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Kashmir now free of locally recruited terrorists: Amit Shah



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 19: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday said Kashmir is now free of locally recruited terrorists following the elimination of LeT terrorist Lateef Bhat by security forces.

This marks a major milestone in the fight against terrorism, he said at an anti-terror conference here.

"Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we have adopted a 'Zero Tolerance' policy towards terrorism, and this policy is yielding positive results," the Home Minister said.

"Following the killing of Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorist Lateef Bhat, Kashmir is now free of locally recruited terrorists born in India. This marks a major milestone in the fight against terrorism," he said.

Bhat, who carried a reward of Rs 15 lakh and was wanted for a November 11 attack on a CRPF post that left three paramilitary personnel injured, was neutralised on Wednesday in an encounter in South Kashmir's Kulgam district.

To completely eliminate terrorism, organised crime and drug-related problems, Shah said it is essential to bring offenders hiding abroad back

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Govt Firm On Eradicating Terror Ecosystem: LG

KA NEWS SERVICE



Jammu, November 19: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha met a public delegation from Kiyar in Dachhan, Kishtwar, at Lok Bhavan today.

The Lieutenant Governor paid homage to J&K Police brave hearts, Shri Rashpal Kumar and Shri Babi Chand. He assured that the administration will extend all possible support to the families of the martyrs.

The delegation was led by Member of Legislative Assembly from Kishtwar Ms. Shagun Parihar. The delegation apprised the Lieutenant Governor of key issues pertaining to the prevailing security situation in Kiyar and other areas of Dachhan, Kishtwar. She also highlighted the concerns of residents living in remote and vulnerable pockets of Dachhan.

The Lieutenant Governor reaffirmed an unwavering commitment to dismantling the terror ecosystem through decisive action.

He

CM Calls For Timely Completion Of Cybersecurity, Citizen-Centric Services

KA NEWS SERVICE



Jammu, November 19: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today chaired a review meeting of the Information Technology Department to assess the progress of various e-governance initiatives, digital infrastructure projects, cybersecurity measures and delivery of online services across Jammu and Kashmir.

During the meeting, the Chief Minister reviewed the department's key achievements and ongoing initiatives aimed at strengthening digital governance and improving citizen access to government services.

Advisor

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Several legislators call on Omar

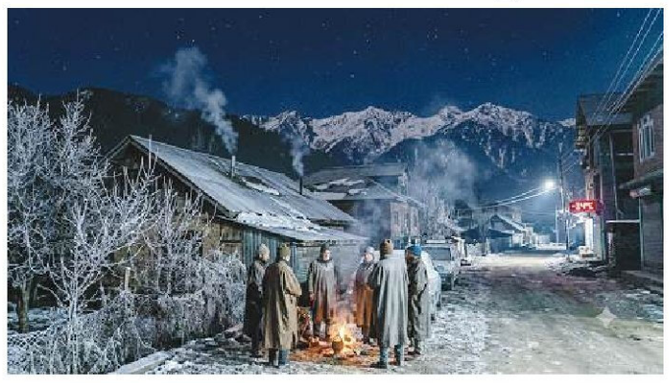
KA NEWS SERVICE

Jammu, November 19: Several legislators today called on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah at the Civil Secretariat, Jammu, and apprised him of various developmental issues and public welfare concerns pertaining to their respective constituencies.

The legislators included MLA Hiranagar Vijay

See on Pg. 10

Kashmir shivers as Gulmarg, Pahalgam record sub-zero nights



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, Nov 19: Temperatures dropped sharply across Kashmir, with tourist destinations Pahalgam and Gulmarg recording sub-zero temperatures at minus 2.8 and minus 1.0 degrees Celsius, respectively, officials said on Thursday.

Shopian was the coldest place in Jammu and Kashmir at minus 3.4 degrees Celsius.

Srinagar also recorded its coldest night of the season so far as the summer capital of the Union Territory registered a low of minus 0.2 degrees Celsius, 0.9 degrees below the seasonal normal, they said.

Qazigund, the gateway to the valley in south Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 0.8 degrees Celsius, while the famous ski resort of Gulmarg in north Kashmir's Baramulla district registered minus 1.0 degrees Celsius and Pahalgam, a tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district, recorded a minimum of minus 2.8 degrees Celsius.

Kupwara in north Kashmir recorded a low of minus 1.3 degrees Celsius, while Kokernag registered a minimum temperature of 1.0 degrees Celsius.

The meteorological department has forecast mainly dry weather

See on Pg. 10

CS undertakes maiden early morning field visit to Jammu city

KA NEWS SERVICE



Jammu, November 19: A day after assuming charge as the Chief Secretary of Jammu & Kashmir, Dr Sajjan Singh Yadav undertook his first field tour of Jammu city in the early hours of Thursday, taking a first-hand appraisal of the city's developmental landscape, urban infrastructure, sanitation arrangements and ongoing initiatives aimed at enhancing civic amenities and improving the overall quality of urban life.

The Chief Secretary was accompanied by Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, Vikas Kundal; Deputy Commissioner, Jammu, Minga Sherpa; Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), Ayushi Sudan; Senior Superintendent of Police, Jammu, Joginder Singh; Vice Chairman, Jammu Development Authority (JDA), besides other senior officers of the

See on Pg. 10

Chief Secretary Calls On Chief Minister Omar

KA NEWS DESK



Jammu, November 19: Newly appointed Chief Secretary Dr. Sajjan Singh Yadav today called on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah at the Civil Secretariat, Jammu.

The Chief Minister congratulated him on assuming charge as the Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir.

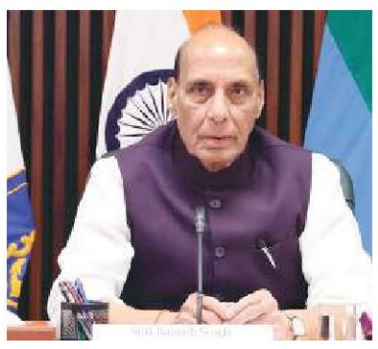
During the meeting, the Chief Minister discussed key developmental priorities with the newly appointed Chief

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EAM flags 'weaponisation' of resources, supply chains at Japan meet

Rajnath Seeks Deeper Defence Cooperation

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

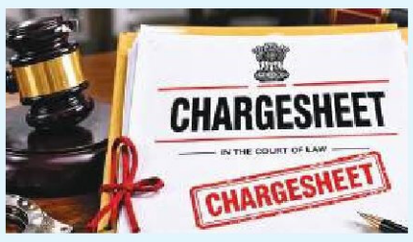


Tokyo, Nov 19: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Thursday flagged the growing "weaponisation" of connectivity, resources and supply chains, and called for stronger India-Japan cooperation amid global uncertainty, while Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said the two countries agreed to accelerate cooperation in niche underwater and missile technologies and deepen maritime security ties.

Jaishankar and Singh were in Tokyo for the fourth India-Japan Foreign and Defence Ministers' Dialogue, known as the 2+2 meeting, held on Thursday. Both ministers also held separate bilateral talks with their Japanese counterparts - Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi and Defence

See on Pg. 10

Chargesheet filed against retired employee



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jammu: Police has filed a chargesheet against a retired Jal Shakti Public Health Engineering (PHE) Department employee for allegedly falsifying his date of birth to extend his service by nearly nine years, causing financial loss to the state exchequer, an official said.

Ghulam Rasool, a resident of Kot Patoli in Bhalwal tehsil, was booked in a case registered earlier this year by the Special Crime Wing of the Jammu and Kashmir Police Crime Branch.

The case was registered following a complaint alleging that Rasool, who served as an assistant lineman in the department's Bakshi Nagar sub-division, allegedly manipulated his date of birth in official service records to prolong his tenure, he said.

It was established that his actual date of birth was May 15, 1956, as recorded in the admission register and certificate of Government Middle School Kot. However, concealing

See on Pg. 10

3 rifle magazines, live rounds recovered

KA NEWS SERVICE

Jammu, Nov 19: Three magazines of AK rifles and 90 live rounds were recovered from a bag in the Akhnoor border belt of Jammu district, officials said on Thursday. The recovery was made near Bhalwal Brahmana village, following which police took the magazines and ammunition into their possession for further investigation and necessary legal action, they said.

Police are also investigating whether ammunition may have been left over by the forces mistakenly.

India now rich country but has poor sanitation performance: SC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA



New Delhi, Nov 19: Flagging concerns over non-implementation of Solid Waste Management rules, the Supreme Court has said India is now a rich country but has poor sanitation performance.

Hearing appeals arising from orders of the National Green Tribunal concerning compliance with environmental norms by municipal corporations under the Solid Waste Management (SWM) rules, a bench of justices SVN Bhatti and NV Anjaria acknowledged that the first two phases i.e., kickstarting and putting in place the administrative mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the SWM Rules, 2026, are in place.

"The court notes that Bharat is now a rich country but has poor sanitation performance. The growth achieved in other fields is completely negated by the negative impact from this manageable dereliction by all the stakeholders," the bench said in its November 17 order.

The top court said there is a need to emphasise that poor sanitation and solid waste management affect the outlook of the society and country and there are instances where similar economies, within India and outside India, have succeeded in their sanitation and hygiene objectives.

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FDA issues advisory for Railways over transportation of perishable food commodities

Kashmir Age News



SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 19: Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) has impressed upon Railway Authorities that highly perishable food commodities must be transported only through duly licensed Food Business Operators and under prescribed temperature-controlled conditions, accompanied by proper declarations and documentation.

The advisory was issued in the aftermath of the recent incident of seizure and destruction of frozen meat at Budgam Railway Station and subsequent media reports appearing in various media channels, including social media. It has been observed that a lot of unverified content also have been circulating and a need has been felt to place facts surrounding the matter in public domain.

In the above context, it is once again stated that on receipt of a specific information from Railway Police authorities, Food Safety team Budgam seized and subsequently destroyed approximately 1,600 kg of frozen meat at Budgam Railway Station which was transported through the railway parcel service by misrepresenting it as 'general goods'. The consignment of highly perishable category was being transported by misrepresentation/ suppression of facts through the train.

Preliminary investigation revealed that the consignment had originated from M/s Al Nida Foods, No. 198, Shaheed Ashfaq Ullah Khan, Fish Market, Ghazipur, Delhi – 110096. Ghazipur, Delhi, and was intended for Ayaan Manzoor resident of Bemina, Srinagar, through M/s Tultrav Courier Agency, Bemina. The consignment had been booked under the general parcel category without proper disclosure of the actual nature of the commodity, apparently to circumvent the prescribed requirements governing the transportation of "highly perishable food products" under FSSA 2006.

During inspection, the consignment was found without proper temperature-control arrangements to maintain the required frozen conditions. Further examination of the documents revealed discrepancies in the description of the commodity and violation labelling norms, attracting the provisions of Sections 53 and 61 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

It was also found that the transporter and the intended recipient did not possess the mandatory FSSAI license as required under Section 31 of the Act, thereby attracting penal

provisions under Section 63. Considering the potential threat to public health, the entire consignment was seized and destroyed through the Municipal Committee, Budgam, at a designated disposal site to take the investigation forward.

DC Shopian chairs comprehensive sector-wise review meeting at Mini-Secretariat



Kashmir Age News

SHOPIAN, NOVEMBER 19: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Charandeep Singh, today chaired a comprehensive sector-wise review meeting at the Conference Hall, Mini-Secretariat, Shopian to assess departmental performance, physical and financial progress, and the implementation of various government schemes across the district.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner conducted a detailed sector-by-sector evaluation of achievements against set targets and examined pending issues across developmental and welfare departments.

Emphasizing transparency, accountability and timely service delivery, he directed the officers to accelerate the execution of ongoing projects and ensure that the benefits of government welfare schemes reach the grassroots level without delay.

Deputy Commissioner stressed upon all sectoral offiers to work with renewed dedication and ensure achievement of assigned targets within the stipulated timelines. He directed the concerned departments to intensify efforts towards the effective implementation of various government schemes, particularly social security schemes and ensure that all eligible beneficiaries are covered. He also laid emphasis on increasing public awareness regarding the benefits of welfare schemes and ensuring saturation and achieving targets Holistic Agriculture .

Mission Vatsalya Bandipora conducts child protection awareness programme in schools

Kashmir Age News

BANDIPORA, NOVEMBER 19 : In an effort to strengthen child protection mechanisms and create awareness about child rights and safety, officials of Mission Vatsalya Bandipora conducted an extensive Child Protection Awareness



Programme in various schools across the district.

During the programme, teachers and students were sensitized about various aspects of child protection, including child rights, child safety, and the importance of ensuring a safe and secure environment for every child. Special emphasis was laid on the Child Helpline 1098, its role in providing immediate assistance to children in distress, and the procedure for identifying and reporting Children in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP).

The officials also provided detailed information about various schemes and services available under Mission Vatsalya, particularly sponsorship schemes and other support mechanisms aimed at protecting vulnerable children and ensuring their care, development and well-being.

Furthermore, awareness was imparted regarding important child-related legislations, including the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, Child Labour Laws, Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA) and other relevant laws concerning the rights, safety and protection of children. The programme highlighted the responsibility of teachers, parents and the community in identifying cases of child abuse, exploitation, neglect, child labour and other forms of vulnerability, and ensuring that such cases are promptly reported to the concerned authorities for timely intervention. As part of the awareness initiative, posters highlighting the Child Helpline 1098 were also displayed at prominent locations to promote public awareness and encourage people to report child protection concerns without delay. The initiative aimed at strengthening community participation, building awareness among educational institutions and ensuring that children are aware of their rights and the support systems available to them.

Javid Dar calls for sweeping reforms in mining sector

Directs transparent, accountable functioning



Kashmir Age News

JAMMU, NOVEMBER 19: Minister for Agriculture Production, Finance, Mining and Cooperative Departments, Javid Ahmad Dar, today chaired a comprehensive review meeting of the Department of Geology and Mining, Jammu and Kashmir, to assess its overall functioning, operational efficiency, developmental initiatives and the progress of key reforms aimed at strengthening the mining sector.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Industries and Commerce, Vikramjit Singh; Director, Geology and Mining, J&K, Pawan Kumar Sharma; Joint Directors of Geology and Mining for Jammu and Kashmir divisions; District Mineral Officers (DMOs) from across the Union Territory and other senior officers.

During the meeting, the Minister undertook an extensive review of the department's regulatory framework, revenue performance, auction processes, enforcement mechanisms and measures for ensuring the sustainable and scientific utilisation of mineral resources.

Emphasising the need for a fundamental shift towards a transparent, facilitative and technology-driven administrative framework, Javid Dar observed that cumbersome procedures and excessive administrative requirements had, in several cases, created unnecessary impediments for legitimate operators while leaving scope for illegal mining activities.

Reviewing the status of mining blocks, the Minister directed the department to expedite the identification, assessment and auctioning process, ensuring that all eligible blocks are made auction-ready within a stipulated timeframe.

He stressed that avoidable procedural delays must be eliminated and all requisite preliminary assessments, site demarcation and interdepartmental consultations completed before initiating the auction process.

DC Srinagar tours Khonmoh Industrial Estate

Reviews ease of doing business measures & Industry-related issues in the district

Kashmir Age News

SRINAGAR NOVEMBER 19:-Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo today conducted an extensive tour of Khonmoh Industrial Estate and reviewed the industrial activities in the area and industry related issues.

He also took on the site stock of the overall functioning of the estate and interacted with representatives of the industrial fraternity.

Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mir Imtiyaz Ul Aziz, Additional Deputy Commissioner Aadil Fareed, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, SDM West, Seerat Baji, GM DIC, Aabid Iqbal, SDM East, Zubair Ahmad, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Umar Gulzar, ALC, Adnan Tariq, MD SIDCO, Executive Engineer KPDCL, Syed Abrar and other Officers accompanied the DC during the visit.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner visited various Industries and other industrial units within the estate to gain first-hand insight into their operations, production activities and infrastructural requirements.

While interacting with the representatives of the unit holders, the DC took note of the concerns raised and emphasised the importance of effective interdepartmental coordination and timely resolution of genuine issues.

The DC underscored the District Administration's commitment to strengthening the industrial ecosystem, facilitating existing and prospective investors, addressing industry-related challenges and promoting a conducive environment for industrial growth and investment in Srinagar District.

The DC assured the industrialists of full support and cooperation from the District Administration, stating that all possible assistance would be extended to facilitate the smooth functioning and overall development of Khonmoh Industrial Estate.

Udyam Jagriti Programme held at Tangdhar to promote entrepreneurship among ex-servicemen

Kashmir Age News

KUPWARA, NOVEMBER 19: Zila Sainik Welfare Office (ZSWO), Kupwara, in collaboration with the District Administration, organised an Udyam Jagriti Programme at Dak Bungalow, Tangdhar, to sensitise Ex-Servicemen and their dependents about Mission YUVA, PMEGP and other government schemes aimed at promoting entrepreneurship and self-employment.

The programme was presided over by Tehsildar Karnah, Mohd Amin Bhat, and witnessed participation of the District Employment Officer along with his team, representatives of Mission YUVA, Lead Bank and District Industries Centre.

Welcoming the dignitaries and participants, Zila Sainik Welfare Officer, retd.Col. SS Raja, highlighted the immense potential of Ex-Servicemen in contributing towards economic development through their discipline, leadership qualities and experience.

Director Agri Kashmir inaugurates workshop on Winter Management Strategies of 'Bee Colonies'

Kashmir Age News



SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 19: Director Agriculture Kashmir, Sartaj Ahmad Shah, today inaugurated a training programme cum workshop on "Winter Management Strategies of Bee Colonies" at the Directorate of Agriculture, Lal Mandi, Srinagar.

The programme was organised for Apiculture Development Officers (ADOs), Apiculture Development Assistants (ADAs) and other officials associated with the Apiculture sector. A practical demonstration for safeguarding bee colonies during winter was also given for the participants.

The programme aimed to enhance the technical knowledge and professional skills of the field functionaries regarding scientific and effective management of bee colonies during the winter season, ensuring their survival, health and productivity. Furthermore, this year the department has abandoned the unfruitful practice of migration of bee colonies outside Kashmir under public sector.

Addressing the participants, Director Agriculture Kashmir emphasised the importance of adopting scientific management practices to safeguard bee colonies during harsh winter conditions.

