www.kashmirage.net facebook.com/kashmirage youtube.com/@kashmirAge dailykashmirage@gmail.com

• Srinagar • Wednesday, 11 November 2026 • 29 Jamad-ul-Awal 1448 AH • Issue No: 311

22nd Year of Publication

Kashmir Age

"Truth we say..... come what may"

• Volume: 22 • Pages: 12 • Rs: 3/- (Air Surcharge for Delhi, Jammu & Ladakh 50/- Paisa) • JKENG/2006/23952

Omar for fast-tracking works under special assistance scheme



KA NEWS SERVICE

Jammu, Nov 10: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday directed concerned departments to ensure time-bound completion of ongoing works under the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI), with a focus on meeting financial targets within the stipulated sunset period.

Chairing a review meeting to assess the progress of SASCI works, Abdullah also called for expediting execution, strengthening inter-department coordination and ensuring optimal utilisation of funds.

The review covered physical and financial progress of projects undertaken during FY 2025-26, availability of funds and expenditure targets for FY 2026-27, besides steps taken for effective implementation of projects during FY 2027-28, an official spokesman said.

The chief minister reviewed progress across key sectors, including public works, Jal Shakti, youth services and sports, power, and housing & urban development.

Abdullah called for special focus to the disaster management component, aimed at strengthening disaster mitigation and resilience, besides restoring infrastructure damaged in natural disasters.

He also directed expediting SASCI Part-I works and ensuring full utilisation of approved funds by March 2027 to qualify

See on Pg. 10

CM assures all possible assistance to fire-affected traders in Jammu



KA NEWS SERVICE

Jammu, Nov 10: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday assured traders affected by the recent fire incidents in Jammu that the government would extend all possible assistance to them.

Abdullah gave the assurance during his interaction with a BJP delegation comprising Member of Parliament from Jammu Jugal Kishore Sharma and several Legislators including Sham Lal Sharma, Vikram Randhawa, Narinder Singh Raina, Yudhvir Sethi and

See on Pg. 10

NC chief to form advisory groups for each minister

KA NEWS DESK



Jammu, Nov 10: In a major outreach to disgruntled party lawmakers, National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah has accepted a proposal to constitute informal advisory groups of MLAs for each minister in the Omar Abdullah-led government in Jammu and Kashmir, party sources said.

The NC chief wrote to all MLAs days after a meeting was held in Srinagar where several MLAs voiced concern over a perceived disconnect between the party leadership and the government.

The proposed advisory groups are intended to act as a bridge between the party and the government, ensuring lawmakers are kept informed and involved in key administrative decisions.

Under the planned setup, each MLA will be part of two advisory groups based on their preference.

The party leadership has already asked the legislators to submit their choices for the ministerial sectors they wish to advise on within two weeks.

All NC MLAs have been asked to list three preferences after which two of them will be allotted,

See on Pg. 10

Weatherman Forecast Heavy Rain, Gusty Winds In Valley

KA NEWS DESK



Srinagar, Nov 10: Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh are set to experience a spell of wet weather later this week, with widespread rainfall, isolated heavy showers and thunderstorms accompanied by gusty winds expected on November 12 and 13, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Tuesday.

The weather department has also forecast thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and gusty winds reaching 40-50 kmph, with gusts up to 60 kmph, at isolated places across the Jammu and Kashmir-Ladakh meteorological region on November

See on Pg. 10

EOW chargesheets man for posing as CID officer

KA NEWS DESK

Srinagar, Nov 10: The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) Kashmir of Crime Branch J&K has filed a chargesheet against a man accused of impersonating a CID officer and cheating people by promising government jobs and favours through forged official documents.

The chargesheet in an FIR registered in 2023 under Sections 420 and 468 IPC was filed

See on Pg. 10

LAHDC polls to deepen democracy in Ladakh: CS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Leh, Nov 10: Ladakh Chief Secretary Ashish Kundra on Tuesday defended the decision to hold the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) elections on December 4, asserting that the polls mark an important step towards deepening democracy and strengthening democratic institutions in the Union Territory.

Appealing to people of Ladakh, including youth and religious organisations, to participate enthusiastically in the electoral process, Kundra said the upcoming elections would mark a significant step towards strengthening grassroots democracy

See on Pg. 10

Our aim is to reach more youth, create more opportunities: Maj Gen Mukesh

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA



Jammu, Nov 10: Newly appointed Additional Director General, NCC Directorate, Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh, Major General Mukesh Sharma on Tuesday said that his primary aim is to reach out to more youth, create greater opportunities and build a stronger NCC for a stronger nation.

Addressing mediapersons on the theme "Envision and Evolve- Empowering Youth, Strengthening NCC, Building the Nation," he said, "It is a privilege to lead the Directorate and I look forward to building upon the achievements of my predecessors and contributing to the continued growth and strengthening of the NCC, with renewed focus, fresh ideas and a shared sense of purpose."

"Our guiding principles remain Unity and Discipline and through NCC, we aim to develop confident, disciplined and responsible young citizens with strong leadership qualities and a spirit of service," he said.

The ADG outlined three broad priorities, stating that his first

See on Pg. 10

>>>> UAPA case

Court acquits two Baramulla youth after six years in jail

KA NEWS SERVICE

Srinagar, Nov 10: A Special Court designated under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) in north Kashmir has acquitted two men held for over six years on charges of aiding Lashkar-e-Taiba, ruling that "suspicion, however grave, cannot substitute proof."

The court of Special Designated Judge under UAPA, Baramulla at Sopore, Feroz Ahmad Khan, acquitted Huzaif Firdous Bhat of Choora, Sopore, and Ajaz Ahmad Khan of Najibhat Kreeri in FIR No. 159/2020 registered at Police Station Baramulla under Sections 18, 23 and 39 of the UAPA and Sections 7/25 of the Arms Act.

The case pertained to the alleged recovery of two hand grenades and 100 rounds of AK-47 ammunition from beneath the driver's seat of a Maruti car

See on Pg. 10

8 women among 19 report dog bite cases

KA NEWS SERVICE

Mendhar/Jammu, Nov 10: At least 19 people, including eight women and children, reported dog bite cases at a sub-district hospital in Mendhar in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on Tuesday.

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

Among the patients, 11 had suffered category 2 bites, involving minor scratches or abrasions without bleeding, while the rest had Category 3 bites, characterised

See on Pg. 10

MP, Legislators call on CM

KA NEWS DESK

JAMMU, NOVEMBER 10: Member of Parliament from Jammu Jugal Kishore Sharma and several Legislators from Jammu district today called on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah at the Civil Secretariat here and discussed the recent fire incidents in Jammu city and the situation of the affected traders.

The public representatives apprised the Chief Minister of the damage

See on Pg. 10

Land 'Fraud' Network Active in Kashmir; One Plot Sold To Multiple Buyers

Several Politicians Also Come Under Scrutiny, Accused M Pal Singh Of Singhpora Pattan Reportedly Takes Refuge In US





Srinagar, November 10 (KPS): Incidents of alleged fraud and forgery in the name of land transactions are reportedly witnessing an alarming rise in Kashmir, with certain property dealers and intermediaries accused of selling the same piece of land to multiple buyers and collecting lakhs of rupees from them. Consequently, victims are not only losing their hard-earned savings but are also being dragged into complicated legal disputes.

In one such alleged land fraud case, which has surfaced in Singhpora area of Pattan in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, a man identified as M Pal Singh has been accused of selling the same piece of land to different individuals after receiving payments from them.

According to the victims, the name of one R A Sheikh, a resident of Sanat Nagar, has also figured in the alleged fraud. He has been accused of acting as an intermediary in land transactions, showing properties to prospective buyers and collecting money from them.

As per complaints submitted by the affected individuals, R A Sheikh allegedly played a role in identifying land for buyers, negotiating deals and facilitating financial transactions. The money received through these transactions was allegedly shared with Mahinder Pal Singh, the complainants claimed.

The alleged modus operandi has reportedly caused financial losses to several individuals, who are now facing difficulties in recovering their money.

Sources

See on Pg. 10

Kashmir Age
"Truth we say..... come what may"
www.kashmirage.net facebook.com/kashmirage youtube.com/@kashmirAge dailykashmirage@gmail.com

DMA successfully completes sixth edition of special campaign

Kashmir Press Service

SRINAGAR: The Department of Military Affairs (DMA), along with all establishments under its purview, has successfully completed the sixth edition of the Special Campaign, conducted from October 2 to 31, 2026, with active participation from the Defence Forces and Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS).

During the month-long campaign, cleanliness drives were carried out at 8,507 identified sites across various military establishments. In addition, 324 rules and processes were simplified by different organisations to improve administrative efficiency and streamline official procedures.

The campaign also generated revenue of approximately 89.68 crore through the disposal and sale of scrap, including electronic waste (e-waste).

As part of the record management initiative, 5,28,443 physical files were reviewed, out of which 16,837 files were weeded out. The exercise resulted in the effective freeing up of 3,53,291 square feet of space, facilitating its improvement and alternative utilisation.

Significant progress was also achieved in addressing public grievances and official references. A total of 2,905 public grievances and 466 grievance appeals were disposed of during the campaign. Besides, 91 Members of Parliament (MP) references and four IMC references were responded to.

Several innovative and noteworthy initiatives were also undertaken by different defence establishments. The Indian Air Force Station, Tambaram, in collaboration with a specialised NGO, rejuvenated nine heritage shallow wells, each approximately 60 to 80 years old. The initiative has enhanced water availability by one lakh litres per day, meeting around 11.1 per cent of the station's daily water requirement.

In another significant initiative, INS Shivaji, under the Southern Naval Command, in collaboration with IIT Mumbai, installed a biomass-based gasifier steam cooking system with a foliage processing capacity of one tonne.

Throughout the campaign, the Defence Forces and HQ IDS made extensive efforts to promote cleanliness across military posts, units, stations, establishments and cantonments. Concerted measures were also undertaken to reduce pendency in official matters and improve administrative functioning.

Special emphasis was laid on the timely disposal of public grievances, MP references, Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and State Government references, appeals and parliamentary assurances. The campaign reflects the Department of Military Affairs' continued commitment to cleanliness, efficient record management, administrative reforms, environmental sustainability and responsive governance across defence establishments.

India slams distorted narratives by Chinese influencers in Dhaka, calls for appropriate action

Kashmir Press Service





NEW DELHI: India has expressed concern over reports of Chinese influencers filming in Dhaka to portray parts of the Bangladeshi capital as Delhi, describing such attempts to create a distorted picture of a country as unfortunate.

Responding to media queries, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson said that efforts by foreign elements to project parts of Dhaka as Delhi through misleading narratives would only undermine the credibility of those involved and their backers.

"We urge authorities concerned to take appropriate action against them," the spokesperson said.

On the US midterm elections, India described the exercise as an internal matter of the United States and refrained from making any specific comment. However, New Delhi underlined that India-US relations enjoy strong bipartisan support in Washington and reiterated its commitment to further strengthening the Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership between the two countries.

Reacting to comments by the US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), the MEA spokesperson termed the organisation biased and ill-informed, alleging that it pursued a blatantly political agenda.

The spokesperson questioned the commission's silence over attacks on religious places in the US, hate crimes and racial abuse targeting the Indian community, stating that a prejudiced organisation could hardly be taken seriously.

On reports concerning Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA) filings, India clarified that engaging lobbying firms in the US was a normal diplomatic practice aimed at facilitating outreach with the US Administration, members of Congress and other relevant stakeholders.

The spokesperson said India had been engaging lobbying firms in Washington DC since 1948 and that such activities were undertaken in accordance with

applicable US laws, including FARA, which provides for public disclosure of the activities of such firms.

On the Russia-Ukraine conflict, India reiterated that dialogue and diplomacy remained the only viable way forward towards achieving lasting peace.

The spokesperson said Prime Minister Narendra Modi had consistently advocated an end to the ongoing war and had emphasised that endless conflict must give way to peace.

India, the spokesperson added, had been engaging with both Russia and Ukraine on various proposals, including the safety of shipping in the Black Sea, addressing concerns relating to grain and energy exports, and exploring possibilities to prevent attacks.

Referring to the Prime Minister's recent conversation with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, the spokesperson said the two leaders exchanged views on the ongoing conflict, its humanitarian consequences and efforts to restore peace.

The Prime Minister reiterated India's commitment to contributing in every possible way towards a peaceful resolution.

Following the conversation, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar also spoke with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov on diplomatic initiatives concerning the conflict. India remains in contact with both sides and other interested parties, the spokesperson said, adding that New Delhi would continue its efforts to facilitate peace and stability in the region.

AIP demands 40-year age limit in J&K Bank recruitment



Kashmir Press Service

SRINAGAR: Awami Itihaad Party (AIP) Chief Spokesperson Inam Un Nabi has urged Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to honour his commitment to the youth and raise the upper age limit for Open Merit candidates in the ongoing J&K Bank recruitment to 40 years.

Inam Un Nabi said there should be no further excuses or delays on the grounds of Jammu and Kashmir's UT status or ongoing discussions over restoration of statehood. The age-relaxation issue requires an immediate decision and should not be linked to these matters.

With 1,356 vacancies advertised and the upper age limit restricted to 30 years for Open Merit candidates, thousands of aspirants risk losing an opportunity despite years of waiting for recruitment.

Inam Un Nabi also called for urgent rationalisation of the reservation policy, saying the growing concerns over the distribution of opportunities among Open Merit candidates cannot be ignored any longer. He said every passing week, month and year further narrows the employment opportunities available to young aspirants, making it essential for the government to address the issue through a fair and informed review.

Inam Un Nabi further demanded that J&K Bank publish its actual post-wise and category-wise reservation roster, including horizontal reservations and backlog vacancies, so that the distribution of advertised posts is open to public scrutiny. He clarified that transparency and rationalisation must go hand in hand with full protection of the legitimate constitutional rights of reserved communities.

"The Chief Minister must honour his promise. Raise the Open Merit upper age limit to 40 years, address the reservation rationalisation issue without further delay and make the Bank's reservation roster public. Our youth cannot afford to lose more opportunities waiting for decisions that are long overdue," Inam Un Nabi said.

Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwada celebrated across Bandipora

Kashmir Age News

BANDIPORA: As part of the ongoing celebrations of Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwada 2026, various departments and educational institutions across District Bandipora organised a series of awareness, healthcare, educational and cultural activities to highlight the rich tribal heritage, traditions and contributions of tribal communities to the nation.

The Health Department organised a special healthcare programme at NTPHC Gujran, where ANC check-ups, screening for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and haemoglobin estimation were conducted. Free medicines were also distributed among the beneficiaries as part of the initiative to promote accessible healthcare in tribal areas.

The Horticulture Department conducted awareness activities at Sheikhpora Watrina, Kudara and Garoora, sensitising tribal communities about various departmental initiatives and schemes.

Similarly, the Agriculture Department organised awareness activities in Zone Nadihal to educate farmers and local communities about agricultural interventions and government schemes.

Meanwhile, Zone Bandipora and Zone Quilmuqam of the Youth Services and Sports Department organised a series of educational, cultural and creative activities across educational institutions. Students enthusiastically participated in painting, story writing, poetry, essay writing, photography, traditional art and craft, dance, music, drama, Nukkad Natak, quiz and slogan-writing competitions.

Nice Public School Khanpeth Singhpora celebrates annual day



Kashmir Press Service
Sahil Nazir

SINGHPORA: Nice Public School, Khanpeth Singhpora, celebrated its Annual Day with great enthusiasm and festive spirit.

Zonal Education Officer (ZEO) Singhpora, Mr. G.H. Hassan, attended the event as the Chief Guest, while G.N. Var, Patron of the JK Private Schools Association, was the Guest of Honour.

The Principal, staff members and students actively participated in the celebrations, presenting a series of colourful performances that showcased the talent, creativity and confidence of the students.

Parents expressed immense happiness and delight while witnessing the impressive performances of their children, appreciating the efforts of the school management and teaching staff in nurturing young minds.

The celebration concluded on a joyful note, reflecting the school's commitment to quality education and the all-round development of students.

Javid Dar exhorts officers to redress farmers' concerns

Kashmir Age News



JAMMU, NOVEMBER 10: Minister for Agriculture Production, Finance, Mining and Cooperative Departments, Javid Ahmad Dar, today convened a review meeting with senior officers of the Horticulture Department to assess the progress of ongoing projects and evaluate implementation of development schemes aimed at strengthening the horticulture sector in Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Director Horticulture Jammu, Gul Syed, Director Horticulture Kashmir, Vikas Anand, Managing Director JKHPMC Mohammad Farooq and others concerned officials.

During the meeting, the Minister called for a focused, outcome-oriented and farmer-centric approach to ensure that the benefits of government initiatives reach the intended beneficiaries, particularly small and marginal farmers. He stressed that effective implementation of welfare schemes must remain a key priority of the department, with due emphasis on transparency, accountability and timely delivery of benefits.

Underscoring the importance of strengthening the department's field-level outreach, Javid Dar directed the officers and field functionaries to undertake regular visits to horticulture areas to assess the ground realities, interact directly with the farmers and understand the challenges confronting them. He emphasised that field visits should serve as an effective mechanism for identifying the farmers' concerns,

addressing the bottlenecks and ensuring prompt resolution of grievances.

Save Nilnag Front calls on Speaker; seeks focused attention towards conservation

Kashmir Age News



SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 10: The Save Nilnag Front today called on Speaker JKLA Abdul Rahim Rather and expressed appreciation for the developmental initiatives undertaken in the constituency over the years, particularly in strengthening the road connectivity, infrastructure, educational and healthcare facilities, electricity distribution and other essential public amenities.

