AWOORA KUPWARA fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

My particulars have been wrongly written as Tasaduq Ahmad Bhat, S/o: Bashir Ahmad Bhat, R/o; Check No 1 Chadoora Dangerpora, Budgam in my Jammu and Kashmir Bank account instead of Tasaduq Bashir, S/o: Haji Bashir Ahmad Bhat, R/o: Check No 1 (Badri Nath), Chatar Gam, Budgam.
Now I want to change my particulars in my bank account from Tasaduq Ahmad Bhat, S/o: Bashir Ahmad Bhat, R/o; Check No 1 Chadoora Dangerpora, Budgam to Tasaduq Bashir, S/o: Haji Bashir Ahmad Bhat, R/o: Check No 1 (Badri Nath), Chatar Gam, Budgam.
Anybody having any objection in this regard may contact the concerned authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice, after which no objection shall be entertained.
Tasaduq Bashir
S/o: Haji Bashir Ahmad Bhat
R/o: Check No 1 (Badri Nath), Chatar Gam, Budgam. hko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that in Adhar card bearing No 2475 3707 9438 the name is entered as Syed Insha Geelani while my actual name is Nisha Jan. 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.
Nisha Jan W/O Syed Sajad Hussain Geelani
R/o Peerbagh Hyderpora Srinagar mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that in Adhar card bearing No 9205 4350 8417 the name is entered as Sajad Hussain Geelani while my actual name is Syed Sajad Hussain Geelani. 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.
Syed Sajad Hussain Geelani
S/O Syed Noor Uddin mcb
R/o Peerbagh Hyderpora Srinagar.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as SHAHID AHMAD LONE While as my actual name is MANAN AHMAD LONE C/O FAROOQ AHMAD LONE R/O KHUSHIPORA BARAMULLA District BARAMULLA 193301 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.

MANAN AHMAD LONE
C/O :-FAROOQ AHMAD LONE
R/O :- KHUSHIPORA, BARAMULLA fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Zeeshan Muzaffar Khan, S/o Muzaffar Ahmad Khan, R/o Ussan Bangil, Tehsil Kawarhama, District Baramulla, hereby inform the general public that my name and Date of Birth have been wrongly mentioned in my Aadhaar Card. My name is recorded as Zeeshan Ahmad Khan instead of my correct name Zeeshan Muzaffar Khan, and my Date of Birth is recorded as 13/04/2004 instead of my correct Date of Birth 28/09/2008, as per my School Records.
Therefore, I intend to update/correct my name and Date of Birth in my Aadhaar Card as per my School Records. Any person having any objection in this regard may submit the same before the concerned authority.
Deponent:
Zeeshan Muzaffar Khan
S/o Muzaffar Ahmad Khan fko
R/o Ussan Bangil, Tehsil Kawarhama, District Baramulla.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as SANIA BANO While as my actual name is SANIYA FAROOQ C/O FAROOQ AHMAD WANI R/O 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.

SANIYA FAROOQ
C/O :- FAROOQ AHMAD WANI
R/O :- HAYIHAMA, KUPWARA fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as KULSUMA AKHTER While as my actual name is KULSOOMA BANO C/O MUZAFFAR AHMAD TANTRAY R/O BOHIPORA 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.
KULSOOMA BANO
C/O :- MUZAFFAR AHMAD TANTRAY
R/O :- BOHIPORA , KUPWARA fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my aadhar as HAROON ASHRAF TANTRAY While as my actual name is MOHAMMAD AMAAN TANTRY C/O MOHD ASHRAF TANTRAY R/O KRUSAN LOLAB KUPWARA District KUPWARA 193223 Now I want to apply for the correction of the same if anybody is having any objection he/she may contact concerned authority within the period of seven days after that no objection will be entertained.

MOHAMMAD AMAAN TANTRY
C/O :- MOHD ASHRAF TANTRAY
R/O :- KRUSAN LOLAB , KUPWARA fko

Cultural Academy Hosts Literary Interaction With Dr Nazir Azad

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL) on Thursday organised an interactive literary programme featuring noted writer, poet and critic Dr Nazir Azad under its ongoing 'Meet the Eminent Writer' series at Tagore Hall, Srinagar.

The programme was presided over by Padma Shri Prof. Shafi Shauq, while noted poet Rafiq Raaz attended as the chief guest and Prof. Shafiqa Parveen as the guest of honour.

Scholars and writers highlighted Dr Azad's contributions to poetry, research, translation and literary criticism. Papers examining different aspects of his literary journey were presented by Dr Rakesh Kumar Talib and Abdul Ghani Kumar.

Two recently published books by Dr Azad, Sha'r, Sharut te La-Sha'oor and Kashmir Mein Ma'aasir Urdu Adab: Ikhtiyar-o-Inhiraf, were released on the occasion. A special issue of weekly newspaper Shehrbeen, dedicated to the writer, was also unveiled.

During an interactive session, Dr Azad shared experiences from his personal, academic and literary journey and responded to questions from participants. He was also felicitated for his contributions to literature.

The programme was attended by a large gathering of prominent writers, poets, researchers and intellectuals from across Kashmir.

Indoor Stadium At Lasjan To Be Ready By Next Year: MLA Ahsan Pardesi

Agencies

Srinagar: MLA Lal Chowk Ahsan Pardesi on Thursday said several initiatives have been undertaken to promote sports in his constituency, including the construction of an indoor stadium at Lasjan in Srinagar, which is expected to be completed next year.

Speaking to reporters, Pardesi, according to KNO, said work on the stadium has already begun and expressed hope that the facility would be ready by next year.

"The most important initiative we have taken is at Lasjan, where a major indoor stadium is being constructed. The work has started and, God willing, it will be ready by next year," he said.

Pardesi said efforts are also underway to create more opportunities for sports activities across the constituency, stressing the importance of youth participation in sports for their overall well-being.

"We have taken several initiatives to promote sports and create platforms for young people to participate. It is important for our youth to engage in sports activities, which are beneficial for their mental health," he said—(KNO)

Srinagar Police Marks Constitution Day

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Reaffirming their commitment to constitutional values and the rule of law, Srinagar Police on Thursday observed Constitution Day across all its police establishments, with officers and officials reading the Preamble to the Constitution of India.

The main function was held at the District Police Office (DPO), Srinagar, where SSP Srinagar Dr G.V. Sundeep Chakravarthy, IPS, led officers and officials in reading the Preamble, a police spokesperson said in a statement. The event was attended by SP Headquarters, DySP Headquarters, ADO and other officers and officials of District Police Srinagar.

The spokesperson said that police personnel reaffirmed their commitment to the constitutional ideals of Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity and pledged to discharge their duties with integrity, impartiality and dedication within the constitutional framework.

> **Police Personnel** reaffirmed their commitment to the constitutional ideals of Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity and pledged to discharge their duties with integrity, impartiality and dedication within the constitutional framework

The Preamble reading also highlighted the importance of the constitutional principles of a Sovereign, Socialist, Secular and Democratic Republic, while underlining the responsibility of public institutions to protect citizens' rights, ensure justice and uphold the rule of law.

Similar observances were held at all zonal offices, police stations and police posts across Srinagar, where officers and officials participated in reading the Preamble.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement system

Sr. Divisional Material Manager, NRly., Store Branch DRM Office, Firozpur for and on behalf of President of India, invited tenders through e-procurement system for the supply of the following items:-

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Description	Quantity	Due Date
1.	94265633	1.5 Ton Capacity 5 star Rated unitary Window AC	176 Nos	21/12/2026 11:00 AM

NOTE-Above tenders with detailed description are uploaded on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in. The firm, who desires to participate against e-tenders, is advised to electronically register themselves on the above website for which they would require to have a class III digital certificate form certifying Agencies authorized under IT Act 2000 by Govt. of India. Manual offers against e-tenders will not be accepted.

Tender Notice No. 13/2026-27 Date: 25.11.2026 4104/2026

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

PUBLIC NOTICE

I ,IMTIYAZ AHMAD GANAIE , hereby declare that my name appearing in my Driving Licence as DR. IMTIYAZ AHMAD GANIE may be corrected and read as IMTIYAZ AHMAD GANAIE as per my Aadhar card.

I hereby confirm that both names refer to one and the same person. Henceforth, my correct name shall be IMTIYAZ AHMAD GANAIE for all official and legal purposes.

Any person having an objection may raise the same before the competent authority within the prescribed period.

JLNM Hospital Gets 10-Bed Advanced NICU At Rs 1.20 Crore

New facility equipped with ventilators, CPAP machines to strengthen critical care for newborns and reduce referrals

Observer News Service



SRINAGAR: In a major boost to neonatal healthcare services in Srinagar, a newly constructed 10-bed Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at JLNM Hospital, Rainawari, was inspected by Deputy Commissioner Srinagar Akshay Labroo on Thursday.

Established by the District Administration at a cost of Rs 1.20 crore through convergence of district-level funds, the additional facility is equipped with two high-end mechanical ventilators, three Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) machines and other advanced medical equipment to provide specialised care to critically ill newborns.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner reviewed the infrastructure, medical equipment and operational preparedness of the facility. He also assessed the arrangements made for ensuring its effective functioning and delivery of specialised neonatal healthcare services.

Labroo said the new facility would significantly enhance JLNM Hospital's capacity to provide critical care to newborns, ensuring timely access to advanced treatment and reducing the need to refer critically ill infants to other healthcare institutions.

He added that the facility would cater not only to patients from Srinagar district but also to newborns referred from different parts of the Kashmir Division, improving access to specialised neonatal services.

The DC stressed upon the medical and paramedical staff, particularly the Paediatric Department, to ensure optimal utilisation of the facility and maintain high standards of patient care. He also called for proper maintenance of medical equipment and effective coordination among departments to ensure timely treatment.

The District Administration has also established an additional NICU block at LD Hospital through convergence of funds, which has already become functional.

Additional Deputy Commissioners Mir Imtiyaz-ul-Aziz and Aadil Fareed, Chief Planning Officer Fayaz Ahmad Dar, SDM West Seerat Baji, IAS Probationer Aakash Garg, Superintending Engineer R&B Shabir Ahmad, SDM East Zubair Ahmad, Assistant Commissioner Revenue Umar Gulzar, Executive Engineer R&B Arif Hazari, Medical Superintendent JLNM Hospital Dr Tariq, Deputy Medical Superintendent Dr Aasifa, Tehsildar Khanyar Syed Shahid and other senior officers of the District Administration and Health Department were present.