DC Ganderbal chairs Regional Transport Authority meeting

Kashmir Age News



GANDERBAL, NOVEMBER 19: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shreya Singal, who is also Chairperson of the Regional Transport Authority (RTA), today chaired a meeting of the RTA at the VC Room of the Mini Secretariat Complex, Ganderbal.

During the meeting, detailed deliberations were held on various transport-related matters, including the issuance and renewal of commercial transport permits, defining and regulating routes for e-rickshaws to ensure smooth last-mile connectivity, and reviewing cases under the Road Accident Victim Fund (RAVF) for timely relief disbursement to accident victims' families.

The Chair emphasized streamlining permit procedures, regulating e-rickshaw operations on designated routes to avoid traffic congestion, and ensuring prompt financial assistance to eligible beneficiaries under the Road Accident Victim Fund.

The meeting was attended by Senior Superintendent of Police Ganderbal, Harshal R. Mahajan, Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Dr. Syed Faheem A. Bihaqi, Tehsildar Ganderbal, ARTO Ganderbal (Member Secretary), Dy. SP Traffic Ganderbal, and Executive Officer Municipal Council Ganderbal.

JKBOSE conducts orientation programme on JKSQAAF implementation on pilot basis in Pulwama

Kashmir Age News

PULWAMA, NOVEMBER 19: The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE), functioning as the School Standard Setting Authority (JKSSSA), in collaboration with PARAKH, NCERT, New Delhi, organised a One-Day Orientation Programme on the implementation of the Jammu and Kashmir School Quality Assessment and Assurance Framework (JKSQAAF) on a pilot basis for schools of District Pulwama.

The programme was held today at Government Degree College, Pulwama, and witnessed the enthusiastic participation of approximately 200 Heads of Schools from the district The programme was organised to familiarise Heads of Institutions of Government and Private Schools with the framework, its domains and indicators, the online self-assessment process, documentation of evidence, and the preparation of School Quality Improvement Plans (SQIPs).

The initiative is aimed at institutionalising a culture of self-evaluation, accountability, continuous improvement and quality assurance in school education, in consonance with the vision of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

Ghulam Hassan Sheikh, Chairman, JKBOSE, reiterated that the introduction of JKSQAAF on a pilot basis reflects the Board's commitment to strengthening institutional standards and fostering a structured, outcome-oriented approach to school quality assurance across Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasised that the framework would provide schools with a systematic mechanism to assess their performance across various domains, identify areas requiring improvement, and translate the findings into actionable School Quality Improvement Plans (SQIPs) to ensure continuous institutional development and enhancement of learning outcomes.Prof. Indrani Bhaduri, CEO and Head, PARAKH, NCERT, New Delhi, highlighted the significance of school quality assessment and assurance in building a holistic, learner-centric and quality-oriented educational ecosystem. She emphasised that frameworks such as JKSQAAF should encourage schools to undertake honest self-assessment, critically reflect upon their institutional practices and utilise assessment findings constructively to identify gaps and drive continuous improvement. She further observed that such frameworks are not merely instruments of assessment but catalysts for institutional transformation, setting the tone for a sustained culture of quality, accountability and excellence in school education.Dr. Parveen Singh, Director Academics, JKBOSE, highlighted the Board's vision behind the implementation of JKSQAAF, describing it as an important step towards strengthening the quality of school education through a systematic, evidence-based and self-reflective institutional process.

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MLA Devyani, BJP leader call on LG Sinha



Kashmir Age News

JAMMU, NOVEMBER 19: Devyani Rana, Member of Legislative Assembly from Nagrota called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, today.

Dr Abhijeet Jasrotia, BJP Spokesperson, J&K also called on LG Sinha, today and projected various key issues of industrial sector in the region

Sagar takes stock of new High Court Complex at Bemina

Directs revised DPR, realistic cost assessment, accelerated execution; Phase-I targeted for completion by November 2027

Kashmir Age News



SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 19: Minister for PDD, Revenue, Law and Parliamentary Affairs, DMRRR and Elections, Ali Mohammad Sagar, today undertook an extensive review of the ongoing construction of the new High Court Complex at Rakh-Arth, Bemina Bypass here, and directed the concerned officers to take all necessary measures to ensure its timely completion through effective planning, close monitoring and coordinated execution.

During his visit to the project site, the Minister personally assessed the pace of construction, reviewed the physical and financial progress and took detailed feedback from the executing agencies regarding the status of various components and the requirements for completing the project within the stipulated timeframe.

The Minister was accompanied by the Chief Engineer, R&B Central, Director Litigation Kashmir, Executive Engineer concerned and Assistant Executive Engineers.

During the review, Sagar was informed that the project, which commenced in April 2022, has an approved estimated cost of 908.20 crore, against which an expenditure of 213.50 crore has been incurred so far. The main building has achieved approximately 65 per cent physical progress, with an estimated cost of around 450 crore, while the road component accounts for approximately 90 crore.

The Minister was apprised that Phase-I of the project is targeted for completion by November 2027, with the first block expected to be completed within the next six months. The tender for air-conditioning and heating systems has been allotted, while the electrical works have also been tendered.

Taking a detailed assessment of the financial requirements, Sagar was informed that approximately 290 crore would be required to meet the project expenditure up to November 2027. The budget provision for 2026-27 includes 87 crore under SASCI and 5.30 crore under UT Capex, while an additional requirement of 41 crore has been proposed under Budget Estimates 2027-28.

Shopian records coldest night at -3.4 C as temps dip across Kashmir

Kashmir News Observer

SRINAGAR, NOV 19: Night temperatures dropped below the freezing point at several places across Kashmir, with Shopian recording the coldest night in the Valley at minus 3.4 degrees Celsius, while Leh in Ladakh registered a minimum of minus 7.2 degrees Celsius.

According to temperature data Srinagar recorded a minimum temperature of minus 0.2 degrees Celsius, while Qazigund settled at minus 0.8 degrees Celsius.

Pahalgam recorded a low of minus 2.8 degrees Celsius, followed by Pulwama at minus 2.5 degrees Celsius. Budgam recorded minus 1.5 degrees Celsius, Anantnag minus 1.4 degrees Celsius and Kupwara minus 1.3 degrees Celsius.

Gulmarg, Konibal Pampore and Srinagar Airport recorded minus 1.0 degrees Celsius each, while Sonamarg settled at minus 1.2 degrees Celsius and Awantipora at minus 0.6 degrees Celsius.

Among other places, Bandipora recorded a minimum of 0.1 degrees Celsius, while Baramulla and Kokernag settled at 1.0 degrees Celsius each. Ganderbal recorded 0.7 degrees Celsius.



In the Jammu division, minimum temperatures remained above the freezing point, with Jammu recording 10.8 degrees Celsius and Jammu Airport 12.1 degrees Celsius.

Kathua recorded 11.2 degrees Celsius,

Katra 10.9 degrees Celsius, Banihal 8.7 degrees Celsius, Batote 5.7 degrees Celsius and Bhadarwah 2.2 degrees Celsius.

In Ladakh, Leh recorded the lowest temperature at minus 7.2 degrees Celsius.

Meanwhile, the Meteorological Centre Srinagar has forecast generally dry weather across Jammu and Kashmir from November 19 to 28, with partly cloudy conditions likely on November 20 and 21.

The MeT office said minimum temperatures are expected to

rise by 1-2 degrees Celsius during November 20 and 21, before dropping again by 2-3 degrees Celsius from November 22 onwards.

Traffic snarls continue across Srinagar, DIG flags rising vehicle numbers

Kashmir News Observer

SRINAGAR, NOV 19 :Traffic congestion continues to plague Srinagar, with commuters facing long delays and struggling to cover even short distances during peak hours as rising vehicle numbers put increasing pressure on the city's roads.

From Lal Chowk and Residency Road to MA Road, Hyderpora and Tengpora, traffic jams have become a daily occurrence, frustrating motorists and commuters alike.

Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Traffic, Haseeb Ur Rehman said the rising number of vehicles is the primary reason for increasing congestion in Kashmir.

"Unlike previous years, when traffic volume declined during winter, pressure on roads remains high even during morning and evening peak hours," he said.

Commuters blamed roadside parking, encroachments and the movement of different categories of vehicles on already congested roads for worsening the situation. Muzaffar Ahmad, a resident of Soura, said he prefers using a scooter instead of his car to pick up his child from school in Lal Chowk because of the area's heavy traffic."Taking a car through Lal Chowk during peak hours is difficult. I try to avoid adding to the congestion," he said. Sauleha, a resident of Lal Bazar, said even short journeys within the city now take much longer than before."Travelling across Srinagar has become frustrating. School buses, dumpers and private vehicles share the same congested stretches, causing frequent delays," she said.

Jashn-e-Chinar to showcase Kashmir's golden autumn; foreign tourist footfall back on track: Director Tourism

Kashmir News Observer

SRINAGAR, NOV 19 :Director Tourism Kashmir Qammar Sajad on Thursday said that tourist arrivals in Kashmir have increased, with the overall footfall remaining broadly at par with previous years.



Talking to reporters at the sidelines of launch ceremony of a 15-day 'Jashn-e-Chinar' festival to promote autumn tourism in the Valley, Sajad said, "Tourists are in Kashmir to experience autumn and snowfall according to their schedules. Their number is also increasing gradually."

He said 'Jashn-e-Chinar' will showcase Kashmir's distinctive autumn season. "During autumn, the Chinar leaves fall, and the entire environment changes. The vegetation in gardens takes on golden colours, making the surroundings a magical sight. That is why it is also called the golden season," he said.

Sajad said autumn is also an important period for people associated with agriculture and horticulture, as harvesting activities keep them particularly busy during the season. He said the 15-day festival is aimed at celebrating this seasonal transformation and presenting Kashmir's natural beauty and cultural heritage to visitors from across the world. The department, he said, would also organise a separate three-day festival in Pahalgam to give tourists an opportunity to experience the region's local culture and music. Sajad said the initiative was not limited to attracting visitors from outside Jammu and Kashmir but was also intended to encourage locals to explore and enjoy the Valley during autumn.

In a first, organs retrieved from brain-dead Reasi man, flown to Delhi

Kashmir News Observer

SRINAGAR, NOV 19 :The liver and two kidneys of a 56-year-old Reasi man were retrieved and airlifted to New Delhi for transplantation after he was declared brain dead

at Command Hospital (Northern Command), Udhampur, in the first such organ retrieval in Jammu and Kashmir.

Jagdev Singh, a resident of Pouni in Reasi district and father of a serving Army soldier, was admitted to the hospital after suffering a brain haemorrhage. Despite treatment, he was declared brain dead after certification by a panel of medical experts.

Officials said that Singh's family consented to donate his organs, following which a team from the Army's Research and Referral (R&R) Hospital, New Delhi, coordinated the retrieval process.

The team initially travelled by Army aircraft but was diverted to Jammu due to bad weather. Green corridors were subsequently established between Jammu

Air Force Station and Command Hospital, and later between the hospital and 39 Wing Air Force Station, to facilitate the movement of the medical team and the organs.

Surgeons from R&R Hospital and Command Hospital successfully retrieved the liver and both kidneys, which were later flown to New Delhi for transplantation. The organs are expected to benefit three patients.

Officials said the process was carried out under the supervision of Major General Sanjay Sharma, Commandant of Command Hospital, with support from the State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (SOTTO), J&K.

Dr Elias Sharma, Nodal Officer, SOTTO J&K, said the procedure marked the first organ retrieval from a brain-dead donor

in Jammu and Kashmir and would help strengthen organ donation initiatives in the Union Territory.

Command Hospital received authorisation for organ retrieval in 2023 and has since developed the infrastructure required for the programme, officials added.

SED announces provisional admission for Classes 11, 12

Kashmir News Observer

SRINAGAR, NOV 19 :School Education Department (SED) on Thursday announced provisional admission for Class 11th and Class 12th for the students who have appeared in the Annual Regular board examinations-2026.

According to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Director of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) in a notification said, "All students who have appeared in the Class 10th and Class 11th annual regular JKBOSE examinations are eligible to seek provisional admission to Class 11th and Class 12th, respectively, immediately after the conclusion of their final examination paper."The directorate said that the move is aimed to ensure academic continuity and prevent any loss of instructional time for the students. All Heads of government and recognized private schools are informed that they shall initiate the admission process immediately without waiting for the formal declaration of results and commence regular classwork for the newly admitted batches at the earliest.

Shamim Firdous inaugurates maiden J&K Women Science Congress

Kashmir Age News

JAMMU, NOVEMBER 19: Government College for Women (GCW), Parade Ground, Jammu, in collaboration with the J&K Science, Technology & Innovation Council (JKSTIC), is organising its maiden three-day J&K Women Science Congress-2026 from November 19 to 21, 2026.

The inaugural session of Congress was inaugurated today by Minister for Education and Jal Shakti, Shamim Firdous at Conventional Centre, here.

Being organised for the first time in the Union Territory, the Congress is centred on the theme "Women Leading Scientific Innovation for a Sustainable and Inclusive Future", with a focus on promoting women's leadership in science, technology, research and innovation besides inspiring young women to pursue careers in scientific fields.

Addressing the gathering, the Minister expressed immense pride over the enthusiasm and scientific spirit displayed by young women at the Congress. She said that participation of nearly 500 delegates and presentation of over 250 research papers reflected the talent, curiosity and innovative potential of young researchers in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Minister said that despite remarkable progress made by women in education, challenges such as societal expectations, family responsibilities, safety concerns and limited opportunities continue to affect their participation in science and research.

She reaffirmed the Government's commitment to strengthen the colleges and universities as centres of research and innovation through improved infrastructure, mentorship, academic collaboration and supportive learning environments, in line with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.



Encouraging young women to pursue their aspirations with determination, the Minister said that no subject or profession was beyond the capabilities of women. She also urged the parents and teachers to encourage girls to explore, innovate and excel in their chosen fields.

Emphasising the importance of confidence and courage, she called upon women to believe in themselves, overcome societal barriers and extend a helping hand to others as they achieve success. "Be courageous," she exhorted, encouraging young women to make their mark in science, research and innovation and contribute meaningfully towards the progress of society.

Dr. Tessy Thomas, eminent aerospace scientist and former Director General (Aeronautical Systems), DRDO, popularly known as the "Missile Woman of India", delivered the keynote address. She shared her perspectives on scientific advancement, innovation and the importance of encouraging women to pursue scientific careers.

MLA, Jammu East, Yudhvir Sethi was also present on the occasion. Ms. Srividya Gokhle, Vice President – Technology GCC & AI Practice Head, Impelsys, delivered the Special Address, sharing insights on emerging technologies and artificial intelligence.

Dr. Twinkle Suri, Director Colleges, J&K, and Shri Mushtaq Ahmed Bhat, Additional Director, JKSTIC, were also present on the occasion. The inaugural ceremony also witnessed the release of the Abstract Book, marking the commencement of the academic and scientific deliberations of the Congress.

J&K Govt begins reconstitution of child welfare committees

Kashmir News Observer

SRINAGAR, NOV 19 :After amending the Juvenile Justice Rules, the Jammu & Kashmir Government has initiated the process for the reconstitution of Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) across the Union Territory.

The government has invited applications from eligible candidates for the posts of Chairperson and Members of the CWCs.

"The Government of Jammu and Kashmir intends to constitute Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) in every district for exercising the powers and discharging the functions assigned to them in relation to children in need of care and protection under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, read with Rule 15(3) of the Jammu and Kashmir Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2021, as amended in 2026 vide S.O. 246 dated September 22, 2026," reads a notification issued by the Social Welfare Department.

Each CWC comprises of a chairperson and four members, who are appointed on recommendations of a selection-cum-oversight committee.

The Child Welfare Committees are mandated under the Juvenile Justice Act to deal with cases involving children in need of care and protection, including orphaned, abandoned, abused and trafficked children. The law empowers them to ensure the care, rehabilitation, restoration.

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ICAR Quinquennial Review Team Reviews Research Activities in Kashmir

Kashmir Press Service

Srinagar: A Quinquennial Review Team (QRT) of the ICAR–Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute (IGFRI), Jhansi, has reviewed the research, development and extension activities of ICAR–IGFRI, Regional Research Station (RRS), Srinagar, and the All India Coordinated Research Project on Forage Crops (AICRP-FC), Srinagar Centre, and appreciated their collaborative efforts towards strengthening fodder security, grassland restoration and forage seed production in the Himalayan region.

The two-day review, conducted on November 18 and 19, 2026, included detailed presentations, scientific interactions and field visits to assess ongoing research programmes, achievements and future priorities.

The review proceedings commenced at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-Kashmir), where presentations on the activities of ICAR–IGFRI, RRS Srinagar, and AICRP-FC, Srinagar Centre, were made before the team. The session was chaired by Dr. J.P. Sharma, while QRT Chairman Dr. Bhagmal participated online. Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST-Kashmir, and Director Research also attended the programme.



During the presentation on AICRP-FC, Srinagar Centre, Dr. Saleem Khuroo, Officer-in-Charge, and Dr. Zahida highlighted the centre's major research achievements, including the development of two fodder oat varieties and one fodder maize variety, aimed at strengthening the region's forage resource base.

Dr. Suheel Ahmad, In-charge, ICAR–IGFRI, RRS Srinagar, presented an overview of the station's research and extension programmes, with particular emphasis on temperate forage genetic resources, perennial grasses and legumes, grassland restoration, rangeland ecology, pastoralism, fodder conservation, seed standards and horti- and silvipastoral production systems.

Dr. Asif M. Iqbal, Dr. Nazim Hamid Mir and Dr. Atufa Regu also participated in the programme and scientific deliberations.

The QRT subsequently visited ICAR–IGFRI, RRS Srinagar, where it interacted with scientific staff and reviewed ongoing research programmes, developmental initiatives and future priorities. The team appreciated the station's research and outreach activities and offered suggestions for further strengthening its mandate in the Himalayan region.

On November 19, the team visited the Fodder Seed Production Station (FSPS), Aru, in Anantnag district, to assess activities related to perennial forage production, seed multiplication and grassland development.

Khurshid Ahmad, Farm Manager, briefed the team on perennial forage production and highlighted the role of the Agrostology Division of the Department of Agriculture, Kashmir, in ensuring the availability of quality seeds of perennial grasses and legumes to farmers.

Dr. Suheel Ahmad apprised the team of collaborative initiatives between ICAR–IGFRI and the Department of Agriculture, particularly in grassland development, perennial forage seed production and strengthening the fodder resource base of the Himalayan region.

