

Art 370 Abrogation Changed J&K's Destiny: PM Modi

Says Seven Years Have Brought Peace, Progress, New Opportunities



SAJID RAINA

SRINAGAR: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday said the abrogation of Article 370 and Article 35(A) ushered in a new era of peace, progress and equal opportunity for the people of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

In a post on X, Modi, on the seventh anniversary of the Article 370 abrogation, said the scrapping of the special constitutional provisions on August 5, 2019, marked "a decisive new chapter" in the journey of Jammu and Kash-

mir and Ladakh.

"Since then, the lives of the people of J&K and Ladakh have witnessed wide-ranging transformation. Infrastructure has expanded, opportunities in areas such as education, healthcare, entrepreneurship and sports have grown," the Prime Minister said.

The PM said women and marginalised communities, who had been denied their constitutional rights for decades, had been empowered through the full application of the Constitution of India.

Modi said this year's anniversary assumes

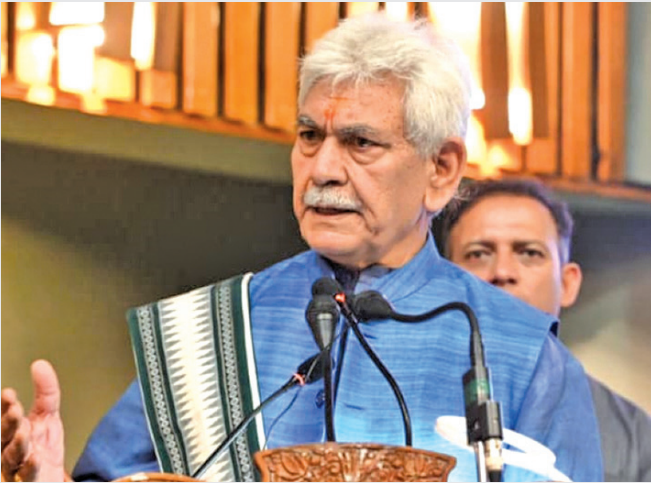
Govt Jobs For Terror Victims' Kin A Step Towards Justice, Rehabilitation: LG Sinha

Says Justice For Terror Victims Is Moving With Speed, Sincerity Because It Is National Obligation

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said providing government jobs to the next of kin (NoKs) of civilian terror victims is a significant step towards justice, rehabilitation and dignified livelihood, asserting that the administration is committed to ensuring every eligible terror-affected family receives support while continuing efforts to eradicate terrorism from Jammu and Kashmir.

"My heartfelt tribute to the innocent civilians martyred by terrorists and I salute the families who, after decades of anguish and wait, now hold appointment letters that restore dignity and livelihood. For several decades, the pain of terror victim families remained unacknowledged, their wounds unseen. Terrorism tore apart homes and cast futures into uncertainty. No statistic can capture the anguish and suffering of the terror victim families. The pain lives in memories and in the quiet endurance of those



who carried on despite unbearable loss. Today's appointment letters are not just documents of employment but they are symbols of social justice, recognition and the nation's solemn promise that its martyrs will never be forgotten, nor their families abandoned," the Lieutenant Governor said while handing over appointment letters to 37 Next of Kins (NoKs) of civilians who were brutally killed by terrorists.

He said it is a profound honour to stand with the families of terror victims on this historic day and it is not merely about appointment letters but it is about remembrance of martyrs, justice to terror victim families, and the reaffirmation of our national will.

He also stated that our commitment is reflected in decisive action. After 5th August 2019, we have dismantled the terror ecosystem to a

Aug 5, 2019 Marked New Beginning For J&K: LG Sinha

REHAN QAYOOM

SRINAGAR: Terming August 5, 2019 as historic day that marked constitutional correction and a new beginning for Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said that it ended discriminatory system in the region.

Addressing a programme organized to handover appointment letters to terror victim families here, LG Sinha, said, "The transformation we witness today in Jammu Kashmir is due to the historic changes of August 5, 2019. That day marked a constitutional correction and a new beginning for the UT. Discriminatory barriers were removed, equal rights were extended to those who were suffering due to discriminatory laws. The principle of one nation, one flag, one constitution was

Rain Lashes Kashmir Parts; Cloudburst Hits Kulgam



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Rainfall lashed several parts of the Kashmir Valley on Wednesday, while a cloudburst was reported in south Kashmir's Kulgam district, prompting authorities to remain on alert amid forecasts of more rain over the coming days.

According to the Meteorological Centre Srinagar, light to moderate rainfall was recorded across parts of Jammu and Kashmir during the past 24 hours, with significant precipitation in the Jammu region. Kathua received 81 mm of rain, followed by Udhampur 66.6 mm, Katra 51 mm and Samba 47 mm.

An official said that a cloudburst was reported from the Nagam area of D K Marg in Kulgam district, leading to a sharp rise in the water level of Namlan Nallah and several other streams. "The situation is being closely monitored. There were no immediate reports of loss of life or major damage," he added.

Authorities advised the residents living near nallahs and low-lying areas were advised to remain vigilant as a

CM Visits Flood-Affected Areas Of Poonch, Assures Rehabilitation

GMK NEWS NETWORK

POONCH: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Wednesday visited the flood-affected areas of Poonch district to assess the devastation caused by the recent flash floods and cloudbursts, meet

the affected families and review the relief and rehabilitation measures undertaken by the district administration.