In a Memorandum submitted to the Speaker, the Front acknowledged the efforts made towards addressing public concerns and improving the socio-economic conditions of the area. It, however, drew attention towards the need for focused intervention for the conservation, restoration and sustainable development of Nilnag, a historically and ecologically significant water body nestled in the Pir Panjal forests.

Highlighting the historical and tourism significance of Nilnag, the Front stated that the picturesque lake finds mention in historical accounts, including Rajtarangini. It has also been documented by the British historian Sir Walter Lawrence in his celebrated work The Valley of Kashmir. The lake has attracted the attention of several prominent personalities over the decades, reflecting its historical, cultural and natural importance.

The representation emphasised that Nilnag possesses immense potential as an eco-tourism

destination, provided its development is undertaken in a planned and environmentally sustainable manner while preserving its pristine natural character and ecological balance.

KU's IKS begins two-day workshop on anthropology in Kashmir

Kashmir Age News

SRINAGAR: The Institute of Kashmir Studies (IKS), University of Kashmir (KU) began a two-day workshop on 'Anthropology in Kashmir: Methodologies, Ethics, and Engagement for a Deeper Understanding of Kashmiri Society' at the Main Campus on Tuesday.

The workshop aims to familiarise students and researchers with the methods and ethical considerations involved in studying society and culture.

It seeks to encourage field-based research, critical engagement with local communities and a deeper understanding of the social, cultural and lived experiences of people in Kashmir.

Speaking at the inaugural session, Vice-Chancellor KU, Prof. Nilofer Khan said that understanding society requires careful research and meaningful engagement with communities. She emphasised the importance of documenting local experiences and perspectives through responsible academic work.

"Research must go beyond observation and engage with people's lived experiences, respecting their voices and identities," she said.

In his remarks Dean Academic Affairs KU, Prof. Shariefuddin Pirzada, said that anthropology provides valuable ways of understanding social



relationships and cultural practices and stressed on the need to encourage students to develop strong research skills and approach fieldwork with ethical responsibility.

In his address Registrar KU, Prof. Naseer Iqbal, noted that such workshops provide students and young researchers with an opportunity to engage with experienced scholars and strengthen their research approach.

Keynote speaker, Prof. Farhana Ibrahim, Social Anthropology, IIT Delhi, spoke about ethnography as a method of understanding society through close engagement with people and their everyday lives. She discussed the importance of field work, observation, and building relationships with communities, while also drawing attention to the ethical responsibilities of researchers.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Director IKS KU and workshop convenor, Prof. Aijaz Ashraf Wani, said that the workshop was intended to strengthen the understanding of anthropological

research methods and their relevance to studying Kashmiri society.

Bandipora Admin issues weather advisory

Kashmir Age News



BANDIPORA, NOVEMBER 10: In view of the prevailing weather advisory and the possibility of adverse weather conditions, including snowfall and disruption of road connectivity in the far-flung areas of Bandipora and Gurez, the District Administration Bandipora has issued a weather advisory for tourists, travellers, aspirants appearing in the upcoming Finance Accounts Assistant examination and the general public.

As per the advisory issued by District Administration Bandipora, candidates belonging to these areas who are scheduled to appear in the OMR-based written examination for the post of Accounts Assistant (Finance Department) on November 15, 2026, have been advised to plan their journey well in advance and reach nearby stations or locations

sufficiently ahead of the examination date, keeping in view the possibility of road closures and weather-related disruptions.

Tourists presently staying in Gurez have been advised to plan their departure immediately in consultation with the District Control Room.

Furthermore, Gurez Sector has temporarily been declared out of bounds for tourists in view of the prevailing weather advisory.

Kashmir Age
"Truth we say..... come what may"
SRINAGAR | WEDNESDAY
11-NOVEMBER-2026

www.kashmirage.net facebook.com/kashmirage youtube.com/@kashmirAge dailykashmirage@gmail.com

Director SKIMS, Dr Parvez, Adv Salman call on LG Sinha





Kashmir Press Service

SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 10: Prof. Mohammad Ashraf Ganie, Director, SKIMS, Soura, called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and briefed him about various initiatives undertaken by the institute to strengthen healthcare infrastructure and improved patient care.

Meanwhile, Dr Pervez Ahmad Sofi, Founder Director,

Peace and Wellbeing Foundation also called on LG Sinha, and presented a policy proposal focused on Jobs and Skill Development for Drug Abuse Victims.

He was accompanied by Arafat Ahmad Bhat, Member, Board of Directors of the Foundation.

A delegation led by Advocate Sheikh Salman, President, BJP Srinagar, also called on Lieutenant

Governor Manoj Sinha, today and projected various issues related to youth empowerment.

NC united, opposition spreading canards: Sakeena Itoo



Kashmir News Observer

GULMARG, NOV 10 :Terming reports of differences within the National Conference as "exaggerated narratives" being propagated by the opposition, Health Minister Sakeena Itoo on Tuesday said that the party is united and its leaders are standing together. Talking to reporters on the sidelines of the inauguration of the New Type Primary Health Centre (NTPHC) building at Chukkar Kunzer, Itoo said: "National Conference is intact. We are one family. Opposition has nothing to offer and they are spreading canards to create confusion." Reiterating the party's commitment on the issues of Article 370, Article 35A and restoration of statehood, the Minister said these remained central to the National Conference's political agenda.

She said Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, herself and other party legislators have consistently raised these issues, adding that the Chief Minister had also highlighted them at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi.

Earlier, Itoo inaugurated the newly constructed NTPHC building at Chukkar Kunzer, stating that the facility had been completed after a delay of 13 years.

"Thank God, this project has finally been completed. Those responsible could not complete it during those years, but today, by the grace of Allah, we have completed it under the present government led by Omar Abdullah Sahab," she said. The Minister said the government is also taking steps to shift public facilities operating from rented accommodations to government-owned buildings, particularly in the health and education sectors.

Pampore's saffron fields draw tourists despite poor bloom

Kashmir News Observer

SRINAGAR, NOV 10 :Despite a relatively poor flowering this season, the saffron fields of Pampore in south Kashmir's Pulwama district are attracting tourists from different parts of the country, with hundreds of visitors arriving daily to witness the seasonal bloom and experience the fragrance of Kashmir's world-famous spice.



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

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

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

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

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

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

DIG NKR Dr Vinod Kumar presides over Police Darbar at DPL Kupwara



Kashmir Press Service

KUPWARA: Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG), North Kashmir Range (NKR), Baramulla, Dr. Vinod Kumar, IPS, on Tuesday visited District Police Lines (DPL), Kupwara, and presided over a Police Darbar attended by police personnel from various units of the district.

During the interaction, police personnel raised various grievances and concerns related to transfers, welfare measures and other service-related matters. DIG NKR gave a patient hearing to the issues highlighted by the personnel and ensured that several grievances were redressed on the spot. He also assured that the remaining genuine concerns would be examined and addressed within a stipulated timeframe.

Following the Police Darbar, DIG NKR conducted a comprehensive inspection of various sections and facilities at DPL Kupwara, including the DTC Conference Hall, Jawans' Barracks, Mess, Motor Transport (MT) Section, Equipment Section, Family Quarters and Trade Units.

During the inspection, he reviewed the overall functioning, maintenance and upkeep of these facilities and issued necessary on-the-spot directions to the concerned officers regarding proper maintenance of records, cleanliness and efficient management of the police establishment. The visit underscored the importance of police personnel welfare, timely redressal of genuine grievances and maintaining high standards of discipline, cleanliness and administrative efficiency across the district police establishment.

Pall of gloom descends over Sopore as Adnan's mortal remains reach native village

Relatives, friends bid tearful adieu to MBBS student, thousands attend funeral prayers

Kashmir News Observer

SOPORE, NOV 10 :Pall of gloom descended over Dangerpora village in North Kashmir's Sopore area on Tuesday as mortal remains of a MBBS student, Adnan Altaf Rather, who died in Bangladesh on November 4, reached there this morning.

According to the details thousands of people joined his funeral prayers and bid him a tearful adieu.

The mortal remains of Adnan arrived at Srinagar International Airport from New Delhi this morning and were subsequently transported to his native village. A large gathering of relatives, friends, neighbours and people from adjoining areas had assembled to attend his last rites and pay their final respects. The village witnessed emotional scenes as family members and relatives broke down while bidding farewell to the young student.

Meanwhile, Minister for Health and Medical Education and Social Welfare, Sakeena Itoo, visited the residence of the deceased at Dangerpora to express condolences to the bereaved family.

The Minister was accompanied by MLAs of Sopore, Tangmarg and Pattan. She expressed deep sorrow over Adnan's untimely demise and conveyed her sympathies to the grieving family, praying for eternal peace to the departed soul and strength to the family to bear the irreparable loss. Earlier, the Jammu and Kashmir Students Association (JKSA) expressed gratitude to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and his Advisor Nasir Asalm Wani for their intervention and for ensuring necessary arrangements, including ambulance and logistical support, to facilitate the transportation of the mortal remains from Srinagar Airport to the family's native place.

Delina flyover battles delays, now eyes May-2027 opening

Kashmir News Observer

BARAMULLA, NOV 10 :The 1.7-kilometre Delina Flyover, being constructed as part of the four-laning project of the Srinagar-Baramulla National Highway, is nearing completion, with authorities setting May 2027 deadline to open it for the traffic.

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

Project Manager Naveed Bashir said that round-the-clock work is underway to ensure the flyover is completed and opened for commuters at the earliest. "The work is in its final stage, and by the end of May 2027, we will be all set to open it for traffic," he said. Naveed said the first package, covering the Narbal-to-Delina stretch, is almost complete and has already been made through for traffic, while the focus is now on completing the Delina Flyover.

Kumar Sanu in Valley, calls Kashmir 'Heaven on Earth'

Kashmir News Observer

SRINAGAR, NOV 10 :Renowned Bollywood playback singer Kumar Sanu, popularly known as the 'King of Melody', was seen enjoying a shikara ride on the famous Dal Lake in Srinagar on Tuesday during his ongoing visit to Kashmir.



Appreciating the Valley's natural beauty and warm hospitality, the celebrated singer called Kashmir "Heaven on Earth" and praised its peaceful atmosphere.

Sanu visited the famous Clock Tower at Lal Chowk, where he called Kashmir "Heaven on Earth", appreciating its scenic surroundings and peaceful atmosphere.

He said that the situation in Kashmir was absolutely fine and encouraged people from across the country to visit the Valley and experience its natural beauty and hospitality.

The singer also expressed appreciation for the warmth and affection extended to him by the people of Kashmir.

Sanu was scheduled to travel to north Kashmir's Baramulla district. His visit comes ahead of the grand finale of the first

-ever 'Kashmir Got Talent' event, scheduled to be held in Kupwara on November 11, in which the renowned playback singer is associated.

RBI calls for strengthening credit support, formalisation of MSMEs in J&K, Ladakh

Kashmir Age News

JAMMU, NOV 10: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Jammu, has called for strengthening credit support and promoting formalisation of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

In a statement the RBI said that its Jammu office held the 72nd meeting of the Empowered Committee on MSMEs for the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh for the quarter ended September 30, 2026.

The meeting was chaired by Prabhakar Jha, Regional Director, RBI, Jammu, and attended by representatives of various government departments, banks, financial institutions and industry associations.

In his inaugural address, the Regional Director highlighted the significant contribution of the MSME sector to India's economic growth and its potential for employment generation and entrepreneurship in the two Union Territories.

Stressing the opportunities in sectors such as handicrafts, handloom, food processing, horticulture and tourism, he stressed the need to enhance institutional credit, promote formalisation of enterprises and facilitate market access.

He also urged banks to strengthen efforts towards



wider adoption of Udyam Registration, Udyam Assist and TReDS platforms and improve coverage under credit guarantee schemes.

The Committee reviewed the flow of credit to the MSME sector, district-wise credit deployment, achievement of targets under the MSME Annual Credit Plan 2026-27, availability of collateral-free loans, NPAs and coverage under CGTMSE. Progress under Government-sponsored schemes.

World Immunization Day

Immunization acts as shield, protects everyone from fatal diseases: Experts

Kashmir News Observer

SRINAGAR, NOV 10 :On 'World Immunization Day' health experts reiterated that immunisation remains one of the most effective preventive measures to protect infants, children and adults from a range of potentially fatal infectious diseases.

Experts said that adherence to the prescribed immunisation schedule is essential, particularly during childhood, as timely administration of vaccines helps build immunity against several serious ailments before individuals are exposed to them.

Dr Tabassum Jan a general physician at the Directorate of Health Services Kashmir (DHSK) said that vaccination has played a transformative role in controlling and eliminating several infectious diseases across the world.

"Smallpox has been eradicated globally through sustained immunisation efforts, while diseases such as polio, measles, diphtheria and tetanus have witnessed a significant decline in cases due to widespread vaccination," she said.

Dr Tabassum said vaccines prevent millions of deaths every year and provide children with protection against infections that can otherwise result in serious complications, permanent disabilities or even loss of life.

"A child who receives all routine vaccines according to the recommended schedule gets protection against several potentially



fatal illnesses. Parents must understand that vaccination is not merely a routine medical procedure but an important investment in their child's health and future," she added.

Dr Tabassum said immunisation offers protection beyond the individual, as widespread vaccination reduces the circulation of infectious diseases within communities.

Explaining the concept of herd immunity, she said when a sufficiently large proportion of the population is vaccinated, the transmission of infections declines, thereby offering indirect protection to vulnerable groups, including newborns, people with weakened immune systems and those who cannot receive certain vaccines.

Kashmir Age
"Truth we say..... come what may"
SRINAGAR | WEDNESDAY
11-NOVEMBER-2026
04
www.kashmirage.net facebook.com/kashmirage youtube.com/@kashmirAge dailykashmirage@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is notified for the general public that my name is Shahid Saleem, S/o Mohd Saleem Lone, R/o Kanelwan, Bijbehara District Anantnag. My name is recorded as "Shahid Saleem" in all my educational records up to Class 12th. However, in the records of the University of Kashmir, it has been inadvertently recorded as "Shahid Saleem Lone". To maintain uniformity across all my educational records, I intend to get my name corrected in the University records from "Shahid Saleem Lone" to Shahid Saleem. If anyone has any objection to this correction, they may submit it in writing to the University of Kashmir within 7 days of the publication of this notice. No objection will be entertained after this period.

Shahid Saleem
S/o Mohd Saleem Lone
R/o Kanelwan, Bijbehara, Anantnag 904

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Suhail Nazir Shah, S/o Nazir Ahmad Shah, R/o Housing Colony, Bijbehara, Anantnag, hereby inform the general public that my Indian Passport has been lost.

The passport was lost on 06/11/2026 while travelling from Housing Colony, Bijbehara, to Pazalpora, Bijbehara, via Scooty. Passport Details: Passport No.: R9003873 Date of Issue: 27/02/2018 Place of Issue: Srinagar. If anybody finds the said passport, they are kindly requested to contact me at 9149536303 or at the above-mentioned address.

Suhail Nazir Shah 904

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Electricity Connection bearing Consumer ID No. 0209010003634, presently registered in the name of Mohd Jabar Mir, is intended to be transferred in favour of Abdul Gani Mir, S/o Mohd Jabar Mir. In this regard, if anybody has any objection to the proposed transfer, he/she may file his/her objection in writing at the office of the AEE, PDD Sub-Division, Bijbehara, within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice. After the expiry of the stipulated period, no objection shall be entertained.

Abdul Gani Mir
S/o Mohd Jabar Mir
R/o Shanaz Pora, Sirhama
904

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general public that the electric power connection bearing Consumer ID : 0202040010697, installed at Housing Colony Chanapora, Srinagar, near Al Ghazali School, currently registered in the name of Fayaz Ahmed Qadri, is being transferred/changed to the name of Halima Sherwani.

If any person, organisation, or authority has any objection to this transfer of connection, they should submit their objection in writing along with supporting evidence to the office of the Executive Engineer, JKPDD, within 15 days from the publication of this notice. If no objections are received within the specified period, the power department will proceed with updating the records and transferring the connection to Halima Sherwani. W/o Late Fayaz Ahmed Qadri

Faiyaz Ahmed Qadri / Halima Sherwani
Contact: 9906006563
Address: Housing Colony Chanapora, Srinagar, Near Al Ghazali School, Srinagar 190015
8279

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to general public that I, Shakeel Ahmad Bhat S/o Ab Majeed Bhat R/o Chandgam am applying for Fertilizer Licence of my shop situate at Palpora, Pulwama. In this regard if anybody has any objection he/she may file his/her own objection in the office of Chief Agricultural Officer Pulwama within 07 days. After that no objection will be entertained.

8279



NORTHERN RAILWAY

Notice Inviting Tender

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

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

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

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Amid snowfall prediction, authorities ask tourists to leave Gurez

Bandipora, Nov 10, KNT: Tourists currently visiting Gurez Valley have been advised to leave the area by Tuesday, November 10, in view of a forecast of heavy snowfall from November 11 and the possibility of road blockages that could leave visitors stranded.

Bandipora Police issued a general travel advisory, urging tourists to plan their departure immediately and avoid undertaking fresh journeys to Gurez in anticipation of adverse weather conditions.

The advisory also cautions that snowfall could disrupt road connectivity, making travel difficult and potentially cutting off the valley from other areas.

Police have specifically urged examination candidates, patients requiring regular medical care or consultations, guests travelling for scheduled weddings and other urgent events, and individuals having time-bound official duties outside the Sub-Division to take the warning seriously and plan their movements accordingly.