The QRT appreciated the joint efforts and emphasised greater institutional convergence, infrastructure development and expansion of perennial forage seed production and grassland restoration initiatives.

The team also stressed the need to strengthen collaborative interventions under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) and develop joint research proposals for competitive funding from agencies such as the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and the National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS).

Subject: - Grant of Registration of the Proposed Travel unit under the name & style M/s "TRIP ME TOUR AND TRAVELS" Situated at RAJBAGH, SRINAGAR

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas I, ARIF AHMAD BHAT S/o MOHD ASHRAF BHAT R/o DALGATE, SRINAGAR Kashmir intends to apply in the Department of Tourism for Registration of my proposed Travel Unit under the name and style M/s "TRIP ME TOUR AND TRAVELS" Situated at RAJBAGH, SRINAGAR Under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12

Whereas, I will submit State Subject/Domicile Certificate, Qualification Certificate, PAN Card, Experience Certificate (Minimum 05 Years), Character Certificate (Police Department). Bank Statement (Minimum Balance 10000.00, Site Plan, Affidavit, Rent Deed duly attested by Sub- Registrar, Printing Material, (Letterhead/Visiting Card), Photograph of the Unit (Indoor and Outdoor) and Two Passport size Photographs to the Department of Tourism as per prescribed checklist prior to Registration of my unit as an Excursion Agency/Tour Adventure.

Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011/12, before my case is processed for registration by the Competent Authority, the matter is hereby notified for information of general Public/ Financial Institutions/Bank/Organization, etc. for objection, if any and the same should reach to the Deputy Director Tourism Registration, Kashmir (e-mail ID: - ddtreg123@gamil.com) within a period of 07 days from the publication of this notice. No objections beyond a period of 07 days shall be entertained.

R-1147

IN THE COURT OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS (MUNSIFF), BARAMULLA

PUBLICATION NOTICE

In the Matter of:- Application for issuance of Date of Birth Certificate in favour of Sumaid Altaf Dar Minor through his/her father Altaf Ahmad Dar S.o Khazir Mohammad Dar R.o Wahdatpora Hudapora Tehsil & Baramulla. Whereas, an application has been filed before this Hon'ble Court by the applicant, Sumaid Altaf Dar Minor through his/her father Altaf Ahmad Dar R.o Wahdatpora Hudapora Tehsil & District Baramulla, seeking issuance of Birth Certificate in favour of minor child. Whereas, the applicant has stated that the date of birth of the minor child namely Sumaid Altaf S.o Altaf Ahmad Dar R.o Wahdatpora Hudapora Tehsil & Baramulla is 26-06-2022, and that till date, no Date of Birth Certificate has been obtained or issued by any competent authority till date. Now, therefore, through the medium of this publication notice, the general public is hereby informed that any person having any objection with regard to the issuance of Date of Birth Certificate in respect of the aforesaid applicant may file or submit their objections before this Hon'ble Court within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the matter shall be considered and proceeded with in accordance with law.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court.
Sd/-
Judicial Magistrate 1st Class
(Munsiff, Baramulla) (RB)

IN THE COURT OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS (MUNSIFF), BARAMULLA

PUBLICATION NOTICE

In the Matter of:- Application for issuance of Date of Birth Certificate in favour of Fatima Shabir Minor through his/her mother Jabeena Begum W.o Shabir Ahmad Lone R.o Kralgund Qaziabad Tehsil Kralgund & District Baramulla. Whereas, an application has been filed before this Hon'ble Court by the applicant, Fatima Shabir Minor through his/her mother Jabeena Begum W.o Shabir Ahmad Lone R.o Kralgund Qaziabad Tehsil Kralgund & District Baramulla, seeking issuance of Birth Certificate in favour of minor child. Whereas, the applicant has stated that the date of birth of the minor child namely Fatima Shabir D.o Shabir Ahmad Lone R.o Kralgund Qaziabad Tehsil Kralgund & District Baramulla is 01-10-2023, and that till date, no Date of Birth Certificate has been obtained or issued by any competent authority till date. Now, therefore, through the medium of this publication notice, the general public is hereby informed that any person having any objection with regard to the issuance of Date of Birth Certificate in respect of the aforesaid applicant may file or submit their objections before this Hon'ble Court within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the matter shall be considered and proceeded with in accordance with law.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court.
Sd/- Judicial Magistrate 1st Class
(Munsiff, Baramulla) (RB)

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice

Sr.DEE/G/JAT acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites **E-Tenders** (**www.ireps.gov.in**) against below titled Tenders. Bidders will be able to submit their original/ revised bids up to closing date and time only.

Tender No.	App. Cost. (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Completion period	Opening of tender	Website Particulars
251-J- Elect-T-19- 2026-27	₹ 26,61,966.82	₹ 53,200.00	36 Months	11.12.2026 after 15:00 h	www.ireps.gov.in
Name of work					
Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract of 02 Nos. Johnson Make Escalators installed at Jammu Tawi Station for 12 months & 02 Nos. Johnson Make Escalators installed at Pathankot Cantt. Railway Station for Three Years.					

251-J-Elect/T. Notice No.19-Elect/2026-27 Dated: - 18.11.2026

SERVING CUSTOMER WITH A SMILE 4029/2026

IN THE COURT OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS (MUNSIFF), BARAMULLA

PUBLICATION NOTICE

In the Matter of:- Application for issuance of Date of Birth Certificate in favour of Mohammad Zohan Malik Minor through his/her father Mohammad Yaseen Malik S.o Shahzad Ahmad Malik R.o Goripora Doabgah Achbal Tehsil Watergam & District Baramulla.

Whereas, an application has been filed before this Hon'ble Court by the applicant Mohammad Zohan Malik Minor through his/her father Mohammad Yaseen Malik S.o Shahzad Ahmad Malik R.o Goripora Doabgah Achbal Tehsil Watergam & District Baramulla, seeking issuance of Birth Certificate in favour of minor child. Whereas, the applicant has stated that the date of birth of the minor child namely Mohammad Zohan Malik S.o Mohammad Yaseen Malik R.o Goripora Doabgah Achbal Tehsil Watergam & District Baramulla is 15-07-2023, and that till date, no Date of Birth Certificate has been obtained or issued by any competent authority till date.

Now, therefore, through the medium of this publication notice, the general public is hereby informed that any person having any objection with regard to the issuance of Date of Birth Certificate in respect of the aforesaid applicant may file or submit their objections before this Hon'ble Court within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the matter shall be considered and proceeded with in accordance with law.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court.
Sd/- Judicial Magistrate 1st Class
(Munsiff, Baramulla) (RB)

IN THE COURT OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS (MUNSIFF), BARAMULLA

PUBLICATION NOTICE

In the Matter of:- Application for issuance of Date of Birth Certificate in favour of Sehr an Sajad Minor through his/her mother Shabnum Sajad W.o Sajad Ahmad Guroo R.o Panzi Nara Tehsil & District Srinagar. Whereas, an application has been filed before this Hon'ble Court by the applicant, Sehr an Sajad through his/her mother Shabnum Sajad R.o Panzi Nara Tehsil & District Srinagar, seeking issuance of Birth Certificate in favour of minor child. Whereas, the applicant has stated that the date of birth of the minor child namely Sehr an Sajad D.o Sajad Ahmad Guroo R.o Panzi Nara Tehsil & District Srinagar is 12-05-2022, and that till date, no Date of Birth Certificate has been obtained or issued by any competent authority till date. Now, therefore, through the medium of this publication notice, the general public is hereby informed that any person having any objection with regard to the issuance of Date of Birth Certificate in respect of the aforesaid applicant may file or submit their objections before this Hon'ble Court within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the matter shall be considered and proceeded with in accordance with law.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court.
Sd/- Judicial Magistrate 1st Class
(Munsiff, Baramulla) (RB)

IN THE COURT OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS (MUNSIFF), BARAMULLA

PUBLICATION NOTICE

In the Matter of:- Application for issuance of Date of Birth Certificate in favour of Mohammad Qasim Mir S.o Wali Mohammad Mir R.o Mir Sahib Baramulla Tehsil & District Baramulla.

Whereas, an application has been filed before this Hon'ble Court by the applicant Mohammad Qasim Mir S.o Wali Mohammad Mir R.o Mir Sahib Baramulla Tehsil & District Baramulla, seeking issuance of Birth Certificate in his favour. Whereas, the applicant has stated that his/her date of birth is 01-03-1978, and that till date, no Date of Birth Certificate has been obtained or issued by any competent authority till date. Now, therefore, through the medium of this publication notice, the general public is hereby informed that any person having any objection with regard to the issuance of Date of Birth Certificate in respect of the aforesaid applicant may file or submit their objections before this Hon'ble Court within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the matter shall be considered and proceeded with in accordance with law.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court.
Sd/- Judicial Magistrate 1st Class
(Munsiff, Baramulla) (RB)

IN THE COURT OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS (MUNSIFF), BARAMULLA

PUBLICATION NOTICE

In the Matter of:- Application for issuance of Date of Birth Certificate in favour of Mohammad Hafeez Khan Minor through his/her father Pervaiz Ahmad Khan S.o Mohammad Amin Khan R.o Kamber Rafiabad Tehsil Rafiabad & District Baramulla. Whereas, an application has been filed before this Hon'ble Court by the applicant Mohammad Hafeez Khan Minor through his/her father Pervaiz Ahmad Khan S.o Mohammad Amin Khan R.o Kamber Rafiabad Tehsil Rafiabad & District Baramulla, seeking issuance of Birth Certificate in favour of minor child. Whereas, the applicant has stated that the date of birth of the minor child namely Mohammad Hafeez Khan S.o Pervaiz Ahmad Khan R.o Kamber Rafiabad Tehsil Rafiabad & District Baramulla is 03-05-2014, and that till date, no Date of Birth Certificate has been obtained or issued by any competent authority till date. Now, therefore, through the medium of this publication notice, the general public is hereby informed that any person having any objection with regard to the issuance of Date of Birth Certificate in respect of the aforesaid applicant may file or submit their objections before this Hon'ble Court within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the matter shall be considered and proceeded with in accordance with law.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court.
Sd/- Judicial Magistrate 1st Class
(Munsiff, Baramulla) (RB)

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Shaheenah Akhter D/o Gh Mohd Lone, Resident of Khonmoh, Srinagar, Kashmir, do hereby inform the general public that I have lost/misplaced my original Discharge Certificate issued by M.T.I., Khonmoh, Srinagar. My Date of Birth is 08-07-1978, and my educational qualification is Class 8th Pass. I further declare that the said Discharge Certificate has not been deposited by me with any department or authority anywhere. I intend to obtain a Duplicate Discharge Certificate in lieu of the lost/misplaced original certificate. Therefore, if any person or authority has any objection or information regarding the above-mentioned certificate, they are requested to bring the same to my notice within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which I shall proceed with the necessary formalities for obtaining the Duplicate Discharge Certificate.

Shaheenah Akhter
D/o Gh Mohd Lone
R/o Khonmoh, Srinagar, Kashmir

8279

IN THE COURT OF ADDITIONAL SPECIAL MOBILE MAGISTRATE CHANDOOSA

Present: Arshad Aziz Qureshi
JO Code: JK00306
Application No.: 02/2026
Aabroo Jaan D/o: Mohammad Ashraf Najar
R/o: Nowgam Kandi Tehsil Narvaw
District Baramulla UT of J & K. (Minor)
Through her father namely Mohammad Ashraf Najar
Son of Ghulam Mohammad Najar
R/o: Nowgam Kandi Tehsil Narvaw
District Baramulla UT of J & K
.....(Applicant)
Versus
Public at large
The Registrar Births and Deaths
Block Development Officer Wagoora
.....(Non-applicants)

PUBLIC NOTICE

An application has been filed before this Court seeking delayed registration of birth with the following particulars: Name: Aabroo Jaan Date of Birth: 17-08-2022 Place of Birth/Death: CHC Chandoosa

Father's name: Mohammad Ashraf Najar Mother's Name: Meema Begum Address: Nowgam Kandi

Tehsil: Narvaw District: Baramulla. Any person having any objection to the registration sought may submit objections before this Court, either personally or through counsel, by or before 26-11-2026, during court hours. Thereafter, the application shall be considered in accordance with law.

Sd/- Judicial Magistrate 1st Class,
Chandoosa Baramulla

8279

IN THE COURT OF ADDITIONAL SPECIAL MOBILE MAGISTRATE CHANDOOSA

Present: Arshad Aziz Qureshi
JO Code: JK00306
Application No.: 01/2026
Mudasir Manzoor Khan
D/o: Manzoor Ahmad Khan
R/o: Muran Tangwari Tehsil Wagoora
District Baramulla UT of J & K. (Minor)
Through her father namely Manzoor Ahmad Khan
Son of Mohd Amin Khan
R/o: Muran Tangwari Tehsil Wagoora
District Baramulla UT of J & K
.....(Applicant)
Versus
Public at large
The Registrar Births and Deaths
Block Development Officer Wagoora
SHO Police Station Chandoosa
.....(Non-applicants)

PUBLIC NOTICE

An application has been filed before this Court seeking delayed registration of birth/death with the following particulars: Name: Mudasir Manzoor Khan Date of Birth: 15-03-2014

Place of Birth/Death: Muran Tangwari (Home) Father's name: Manzoor Ahmad Khan Mother's Name: Muneera Begum Address: Muran Tangwari Tehsil: Wagoora District: Baramulla

Any person having any objection to the registration sought may submit objections before this Court, either personally or through counsel, by or before 26-11-2026, during court hours. Thereafter, the application shall be considered in accordance with law.

Issued under the seal of this Court on 19-11-2026.
Sd/- Judicial Magistrate 1st Class,
Chandoosa Baramulla
8279

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Div Com Kashmir reviews Action Plan for NCAP 2026–27

Kashmir Age News

SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 19: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, today chaired a meeting to review the physical and financial progress of projects being implemented under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) and discuss the proposed Action Plan for 2026–27.

The meeting was attended by the Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC); SSP Traffic; Regional Director, Pollution Control Board; Executive Engineers of various departments and agencies; representatives of the University of Kashmir and the Floriculture Department, among others.

During the meeting, the Divisional Commissioner reviewed the progress of NCAP projects since 2020, financial allocations for 2026–27, and the approved Action Plan for the upcoming financial year.

The proposed Action Plan for 2026–27 includes the installation of



10 Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS) junctions equipped with automatic e-Challan facilities across Srinagar city to ease traffic congestion and mitigate air pollution.

Other key initiatives include the development of pedestrian pathways and green spaces along the Tattoo Ground Junction–Bemina Bypass Road for dust suppression; procurement of electric mechanical road sweepers for mechanised road cleaning and dust mitigation across Srinagar city; and procurement of electric hoppers.

The plan also envisages the upgradation and macadamisation of city roads under NCAP to reduce road-dust emissions and improve ambient air quality.

Additionally, the establishment and development of green campuses, including colleges and universities, have been proposed to strengthen urban green infrastructure, promote dust suppression and facilitate in-situ mitigation of air pollution across Srinagar city.

On the occasion, the Divisional Commissioner directed the concerned departments and executing agencies to establish clear timelines for the completion of ongoing projects. He also instructed them to submit updated data on the physical and financial progress of projects being executed under NCAP.

Emphasising the need to assess the effectiveness of the initiatives, he stressed conducting third-party study and audit to evaluate the impact of NCAP projects on air quality.

Awareness Programme on Women's Legal Rights held at GDC Sogam

Kashmir Age News

KUPWARA, NOVEMBER 19: SANKALP–Hub for Empowerment of Women (HEW), Mission Shakti, Department of Social Welfare, Kupwara, today organised an Awareness-cum-Training Programme on Women's Legal Rights at Government Degree College (GDC), Sogam, with a focus on the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 (POSH Act) and the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961.

The programme was attended by Dr. Mudasir Ahmad, Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Lolab, as the Chief Guest. Resource persons, including Dr. Jehangir Ahmad from Mission Poshan, Advocates Ishfaq Ahmad and Baabar from the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), and Mushtaq Ahmad from the Zonal Education Office, Sogam, delivered detailed presentations on the subject.

The sessions focused on the legal provisions safeguarding women's rights, prevention and redressal of sexual harassment at the workplace, and the legal implications of dowry-related practices. The resource persons also highlighted the importance of awareness regarding available legal remedies and institutional mechanisms for the protection of women's rights.

Addressing the gathering, SDM Lolab emphasised the importance of organising such awareness programmes to enhance legal literacy among women and ensure wider dissemination of information regarding their rights and legal safeguards. He stressed the need for continued efforts towards strengthening awareness and ensuring access to institutional support.

The District Mission Coordinator, SHEW Kupwara, highlighted the role of institutional



mechanisms and collective efforts in promoting women's safety, dignity and empowerment, while underscoring the importance of ensuring awareness of the legal provisions and support systems available to women.

GMC Handwara organises sports and cultural week under 'My Youth My Pride' banner

Kashmir Age News

KUPWARA, NOVEMBER 19: Government Medical College (GMC) Handwara organised its Sports and Cultural Week under the theme "SNAPSE 3.0" under the banner "My Youth My Pride" at Environmental Hall, Handwara, with the objective of promoting sportsmanship, cultural expression, creativity and the holistic development of students.

Army Brigadier Rohit Sharma of Nowgam Sector, attended the programme as the Chief Guest, while Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Handwara, Javed Naseem Masoodi, and Principal, GMC Handwara, Prof. Khurshid Ahmad Wani, attended as Guests of Honour. Medical Superintendent, Handwara, Dr. Aijaz Ahmad Bhat, along with faculty members, officers, staff and students, were also present on the occasion. The event provided an engaging platform for students to showcase their sporting abilities, cultural talents and creative potential. The programme highlighted the importance of extracurricular activities in complementing academic.

DLSA Ganderbal organises awareness programmes under 'Surakshit Bachpan Abhiyan'

Kashmir Age News

GANDERBAL, NOVEMBER 19: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Ganderbal, today organised awareness programmes in educational institutions across District Ganderbal under the "Surakshit Bachpan Abhiyan", a Pan-India School Awareness Campaign aimed at protecting children from sexual offences and promoting awareness regarding child rights and child protection.

The campaign is being conducted under the guidance of Abdul Nasir, Chairman, DLSA (Principal District & Sessions Judge), Ganderbal and under the supervision of Sheikh Babar Hussain, Secretary, DLSA, Ganderbal, with the objective of sensitising school children about their legal rights, child protection laws, preventive measures and available legal remedies and support mechanisms.