During the visit, the Chief Minister met bereaved families in Murrah, Surankote and Arigam-Loran,

Autumn Session Of Assembly Likely To Be Convened From Sept 21



AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: The autumn session of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly is likely to be convened from September 21, sources disclosed.

Sources said that the cabinet, which met on Tuesday afternoon under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, is understood to have recommended to Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha the convening of the autumn session. "The session is likely to commence from September

21," they disclosed, adding that the LG will now formally summon the House.

As per the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act, 2019, the interval between J&K Assembly's last sitting in one session and the date appointed for its first sitting in the next session cannot exceed six months.

"The Lieutenant Governor shall, from time to time, summon the Legislative Assembly to meet at such time and place as he thinks fit, but six months

Amarnath Yatra Tops 4.70 Lakh As Aug 5 Security Curbs Halt Convoy Movement

UMAISAR GULL

SRINAGAR: The annual Amarnath Yatra crossed the 4.70 lakh pilgrim mark on Wednesday, even as the movement of fresh and return Yatra convoys remained suspended as a precautionary security measure on the seventh anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370.

An official said, that no fresh convoy carrying pilgrims was allowed to leave the Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas in Jammu for the Baltal base camp. Similarly, no return convoy was permitted to move from Baltal to Jammu during the day.

He said the pilgrimage itself continued uninterrupted, with pilgrims already stationed at the Baltal base camp permitted to proceed to the Holy Cave Shrine and perform darshan as per schedule.

The latest figures available



said, 2,943 pilgrims paid obeisance at the Holy Cave Shrine on today. The devotees included 1,850 men, 868 women, 38 children, 39 sadhus, 12 sadhvis, two transgender pilgrims and 134 security personnel.

"The cumulative number of pilgrims who have performed darshan during the ongoing

Yatra has reached 4,70,929," the official said.

He said the suspension of convoy movement was part of enhanced security arrangements across Jammu and Kashmir on August 5.

"The restriction was limited to the movement of fresh and return convoys,

Focus On Terror, Not J&K: MEA Tells Pak

GMK NEWS NETWORK

NEWDELHI: India on Wednesday strongly rejected Pakistan's comments on the anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370, asserting that the constitutional changes made on August 5, 2019, are an internal matter and that Islamabad has no locus standi to comment on them.

Responding to remarks made by Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister on the so-called "Youm-e-Istehsal", Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal, in a statement said India "categorically rejects the political absurdity and futile attempts" by Pakistan to spread what he termed as malicious propaganda against the country.

"The Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh are, have always been, and shall for-



ever remain an integral and inalienable part of India," Jaiswal said.

He said the constitutional changes introduced on August 5, 2019, had brought "unprecedented socio-economic development, good governance, and democratic empowerment" to the people of the region.

"Pakistan has no locus standi to comment on matters that are strictly internal to India," he said.

'Shutdown Calls Nil' Terror Incidents Down 95% In J&K Since Art 370 Abrogation: Centre

SAJID RAINA

NEW DELHI: The Union government on Wednesday said Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed a nearly 95 per cent decline in terror incidents since the abrogation of Article 370, alongside significant gains in infrastructure, tourism, connectivity and socio-economic development over the past seven years.

In a statement marking the seventh anniversary of the August 5, 2019 constitutional changes, the government said terror-related incidents had fallen from 228 in 2018 to 12 in 2025, describing the improvement in the security situation as one of the key outcomes of the decision.



The government, as per the statement accessed said the restoration of peace had enabled normal life to flourish, claiming that the Valley had witnessed no organised shutdowns from 2023 to April 2026,

allowing educational institutions, businesses and public services to function without prolonged disruptions.

Highlighting economic and development indicators, the statement said development

projects worth around Rs 80,000 crore are being implemented across Jammu and Kashmir, while more than 9.8 lakh people have become self-reliant through various livelihood and employment initiatives.

It said the Union Territory recorded more than 2.3 crore tourist arrivals in 2024, the highest ever, attributing the surge to improved connectivity, enhanced infrastructure and a better security environment.

The government also listed several flagship infrastructure projects completed or underway, including the Chenab Rail Bridge, described as the world's highest railway arch bridge, the Anji Khad Bridge, India's first cable-stayed railway bridge, the

Cruise Boat Returns To Dal Lake After 8 Years

WARIS FAYAZ

SRINAGAR: An 18-seater cruise boat has resumed operations on the famous Dal Lake in Srinagar after being non-operational for nearly eight years, marking a fresh push to strengthen water tourism in the Kashmir Valley.

The restored cruise boat, officials said, is part of the Tourism Department's efforts to revive existing tourism infrastructure and provide visitors with new experiences at the iconic lake.

Director Tourism Kashmir Syed Qamar Sajjad said the department's immediate focus is on reviving and operationalising existing tourism assets before introducing new projects.

"Whatever assets we have, we need to revive and make them operational before pushing bigger boats," he said.

The Director said

'I Once Thought My Father's Sacrifice Was Forgotten' Families Of Terror Victims Share Emotional Stories At SKICC



REHAN QAYOOM

SRINAGAR: Emotional scenes unfolded at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC) on Wednesday as the next of kin (NoKs) of civilian terror victims shared their stories of loss, struggle and survival during a function where Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha handed over appointment letters to eligible beneficiaries.