Tourists have been advised to plan their journeys well in advance, preferably travel during daylight hours, avoid unnecessary movement and follow official weather and road advisories issued by the concerned authorities.

They have also been asked to remain in coordination with local police and the administration for updates on road conditions.

Scooty rider killed, 2 injured in accidents

Srinagar, Nov 10, KNT: A 27-year-old man died after succumbing to injuries sustained in a road accident at Umarhair, Ahmad Nagar area of Srinagar outskirts on Monday night, while two other persons travelling with him on a scooty were injured.

The deceased has been identified as Bashir Ahmad Khan, son of Ghulam Nabi Khan, a resident of Khaitengan, Baramulla.

According to details available, the trio were travelling on a scooty when an unidentified vehicle hit their two-wheeler at Umarhair. All three were subsequently shifted to SKIMS Soura by a police party from Police Station Ahmad Nagar.

The injured were identified as Manzoor Ahmad Khan, son of Abdul Majid Khan, and Mehraj-ud-Din Wani, son of Ghulam Nabi Wani, both residents of Sheeri, Baramulla, and aged around 25 years.

Manzoor sustained multiple injuries and was stated to be stable, while Mehraj-ud-Din suffered head injuries and was reported to be in critical condition.

Bashir Ahmad Khan, who had also sustained multiple injuries, later succumbed to his injuries at the hospital.

Health Minister orders senior doctors' to attend night duty at GMC Anantnag

Anantnag, Nov 10, KNT: Health Minister Sakina Itoo on Monday night inspected Government Medical College (GMC) Anantnag and directed the hospital administration to ensure the availability of senior doctors during night hours, stressing that no patient should be left unattended.

During the visit, the Minister inspected patient care facilities and reviewed the overall functioning of the hospital.

She directed the administration to put in place arrangements ensuring that senior doctors remain available during night shifts so that patients receive timely medical attention and hospital services continue without interruption.

She directed the administration to put in place arrangements ensuring that senior doctors remain available during night shifts so that patients receive timely medical attention and hospital services continue without interruption.

The Minister also made it clear that negligence or any compromise in patient care would not be tolerated.

Her directions come amid concerns over the availability of senior doctors during night hours at the hospital, an issue that has raised questions about patient care and accountability.



Kashmir Age
"Truth we say..... come what may"
SRINAGAR | WEDNESDAY
11-NOVEMBER-2026

www.kashmirage.net facebook.com/kashmirage youtube.com/@kashmirAge dailykashmirage@gmail.com

Div Com Jammu reviews progress of ongoing works at Mubarak Mandi Complex

Kashmir Age News

JAMMU, NOVEMBER 10: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Vikas Kundal, today chaired a meeting to review the progress of ongoing projects at the Mubarak Mandi Heritage Complex.

During the meeting, the Divisional Commissioner reviewed the status of various heritage conservation projects, including the restoration of Darbar Hall, Raja Ram Singh Palace, Raja Amar Singh Palace, Dogra Art Museum and other historic structures. He took stock of the physical and financial progress of the ongoing works.



The meeting also discussed key developmental projects aimed at improving accessibility and visitor facilities at the heritage complex, including the proposed multi-level parking facility, construction of a connecting flyover from Jullaka Mohalla and development of heritage-related infrastructure. He also reviewed the status of the proposed vertical lift connecting the Cable Car Project with Mubarak Mandi.

Divisional Commissioner directed the concerned departments to furnish a comprehensive list of issues and bottlenecks affecting the execution of ongoing projects so that these could be addressed in a coordinated manner. He also called for a survey to assess the daily footfall of visitors at the heritage complex to facilitate better planning and improvement of visitor facilities.

He stressed the need for coordinated efforts among all concerned departments and agencies for timely completion of the ongoing projects.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner, JMC, Executive Director, MMJHS Jammu, SE PWD (R&B) and other concerned officers.

Army, National Book Trust Organise Women Literary Conclave in Sopore

Kashmir Press Service
PEERZADA SAYEED



SOPORE: The Indian Army, in collaboration with the National Book Trust of India, organised a Women Literary Expression Competition at Government Degree College (GDC), Sopore, with the aim of promoting literary talent, creativity and intellectual development among young women.

The event commenced with a visit to Major Mohit Sharma Army Goodwill School, Sopore, followed by an interactive session with youth and college students at GDC Sopore.

The programme culminated with the felicitation of the winners by Mrs Vishali, Chairperson, HQ CIF (K).

The initiative provided a platform for young women to showcase their literary abilities, express their ideas and enhance their creative and critical thinking skills.

The event highlighted the Indian Army's continued efforts, in collaboration with educational and literary institutions, to encourage youth engagement, promote education and nurture creativity among girls in the region.

Udyam Jagriti programme for Ex Servicemen held in Budgam

Kashmir Age News

BUDGAM, NOVEMBER 10: An Udyam Jagriti programme under Mission YUVA was organised for Ex- Servicemen, Widows and their families of district Budgam to sensitise them about the scheme and apprise them of the opportunities available for establishing sustainable self-employment ventures.

The programme witnessed the participation of Team Sainik Welfare Srinagar, Lead District Manager (LDM) Budgam, Employment Officer, Career Counselling Officer Budgam and officials from the Employment Department along with huge gathering of Ex Servicemen and their families from district Budgam.

The initiative reflects the commitment of district Administration and Mission YUVA towards promoting entrepreneurship, encouraging self-employment and facilitating inclusive economic development by enabling Ex Servicemen and their wards to explore viable business opportunities and contribute to the local economy.

DC Ganderbal inspects snow clearance control room at Tulbagh

Kashmir Age News

GANDERBAL, NOVEMBER 10: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shreya Singhal, accompanied by the ADC Ganderbal, today visited the Snow Clearance Control Room at Tulbagh, Ganderbal, to take stock of the operational preparedness and arrangements put in place for the ensuing winter season.

During the inspection, the AEE, Mechanical & Hospital Sub-Division 2nd, Ganderbal, briefed the DC regarding the availability of snow clearance machinery, the road network identified for mechanised snow clearance and the overall operational preparedness of the Control Room.

It was informed that a total of 12 snow clearance machines, including a snow cutter, are presently available. Out of these, three machines have been stationed at the Sub-Control Room, Kangan, to ensure prompt response to snowfall and snow clearance requirements in the area, while the remaining machines are stationed at the Main Control Room, Ganderbal.

The DC was apprised that a total road length of 284.18 kilometers has been identified for mechanised snow clearance across district Ganderbal. It was also apprised that the priority-wise categorisation has been made to facilitate systematic and phased snow clearance operations, with emphasis on ensuring connectivity on priority routes, particularly those essential for public movement and accessibility during the winter months.

Temporary employees of Consumer Affairs Department in Karnah face hardships

Kashmir Press Service/
Peerzada Sayeed

KUPWARA: Temporary employees working under the Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs in Sub-Division Karnah have been facing severe hardships and uncertainty for several years. Despite rendering essential services to the department, these workers continue to receive meagre monthly wages, with no significant increase in their remuneration and no concrete steps taken towards their regularisation.



According to available information, the temporary employees posted in Karnah are being paid merely Rs 8,000 to Rs 9,000 per month, an amount that is insufficient to meet even their basic household expenses amid rising inflation. Despite receiving such meagre wages, they continue to perform physically demanding duties and shoulder important responsibilities to ensure the smooth functioning of the public ration distribution system.

The most concerning aspect is that the entire Sub-Division Karnah has only five such workers engaged in handling and unloading ration supplies. These five employees are responsible for unloading ration stocks arriving at Lountha Grainery as well as various other ration depots and distribution centres across the sub-division.

Despite the severe shortage of manpower, the workload on these employees remains exceptionally high. They continue to perform their duties day and night, often under difficult weather conditions, including heavy snowfall and rainfall, to ensure that the supply of ration to the general public is not disrupted and that consumers receive their entitled supplies on time.

It is worth mentioning that Karnah is a remote border sub-division where difficult geographical conditions and harsh weather frequently create additional challenges in carrying out official responsibilities. In such circumstances, the services rendered by these limited workers become even more significant. However, despite their continuous efforts and contribution, their genuine concerns have remained largely unaddressed.

Local residents and concerned sections of society believe that employees who have been carrying out essential departmental responsibilities for years deserve fair treatment and financial security. At the very least, their monthly wages should be revised in accordance with the prevailing cost of living. Furthermore, the authorities should seriously examine the possibility of their regularisation or provide them relief through an appropriate policy framework.

Public representatives and affected employees have urged senior officials of the department, the District Administration Kupwara and the concerned government authorities to take immediate cognisance of their plight. They have demanded a substantial enhancement in their monthly wages, deployment of additional manpower to reduce the existing workload, and a concrete decision regarding the regularisation of these long-serving temporary employees.

The contribution of these workers should not be overlooked merely because they are engaged on a temporary basis. Their role in maintaining the essential ration supply system across Karnah is crucial, and ensuring their financial dignity, better working conditions and a secure future deserves the immediate attention of the concerned authorities.

SKUAST-K launches 15-day certificate course on integrated Nutrient Management



Kashmir Press Service

SRINAGAR: The Directorate of Extension/ SAMETI, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-Kashmir), today inaugurated a 15-day Certificate Course on "Integrated Nutrient Management" in collaboration with the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad. Agricultural input dealers and prospective fertilizer dealers from different districts of the Kashmir Valley are participating in the course.

Scheduled from November 9 to November 23, 2026, the programme aims to enhance the technical knowledge and professional competence of participants, with particular emphasis on scientific nutrient application, soil health management and balanced fertilization.

Participants will be familiarized with the latest advancements in nutrient management, soil fertility assessment, and the judicious use of chemical fertilizers, organic manures and biofertilizers for improving soil health and crop productivity. The course will also cover relevant fertilizer rules and regulations, enabling participants to offer sound technical guidance to farmers. Training will include expert lectures by SKUAST-Kashmir specialists, interactive sessions and field visits to different units of the University.

Addressing the participants, Prof. Raihana Habib Kanth, Director Extension/SAMETI, SKUAST-Kashmir, underscored the important role of agricultural input dealers in disseminating scientific agricultural technologies and providing need-based guidance to farming communities. She said that trained dealers can serve as an effective link between research institutions and farmers by promoting balanced fertilizer use and sustainable agricultural practices. The collaborative initiative of the Directorate of Extension/ SAMETI and MANAGE, Hyderabad, is expected to strengthen the capacity of input dealers as para-extension professionals and contribute to sustainable agricultural development in Kashmir.

Forest Department conducts DPC meeting in Kashmir North Forest Circle

Kashmir Press Service
PEERZADA SAYEED

SRINAGAR: The J&K Forest Department convened Meetings of the District Level Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) for Kashmir North Forest Circle to examine the promotion cases of eligible Multi-Tasking Staff (MTS)/ Class-IV employees of Kupwara and Baramulla districts to the posts of Forest Guards and Junior Assistants under the prescribed promotion quota.

During the exercise, the Committee reviewed the district-wise vacancies, eligibility of candidates, seniority position, reservation roster and other relevant service records in accordance with the applicable recruitment rules and Government instructions.

In the twin districts of Kupwara and Baramulla, a total of 47 vacancies in the Executive and Ministerial categories were taken up for consideration, comprising 26 vacancies under the Executive category and 21 under the Ministerial category. The eligible candidates against these vacancies were considered by the Committee in accordance with the prescribed eligibility criteria and applicable rules.

The Committee also examined cases falling under the prescribed quota for promotion to the posts of Junior Assistants. The proceedings involved scrutiny of relevant records and fulfilment of the requisite procedural formalities.



The meeting was chaired by Sh. Irfan Ali Shah, IFS, Conservator of Forests, Kashmir North Circle. Other members present included Sh. Zahid Aslam, DFO, JV Forest Division and Member Secretary for Baramulla district; Sh. Owais Mir, DFO, Kamraj Forest Division and Member Secretary for Kupwara district; Sh. Ahzaz Pajwari, DFO

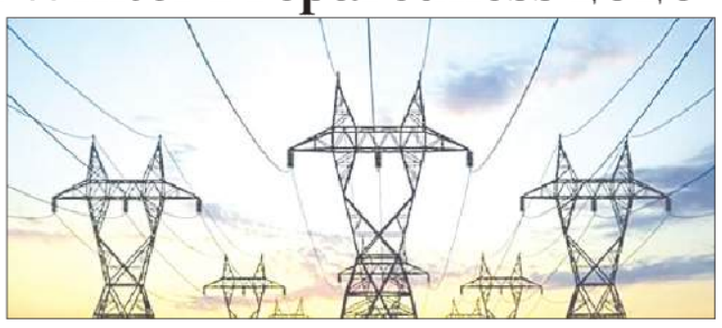
, Langate Forest Division and SC & FC Pohru Division; Sh. Faisal Farooq, DFO, Kehmil Forest Division; Sh. Hidayatullah Mir, Under Secretary, Administrative Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment; and Sh. Showket Ahmad, Administrative Officer with the Chief Conservator of Forests, Kashmir.

The Chairman, while interacting with the media, emphasised that employee welfare remains a key priority of the Department and that timely consideration of promotion cases is an important aspect of this commitment. He observed that providing eligible employees with due opportunities for career advancement not only recognises their service, dedication and contribution but also enhances their morale, motivation and overall efficiency. He reiterated the Department's commitment to ensuring a fair, transparent and time-bound process for the consideration of service matters.

KPDCL launches Digital Handbook on Winter Preparedness 2026–27

Kashmir Age News

SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 10: In view of the prevailing weather advisory and ahead of the winter season, the Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) today launched its Digital Handbook on Winter Preparedness 2026–27, placing its comprehensive winter action plan for Kashmir Division in the public domain.



The initiative, undertaken under the directions of the Minister for Power, J&K, aims to promote transparency, strengthen accountability and facilitate informed public participation in ensuring reliable and safe power supply during the winter months.

The Handbook, themed "Readiness, Restoration and Consumer Safety," serves as a comprehensive reference document outlining KPDCL's winter preparedness measures, buffer stocks, restoration mechanisms, grievance redressal channels and essential safety advisories for its 13.53 lakh consumers.

Among the key highlights of the Handbook is a detailed overview of the Corporation's power distribution network, comprising 353 Receiving Stations with a capacity of 5,021.65 MVA, 135 33 kV feeders, 1,334 11 kV feeders and 49,935 Distribution Transformers.

It also outlines the pre-winter preparedness measures undertaken by KPDCL, including clearance of power corridors through regular shutdowns, augmentation of overloaded distribution transformers, renovation and modernisation of receiving stations, and rectification of identified fault-prone hotspots to minimise power disruptions.

To ensure prompt replacement of damaged equipment and minimise restoration time, the Handbook provides division-wise details of buffer stocks, including 1,096 and 824 distribution transformers, along with buffer stocks of 33/11 kV power transformers and essential materials such as conductors, electric poles, transformer oil and AB cables. These materials have been positioned across divisions, including in areas vulnerable to floods and landslides.

The Corporation has also put in place Swift Restoration Teams (SRTs) at district and divisional levels, supported by dedicated teams and control rooms to ensure timely response to power outages and other emergencies. For the convenience of consumers, the Handbook provides the names and contact numbers of Assistant Executive Engineers, Assistant Engineers and Junior Engineers of every Electric Division and Sub-Division, enabling the public to directly approach the concerned officials for assistance.

Emphasising consumer convenience, the Handbook also details the available 24×7 grievance redressal mechanisms. Consumers can register their complaints through the helpline 1912, toll-free number 18001807666, JK Samadhan 2.0, CPGRAMS, and KPDCL's official website and social media platforms. The document further explains the statutory grievance escalation mechanism through the Internal Grievance Redressal Forum (IGRF), Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum (CGRF) and Electricity Ombudsman.

A dedicated section on public safety provides important winter-related Do's and Don'ts, advising consumers to immediately report snapped conductors, maintain a safe distance from damaged electrical installations and refrain from touching fallen wires, climbing electric poles or attempting repairs on their own.

Editorial

Pneumonia Challenge

World Pneumonia Day, observed annually on November 12, is a reminder that a disease which is both preventable and treatable continues to claim lives, particularly among children and vulnerable sections of society. The observance is not merely about raising awareness of a medical condition; it is about confronting gaps in healthcare access, prevention and timely intervention that allow a common lung infection to turn fatal.

Pneumonia causes inflammation of the lungs, with the tiny air sacs filling with fluid or pus and making breathing difficult. It can be caused by bacteria, viruses or fungi, and its severity varies depending on the patient's age, immunity and underlying health. Young children, older people and those with weakened immune systems remain particularly vulnerable. Yet, despite advances in medical science, pneumonia continues to be a major cause of preventable deaths, especially among children in developing countries.

The persistence of pneumonia-related deaths raises an uncomfortable question: why should a disease that can often be prevented through vaccination and treated with timely medical intervention continue to take such a heavy toll? The answer lies partly in unequal healthcare access, delayed diagnosis, poor nutrition, household air pollution and inadequate awareness of warning signs. For many families, the challenge is not simply recognising an illness but reaching a healthcare facility capable of providing appropriate treatment.

In India, the SAANS initiative, launched in 2019, represents an important effort to address childhood pneumonia through awareness, early identification and appropriate management. However, the success of such programmes depends on their effective implementation, particularly in rural and underserved areas. Awareness campaigns must reach parents, caregivers and frontline health workers, enabling them to recognise fast or laboured breathing and seek medical assistance without delay.

Prevention must remain central to the response. Routine immunisation against pneumococcus, Haemophilus influenzae type b, measles and pertussis can prevent infections associated with pneumonia. Adequate nutrition, breastfeeding, hand hygiene, clean cooking environments and protection from tobacco smoke are equally important.