As part of the scheduled activities, awareness programmes were conducted at Boys Higher Secondary School, Ganderbal, by the Resource Person, Advocate Irfan Rashid Mir.

Similarly, awareness programme was conducted at New Tiny Hearts School, Duderhama, by the Resource Person, Advocate Younis Saleem Wani.

The programmes were conducted under the theme "Mera Bachpan, Mera Adhikar (My Childhood, My Rights)", covering important aspects of child rights, child protection, Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, available legal remedies and the role of Legal Services Authorities in safeguarding the rights and interests of children.

During the sessions, students were also sensitised about the NALSA (Child Friendly Legal Services Scheme for Children) Scheme, 2024, the NALSA toll-free helpline number 15100, and the NCPCR POCSO e-Box facility,

through which children can seek assistance and report instances of sexual abuse. Emphasis was also laid on creating awareness about the importance of speaking up against abuse and approaching the appropriate authorities for help and protection.

Branch MSME DFO Srinagar concludes 6-week ESDP programme

Kashmir Age News

PULWAMA, NOVEMBER 19: Branch MSME Development and Facilitation Office (DFO), Srinagar, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India, successfully concluded a six-week Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP) on Business Management and Artificial Intelligence (AI) at CIED IUST.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, aspiring entrepreneurs, and existing Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs), providing them with an opportunity to enhance their entrepreneurial and managerial capabilities while exploring the growing role of Artificial Intelligence in business development.

The programme was organised with the support of CIED Foundation and Government Polytechnic, Pulwama, and featured a blend of technical sessions, practical



learning and interactive discussions. Besides the regular technical faculty, several experts from industry and allied government departments

were roped in to share their professional experiences and provide practical insights into entrepreneurship, business management and emerging technologies.

Sheep Husbandry Department Kulgam organises Food Security Group Programme under ATMA

Kashmir Age News

KULGAM, NOVEMBER 19: The Department of Sheep Husbandry, Kulgam, today organised a Food Security Group Programme under the Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Pombay, with the participation of around 100 farmers from different areas of the district.

During the programme, District Sheep Husbandry Officer (DSHO) Kulgam and Sub-Divisional Officer (SDO) Kulgam highlighted the achievements and key initiatives of the department. They assured the farmers of all possible assistance and support for the promotion and development of the livestock sector.

Block Officers and the Laboratory Officer, Kulgam, sensitised the participants about various departmental schemes and stressed the adoption of scientific methods of livestock rearing, improved breeding and feeding practices, besides the importance of timely vaccination and deworming for maintaining healthy and productive livestock.



Senior Scientists from KVK Pombay also shared their technical expertise and demonstrated the latest scientific technologies and improved practices in livestock rearing, with a focus on enhancing farmers' knowledge, livestock productivity and overall income.

CHO Pulwama to organise awareness cum machinery mela tomorrow

Kashmir Age News

PULWAMA, NOVEMBER 19: In order to reach out to farming community with the latest farming techniques and the incentive base intervention available with the department, Office of the Chief Horticulture Officer (CHO), Pulwama, is organising a Awareness cum Machinery Mela on 21 November 2026 (Saturday) at its office premises in Pulwama to facilitate identified and authorized beneficiary growers in procuring farm machinery of their choice from registered dealers under the Farm Mechanization Scheme.

All registered farm machinery dealers have been invited to participate in the event along with the requisite dealership/brand authorization certificates, registration particulars and other relevant documents, ensuring the availability of machinery for the authorized beneficiaries.

During the event, the authorized farmers will procure and purchase the farm machinery of their wish and choice. Physical verification and embossing/marking of the purchased machinery shall be carried out on the spot under the supervision of the District Level Monitoring and Supervising Committee (DLMSC).

The initiative aims to disseminate information regarding management and better yield and production of fruit crops among the farming community and to facilitate a transparent and streamlined procurement process, ensuring convenience to eligible growers and timely completion of the requisite departmental formalities.

Income Tax awareness programme held at Sopore

Kashmir Age News

BARAMULLA, NOVEMBER 19: The Income Tax Department, Srinagar, organised an awareness programme on the Income Tax Act, 2025, at Dak Bungalow, Sopore, to familiarise participants with the key provisions of the new legislation and its major changes compared to the erstwhile Income Tax Act, 1961.

Monika Dhami, Principal Commissioner, Income Tax, Srinagar, attended the programme as the Chief Guest. while S. A. Raina, ADC Sopore was the guest of honor, besides other senior officials and representatives of the Income Tax Department were also present on the occasion.

During the programme, participants were briefed about the major provisions, simplified framework and significant changes introduced under the new Act, aimed at making the taxation system more transparent, accessible and taxpayer-friendly.

PIB, JKPCC highlight implementation of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026

Speakers stress source segregation, scientific waste processing and public participation for effective implementation

Press Information Bureau

JAMMU, NOVEMBER 19: The Press Information Bureau (PIB), Jammu, in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee (JKPCC), today organised a press briefing on the implementation of the Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules, 2026, to highlight their key provisions and sensitise the media and public about the responsibilities of various stakeholders. The speakers emphasised that source segregation, scientific processing, recycling and active public participation are essential for effective waste management and achieving the objectives of Swachh Bharat.

Chairman, JKPCC, Shri Vasu Yadav, highlighted the major provisions of the new Rules, which place greater emphasis on segregation of waste at source into four categories—wet, dry, sanitary and special care waste. He said the framework seeks to strengthen scientific waste processing, recycling, resource recovery and remediation of legacy dumpsites while ensuring greater accountability among waste generators.



Shri Yadav said the Rules provide for measures such as user fees, spot fines and environmental compensation to ensure compliance. Stressing the need for coordinated action, he called for greater involvement of government agencies, institutions, commercial establishments and citizens in adopting responsible waste management practices.

In her opening remarks, Director, PIB Jammu, Ms. Neha Jalali, said the press briefing was organised to familiarise media organisations and the public with the provisions of the Rules and promote awareness about responsible waste disposal. She emphasised that effective implementation would require behavioural change and active participation of citizens, institutions and local authorities. Ms Jalali also highlighted the important role of the media in disseminating information, encouraging source segregation and taking the message of cleanliness and sustainable waste management to the grassroots to achieve Swachh Bharat.

Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), Ms. Ayushi Sudan, highlighted the Corporation's initiatives to strengthen waste management and improve accountability among bulk waste generators. She said bulk waste generators have to mandatorily register through a dedicated online portal, adding that this facilitates monitoring and ensures compliance with prescribed norms. She stressed the need to promote recycling, reuse and scientific processing, adding that waste should be viewed as a resource rather than merely a disposal burden.

Ms. Sudan said violations of prescribed norms by bulk waste generators, including dumping waste in public places, attract a penalty of 10,000 per violation, besides user charges of 5,000. She also highlighted the use of GPS-enabled vehicles for monitoring waste collection and improving operational efficiency. Encouraging public participation, she urged citizens to use the 'My Jammu' mobile application to register sanitation-related grievances and contribute towards maintaining clean surroundings.

Joint Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Shri Syed Abul Qasim, outlined the measures being undertaken to strengthen the city's solid waste management infrastructure, particularly at

the Achan dumpsite near Anchar Lake. He said around 91,789 tonnes of waste have already been processed as part of efforts to reclaim the site, recover useful materials and reduce environmental risks.

Friday Focus

Simple Wedding

In Islam, marriage, or Nikah, is a sacred institution meant to be solemnised through a simple and dignified ceremony. It is not intended to be an occasion for extravagance or unnecessary display of wealth. Rather, marriage is a natural requirement of human life, a social responsibility and an act of worship. Its essence lies in mutual commitment, respect, love and the fulfilment of responsibilities.

The essential requirements of Nikah are straightforward: a proposal, an acceptance and the presence of two witnesses. These formalities establish the marriage as a legitimate and publicly acknowledged relationship, rather than a secret or clandestine arrangement. For this reason, Islam also encourages the public announcement of Nikah, so that the union is known within the community. However, publicity should not become an excuse for lavish celebrations or excessive expenditure.

The husband must also fulfil his financial and moral obligations towards his wife. Payment of Mehr is compulsory, and he is responsible for ensuring her security, dignity, respect and maintenance. Beyond these essential requirements, no elaborate arrangements or costly ceremonies are necessary to make a marriage valid or meaningful.

Islamic history offers examples of the simplicity associated with Nikah during the time of Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him).

The practice closest to the Prophetic tradition is for the bride's father or another authorised guardian (Wali) to conduct the Nikah. The marriage of Hazrat Fatimah (may Allah be pleased with her), daughter of the Prophet, and Hazrat Ali (may Allah be pleased with him) was solemnised by the Prophet himself.

During the ceremony, two witnesses and a representative (Wakeel) approach the bride and inform her about the prospective husband and the agreed Mehr. Her consent is obtained, with silence traditionally accepted as an expression of approval in this context. The witnesses and Wakeel then join the Qazi, who delivers the Khutbah-e-Nikah, reciting verses from the Holy Quran, Prophetic traditions and supplications.

The Qazi subsequently conducts the formal exchange of proposal and acceptance (Ijab-o-Qubool), seeking the bridegroom's consent. Once the marriage is solemnised, those present offer prayers for the newlywed couple, asking Allah to bless their union with love, affection, understanding and lasting happiness.

Thus, the true beauty of Nikah lies in its simplicity, sincerity and fulfilment of responsibilities, not in extravagant celebrations.

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

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Dark Side of Artificial Intelligence



BY BASIT LONE

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is undoubtedly one of the greatest technological achievements of our time It has transformed education, healthcare, research, communication and almost every aspect of modern life. However, every powerful innovation comes with a responsibility Unfortunately, the growing misuse of AI to create forged photographs, fabricated certificates, manipulated identity documents and misleading digital evidence has emerged as a serious threat to society.

What was once difficult to fabricate can now be created within minutes using easily accessible AI tools. A photograph can be manipulated to make an innocent person appear at a place they never visited. A fake educational certificate can be designed to look authentic. Official looking documents can be fabricated, signatures can be imitated, and digital evidence can be manipulated to deceive institutions and individuals.

The most dangerous aspect of this growing trend is that technology is beginning to challenge the very foundation of trust.

When Technology Becomes a Tool of Deception

The misuse of AI is not merely a technological concern it is a social, legal and ethical challenge Forged academic certificates can undermine the credibility of educational institutions and disadvantage genuinely qualified candidates. Manipulated photographs can damage reputations, destroy personal relationships and expose innocent individuals to humiliation. Fabricated official documents can mislead authorities, compromise administrative processes and create serious legal complications.

Imagine a situation where an innocent individual has to defend themselves against a photograph that never represented reality, or where a deserving candidate loses an opportunity because someone else has secured an advantage through a fabricated qualification. Such situations are not just examples of technological misuse they represent a direct attack on fairness dignity and justice.

The Threat to Institutions and Public Credibility

Educational institutions, government departments, recruitment agencies, law enforcement bodies and private organisations must recognise that traditional methods of document verification may no longer be sufficient.

The increasing sophistication of AI-generated content demands stronger verification mechanisms, including digital certificate verification, secure institutional databases, document authentication systems and responsible use of forensic technology.

Institutions must move beyond simply looking at a document and begin verifying its actual source and authenticity.

A Serious Question of Ethics and Accountability

A fundamental question must be asked Just because technology makes something possible, does that make it morally acceptable

The answer is an unequivocal no

Using AI to create educational qualifications that a person never earned, fabricate official records, manipulate photographs to falsely implicate someone, or damage another person's reputation is an abuse of technological advancement.

Freedom of technological access cannot become freedom from accountability. Those who deliberately use AI to deceive, defraud, harass or damage others must be held accountable under applicable laws.

At the same time, responsible AI developers, digital platforms and policymakers must work together to establish stronger safeguards, improve detection mechanisms and promote digital awareness.

The Way Forward Innovation Must Be Accompanied by Responsibility

There is an urgent need for a comprehensive approach

1. Strict Verification Educational certificates and official documents must be verified directly through authorised issuing institutions.

. Legal Accountability Appropriate legal action must be taken against individuals involved in digital forgery, impersonation and fraudulent activities.

. Digital Forensic Capacity Institutions must strengthen their ability to identify manipulated photographs, altered documents and AI-generated content.

. Public Awareness Citizens, particularly young people, must be educated about the ethical and legal consequences of AI misuse.



. Institutional Responsibility Government departments and educational institutions must adopt secure digital authentication mechanisms.

One of the most disturbing trends on social media today is the misuse of Artificial Intelligence to create fake photographs showing individuals alongside police officers, Celebreties, Ministers, Civil Officers Etc. People digitally add themselves to pictures with police personnel and then use these fabricated images to create a false impression of influence, friendship or official connections.

The real concern is how easily such manipulated photographs can be used to intimidate poor, innocent or vulnerable people.

Is this really what Artificial Intelligence was created for

AI was meant to make human life easier, support education, encourage innovation, improve healthcare, strengthen research and create opportunities for positive change. It was meant to empower people, not to manufacture fake influence, mislead society or frighten vulnerable individuals.

We have countless positive ways to use AI. We can use it to educate children, help students, support research, spread awareness, improve public services and solve real world problems.

Technology becomes a blessing when it serves humanity, but a threat when it is used to manipulate and intimidate others.

It is high time we understood that a photograph created through AI does not establish a genuine relationship, official connection or personal influence.

Let us use Artificial Intelligence to build confidence, not fear to spread knowledge, not misinformation and to empower the vulnerable, not exploit them.

The future of AI should be defined by humanity, ethics and responsibility not by fake photographs and manufactured influence.

Conclusion Protecting Truth in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence should be a tool for progress, knowledge and human development, not an instrument for deception, exploitation and character assassination.

A society cannot progress when truth becomes questionable, qualifications lose their credibility and photographs can be manipulated to manufacture false realities.

We must remember that a genuine achievement cannot be replaced by a fabricated certificate, a person's dignity cannot be measured through a manipulated photograph, and credibility cannot be built through deception.

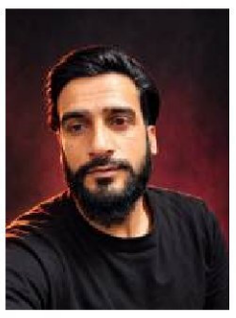
Technology may be artificial, but its consequences are very real.

The need of the hour is not to fear Artificial Intelligence, but to ensure that it remains guided by ethics, law and responsibility.

Because ultimately, the greatest challenge of the AI era will not be whether machines can create convincing images and documents, but whether human beings will continue to respect the truth.

Truth must remain stronger than technology, and integrity must always remain greater than artificial intelligence.

Who Will Protect the Dreams of Honest Aspirants?



BY SHOWKAT ALAM

There is a silent pain in the hearts of thousands of educated unemployed youth in Jammu and Kashmir. Behind every application form is a dream, behind every examination is a family's hope, and behind every result is the future of a young person who has spent years struggling for a respectable life.

For many aspirants, a government job is not simply a source of income. It is a dream of making their parents proud, supporting their families and living with dignity. Yet, after years of preparation, uncertainty and delayed recruitment, many young people are beginning to ask one painful question: Who will protect the dreams of honest aspirants?

The Sacrifices Behind Every Examination

People often see only the examination hall, but they rarely see the struggle behind it.

They do not see students studying until two or three o'clock in the morning, waking up early and returning to their books despite exhaustion. They do not see young people travelling long distances to attend coaching classes, spending their savings on books and examination fees, or missing family functions and social gatherings because they are preparing for an uncertain future.

Some students cannot afford expensive coaching institutes. They study in small rooms, depend on borrowed books, online lectures and their own determination. Their only strength is the hope that one day their hard work will bring them success.

Behind these young aspirants are parents who make countless sacrifices. A father often spends his savings or borrows money to pay for coaching, books and examination fees. A mother silently prays for her child's success. Parents grow older while waiting for the day their son or daughter becomes financially independent.

For such families, an examination is never just an examination. It carries years of hope, sacrifice and expectation.

Every deserving candidate deserves an equal opportunity. The recruitment process must remain fair, transparent and free from any form of malpractice. The trust of thousands of aspirants must be protected.

Unemployment Is Taking Away the Most Precious Years of Youth

Another serious concern is the increasing age of educated unemployed candidates. Many aspirants have crossed 30, and some are already above 35, yet they continue preparing and waiting for suitable recruitment opportunities.

These are not young people who have wasted their time. Many have spent their most productive years preparing for competitive examinations, hoping that a fair opportunity will finally come.

With every passing year, responsibilities increase. Parents grow older, financial pressure becomes heavier and family expectations become more difficult to manage. Some candidates have delayed marriage, employment in other sectors and other important decisions because they continue to believe that their government job dream may come true.

The government must recognise that recruitment delays have a real human cost. A suitable age-relaxation policy should be considered wherever delays in recruitment have deprived eligible candidates of opportunities. Aspirants should not be made to suffer because of circumstances beyond their control.

Reservation Policy Needs a Transparent and Balanced Review

Reservation is an important constitutional mechanism for social justice and the protection of historically disadvantaged sections of society. Its purpose must always be respected.

At the same time, there is a need for a fair, objective and transparent review of the existing reservation framework in Jammu and Kashmir. The government should examine the percentage of reservation, category distribution, eligibility criteria and implementation of the policy in accordance with constitutional provisions and reliable data.

This discussion should not become a conflict between communities. No deserving section should be deprived of its constitutional rights. The objective should be to ensure that social justice, equal opportunity and fairness work together.

A transparent policy review can help strengthen public confidence and address genuine concerns among aspirants.

Separate Division-Wise Vacancies for Jammu and Kashmir

Where recruitment rules provide for separate divisional cadres or where posts are specifically linked to a particular division, vacancies should be clearly identified and advertised separately for the Jammu and Kashmir divisions.

A transparent division-wise and category-wise vacancy matrix would help candidates understand the actual number of available posts and the basis on which selections are being made.

Recruitment rules must be followed consistently. Transparency in vacancy distribution can reduce confusion, prevent unnecessary disputes and strengthen confidence in the selection process.

What Do Aspirants Expect from the Government?

Educated unemployed youth are not asking for special treatment. They are asking for a fair opportunity and a system in which hard work has value.

The government and JKSSB should consider the following measures:

Strict action against examination malpractice: Every allegation must be investigated impartially, and those found guilty must face action under the law.