Among those who spoke was Junaid Malla, whose father, a Special Police Officer (SPO), was killed by terrorists when he was just two years old.

Recalling his childhood,

Junaid, said his family spent nearly 25 years without any support. "I grew up seeing only hardships. No institution or person ever came forward to help us. There wasn't even a small ray of hope," he said.

Junaid said there was a time when he questioned whether his father's sacrifice had any meaning. "I used to tell my mother that my father sacrificed his life for the nation, but his sacrifice had gone in vain. My mother would always say that one day someone would come and give us justice, but I never believed it," he said.

He said his

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
JAMMU AND KASHMIR SERVICES SELECTION BOARD
MUTHI, AKHNOOR ROAD, JAMMU/ZAMZAM COMPLEX RAMBAGH, SRINAGAR
(WWW.JKSSB.NIC.IN)

Advertisement Notification No. 08 of 2026 Dated: 04.08.2026

Subject: Advertisement for UT/Divisional/District Cadre posts belonging to Various Department(s), Jammu & Kashmir.
The Jammu & Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) has received various Indent(s) for filling up vacancies in various Department(s), Jammu & Kashmir under direct recruitment as per the details indicated below:

S. No.	Reference of Indent	Indenting Department	No. of posts received
1.	i) Agri-Cord/49/2024(7505111) dated 08.08.2024 followed by Horti-NG/3/2021 (CC No 34007) dated 22.05.2025 ii)Horti-NG/3/2021-7198310) dated 05.08.2025 followed by Horti-NG/3/2021 (CC 7198310) dated 24.06.2026	Agriculture Production Department	46
2	i) HD-NG-K/4/2026-029 7716747) dated 18.06.2026	Health and Medical Education Department	421
3	i) HED-NGZ/24/2022-04(136845) dated: 03.07.2024 followed by dated: 21.01.2025 and No. HED-NGZ/24/2022-04 dated: 16.05.2025. ii) HED-NGZ/33/2021-04(88157) dated: 08.10.2025.	Higher Education Department	48
4	i) LE-Genl/12/2023-11 dated: 09.12.2024 followed by LE-Genl/12/2023-11-L&E (7586889) dated: 20.12.2024. ii) LE-Genl/12/2023-11(712998) dated: 01.05.2025.	Labour and Employment Department	3
TOTAL			518

Accordingly, the JKSSB invites Online Application Forms from the eligible candidates for participating in the selection process for the aforementioned posts. The important dates/ details with regard to the posts being advertised are as under:

a.) Date of Commencement for submission of Online Applications:	10.09.2026
b.) Cut-off/Last Date for submission of Online Application Forms	09.10.2026
c.) Name of the Post, Cadre, Pay Level, Category-wise break up, Qualification and Criteria of Selection for the	Annexure-A
d.) Certificate regarding Physical Limitation to write.	Annexure-B
e.) Letter of Undertaking for using Own Scribe.	Annexure-C

TOTAL NUMBER OF POSTS ADVERTISED = 518

The detailed Terms and Conditions with regard to Eligibility, Educational qualification, Domicile, Reservation etc. for participating in the selection process for the aforementioned posts are as under:

01.) APPOINTMENT OF THE CANDIDATES:

The Appointment and other service conditions in respect of the candidates selected through this recruitment/selection process shall be governed as per extant rules/regulations of the Government of UT of J&K.

02.) DOMICILE:

The candidate(s) seeking to apply for the advertised posts shall be the Domicile(s) of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and must possess a valid Domicile Certificate issued by the Competent Authority on the prescribed format on or before the cut-off date of the last date of submission of online application forms, which, unless otherwise extended, shall be 09.10.2026.

03.) VACANCIES:

The details of posts advertised are given in Annexure-A to this Notification. However, the actual number of posts may undergo increase or decrease during or before the completion of the selection process and the JKSSB is not legally liable for any such variation in the total number of posts advertised for which the final selection list will be issued. The Advertisement Notification is also subject to the outcome of any writ petition/ O.A. pending before the competent Court of law.

04.) AGE LIMIT:

The requirement of age for applying against these posts, as on 01.01.2026 for Open Merit & various Reserved Category Candidates, shall be as under:

S.No.	Category	Max. Age Limit in Years	Not Born Before	Not Born After
(i)	OM	40	01.01.1986	01.01.2008
(ii)	SC	43	01.01.1983	01.01.2008
(iii)	ST-1	43	01.01.1983	01.01.2008
(iv)	ST-2	43	01.01.1983	01.01.2008
(v)	RBA	43	01.01.1983	01.01.2008
(vi)	ALC/IB	43	01.01.1983	01.01.2008
(vii)	EWS (Economically Weaker Section)	43	01.01.1983	01.01.2008
(viii)	Other Backward Classes (OBC)	43	01.01.1983	01.01.2008
(ix)	Physically Challenged Person	42	01.01.1984	01.01.2008
(x)	Every Ex-Servicemen having served in the Armed Forces shall be allowed to deduct the period of such Service from his Actual Age and if the Resultant Age does not exceed the maximum age limit prescribed for the post by more than 3 years, he shall be deemed to satisfy the condition regarding Age Limit			Candidate should not be born after 01.01.2008