Fire at Batamaloo Workshop Brought Under Control

Agencies

Srinagar: A fire broke out at a mechanical workshop near the Old Bus Stand in Batamaloo, Srinagar, on Thursday afternoon, prompting an immediate firefighting operation by the Fire and Emergency Services.

According to an official press note, the State Fire Control Room, Batamaloo, received a fire call at around 1:15 pm, following which Fire Headquarters Batamaloo immediately mobilised a firefighting team to the spot.

On reaching the location, firefighters found the workshop engulfed in flames. The presence of highly combustible materials, including oil, motor oil and other flammable substances, posed a significant challenge to the firefighting operation.KNT

Admin Extends Financial Support To TB Patients

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo, who is also the Chairman, District Red Cross Society today handed over a cheque amounting to Rs 2.50 lakh to District Tuberculosis Officer, for extending additional nutritional support to Tuberculosis (TB) patients under the Pradhan Mantri TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan initiative.

The cheque was handed over in the presence of Additional Deputy Commissioner, Aadil Fareed, SDM West, Seerat Baji, IAS Probationer Aakash Garg, District Tuberculosis Officer, Dr Rouf and other concerned.

On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said that the amount of financial assistance is aimed to strengthen nutritional support for TB patients during their treatment and is in addition to the monthly financial assistance of Rs 1,000 provided to eligible TB patients by the Central TB Division, under the Nikshay Poshan Yojana - DBT.

The DC further stated that this additional nutritional assistance will play a significant role in improving patients' nutritional well-being, promoting treatment adherence and enhancing treatment success rates, thereby strengthening TB care services across District Srinagar.

District Tuberculosis Officer, expressed his gratitude to the District Administration Srinagar, for their continued support towards TB elimination efforts.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

DIRECTORATE OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE, KASHMIR LALMANDI, SRINAGAR

CORRIGENDUM

In continuation of this Directorate's Auction Notice No. Agri/Acctts/2026-27/3401-07 dated 18.11.2026, regarding the public auction of 72 Willow Trees comprising Green Standing and Deteriorated at Ghat Gopallen Beat, Sultanpura, Circle Nowgam, it is hereby notified for the information of all concerned that the auction, which was scheduled to be held on 25.11.2026 at 02:00 PM, has been postponed and shall now be conducted on 30.11.2026 at 02:00 PM at the Directorate of Agriculture, Kashmir, Lalmandi, Srinagar.

Accordingly, the last date for registration of interested bidders shall be 28.11.2026. Interested bidders are advised to complete the registration formalities within the stipulated date.

All other terms and conditions of the original Auction Notice shall remain unchanged.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Sd/-
Accounts Officer
(Member Secretary, A.C)
Directorate of Agriculture Kashmir

DIPK-7969/26
dated: 26-11-2026

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, IRRIGATION & FLOOD CONTROL DIVISION HANDWARA

RAJWAR ROAD, HANDWARA – 193221

EMAIL: exenifcdhandwara@ifckashmir.com

Subject: - Corrigendum (Extension of Dates)

Due to Nil response for the work published under Tender Id 2026_IFC_331024_1 in respect of e-Nit No. 17/IFCDH of 2026-27 Dated:-12/11/2026 issued under endorsement No. I&FCDH/Camp/4637-46 Dated: 12/11/2026, the dates are hereby extended as below:

Tender Submission date ends	Date of opening
02/12/2026 (1400 Hours)	02/12/2026 (1600 Hours)

All others terms and conditions shall remain same as laid down in original e-NIT.

No: - IFCD/HND/4974-83

DIPK-7958/26 Dated: 26/11/2026.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Irrigation & F C Division
Handwara.

- 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

16 Jumada al-Sani
1448

PRAYERS

FAJR	5: 45
ZUHR	12:16
ASR	3: 46
Magrib	5: 26
ISHA	6: 50

This Day In History

- 1868- Battle at Washita River, Oklahoma. General George A. Custer attacks group of Native American Indians, their chief Black Kettle dies in the attack
- 1885- 1st photograph of a meteor taken by Austro-Hungarian photographer Ladislaus Weinek in Prague, Austrian-Hungarian Empire
- 1895- Swedish chemist Alfred Nobel's will establishes the Nobel Prize
- 1901- Prince Ito of Japan comes to St Petersburg hoping to get the Russians to grant Japan concessions in Korea, but later drops this goal and decides to make an alliance with Britain
- 1912 - Spanish protectorate in Morocco forms
- 1914 - 1st British woman elected political agent (Grantham, Linconshire)
- 1919 - Peace of Neuilly-sur-Seine: Allies & Bulgaria
- 1941 - British 13th Army Corps reaches Tobruk
- 1942 - Tito appoints Anti-fascist Liberation board in Yugoslavia
- 1951 - Cease-fire & demarcation zone accord signed in Panmunjon, Korea
- 1971 - Soviet Mars 2 becomes 1st spacecraft to crash land on Mars
- 1973 - US Senate votes 92-3 to confirm Gerald Ford as Vice President
- 1973 - US President Richard Nixon signs the Emergency Petroleum Allocation Act, authorizing petroleum price, production, allocation and marketing controls
- 1979 - 1st day-night one-day cricket international, Australia v WI at SCG
- 1980 - Soyuz T-3 carries 3 cosmonauts to Salyut 6 space station, launched
- 1982 - Yasuhiro Nakasone elected Prime Minister of Japan succeeding Zenko Suzuki
- 1982 - Davis Cup, Grenoble, France: US takes unassailable, 3-0 lead over France as John
- 1983 - Colombian jetliner Boeing 747 crashes in Madrid killing 181
- 1985 - Republic of Ireland gains consultative role in Northern Ireland
- 1989 - Colombian jetliner bombed killing 107
- 1991 - Undertaker beats Hulk Hogan to become new WWF champ
- 1993 - India defeat West Indies in Bengal Jubilee Cricket Final, Kumble 6-12
- 1994 - Julio Maria Sanguinetti elected president of Uruguay
- 1999 - New Zealand's Labour Party defeats the National-led government after 9 years in power, Helen Clark becomes the first elected female Prime Minister in New Zealand's history
- 2001 - A hydrogen atmosphere is discovered on the extrasolar planet Osiris by the Hubble Space Telescope, the first atmosphere detected on an extrasolar planet.
- 2004 - New Zealand's All Blacks thump Six Nations Rugby Union Champions France 45-6 in Paris
- 2005 - First partial human face transplant is completed for Isabelle Dinoire in Amiens, France.
- 2005 - President El Hadj Omar Bongo Ondimba of Gabon, in power since 1967 and the longest-serving head of state in the world, is re-elected to his third consecutive seven-year term
- 2006 - The Canadian House of Commons endorses Prime Minister Stephen Harper's motion to declare Québécois a nation within a unified Canada.
- 2011 - Roger Federer claims a record 6th ATP World Tour Finals tennis title with a 6–3, 6–7, 6–3 win over Frenchman Jo-Wilfried Tsonga in the final in London, England
- 2012 - 29 people are killed and 126 are wounded by 8 car bombings across Iraq
- 2013 - Greece becomes the first developed market to be demoted into an emerging market by the MSCI index
- 2014 - Cricketer Phillip Hughes dies two days after being struck on the head by a bouncer
- 2017 - Pope Francis begins a three-day trip to Myanmar, amid the Rohingya refugee crisis
- 2017 - Freight trains kills more than 100 reindeer over three days in Norway
- 2018 - US accuses Nicaragua's Vice-President Rosario Murillo, wife of President Daniel Ortega of human rights abuses and imposes sanctions

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

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KO VIEW

Kashmir's Ecological Breakdown

Amid growing concern over the condition of alpine lakes and the misuse of wetlands, public attention has turned to other forms of environmental damage, including the repeated burning of Chinars and the pollution of natural water bodies.

The Jhelum has now entered this debate, raising serious questions about how Kashmir treats its natural resources.

Former Union minister Professor Saifuddin Soz has urged the Jammu and Kashmir government and civil society to act against the continuous pollution of the Jhelum.

The erstwhile central water minister pointed to the dumping of dirt and filth directly into the river at several places along its banks. His concern goes beyond the failure of government agencies. It also raises questions about public behaviour and the growing acceptance of environmental damage as part of everyday life.

The Jhelum is the valley's lifeline and a precious part of its heritage. Allowing sewage, household waste and untreated discharge to enter the river is a failure of civic administration.

But it also shows how people have come to treat a shared natural resource as a convenient place to dispose of waste. The damage cannot be blamed on government alone when citizens continue practices that pollute the water on which the entire valley depends.

The administration must answer for poor sewage management, weak enforcement and years of neglect. It must also act against the encroachment of riverbanks and reckless construction. But citizens have an equal responsibility.

The same people who raise their voices against the alpine lake controversy must also question the routine dumping of waste into rivers and water bodies. Environmental protection cannot depend on public outrage over selected incidents.

The problem becomes more serious as climate change puts additional pressure on Kashmir's water sources.

With traditional sources facing growing pressure, protecting the Jhelum and other freshwater bodies should be a priority. The valley cannot keep expanding its settlements and demand for drinking water while allowing its largest river to become a drain.

The government needs a sustained plan to clean the Jhelum. Direct sewage outlets must be identified and stopped, wastewater must be treated before entering the river, and pollution levels must be monitored and made public.

The Ganga clean-up effort shows the kind of public campaign Kashmir needs, bringing government agencies and local communities together to save the river.

Soz's suggestion to republish Kashmiri poet Muzaffar Azim's poem on the Jhelum also points to the river's place in Kashmir's cultural heritage.

That heritage needs protection through action, rather than merely words.

The Inheritance We Are Destroying

As Chinars burn, wetlands vanish and mountains are carved open, a generation fears that the valley's natural beauty and shared memories may disappear with them.



Hamna Munir

> **A child born** in Srinagar this year will learn the valley by its gaps: a stretch of road with open sky where a Chinar stood, a lake with a track cut to its shore. That child will take the gaps for the way things always were, which is how a loss completes itself.

Centuries-old Chinars have been burning in the middle of Srinagar, on MA Road and in Gaw Kadal, trees under which our grandparents once sat.