Strong examination security: Modern technology, strict monitoring and effective checking mechanisms should be used to prevent cheating and paper leaks.

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Scientists Create Instant 'Golden Turmeric Milk' with Health Benefits

Golden turmeric milk has become quite popular in recent years and has many health benefits, so scientists created an instant version that maintains all these advantages while having a longer shelf life.

As swearing off coffee in favor of caffeine-free beverages continues to grow in popularity, many are looking for replacements that provide the same cozy experience while also offering increased health benefits.

Some have turned to matcha, a Japanese green tea powder that has been shown to decrease stress while improving cognitive function, while others have added golden turmeric milk into their daily routine.

Although the beverage has become trendy recently, it's based on a traditional Indian drink called haldi doodh, which has been consumed as a cold remedy for generations.

The beverage typically consists of milk, spices, and turmeric — a spice that contains the bioactive compound curcumin, a polyphenol that has been shown to have anti-inflammatory and antioxidant effects.

However, according to researchers, curcumin is difficult to separate from turmeric. It usually requires complicated extraction techniques that involve organic solvents, multiple days, and lots of energy. The compound also tends to break down over time, giving it a short shelf life.

As a result, scientists with the American Chemical Society set out to create an instant version that could be stored within plant-based milk while maintaining the same health benefits and an extended shelf life.

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To do this, scientists added turmeric powder to an alkaline solution. Compared with plain water, the high pH of the solution made the curcumin more soluble and easier to extract. Researchers then added this solution to soy milk — chosen for its high amino acid content — before bringing the pH down to neutral, around seven. To create an instant powder, the researchers then removed the water from the solution through a freeze-drying process.

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The researchers found this to be the most effective method of extracting curcumin from turmeric. They were also able to encapsulate the curcumin in oil droplets within the soy milk. This allows the body to recognize and digest it as fat, making its benefits more available.

This method also protects the curcumin from air and water which helps to extend its shelf life.

While the scientists used soy milk in their experiment, they said the same method could be used with other plant-based milks. The extraction method can also be used with different plant compounds. Blueberries, for example, are rich in anthocyanins, another water-soluble polyphenol.

"When we use the same method, within around a minute we can extract the polyphenols," said researcher Hualu Zhou, Ph.D., in a news release. "We want to try and use it to upcycle by-products and reduce the food waste from fruit and vegetable farming here in Georgia."

The researchers presented their results at the fall meeting of the ACS.

While more research is needed before this instant, plant-based golden turmeric milk is available on shelves, researchers said the results are promising — and they taste good, too.



Keto High

Is It Real and Why Does It Happen?

Some Reddit users who started a ketogenic diet report experiencing a "keto high," defined as improved thinking and the feeling of euphoria. Experts say there may be several explanations, but a keto diet is not healthy long-term.



A ketogenic or keto diet is an increasingly popular eating pattern, followed by about 7% of Americans, according to 2022 data.

In the keto diet, 70–80% of calorie intake comes from fat, 10–20% from protein, and 5–10%. The diet focuses on animal products like meat, poultry, fish, and eggs, as well as leafy greens, cucumber, and celery. Low-carbohydrate and non-starchy vegetables are also allowed.

People on a keto diet normally experience ketosis, the process in which the body burns stored fat for energy instead of blood sugar. Ketosis can be accompanied by weight loss and so-called keto flu, which includes symptoms like constipation, headache, fatigue, and brain fog.

However, some Reddit users report opposite experiences after going into ketosis, which they dubbed "keto high." One Redditor even compared the experience to feeling like a "god."

"I remember realizing my brain was working properly for the first time in my life, my ADHD symptoms went away. I was energetic, no brain fog, I had better memory. I wouldn't freeze in conversations anymore, words would come out of my brain faster," the user explained.

Another user remembered the urge to run back to the office after lunch despite wearing business attire at the beginning of going into ketosis.

One Redditor said they felt "absolutely amazing" during the first few months on a diet and had some of the best performances in years. However, the alleged "keto high" seemed to fade after the first few months.

In fact, most Redditors reporting "keto high" said it eventually went away and didn't return.

What causes the keto high?

Destini Moody, a registered nutritionist at Top Nutrition Coaching says that there is no solid scientific evidence on the cause of a "keto high."

However, a common hypothesis suggests that in ketosis, the energy is provided by one of the ketones called BHB, which is closely related to GHB, also known as the prescription drug Xyrem.

The drug is commonly used to treat narcolepsy by providing a boost of energy and can also be used for the treatment of alcohol and opioid dependence. Due to its ability to produce intense euphoria, Xyrem is also used as a party drug known as liquid ecstasy.

Moody tells Healthnews, "Some researchers believe that the similar properties of the compound GHB and the ketone body BHB may produce similar feelings of happiness."

People on a keto diet normally experience ketosis, the process in which the body burns stored fat for energy instead of blood sugar. Ketosis can be accompanied by weight loss and so-called keto flu, which includes symptoms like constipation, headache, fatigue, and brain fog.

Moody explains that it is also possible that people who started the keto diet could have begun adding more fruits and vegetables to their eating pattern as well as cutting out refined grains and added sugars that could kick them out of ketosis.

She adds, "This sudden shift to a more nutrient-rich diet could give an individual more energy and less brain fog."

Is the keto diet safe?

Moody says there has been no research that has shown that the keto diet is inherently more effective for weight loss or health improvement than a traditional, balanced diet that includes all food groups.

While the keto diet may be easier for some people to stick to than a traditional diet, they should pursue the journey under the supervision of a nutrition professional to reduce excess consumption of saturated fats and ensure they are getting all of the nutrients they need safely, according to Moody.

The keto diet is often praised for weight loss, which is attributed to accelerated calorie burning. However, a recent study suggests that the actual reason why people on a keto diet lose weight is because it normally involves reduced caloric intake.

According to a 2021 review article, the benefits of a keto diet may include lowered blood glucose, although its efficacy typically wanes within the first few months.

At the same time, the diet may raise cholesterol levels and increase the risk of chronic kidney disease, cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, and Alzheimer's disease. Women who follow a ketogenic diet during pregnancy are more likely to have a child with a neural tube defect.

Some people on a keto diet may indeed experience increased energy and improved focus. However, a traditional diet emphasizing fruits, vegetables, and whole grains provide more substantial health benefits long-term.



Asian stocks are mixed, US futures climb ahead of Anthropic's blockbuster IPO

Press Trust Of India



HONG KONG, NOV 19: Asian shares were mixed and US futures edged higher Thursday as Anthropic is set to begin trading on the Nasdaq with a blockbuster USD 81 billion offering.

The San Francisco-based company behind the Claude artificial-intelligence tool priced its initial public offering at USD 83 per share, higher than its earlier pricing range.

Its trading debut is widely watched by investors looking for signs where

the AI boom may be going, and whether growth in adoption of the technology and massive AI spendings can translate into sustained profitability for AI companies.

Anthropic's decision to go public also came at a time of market volatility and rising concerns over an AI slowdown, particularly following the Nvidia fallout and Democrats' sweeping victory in the US midterms.

In Asia, Japan's Nikkei 225 edged up 0.1% to 59,084.79. SoftBank Group, which invests heavily in AI, added 1.3%. Chip equipment maker Tokyo Electron rose 1.8%, but memory maker Kioxia Holdings fell 1.4%.

South Korea's benchmark Kospi index lost 0.7% to 5,033.27. Memory chipmaker SK Hynix slipped 0.3%, while Samsung Electronics was down 1.1%.

Taiwan's Taiex dropped 3.1%, with its leading chipmaker TSMC, or Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co, falling 1.2%.

AI-related stocks including semiconductor shares have been losing some steam over the past weeks in what some analysts called a share price correction

following strong gains earlier in the year riding on the global AI frenzy.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng gave up 1.9% to 22,854.15. The Shanghai Composite index was 0.4% lower at 3,571.99.

Australia's S&P/ASX 200 slid 1.1% to 8,728.10.

India's Sensex climbed 0.1%.

On Wednesday, Wall Street's benchmark S&P 500 dropped 0.2%. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 1.1%, while the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite was up 0.4%.

Nvidia was 2.9% lower following its latest quarterly earnings results announcement, the first after former CEO and co-founder Jensen Huang was ousted

following his extramarital affair that raised US national security concerns, even as the company logged stronger-than-expected revenue and profit.

Now all eyes are on Anthropic on Thursday. OpenAI, its main rival, is also expected to go public but said earlier this year it wasn't planning to do so before 2027.

Significant growth is expected from growing AI adoption and from Anthropic's "position at the frontier of model development, particularly in areas such as coding and cybersecurity," Malik Ahmed Khan, a senior equity analyst at Morningstar, said in a commentary.

However, Anthropic "will need to sustain rapid growth while managing the enormous cost of developing and running its models, and there is still considerable uncertainty around how the competitive landscape and economics of generative AI will evolve," he added.

Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei in September issued a warning over the risks that rapid AI developments could pose to humanity and called for an AI slowdown over safety needs. His call was echoed by AI leaders including OpenAI CEO Sam Altman.

In commodities trading, oil prices were mostly stable as a recovery in global oil supply eased some concerns surrounding the situation in the Middle East, as the US and Iran had not yet reached a deal and Iran on Wednesday widened its attacks on Gulf neighbours.

Brent crude, the international standard, edged up 0.1% to $92.02 per barrel. It was trading at roughly $72 a barrel before the war began in late February.

Benchmark US crude was down 0.4% to $82.96 per barrel.

The US dollar rose to 158.60 Japanese yen from 159.35 yen. The euro was trading at $1.0961, down from $1.0975. (AP)

Modi invites suggestions from India Inc on further reforms

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI, NOV 19: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday asked India Inc to suggest, without any hesitation or reluctance, more reforms that are necessary for further growth of the country.Buy Maps

Addressing industry body FICCI' Annual General Meeting and Annual Convention, the prime minister also asked corporates to focus on making India self-reliant, and urged them to invest heavily in agriculture and allied sectors.

Modi highlighted achievements of his government in the last 12-13 years, and lauded efforts made by all sections of the society.

He said the pace of progress in India is very fast, and at the same time, the speed at which people are moving out of poverty is also very fast.

Citing the latest World Bank report, Modi said in just 12â€“13 years, 50 crore people have overcome poverty.

Modi said the basic corporate tax rate has been reduced from 30 per cent in 2014 to 22 per cent, and individual income of up to Rs 12 lakh a year is also tax-free.

While the government has reduced the corporate tax, he asked if the industry has increased the strength of employees and raised their wages.He also emphasised that a country progresses when it respects its farmers, small entrepreneurs, industries, wealth creators and taxpayers, and not by hurling abuses day-in and day-out.

Rupee slides 8 paise to 93.49 against US dollar in early trade

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI, NOV 19: The rupee slipped 8 paise to 93.49 against the US dollar in early trade on Thursday, weighed down by a strong greenback and weak domestic equity markets.

However, lower crude oil prices and foreign-fund inflows capped the rupee's fall, forex traders said.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee



opened at 93.40 and declined to 93.49 against the greenback, registering a loss of 8 paise from its previous close.

The domestic currency climbed 10 paise to close at 93.41 against US dollar on Wednesday after gaining 68 paise in the preceding two sessions.

"The decline in crude prices and RBI's actions to curb speculative activity in the currency have helped the rupee gain strength. In the near-term, the rupee is likely to trade in the 93.20 to 94 range," said V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Investments.

According to Kaveri More, Commodity Technical Analyst at Choice Broking, the rupee was supported by foreign equity inflows and softer crude oil prices. However, further appreciation may remain limited due to India's high dependence on oil imports, a widening trade deficit, rising inflationary pressures, a stronger US dollar and elevated US Treasury yields.

"From a technical perspective, USD/INR could move towards the 92.20â€“91.70 range if the rupee sustains its current strength. On the upside, any corrective recovery in the dollar could push USD/INR towards 94.20â€“95.30," More said.

NLC India Renewables files IPO papers with SEBI; aims to raise Rs 3,300 crvia fresh issue

Press Trust Of India



NEW DELHI, NOV 19: NLC India Renewables Ltd, a subsidiary of state-owned NLC India Ltd, has filed preliminary papers with markets regulator Sebi to raise Rs 3,300 crore through a fresh issue of shares as part of its proposed initial public offering (IPO).

The IPO will also include an offer for sale (OFS) of up to 10 crore shares by promoter NLC India Ltd, according to the draft red herring prospectus (DRHP), dated November 18.Buy Maps

The company plans to utilise Rs 2,475 crore from the net proceeds of the fresh issue towards repayment or pre-payment of certain outstanding borrowings, with the remaining amount earmarked for general corporate purposes.

As of November 10, the company had outstanding borrowings of Rs 3,525 crore.

The company may also consider a pre-IPO placement of equity shares aggregating up to Rs 660 crore. In case such a placement is undertaken, the size of the fresh issue will be reduced accordingly.

NLC India Renewables develops, owns and operates renewable energy projects and generates revenue through the sale of power to central and state government agencies and public utilities. Its portfolio includes ground-mounted, rooftop and floating solar projects, besides wind and hybrid power projects.

The company is also expanding into emerging energy solutions, including battery energy storage systems (BESS), pumped storage projects (PSPs) and green hydrogen.

The company reported revenue from operations of Rs 172.6 crore and profit after tax (PAT) of Rs 45.4 crore in FY26.

Effective January 1, 2026, the company acquired the renewable energy business undertaking of NLC India Ltd, comprising primarily seven renewable energy projects.

ICAR DG credits women farmers for helping 50 cr people move out of poverty in 12-13 years

Press Trust Of India

BHUBANESWAR, NOV 19: Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Director General M L Jat, citing a World Bank report, on Thursday said 50 crore people in the country have risen above poverty in the last 12-13 years and credited rural women engaged in agriculture for a "very big contribution" to it. Buy Maps

Addressing virtually the East Zone Regional Agriculture Fair on women's empowerment, organised by Central Institute for Women in Agriculture (CIWA) here, Jat said ICAR has a major focus on women's empowerment and innovation.

"Recently, a World Bank report has stated that over the last 12-Â“13 years, 50 crore people in our country have risen above poverty. It has also been widely reported that there has been no bigger or faster effort of this kind

anywhere. Our women, and those from rural and agricultural backgrounds, have made a very big contribution to this labour towards innovation and



achievement. I want to congratulate all of you," Jat said.

He said CIWA is dedicated to research on women in agriculture, and that Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan had shown how such initiatives could be taken forward.

"This is not just an announcement. We have started the work," Jat said, adding ICAR is identifying research gaps and working towards them.

The focus, he said, is on moving women beyond hard the agri-food value chain, including processing and marketing.

Jat said the government and society must work together to increase women's participation in agriculture, farming and rural livelihoods, with skill development as a key component.

He described Odisha's Mission Shakti as a "living example" of such efforts.

Women from neighbouring island nations also attended the event, and Jat said the exchange should not be one way.

Goyal calls for raising India-Italy trade target to 50 billion euros

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ROME, NOV 18: Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Wednesday said India and Italy should aim for a bilateral trade target of 50 billion euros, given the significant potential to expand economic ties between the two countries.Buy Maps

He said the India-European Union (EU) Free Trade Agreement (FTA) would further facilitate trade and open up new opportunities for businesses in both countries.Italy is India's fourth-largest trading partner in the European Union, with bilateral goods trade reaching 14.25 billion euros in 2025.After the elevation of relations to a Special Strategic Partnership in May 2026, the two countries are actively working toward an ambitious annual bilateral trade target of 20 billion euros by 2029."I have suggested that we should not limit the numbers and we should look at much bigger targets and see how we can encourage our businesses to invest more in each other's countries and do more trade and for a 50 billion euros trade in the years to come," he said here.

He held a bilateral meeting with Antonio Tajani, Italy's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and discussed ways to boost bilateral trade, investments, increasing industrial cooperation and advanced manufacturing.

The minister was here to co-chair the 23rd session of the Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation. He is also leading a business delegation of about 100 people from different sectors.Goyal said that businesses are making strong progress in strengthening ties.Italian company Danieli has secured major projects worth 500 million euros from SAIL, bringing Italian green steel technology to more than 4 million tonnes of India's steel-making capacity. Prada has also partnered with Indian artisans to produce Kolhapuri sandals.

Stock markets fall in early trade dragged by IT firms, US Fed rate hike jitters

Press Trust Of India



MUMBAI, NOV 19: Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty edged lower in early trade on Thursday dragged by IT stocks and US Federal Reserve rate hike fears.

The 30-share BSE Sensex fell 206.12 points to 81,837.27 in early trade. The 50-share NSE Nifty dropped 78.10 points to 25,145.70.

From the Sensex pack, Infosys, HCL Technologies, Tech Mahindra, Eternal, Tata Consultancy Services and ICICI Bank were among the biggest laggards.

Maruti, Mahindra & Mahindra, InterGlobe Aviation and Hindustan Unilever were among the winners.

"Yesterday's 159 points decline in Nifty caused by profit booking and steep fall in metal stocks can be seen as an overdue correction in a market which has run up too fast in too short a time. Such corrections make the market healthy.

"The sustained inflows from FIIs, which have touched a record Rs 94,299 crore so far this month, assisted by impressive earnings growth, have the potential to take the market forward. The underlying momentum in the market is strong," V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Investments Limited, said.In Asian markets, South Korea's Kospi, Shanghai's SSE Composite index and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index quoted lower, while Japan's Nikkei 225 index traded higher.

IIFL Finance shares drop over 3 pc after Fairfax pared over 13 pc stake

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI, NOV 19: Shares of IIFL Finance declined over 3 per cent on Thursday, a day after domestic and global institutional investors, led by SBI Mutual Fund, Rimco India and Goldman Sachs, picked up a 13.24 per cent stake in the firm from Canadian billionaire Prem Watsa's Fairfax group.Buy Maps

The stock dropped 3.15 per cent to Rs 641 despite a positive beginning to the trade on the BSE.

At the NSE, it fell 3.24 per cent to Rs 640.50, erasing early gains.

Domestic and global institutional investors, led by SBI Mutual Fund, Rimco India and Goldman Sachs, have picked up a 13.24 per cent stake in IIFL Finance for Rs 3,488 crore from the Fairfax group, which is moving towards a complete exit from the non-banking financial company.



The investors collectively acquired over 5.65 crore shares of Mumbai-based IIFL Finance through open market transactions on Wednesday, according to block deal data on the BSE.