World Pneumonia Day should also remind governments that public health cannot be measured merely by launching schemes or issuing advisories. Accessible primary healthcare, trained medical personnel, affordable medicines, diagnostic facilities and oxygen support are essential components of an effective response.

Ultimately, pneumonia deaths are not inevitable. What is required is sustained public awareness, stronger healthcare infrastructure and timely medical intervention. The real significance of November 12 will be measured not by the number of awareness programmes conducted, but by how many lives are protected through meaningful action.

Kashmir Age
"Truth we say...come what may"

Printed and Published by Aakash Amin, Media Enclave, Residency Road Srinagar (J&K) and Printed at KT Press Pvt. Ltd. 120- Electronic Complex, Industrial Estate Rangreth Budgam (J&K)

Printer/Publisher
Aakash Amin

Bureau Chief (UT Ladakh)
Adv. Nisar Ali

Legal Advisor
Adv. Firdous Ahmad Bhat

Published From
Media Enclave, Residency Road Srinagar 190001 (J&K)

R.N.I No. :
JKENG/2006/23952

Newsroom Contact
0194-24800031
Fax: 24800031
9419019185 , 9419070001
kashmirage2006@gmail.com
dailykashmirage@gmail.com

Advertisement Contact
9419001998

Circulation Contact
6005894093, 7006115687
7006300023 , 6005919565

Scan the QR Code for instant access

SKUAST-K Enters New Era Of Academic Excellence

Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai Leads From The Front



BY: G M BHAT

The Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K), under the leadership of Vice-Chancellor Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai, is emerging as one of the country's prominent centres of agricultural education, scientific research, innovation, entrepreneurship and farmer-oriented development.

Prof. Ganai envisions a university that does more than award degrees, conduct examinations and publish research papers. He wants SKUAST-K to generate employment, create entrepreneurs, develop technologies, strengthen rural livelihoods and contribute directly to the economic prosperity of Jammu and Kashmir. Education, research, innovation, extension and entrepreneurship now complement one another, so that scientific advances reach farmers, rural households, educated youth and the wider agricultural economy.

Quality Education and a Growing National Destination for Students

renewed emphasis on quality education and academic excellence has been one of the most significant developments under Prof. Ganai's leadership. SKUAST-K is increasingly seen as a place where students aspire to pursue higher education, research and professional careers in agriculture and allied sciences. Nearly 30 per cent of its students are reported to come from outside Jammu and Kashmir. This reflects growing confidence in the University's academic standards, research environment, infrastructure and faculty expertise.

Prof. Ganai holds that a university's reputation rests not on its infrastructure or number of courses, but on the quality of education it imparts, the competence of its graduates, the research environment it offers and the opportunities it creates for students. The University therefore places greater emphasis on practical learning, field exposure, scientific temperament, interdisciplinary research, innovation, entrepreneurship and personality development. The aim is to produce graduates who are academically sound, professionally competent, technologically equipped and ready to meet national and international challenges.

To attract talented students from different states, the University is organising educational camps, academic outreach programmes, student interaction sessions, awareness activities, exhibitions and educational melas. These give students and their parents the chance to meet faculty members and researchers, explore the available disciplines and learn about careers in agriculture, veterinary sciences, horticulture, fisheries, forestry and allied fields. Such initiatives help break geographical and psychological barriers and project Kashmir as an important destination for quality higher education, scientific learning and research.

The participation of students from outside the Union Territory also promotes cultural exchange, national integration, academic diversity and healthy interaction among young people from different regions. It signals that SKUAST-K is no longer serving only local needs, but is positioning itself as a national-level academic destination. The Vice-Chancellor's vision is to make it a preferred choice for talented students, irrespective of their geographical background, and to take the University towards global competitiveness.

Investing in Young Minds: Future Scientists, Professionals and Entrepreneurs

he University is preparing students for a rapidly changing employment and agricultural landscape. Its educational approach increasingly links classroom teaching with research laboratories, farmers' fields, industry exposure, incubation facilities and entrepreneurship opportunities. Students are encouraged to develop independent thinking, problem-solving abilities, leadership qualities and innovative approaches.

The focus is not simply on producing degree holders, but on developing competent professionals, successful entrepreneurs, responsible citizens and future scientific leaders. This is especially relevant at a time when the country needs a new generation of agricultural scientists, veterinarians, food technologists, agribusiness professionals and rural entrepreneurs. SKUAST-K is becoming a place where young people come not only to obtain degrees, but to discover opportunities, develop capabilities and pursue innovation.

A Culture of Innovation and Intellectual Property

The University has moved decisively



towards innovation. At the 36th University Council meeting in June 2026, SKUAST-K reported 123 Intellectual Property Rights, including patents, trademarks and designs. This is a significant advance from the handful of patents it held in earlier decades.

Prof. Ganai's "Patents to Products" philosophy encourages scientists, postgraduate students, doctoral scholars and faculty to convert laboratory findings into commercially viable technologies that benefit society.

Creating Entrepreneurs, Not Just Job Seekers

The SKUAST-K Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship (SKIIE) Centre nurtures startups, offers mentorship and connects research with industry and markets. Its published impact figures include:

- 140 startups and 378 incubatees
- 136 intellectual property rights
- More than Rs 28 crore raised by startups
- 77 awards and 15 BIRAC grantees

Student-led and faculty-led ventures, popularly associated with the University's BabyCorns initiative, reflect a shift in mindset: graduates are encouraged to become creators of employment rather than depend solely on government jobs. This matters in Jammu and Kashmir, where educated unemployment remains a concern. Entrepreneurship is being promoted in agriculture, horticulture, biotechnology, food processing, veterinary sciences, animal husbandry and allied sectors.

Supporting the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme

SKUAST-K has played a major role in the scientific planning, knowledge support, implementation framework and capacity building of the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP). The programme aims to transform traditional agriculture into a profitable, technology-driven and sustainable bioeconomy. It covers crop production, horticulture, livestock, sheep husbandry, fisheries, apiculture, sericulture, agricultural engineering, post-harvest management, food processing and entrepreneurship. Farmers, rural women and unemployed youth are encouraged to take part in value addition, processing, branding and marketing, rather than remain limited to producing raw commodities.

Taking Education to the Farmer's Field

Under the Student Rural Exploration Programme (SREP), more than 3,000 students visited over 300 University-adopted villages. Students from agriculture, horticulture, veterinary sciences, fisheries, forestry, sericulture and agricultural engineering interacted directly with farmers and rural households. They studied existing practices, identified production constraints and offered scientific guidance under the supervision of University scientists.

The programme gives students practical exposure to rural realities, strengthens farmer-scientist relationships, helps identify village-specific problems, promotes improved technologies, creates awareness of government schemes and entrepreneurship, and connects research with the needs of farming communities.

Research with Direct Benefits to Farmers

The University's research agenda is demand-driven and farmer-centric. It focuses on climate-resilient agriculture, improved crop varieties, disease management, quality planting material, livestock productivity, post-harvest technologies, food security and sustainable resource management. At the 58th and 59th Research and Extension Advisory Committee meetings in July 2026, the University reported:

- Transfer of 87 technologies to end users
- Release of eight improved crop varieties
- Advancement of 13 further varieties towards release
- Initiation of 15 minikit trials

Extension and Digital Advisory Services

Extension has been strengthened through the Directorate of Extension Education, Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), research stations, farmer training programmes, demonstrations, field visits, awareness campaigns and digital advisory services. The KVK network is especially important in reaching remote, rural, tribal and border areas, and scientists are encouraged to engage directly with farmers, orchardists, livestock rearers, women farmers and rural entrepreneurs.

The University has also inaugurated the e-Plant Health Clinic, Farmer School Centre, Agri-Clinic and Agri-Business Centre. These facilities link scientific diagnosis, digital advisory services, farmer education and enterprise development. For Kashmir's orchardists, timely diagnosis can reduce unnecessary spending on pesticides and fungicides, minimise crop losses and promote responsible plant protection.

A Multidisciplinary Development Vision

- Horticulture and high-value agriculture: High-density plantations, improved varieties, protected cultivation, precision irrigation, quality planting material, scientific orchard management, grading, sorting, storage and value addition for apple, walnut, cherry, pear, almond, saffron and vegetables, with the focus on productivity, quality and profitability.
- Veterinary sciences, livestock and dairy: Animal healthcare, scientific breeding, disease prevention, dairy development, sheep husbandry and animal nutrition, with a proposed Global Veterinary School. These sectors support the livelihoods of thousands of rural households.
- Allied sectors: Fisheries, sericulture, forestry, agroforestry, apiculture, medicinal and aromatic plants and mushroom cultivation, offering income diversification for small and marginal farmers, women, tribal communities and rural youth, and supporting integrated farming models.
- Women's empowerment: Training, skill development and enterprise promotion in mushroom cultivation, food processing, dairy, poultry, apiculture, vegetable production, nursery development and value addition, so that rural women become recognised entrepreneurs.
- Climate resilience and sustainability: Water management, soil health improvement, integrated pest management, organic and natural farming, and biodiversity conservation, to balance productivity, profitability and environmental protection in Kashmir's fragile mountain ecosystem.

Global Engagement and Institutional Reforms

SKUAST-K is expanding its academic interactions, research collaborations, fellowships, expert exchanges, conferences and participation in national programmes, so that students and faculty learn from global best practice while developing solutions suited to Kashmir's agro-climatic conditions. Prof. Ganai's own international experience includes Erasmus Mundus, Durham, SABRE and educational leadership fellowships.

The 36th University Council meeting in June 2026 discussed several reforms and future initiatives:

- Upgrading the Agricultural Research Information System into a Directorate of Information Technology
- Strengthening quality assurance through a Directorate of Quality Assurance
- Establishing an International Students Cell
- A proposed Centre for Agri Innovation, Analytics and Certification
- A proposed Agri-Startup Park to nurture more than 50 University-led startups
- A proposed Global Veterinary School

Hope for Educated Youth

The University's incubation ecosystem, patent culture, skill-development programmes and industry linkages are opening new career paths. Young people can now aspire to become food-processing entrepreneurs, agri-technology developers, nursery owners, dairy entrepreneurs, mushroom producers, biotechnology innovators, agri-consultants or founders of technology-based startups.

The University acknowledges that its progress is a collective achievement of its deans, directors, scientists, teachers, researchers, technical and administrative staff, KVK personnel and students. At the same time, strong leadership has provided direction, set priorities and motivated the academic community.

SKUAST-K's larger goal is to make agriculture a more attractive, profitable and technology-driven profession in Jammu and Kashmir. Farmers must receive timely scientific advice, young people must find opportunities to start enterprises, women must have access to skills and markets, and technologies must reach the field. The University is committed to ensuring that every initiative produces measurable gains in farmers' incomes, rural employment, productivity and environmental sustainability.

The University has also inaugurated the e-Plant Health Clinic, Farmer School Centre, Agri-Clinic and Agri-Business Centre. These facilities link scientific diagnosis, digital advisory services, farmer education and enterprise development. For Kashmir's orchardists, timely diagnosis can reduce unnecessary spending on pesticides and fungicides, minimise crop losses and promote responsible plant protection.

Kashmir Age
"Truth we say..... come what may"
SRINAGAR | WEDNESDAY
11-NOVEMBER-2026

www.kashmirage.net facebook.com/kashmirage youtube.com/@kashmirAge dailykashmirage@gmail.com

Rising Air Pollution and Winter Smog May Increase Stroke Risk



BY: DR. BIPLAB DAS

As winter approaches, deteriorating air quality and rising pollution levels across northern India have become a major public health concern. While the immediate effects of polluted air are commonly associated with respiratory problems, their impact extends much further, affecting cardiovascular and neurological health. Growing scientific evidence suggests that prolonged exposure to air pollution, particularly fine particulate matter, can significantly increase the risk of stroke. With stubble burning, industrial emissions, vehicular pollution and construction dust contributing to the worsening air quality, the growing pollution crisis deserves serious attention from a stroke prevention perspective.

One of the most concerning pollutants is PM2.5, comprising extremely fine particles that can penetrate deep into the lungs and enter the bloodstream. Once inside the body, these particles trigger inflammation, oxidative stress and damage to the inner lining of blood vessels. They can also increase blood pressure, disturb normal blood clotting mechanisms and accelerate the progression of atherosclerosis, a condition in which fatty deposits accumulate inside arteries. These changes can increase the likelihood of blood clots forming or existing plaques becoming unstable, potentially obstructing blood supply to the brain and triggering an ischaemic stroke.

The sources of pollution during the winter months are numerous and often overlap. Stubble burning in neighbouring agricultural states releases large quantities of particulate matter and harmful gases into the atmosphere. Industrial emissions add another layer of toxic pollutants, while the increasing number of vehicles contributes nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide and fine particulate matter. Construction activities, road dust and demolition work further increase airborne particles. As temperatures fall, wind speeds decrease and atmospheric conditions become unfavourable for the dispersion of pollutants. The formation of winter smog traps these emissions closer to the ground, resulting in prolonged exposure to hazardous air.

The relationship between air pollution and stroke is particularly concerning for individuals who already have risk factors such as hypertension, diabetes, high cholesterol, obesity, smoking and existing heart disease. However, pollution-related vascular damage is not restricted to these groups. Even individuals without a known history of cardiovascular or neurological conditions may face increased risks with sustained exposure to polluted air. Research has associated both short-term increases in pollution and long-term exposure with a higher incidence of stroke.

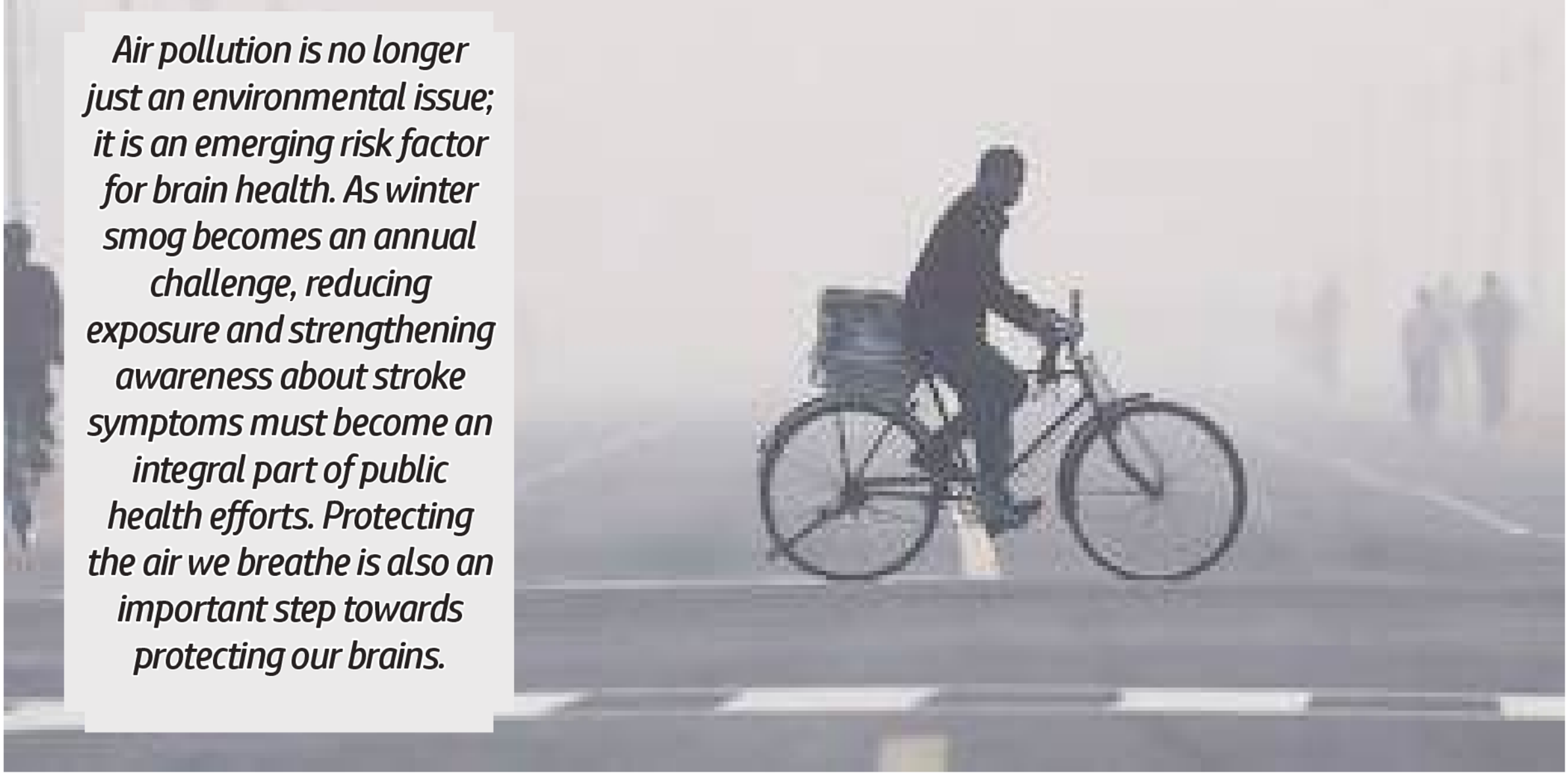
Recognising the warning signs of stroke is equally important. Sudden weakness or numbness of the face, arm or leg, particularly on one side of the body, difficulty speaking or understanding speech, sudden vision disturbances, loss of balance or an unexplained severe headache should never be ignored. Every minute matters during a stroke, as nearly 1.9 million brain cells can be lost every minute when an untreated stroke progresses. Immediate medical attention and access to a stroke-ready hospital can significantly influence treatment outcomes and reduce long-term disability.