05.) QUALIFICATION REQUIRED:

- As per the Indent(s) and qualification(s) received from the Indenting Department(s), the Qualification(s) prescribed for the advertised posts is shown in Annexure-A to this Notification.
- The candidates who are declared qualified/shortlisted by the Board for Document Verification will be required to produce relevant Certificates in original as proof of having acquired the prescribed educational qualification strictly on or before the cut-off date fixed for filling online application forms, failing which the candidature of such candidates shall be cancelled by the Board.
- Candidates may note that their candidature/admission in examination will remain provisional till the genuineness and validity of their documents relating to educational/Technical qualification is verified by the Appointing Authority.
- In case of candidates claiming possession of equivalent educational qualification (where it is applicable/required), it shall be mandatory to produce relevant Equivalence Certificate or seek equivalence from the concerned competent authorities as and when required by the Board. However, final decision regarding selection of such candidates will be taken by the Board, in light of relevant rules which shall be binding.
- Any candidate having his/her qualification other than as prescribed, shall not be eligible for posts advertised in this notification and the candidature of such candidates will be summarily rejected at any stage of the recruitment / selection process.

06.) APPLICATION OF RESERVATION:

- The Reservation for the posts under this Advertisement Notification shall be applicable as per the Category-wise break up of vacancies as conveyed by the Indenting Department and /or in accordance with the provisions of the Jammu & Kashmir Reservation Act/Rules, as amended from time to time.
A candidate seeking consideration under Reserved Categories must ensure that they possess a valid/ Category Certificate strictly as on the Cut Off Date and the same is required to be uploaded while submitting online application. It may be noted that no further opportunity to upload any document shall be provided thereafter and action under rules including rejection of application/candidature may be taken strictly as per the legal validity of the uploaded document w.r.t. the prescribed cut-off date.
 - APPLICANTS BELONGING TO THE RESERVED CATEGORIES APPLYING IN FORMATS (OF RESERVATION CERTIFICATES) OTHER THAN THE PRESCRIBED FORMAT (AS PER THE RELEVANT ACT/SO) SHALL IN NO CASE BE ENTERTAINED AND THE APPLICANT SHALL BE SOLELY RESPONSIBLE TO ACQUIRE THE CERTIFICATE IN THE PRESCRIBED FORMAT WITHIN THE VALIDITY PERIOD OF THE ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE OR WITHIN THE TIME AS PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD, FAILING WHICH IT SHALL BE DEEMED THAT THE APPLICANT IS NOT IN POSSESSION OF A VALID CERTIFICATE AND HIS/ HER APPLICATION SHALL BE SUMMARILY REJECTED.
 - Candidates may note that their candidature will remain provisional till the genuineness and validity of the Reserved Category Certificate is verified by the Appointing Authority.
 - Candidates are cautioned to note that in case a claim for reservation is made on the basis of Invalid/false/fake/ fraudulent/ forged certificate, they shall be debarred from the examination(s) conducted by the Board, besides penal action as deemed appropriate shall be initiated against them.
- 07.) HORIZONTAL RESERVATION (wherever applicable under rules):**
- Horizontal Reservation means the reservation which would cut across the vertical reservation and the persons selected shall have to be placed in the appropriate category by making necessary adjustments.
 - Horizontal Reservation for Ex-Servicemen (ESM) candidates and Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) shall be applicable to the extent as communicated by the Indenting Department(s)/or, in accordance with the extant rules/ regulations.
 - The suitability/type of Disabilities/eligibility of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities for these posts under Horizontal Reservation shall be governed by the extant regulations or as conveyed by the Indenting Department(s).
 - Horizontal Reservation for Ex-Servicemen candidates is applicable as per extant rules, for the posts which carry Pay of and up to the Level-6E (35900-113500).
 - In terms of S.O. 361 of 2021 dated 20.10.2021, an Ex-Servicemen on joining any post after having availed Horizontal Reservation, cannot avail the benefit of Horizontal Reservation as Ex-Servicemen for any subsequent Examination. A candidate seeking to apply under ESM category shall be required to submit an affidavit duly sworn before 1st Class Judicial

Magistrate in this regard at the time of scrutiny of the documents.

- ESM candidates shall be required to produce a Certificate in form-XIV duly signed by the competent authority as provided in the Rule 18 of Jammu and Kashmir Reservation Rules, 2005.
- In case sufficient number of candidates belonging to the Ex- Servicemen are not available on the basis of General standard to fill all the vacancies reserved for them, candidates belonging to the category of Ex- Servicemen may be selected under the relaxed standard of selection to make up the deficiency in the reserved quota subject to the condition that such relaxation will not affect the level of performance by such candidates.

08.) APPLICATION FEE:

- Fee payable: Rs. 600/- (Rupees Six Hundred only). In case of candidates belonging to SC, ST-1, ST-2, EWS and PwBD category, the fee payable shall be Rs. 500/- (Rupees Five Hundred only).
- Fee can be paid only through online mode via Net Banking, Credit or Debit cards.
- Applications received without the prescribed fee shall not be considered and summarily rejected. No representation against such rejection will be entertained. Fee once paid shall not be refunded under any circumstances nor will it be adjusted against any other examination or selection.
- All the disputes related to refund of excess payment, if any, are subject matter of relevant bank and J&K Services Selection Board. Candidates are advised to apply for refund of excess payment, if any, through official e-mail ssbjk-grievance.jk.gov. in only. No chargeback request shall be entertained.