SBI Mutual Fund emerged as the largest buyer, purchasing 81.53 lakh shares or nearly 2 per cent, for Rs 503.04 crore.

Mauritius-based fund Rimco India Ltd followed, acquiring more than 60.77 lakh shares, representing a 1.42 per cent stake, for Rs 375 crore.Buy Maps

Nippon India Mutual Fund bought shares worth Rs 275 crore, while

Goldman Sachs, through its affiliates, acquired shares worth Rs 180.22 crore.

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SC sets aside land acquisition in Odisha's Sundargarh district for Dalmia Cements plant

Press Trust Of India



NEW DELHI, NOV 19 :The Supreme Court has set aside land acquisition proceedings in three villages of Odisha's Sundargarh district for a Dalmia Cements plant, noting that the requisite consent of the gram panchayats was lacking.

A bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and Satish Chandra Sharma set aside the Orissa High Court's September 2024 judgment upholding the acquisition.

"We allow the writ petition, and hold that the land acquisition in question is unsustainable. The acquisition, along with the relevant notifications, orders etc., is hereby set aside. The impugned judgment is also set aside," the bench said.

The top court's judgment came on appeals filed by residents of three villages in Sundergarh district in Odisha challenging the land acquisition proceedings commenced by the state government at the instance of Dalmia Cements Bharat Limited.

The state government had granted a mining lease to the company for conducting mining operations over an area of 893.55 hectares which was extended from time to time.

On June 27, 2016, the lease period was extended till February 29, 2040.

The company asked the state government in 2015 to acquire surface rights over agricultural land in Kukuda, Bihabandha and Lanjiberna so it could expand mining operations. The state went ahead with the acquisition despite the gram panchayat resolutions rejecting it.

The High Court held that the appellants do not possess the requisite locus standi to challenge the acquisition process for failing to establish any link with the land in question and for failing to adhere to the procedure meant for filing a writ petition in a representative capacity.

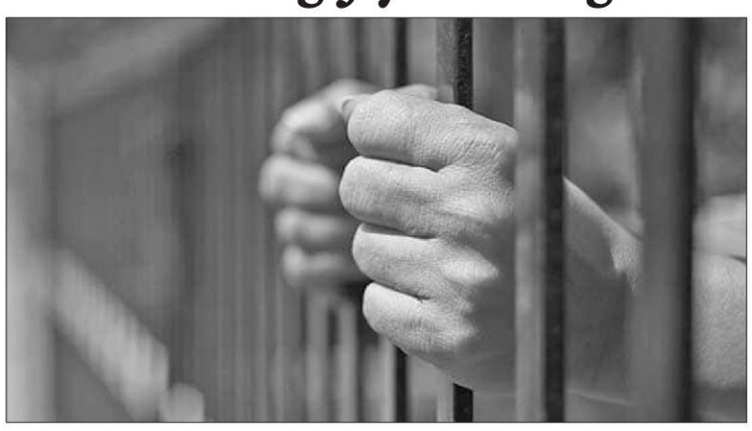
On the requirement of prior consent of the landowners, the HC had held that it did not apply as title to the land would vest in the State.

In its judgment, the top court held that the land was sought exclusively for mining by a private company and, as per Section 2(2)(b) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013, consent of at least 80 per cent of affected families during the social impact assessment, before the State examined the proposal, was required.

The apex court said that Section 41(3) of the 2013 Act imposed a separate requirement of prior gram sabha consent because the land fell within a Scheduled Area under the Fifth Schedule to the Constitution.

"A straightforward examination of the Act makes it clear that the subject acquisition not only required the prior consent of at least 80 per cent of the affected families, but also that such consent was to be obtained along with the Social Impact Assessment study," the bench said.

Goa: 11-year-old boy booked under POCSO Act for sexually assaulting 5-year-old girl



Press Trust Of India

PANAJI, NOV 19 :An 11-year-old boy has been booked in Goa for allegedly sexually assaulting a five-year-old girl, a police official said on Thursday.

The case under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and Goa Children's Act was registered at Calangute police station in North Goa district on Wednesday on the complaint of the girl's mother, he added.

"The alleged offence took place between November 1 and 18, when the girl's parents were working at a restaurant in Calangute. The 11-year-old boy would frequently visit their house and play with the victim and her brother. The alleged sexual assault took place during this period," the official said, quoting the complaint.

The girl and the juvenile have been sent for medical examination, he said, adding that the probe is being conducted by a woman police sub-inspector under the supervision of senior officers.

The boy has been charged under section 65(2) of BNS, section 8(2) of Goa Children's Act and sections 4, 8 and 10 of POCSO Act for committing rape on woman under 12 years of age, child abuse, penetrative sexual assault, and other offences, police said.

Delhi man strangled with belt, partially burnt body found in Shahdara bushes; friends questioned



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI, NOV 19 :The partially burnt body of a 22-year-old man, who was allegedly strangled with a belt and stabbed before an attempt was made to burn it, was found in bushes in northeast Delhi's Shahdara on Thursday, police said.

The deceased has been identified as Sandeep, a resident of the same area, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Shahdara) R P Meena said. The body was spotted around 10.30 am in the bushes in the GTB Enclave police station area, following which a police team rushed to the spot, he said.

A crime team and forensic experts were also called to the scene to collect evidence.

"On reaching there, the local police saw that it was the body of a 22-23-year-old youth. He was strangled with a belt and an attempt was made to burn his body," Meena said.

Preliminary investigation revealed that Sandeep was allegedly a substance addict and had been missing from his home for the last three to four days, the DCP said.

Police are questioning his friends to ascertain the circumstances leading to his death and identify those involved in the crime, he added.

An eyewitness, Bittu, told PTI that a crowd had gathered at the spot after the body was found.

Delhi HC awards Rs 11L each to kin of children who died after falling in sewer

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI, NOV 19 (PTI) The Delhi High Court has directed the DDA and the DJB to pay more than Rs 11 lakh each as compensation to the kin of two children who died after slipping into an open sewer in a DDA park in Pitampura in 2010.

Justice Jasmeet Singh held that the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) and the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) were negligent, which resulted in the deaths of the two children -- Robiyal and Arjun -- aged about 11 and 12 years, respectively.

The DJB was stated to be carrying out certain civil work in the open sewer or manhole in the park.

The court passed the judgment on separate petitions filed by the parents of the children for compensation.

Justice Singh said carelessness cannot be attributed to children of tender age playing in a park when dangerous structures are left open by authorities who are responsible to ensure safety.

When any open sewer or manhole is situated in a public park, the maintaining authority owes a greater duty of care than required in ordinary cases. In the subject park, which was open to the public for visitation and recreation, children of



young age (11-12 years) cannot be presumed to possess the foresight or prudence of an adult to anticipate the hidden dangers which are behind four-five-foot walls," the court observed in its verdict dated November 18.

"It was incumbent upon the responsible authority (respondent No.2/DJB) to make sure the park was protected from all kinds of untoward incidents, which it had failed to ensure. Additionally, as the park fell under the jurisdiction of respondent No.1 (DDA), it also owed a duty/ obligation to every visitor of the park (including children) to ensure a safe, congenial and hazard-free environment, which it failed to discharge," it held.

The court awarded Rs 1 lakh as costs of litigation to each of the petitioners.

The deceased children were stated to be involved in scrap collection from the DDA park.

"Having found negligence in the conduct of authorities, namely respondent No.1/DDA and respondent No.2/DJB, in fulfilment of their duties owed to the general public in the present cases, the petitioners in both the petitions are entitled to a compensation of Rs 11,00,627 each, along with

Ahmedabad Police uncover online drug network running through dark web

Press Trust Of India

AHMEDABAD, NOV 19 :The Ahmedabad Cyber Crime Police have uncovered a network which sold narcotic drugs through 24 dark web websites and five Telegram groups, officials said on Thursday.

A First Information Report was registered on November 18 against unidentified persons under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act and the Information Technology Act.

The action followed social media monitoring by the Cyber Crime Police's Social Media Monitoring Cell.

Inspector D J Jadeja received information about several Telegram IDs and dark web portals advertising narcotic substances, the FIR said.

The probe led to the identification of five Telegram groups and 24 websites advertising drugs such as cocaine, fentanyl, heroin, MDMA, ketamine and cannabis.

Some of the Telegram groups had hundreds of members, while one group, named Singapore Marketplace, had over 2,600 members, officials said.

In one of the groups, the operators provided instructions for placing orders and making advance payments through UPI, gift cards or cryptocurrencies.

The operator of one Telegram group agreed to sell drugs when a police team contacted it by pretending to be buyers.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Cyber Crime) Lavina Sinha said the police were also examining the financial transactions linked to the drug network.

"The medium of payment on these websites is usually cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin and Ethereum," Sinha said.



No arrests have been made so far and investigation is underway to identify the operators, officials said.

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5 held for cheating man of Rs 55 lakh in cryptocurrency investment fraud in Delhi

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI, NOV 19 :Five alleged members of a multi-layered cyber fraud syndicate have been arrested for cheating a man of Rs 55 lakh on the pretext of cryptocurrency investment, an official said on Thursday.

Police busted the racket after



investigating a complaint registered at Amar Colony police station on October 4, he said, adding that 16 mobile phones, 11 SIM cards, a vehicle used in the crime and Rs 3 lakh in cash were recovered from the accused.

According to police, the complainant came in contact through an advertisement on social media. The accused lured him into investing in cryptocurrency, particularly Tether (USDT), by promising substantial returns.

"The complainant initially paid Rs 36 lakh in cash on October 3 and received 36,000 USDT in his Trust Wallet application. The following day, he handed over another Rs 55 lakh in exchange for 55,000 USDT," the officer said.

However, within minutes of the second transaction, the accused withdrew the entire cryptocurrency from his wallet by misusing access they had obtained earlier, police said.

Investigations revealed that the syndicate operated through four layers, beginning with targeting victims through social media advertisements, followed by contacting them through illegally procured SIM cards.

The gang members subsequently met their targets personally to gain their confidence and obtain access to their cryptocurrency wallets before arranging cash transactions. The accused arranged an accommodation in the Amar

Colony area to meet potential targets. During an initial meeting, they transferred 10 USDT into the complainant's wallet to establish credibility.

Police said the syndicate deliberately executed the first transaction at a loss of around Rs 1.5 lakh to gain the victim's confidence before cheating him in the subsequent deal.

Saif Ali Khan latest Bollywood star to receive death threat; police launch probe

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI, NOV 19 :Bollywood actor Saif Ali Khan has received a death threat allegedly in the name of Zeeshan Akhtar, a wanted accused in the Baba Siddique murder case, the latest in a series of threats made to film stars, including Amitabh Bachchan, Ayushmann Khurrana and Tusshar Kapoor, in recent weeks.

The Mumbai Police started an investigation and are verifying the authenticity of the threat, an official said on Thursday.

"Actor Saif Ali Khan received a voice message on his phone in the name of Zeeshan Akhtar, stating that he would meet the same fate as Baba Siddique," the police official said, adding that the focus is on whether the threat genuinely originated from Akhtar or someone else is impersonating him and using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to harass celebrities.

Recently, the Mumbai Police had arrested 30-year-old Bengaluru-based IIT graduate Vaibhav Mishra, who had allegedly used AI to issue threats despite having no links to any gang, to film stars like Ayushmann Khurrana and Tusshar



Kapoor.

In January this year, Khan was injured after an intruder attacked him with a knife at his residence in Mumbai, following which he was hospitalised. The accused was arrested by the Mumbai police after a few days.

Baba Siddique (66), a Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader and former Maharashtra minister, was shot dead by three assailants outside his son Zeeshan Siddique's office in Mumbai's Bandra East area on the night of October 12, 2024.

Alongside the personal threats to actors, superstar Amitabh Bachchan's Juhu residence, 'Jalsa', has been repeatedly named in a series of hoax bomb warnings sent to authorities in Mumbai and Pune over the past month.

On November 12, authorities in both cities were placed on high alert following emails sent in the name of a purported organisation called the 'Khalistan National Army' threatening bomb blasts at multiple locations, including Bachchan's bungalow, the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, Mahalaxmi Stadium, the Mumbai Mayor's office, a Punjab National Bank (PNB) branch, and the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) headquarters.

Bomb Detection and Disposal Squads (BDDS) searched the premises, and no explosives were found. The PMC had previously received similar hoax emails on June 10 and November 3.

Earlier, on November 6, the police had conducted extensive searches at the Bombay High Court, the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE), Mahalaxmi Racecourse and Bachchan's residence following another hoax threat email. Cyber police are currently tracing the IP

SC to commence final hearing of pleas on marital rape in December

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI, NOV 19 :The Supreme Court on Thursday said it would list a batch of petitions pertaining to the contentious issue of marital rape for final hearing in December.

The apex court is seized of petitions raising the vexed legal question of whether a husband should enjoy immunity from prosecution for the offence of rape if he forces his wife, who is not a minor, to have sex.

Under the exception clause of Section 375 of the Indian Penal Code, now repealed and replaced by the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, sexual intercourse or sexual acts by a man with his wife, the wife not being minor, is not rape.

Even under the new law, exception 2 to section 63 (rape) says that "sexual intercourse or sexual acts by a man with his own wife, the wife not being under eighteen years of age, is not rape".

The petitions were listed for hearing during the day before a bench of Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana.

Senior advocate Indira Jaising, who is appearing in the matter, told the apex court that the bench is scheduled to hear a part-heard matter at 2 pm during the day. She urged the bench that the marital rape matter be listed for hearing in December as today it may not come up since the bench is seized of a part-heard matter.

"We will either have it on December 2-3 or on December 9-10. Today, it is not possible. We are trying to finish the part-heard matter today," the CJI said.

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CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

Amit Shah

to India. Since 2019, 303 fugitives have been brought back to India from 36 countries, he said.

"It is essential to dismantle the entire terror financing network. To achieve this, better coordination with agencies responsible for financial investigations is necessary," the Home Minister said.

Shah said that India has been a victim of terrorism and "we have been confronting" it "for a long time". He said that police forces of different states had made various efforts, but a lack of coordinated action was clearly visible.

"Over time, during the tenures of successive governments, gradual efforts were made to overcome these shortcomings. Today, we can say with satisfaction that in this vast country -- from Kashmir to Kanyakumari and from Dwarka to Kamakhya -- we are putting in place a system under which a uniform strategy to combat terrorism will operate right down to the level of every police station," Shah said.

He said the dismantling of the Popular Front of India (PFI), a banned outfit, network is a significant example of how effective coordinated operations by police forces across India can be.

In a single night, police forces from 11 states, along with central agencies, jointly dealt a major blow to the PFI network. This operation is now a case study for the entire world, Shah added.

Shah on Thursday inaugurated the two-day key anti-terror conference, which will deliberate on "cross-border terrorism" besides the development of future-ready strategies and the strengthening of institutional capacities to meet emerging national security challenges.

It is being attended by senior police officers of states and Union Territories, officers of central agencies and departments dealing with counter-terrorism, and experts from allied fields including law, forensics and technology.

Held annually, the conference has steadily grown into a significant gathering of operational forces, agencies working in the field of counter-terrorism and experts from the technical, legal and forensic domains.

It offers agencies/forces an opportunity to collectively examine matters that have bearing on national security and the threats arising from terrorism.

The conference sessions will address a range of subjects, including obtaining evidence from foreign jurisdictions, the application of digital forensics and data analysis in counter-terrorism investigations, and the effective management of trials, it said.

Sessions will also cover countering radicalisation and emerging hybrid threats to national security.

LG Sinha

reiterated the commitment to provide compensation, government employment, and comprehensive support to the Next of Kins of the Special Police Officers (SPOs), who laid down their lives in the line of duty.

Addressing local priorities in Kiyar, the Lieutenant Governor assured of installation of a mobile tower in the area and committed to pursuing forest clearance for the Kiyar road with the relevant authorities.

On establishing a Special Operations Group (SOG) picket, he said the issue will be discussed in the review meeting with Deputy Commissioners and Senior Superintendents of Police, scheduled for Friday.

"The security grid, along with road and communication infrastructure in Kiyar and adjoining remote areas, will be strengthened for the safety and well-being of the local residents," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor assured the delegation that all other demands and grievances raised during the meeting would be addressed on priority.

The delegation consisted of residents from Kiyar including Shri Suresh Kumar, Shri Pradeep Kumar, Shri Ram Lal Thakur, Shri Roshan Lal Thakur, Shri Satish Kumar Parihar, Shri Rohit Parihar.

They were accompanied by District President, BJP Kishtwar, Shri Ravi Parihar, from Lopara Dachhan; BJP District Vice President Kishtwar, Shri Ashish Sharma from Berabhata, Shri Lokesh Parihar from Suid, Dachhan and J&K BJP Mahila Morcha General Secretary Ms Urvashi Gupta.

Meanwhile, Dr Abhijeet Jasrotia, BJP Spokesperson, J&K called on Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha, today and projected various key issues of industrial sector in the region.

CM Omar

to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Chief Secretary Dr Sajjan Singh Yadav, Additional Chief Secretary to the CM Dheeraj Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary Finance Shailendra Kumar Secretary Information Technology Rahul Yadav, DG BISAG-N and other officers attended the meeting.

During the presentation Secretary IT informed the meeting that Jammu and Kashmir currently has 1,718 government services integrated on digital platforms, with 368 new services added during the last one year. The e-UNNAT platform continues to serve as the J&K's flagship unified e-governance platform, providing access to over 1,700 citizen-centric services through a single digital interface. The department also highlighted that J&K has secured the first position among Union Territories in the National e-Services Delivery Assessment (NeSDA) ranking.

The meeting was further informed that 38.68 lakh users from Jammu and Kashmir are registered on DigiLocker, with 240 services available online and over 93 lakh academic records accessible through the platform. The Mobile Dost application is providing 1,548 government services through smartphones, while the Common Service Centre network has served over 62 lakh citizens during the period under review.

Reviewing the progress of digital governance initiatives, the Chief Minister stressed the need to accelerate the transition towards paperless administration and directed the department to move from the existing paper-based system to a paperless e-Cabinet mechanism.

Emphasising cybersecurity as a critical component of digital governance, Omar Abdullah called for regular security audits of all government websites and applications. He directed that a systematic reminder mechanism be instituted, with the first reminder issued two months before the expiry of a security audit and a second reminder one month before its expiry, ensuring timely renewals and compliance.

The Chief Minister also stressed the need for fixing clear timelines for all ongoing and proposed projects, with regular monitoring of implementation to avoid unnecessary delays.