While tackling air pollution requires coordinated action by policymakers, industries, farmers and communities, individuals can take practical precautions. Checking daily Air Quality Index (AQI) levels, limiting outdoor physical activity during periods of severe pollution, using well-fitted N95 masks when stepping outdoors and keeping indoor environments adequately ventilated when outdoor air quality permits can help reduce exposure. People with hypertension, diabetes and other vascular risk factors should be particularly vigilant about managing their underlying conditions.

Air pollution is no longer just an environmental issue; it is an emerging risk factor for brain health. As winter smog becomes an annual challenge, reducing exposure and strengthening awareness about stroke symptoms must become an integral part of public health efforts. Protecting the air we breathe is also an important step towards protecting our brains.

(Author is Organising Secretary, Stroke & AI 2026 and Director – Neurology & Interventional Neuroradiology, Batra Hospital)

Air pollution is no longer just an environmental issue; it is an emerging risk factor for brain health. As winter smog becomes an annual challenge, reducing exposure and strengthening awareness about stroke symptoms must become an integral part of public health efforts. Protecting the air we breathe is also an important step towards protecting our brains.



What to do in your 30s to improve your health in your 70s



DAVID COX

From a brisk 15-minute walk, to getting regular sleep – doing these things from your 30s could help you stay fit well into your 70s.

By the time you reach your eighth decade of life, the chances are that you'll probably be feeling weaker, stiffer, and perhaps a little less cognitively sharp than in your younger years. Your sleep patterns might have changed so that you feel drowsier in the evenings and then wake earlier. Most concerningly, going by population averages, it's likely that you will be dealing with at least one chronic health condition.

Yet researchers, now more than ever, are convinced that this is not an inevitability. "Based on what we now know, most people could expect to live to 90 or even 95 in good health if they were to optimise their lifestyle," says Eric Verdin, president and chief executive of the Buck Institute for Research on Ageing in California. "And that's very far from where we are, where most people live to 65 or 70 in good health, and then become ill and suffer all the indignities of old age."

While Verdin says that it's never too late to improve your health at any age through making positive lifestyle adjustments, whether that's exercising more, eating better or cutting back on alcohol, you will likely fare best if you start sooner. In particular, researchers have highlighted your 30s as a key decade when a number of physiological systems, whether that's muscle mass and strength, bone density or metabolic regulation, begin to show the first subtle age-related changes.

"It does highlight this period as an important opportunity to reinforce behaviours that build long-term resilience," says João Passos, a professor of physiology at the Mayo Clinic's Kogod Center on Ageing, based in Minnesota.

To understand what might be possible, researchers studying the ageing process like to focus on groups of people who buck the ordinary trends. One example is masters athletes, individuals aged over 35 who still compete regularly in sporting competitions, whether that's running, cycling or other sports, often continuing into their 60s and beyond. Paul Morgan, a senior lecturer in nutrition and metabolism at Manchester Metropolitan University, notes that many of these athletes display a very different ageing trajectory to the rest of us, characterised by a higher peak in cardiovascular function and muscle strength and function, followed by a delayed decline. As a result, he says that many of them manage to avoid loss of mobility and independence for much longer in later life. "They have this additional reserve which acts as a protective barrier through the middle stages of life," says Morgan.

We can all learn from this. To give us the best chance of ageing well, Morgan says that we should aim to hit the highest peak that we can in our 30s, particularly when it comes to aerobic capacity (the maximum amount of oxygen your body can use during exercise), flexibility, and muscle strength.

One of the biggest risks for anyone over the age of 70 is tripping and falling, which is linked to a loss of agility and a decreased range of motion in the joints. "I always see the muscle groups in the lower limbs that are responsible for locomotion as having the biggest role to play in maintaining independence, and with that, good health in later life," says Morgan. "So that's especially important to focus on."

Playing sport is an excellent way to achieve this. Research has shown that taking part in racquet sports such as tennis or badminton has a consistent association with extended lifespan, while a 2025 Japanese study highlighted the benefits of cycling, with older adults who cycle regularly being less likely to need long-term care or die prematurely.

Running for more than 75 minutes per week has also been found to slow certain aspects of the ageing process, but you might want to think again when it comes to running marathons. There is some evidence that pushing your body to extremes can actually accelerate some aspects of biological ageing, although this remains less well understood.

On the other hand, one study found that as little as five minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity per day can help slow brain ageing, and according to Aditi Gurkar, an assistant professor of medicine at the University of Pittsburgh in the US, we can all get some of the healthy ageing benefits through following relatively simple steps. "Even a brisk 15-minute walk after a meal can make a meaningful difference," she says.

Just as we can protect and strengthen our muscles and cardiovascular system in our 30s, we can also do the same for our brain. Maintaining good dental health through regular checkups, a good brushing routine, not smoking, and limiting intake of sugary foods can make a surprising difference.

This is based on numerous studies which have repeatedly linked the development of periodontal disease, a gum condition characterised by elevated inflammation, with a heightened risk of cognitive decline in later life. This is thought to be due to the chronic impacts of systemic inflammation on the brain.

Your 30s could also be the decade to begin reducing your alcohol consumption. Drinking alcohol is linked to changes in gene expression in the body which accelerate ageing. Alcohol is also a key disruptor of sleep, and Verdin highlights consistent sleeping patterns as being key for avoiding age-related brain shrinkage and lowering dementia risk in decades to come. This includes making sure you go to sleep and wake up at the same time every day, known as sleep regularity. Not only does sleep allow the body to focus on repairing cells, it also gives people the energy and motivation to pursue a healthy lifestyle.

"Even if you're lacking sleep for one night, your metabolism changes, and your willpower to do all the things that are keeping you healthy goes away," he says.

Because of the importance of maintaining a regular sleeping pattern, Verdin says he now uses an alarm clock each night – not to wake himself up, but to remind him to go to bed. "The reason for this is we're circadian beings," he says. "Our whole biology, from gene expression to metabolism is in synchrony with the 24-hour cycle, and so I tell people, going to bed at the same time each day helps your body to stay really well synchronised to all of this." A good night's sleep may not always be possible, however, as anyone raising young children in their 30s will know. Finally, your 30s is probably a good time to begin taking nutrition a little more seriously. Verdin says that one of the best things we can do is to give our bodies more time during the day when we're not actually eating, for example through intermittent fasting.

(Source: BBC)

Kashmir Age
"Truth we say..... come what may"
SRINAGAR | WEDNESDAY
11-NOVEMBER-2026

www.kashmirage.net facebook.com/kashmirage youtube.com/@kashmirAge dailykashmirage@gmail.com

Asian stocks rise after technology shares advance on Wall Street

Press Trust Of India



HONG KONG, Nov 10: Asian stocks advanced Tuesday after US stocks rallied, recovering most of their big losses from last week.

US futures edged higher, and oil prices fell.

Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 rose 2.6 per cent to 60,279.37.

Shares in OpenAI investor SoftBank Group jumped 15 per cent ahead of the company's earnings release later in the day. Its share price had fallen to its lowest level in a year on Monday.

Computer chip equipment maker Tokyo Electron surged 5.6 per cent, and testing equipment maker Advantest gained 3.4 per cent.

South Korea's Kospi climbed 4 per cent to 5,219.37. Chipmakers Samsung Electronics gained 4.6 per cent, and SK Hynix climbed 5.6 per cent.

In Hong Kong, the Hang Seng rose 0.4 per cent to 24,535.74, while the Shanghai Composite index edged 0.4 per cent higher to 3,673.54.

China's exports in October climbed 35.2 per cent from a year earlier, while imports grew 41.6 per cent, according to customs data released on Tuesday.

That has put the country on track for another record for the year since the trade surplus for 2026 has already surpassed USD 1 trillion.

Australia's S&P/ASX 200 rose 1.1 per cent to 9,131.70.

Taiwan's Taiex advanced 3.4 per cent.

On Monday, the S&P 500 jumped 2.3 per cent for a second straight gain after a wipeout on worries that Democratic victories in the US midterm elections could lead to a slowdown in the construction of AI data centres. The best day for the index since April has it sitting just 3.4 per cent below its all-time high set last month.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average gained 2.2 per cent, and the Nasdaq composite rose 2.7 per cent.

Stocks were lifted by a decline in the price of Brent crude. It fell after President Donald Trump told CNN over the weekend that a resumption of strikes on Iran is "highly unlikely" if the United States sees progress in negotiations toward ending the war.

However, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said Sunday that Iranian demands had sometimes been "outrageous and ridiculous."

Several strong profit reports from big US companies also helped buoy shares.

Constellation Energy climbed 10.5 per cent after the power company reported both profit and revenue for the summer that topped analysts' expectations.

Those data centres are coming under increased scrutiny following Democratic victories in last week's election. The worry is that governments could impose restrictions on the industry, which would mean fewer purchases of artificial-intelligence-related products and services around the AI boom. That was on top of concerns that new construction of AI data centres may slow because of how expensive it's become to borrow money. Before that, critics were already saying AI stock prices had shot too high and were in a bubble.

The stock that has become the face of the AI boom, Nvidia, fell 4.3 per cent. The chip company said it's investigating after its CEO, Jensen Huang, acknowledged an intimate relationship with a business executive who, according to The New York Times, US intelligence determined was gathering information for China.

Japanese investor SoftBank Group sinks into losses as company's AI hopes falter

Press Trust Of India

TOKYO, NOV 10: SoftBank Group sank into losses for the latest quarter, the Japanese technology company reported Tuesday, as worries about investments in artificial intelligence hurt its bottom line.

Tokyo-based SoftBank Group Corp. racked up a 1.1 trillion yen ($7 billion) loss for the three months through September, a reversal from the 2.5 trillion yen in profit the same period a year earlier. Quarterly sales rose 16% to 2.2 trillion yen from 1.9 trillion yen.

Analysts say the financial results for a company like SoftBank Group are difficult to predict as it invests in a variety of other companies, including OpenAI and Arm Holdings, whose fortunes tend to be volatile.

Founded by Masayoshi Son, SoftBank was an early investor in internet technology, and has focused on companies related to AI, telecommunications, robotics and e-commerce. It runs a series of investment funds called Vision Fund that center around a portfolio of various technology companies, including startups.



Son, a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, boasts a wide circle of friends among American entrepreneurs including Microsoft Corp. co-founder Bill Gates and Apple co-founder Steve Jobs. That is relatively unusual for a businessperson in Japan.

Son also has a highly public friendship with Nvidia Chief Executive Jensen Huang. Son had sold his shares in Nvidia before the revelations of Huang's affair with an alleged Chinese government agent, which Nvidia officials and other authorities said was being investigated.

India's wheat plantings seen at record high but final output to depend on weather, FAO says



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI, Nov 10: India's wheat planting is expected to reach a record level this season but the final output will depend on weather through April-May 2027, which is likely to be influenced by the

ongoing El Nino event, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) said in its latest report.

Planting of the mostly irrigated 2027 winter wheat crop, to be harvested between March and June 2027, is underway across the Far East, including India, under generally adequate soil moisture conditions, the FAO said in its Crop Prospects and Food Situation report.

India's wheat output stood at 117.19 million tonnes in 2025 and hit a record 120.7 million tonnes in 2026, compared with a five-year average of 111.8 million tonnes, the report said.

"In India, wheat plantings are expected to reach a record level, driven by government incentives, including a remunerative minimum support price and fertilizer subsidies," the FAO said.

In mainland China, the subregion's largest producer, the area planted with wheat is forecast to remain close to the five-year average, the FAO said.

In Pakistan, plantings are forecast above average as record domestic wheat prices are expected to encourage farmers to expand acreage.

Vidyuta gets nod for cathode active material manufacturing capacity under ECMS

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI, Nov 10: Recycling firm Lohum's subsidiary Vidyuta has received approval for 20 KTPA of cathode active material manufacturing capacity under the government's Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme, the company said.

The project involves a total capital investment of Rs 500 crore, of which up to Rs 125 crore, or 25 per cent, is supported through a capex-linked incentive under the scheme for commercial scale-up, the company said.

Cathode active material (CAM) is a critical component of lithium-ion cells. This approval brings the cathode into the scheme's support for India's cell materials ecosystem, alongside anode material and other battery materials, Lohun said.

Vidyuta is the first LCO (lithium cobalt oxide) cathode active material company to receive approval under the Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS), it said.

The flagship initiative by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, the Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS), was launched in April last year with an aim to build a self-sustainable domestic electronics component manufacturing ecosystem in the country.



Vidyuta's production line is designed for LCO cathode active materials in both polycrystalline and single-crystal forms, giving cell manufacturers the flexibility to specify chemistry and morphology from a single supply partner, the company said.

The project forms part of the Lohum group's integrated value chain -- lithium, cobalt and nickel refined by the company, including critical minerals recovered from spent lithium-ion batteries, are used to produce cathode active material at Vidyuta for cell manufacturers in India, it said.

With approval under the Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme, Vidyuta will produce LCO cathode active material in India at 20 KTPA (kilotonnes per annum), giving cell manufacturers a domestic source for one of the most valuable materials in an electronics battery," said Rajat Verma, Founder & CEO, Lohum.

India's electronics manufacturing has scaled quickly, but the materials inside the battery cell have largely stayed imported. Lithium cobalt oxide cathode is a good place to change that, he said.

Citing Niti Aayog, the company said that for CAM, positive active material accounts for nearly half the cost of a lithium-ion battery pack and estimated that India's advanced chemistry cell manufacturing will need about 1,93,000 tonnes of cathode active material a year to produce around 100 GWh of batteries by 2030.

"Cathode is where much of a battery's value and performance is decided. This approval under the Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme allows Vidyuta, a Lohum company.

Resolven mobilises USD 900 million financing this year

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI, NOV 10: Private equity firm EQT-backed Indian renewable energy platform Resolven on Tuesday said it has mobilised USD 900 million (about Rs 8,550 crore) financing this year so far, backed by an expanding lender base.

The funds have been mobilized from a set of 15 lenders including public sector banks, private banks, MNC banks and infrastructure financing institutions, a company statement said.

Resolven became an independent renewable energy company earlier this year.

Of USD 900 million, about USD 700 million is fund-based debt financing, and USD 200 million group level non-fund lines.

In March 2026, the company's financing journey began with closing of Rs 450 crore refinancing of its 136 MW operating assets with an Infrastructure Debt Fund which reduced the company's interest costs and locked-in fixed rates in a volatile environment.

Abhinav Agarwal, Chief Financial Officer, Resolven, said: "During the course of this year, we have been able to onboard several domestic and international lenders to back us on our growth journey. This is a reflection of our strong pedigree, robust governance and team's execution capabilities. We are grateful for the trust placed by lenders on us and gives us the strength to deliver on what we have promised."



Resolven is targeting more than 1.5 GW of new renewable capacity annually across solar, wind, hybrid and battery storage, and aims to reach 10 GW by 2030.

It is powered by EQT, one of the world's largest private markets firms, with 270 billion euros in total assets under management. (PTI)

China's trade surplus surpasses USD 1 trillion for 2nd straight year, as exports surge 35 pc

Press Trust Of India

HONG KONG, NOV 10: China's trade surplus exceeded USD 1 trillion for a second straight year, according to official data released Tuesday, as pressure mounts for greater balance in trade with Beijing.

Exports in October surged 35.2 per cent from a year earlier, the customs agency said. Exports have grown rapidly this year supported by high-tech goods like semiconductors and autos. Imports rose 41.6 per cent year-on-year.

Between January and October, China logged a USD 1.04 trillion trade surplus, even as the trade surplus narrowed last month to USD 105.3 billion from USD 133.5bn in September as imports picked up pace. That puts China on track for surpassing last year's record USD 1.2 trillion trade surplus. "We expect Chinese exports to stay strong for the rest of this year, led by electronics and autos.



FPIs turn net buyers; invest Rs 53,739-cr in Indian equities in first 9 days of Nov

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI, NOV 10: Foreign investors turned net buyers of Indian equities in November, infusing Rs 53,739 crore in the first nine days after two consecutive months of outflows, driven by the AI-led sell-off in global markets, strong domestic earnings growth and attractive large-cap valuations.



The latest investment follows net outflows of Rs 34,843 crore in October and Rs 35,861 crore in September, according to data available with the depositories.

"The sudden change in FPI stance was triggered by the AI sell-off in the US and other AI markets like South Korea, Taiwan and Japan.

"This sell-off, in turn, was triggered by fears surrounding data centre spending in the US. The Democrats, who won both chambers of Congress, are opposed to indiscriminate data centre spending. They will demand guardrails for AI," said V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Investments.

The AI-led sell-off has made India, widely regarded as a non-AI trade, an attractive destination for Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs). Besides, the country's impressive earnings growth and attractive valuations of large-cap stocks have further strengthened its appeal, he added. According to depository data, FPIs made a net investment of Rs 53,739 crore in Indian equities during November 2-9. This includes a total of six trading days. With this, cumulative FPI outflows from Indian equities in 2026 stood at Rs 2.41 lakh crore. Sector-wise, FPIs turned major buyers in index heavyweights, especially in financial services, information technology, automobiles and telecom.

JLR sees India as key growth market, to launch first EV in 2027: MD

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI, NOV 10: Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) sees India as a key growth market and plans to introduce its first electric vehicles here in 2027, including the Range Rover Electric and Range Rover Sport Electric, as the luxury automaker looks to tap emerging opportunities in the premium EV segment, its India Managing Director and CEO Rajan Amba said.