At the same time, forest fires have torn through Boniyaar and left blackened ash where canopy stood, and the roar of excavators has broken into the stillness of alpine lakes such as Sheshnag.

Any one of these events would once have been called an unforgivable betrayal of the land. Today, they pass as another day in Kashmir, and the ease with which the valley absorbs them has become the deepest injury of all.

That ease belongs to people who did not grow up beside these places.

Our children remember these trees from childhood. A Chinar is part of the landscape they grow up with, as common as the doorway of their home. When it burns, they lose a part of the place where their memories began.

Kashmiris share the pull of this land beyond all their ordinary worries, and they know its beauty the way a person knows a relative, by being known in return.

Being known by a place and then watching it get dug up produces a grief with nowhere to go.

Some of that grief has found a cause, because the damage reaches well past memory.

Wetlands that once let the valley breathe have been paved over. Mountains carved open for roads and building slide down onto the roofs of the people living beneath them, and when the rivers swell and the weather turns, officials and public alike speak with surprise, as though the reason were unknown.

It had always stood there on the hillside, well before the flood reached the street.

Much of that carving was planned somewhere else. Offices far from the valley draw lines on maps and send heavy concrete projects into a Himalayan landscape never built to bear that weight.

Concrete creeps into the meadows of Gulmarg and Sonamarg, while the orchards and karewas feel the same pressure in a slower form.

Such plans treat a living homeland as an empty plot waiting to be fixed, and the word fixed does a great deal of work there, because it assumes the valley was broken before the planners came.

> **The young are asking for** something that fits in one sentence: stop the reckless digging in eco-sensitive zones, surround the Chinars and wetlands with protection that holds, and hold accountable the people who burn and hollow out the land. This needs no new study

Those left to watch have few tools.

They post clips of the damage, speak up on social media and turn out for small protests, hoping someone with authority still cares.

The young describe themselves as furious, worn out and in some cases hopeless, since they see their identity being erased while they stand and watch.

They also know an Instagram story will never stop an excavator and an angry post will never bring back a burnt Chinar.

That sense deepens a suspicion that nobody in power is listening, and the suspicion weighs more than the loss of any single tree.

Silence from power leaves a paper trail. Committee reports gather dust while the digging goes on, and anyone who reads them learns only that the problem has been studied.

The young are asking for something that fits in one sentence: stop the reckless digging in eco-sensitive zones, surround the Chinars and wetlands with protection that holds, and hold accountable the people who burn and hollow out the land.

This needs no new study. It asks the authorities to enforce what they already know, and it asks them to step back from tampering with an ecology that cannot bear much more of it.

A child born in Srinagar this year will learn the valley by its gaps: a stretch of road with open sky where a Chinar stood, a lake with a track cut to its shore.

That child will take the gaps for the way things always were, which is how a loss completes itself.

— The author is a published writer and poet, and can be reached at hamnamir77@gmail.com.

Schools Without Students

As government schools empty and coaching banners multiply, the valley measures education by what can be advertised, and the one outcome parents cannot verify is the character their children take into adult life.

Asif Iqbal Wani

Reports of zero enrollment in several government schools in Jammu and Kashmir describe a building with a staff, a budget and no children.

Their families chose elsewhere, drawn to private institutions and to coaching centres that present themselves as the indispensable gateway to competitive examinations.

The difference between the empty classroom and the crowded one shows what the valley has come to believe education is for.

Government schools were founded to give accessible, affordable schooling to weaker sections and disadvantaged communities, and for thousands of families they were the route to social mobility.

That route is narrowing.

Declining enrollment, inadequate infrastructure and a shortage of modern equipment have drained public confidence, while better-off households pay for private schools, coaching programmes, digital resources and extra academic support.

A child whose family cannot pay stays in the building everyone else has left. Education meant to equalise begins to sort people instead.

Official claims of educational development cannot fill that room.

The government will have to look at what children actually learn in public institutions, because advertisements and administrative assurances have never put a pupil in a seat.

The coaching centres, by contrast, have filled theirs by advertising.

Banners, promotional campaigns, selected success stories and claims of extraordinary results turn achievement into a product. Coaching does provide structured support, competitive exposure and specialised guidance for professional courses, recruitment examinations and board papers, and nobody disputes that.

The open question is whether outcomes justify the scale of the promotion.

Parents commit large portions of limited incomes to these institutions, and they have a claim to see results, faculty qualifications and teaching standards verified. Selected success stories show the students who rose and leave the rest unaccounted for.

A banner also cannot show what happens inside the room.

Observations in certain coaching environments have turned up inappropriate student-teacher communication, disrespectful remarks and online conversations that cross professional boundaries, along with a casual attitude toward the relationship between teacher and student.

Such cases indict neither students nor teachers as a body. While individual incidents cannot describe a whole educational community, they still call for serious attention, since a classroom does more than move information from one head to another.

> **A person may secure** the highest rank in a competitive examination and still lack the values needed to serve society. Corruption often grows where accountability, honesty and professional ethics are weak. Academic qualifications alone cannot make someone a responsible public servant.

Discipline, mutual respect, curiosity and emotional maturity are cultivated there.

A teacher's role goes beyond teaching the syllabus, just as a student's responsibility goes beyond getting good marks. Teachers also need proper training, guidance on professional conduct and an understanding of the society in which they teach.

And that society has a character of its own.

Respect for elders, modesty, hospitality and reverence for learning have long held a place in Kashmir's social fabric. The valley now draws educators and coaching operators from other parts of the country, and the knowledge and teaching practices they bring should be welcomed.

An educator in an unfamiliar place should understand its sensitivities, and local teachers should meet the same expectation. Cultural identity cannot excuse discrimination, intolerance or resistance to new ideas, and modern education cannot excuse the abandonment of ethical conduct.

Kashmiris can ask for academic competition without moral compromise and for professional excellence without the commercialisation of their children's future. Scientific temperament and moral responsibility have never been opposed.

The reason to insist on this lies in who these students will become.

Today's pupils will be administrators, civil servants, teachers, entrepreneurs, policymakers and political representatives. Young people trained only for personal advancement, without honesty, accountability, empathy and respect for institutional ethics, will eventually show the void in public administration.

A person may secure the highest rank in a competitive examination and still lack the values needed to serve society. Corruption often grows where accountability, honesty and professional ethics are weak. Academic qualifications alone cannot make someone a responsible public servant.

The remedies are plain enough. Schools with falling enrollment should be examined one by one, with attention to infrastructure, qualified teachers, laboratories, libraries and digital facilities. Coaching institutions should face transparent admissions, verified faculty qualifications, accountable advertising and honest disclosure of results.

Professional conduct, digital responsibility, civic awareness and moral reasoning belong inside educational activities, and educators of any background should be oriented to the cultural and social setting of Jammu and Kashmir.

Parents, for their part, can take part in their children's behavioural development instead of judging institutions by examination results alone. Success itself should be measured by verified results, learning outcomes, teaching quality, student development and ethical standards.

Admission figures, promotional banners and examination selections will keep rising, and they are easy to count.

But no banner lists what a child became, and the offices those children later fill will be where the omission shows.

The author is a public policy analyst based in Jammu and Kashmir. He can be reached at iqbal.asif27@yahoo.com.

Gurez's Battle for Its Looms

As cheap factory-made clothing replaces handmade woollen garments in Gurez, an ancient craft faces extinction unless its remaining artisans can find a viable market and pass their skills to younger generations.



Amreen Qadir



The wooden loom fills a room in Hussain Master's home in Gurez with the sound of its moving parts.

Outside, sub-zero Himalayan winds sweep through the mountain valley. Inside, the elderly weaver works the pedals with his feet, guiding hand-spun wool through a wooden shuttle to produce Pattu, the thick woollen cloth that has protected generations of families from the region's punishing winters.

His hands move with the ease of decades of practice. The work begins with raw sheep wool, which families once cleaned, prepared and spun themselves before weaving it into winter coats and blankets.

"When I was a young boy, every house in our village had the sound of the loom," he says. "It was how we survived six long months of deep winter when the snow blocked every road out of the valley. We sat by the stove in the dark, we spun the wool together as a family, we wove our own winter coats, and we kept our children warm."

Those sounds have largely disappeared from the villages of Gurez and Tulail.

Factory-made clothes and synthetic blankets have entered local markets, while younger residents increasingly leave for cities in search of employment.

The knowledge that once passed naturally between generations now rests with a dwindling number of elderly weavers.

Hussain's wife still works with a handmade spindle, drawing raw wool into thread beside the stove. She remembers homes filled with the activity of preparing and weaving wool during the long winter months.

"We didn't just weave cloth to keep the freeze out, we wove our lives into every layer," she says. "If the loom stops completely, a part of our winter heart stops with it."

The decline has drawn international attention through The Last Pattu, a visual project by filmmaker Aakash Gulzar that documents the struggle of Gurez's remaining weavers. The project won third place at the 2026 Earth Partner Prize, bringing recognition to the remote Himalayan borderland and its traditional textile craft.

Its images captured Gurez's mountain landscape, the ageing artisans and the intricate work involved in producing a fabric designed for severe winter conditions. The recognition has introduced a wider audience to a tradition that has received little attention beyond the region.

For the weavers, however, recognition brings a difficult question: how can an international award help sustain the families whose skills made the project possible?

> **THE CHALLENGE IS TO CONNECT AN OLD PRODUCTION TRADITION WITH CONTEMPORARY MARKETS** while allowing the community to retain control over its skills and identity. Commercial interest alone will provide little protection if the people producing the cloth continue to receive a small share of its value.

Pattu has long represented far more than winter clothing for the indigenous Dard-Shin community. It formed part of a household economy built around sheep rearing, wool processing and handloom weaving. Families produced garments from locally available materials, relying on knowledge passed down through generations.

The process involved cleaning and carding raw wool, spinning it into thread and weaving it into durable fabric. The resulting garments could last for decades.

The system also made efficient use of local resources, producing natural textiles with little waste or dependence on outside supplies.

Long before sustainable fashion became a selling point for international designers, Gurezi families practised a form of local production rooted in their environment and seasonal needs.

The cloth showed an intimate understanding of mountain life, where warmth, durability and access to materials determined what people wore.

Hussain's son understands the value of that inheritance.