09.) DATE & CENTRE OF EXAMINATION:

The J&K Services Selection Board shall notify the date for examination and the Venue/Centre(s) of examination separately. The details shall be made available on the website of the Board i.e. www.jkssb.nic.in. No representation/ request for change in this regard shall be entertained, whatsoever be the reason.

10.) SCHEME OF EXAMINATION:

- The Examination will consist of Objective Type, Multiple choice Questions. The questions will be set in English Language only.
- There will be Negative Marking for each wrong answer to the extent of one-fourth of marks assigned to that question.

11.) SYLLABUS FOR THE POSTS:

The syllabus for the posts shall be notified separately and shall be made available on the official website of JKSSB.

12.) ADMISSION TO THE EXAMINATION:

- The Board will not undertake detailed scrutiny of applications for the eligibility and other aspects at the time of written/ OMR examination and, therefore, candidature will be accepted only provisionally. However, ineligible candidate(s), as and when comes into the notice of the Board will not be allowed to participate in the subsequent stage(s) of the recruitment process. The candidates are instructed to go through the requirements of educational qualification, age, and reserved category particularly w.r.t "cut off date" and satisfy themselves that they are eligible for the post. Copies of supporting documents will be sought at the time of Document Verification. When scrutiny is undertaken, if any claim made in the application is not found substantiated or correct, the candidature will be cancelled, and Criminal Proceedings under law may also be initiated, or any other action as may be deemed appropriate by the Board, shall be taken.
All candidates who register themselves in response to this Advertisement Notification, by the closing date and time and whose applications are found to be in order, for the purpose of participating in the written/OMR examination and are provisionally accepted by the Board as per the terms and conditions of this Advertisement Notice, will be assigned Roll numbers and issued Admit Card/ Roll No. slips for appearing in the Written Examination. Assignment of Roll Number and issuance of Admit Card shall in no way confer the right of participation of the respective candidate(s) in the subsequent stages of examination or in the final selection process in the event of coming into notice any discrepancy related to the identification, qualification and eligibility of the candidate(s).
- The Examination details will be uploaded on the official website of the Board i.e. www.jkssb.nic.in Examination detail/ Roll Number slips will not be issued by India post for any stage of examination. Therefore, candidates are advised to visit the official website of Board regularly for updates and information about the examination.
- Candidate(s) must submit their Online Application form, Email-ID and Mobile Number along with their Name, Date of Birth and Name of the Examination, while addressing any communication to the Board. Communication from the candidate not furnishing these particulars shall not be entertained.
- Facility for downloading of Admit Cards, as may be notified will be available about one week before the Date of Examination on the official website of the Board. Candidate must bring printout of the Admit Card/ Roll Number Card/ Slip to the Examination Hall.
- In addition to the Roll Number Card/ Slip, it is mandatory to carry (to the Examination Hall) at least two passport size, recent (not older than 06 months, with date mentioned) colour photographs, Original valid Photo-ID proof such as:
➤ Aadhaar Card/ Printout of eAadhaar,
➤ VoterID Card,
➤ Driving License,
➤ PAN Card,
➤ Passport,
➤ School/ College/ University I-Card,
➤ EmployerID Card (Govt./ PSU/ Private), etc.

13.) PROVISION OF COMPENSATORY TIME AND ASSISTANCE OF SCRIBE:

- In terms of the extant guidelines, the Candidates with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBDs), who are otherwise eligible for the posts and are in possession of valid disability certificate, may choose to avail the facility of Scribe and/ or compensatory time of 20 minutes per hour of examination, on production of a Certificate from the competent Medical Board/ Authority as per Annexure-B and an Undertaking to this effect as per Annexure-C to this Notification.
- The facility of Scribe for such candidates shall be available only with the following conditions:
a) The candidate shall have to arrange for his/ her own scribe to avail the facility.
- b) The person engaged as Scribe should not be a candidate for the same examination herself/ himself.
- c) He/ She shall not be a student of the same institution/ centre where the test is being conducted and also not a relative of the candidate.
- d) The Scribe shall be a student of a lower grade of education than the candidate appearing in the examination. He/ she shall also not possess more than the minimum qualification as required for the post for which the candidate is taking the examination. If subsequently it is found that the qualification of the Scribe is not as declared by the candidate, the candidate shall forfeit his/ her right to the post and claims relating thereto.
- e) The Scribe would need to produce a valid ID Proof in original at the time of examination.
- f) If a candidate is detected as assisting another PwBD candidate as scribe in the examination, the candidature of both the candidates shall be cancelled.
- g) No attendant other than the Scribe for eligible candidates shall be allowed inside the Examination Hall.
- h) The candidates with Benchmark Disabilities opting for facility of a Scribe shall be required to submit details of the Scribe at the time of examination as per proforma at Annexure-C.
- i) For availing the facility of Scribe and/ or compensatory time in terms of the conditions given above, a candidate should have filled the application form as PwBD candidate, at the time of applying for the post and in addition shall have to submit following documents (wherever applicable) to the Observer on the day of the examination:
➤ Application on plain paper
➤ Person with Disability Certificate (Self-attested).
➤ Certificate regarding physical limitation to write (Annexure-B).
➤ Letter of Undertaking for Using Own Scribe (Annexure-C)
➤ Admit Card/ Roll Number and Contact Number.
➤ Qualification certificate of Scribe (Self-attested).
➤ Photocopy of the Scribe's Photo-ID Proof signed by the candidate as well as the Scribe.
- j) Candidates who wish to be considered against reserved vacancies or such age relaxation wherever applicable, must submit requisite valid w.r.t cut off date certificate/ documents from the Competent Authority in the prescribed format when such certificates are sought by the Board at the time of Document Verification, otherwise their claim will not be entertained & their candidature shall be considered under Open Merit Category.
- k) Candidates claiming to be the Domicile(s) of Jammu & Kashmir shall be asked to produce the Domicile Certificate in original issued by the competent authority which should be valid up to the cut-off date, in the prescribed format at the time of Document Verification.