In an interview to PTI, Amba shared that the company will also introduce the new Jaguar GT next year, with the product launches spread across different periods.

"Electric is the way forward," he said, adding that the timing was appropriate for the company to enter the Indian electric vehicle market.

JLR India, which does not have an electric vehicle in its portfolio, is encouraged by the growth witnessed in the EV market over the past year across both premium and more accessible segments.

The luxury automaker plans to import the electric models to test their market response initially.



"We've seen brands in the more accessible segments also gain, and I think that we should also see a lot of benefit from it," Amba said.

He, however, said it was too early to draw conclusions about the potential response to JLR's electric offerings in India, given that the company would be entering the segment for the first time.

Amba said the pace of electric vehicle adoption varied across countries and consumer groups, with charging infrastructure and resale value remaining important considerations for buyers.

"There's a lot of infrastructure work to be done. There's a lot of peace of mind to be given to customers in terms of charging infrastructure, in terms of resale values, etc., but all of that has been improving, infrastructure-wise, resale value-wise," he said.

He noted that the foundational elements of the Indian EV market were getting stronger, aided by improvements in infrastructure and initiatives by the Centre and state governments, including incentives for electric cars.

"For us, it's been on the cards as a global company. There was always a plan to launch electric, and I think the timing for us is going to be good," he said.

Beyond its upcoming electric vehicle launches, JLR is looking to strengthen its presence in India through an expansion of its retail network and improved customer accessibility. The company expects to increase its retail outlets to 40 by the end of this year from 25 a year ago, Amba said, adding that the expansion, along with competitive price points, would support its growth strategy.

Kashmir Age
"Truth we say..... come what may"
SRINAGAR | WEDNESDAY
11-NOVEMBER-2026

www.kashmirage.net facebook.com/kashmirage youtube.com/@kashmirAge dailykashmirage@gmail.com

Delhi court acquits man of murder, says probe tried to portray crash as premeditated killing

Press Trust Of India



NEW DELHI, NOV 10 :A Delhi court has acquitted a man of murder and attempt to murder charges in a 2017 road accident that claimed the life of a youth but convicted him for causing death by negligence, saying that flaws in the police investigation created serious doubts about the prosecution's murder theory.

The court said the investigation attempted to transform a highway collision into a premeditated, motive-driven murder by introducing delayed witnesses, omitting daily diary entries and suppressing a forensic report showing alcohol in the deceased motorcyclist's blood.

Additional Sessions Judge Hargurvarinder Singh Jaggi was hearing a case against Rohit Krishnan Mahantam, who was accused under IPC Sections 304A (causing death by negligence), 302 (murder) and 307 (attempt to murder).

In an order dated November 3, the court said, "Over a 5-day period, the investigation attempted to transform a highway collision into a premeditated, motive-driven murder introducing delayed witnesses, omitting daily diary entries and suppressing the FSL report showing the rider's alcohol level."

The case dates back to the intervening night of September 16-17, 2017, when Mahanta's car (Ford Fiesta) collided with a motorcycle carrying Gurpreet Singh, 21, and his friend Maninder Singh near the AIIMS Trauma Centre. The collision also involved an autorickshaw and an Ola taxi.

Gurpreet, who suffered severe head injuries, died during treatment on September 20, 2017.

The prosecution alleged that a quarrel over cigarettes outside Safdarjung Hospital, involving Mahanta and a vendor, escalated after Gurpreet and Maninder intervened. It claimed Mahanta pursued the two men in his car and deliberately rammed their motorcycle.

Rejecting the murder theory, the court said the prosecution had failed to establish beyond reasonable doubt that the collision

was intentional. It noted that the earliest medical records described the incident as a road accident, allegations of threats became more elaborate over time and independent witnesses did not materially corroborate the claim of intentional assault.

The court, however, held that the evidence established rash and negligent driving resulting in Gurpreet's death.

Woman sexually harassed onboard train in Keralam; beaten up for questioning it



Press Trust Of India

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, NOV 10 :A 25-year-old woman was sexually harassed by a man aboard the Malabar Express on Tuesday and was beaten up when she threatened to report him to the police.

The woman claimed that the accused would have killed her if the public had not intervened.

"If it had happened inside the train while it was running, he would have pushed me off it. I would have become another 'Soumya'," the woman told reporters.

She was referring to the rape and murder of 23-year-old Soumya on a moving train in February 2011 by Govindachamy, who is currently serving a life sentence for the sexual assault after the Supreme Court set aside the murder conviction.

An officer of Thampanoor Railway police station here said that the 39-year-old accused was arrested and will be booked for the offences under sections 74(assault or criminal force to woman with intent to outrage her modesty), 75(sexual harassment), 115(voluntarily causing hurt) and 125(wrongful restraint) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

Police said that the woman boarded the train from Chirayinkeezhu as usual on her way to work in Thiruvananthapuram city and the man kept touching her inappropriately throughout the journey.

Initially, she thought it was due to the crowd of passengers, but later she objected to his behaviour, police said.

While she was getting off at the Pettah railway station, she told the accused that she would report him to the police.

Angered by her threat, he beat her as a result of which she fell unconscious on the platform, police said. On seeing this, others on the platform intervened and detained the accused and handed him over to the police. The woman, who works in the public relations department of a prominent hospital in the capital city, told reporters that the man allegedly hit her on the face, pushed her off the train on to the platform and was going to kick her when the public intervened. "He also abused me," she claimed. She claimed that the accused got angry because she threatened to report him to the police and would have killed her if the public had not intervened.

Minor among 5 held for murder of man in northwest Delhi

Press Trust Of India



NEW DELHI, NOV 10 :Four people have been arrested and a juvenile was apprehended in connection with the murder of a 45-year-old man in northwest Delhi's Mahendra Park over old enmity on Tuesday, police said.

The victim, Vijay Prakash alias Sonu, was found injured in the Mahendra Park area on Tuesday.

He was rushed to the Babu Jagjivan Ram Memorial (BJRM) Hospital, where doctors declared him dead, police said.

During the investigation, police analysed CCTV footage, conducted technical surveillance and gathered local intelligence and inputs from secret informers, leading to the apprehension of four accused persons, they said.

The accused have been identified as Sumit (22), Sonu (19), Rahul alias Sikanji (23) and Sonu (23). A juvenile has also been apprehended in connection with the case, police said.

Two Jamtara cyber fraud kingpins arrested after five years in Rs 27-lakh cheating case

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI, NOV 10 :The Delhi Police has arrested two alleged kingpins of a Jamtara-based cyber fraud network who had been absconding for over five years in a case involving the siphoning off of Rs 27.10 lakh through a fake bank website, an official said on Tuesday.

The accused, Md Mehruddin Ansari (30) and Md Arsad Ansari (29), surrendered before a court at Patiala House on October 30 and were subsequently arrested, he said.

"The case dates back to July 2021, when a complaint was filed by Bishwajeet Paul, who was allegedly duped after searching for Canara Bank's customer care number on Google in connection with a cheque-related query," police said in a statement.

The complainant contacted a number displayed in the search results and was subsequently sent a link to a fraudulent website --customercomplaintregisters.com -- designed to resemble the official Canara Bank website, police said.

After entering his bank account details on the website



on the caller's instructions, an application was downloaded onto his mobile phone. Subsequently, Rs 27.10 lakh was fraudulently transferred from his account to eight different bank accounts, they said.

An FIR was registered at the Special Cell police station on July 8, 2021, and an investigation was initiated.

The probe revealed that the accused were allegedly key members of a cyber fraud network involved in creating fake websites resembling those of reputed banks and running fraudulent customer care services through Google advertisements.

The gang allegedly placed online advertisements displaying fake customer care numbers. When unsuspecting customers contacted these numbers, their calls were either handled by the fraudsters or transferred to other associates for a fee. Victims were then induced to share their banking credentials through fraudulent links, enabling the gang to siphon off money.

Man critically injured after shot by neighbour in Nalagarh

Press Trust Of India

SHIMLA, NOV 10 :A young man was critically injured after being shot at by a neighbour

over an alleged dispute in the Nalagarh area of Himachal Pradesh's Solan district on Tuesday, police said.

Mohammad Aslam, a resident of Ward No 7 who is in his early

20s, sustained three bullet injuries in the firing, they said.

While police are yet to establish the motive behind the attack, sources said the two neighbours had not been on good terms for a long time.

Aslam was rushed to the Nalagarh hospital for treatment and later shifted to PGIMER, Chandigarh.

Doctor Tamanna, the attending physician at the Nalagarh hospital, confirmed that the patient sustained three gunshot wounds: two in his abdomen and one in the leg.

There is a concern that Aslam's abdominal injuries may have damaged his vital organs. Given the criticality

of his condition, he was referred to PGIMER, Chandigarh, for further evaluation of internal injuries and potential surgery, she said.

Police said they have registered a case and launched an investigation. The reason behind the shooting and the specific role of the accused will only become clear once the probe is complete.

Tuesday's incident has once again raised questions about the law-and-order situation in Nalagarh. Shootings have become routine in the area, with firing incidents reported on October 14, 23 and 25. Four people were arrested in connection with the three shootouts last month.

Mizoram police seize drugs, foreign cigarettes worth Rs 6.8 crore

Press Trust Of India



AIZAWL, NOV 10 :izoram Police have seized drugs and smuggled foreign-origin cigarettes worth Rs 6.84 crore and arrested six people in three separate operations across the state, an officer said on Tuesday.

Police intercepted a van on the Zokhawthar-Melbuk road in Mizoram's Champhai district near the Myanmar border on Monday and recovered 3.275 kg of methamphetamine, valued at about Rs 2.62 crore, and 145 grams of heroin worth Rs 29 lakh, the officer said.

The driver, identified as Lalthanvula (65), and passenger Sangkimi (58), both from Dinthar Veng in Champhai, were arrested. In another operation, a Saitual police special team intercepted a car at Keifang on Sunday and seized 733 grams of heroin packed in 58 soap cases worth Rs 1.47 crore, police said. Two Assam residents, identified as Johirul Islam (27) and Guljar Hussein (19), both from Nagaon district, were arrested in connection with the seizure, they said.

Seven injured in clash between two families over land dispute in Assam

Press Trust Of India



MORIGAON (ASSAM), NOV 10 :At least seven people were injured, including one in firing, in a clash between two families over possession of land in Nagaon district of Assam, a police officer said on Tuesday.

Police have detained three persons in connection with the incident and initiated an investigation.

The clash over a long-standing land dispute took place on Monday night at No. 1 Borghuli village under the jurisdiction of Ulubari Police Station area of Kaliabor Sub-Division.

"A clash broke out between two groups over a disputed plot of land. The families of Ufaidul Islam and Safiqul Islam, who are part of the same extended family, had reportedly been involved in a long-standing dispute over the ownership of the land," he added.

Ufaidul alleged that a case concerning the disputed land had been pending before a Nagaon court for the past 30 years, the officer said.

10 held as Delhi Police busts banned e-cigarette network supplying products near schools, colleges

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI, NOV 10 :The Delhi Police has busted an alleged network involved in the illegal storage and distribution of banned e-cigarettes and conventional cigarettes across the national capital, apprehending 10 people, including seven pan-shop owners, officials said on Tuesday.

The police recovered 551 prohibited e-cigarettes and 1.02 lakh conventional cigarettes during the operation, which uncovered a three-tier supply chain allegedly catering to pan shops across Delhi, including those located near schools, colleges and coaching centres, they said.

On November 2, police received specific information that a man identified as Sumit Aggarwal alias Micky (37), who ran a hookah shop in Tri Nagar, was storing banned e-cigarettes in a godown and supplying them through his outlet.

Police raided his shop in Omkar Nagar, Tri Nagar, and apprehended him. On his disclosure, the police searched a godown on the first floor of a house in Lal Mandir Wali Gali, Omkar Nagar, and recovered 484 prohibited e-cigarettes along with 1,02,800 conventional cigarettes of different brands, police said.

Follow-up investigations, based on his disclosures and other intelligence inputs, led to the apprehension of nine more people, taking the total number of those held to 10. The total recovery of e-cigarettes subsequently rose to 551,



they said.

The accused have been identified as Sumit Aggarwal alias Micky (37), Salim alias Ram Yadav (49), Sabi Kumar (33), Mani Lal Chaurasia (55), Lal Ji (47), Pawan Chaurasiya (46), Gulab Chand Chaurasia (49), Shubham (28), Ravi (31) and Vivek (30).

According to investigators, the accused were operating through a three-tier network comprising wholesalers, distributors and retailers. The seven pan-shop owners allegedly procured consignments of 30-50 e-cigarettes at a time, primarily from Sumit, at rates ranging between Rs 200 and Rs 300 per piece.

The investigation revealed that the distributors sourced the prohibited products from multiple suppliers and supplied them to retailers in different parts of Delhi. The consignments were allegedly delivered through courier services and delivery personnel, while payments were predominantly made in cash to conceal the financial trail, police said.

During interrogation, Salim allegedly disclosed that he had been involved in the trade for seven to eight years and that a pan-shop owner in Rohini procured bulk consignments of 200-400 e-cigarettes through Nepal.

He also allegedly supplied the products to Sumit and other distributors in Wazirpur and Kohat Enclave. Investigators are probing the possible Nepal connection and the involvement of suppliers in Jaipur, they said.

Sabi Kumar allegedly sourced the products from Salim, Sumit and a supplier in Jaipur and further distributed them to buyers, including those outside Delhi, through courier services.

Kashmir Age
"Truth we say..... come what may"
SRINAGAR | WEDNESDAY
11-NOVEMBER-2026

www.kashmirage.net facebook.com/kashmirage youtube.com/@kashmirAge dailykashmirage@gmail.com

CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

CMOmar

for the second instalment.

He stressed strict adherence to revised deadlines for completion of works under the SASCI 2025-26 disaster management component and directed departments to achieve the prescribed financial targets within the stipulated period.

Emphasising financial discipline and transparency, the chief minister called for strict compliance with public financial management system (PFMS) uploads and timely submission of action plans on the budget estimations, allocation & monitoring system (BEAMS).

He also called for the closure of all single nodal agency bank accounts relating to Centrally-sponsored schemes.

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

The chief minister also directed all departments to identify and prepare a robust shelf of encumbrance-free projects by March 2027 to facilitate timely tendering and smooth execution during FY 2027-28.

He stressed advance planning and close inter-department coordination to ensure that the next year's SASCI plan is finalised well in time.

CMAssuers

Arvind Gupta who called on him and discussed the recent fire incidents in Jammu city and the situation of the affected traders, an official spokesman said.

The public representatives apprised the Chief Minister of the damage caused by the fires at Shiv Market near Jammu Railway Station, the warehouse near Nehru Market and Pahari Mohalla.

They highlighted the difficulties being faced by the affected traders and shopkeepers and sought financial assistance for the affected traders and shopkeepers, an official spokesman said.

Choudhary Mohd Akram, an independent MLA from Surankote in Poonch, also called on the Chief Minister and discussed developmental issues and public welfare concerns pertaining to his constituency.

Meanwhile, a BJP spokesman said the party delegation submitted a four-point memorandum to the chief minister, seeking urgent government intervention and a time-bound rehabilitation plan for the affected trading community.

Highlighting the gravity of the situation, the BJP leaders pointed out that the recent fires had gutted dozens of shops at Shiv Market near Jammu Railway Station on October 25 and eight shops and godowns at Warehouse Market, and one shop at Pahadian Mohalla on Sunday night, leaving several families facing severe financial hardship.

The BJP delegation demanded immediate financial assistance of Rs 15 lakh per affected shop or godown from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund, stressing that traders who have lost their shops, stocks and essential equipment cannot be left struggling for survival while awaiting lengthy administrative procedures.

The leaders urged the government to ensure prompt verification of losses and speedy disbursement of relief so that affected businesses could restart without further delay, the spokesman said.

He said the memorandum also sought a one-time relaxation of Constituency Development Fund (CDF) norms, enabling willing MLAs from Jammu to sanction appropriate amounts from their respective allocations for immediate relief through the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF).

Taking up the long-pending concerns of Warehouse Market traders, the BJP leaders further demanded identification and allotment of suitable land for godowns, along with government sanction for their construction within a specified timeframe.

The delegation also called for a time-bound fire safety audit of commercial establishments across Jammu, particularly densely populated markets and storage areas.

It demanded installation of fire alarms, extinguishers, hydrants and other preventive facilities, besides inspections of electrical safety and emergency access arrangements to prevent such tragedies in the future, the spokesman said.

Farooq

the sources said.

On November 6, Farooq Abdullah along with Chief Minister Omar Abdullah met a group of dissident party legislators to address their grievances following the recent expansion in the council of ministers.

After the meeting, the NC chief dismissed speculations about any fissures within the party as "baseless rumours" and said it was united and "will never be broken".

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

He, however, said the party leadership spoke to the disgruntled MLAs and "their concerns were genuine". "They were examined very thoroughly. Everyone was heard."

"God willing, some steps will be taken quickly, while others will be taken gradually to strengthen the party and the government," the NC chief had said.

Forecast

12 and 13. Similar weather activity is likely to occur at isolated places on November 15 and 16.

According to the IMD's All India Weather Summary and Forecast Bulletin, a western disturbance is influencing the weather pattern over the western Himalayan region, raising the possibility of an active precipitation spell across Jammu and Kashmir and neighbouring areas.

The bulletin indicates that the Jammu and Kashmir-Ladakh region is likely to receive fairly widespread to widespread rainfall on November 12 and 13, with isolated heavy rainfall during both days.