He watches the wooden frame with an appreciation for the skill it represents, while weighing the economic realities facing younger people.

"My father taught me that a good length of Pattu can outlive the man who wove it," he says. "I want to carry this tradition forward, but love for the craft alone cannot buy bread. If we cannot earn a decent living from our own hands, the young generation has no choice but to walk away."

His concern points to the deeper reasons behind the decline.

Processing raw wool has become expensive for local households, while machine-made blankets and synthetic clothing from commercial centres sell at lower prices.

Gurez's remote location also makes it difficult for artisans to connect with buyers outside the valley.

Ageing weavers struggle to earn enough to support their families. Younger residents see little financial incentive in learning a craft that demands years of practice while providing uncertain returns.

The result is a broken production system in which the knowledge survives, but the economic conditions needed to sustain it have weakened.

Local artisan groups could help weavers buy wool together, share resources and find more buyers. Better facilities for processing wool could bring down costs, while paid apprenticeships could help younger residents learn the craft from experienced weavers.



Gurezi Pattu could also find a place in modern clothing, including winter jackets, waistcoats and coats, as well as home furnishings. Its texture and durability make it suitable for these products. Clear labelling could help buyers identify genuine Gurezi fabric, while direct links with shops and designers could help weavers earn more from their work.

The recognition of The Last Pattu has brought wider attention to Gurez's weavers. Similar efforts to promote the craft could help take their products to new markets and bring more buyers to the region.

At home, Hussain Master continues to work at his loom. The cloth he makes is still worn, but whether younger people will learn to make it remains an open question.

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

The Girl I Lost to the NEET Race

Two years of preparing for a medical entrance exam changed how I saw myself. I walked out of the race, but the person I was before it remains buried beneath the expectations of others.



Sarah Qureshi

I recently came across the poem Ardh Satya on an Instagram reel, and I couldn't stop myself from writing about it.

It felt so relatable that I had to ask why. I think it's because most of what we feel isn't ours alone. It's shared between all of us, even when it feels like a private burden.

The poem was written by the Marathi poet Dilip Chitre.

"Chakravyuh mein ghusne se pehle kaun tha main aur kaisa tha? Ye mujhe yaad hi na rahega."

When I finished my 10th boards, I had to make a major decision about my career. I chose medical because that is what everybody wanted me to choose. Nobody forced me outright. It was a masked coercion, the one that sounds like advice but works like an order.

The Chakravyuh for me was the battle of NEET UG. Once I entered it, I let go of who I was before. It was as if that girl had been buried beneath layer after layer of who I was told to become, with no trace of her anywhere.

I became robotic machinery, running 24/7 to score on tests. Slowly, I even forgot how to introduce myself. My introduction shrank to "I'm at XYZ coaching institute, preparing for NEET," if I gave one at all.

Mostly, I stayed silent.

"Chakravyuh mein ghusne ke baad mere aur chakravyuh ke beech sirf jaanleva nikatata thi, iska mujhe pata hi na chalega."

Throughout those two years, I never realized how close I was to the deterioration of my inner self. I was unaware of my own ego, my own self, and I let it wither because I didn't know how deadly it was until I was deep inside, and more so after I got out.

"Chakravyuh se bahar nikalne par main mukt ho jaaun, bhale hi phir bhi chakravyuh ki rachna mein farq hi na padega."

When I walked out of that coaching at the end of 12th, I hadn't qualified NEET, but I was free. But the NEET journey went on exactly as it does for most students.

The rat race, the millions of mock tests, the constant comparisons, no mercy, no humanity. I left…but the maze stayed the same, ready for the next student.

"Maroon ya maaroon, maara jaaun ya jaan se maar doon, iska faisla kabhi na ho paayega."

Inside that maze, the line between victim and perpetrator blurred. The preparation was so intense that I often saw a blurry OMR sheet in front of my eyes, my head ached and my heart raced from the coffee shots.

There were times I felt so worn down that I wanted it all to stop. I couldn't decide then whether the system was breaking me or I was breaking myself and I can't fully decide even now. I couldn't decide it then, and I can't decide it now. I still don't know how I passed it.

"Soya hua aadmi jab neend mein se uthkar chalna shuru karta hai, tab sapnon ka sansaar use dobara dekh hi na paayega."



> **In your younger years, people tell you who you are supposed to be,** and you become their thoughts, their opinions. In that process, the one you were gets buried beneath the layers the world sees today.

Looking back, I was sleepwalking through those years, lost in a dream that wasn't even mine. But I'm awake now. The journey I left behind, the dreams I left behind (the ones that weren't even mine), the institute I left behind, none of it can see me anymore.

I'm not who I was before the Chakravyuh, and I'm not who it tried to make me. I'm someone new, trying to walk on her own.

If you've ever stepped into something because everyone expected you to and lost yourself on the way, you aren't alone in that. Someone has already felt it, enough to write a poem about it.

But I have to be honest.

Saying I'm awake doesn't mean I'm completely free. Walking out of the Chakravyuh didn't bring the buried girl back. Even though it may have given me my new self, the buried girl remains lost, still somewhere beneath the layers.

And gradually, as time passes, I am only learning how deep she went.

It is strange how one specific time in your life can become so grave a part of you that everything you do and encounter carries its echo.

NEET time became that for me.

Every road I walk, every cafe I sit in, every rickshaw, every bus, every tree I pass somehow stirs a reminiscence of that time.

But if I am honest, and if I had to live that time again, would I? Sigmund Freud wrote in a letter to Carl Jung, "One day, in retrospect, the years of struggle will strike you as the most beautiful."

And that is what is happening to me.

Those years of struggle made me resilient, and I honestly don't know whether I would tell my younger self to go through them again.

Part of me says yes, because of who they made me. But resilient at what cost? At the cost of losing who I was?

That is a question I'm still sitting with. I feel an unsettling nearness to self-hate, a nearness that is silently self-perishing.

In your younger years, people tell you who you are supposed to be, and you become their thoughts, their opinions. In that process, the one you were gets buried beneath the layers the world sees today.

So when you talk to someone, you are not really talking to them. You are talking to the unhealed versions of the people who shaped their early years. It is not really the two of them talking, but their inherited conditioning speaking to each other. It is the adults' insecurities, the adults' fears, the adults' experiences conversing with one another, and not their authentic selves.

This is what forms those innumerable layers around a person.

So who is the one buried beneath these layers? Who is she? Who are they?

She is so pure, so untouched, so uninteracted with, that she could walk down a dusty road without a speck of dust settling on her skin. She is protected by those layers. But what sort of protection is this? Is it even protection at all, or merely a cage?

And do you ever realize it? Yes, you do.

In all those moments when you don't know what you are doing, don't understand why you are here, why you took a certain decision, why you behaved a certain way, why you are in a certain relationship, why you made a certain career choice, or why you are not doing something else.

Like NEET for me.

That is when the inner unsullied self is trying to spread her arms, pushing against the walls of that enclosed husk, which will not break.

I am not writing this in retrospect. I am writing as it unfolds.

Is there a way to break through this husk? Is there a way to let that reality out?

And even if we do, will that pure child, that innocence, that untouched piece of life, be able to withstand the cruelty of a world in which everyone continues to wear masks?

Will she?

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Govt Moves To Reconvene Parliament From Nov 30 To Dec 3

Press Trust Of India



New Delhi: Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs Kiren Rijiju on Thursday said the Central government has requested the Lok Sabha Speaker and the Rajya Sabha Chairman to reconvene the Lower House on November 30 and the Upper House on December 2 to transact essential government business.

In a post on X, Rijiju added that the sittings of both Houses of Parliament are expected to conclude on December 3, subject to the exigencies of business.

"The Government has requested Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha and Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha to reconvene Lok Sabha on Monday, 30th November, 2026 and Rajya Sabha on Wednesday, 2nd December, 2026 respectively to transact essential Government Business," Rijiju posted on X.

"Subject to exigencies of the Business, the sitting of both Houses may conclude on 3rd December, 2026," the Union Minister added

The sittings of both Houses are scheduled to conclude on Thursday, December 3, 2026, subject to the exigencies of essential government business.

Speculation over the delimitation and women's reservation has intensified following Rijiju's announcement, as the announcement did not specify which bills would be taken up.

Meanwhile, a Congress Parliamentary Strategy Group meeting is to be held tomorrow in Delhi at 4.30 PM to discuss the strategy for the Parliament sitting to be held from November 30.

The decision to reconvene the Houses at short notice comes against the backdrop of an unprecedented procedural timeline following the previous parliamentary session.

Parliament last met during the Monsoon Session 2026, which concluded with both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha being adjourned sine die (indefinitely) on August 13, 2026.

Neither House was prorogued following the August 13 adjournment. Crossing the 100-day mark in late November, this became the longest unprorogued gap between parliamentary sittings in India's constitutional history, surpassing the previous record of 87 days set in 2008

TERROR FUNDING CASE

Delhi HC To Pass Order On Er Rashid's Bail Plea On Dec 8

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court on Thursday said it will pass an order on December 8 on the bail plea of Baramulla MP Abdul Rashid Sheikh alias Engineer Rashid in a terror funding case.

A bench of justices Prathiba M Singh and Vikas Mahajan, which was scheduled to pronounce the order Thursday, deferred it to December 8 to peruse an order passed by the Supreme Court granting bail to a co-accused in the case.

"Today, the matter was listed for pronouncement of judgement. Yesterday, counsel for appellant (Rashid) has brought to the notice of the court that the Supreme Court has granted bail in Nayeem Mohd Khan Vs NIA.

"Nayeem Mohd Khan is a co-accused in the same matter. This court would like to peruse the (Supreme Court) order. Accordingly, list this matter for pronouncement of order on December 8," the bench said.

The high court had reserved its order on Rashid's bail plea on November 3.

Rashid has sought bail in the terror case lodged under the provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) opposed his bail plea saying he has influenced some of the prosecution witnesses.

The probe agency contended that two of the prosecution witnesses, who are also protected witnesses, have turned hostile.

Rashid was earlier granted interim bail to attend the ceremonies related to his father's demise.

He faces allegations that he funded separatists and terror groups in Jammu and Kashmir.

Rashid has been lodged in Delhi's Tihar Jail since 2019 after the NIA arrested him in the 2017 case.