14.) DOCUMENT VERIFICATION (DV):

- The candidates who are shortlisted for Document Verification will be required to appear for Document Verification along-with the documents declared as self-attested Photostat copy of each document/ certificate/ Online application form as per the Advertisement Notification.
- The candidate must be in possession of the prescribed academic qualification(s) and other documents like Birth Certificate, Domicile Certificate, Category Certificate, etc. which are legally valid on or before the last date of submission of online application form (i.e. cut-off date).
- The candidate must appear with original Domicile Certificate/Qualification/ Category/ Bonafide Certificate/s etc. before the Document Verification Committee as may be constituted for such purpose by the Board. Document Verification being the most important stage of selection process, in case a candidate fails to appear before the DV Committee or fails to produce relevant documents/ testimonials in original on the scheduled date of DV, he/ she shall not be considered for selection.
- No TA/ DA will be paid for participating in the written test/ document verification.
- Candidates shall be required to bring two passport size recent colour photographs (not older than six months, with date mentioned) and to produce a valid ID Proof in original at the time of Document Verification.
- Wherever a specific format has been prescribed for any certificate, in accordance with the relevant rules/orders by the concerned issuing authority, a candidate shall be supposed to furnish the said requisite documents in the prescribed format at the time of Documents Verification, otherwise his/ her candidature shall be liable for cancellation/ rejection.
- Candidates who wish to be considered against reserved vacancies or such age relaxation wherever applicable, must submit requisite valid w.r.t cut off date certificate/ documents from the Competent Authority in the prescribed format when such certificates are sought by the Board at the time of Document Verification, otherwise their claim will not be entertained & their candidature shall be considered under Open Merit Category.
- Candidates claiming to be the Domicile(s) of Jammu & Kashmir shall be asked to produce the Domicile Certificate in original issued by the competent authority which should be valid up to the cut-off date, in the prescribed format at the time of Document Verification.

- Ex-Servicemen candidates shall be required to produce a Certificate in form XIV duly signed by the competent authority as provided in Rule 18 of Jammu and Kashmir Reservation Rules, 2005.
- Bonafide Certificate on the format prescribed by the Board duly issued by the Controller/Registrar of the concerned University in respect of the candidates, who have obtained Degree from the valid and recognized Universities/ Colleges/ Institutes outside the UT of J&K and other than Central Universities.
- In addition, any other Certificate, as may be required as part of the eligibility for a specific post, shall also be produced at the time of the DV.

15.) MISCONDUCT/ MALPRACTICE:

- If any candidate is found indulging in any irregularity/ misconduct/ malpractice/ misbehavior at any stage of recruitment/ selection process, such candidate shall be debarred from the examinations conducted by the Services Selection Board for such period as may be deemed appropriate, and apart from the cancellation of candidature for the instant examination any other penal action as would be necessary & expedient, under the extant rules and laws, shall be taken. Pertinent to note that among other things, misbehavior includes defying the instructions/ authority of any official/ officer on Examination Duty.
- The use of any mobile phone (even in switched off mode), pager or any electronic equipment or programmable device or storage media like pen drive, smart watches, smart Glasses, Artificial Intelligence (AI) enabled devices etc. or camera or blue tooth devices or any other equipment or related accessories either in working or switched off mode capable of being used as a communication device during the examination is strictly prohibited. Any infringement of these instructions shall entail disciplinary action including ban from future examinations and cancellation of candidature for the instant examination. Candidates are advised to turn their own interest notes bring any of the banned item including bags, mobile phones or any valuable/ costly items to the venue of the examination, as no arrangement for safe-keeping will be made at the venue of the examination. JKSSB will not be responsible for any loss in this regard.

16.) STEPS TAKEN FOR FAIRNESS & TRANSPARENCY IN EXAMINATION PROCESS:

The Board, for the purpose of ensuring integrity, fairness and transparency in the Examination process shall be well within its rights & duties, to take steps as necessary or issue instructions as deemed appropriate, at any stage of recruitment/selection process, and all such steps/instructions shall be deemed to have been taken/ given in furtherance of its mandate, as enshrined in the relevant laws/ rules/regulations. Such instructions/ steps should be legally binding on the candidates.