Directing that government websites and applications be made more user-friendly, accessible and convenient for citizens, he emphasised that digital platforms must simplify service delivery and provide a seamless experience to users.

He further underlined the need for greater ownership and accountability on the part of the IT Department and concerned departments in the regular maintenance, updating and smooth functioning of government websites, portals and applications.

The department also briefed the Chief Minister on major initiatives, including the integration of government services with WhatsApp, expansion of the State Data Centre, migration of government applications to the MeghRaj Cloud, strengthening of the J&K Security Operations Centre and implementation of BharatNet and 4G Saturation projects.

The meeting was informed that 54 of the 109 identified applications had been migrated to cloud infrastructure, while migration of other applications was at different stages, including security audits and user acceptance testing.

The department also presented progress on the AI Centre of Excellence inaugurated by the Chief Minister at IIT Jammu, alongside proposed AI applications across sectors such as healthcare, agriculture, education, transport and public governance.

The Chief Minister called for a coordinated and result-oriented approach to ensure that ongoing digital initiatives translate into improved governance, greater administrative efficiency and easier access to public services.

Delegations

Kumar, MLA Bandipora Nizamuddin Bhat, MLA Bishnah Rajeev Kumar and MLA Shopian Shabir Ahmad Kullay.

During the meetings, the legislators raised issues relating to development, public infrastructure, welfare and other matters requiring the Government's attention in their respective Assembly constituencies.

The Chief Minister gave a patient hearing to the visiting public representatives and assured them that all genuine issues raised by them would be addressed on priority. He reiterated the Government's commitment to ensuring equitable development and responsive governance across Jammu and Kashmir.

Weather

in the valley till the end of the month, with night temperatures likely to dip further over the coming days.

CS

Divisional and District Administrations and the Municipal Corporation.

During the tour, Dr Yadav visited several prominent commercial and public spaces to assess the progress and impact of developmental and beautification initiatives undertaken under the Jammu Smart City Mission and other urban development programmes. He also enquired about the sanitation infrastructure, waste management arrangements and civic amenities put in place for the convenience of the city's residents and visitors.

The Chief Secretary began his tour with a visit to Raghunath Bazaar, where he reviewed the development and beautification works executed under the Jammu Smart City Corporation Limited (JSCL). He took stock of the improvements brought about in the market and their impact on public convenience and the overall experience of traders, visitors and shoppers.

He subsequently visited Bahu Plaza and its adjoining areas, where he assessed the existing civic arrangements and took an overview of the developmental projects in the pipeline for this important commercial and administrative hub. He was briefed about the proposed interventions aimed at further augmenting public amenities and improving the area's urban infrastructure.

At Apsara Road High Street, Gandhi Nagar, the Chief Secretary inspected the development and beautification works undertaken to enhance the commercial stretch and its surrounding public spaces. He also took stock of the facilities created and the scope for further improvements to make the area more accessible, organised and aesthetically appealing.

The Chief Secretary later visited the Tawi Riverfront Development Project, one of Jammu's flagship urban transformation initiatives, to assess the progress of the project and the facilities being created there. He was apprised of its comprehensive development plan, including the proposed expansion of infrastructure and creation of additional public amenities under subsequent phases, envisaging the transformation of the riverfront into a major recreational and public attraction for the city.

During the tour, Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, Vikas Kundal, gave a broad overview of Jammu city's geographical spread, developmental trajectory, ongoing projects and major initiatives envisaged for its further transformation.

Deputy Commissioner, Jammu, Minga Sherpa, briefed the Chief Secretary on the beautification and developmental interventions undertaken in the areas visited, besides outlining the plans for further augmentation of civic infrastructure, improvement of urban living standards and creation of additional facilities for the convenience of citizens.

Commissioner, JMC, Ayushi Sudan, gave a detailed appraisal of the various Smart City projects, the expenditure incurred on these interventions and the progress of major initiatives, including the Tawi Riverfront Development Project and Apsara Road High Street. She also apprised him of the Corporation's comprehensive sanitation and solid waste management framework.

The Chief Secretary was informed about the waste processing and disposal infrastructure established by JMC, including its 57 MLD capacity Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs), the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) at Kot Bhalwal and the ongoing biomining of legacy waste for recovery and conversion into Refuse-Derived Fuel (RDF).

She further apprised the Chief Secretary of JMC's existing sanitation infrastructure, including the deployment of sanitation personnel, availability of machinery and equipment, and arrangements for door-to-door collection, transportation and scientific processing of municipal solid waste at designated waste treatment facilities.

The tour provided the newly appointed Chief Secretary an opportunity to directly assess the ground-level implementation of key urban development initiatives and familiarise himself with Jammu city's infrastructure, civic requirements and future development priorities at the very outset of his tenure.

The visit underscored the importance given to the aspect of sustained focus on urban development, efficient municipal services, scientific waste management and the creation of clean, accessible and aesthetically appealing public spaces for the people of Jammu.

CS Calls

Secretary, emphasising the need to accelerate development, strengthen governance and ensure effective and time-bound delivery of public services across Jammu and Kashmir.

The discussions focused on advancing the Government's developmental agenda and ensuring coordinated efforts towards addressing key priorities and improving public service delivery.

Dr. Sajjan Singh Yadav assumed charge as Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir on November 18.

Rajnath

Minister Shinjiro Koizumi - respectively.

Addressing the media after the talks, Jaishankar said the global order was facing multiple shocks, including two major ongoing conflicts, economic volatility and the after-effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"There are two major ongoing conflicts whose impact have been felt even in distant regions," he said, adding that these developments had heightened concerns over energy, trade, food and health security.

The Russia-Ukraine war and the conflict in West Asia have had repercussions far beyond their respective regions, affecting global energy markets, maritime shipping and food security.

"As we seek to secure ourselves on these fronts, trusted and substantive partnerships like ours become more valuable," Jaishankar said.

In his remarks following the meeting, Singh said the two sides had agreed to move swiftly to translate their recently signed Memorandum of Arrangement on Maritime Security Cooperation into concrete collaboration, including in maritime and air domain awareness, search and rescue and information-sharing arrangements.

"We agreed to accelerate cooperation in the area of niche underwater and missile technologies," he said.

The two countries also looked forward to strengthening defence industrial cooperation under the framework of "Design with Japan, Make in India", while expressing expectations for an early conclusion of the UNICORN-related agreements, which concerns co-development of integrated antenna masts for Indian Navy warships.

Singh said the two sides had also agreed on the need for an early conclusion of a Maritime Ship Repair Arrangement for reciprocal provision of ship repair facilities and decided to enhance cooperation in mine-countermeasure capabilities.

Jaishankar said New Delhi and Tokyo were committed to keeping the Indo-Pacific free and open, and were joined in that endeavour by other Quad partners.

The remarks came two days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi, US President Donald Trump, Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi and Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese met in Manila for a Quad leaders' summit.

"The reality is that old assumptions may no longer hold true and each one of us will have to make a greater contribution to global good," Jaishankar said, adding that such contributions could come through initiatives and activities at the national and bilateral levels or with like-minded partners.

"We also spoke about a growing tendency to weaponise connectivity, resources, services, supply chains and market shares," said the external affairs minister, adding that many of these had direct implications for national security.

"Strengthening resilience and exploring new options must be seen in that context," he said.

Jaishankar also referred to growing concerns over connectivity and chokepoints in the light of experiences in the Gulf, stressing the importance of ensuring the smooth functioning of maritime trade.

He also welcomed the first-ever participation of Japan Air Self-Defence Force fighter aircraft in the Japan-India air force exercise Veer Guardian 26, held in India, and the convening of the third India-Japan Defence Industries Forum in Tokyo on October 13.

The two sides also discussed ongoing cooperation in air and space domain awareness, said the defence minister.

He added that this year was significant for both countries as they lay the foundation for celebrating 75 years of establishment of diplomatic relations in 2027.

Singh further said they had also exchanged views on regional and global issues and agreed on the need for peaceful resolution of disputes in consonance with international law.

The 2+2 meeting also took into account the changing nature of warfare, with Jaishankar pointing to the effective application of smart weapons and innovative solutions.

"Our cooperation here feeds into a larger engagement on innovation and startups," the external affairs minister said.

Jaishankar said the broader objective of India-Japan cooperation was to support a multipolar Asia and a multipolar world, adding that the two countries had been strong proponents of reformed multilateralism.

"We are two significant nations of the Indo-Pacific with a long and continuous history of friendship and goodwill," he said, adding that a stronger India-Japan relationship could play a more important role as countries entered an era in which each had to step up their contributions to the global order.

"Our 2+2 discussions today and the understandings we reached were a very good step in that direction," he said.

The 2+2 format brings together the foreign and defence ministers of both countries to review their strategic relationship and discuss regional and global security challenges.

SC

"Our existing resources make it possible, albeit through unwavering implementation by the statutory enforcing authorities and adherence by the citizens," it said, adding that the court after reviewing all the reports filed by the Supreme Court Monitoring Committee (SCMC), observes that each organ of the State has spun on its own wheel.

"The cogs (citizens) that connect them must work towards the objective for realising good results," the bench said, adding that the Constitution embodies separation of powers, as basic structure and the Parliament on its turn enacted the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and the executive has framed the SWM Rules, 2026.

It underlined that despite the law and the rules in existence, the performance of the SWM Rules, 2016 and 2026, falls short of the objective set by the Parliament.

"Therefore, this court, as a repository of the constitutional right to a pollution-free environment, through SCMC, has taken the arduous task of issuing continuing mandamus to the local bodies. This effort of the Supreme Court through the SCMC is not the fifth wheel trying to drive the other four wheels. As already noted in our earlier orders, it is now or never. The SCMC's efforts will sunset into self-regulation by the contributors," it said.

The bench said the court acknowledges the magnitude of the problem and the efforts required to address and repose trust in SCMC and the district collectors across the country.

"The court, with personal experience of the perfect and punctilious performance of two or three district collectors in the States where such rules were executed through district collectors, has relied only on the district collectors to achieve the objective of the court and the rules," it said.

It said the present order is not an inspirational quote to the district collectors but a reminder of the apex court's expectations in them and their capacity, inasmuch as failure in the ongoing affairs will make the situation worse and remediless.

"Therefore, the district collectors reinvent the needed strategies as per local requirements and, in a dynamic way, assist the chief secretaries and SCMC in implementing SWM rules, 2026, the court orders," it emphasised.

Pointing out some deficiencies in the approach, the top court said that on August 18, the court has noted that the unorganised residential, commercial and business sectors form a major part of the problem.

"The report is silent on the notices served and on additional areas identified that warrant temporary disconnection of water/electricity for due compliance with the SWM Rules, 2026," it pointed out, adding that the public-private participation, an idea floated to reduce the stress on financial resources, is not spelt out.

It said that the necessary statutory framework for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives to augment infrastructure needs is not adverted to in the report of SCMC.

The bench said the industries cannot be heard to say that the pollution is generated at one place and the CSR contribution is made elsewhere.

Pointing out several other flaws and issuing a slew of additional directions for compliance, the bench posted the matter for further hearing on January 12.

On August 18, the top court issued a slew of directions for its management and disposal, saying the infrastructure for the purpose needs to be scaled up to meet the standards of the SWM Rules, 2026.

The top court had said it is regrettable that across society, the general feeling is "I am entitled to generate but not to cooperate and control the impact of solid waste management at the threshold".

Before the apex court, the Bhopal Municipal Corporation had challenged the proceedings relating to its obligations in handling municipal solid waste.

Looking at the enormity of the problem, the top court later expanded the scope nationwide and flagged the absence of a sense of compliance with the SMW rules.

It had said the SCMC was constituted pursuant to the apex court's earlier direction and it includes several secretaries of the Union government and the secretary of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

The bench directed the district collectors to identify all bulk waste generators in their respective jurisdictions, in cooperation with local bodies.

Chargesheet

his school records, he allegedly obtained an age-assessment board report showing his date of birth as June 7, 1965, the spokesperson said.

By misrepresenting his age, the accused continued in government service until June 30, 2025, instead of retiring in 2016, thereby securing an extension of nearly nine years and causing financial loss to the state exchequer, he said.

The chargesheet was filed before the Forest Court in Jammu, the spokesperson said.

Senior Superintendent of Police, SCW, Sanjay Parihar urged people not to use forged documents, warning that falsifying the date of birth, educational qualifications, residence or other records to secure employment, pension or other benefits constitutes a criminal offence and can invite prosecution even years later.

Kashmir Age
"Truth we say..... come what may"
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DC Pulwama inaugurates Inter-Departmental Cricket Tournament at Sports Stadium

Initiative aims to promote Physical Fitness, Team Spirit and Healthy Work Culture among Employees

Kashmir Age News

PULWAMA, NOVEMBER 19: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Kuldeep Krishan Sidha today inaugurated an Inter-Departmental Cricket Tournament at Sports Stadium Pulwama, featuring 10 teams comprising government employees from various departments of the district.

The tournament is being organised by District Administration Pulwama, in collaboration with the Department of Youth Services and Sports, Pulwama.

During the inaugural ceremony, the DC was accompanied by Chief Planning Officer Pulwama, Aashiq Khanday, District Youth Services and Sports Officer (DYSSO) Pulwama and other senior officers.

The participating teams include District Administration Pulwama, PMGSY Pulwama, District Treasury Office Pulwama, Planning Department Pulwama, Education Department Pulwama, Roads & Buildings (R&B) Department Pulwama, Labour and Employment and RDD among others.

The inaugural match was played between the District Administration Pulwama team and the Planning Department team, in which the District Administration Pulwama emerged victorious.



Prior to the commencement of the tournament, a pledge under the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan was administered to the participating players and officials present on the occasion, as a mark of their support towards combating substance abuse and promoting a drug-free society.

While speaking on the occassion, the Deputy Commissioner highlighted the importance of sports and regular physical activity in maintaining a healthy lifestyle, particularly for government employees. He observed that demanding work schedules and routine official responsibilities often leave limited opportunities for physical exercise, making participation in sports essential for maintaining physical fitness, relieving stress and ensuring mental well-being.

He further emphasised that a physically active workforce is better equipped to maintain efficiency, enthusiasm and productivity at the workplace. He encouraged employees to actively engage in sporting activities, adding that such initiatives also foster inter-departmental coordination, mutual understanding and a spirit of teamwork beyond routine official engagements. The tournament aims to encourage government employees to adopt healthier lifestyles while providing them with a common platform for recreation, sporting engagement and strengthening professional camaraderie across departments.

Star-studded India A face Nepal's spin test, Lamichhane holds key to upset bid

United News Of India

DOHA, NOV 19 :India's formidable batting firepower will come up against Nepal's spin challenge, with skipper Sandeep Lamichhane leading the Himalayan side's hopes of pulling off an upset when the two teams clash in the ACC Men's Asia Cup Rising Stars tournament here on Friday.

Boasting an exciting combination of established international performers and emerging talent, India A will start as overwhelming favourites, with Abhishek Sharma, Tilak Varma, Rinku Singh and teenage sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi lending considerable muscle to their batting lineup.



But Nepal, under the leadership of the experienced Lamichhane, will be looking to make India's star-studded outfit work for its victory and use the contest as an opportunity to announce its credentials against a heavyweight opponent.

The biggest challenge for Nepal will be containing India's aggressive batting approach. Abhishek's ability to take the attack to the opposition from the outset, Tilak's versatility and Rinku's finishing skills give India A a formidable combination across the batting order.

The presence of Sooryavanshi further strengthens the batting unit, with the young left-hander's fearless strokeplay offering India another attacking option.

His ability to change the complexion of a contest quickly could make him one of the players Nepal will be particularly keen to keep quiet.

However, Nepal have a potential trump card in Lamichhane, whose leg-spin, variations and experience of playing against top-level opposition could prove decisive in the middle overs.

The Nepal captain will be central to his team's plans, particularly if he can break partnerships and prevent India's batsmen from dictating the tempo.

His battle against India's power-hitters could well determine how competitive Nepal remain in the contest.

For Nepal, the fixture is also an important opportunity to measure its progress against a side packed with players who have already made their mark in international cricket.

Bavuma sets new Test captaincy record with 14 wins in 1st 16 matches

United News Of India

JOHANNESBURG, NOV 19 :South Africa captain Temba Bavuma has established a new benchmark in Test cricket, becoming the most successful captain in the format in terms of victories in his first 16 matches, with 14 wins following his team's emphatic nine-wicket triumph over Bangladesh in the opening Test here.

Bavuma moved past former Australia captain Lindsay Hassett, who had recorded 13 victories in his first 16 Tests as captain. Australia's Bill Woodfull, Steve Waugh and Ricky Ponting, along with England's Ben Stokes, are next on the list with 11 wins each.

The latest victory at the Wanderers also extended South Africa's impressive run in Test cricket. The Proteas have now won 16 of their last 18 Tests and consolidated their position among the leading sides in the format. The victory also strengthened their position at the top of the 2025-27 World Test Championship standings, boosting their prospects of reaching next year's final in London.



Bavuma's captaincy record has been built on significant victories against leading Test sides, including three wins each against Australia and India. South Africa's triumph over Australia in the 2025 World Test Championship final was among the defining achievements of his leadership.

Against Bangladesh, the Proteas demonstrated their batting depth and bowling strength. After Bangladesh posted 400 in their first innings, South Africa responded with 557, securing a substantial 157-run lead.

Marques Ackerman led the South African batting with a maiden Test century, scoring 157, while Ryan Rickelton contributed 102 and Kagiso Rabada produced a valuable 72. Bavuma, who had retired hurt on 49 because of a calf injury, returned to finish unbeaten on 68, helping his team build a commanding first-innings advantage.

Bangladesh were subsequently bowled out for 168 in their second innings, with off-spinner Simon Harmer taking six wickets for 51 runs and Rabada claiming three for 48. South Africa chased down the modest target of 12 runs, finishing at 12 for one to seal the victory and take a 1-0 lead in the two-Test series.

Don't think dropping Siraj was a wrong decision: Kotak

United News Of India

NEW DELHI, NOV 19 :India batting coach Sitanshu Kotak defended the decision to leave Mohammed Siraj out of the playing XI for the opening Test against New Zealand, insisting that the team management had picked its bowling combination with the demands of the entire match in mind rather than focusing solely on the opening day.