After he was named in a charge sheet in October 2019, a special NIA court framed charges against Rashid and others in March 2022 under sections 120B (criminal conspiracy), 121 (waging war against the government), and 124A (sedition) of the Indian Penal Code and under relevant provisions of the stringent UAPA.

CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

Home Secy Reviews

said that security agencies reviewed ongoing operations to track down these terrorists, their possible movement routes and the networks allegedly providing them logistical support, shelter and other assistance.

Preventing infiltration through the Line of Control (LoC) and the International Border (IB) also figured prominently in the discussions.

With winter approaching, security agencies are expected to maintain heightened vigilance along vulnerable border stretches and infiltration routes amid concerns that fog, snowfall and difficult weather conditions could be exploited by infiltrators.

The meeting also reviewed intelligence inputs, surveillance mechanisms and coordination among the Army, Border Security Force (BSF), CAPFs, Jammu and Kashmir Police and intelligence agencies to prevent attempts to push terrorists into the Union Territory.

The role of overground workers (OGWs), who allegedly provide logistical support to terrorists, also came up for discussion. Officials deliberated on strengthening intelligence gathering, identifying support networks and preventing terrorists from receiving assistance in remote and inaccessible areas, the source said.

Measures to prevent fresh local recruitment and dismantle support networks were also assessed, with the security establishment focusing on sustaining the gains made against terrorism.

The review was held against the backdrop of recent terror-related incidents, including the killing of two Special Police Officers in the Dachhan area of Kishtwar district and the encounter in Kulgam in which Lashkar-e-Taiba operative Mohammad Lateef Bhat was killed.

The challenges posed by difficult terrain and harsh winter conditions in mountainous and forested areas also figured in the broader assessment, with operational preparedness, intelligence-based searches and coordination among security forces remaining key areas of focus.

PM: J&K's 2019

had empowered citizens and strengthened democratic participation.

Highlighting the government's initiatives, he referred to constitutional amendments relating to the Goods and Services Tax (GST), the National Commission for Backward Classes and reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS).

He also cited welfare schemes, digital payments and the replacement of colonial-era criminal laws as measures aimed at advancing social and economic justice.

The Prime Minister said India was working towards becoming a developed nation by 2047 and called upon citizens to place national interests above personal considerations and fulfil their constitutional duties.

He emphasised that the Constitution was not merely a legal framework but a guiding force for governance, social justice and the country's democratic journey.

The article came on Constitution Day, when leaders across the country renewed their commitment to the constitutional principles of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity.X

J&K Braces For

with temperatures remaining below freezing at several places during night hours.

Srinagar recorded the season's lowest minimum temperature of minus 1.9 degrees Celsius for the second consecutive day, while Pahalgam was the coldest among the major weather stations, recording a low of minus 3.2 degrees Celsius.

According to the latest weather data, Qazigund recorded a minimum temperature of minus 2 degrees Celsius, followed by Kupwara at minus 1.6 degrees Celsius.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 1 degree Celsius, while Kokernag settled at 0 degrees Celsius. Shopian also continued to remain among the coldest areas of the Valley.

In the Jammu region, Jammu city recorded a minimum temperature of 10.6 degrees Celsius, Katra 9.8 degrees Celsius, Banihal 7.3 degrees Celsius, Batote 6.8 degrees Celsius and Bhaderwah 3 degrees Celsius.

The Meteorological Centre Srinagar has forecast generally dry weather from November 26 to 30 and December 1 to 3, with cold conditions likely to persist across most districts of the Kashmir division.

A change in weather conditions is expected from December 4, when generally cloudy skies are likely across Jammu and Kashmir, with light rain or snowfall at scattered places between December 4 and 6.

Further updates regarding the intensity and impact of the two successive Western Disturbances are expected in the coming days as forecast models become clearer.

The anticipated weather activity could bring the first significant change in the prevailing dry conditions after an extended period of largely precipitation-free weather across the region.

Support Pours

(BRO) on Monday said post-Amarnath Yatra works are being carried out in compliance with all applicable safety norms and environmental safeguards.

On Thursday, former SMC Mayor Junaid Azim Mattu threw his weight behind Banday.

"Under what section of the penal code is a petition to save our ecology from reckless destruction a criminal act in the cyber world?" he said.

Mattu also criticised the summons to Banday's family.

"And to drag her brother into this? Are we slaves and subjects bereft of a right of expression and of petitions, not to speak of right to dissent?" he added.

Environmentalist and rights activist Raja Muzaffar Bhat said speaking up for "Forests, Trees, Rivers or dying Lakes or Streams" should not be criminalised.

"Last night I received a distressing SOS from a young Kashmiri nature lover, Zarqua Banday. Her only 'fault'? Starting an online petition to save the pristine Sheshnag Lake. Such Petitions are filed every day every hour across the world and no country will ask their citizens why you filed the Online Petition?" Bhat said on X.

Banday is not an anti-national and has not written against the government or any group or religion, he asserted.

"Instead of applauding her civic sense, authorities are allegedly harassing her and summoning her father and brother to a police station," Bhat said.

Banda's petition seeking a halt to construction in the Sheshnag area has garnered more than 12,500 verified signatures so far.

The petition on Change.org, named 'Stop construction around Kashmir's Alpine lakes', urges the authorities to engage with local environmental and community groups to develop a sustainable way forward.

"This isn't progress; it's a threat to our environment," it reads. The petitoin says the "excuse" of connectivity and increased tourism sounds appealing at first glance, but the true cost of such advancements "becomes all too apparent" at a closer look.

"Similar projects elsewhere have led to increased pollution, habitat destruction and an influx of tourists who, often unintentionally, end up contributing to ecological imbalance. Recent studies and reports highlight that ecosystems as delicate as ours risk irreversible damage from such developments. We cannot let the same fate befall our cherished Alpine lakes," the petition says.

"Solutions like guided trekking, limited access permits and eco-friendly accommodations could bring economic benefits without sacrificing our wilderness. Other regions facing similar challenges, like the Swiss Alps, have successfully implemented such strategies," it adds.

Kashmir's chief cleric, Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, who has also signed the petition, said on Wednesday, "We all have to collectively raise our voice to stop the mindless destruction of our ecology at its most fragile places."

J&K BJP spokesperson and former MLC Girdhari Lal Raina criticised the opposition to road construction.

"What is being projected as an environmental issue increasingly appears to be an attempt to manufacture controversy, disturb the peaceful atmosphere and exploit religious sentiments for narrow political gains," he said.

Justice, Equality Must

direction to independent India and laid the foundation for a democratic future.

He said the Constitution was not merely a legal document but a living expression of India's collective aspirations and democratic commitment.

Highlighting India's achievements over the past 77 years, the Lieutenant Governor said the country was reaching new heights in space, semiconductors, digital technology, science and innovation, made possible by the strong constitutional foundation laid by the nation's founding leaders.

Paying tribute to Dr BR Ambedkar and other members of the Constituent Assembly, Sinha underscored the importance of social democracy and fraternity in sustaining democratic institutions.

He said constitutional and legal safeguards alone were not sufficient unless citizens recognised and respected one another's dignity, rights and aspirations in their everyday lives.

Referring to rapid advancements in artificial intelligence, quantum technology, biotechnology and space technology, the Lieutenant Governor stressed the need to safeguard liberty, privacy and human dignity in the digital age.

"Along with rapid technological change, our constitutional responsibilities are also growing. In the digital age, it is our responsibility to ensure that, amid technological progress, an individual's liberty, privacy and autonomy remain protected," he said.

He emphasised that technology should assist human beings rather than make them subordinate to it, adding that technological progress must remain human-centric and aligned with constitutional values.

Sinha also called for greater cooperation and coordination in administrative processes to ensure that public services and infrastructure reach every part of Jammu and Kashmir with equal sensitivity and commitment.

"Our goal should be that services and infrastructure reach every part of Jammu Kashmir with equal sensitivity and commitment, and that no person is left behind on the journey of development," he said.

Emphasising the need for inclusive growth, the Lieutenant Governor said true development meant expanding opportunities, reducing inequalities and ensuring dignity for every citizen.

"India is not waiting for the future but building it. The Constitution gave future generations the foundation to achieve the unimaginable. Now, we must focus on true development, which means expanding opportunities, reducing inequalities and ensuring dignity for every citizen," he said.

He highlighted the importance of equal opportunities for youth, education and women's empowerment, dignity for farmers and workers, and responsive public institutions in achieving the goal of a developed nation.

Calling upon citizens to contribute actively to nation-building, Sinha urged them to uphold constitutional propriety, practise digital ethics, promote equality, conserve the environment, encourage scientific temper and participate in local governance.

He also stressed the need to strengthen public faith in constitutional institutions, saying the country needed honest citizens who placed national interests above personal considerations.

"Our Constitution-makers have given us a strong democratic foundation. It is now our responsibility to build, upon that foundation, an India that becomes a source of inspiration, confidence and pride for generations to come," he said.

Expressing confidence in the collective resolve and dedication of citizens, the Lieutenant Governor urged people to make the Constitution a guiding principle in their conduct.

"Let us all together build a developed India that is prosperous in capability, liberal in thought, compassionate in conduct, inclusive in opportunity, and unwavering in its commitment to justice," he said.

The UT-level event marking the adoption of the Constitution was organised by the Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs in collaboration with the Department of Culture.

Speaker of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly Abdul Rahim Rather, Chief Secretary Dr Sajjan Singh Yadav, Additional Chief Secretary Finance Shailendra Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary Public Works (R&B) Anil Kumar Singh, Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor Govind Jaiswal, Commissioner Secretary Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Achal Sethi, Secretary Culture Ramesh Kumar, senior officials, prominent citizens and youth attended the celebration.

LG Urges Students

and expressed confidence that young achievers would make significant contributions to India's progress.

"It is true that marks can take you to a door, but how you live beyond that door will be determined by your character. Defeat is only an event, not your identity. Be resilient, confident, give your best, and then accept the outcome with equanimity. No defeat or failure can break someone who can do this," he said.

Reminding students that examination results do not define their potential, the Lieutenant Governor said a marksheet should not become the measure of a person's life.

"A marksheet is not the marksheet of life. Dream big, stay humble and rise above failure," he said.

Emphasising the importance of holistic education, Sinha called upon students to cultivate three essential qualities: knowledge, compassion and character.

He said education should not be limited to academic achievements but must also promote humility, build character and prepare individuals to lead meaningful lives.