17.) IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

a.	BEFORE APPLYING, CANDIDATES ARE ADVISED TO GO THROUGH THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN IN THE NOTICE OF EXAMINATION VERY CAREFULLY.
b.	THE CANDIDATES MUST WRITE THEIR NAME, DATE OF BIRTH, FATHER'S NAME AND MOTHER'S NAME STRICTLY AS GIVEN IN THE MATRICULATION CERTIFICATE OTHERWISE THEIR CANDIDATURE MAY BE CANCELLED AT THE TIME OF DOCUMENT VERIFICATION OR AS AND WHEN IT COMES INTO THE NOTICE OF THE BOARD.
c.	REQUEST FOR CHANGE/ CORRECTION IN ANY PARTICULARS IN THE APPLICATION FORM, ONCE SUBMITTED, WILL NOT BE ENTERTAINED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. THEREFORE, THE APPLICANTS ARE ADVISED TO FILL ALL THE FIELDS OF THE ONLINE APPLICATION FORM WITH DUE DILIGENCE AND AFTER CAREFULLY READING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS GIVEN IN THE ADVERTISEMENT NOTIFICATION.
d.	CANDIDATES ARE ADVISED TO FILL THE APPLICATION FORM CAREFULLY & DILIGENTLY. FURTHER THEY ARE ADVISED TO REVIEW THE APPLICATION FORM CAREFULLY BEFORE SUBMITTING. ONCE SUBMITTED AND APPLICATION NUMBER GENERATED, NO CLAIMS FOR MAKING CHANGES IN ANY ENTRY/ FIELD SHALL BE ENTERTAINED AT ANY LATER STAGE.
e.	CANDIDATES ARE ADVISED IN THEIR OWN INTEREST TO SUBMIT ONLINE APPLICATIONS MUCH BEFORE THE CLOSING DATE AND NOT TO WAIT TILL THE LAST DATE TO AVOID THE POSSIBILITY OF DISCONNECTION/ INABILITY OR FAILURE TO LOGIN TO THE ONLINE APPLICATION PORTAL ON ACCOUNT OF HEAVY LOAD ON THE WEBSITE DURING THE CLOSING DATES.
f.	CANDIDATES ARE ADVISED TO UPLOAD THEIR LIVE PHOTOGRAPH, SIGNATURE (Size- 10 KB to 20 KB), CATEGORY CERTIFICATE (Max size- 100 KB in pdf format), QUALIFICATIONS/ EXPERIENCE (if ANY) CERTIFICATES (SELF ATTESTED) (Max size- 100 KB in pdf format) AS REQUIRED FOR THE RESPECTIVE POST(S).
g.	SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FORMS IMPLIES THAT CANDIDATE IS WILLING AND IS IN AGREEMENT TO UNDERGO SCREENING FOR ALL THE SECURITY AND SCRUTINY MECHANISM AS HAVE BEEN PUT IN PLACE BY THE BOARD, WHICH AMONG OTHER THINGS INCLUDES PHYSICAL FRISKING, DOOR FRAME METAL DETECTORS (DFMDs) SCANNING, BIOMETRIC CAPTURING, FACIAL RECOGNITION SCREENING, AADHAAR AUTHENTICATION ETC.
h.	THE BOARD WILL NOT UNDERTAKE DETAILED SCRUTINY OF APPLICATIONS FOR THE ELIGIBILITY AND OTHER ASPECTS AT THE TIME OF WRITTEN EXAMINATION AND, THEREFORE, CANDIDATURE WILL BE ACCEPTED ONLY PROVISIONALLY. HOWEVER, INELIGIBLE CANDIDATES, AS AND WHEN COMES INTO THE NOTICE OF THE BOARD WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SUBSEQUENT STAGE(S) OF THE RECRUITMENT PROCESS. THE CANDIDATES ARE ADVISED TO GO THROUGH THE REQUIREMENTS OF EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION, AGE, ETC. AND SATISFY THEMSELVES THAT THEY ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE POST(S). COPIES OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS WILL BE SOUGHT AT THE TIME OF DOCUMENT VERIFICATION. WHEN SCRUTINY IS UNDERTAKEN, IF ANY CLAIM MADE IN THE APPLICATION IS NOT FOUND SUBSTANTIATED, THE CANDIDATURE WILL BE CANCELLED AND THE BOARD'S DECISION IN THIS RESPECT SHALL BE FINAL AND BINDING.
i.	CANDIDATES SEEKING RESERVATION BENEFITS AVAILABLE FOR RBA/ SC/ ST-1/ ST-2/ OBC/ EWS/ ALC/ IB/ PwBD/ ESM MUST ENSURE THAT THEY ARE ENVILED TO SUCH RESERVATION AS PER ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS(PRESCRIBED IN THIS NOTICE. THEY SHOULD ALSO BE IN POSSESSION OF THE PRESCRIBED FORMAT IN SUPPORT OF THEIR CLAIM, ON OR BEFORE THE CUT-OFF DATE. CANDIDATES ARE ALSO REQUIRED TO UPLOAD THE VALID (WITH IN CUT-OFF DATE) CATEGORY CERTIFICATE WHILE FILLING UP THE ONLINE APPLICATION FORM.