The forecast of strong surface winds, thunderstorms and lightning accompanying the precipitation suggests that the weather system could bring challenging conditions in vulnerable areas, particularly in locations susceptible to landslides and other weather-related disruptions.

Himachal Pradesh is also expected to experience unsettled weather, with isolated to scattered rainfall forecast between November 10 and 15. Isolated rainfall is likely to continue on November 16. Thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and gusty winds reaching 30-40 kmph, with gusts up to 50 kmph, are likely at isolated places in the state on November 12 and 13.

Neighbouring Punjab is likely to receive isolated to scattered rainfall between November 12 and 15, with isolated rainfall also forecast on November 16. Uttarakhand is expected to experience isolated rainfall on November 12 and 13.

The IMD's meteorological analysis also identified an upper-air cyclonic circulation over northern Haryana and adjoining areas, extending between 1.5 and 3.1 kilometres above mean sea level. A trough extending from this circulation towards western Uttar Pradesh was also observed at an altitude of around 3.1 kilometres.

Another upper-air cyclonic circulation was persisting over central Rajasthan and adjoining areas at approximately 0.9 kilometres above mean sea level.

Despite these atmospheric systems, Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi are likely to experience dry weather throughout the seven-day forecast period from November 10 to 16.

Elsewhere, isolated heavy rainfall is likely over the Andaman and Nicobar Islands between November 10 and 14, while Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura may receive isolated heavy rainfall on November 11.

Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal are also likely to witness isolated heavy rainfall on November 10, 15 and 16.

The weather department has cautioned that heavy rainfall and strong winds in affected regions could damage standing crops and vulnerable structures, trigger localised landslides and waterlogging, and disrupt road and rail traffic.

People in areas covered by heavy rainfall and thunderstorm warnings have been advised to closely monitor weather updates, avoid taking shelter under trees during lightning and take necessary precautions.

The IMD has particularly advised caution in areas vulnerable to weather-related disruptions during the forecast period.

EOW

before the Court of Sub-Judge, Srinagar, against Ghulam Hassan Dar, a resident of Dhobi Ghat, Hazratbal.

According to the EoW investigation, the accused allegedly posed as a CID officer posted in Delhi and used the false identity to win people's trust and extract money from them by promising government-related favours.

Among the promises made was the transfer of an employee of the Railway Department from Uttarakhand to Srinagar. He also allegedly assured a victim of securing a Nursing Orderly appointment in the Health Department, handing over fake appointment orders and a forged deputation letter to make the claims appear genuine.

The accused allegedly cheated victims of lakhs of rupees in the process.

The EOW said the allegations were substantiated during the investigation, which was subsequently concluded as proved.

As the accused is absconding, the chargesheet was filed in absentia under Section 512 CrPC for judicial determination.

LAHDC

and revitalising democratic governance across the region.

Before the LAHDC elections, panchayat and municipal polls will be held in Ladakh on November 21.

The Ladakh administration on Tuesday announced the schedule for elections to the eight LAHDCs. The election schedule was announced amid opposition from various groups in Ladakh, with Kargil observing a complete shutdown against holding the LAHDC elections during winter.

Several groups, including the Leh Apex Body and the Kargil Democratic Alliance, have demanded postponement of the polls until after the winter season.

Addressing concerns over holding elections during the winter season, the chief secretary said schools in Ladakh have traditionally remained functional until December 15 or 16, and there should be no particular difficulty for adults in exercising their right to vote on December 4.

He, however, assured voters that the administration had instructed all deputy commissioners to make adequate arrangements at polling stations, including heating facilities and separate queues for senior citizens, to ensure that voters do not face inconvenience.

Emphasising the importance of the election schedule, Kundra said the timely constitution of the elected councils would give them the months of January, February and March to prepare the budget for the next financial year.

"If the councils are constituted after that, the entire budget preparation cycle could be missed, potentially delaying the process by a full year," Kundra said addressing a press conference here, underlining that the budget had to be prepared before March.

He also rejected what he described as misleading perceptions that the incoming elected LAHDCs would not enjoy their full powers.

The chief secretary clarified that the powers already vested in the councils under the existing law would remain intact.

He explained that the elected councils would exercise not only the powers provided under the relevant Act but also those envisaged for the District Panchayat under the 73rd Constitutional Amendment.

Referring to the broader democratic aspirations of Ladakh, the chief secretary said the absence of adequately functioning democratic institutions had been a recurring concern raised during discussions with the Apex Body and other stakeholders.

"Government of India is committed to strengthening democratic institutions in Ladakh and ensuring their constitution at the earliest," he said.

Recalling that panchayat elections had not been held for the past three years, Kundra described the upcoming electoral exercise as an important opportunity to strengthen democratic participation and governance at the grassroots level.

He urged people to come out in large numbers and make the elections a success, saying Ladakh should be remembered for having witnessed a significant deepening of democracy before the end of 2026.

On the issue of Nautor land regulations, Kundra said the draft regulations had been prepared with the objective of resolving a decades-old complex problem faced by people who possess such land but lack valid ownership titles, making it difficult for them to monetise their holdings.

He said the administration had received various suggestions from the public and the final regulations would be framed after consultations with the newly elected LAHDCs, as recently indicated by Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena.

Dog Bites

by deep cuts, puncture wounds, tears or any bite that penetrates the skin and causes bleeding.

The victims' ages ranged from 14 to 65 years.

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

Two of the patients were from Madhya Pradesh and Bihar and were presently residing in Mendhar, the report said.

Legislators

caused by the fires at Shiv Market near Jammu Railway Station, Warehouse near Nehru Market and Pahari Mohalla. They highlighted the difficulties being faced by the affected traders and shopkeepers and sought financial assistance for the affected traders and shopkeepers.

The Chief Minister reiterated that relief is being provided to those affected by the fire incidents. He assured the visiting representatives that all possible assistance would be extended to the affected traders.

It is pertinent to mention that the Chief Minister had taken prompt cognisance of the fire incidents. He had personally visited Shiv Market near Jammu Railway Station to assess the damage and interact with the affected shopkeepers. He had also deputed the Deputy Chief Minister and a Cabinet Minister to visit the Warehouse near Nehru Market to take stock of the situation and assess the losses suffered by the traders.

Those who called on the Chief Minister included Member of Parliament from Jammu Jugal Kishore Sharma, MLA Jammu North Sham Lal Sharma, MLA Bahu Vikram Randhawa, MLA RS Pura-Jammu South Narinder Singh Raina, MLA Jammu West Yudhvir Sethi and MLA Jammu East Arvind Gupta.

Meanwhile, MLA Surankote Choudhary Mohd. Akram also called on the Chief Minister and discussed developmental issues and public welfare concerns pertaining to his constituency.

Mukesh

focus would be on expanding the organisation's outreach by taking the NCC to more schools and colleges, particularly in remote, rural and border areas, to ensure that geographical challenges do not limit opportunities for young people.

His second priority, he said, would be empowering youth, particularly girl cadets.

"The achievement of our 20 girl cadets, who successfully crossed the 5,578-metre-high Parang La Pass during the Aparajita Expedition, is a shining example of their courage, determination and leadership. We will continue to create more such opportunities," he said.

And, he said, "by modernising and strengthening NCC we will work towards making training more contemporary, relevant and engaging, while strengthening teamwork and partnerships with educational institutions, civil administration and all other stakeholders."\

Maj Gen Sharma said, "My message to our young cadets is simple - Envision and Evolve. Dream big, embrace challenges, remain physically fit, stay away from drugs and continuously develop your skills." Remember, NCC is not merely about uniforms, drills and parades; it is about building character, leadership and responsible citizens, he said, adding, "I appreciate the invaluable contribution and dedicated efforts of our NCC officers and staff at the grassroots level in shaping young cadets into disciplined and responsible citizens."

"I also look forward to the continued support of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, the UT Administration of Ladakh, educational institutions, parents and, particularly, our media as it has an important role in bringing the inspiring achievements and contributions of our cadets to the people," he said.

UAPA

intercepted during a security naka at Kanispora-Singhpora crossing on September 16, 2020.

Police had also claimed to have recovered photocopies of letterheads bearing the name of Lashkar-e-Taiba from the accused.

In its 71-page judgment pronounced on November 5, the court observed that the prosecution had failed to establish through reliable and cogent evidence that the arms and ammunition produced before it had been recovered from the conscious possession of the accused in the manner alleged.

The court pointed out several material contradictions in the statements of prosecution witnesses, particularly regarding who had searched the vehicle and actually recovered the alleged arms and ammunition.

While the principal prosecution witness, a police inspector, claimed to have searched the vehicle, other witnesses attributed the recovery to different police personnel. Two SPO witnesses admitted during cross-examination that the recovery had not taken place in their presence and that they had signed the relevant documents after being informed about the incident.

The court also took note of contradictions regarding the quantity and identity of the recovered material. A head constable initially stated that 40 rounds had been recovered before improving his statement to 100 rounds. Another witness referred to a letter pad of Jaish-e-Mohammad, whereas the prosecution case alleged the recovery of Lashkar-e-Taiba letterheads.

The court further observed that no independent witnesses had been associated with the recovery proceedings despite public movement at the alleged place of occurrence.

It also highlighted deficiencies in the identification and preservation of the seized articles. The witnesses admitted that no distinctive identification marks had been put on the recovered grenades and ammunition. The original polythene bag in which the articles were allegedly recovered was not produced before the court, while the investigating officer acknowledged that the articles were found in separate packets when produced in court.

The investigating officer also admitted that he had not obtained any receipt from the police clerk while depositing the recovered arms and ammunition in the police malkhana, raising further concerns regarding the chain of custody.

The court observed that the expert evidence did not sufficiently address these deficiencies. The officer who examined the cartridges stated that they could be used in both AK-47 and AK-56 rifles and that the ammunition bore no special markings. Similarly, the officer who examined the grenades admitted that they were not sealed or specifically marked at the time of examination and that his certificate did not mention whether they contained detonators or wicks.

The court also rejected the prosecution's reliance on the alleged confessional and interrogatory statements of the accused, noting that the witnesses associated with the preparation of the documents did not have consistent personal knowledge of the alleged confessions.

One of the witnesses stated that no confession had been made in his presence and that he had signed the document at the direction of the Deputy Superintendent of Police.

The investigating officer, meanwhile, admitted that no recovery had been made pursuant to the alleged disclosure statements and that no name of any terrorist with whom the accused allegedly had contact had emerged during the investigation.

Observing that the prosecution had failed to establish any specific act of intentional assistance to a terrorist organisation, the court held that mere allegations of association, without dependable independent evidence of intentional support, were insufficient to sustain a conviction under Section 39 of the UAPA.

"Suspicion, however grave, cannot substitute proof. The prosecution must travel the entire distance from suspicion to legal proof. In the present case, that distance has not been traversed," the court observed.

The court accordingly held that the prosecution had failed to prove the essential ingredients of the offences beyond reasonable doubt and extended the benefit of doubt to both accused.

It directed that the accused be released from judicial custody in the case if they were not required in connection with any other case. The seized property, it ordered, shall be dealt with in accordance with law after expiry of the appeal period.

The case was instituted on March 10, 2021, while charges were framed against the accused on July 19, 2021. The prosecution examined 12 witnesses during the trial.

Land

said the affected persons have approached the concerned police stations and courts, following which the matter has entered the stage of legal proceedings and investigation. Complaints have reportedly also been lodged against M Pal Singh at Police Station Pattan, with police said to have initiated an inquiry into the allegations.

The complainants further alleged that M Pal Singh has left for the United States, making his arrest and questioning difficult.

The victims have also approached the United States Embassy in New Delhi, urging it to facilitate his return so that he can face the law and respond to the allegations against him.

They have further alleged that despite his reported absence from the country, activities linked to the alleged land transactions continue at the local level through intermediaries.

Claims have also emerged that M Pal Singh allegedly committed irregularities in matters concerning land belonging to some of his relatives, resulting in legal disputes before different police stations and courts. Some of these matters are reportedly under judicial consideration or at various stages of legal proceedings.

The victims said that land represents property acquired through a lifetime of savings and that fraudulent practices in the real estate sector not only inflict severe financial losses but also jeopardise the economic and family future of those affected.

They have appealed to the Lieutenant Governor-led administration, senior police officials and concerned investigative agencies to ensure an impartial and time-bound investigation, fix responsibility on all those allegedly involved and initiate appropriate legal measures to facilitate the recovery of the victims' money.

The complainants have also called for stringent action against alleged fraud and forgery in land transactions to prevent more people from falling prey to such schemes.

The allegations against the individuals mentioned in the report remain subject to investigation and judicial determination.

Kashmir Age
"Truth we say..... come what may"
SRINAGAR | WEDNESDAY
11-NOVEMBER-2026
11
www.kashmirage.net facebook.com/kashmirage youtube.com/@kashmirAge dailykashmirage@gmail.com

Team gold for India, but Manu misses out on LA 2028 quota



United News Of India

NEW DELHI, NOV 10 :ndia's Manu Bhaker came agonisingly close to securing an individual medal and an Olympic quota place before finishing fourth in the women's 25m pistol final at the ISSF World Championships in Doha on Tuesday.

The double Olympic medallist survived several elimination rounds and shoot-offs but eventually fell short of a podium finish.

The disappointment in the individual event was partly offset by India's success in the team competition, where Manu combined with Esha Singh and Divya Subbaraju to clinch the gold medal.

Manu had entered the eight-shooter final after finishing sixth in qualification with 587 points. She began with 289 in the precision stage but made a strong comeback in the rapid round, shooting 99, 99 and a perfect 100 to secure her place in the final.

Esha also qualified comfortably, finishing third with 590 points. The 21-year-old scored 292 in precision before producing an impressive 298 in the rapid stage.

Both Indians remained in contention during a tense final that saw frequent changes in the standings. Manu negotiated multiple elimination rounds and shoot-offs, but her challenge eventually ended just outside the medal positions.

The women's 25m pistol event offered three quota places for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympics, awarded to eligible countries through individual medal finishes. With neither Manu nor Esha making the podium, India missed the opportunity to add another quota in the discipline.

India, however, had plenty to celebrate after the trio of Esha, Manu and Divya topped the women's 25m pistol team standings with a combined score of 1761 points. South Korea took silver with 1748, while Vietnam finished third with 1745. Esha led India's effort with 590 points, followed by Manu (587) and Divya (584).The team gold provided a major boost to India's campaign in Doha, even as the two individual finalists missed out on medals. India had already secured its first Olympic quota at the championships through Jaypal Malviya, who won silver in the men's 10m air pistol. The shooting contingent will now look to add to that tally in the remaining Olympic events.

PM Modi congratulates Anuj Shrivatri on becoming India's 100th Grandmaster

United News Of India

NEW DELHI, NOV 10: Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed India's growing stature in chess after Anuj Shrivatri became the country's 100th Grandmaster, describing the milestone as an exceptional achievement and urging more youngsters to take up the sport.

Congratulating the Madhya Pradesh player, Modi said the landmark reflected the depth of talent in the country, the hard work and commitment of its chess players, and the sport's increasing popularity among the younger generation.

"India has hit a century in chess! Exceptional isn't it? India is now home to a hundred chess Grandmasters! Congratulations to Anuj Shrivatri on becoming India's 100th Chess Grandmaster! What a wonderful achievement it is," he said in a social media post.

"May this achievement inspire many more youngsters to take up chess and pursue excellence," he said.

Shrivatri secured the milestone after winning the 7th ASEAN Plus Individual Open Chess Championship in



Sinacaban, Philippines, on Sunday. His triumph took India's tally of Grandmasters to 100, nearly four decades after Viswanathan Anand became the country's first player to earn the title in 1988.

The latest landmark also underlines the rapid growth of Indian chess, with five players earning their Grandmaster titles between July and November this year. Ethan Vaz, Harshvardhan GB, S Ashwath and V Rathnavel were the four players to achieve the distinction before Shrivatri.

India's rise in the sport has also been reflected at the highest level, with D Gukesh currently holding the world championship title. The Indian will defend his crown later this month.

Rain washes out final two days as India A-New Zealand A series ends 0-0

United News Of India

NEW DELHI, NOV 10 :The third and final unofficial Test between New Zealand A and India A ended in a draw on Tuesday after rain washed out the fourth and final day at Bert Sutcliffe Oval in Lincoln, leaving India's Test hopefuls short of valuable match practice ahead of the two-Test series beginning November 19.

Persistent rain had already wiped out the third day's play, and conditions remained unchanged on Tuesday, resulting in the abandonment of the match without a ball being bowled on the final day. The three-match series thus ended 0-0.

India A had taken a firm grip on the game after declaring their first innings at 464/5, built around Yashasvi Jaiswal's 102 and half-centuries from Sai Sudharsan (88), Tilak Varma (81 not out), Dhruv Jurel (71) and Washington Sundar (50 not out).

New Zealand A were 36/2 at stumps on the second day, with Prasidh Krishna claiming both wickets. With no further play possible, India's bowlers, including Jasprit Bumrah, Ravindra Jadeja and Prasidh, missed out on the opportunity to get more overs under their belts before the senior team's Test assignment.

Bumrah bowled six overs after India A's declaration on the second day, conceding 11 runs without taking a wicket. Prasidh, meanwhile, returned figures of 2/12 from five overs, while Jadeja did not bowl during the 14 overs sent down by the Indian attack. The left-arm spinner spent time at the crease instead, scoring 25 off 71 balls.

The match marked Bumrah's return to competitive cricket after his last appearance for India in the Asian Games final against Pakistan on October 3. He was rested for the white-ball leg of the New Zealand tour as part of workload management ahead of the Test series.