Referring to the growing influence of artificial intelligence and modern technology, the Lieutenant Governor said machines could provide information and answers but could not replace human wisdom, empathy and the ability to distinguish between right and wrong.

"Machine can provide information, but it cannot provide wisdom. It can give answers, but it cannot tell you which question is the right one to ask. A machine can calculate, but it does not possess values such as compassion," he said.

He said qualities such as critical thinking, patience, sensitivity, courage and curiosity would become increasingly important in the AI era.

"Always remember that ability gives you height, but character gives you the strength to remain standing at that height," Sinha said.

The Lieutenant Governor also highlighted the importance of emotional well-being and urged students not to hesitate in seeking support during difficult times.

He said fear, anxiety and setbacks were natural experiences and that true courage lay in accepting help and moving forward with resilience.

Appealing to parents, Sinha urged them to look beyond their children's marks and rankings and prioritise their happiness and well-being.

Underscoring the importance of character, he said success should not be measured only through achievements but also through integrity, humility and a commitment to serving society.

Calling upon young people to play a leading role in realising the vision of a developed India by 2047, the Lieutenant Governor urged them to combine knowledge with compassion, skills with values and personal success with social responsibility.

He encouraged students who achieve success in their careers to extend support to children from villages and disadvantaged backgrounds who may not have access to coaching facilities but have equally ambitious dreams.

"As you advance in your careers, do not forget that children in the villages who may not have access to coaching but whose dream is just as big as yours. When you succeed, turn back and hold that child's hand. I believe that true success is the success that returns to illuminate the paths of others," he said.

Ex-Terrorist Held

Principal District and Sessions Judge, Reasi, had issued an arrest warrant against him on December 6, 2001.

Police said Mansha was an active terrorist between 2000 and 2007 before surrendering before security forces in 2007. However, he continued to evade the legal process and remained wanted in 13 criminal cases registered between 2000 and 2007.

The cases involve charges related to murder, attempt to murder, criminal conspiracy and waging war against the government, officials said.

Acting on credible intelligence, a special team comprising personnel from Mahore police station and the Absconder Tracking Unit was constituted and dispatched to Tral.

The accused was traced and apprehended through coordinated efforts with Awantipora Police, they said.

Police said the arrest brought a more than two-decade-long pursuit to an end and reiterated their commitment to tracing absconders and ensuring accountability irrespective of the passage of time or geographical boundaries.

HC Seeks Updated

the Government was directed to submit an Action Taken Report detailing the preventive measures undertaken and envisaged to address the recurring threat of floods in Kashmir, besides filing an affidavit on steps taken towards demarcation of protected areas as directed in the Court's August 18, 2017 order.

The PIL, along with connected matters, deals with flood prevention, restoration of the River Jhelum and its tributaries, removal of encroachments and preservation of wetlands, lakes, forests and other ecologically sensitive areas

SC Flags Question

he then added.

The Kerala Union of Working Journalists and the Delhi Union of Journalists, in their plea, submitted that journalists were forcibly removed from reporting sites, prevented from recording events, and subjected to physical force.

According to the plea, accredited journalists documenting the protests were restrained, dragged away, manhandled and detained despite displaying their press credentials.

Senior advocate PV Dinesh said seven journalists working with established organisations, not reel-makers, were taken into custody.

"The question is, when established journalists, who are recognised journalists, are covering events, can they be taken into custody?" the lawyer submitted.

The Delhi Police earlier told the top court that social media "reel-makers" and influencers cannot claim the same protections as journalists covering protests.

In an affidavit, the city police submitted that journalists "constitute a distinct category" from social media content creators who use cameras and microphones to make reels for commercial gain, arguing that the latter cannot automatically claim the protections afforded to the press while covering protests.

JKSSB Tightens

were aimed at countering attempts by "unscrupulous elements" to exploit a "latest modus operandi" to undermine the examination process.

Under the revised arrangements, Deputy Commissioners will appoint invigilation staff through a randomisation process from a pool of identified personnel. Examination centres will continue to be allotted to candidates randomly, while admit cards will now be available for download only three days before the examination, instead of the earlier seven-day window.

The Board said it had reviewed security arrangements at examination centres in consultation with the Police Department. Magistrates will supervise the frisking of candidates and examination staff, ensure that no unauthorised person enters the premises and prevent anyone from leaving the centre before the examination concludes.

All personnel deployed at examination centres, including service providers, will be required to deposit their mobile phones and other electronic gadgets in a designated control room, where these will remain locked until the examination is over.

The Board also said the number of jammers at examination centres had been increased after some candidates recently attempted to use "sophisticated electronic gadgets". CCTV cameras will continue to be installed at all centres, with live monitoring from JKSSB control rooms in Jammu and Srinagar.

Centre Observers appointed by Deputy Commissioners will be held personally responsible for monitoring the movement of invigilators and examination material. They will also ensure that unused question booklets and the OMR sheets of absent candidates are counted, packed and sealed inside examination halls under CCTV surveillance.

Centre Superintendents have been directed not to engage temporary or need-based staff for setting up examination centres. Only permanent government employees will be assigned such duties, with Superintendents being held personally accountable for any lapse.

Deputy Commissioners will also constitute flying squads to monitor examination centres and surrounding areas for suspicious activities.

District administrations will continue to impose restrictions around examination centres under Section 163 and deploy adequate police personnel to prevent unnecessary movement in the vicinity. Candidates will not be allowed to park vehicles near examination centres or be accompanied by anyone.

The Police Department will conduct stricter frisking of candidates. Metallic items, including water bottles, watches and special goggles, will not be permitted inside examination centres.

Candidates will also be barred from wearing clothing that could be used to conceal small electronic devices, including garments with oversized buttons, baggy cuffs and hoodies.

The Board said the measures were intended to ensure fair and transparent examinations and prevent candidates from resorting to unfair means. It also advised aspirants to concentrate on their preparation and ignore what it described as "false and fabricated rumours" being circulated by certain elements.

Study Flags Soil Degradation As NGT Probes Waste Dumping Near Pampore Saffron Fields

Agencies



SRINAGAR: A study linking depleted soil nutrients and higher heavy-metal levels with declining saffron growth in Kashmir has added to concerns over environmental damage to the region's prized crop, as the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has ordered an inquiry into alleged municipal waste dumping near saffron fields in Pampore.

The NGT has formed a joint committee to investigate the allegations and submit a report within eight weeks. The order came during the first hearing of a petition filed by 37 farmers and environmentalist Raja Muzaffar Bhat, who have sought closure of the dumping site and compensation for affected farmers.

The study examined soil samples from Pampore and Chandhara in Pulwama district and Chadoora in Budgam district. Researchers Syed Owais Mushtaq, Parshant Dahiya, Anjali Awasthi and Chandra Shekhar Yadav assessed soil characteristics, including organic matter, available phosphorus and moisture, as well as heavy-metal concentrations.

The findings suggested that a decline in soil organic matter, available phosphorus and moisture, along with an increased heavy-metal load, may be associated with a fall in saffron quantity and quality. The researchers said soil characteristics and heavy-metal levels play an important role in saffron growth, while recommending further research.

The study did not examine the Pampore dumping site specifically. However, its findings have drawn attention to the vulnerability of saffron cultivation to soil degradation, amid allegations that waste is being dumped close to farms in the area.

According to the petitioners, municipal authorities have been dumping mixed waste on around eight acres of land near saffron fields in Patalbag village since 2022. They claim about 50 mini-truckloads of rubbish arrive from Pampore town every day.

The petitioners' lawyer Saurabh Sharma said their plea included an inspection report by the Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee (JKPCC), which confirmed the presence of mixed waste and leachate — contaminated liquid that seeps from accumulated waste.

The tribunal took note of the findings and observed that there was prima facie evidence of environmental damage, he said.

Residents say the dumping site has attracted rodents, stray dogs and birds, damaging crops and creating unsanitary conditions.

Some farmers have abandoned saffron cultivation because of rodent infestations, while others have shifted to apples and other horticultural crops but continue to face pest-related problems.

Bhat estimated that 200 to 250 acres of saffron fields had been destroyed and said an increase in stray dogs around the dumping site had made it difficult for farmers to access their land.

He said a scientist from Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST-K) had been included in the joint committee. Residents allege that rodents burrow into fields, damaging saffron corms and affecting flowering. They have demanded the complete removal of the dumping yard.

JKPCC regional director Safir Hussain Shah said the landfill was illegal and that the committee was investigating it and taking action for environmental compensation.

The tribunal has listed the matter for February 3, 2027—(KNO)

Shopian Residents Renew Demand For Mechanical Division

SRINAGAR: With winter setting in, residents of south Kashmir's Shopian district have renewed their demand for a dedicated Mechanical Division, warning that the absence of an independent setup and adequate snow-clearance machinery could leave several areas cut off from the rest of the district for prolonged periods during snowfall.

Residents said Shopian, despite being a full-fledged district with a sizeable population and vast rural areas, continues to depend on the Mechanical Division based in Anantnag for snow-clearance operations, which affects timely deployment of machinery, particularly during heavy snowfall.

They said the problem is more pronounced in far-flung and mountainous areas, where even moderate snowfall can bring normal life to a standstill, with some localities remaining inaccessible for two to three days. Several interior and link roads in Keller, Sedow, Hirpora, Harmain and other peripheral areas frequently remain blocked, affecting access to healthcare, educational institutions, markets and other essential services.

Jahangir Ahmad, a resident of Keller said that winter has become a period of uncertainty for people in remote areas. "Every time it snows, people are left waiting for roads to be cleared. Since Shopian does not have an independent mechanical division with sufficient machinery, operations get delayed. The situation becomes particularly alarming when someone falls seriously ill and needs to be shifted to a hospital," he said.

Reyaz Ahmad Lone, a shopkeeper from Sedow, said residents are often compelled to clear snow themselves. "People have to come out with shovels and clear portions of roads themselves just to ensure some movement. A district like Shopian should have its own machinery, technical staff and operational setup to respond immediately to snowfall," he said.

Aamir Ahmad, an apple grower, said road blockages during winter disrupt economic activity. "Shopian has a large horticulture-dependent population, and connectivity is essential. When roads remain blocked, businesses suffer, workers cannot reach workplaces and people face difficulties accessing markets. Timely snow clearance is not just a matter of convenience but an economic necessity," he said. Women and elderly residents said the absence of prompt snow-clearance arrangements poses an even greater challenge during medical emergencies.