Siraj's omission attracted considerable attention after India went in with four specialist pacers, handing Anshul Kamboj a place alongside Jasprit Bumrah, Prasidh Krishna and Akash Deep. The decision to leave out an experienced campaigner like Siraj drew criticism, but Kotak backed the team's call. "There is nothing wrong with Siraj. We thought this was the best XI when we picked the side. I don't think dropping Siraj was a wrong decision. This is just the first day. We don't pick a team only for day one, but also for days two, three and four," Kotak told reporters after the opening day's play. Kotak also explained the thinking behind off-spinning allrounder Washington Sundar's selection, pointing to the left-handed composition of New Zealand's top order.

Submit verification forms by November 21: JKFA to football clubs

Kashmir Age News

SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 19: The Returning Officer, Jammu and Kashmir Football Association (J&KFA) Executive Body Elections, has invited football clubs whose names do not figure in the existing Electoral Roll but are seeking inclusion in the Electoral College to submit duly filled-in Verification Forms (Annexure-A), along with the requisite supporting documents in original, for verification.



All concerned clubs have been advised to ensure that every column of the Verification Form is properly filled in and supported by relevant documentary evidence, wherever prescribed.

The completed forms, along with original supporting documents, must be submitted to the Office of the Returning Officer, Bakhshi Stadium, Srinagar, by 3:00 PM on November 21, 2026. No submissions received after the stipulated deadline will be entertained.

The Returning Officer has clarified that all claims will be examined strictly on the basis of the particulars and supporting documents furnished in the prescribed Verification Form. It has also been made clear that submission of the form, by itself, neither confers voting rights nor guarantees inclusion in the Electoral College.

All concerned football clubs have been urged to strictly adhere to the prescribed procedure and timeline to ensure timely verification of their claims.

Aryaman's 7-under surge puts him 3 shots off lead

United News Of India

DIGBOI (ASSAM), NOV 19 :Mumbai's Aryaman Aditya Mohan reignited his title hopes with a spectacular seven-under 65 in the third round of the 26th IndianOil SERVO Masters Golf here today, moving into tied fifth place and within striking distance of the three leaders.

The 25-year-old produced the lowest round of the day, climbing 20 places on the leaderboard to reach eight-under 208, just three shots behind Kapurthala's Yuvraj Singh, Mhow's Om Prakash Chouhan and Bengaluru's Raunil Kukar, who shared the lead at 11-under 205.

Aryaman's charge was built around an eagle on the par-five seventh, eight birdies and three bogeys. His aggressive scoring approach helped him make one of the biggest moves of the tournament so far and emerge as a serious challenger heading into Friday's final round.



The Mumbai golfer will now look to carry that momentum into the final day, where another low round could bring him into contention for the title. However, he will need to overcome a three-shot deficit against a leading trio that has maintained consistency over the first three rounds.

Chandigarh's Akshay Sharma also made a significant move, joining Aryaman in tied fifth at eight-under 208 after carding a six-under 66, which included an eagle on the seventh, six birdies and two bogeys.

Yuvraj made the biggest impression among the overnight challengers, firing a five-under 67 featuring seven birdies and two bogeys to join Chouhan and Kukar at the top.

Chouhan and Kukar, who shared the overnight lead, carded identical two-under 70s to remain in contention at 11-under 205.

Chouhan, a former European Challenge Tour winner and 11-time DP World Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI) champion, will bring considerable experience into the final round, while Kukar will be chasing his maiden title after finishing joint runner-up at the SECL presents Nava Raipur Open in September.

Yuvraj, meanwhile, will also be aiming for his maiden professional title, having previously finished third at the DP World PGTI Players Championship in April 2025.

Bumrah was swinging it both ways: Nicholls praises Bumrah's skill after New Zealand fightback

United News Of India

NEW DELHI, NOV 19 :Henry Nicholls may have finished the opening day of the first Test with an unbeaten century, but the New Zealand batter was left in no doubt about the threat posed by Jasprit Bumrah. The right-armer's ability to move the ball both ways made him a constant handful, forcing the hosts to work hard during a testing first day in Wellington on Thursday.

Bumrah led India's attack with three wickets, helping reduce New Zealand to 70 for five before Nicholls and Glenn Phillips rescued the innings with an unbroken 173-run partnership. Nicholls, who was 113 not out at stumps, acknowledged that Bumrah's movement and control had made batting particularly difficult.

"Bumrah was swinging it both ways and putting guys under some serious pressure. It's a great challenge," Nicholls said.

Having faced the Indian pacer on several occasions in the past, Nicholls felt that familiarity with his action offered some assistance, but stressed that Bumrah remained an exceptional bowler.

"He's obviously got a unique action and, lucky enough, I've played him a few times and that gives you a little bit of a benefit. But he's certainly an incredible bowler in all formats," he said.

The New Zealand batter was especially impressed by the amount of movement Bumrah generated and expects the challenge to continue when the teams return for the second day's play.

"Today, the way he was swinging the ball both ways was incredible bowling. I'm sure tomorrow morning it'll be more of the same and another tough challenge," Nicholls added.

India's fast bowlers had made full use of the conditions in the morning, putting



New Zealand's top order under sustained pressure and claiming five wickets before the hosts could reach 100.

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"They asked fantastic questions, certainly in that first session. You saw that from the pressure we were under," Nicholls said.

The innings, however, took a different turn after Phillips joined Nicholls at the crease. While Nicholls concentrated on building his innings, Phillips took the attack to the Indian bowlers, easing the pressure and allowing his partner to settle.

"That partnership and the way Glenn played really alleviated my role. The way he counter-attacked certainly made it a bit easier for me," Nicholls said. The left-hander also highlighted the understanding between the two, pointing to Phillips' attacking instincts and their ability to keep the scoreboard moving through quick running.

"He's great. The way he counter-attacks and the way he runs between the wickets as well, I think we gel quite well in that respect. We're both very busy," he said.

Against an attack capable of producing difficult deliveries, Nicholls believes the key is to remain patient without missing opportunities to score.

"If they're going to bowl good balls, live with that, control what we can control and be able to score from there," he said.

With both batters unbeaten overnight, New Zealand will look to build on the recovery and take their first-innings total as far as possible. "As many as we can get, to be honest. It's obviously nice that Glenn and I are in overnight. For us, it's about getting on with doing the hard work again," he said.

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Man gets 2-year jail term in cheque bounce cases



KASHMIR PRESS SERVICE

Srinagar: A local court in North Kashmir's Kupwara district convicted a man in two cheque dishonour cases following the conclusion of trial proceedings under the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.

The judgment was pronounced by Chief Judicial Magistrate, Handwara Manzoor Hussain in two complaints filed by Javid Ahmad Malik, son of Mohammad Samandar Malik, resident of Maratgam, Handwara, against Manzoor Ahmad Khan, son of Sheeraz Ahmad Khan, resident of Doinwari, Kupwara, presently residing at HMT Khushipora, Zainakote, Srinagar

According to the complaints, the dispute originated from a proposed land transaction in which the complainant alleged that he had paid rupees 45.50 lakh to the accused towards the purchase of a piece of land. However, the accused allegedly failed to execute the requisite sale deed and subsequently issued ten cheques towards repayment of the amount.

The complainant maintained that the cheques, drawn on J&K Bank, Zainakote Branch, Srinagar, were presented within their validity period but returned unpaid due to insufficiency of funds. Despite the issuance of statutory demand notices, the accused allegedly failed to make the payments within the prescribed period of 15 days, prompting the complainant to institute the two complaints under Section 138 of the Act.

During the trial, the accused admitted that the cheques pertained to his bank account and acknowledged his signatures on them. He also admitted that the amounts mentioned in the cheques had been filled in his handwriting. However, he disputed the underlying liability, maintaining that the proposed land transaction had not materialised and that the complainant owed him money.

After examining the evidence and submissions advanced by both sides, the court held that the complainant had established the essential ingredients of the offence under Section 138 of the NI Act. It observed that the accused had failed to rebut the statutory presumptions under Section 139 of the Act and concluded that the cheques had been issued towards discharge of a legally enforceable debt or liability.

Accordingly, the court convicted the accused in both complaints and sentenced him to simple imprisonment for two years. It also imposed a fine equivalent to twice the cheque amount, quantified at rupees 91 lakh, payable to the complainant by way of compensation in accordance with law.

DC Kulgam reviews VB-G RAMG implementation, stresses convergence of agriculture, allied sector activities

Kashmir Press Service

Kulgam: Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Shahzad Alam(IAS), chaired a meeting at the Mini Secretariat, Kulgam, to review the implementation of VB-G RAMG and explore convergence of activities under various Agriculture and allied sectors.

During the meeting, detailed discussions were held on the implementation framework of the programme, identification of eligible works and convergence opportunities among different departments.

The meeting reviewed various categories of permissible works under the programme, including construction and upgradation



of rural roads, culverts, cross-drainage structures, Panchayat Ghars, Anganwadi Centres, rural libraries, public buildings and school infrastructure.

Other proposed works included community infrastructure, solid and liquid waste management, solar lighting, village parking facilities, transport sheds, rural housing and repair and maintenance of water supply infrastructure under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

The Deputy Commissioner stressed the need to identify permissible works under the scheme to ensure effective convergence and optimal utilisation of available resources. He also emphasised landscaping of Government buildings, schools and Panchayat Ghars wherever such facilities are lacking, directing the concerned departments to identify suitable locations and take necessary steps.

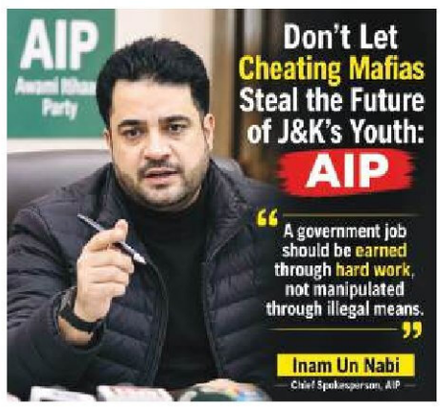
He further called for constitution of a supervision committee to monitor the execution of identified works and ensure quality, proper implementation and timely completion. The committee will oversee the progress of works and ensure that the identified activities are translated into action on the ground.

Don't let cheating mafias steal the future of J&K's youth: AIP

KASHMIR PRESS SERVICE

Srinagar: Awami Itihaad Party (AIP) Chief Spokesperson Inam Un Nabi has called for an independent, time-bound investigation into the alleged cheating racket linked to the JKSSB Finance Accounts Assistant examination, saying that the future of thousands of deserving candidates cannot be put at risk by organised fraud.

Referring to the arrest of 14 persons, recovery of wireless communication devices and registration of three FIRs, Inam said the police action deserves appreciation, but the investigation must



establish the full network, identify any beneficiaries and examine whether the examination's integrity was compromised.

With over 1.60 lakh candidates competing for just 600 posts, he said, every aspirant has a legitimate expectation of a fair chance.

"Behind every application is a young person who has spent years preparing, often with considerable sacrifices by their families. They deserve a fair opportunity, not a system where money, influence or cheating can decide who gets a job," Inam said.

AIP demanded senior-level monitoring of the investigation and cautioned against penalising innocent candidates or taking decisions before the facts are established.

Railway Bridge No. 196 repair work completed

Train operations to become safer, faster

KASHMIR PRESS SERVICE

Jammu: Northern Railway's Jammu Division has successfully completed the repair and renewal work of Bridge No. 196 (Down Line), located between Vijaypur Jammu and Bari Brahmana railway stations, marking a significant step towards strengthening railway infrastructure and enhancing passenger safety.

The work involved replacing old bridge sleepers under the



technical process known as T.B.T.R. (Through Bridge Timber Renewal), in which old wooden or iron sleepers are replaced with stronger and more durable steel or composite sleepers. The project was executed under the supervision of Senior Divisional Engineer, Jammu, Shubham Pawar.

As part of the renewal work, 108 new and robust H-Beam sleepers were installed after removing the old and rusted sleepers. Before installation, precise measurements were carried out using modern equipment, while the bridge's iron girder structure was thoroughly cleaned and coated with anti-rust paint to protect it from corrosion.

Special clips were also installed to ensure firm track stability, while anti-skid iron sheets were laid to facilitate the safe movement of railway staff on the bridge.

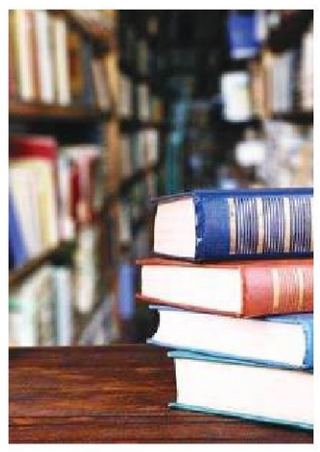
In addition, 130 old cement sleepers at both ends of the bridge were replaced with new and wider sleepers.

Gurukul Library opens 3rd branch in Jammu

KASHMIR PRESS SERVICE

Jammu: Marking another significant milestone in its journey, Gurukul Library has inaugurated its third branch, Gurukul Library 3.0, near Kunjwani, Jammu with its first branch in Channi and second in Nanak nagar .

The new branch reflects the institution's continued commitment to providing students with a conducive, disciplined and student-friendly environment for competitive examination



preparation.

Over the years, Gurukul Library has emerged as a trusted name among aspirants, with its students achieving success in various competitive examinations.

The institution takes pride in its contribution to the success stories of more than 100 officers and professionals, including civil servants, banking professionals, SSC achievers, Chartered Accountants (CA) and candidates who have qualified in several other prestigious examinations.

Saif Ali Khan latest Bollywood star to receive death threat; police launch probe

Mumbai, Nov 19 (PTI) Bollywood actor Saif Ali Khan has received a death threat allegedly in the name of Zeeshan Akhtar, a wanted accused in the Baba Siddique murder case, the latest in a series of threats made to film stars, including Amitabh Bachchan, Ayushmann Khurrana and Tusshar Kapoor, in recent weeks.

The Mumbai Police started an investigation and are verifying the authenticity of the threat, an official said on Thursday.

"Actor Saif Ali Khan received a voice message on his phone in the name of Zeeshan Akhtar, stating that he would meet the same fate as Baba Siddique," the police official said, adding that the focus is on whether the threat genuinely originated from Akhtar or someone else is impersonating him and using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to harass celebrities.

Recently, the Mumbai Police had arrested 30-year-old Bengaluru-based IIT graduate Vaibhav Mishra, who had allegedly used AI to issue threats despite having no links to any gang, to film stars like Ayushmann Khurrana and Tusshar Kapoor.

In January this year, Khan was injured after an intruder attacked him with a knife at his residence in Mumbai, following which he was hospitalised. The accused was arrested by the Mumbai police after a few days.

Baba Siddique (66), a Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader and former Maharashtra minister, was shot dead by three assailants outside his son Zeeshan Siddique's office in Mumbai's Bandra East area on the night of October 12, 2024.

Release pending MDM Funds for 2025–2026: Rehbar-e-Taleem Teachers Forum

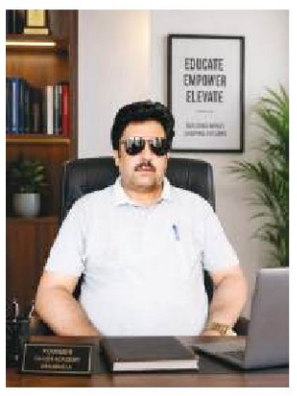
Seeks GST bill relaxation, 100% release of pending incidentals

KASHMIR PRESS SERVICE

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Rehbar-e-Taleem Teachers Forum (JKRETTF), District Baramulla, representing teachers across all 18 Education Zones, has urged the Government and Director Samagra Shiksha to take immediate notice of the serious difficulties being faced by teachers in implementing the Mid-Day Meal (MDM) scheme.

The Forum expressed deep concern over the pending MDM payments for 2025 and 2026, which have created considerable financial pressure on teachers. Local shopkeepers are repeatedly demanding payments, while teachers are being asked to submit GST bills for every purchase.

The Forum pointed out that in rural and village areas,



teachers often purchase essential food items from small local shopkeepers on a daily basis to ensure that schoolchildren receive their meals without interruption. However, arranging GST bills for every individual purchase from small village shops is practically difficult.

Teachers are being unnecessarily burdened with purchasing food items, maintaining accounts, arranging bills and completing MDM formalities.

SKUAST-K establishes institutional Kashmiri Faverolla conservation centre

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Kupwara: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-Kashmir), under the visionary leadership of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. (Dr.) Nazir Ahmad Ganai, has taken a significant step towards the conservation, scientific improvement and sustainable utilization of indigenous poultry genetic resources through the establishment of an Institutional Kashmiri Faverolla Conservation-cum-Demonstration Centre at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kupwara, along with 10 farmer-managed germplasm multiplication units across Kupwara district.

The inauguration programme, titled "Establishment of Institutional Kashmiri Faverolla Conservation-cum-Demonstration Centre and Farmer-Managed Germplasm Multiplication Units," was organized on November 19, 2026, at KVK Kupwara and associated field locations in Kupwara district by the Division of Animal Genetics and Breeding, Faculty of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry (FVSc & AH), Shuhama, in collaboration with KVK Kupwara, under the ICAR–NBAGR Network Project on Animal Genetic Resources.

Prof. (Dr.) Raihana Habib Kanth, Director Extension, SKUAST-Kashmir, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest



and inaugurated the conservation-cum-demonstration centre and associated farmer-managed units. In her address, she highlighted the ecological, genetic and economic significance of conserving indigenous poultry germplasm, particularly Kashmiri Faverolla, and emphasized the need for scientific conservation, systematic breeding and community-based germplasm multiplication. She underscored that such initiatives would contribute significantly to biodiversity conservation, sustainable backyard poultry production and livelihood enhancement in rural areas.

Prof. (Dr.) Syed Shahnaz Shafi, Professor and Head, Division of Animal Genetics and Breeding, delivered the keynote address, highlighting the importance of systematic breed documentation, scientific breeding and selection, and coordinated institutional-community interventions for safeguarding indigenous poultry genetic resources. He emphasized that the establishment of an institutional conservation centre supported by farmer-managed multiplication units would provide a sustainable framework for maintaining and expanding the population of Kashmiri Faverolla poultry.

Prof. (Dr.) Ghulam Mohideen Bhat, Head, KVK Kupwara, highlighted the role of indigenous livestock and poultry resources in promoting climate-resilient agriculture, sustainable farming systems and livelihood security among small and marginal farmers.