Bumrah, Jadeja, Jaiswal, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Devdutt Padikkal, Sai Sudharsan, Washington Sundar and Akash Deep are set to travel to Wellington for preparations.

India captain Shubman Gill and vice-captain KL Rahul will join the Test squad after the conclusion of the third and final ODI on Tuesday.

PT Usha's four-year IOA stint nears end after setback in SOM election

United News Of India

NEW DELHI, NOV 10 :PT Usha's hopes of retaining the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) presidency have suffered a serious blow after she failed to make the cut in the election of female Sportspersons of Merit



(SOMs) on Monday, putting her continuation at the top of the country's Olympic administration in considerable doubt.

The 62-year-old finished fifth among six contenders in the virtual election, which offered four places in the category. Olympic medallist shuttler Saina Nehwal, former world-class long jumper Anju Bobby George, ex-archer Dola Banerjee and former India women's hockey captain Rani Rampal secured the available positions, leaving Usha outside the group that will form part of the IOA General Assembly.

Anju emerged as the most popular candidate with 53 votes, while Rani collected 50. Dola finished with 45 votes and Saina secured 43. Usha received 40, while former basketball player Anitha Paul Durai polled six. All 80 members on the electoral roll, comprising 40 male and 40 female SOMs, took part in the voting conducted online between 9am and 5pm.

The outcome has made Usha's path to the December 5 presidential election extremely difficult. Under the IOA Constitution, only a SOM or a member of the General Assembly can contest the president's post. Having failed to retain her place through the SOM election, Usha will now need an National Sports Federation (NSF) to nominate her as one of its two representatives in the General Assembly.

That route, however, appears unlikely to materialise. Usha is not expected to be among the two nominees of the Athletics Federation of India (AFI), and the eligibility conditions laid down by the Electoral Officer further complicate the possibility of another federation backing her candidature.

Electoral Officer Sanjay Kumar Srivastava, in a separate notification, made it clear that an NSF's representatives must be members of the federation concerned and meet the prescribed eligibility criteria.

"Each representative shall be a member of the concerned NSF entitled to vote, a citizen of India, less than 70 years of age, a person of good standing, sound judgment and independent mind with knowledge of and belief in Olympic principles," the notification stated.

Unless she secures such a nomination, Usha will be barred from entering the presidential race, bringing her four-year stint as IOA chief to a close. The former athlete, who narrowly missed a 400m hurdles medal

at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, made history in 2022 by becoming the first woman to head the IOA. She had been elected unopposed through the SOM category.

Gayatri-Treesa cruise into Kumamoto Masters pre-quarters with straight-game win



United News Of India

NEW DELHI, NOV 10 :Gayatri Gopichand and Treesa Jolly made a winning start to their Kumamoto Masters Japan Super 500 campaign, beating Japanese pair Hinata Suzuki and Nao Yamakita in straight games to enter the pre-quarterfinals on Tuesday.

The Indian duo, who won bronze at the BWF World Championships in New Delhi earlier this year, needed 42 minutes to overcome their opponents 21-17, 21-14 in their opening-round match. They will next face another home combination, Rin Iwanaga and Kie Nakanishi, with a quarter-final spot at stake.

India's mixed doubles campaign, however, suffered an early setback as Dhruv Kapila and Radhika Sharma bowed out in the qualifying round. The Indian pair lost 16-21, 15-21 to second seeds Chen Zhi Yi and Francesca Corbett of the United States.

There was better news in men's doubles, where Hariharan Amsakarunan and MR Arjun advanced to the next round after their Malaysian opponents, Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik, retired hurt early in their opening match.

The Indians were leading 11-6 in the first game when the sixth-seeded Malaysian pair was forced to pull out just six minutes into the contest. Hariharan and Arjun will now wait for the result of the match between Japan's Takuro Hoki and Yugo Kobayashi and Hong Kong China's Kuei Chun Hung and Chun Wai Lui to find out their next opponents.

India's men's singles challenge is also set to begin, with Lakshya Sen and Kidambi Srikanth preparing for their opening-round matches. Eighth seed Lakshya will face Chinese Taipei's Yu Jen Chi, while Srikanth is scheduled to take on Denmark's Rasmus Gemke. The timings for both matches are yet to be announced.

World's biggest stars including India's Praggnanandhaa, Vaishali lands in Budapest for Total Cheess World Tour pilot

United News Of India



CHENNAI, NOV 10 :The biggest stars of the game of 64 squares, including India's World No.7 R.Praggnanandhaa and Women World No.24 R.Vaishali, besides Norway's Magnus Carlsen have descended in Budapest as anticipation builds for the FIDE approved Total Chess World Championship Tour Pilot, an ambitious new tournament bringing together 24 of the World's elite players to test an innovative format and explore a new direction for professional chess.

The tournament would be inaugurated later tonight (IST time) and would be held till November 20.

Among the biggest attractions is the arrival of Magnus Carlsen, widely regarded as the Greatest of All Time (GOAT), who arrived late evening on Monday. Having held the world No. 1 position for 15 consecutive years, Carlsen's participation adds enormous star power to an already exceptional field.

The 24-player field represents an extraordinary gathering of international chess talent, featuring some of the biggest names in the game, multiple elite grandmasters and two of the world's leading female players. From established champions and former world championship challengers to the next generation of chess superstars, the Pilot promises a fascinating contest across the board.

Apart from Praggnandhaa and Vaishali, the other Indian in the fray is World No.12 Arjun Erigaisi in the Pilot event, which carries a total prize fund of USD 650,000.

Later today, the opening ceremony, press conference, and 9 rounds of Blitz Swiss (starting at 18:00 hrs local time, 2230 hrs IST) to seed the groups and break ties, will be held.

The Group stage (4 groups of 6 players, double round-robin in Fast Classic format) will be held from November 11-15 and after a day's rest, the knockout semifinals (Blitz, Rapid, and Fast Classic games, with Armageddon if needed) will be held on November 17 and 18 followed by the finals and placement matches on November 19 to 20.

The championship is about more than finding a champion. At its heart is the testing of a new competitive format designed to bring a fresh dimension to Elite chess, creating a more dynamic, engaging and compelling experience for players, fans and audiences worldwide.

Savita rested as India name squad for Women's Asian Champions Trophy in Bhopal

United News Of India



NEW DELHI, NOV 10 : Veteran goalkeeper Savita Punia has been left out of India's squad for the Women's Asian Champions Trophy in Bhopal, with head coach Sjoerd Marijne opting to give Bansari Solanki an opportunity between the posts as part of a series of changes to the team.

Hockey India announced the 18-member squad on Tuesday, with midfielder Salima Tete retaining the captaincy. The tournament, scheduled from November 19 to 28 at the newly built International Sports Complex in Nathu Barkheda, will be India's first international assignment since their historic gold-medal triumph at the Asian Games in Japan last month.

India will begin their title defence against Malaysia on the opening day. The hosts have won the Asian Champions Trophy three times, in 2016, 2023 and 2024, and will be aiming for a fourth title on home soil.

Solanki, 25, was part of the Indian team that won the Asia Cup last year. Bichu Devi Kharibam has retained her place as the second goalkeeper in the squad, while Savita has been rested for the competition.

Marijne said the tournament would provide an opportunity to assess players in different positions and give more members of the squad valuable international exposure.

"This is the moment I want to give other players the chance to showcase their talent on the international stage. Some players will be playing in different positions than they normally do, so that I can see how they perform in a different role," said Marijne.

"We are excited to play in front of the home crowd and finish the year well," he added.

The Dutch coach has made a few positional adjustments as part of that plan. Rutuja Dadaso Pisal, who featured as a forward at the Asian Games, will operate in midfield in Bhopal. Nikki Pradhan, usually a midfielder, has been included in the defensive line-up, while Ishika Chaudhary will move from defence to midfield.

Six teams will compete in the tournament, with India joined by China, Japan, Malaysia, Thailand and South Korea. South Korea, like India, have won the title three times.

The competition will follow a round-robin format, with each team facing the other five sides once. The top four teams will qualify for the semi-finals.

China, the highest-ranked team in Asia, will take on Thailand in the tournament opener. India will then face Malaysia following the opening ceremony. Their remaining league fixtures are against South Korea on November 21, Thailand on November 22, China on November 24 and Japan on November 25.

Kashmir Age
"Truth we say..... come what may"
SRINAGAR | WEDNESDAY
11-NOVEMBER-2026
12
www.kashmirage.net facebook.com/kashmirage youtube.com/@kashmirAge dailykashmirage@gmail.com

SC asks WhatsApp, others to list measures to prevent digital arrest, related cyber crimes

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 10: The Supreme Court has asked WhatsApp and other intermediaries to apprise it about their proposed measures to prevent digital arrest scams and related cybercrimes in the country.

In an order uploaded on the website with regard to the hearing conducted on October 29 in a suo motu case titled 'In Re: Victims of Digital Arrest Related to Forged Documents', a bench headed by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant asked WhatsApp and like intermediaries to simultaneously submit their proposals to the I4C (Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre).

The bench, also comprising Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana, has listed the plea for further consideration on November 23.

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

He had said the platform was working on a software to identify suspicious accounts and warn users.

"WhatsApp LLC (A Meta company) and other concerned intermediaries are also directed to apprise this Court of the measures they propose to undertake to prevent the digital arrest scams and related cybercrimes. They shall also simultaneously submit their proposals to the I4C," the bench said in its order.

The top court, on October 29, had said financial institutions must be held



accountable for digital arrest scams and other cyber frauds, emphasising that banks should be required to compensate victims for losses suffered where an investigation establishes that the fraud occurred due to the institution's failure to exercise due diligence.

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

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

"We have also emphasised in the past various preventive safeguards that must be mandated for every financial institution. These may include temporarily suspending unusual or suspicious transactions inconsistent with the account's past transaction history, automatically intimating such transactions to the nearest police station, and subsequently physically verifying the reported transactions to ascertain their genuineness," the order said.

In order to ensure effective implementation of the regulatory measures proposed by the RBI, as well as the directions issued, the bench further directed the RBI to submit a list of all authorised financial institutions before this court on the next date of hearing.

Observing that despite the fact that cyber crimes fell by 50 per cent, yet victims lost Rs 800 crore so far this year, the bench had said the proposed RBI regulatory framework must incorporate enforceable provisions for compensation, preventive intervention and institutional accountability.

The CJI had said the bench would first examine the proposed RBI Know Your Customer (KYC) Amendment Directions, 2026, before permitting the regulatory process to proceed.

MLA inaugurates Alfa Gym Centre in Pattan

Hails youth for benefiting from government schemes



Kashmir Press Service

Pattan: MLA Pattan Javaid Reyaz Baidar inaugurated the Alfa Gym Centre in Pattan, marking another step towards promoting fitness, sports and a healthy lifestyle among the youth.

Speaking to Gulistan News after the inauguration, the MLA appreciated the initiative and said it was encouraging to see the younger generation coming forward and taking advantage of various government schemes, particularly Mission YUVA.

He said such initiatives provide opportunities for young people to develop their skills, promote self-employment and build a positive future. He also appreciated the efforts of the young entrepreneurs for taking steps towards establishing their own ventures.

The MLA expressed hope that more young people would come forward to benefit from government initiatives and contribute towards the development of the area.

PSA sets up district-level grievance cells

Assures action against schools violating norms

KASHMIR PRESS SERVICE

Anantnag, Nov. 10: The Jammu and Kashmir Private Schools Association (J&K-PSA) has announced the establishment of district-level grievance redressal cells across Jammu and Kashmir to address parents' complaints against private educational institutions and ensure appropriate action against schools found violating prescribed rules and regulations.

The decision was taken during a meeting of the Association's State Executive Council, convened to review key issues confronting private schools, assess progress on earlier commitments and discuss measures to improve the quality of education while safeguarding students' welfare and parents' interests.

The meeting was chaired by J&K-PSA State President Bilal Ahmad Bhat and hosted by the Association's Anantnag district team. Senior office-bearers, district presidents and members of the State Executive Council from different parts of Jammu and Kashmir participated, with several members joining virtually.

Addressing the meeting, President Bilal Ahmad Bhat said the Association would not tolerate violations of established rules by its member institutions and urged parents to submit genuine complaints in writing for proper examination and necessary action.

District-wise Grievance Cell Contacts:

- Srinagar: Adil Habib Bhat – 7006030351
- Budgam: Dr. Owais Mattoo – 7889747939
- Ganderbal: Sheikh Javaid Ali – 7006233969
- Anantnag: Er. Mehmood – 9622614562
- Shopian: Hilal Ahmad Khan – 9858707214
- Kulgam: Dr. Waseem Siddiqui – 7780903340
- Pulwama: Dr. Sheikh Arshid – 8899717940
- Bandipora: Dr. Yasir Ramzan Bhat – 7780928254
- Baramulla: Mir Aadil Mohi-ud-Din – 9906622234
- Kupwara: Tanveer Ahmad Lone – 7006184824



He said the grievance cells would provide parents with an accessible platform to raise concerns, particularly regarding violations of the directions and norms prescribed by the Fee Fixation and Regulation Committee (FFRC).

Bhat stressed that transparency in the functioning of private schools was essential for strengthening mutual trust between parents and school administrations. He also highlighted the importance of displaying prescribed book lists on official websites and notice boards, enabling parents to make informed choices.

He further observed that several grievances arise due to communication gaps between parents and school managements, which can often be resolved through timely intervention and constructive dialogue.

General Secretary (Organisation) Mohammad Syed Wani said the Association holds monthly Executive Council meetings to review its activities, assess achievements and identify priorities for the coming month. He said such meetings, organised across different districts, help strengthen coordination with

Police arrest 2 drug peddlers in Kulgam



KASHMIR PRESS SERVICE

Kulgam, November 10: In its continued efforts to curb drug trafficking, Kulgam Police arrested two alleged drug peddlers and recovered 747 grams of cannabis-like substance, including flowering tops, during a naka checking operation at Khudwani Bypass near SKUAST on November 9.

According to police, a team conducting naka checking intercepted two suspicious persons and carried out searches in accordance with legal procedures. During the searches, 400 grams of cannabis-like substance was recovered from the possession of Murtaza Ashraf, a resident of Chansar, Kulgam, while 347 grams was recovered from Mohd Amir Kuttay, a resident of Badi Jalan, DH Pora, Kulgam.

In this connection, FIR No. 73/2026 under Sections 8/20 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act has been registered at Police Station Qaimoh.

Kulgam all set to host 3-Day Veshow Festival from today

KASHMIR PRESS SERVICE

Kulgam, Nov 10: The District Administration Kulgam is all set to host the three-day Veshow Festival 2026 from November 11 to 13 at Government Degree College (GDC), Kulgam, with an aim to celebrate the district's rich heritage, art, culture, literature and traditional trade.

In this regard, Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Shahzad Alam, reviewed the arrangements for the annual festival and directed the concerned departments to ensure proper coordination and make all necessary arrangements for the smooth and successful conduct of the scheduled activities.

Being organised under the theme "Celebrating Our Heritage", the festival aims to provide a common platform to artists, writers, poets, artisans, students, traders and cultural enthusiasts to showcase their talent, creativity and traditional knowledge while promoting the rich cultural identity of the region. The three-day festival will feature a wide range of literary and cultural activities, including poetry sessions, discussions on



Kashmiri literature, mushairas, qawwali, ghazal performances, musical presentations and cultural performances by students from various colleges and schools.

A major attraction of the event will be the Trade Fair, featuring multiple pavilions showcasing traditional handicrafts, Kashmiri cuisine, local products, art and craft, besides exhibitions highlighting the region's rich artistic and cultural traditions. Workshops, live demonstrations by artisans and special activities for children will also form part of the festival.

The literary segment will bring together prominent writers, poets and literary personalities for interactive sessions and discussions. Special programmes dedicated to Kashmiri language and literature will provide an opportunity to celebrate and promote the region's literary heritage.

Sakina Itoo inaugurates NTPHC at Chuker Kunzer, MLA Gulmarg welcomes initiative

KASHMIR PRESS SERVICE

Kunzer: Minister for Health & Medical Education and Social Welfare, Sakeena Masood Itoo, accompanied by MLA Gulmarg, Pirzada Farooq Ahmad Shah, today inaugurated the New Type Primary Health Centre (NTPHC) at Chuker Kunzer in the presence of Director Health Services Kashmir.

The inauguration marks the fulfilment of a long-pending public demand and a significant milestone



in strengthening healthcare infrastructure in the area. Constructed at a cost of Rs.1.188 crore, the health centre has been completed nearly 14 years after the laying of its foundation stone. Locals present on the occasion acknowledged the sustained, sincere and dedicated efforts of MLA Farooq Ahmad Shah in pursuing the project and ensuring that this long-awaited facility became a reality.

Speaking on the occasion, the MLA emphasised the importance of the health centre, which will cater to a sizeable population of Chukar and its adjoining areas.

MLA Javaid Ahmad Mirchal Visits Tarboni Village

KASHMIR PRESS SERVICE
PEERZADA SAYEED

TARBONI, KARNAH, November 10: MLA Karnah, Javaid Ahmad Mirchal, today visited Tarboni village as part of his public outreach and community interaction programme, where he held a detailed interaction with members of the Sikh community and discussed various issues concerning public welfare, local development and the overall progress of the area.

During the visit, the MLA was accorded a warm and affectionate welcome by members of the Sikh community, who expressed their happiness over his arrival and appreciated



his efforts to maintain direct contact with people at the grassroots level.

The interaction provided an opportunity for members of the Sikh community to put forward their concerns, share their views and discuss matters related to their day-to-day needs and developmental requirements.