Zareefa Begum, a resident of Harmain, said pregnant women, elderly persons and patients requiring urgent care are the worst affected. "During heavy snowfall, families sometimes have no option but to carry patients on foot over considerable distances because vehicles cannot move. Such situations can become life-threatening when immediate medical assistance is required," she said. —(KNO)

Rajouri Police Register Four FIRs Over Violation Of VPN Ban

Observer News Service

RAJOURI: Rajouri Police have registered four separate FIRs against individuals found using Virtual Private Network (VPN) services in violation of prohibitory orders issued by the District Magistrate, Rajouri.

Details accessed reveal that the cases have been registered under Section 223 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) at four police stations across the district. An FIR (No. 242/2026) has been registered at Police Station Nowshera against Ram Bihari Choudhary, a resident of Panna district in Madhya Pradesh.

Police Station Darhal has also registered FIR No. 92/2026 against Ghulam Mustafa, a resident of Chowkian, Darhal, while Police Station Sunderbani has registered FIR No. 79/2026 against Neeraj Kumar, a resident of Samastipur district in Bihar.

Another case (FIR No. 177/2026) has been registered at Police Station Kandi against Mohd Sageer, a resident of Kandi area of Kotranka tehsil in Rajouri district.

Police said the action was part of efforts to ensure strict implementation of the prohibitory orders issued by the District Magistrate and warned that violations would invite legal action under the law.

Rajouri Police have further appealed to the public to refrain from using VPN services in violation of the restrictions and cooperate with the authorities in maintaining peace, security and law and order in the district.

Crime Branch Arrests Man For Duping Family On Pretext Of Govt Jobs

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Special Crime Wing of Crime Branch Kashmir has arrested a man for allegedly duping a family from Ganderbal of Rs 12.20 lakh on the pretext of securing government jobs for their two sons and daughter, officials said on Thursday.

In a statement issued to Kashmir Observer, Crime Branch said the accused, identified as Mohammad Abdullah Mir, son of Abdul Gaffar Mir, a resident of Shilvat, Sumbal, Bandipora, was arrested on November 25 in connection with FIR No. 09/2025 registered under Sections 420, 467, 468 and 471 IPC.

The statement said the investigation revealed that the accused had allegedly provided three forged appointment orders to the family, including two purportedly issued for appointments in J&K Bank and one in the Forest Department. "Verification from the respective departments confirmed that the said appointment orders were fake and had never been issued by the competent authorities," the statement said.

It further said that the accused was also named in several other criminal cases, including FIR No. 42/2026 of Police Station Kunzer, which has been charge-sheeted, FIR No. 100/2023 of Police Station Kokernag, FIR No. 49/2023 of Economic Offences Wing, Crime Branch Kashmir and FIR No. 73/2022 of Police Station Kothibagh, Srinagar.

According to the statement, investigators are examining possible common links, associates and the modus operandi, besides probing the possibility of similar fraudulent activities and identifying other potential victims. "Efforts are underway to recover electronic devices and other material allegedly used in preparing the forged appointment orders," it said.

CM Omar Inaugurates Projects Worth ₹54.72 Crore In Ramban

Observer News Service



RAMBAN: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday reviewed the developmental scenario in Ramban district, directing officials to expedite ongoing projects, improve public service delivery and ensure equitable development, particularly in remote and inaccessible areas.

During his visit, the Chief Minister inaugurated nine developmental projects worth ₹54.72 crore and laid the foundation stone for the remodelling of Higher Secondary School Pogal at an estimated cost of ₹3.26 crore, taking the total value of the projects to ₹57.98 crore.

Among the major projects inaugurated were the upgradation of the Patnitop-Sanasar road at a cost of ₹15.23 crore, construction of the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) building at Asher, Banihal, worth ₹11.42 crore, and the Galli-Kateri road project costing ₹7.95 crore.

The projects cover roads, education, skill development, tribal affairs, social welfare and urban infrastructure, and are aimed at improving connectivity, strengthening public facilities and expanding access to essential services across the district.

The Chief Minister chaired a comprehensive review meeting attended by Ministers Ali Mohammad Sagar, Sakina Itoo, Javed Rana, Mir Saifullah, Shamim Firdous and Altaf Ahmed Kaloo; Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani; MLAs Arjun Singh Raju and Sajjad Shaheen; Additional Chief Secretary to the CM Dheeraj Gupta; and senior officers from various departments.

Deputy Commissioner Ramban Mohammad Alyas Khan presented an overview of the district's developmental progress, highlighting road and highway infrastructure, flood restoration, disaster management, rural development, water and power supply, agriculture, education, healthcare, social welfare and urban development.

Reviewing the functioning of various departments, Omar Abdullah stressed the need for timely completion of projects, better inter-departmental coordination and optimal utilisation of available resources. He called for strengthening monitoring mechanisms to ensure that developmental targets are achieved within stipulated timelines.

Appreciating the performance of Aspirational Block Khari, which recently secured a Gold Medal for improvements in key developmental indicators, the Chief Minister called for replicating its successful initiatives across other blocks of the district. He said Khari's achievements should serve as a model for bridging developmental gaps and improving performance elsewhere.

Reviewing the agriculture and allied sectors, he stressed the need to harness Ramban's potential. He also highlighted the tourism prospects of Kog-Paristan, Nailtop and Sangaldan, particularly its hot springs, which he said could be developed as a health and wellness tourism destination.

He called for a focused plan to develop these locations, improve tourist amenities and create better facilities to attract visitors.

On education, the Chief Minister expressed concern over the need to improve student enrolment in schools and higher education institutions. He directed the concerned departments to identify gaps and take coordinated measures to increase enrolment and expand educational opportunities, observing that the aspirations and potential of young people must remain central to governance priorities.

Emphasising the importance of healthcare access in a district with challenging terrain, Omar Abdullah appreciated the administration's 'Hospital on Wheels' initiative, under which doctors, paramedical staff and diagnostic facilities are taken to remote and far-flung areas.

He called for strengthening such initiatives to ensure timely medical assistance to people living in inaccessible areas.

The Chief Minister also appreciated the district administration's efforts to reduce road accidents and fatalities along the National Highway. He directed officials to identify accident-prone locations and black spots and undertake preventive measures, stressing that coordinated action by all concerned agencies was essential to minimise accidents and save lives.

Reviewing the power sector, he directed that works under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) be implemented with equal attention to plain areas and difficult hilly terrain. He stressed that improvements in electricity infrastructure must translate into reliable and better-quality power supply across the district.

The Chief Minister also reviewed flood restoration, disaster mitigation and winter preparedness measures. He directed departments to expedite restoration and mitigation works and ensure special arrangements for vulnerable sections, particularly critically ill patients and expectant mothers. The administration was asked to facilitate their timely shifting to safer locations wherever necessary.

Taking note of progress in the digitisation of the revenue sector, he called for further improvement in revenue-related services. He also raised the issue of gypsum mining and directed the concerned Ministers to examine the matter and facilitate necessary clearances in accordance with applicable rules and procedures.

Observing that improved road and rail connectivity had opened new avenues for economic activity and tourism, Omar Abdullah called for focused efforts to promote destinations with untapped potential.

Drainage Discharge Into Jhelum Raises Concerns Over Sewage Pollution

SRINAGAR: Untreated drainage water is being discharged directly into the River Jhelum at Nawakadal, with the outflow coming from the Khanyar area, raising fresh concerns over the pollution of Srinagar's key waterway.

The discharge point has waste and debris accumulated along the riverbank. The condition has renewed concerns over the absence of effective sewage management and treatment in parts of the city.

The problem is not confined to the Jhelum. Similar concerns have been raised over sewage from houseboats and settlements entering Dal Lake. A 2024 report submitted to the National Green Tribunal by the Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee cited untreated sewage entering Dal Lake from areas including Telbal and Lalbazar, and noted that wastewater from houseboats was often discharged without treatment. The Tribunal had directed authorities to identify pollution sources and those responsible.

A 2025 Comptroller and Auditor General audit also found that Srinagar had no separate networks for drainage and sewage in the areas examined, and that dewatering stations had discharged household wastewater into the Jhelum and Doodh Ganga. The audit said some localities lacked separate sewage networks.

The continuing discharge of wastewater into the city's water bodies has raised questions about the adequacy, coverage and performance of sewage treatment infrastructure, as well as the enforcement of pollution-control measures. Locals and environmental concerns call for a coordinated response from the concerned civic and environmental agencies to stop untreated waste from entering the Jhelum and Dal Lake. [KNT]

First-Ever Roller-Skating Championship Held In Pahalgam

ANANTNAG: The first-ever roller-skating championship in Pahalgam was organised on Thursday at the TRC Lawns skating rink, with the Tourism Department announcing plans to introduce professional skating training for local children and organise regular sporting events to encourage young talent.

Director Tourism Kashmir, Syed Qamar Sajjad announced the initiatives while inaugurating the championship at the skating rink, TRC Lawns, Pahalgam. Around 60 boys and girls participated in the championship across Under-11, Under-14 and Under-17 categories.

Encouraging the participants to explore their sporting potential, Sajjad said the department would organise such events regularly in Pahalgam to provide sustained opportunities for young talent.

He also announced a structured roller-skating training programme for local children and youth, with professional guidance to help them develop their skills and pursue the sport.

Stressing Pahalgam's potential as a sports and recreational destination, Sajjad said such initiatives would promote physical fitness, discipline and a healthy competitive spirit among youngsters—(KNO)

Deadlock Persists As 5-GMC Non-Gazetted Employees Continue Protest

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The deadlock over recruitment rules in five newly established Government Medical Colleges (GMCs) of Jammu and Kashmir continued on Thursday, with non-gazetted employees refusing to call off their agitation despite an assurance from Chief Secretary Dr Sajjan Singh Yadav that the rules would be notified within a month.

Employees associated with GMC Rajouri, GMC Doda, GMC Kathua, GMC Handwara and GMC Baramulla continued their protest and hunger strike, insisting that the agitation would end only after the government formally notifies the long-pending recruitment rules.

The Coordination Committee representing the employees said it had deliberated on the Chief Secretary's assurance but decided to continue the protest, citing similar commitments made over the past seven years that did not yield any concrete outcome.

The ongoing agitation has affected services at hospitals attached to the five medical colleges, causing inconvenience to patients and attendants.

The Chief Secretary had interacted with protesting employees on Tuesday during his visit to Rajouri after they stopped his cavalcade and sought his intervention in resolving the issue.

During the interaction, Dr Yadav assured them that the recruitment rules would be notified within a month after completion of the required formalities.

He said the draft rules had already been sent by the Health and Medical Education Department to the Finance Department for examination and would subsequently be processed by the Administrative Reforms, Inspections and Trainings Department before being placed before the Lieutenant Governor for approval.

The employees are demanding immediate notification of recruitment rules to establish a uniform service framework, including clear designations, seniority norms, promotional avenues and career progression for non-gazetted staff across the five medical colleges.

The Coordination Committee reiterated that the agitation would continue until the government issues a formal notification, keeping the stalemate unresolved despite the Chief Secretary's intervention—(KNO)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR UT

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT AYUSH OFFICER ANANTNAG

Office location:-Chee road near EFF EMM School Old Mother helpage building Muslimabad Anantnag)
PHONE NO: - 01932-227171

NOTICE

No: Estt/Ayush/DAO/Ang/ 1863-65 Dated: 25/11/2026

Subject: Declaration of receipts issued by District Ayush office Anantnag in favour of various AYUSH Clinics/Shops as Null and Void.

It is hereby notified for the information of all concerned that all receipts issued by the District AYUSH Officer (DAO), Anantnag, in favour of various AYUSH Clinics/Shops in District Anantnag, pertaining to applications for registration, shall stand NULL AND VOID with immediate effect.

It is further clarified that the Government has introduced an online mechanism for submission and processing of applications for registration of AYUSH Clinics through the designated Government Portal www.clinicalestablishment.gov.in. Accordingly, all concerned AYUSH Clinic owners/administrators are directed to submit their applications for registration exclusively through the prescribed online portal, in accordance with the applicable Government guidelines and instructions. The hard copy of the registration application shall be submitted to District Ayush Office Anantnag for necessary action.

No offline receipt issued by the DAO Anantnag shall be treated as valid proof of submission or registration of an application under the online registration mechanism.

All concerned are directed to take note of the above instructions and ensure strict compliance.

This circular is issued for the information and strict compliance of all concerned.

Dr.Mohd Farooq Naqushbandi
M.D, Ph.D
DISTRICT AYUSH OFFICER
ANANTNAG

DIPK-7977-26
DT: 26/11/2026

SC Orders Red Warning Labels on Sugar, Salt and Fat

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday ordered stark warning labels on packaged foods high in sugar, salt or fat, with a separate hexagon flagging each nutrient, as it rejected a watered-down version of the scheme as something that would "undermine the very objective" of the exercise.

Each nutrient must get "a separate hexagon", carrying the words "High Fat", "High Sugar" or "High Salt" with a matching pictogram, "rather than a single combined hexagon", the court said, asking the rules to come into force within a four-month timeline proposed by the food regulator. Companies will then get a 365-day transition period.

In a 131-page judgment, a bench of Justices JB Pardiwala and K Vinod Chandran directed the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to fix design and threshold flaws in its draft warning-label scheme. It also told the regulator to hold to its own timeline for bringing the rules into force.

The ruling will impact everything from chips and biscuits to fizzy drinks.

"A consumer in India is entitled to no less protection, and no less information, than a consumer in the United States or the United Kingdom," the court said, calling reports of differing practices by global companies "deeply troubling" if true. It named no company and urged multinationals to adopt uniform standards across countries.

The FSSAI had proposed a single red hexagon carrying the words "High Sugar", "High Saturated Fat" and "High Salt". The court said that would not work.

It ordered a separate hexagon for each nutrient, each with its own pictogram and the words "High Fat", "High Sugar" or "High Salt". It said the design should let a shopper see at a glance that a product is high in all three, without parsing text.



Each hexagon must take up not less than 4 per cent to 5 per cent of the front panel, in line with practice in countries with similar labels. The font must be "prominent, conspicuous and readily legible".

Justice Pardiwala, who wrote the judgment for the bench, said a words-only label "creates two classes of consumers -- those who can use the information and those who cannot". The label, he added, "must not be the exclusive reserve of the educated or the affluent".

"Every meal is a quiet wager with one's own body, and a wager is fair only when the player can see the odds," he wrote in the opening paragraph. "The label is the only witness at the point of sale."

A study cited in the judgment found that 94.1 per cent of 44,109 packaged-food records would trip at least one warning under the proposed values. That, the court said, would breed "label fatigue".

The case began as a petition by the non-profit 3S and Our Health Society, which wanted warning labels instead of the star-rating system the FSSAI floated in 2022. That draft drew more than 14,000 comments. Consumers and health groups largely backed warnings. Many food businesses wanted a voluntary regime or none at all, citing livelihoods.

After an expert committee failed to find a consensus, the regulator offered back-of-pack bold type and then daily intake limits on the front. The court said neither was a front-of-pack label at all.

The FSSAI must file an affidavit on progress after ten weeks.

The All India Consumer Products Distributors Federation (AICPDF), which says it represents more than 400,000 FMCG distributors and 13 million kirana retailers, called the order "a significant step towards ensuring a scientifically balanced and practical" framework. It said its concern has always been the "disproportionate impact" of aggressive labelling rules on small domestic manufacturers.

"Consumer protection must not become a tool that disadvantages Indian MSMEs and strengthens multinational dominance," national president Dhairyashil H Patil said in a statement.

The federation argued that traditional bhujia, namkeen and snack makers, whose products naturally carry varying levels of fat, sugar or salt, lack the research budgets of multinationals to reformulate.

Front-of-package nutrition labelling (FoPNL) is a nutritional information graphic on food packaging that can assist consumers in making an informed decision about food purchases and healthier dietary choices.

US Tariffs May Hit India's Competitive Edge: EEPC

Press Trust of India



KOLKATA: The fresh tariff proposal announced by the US could undermine India's competitive advantage over rival exporters, but the situation remains dynamic as trade negotiations are underway, EEPC India Chairman Pankaj Chadha said on Thursday.

The US on Wednesday proposed 25 per cent tariffs on imports from India, with a provision to cap them at 17 per cent if the two countries agree to a bilateral trade deal, giving it a slight edge over Asian competitors.

"This seeks to take away the competitive advantage we have over our close rivals. The situation is, however, dynamic as negotiations are underway," Chadha said.

He said the government's stated position had been that India should secure a competitive advantage over neighbouring and other competing nations under a trade agreement with the US.

"However, when I look at countries such as Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, they are all facing tariffs of around 18 per cent. If India is at 17 per cent under a trade deal with the US, I am not entirely sure that gives us a significant competitive advantage," Chadha said.

Under the current US tariff structure, Bangladesh faces a tariff of around 18 per cent, which could increase to 20 per cent if its consultations with the Trump administration fail, he said.

Cambodia, Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia are also facing tariffs of 18 per cent, with a fallback rate of 25 per cent if their negotiations fail. Vietnam faces a 20 per cent tariff, with a fallback rate of 25 per cent, he added.

Asked about the competitiveness of the Indian engineering sector in the US market after the proposed tariffs are implemented, Chadha said it was too early to draw any conclusions.

Fake Jobs, Seized Passports Expose Delhi Cyber Slavery Racket

Press Trust of India



NEW DELHI, NOV 26 (PTI) Lured to India with promises of lucrative jobs, 164 foreign nationals from Indonesia and Malaysia allegedly found themselves trapped in a network of cyber slavery, with their passports seized upon arrival, movement restricted and lives reduced to making fraudulent calls to people back home, the Delhi Police said on Thursday.

Kept in paying guest (PG) accommodations, allegedly served substandard food and subjected to physical assault if they refused to work, the foreign nationals were forced to follow written scripts to cheat unsuspecting people in their own countries through fraudulent investment platforms, police said.

In a major crackdown in southwest Delhi's Dwarka on an alleged international human trafficking and cyber fraud network, the Crime Branch of the Delhi Police has rescued 164 foreign nationals, including 92 Indonesians and 72 Malaysians, from premises allegedly being used to operate the racket. A 25-year-old Malaysian national, identified as Tan Guan Wei, has been arrested in connection with the case.

According to police, the network specifically targeted people in Indonesia and Malaysia by offering them employment opportunities in India, promising attractive salaries and better career prospects. However, their ordeal allegedly began soon after they landed in the country.

Their passports were taken away upon arrival, leaving them without control over their identity documents and restricting their ability to leave, police said. They were subsequently shifted to PG accommodations and allegedly forced to work as cyber slaves.

Those who resisted or refused to participate in the fraudulent activities were allegedly thrashed by members of the network to ensure compliance, a senior police officer said, adding that so far they got to know that around two people were thrashed.

The living conditions at the accommodations were also allegedly poor, with the foreign nationals being provided substandard food. Despite a fleet of around 40 cabs being used to ferry them between the PG accommodations and the cyber fraud call centre, they were not allowed to venture out independently or move around as they wished, the officer said.

26/11 Anniversary: Bomb Threat Targets Mumbai Mayor's Office

Press Trust of India



MUMBAI: An email threatening blasts, grenade attacks and planting of IEDs at the mayor's office, metro rail stations and also a concert of actor-singer Diljeet Dosanjh was received on Thursday, the anniversary of the devastating 26/11 terror attacks, though searches did not reveal anything suspicious, Mumbai police officials said.

The email was sent by an individual identifying herself as Hannah Meler, and contained references to Khalistan, the 1984 anti-Sikh riots as well as threats of violence linked to a programme involving Dosanjh and people associated with the event, they added.

The message included slogans and references to organisations and individuals allegedly associated with Khalistani separatist activities, the officials said.

The mail, which was received on Thursday morning, threatened a blast at the Mayor's Office at 13.11 hours during the day, and grenade attacks in Mumbai over the next 30 days. It threatened to plant IEDs at metro stations between November 27 and December 31, an official added.

The authenticity of the email, the identity of the sender and the credibility of the threats could not be independently established.

"A threat email was received at the BMC (Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation). Nothing suspicious has been found (after searches). Further legal action is being taken (with regard to the threat email)," Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) Manish Kalwaniya said.