j.	WHEN APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFULLY SUBMITTED, IT WILL BE ACCEPTED "PROVISIONALLY". CANDIDATE SHOULD TAKE PRINTOUT OF THE APPLICATION FORM AND SUBMIT THE SAME AT THE TIME OF DOCUMENTS VERIFICATION. THE CANDIDATES ARE FURTHER ADVISED NOT TO SUBMIT THE HARD COPIES OF THE ONLINE APPLICATION FORM IN THE OFFICE OF THE SERVICES SELECTION BOARD EITHER IN PERSON OR BY POST/ EMAIL.
k.	ONLY ONE ONLINE APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF SAME ITEM NUMBER IS ALLOWED TO BE SUBM11 ED BY THE CANDIDATE. THEREFORE, THE CANDIDATES ARE ADVISED TO EXERCISE DUE DILIGENCE AT THE TIME OF FILLING THEIR ONLINE APPLICATION FORMS. IN CASE, MORE THAN ONE APPLICATION OF A CANDIDATE IS DETECTED FOR THE SAME ITEM NO., THE BOARD WILL CONSIDER LATEST APPLICATION. IF A CANDIDATE SUBMITS MULTIPLE APPLICATION FORMS FOR THE SAME POST AND APPEARS IN THE EXAMINATION (AT ANY STAGE) MORE THAN ONCE FOR THE POST OF THE SAME ITEM NO., HIS/ HER CANDIDATURE WILL BE CANCELLED AND THEY WILL BE DEBARRED FROM THE EXAMINATIONS OF THE BOARD AS PER RULES.
l.	REQUEST FOR MODIFICATION OR CHANGE IN THE PREFERENCES ONCE FILLED RELATING TO CADRE AND DEPARTMENT, IF APPLICABLE, SHALL NOT BE ENTERTAINED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.
m.	APPLICATIONS WITH BLURRED/ ILLEGIBLE PHOTOGRAPH/ SIGNATURE WILL BE REJECTED SUMMARILY.
n.	THE CANDIDATES MUST CARRY TWO PASSPORT SIZE RECENT (NOT OLDER THAN 06 MONTHS, WITH DATE MENTIONED) COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS AND A LATEST PHOTO, BEARING IDENTIFICATION PROOF SUCH AS AADHAAR CARD/ PRINTOUT OF E-AADHAAR, DRIVING LICENSE, VOTER CARD, PAN CARD, IDENTITY CARD ISSUED BY SCHOOL/ COLLEGE/ UNIVERSITY/ EMPLOYER, GOVERNMENT OR ANY OTHER OFFICE, WHERE THE CANDIDATE MAY BE WORKING, ETC.) IN ORIGINAL TO THE EXAMINATION VENUE, FAILING WHICH THEY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO APPEAR FOR THE SAME. PwBD CANDIDATES USING THE FACILITY OF SCRIBE SHALL ALSO BE REQUIRED TO CARRY REQUIRED MEDICAL CERTIFICATE/ UNDERTAKING/ PHOTOCOPY OF THE SCRIBE'S PHOTO ID PROOF, AS SPECIFIED THEREIN.
o.	IN CASE OF FAKE/ FABRICATED APPLICATION/ REGISTRATION BY MISUSING ANY DIGITARITIES NAME/ PHOTO, SUCH CANDIDATE(S) SHALL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SAME AND LIABLE FOR SUITABLE LEGAL ACTION UNDER CYBER/ IT ACT/ RELEVANT RULES.
p.	FEE PAYABLE: RS.600/- (RUPEES SIX HUNDRED ONLY), IN CASE OF CANDIDATES BELONGING TO SC, ST-1, ST-2, PwBD & EWS CATEGORIES, THE FEE PAYABLE SHALL BE RS.500/- (RUPEES FIVE HUNDRED ONLY).
q.	THE CANDIDATES SHALL CAREFULLY INDICATE THE ITEMS FOR WHICH THEY ARE APPLYING AND SHALL BE CONSIDERED FOR SELECTION FOR ONLY THOSE ITEM(S) FOR WHICH HE/ SHE HAS APPLIED AND IS OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE. EACH CANDIDATE APPLYING FOR SUCH MULTIPLE ITEMS SHALL BE REQUIRED TO CLEARLY INDICATE THE ITEMS FOR WHICH THEY ARE COMPETING (DEPENDING UPON THEIR PREFERENCE AND ELIGIBILITY) AND THE FINAL ALLOTMENT AGAINST THE ADVERTISED POSTS / SERVICES/ CADRE SHALL BE MADE ON THE BASIS OF MERIT-CUM-PREFERENCES OF THE CANDIDATE.

18.) PROCEDURE FOR FILLING ONLINE APPLICATION:

The necessary instructions regarding filling up of online applications, including the details of the Online Portal in this regard shall be made available on the Board's Website separately. Candidates will be required to fill the application form in online mode only and no other means/ mode of application will be accepted.

19.) IN-SERVICE CANDIDATES:

In service candidates shall submit print out of filled online application form along-with duly filled, signed and stamped Certificate given at last paragraph of the application form through proper channel viz: the concerned Head of Department/ Designated Authority. The Head of Department concerned shall forward the application form of the in-service candidates to the Office of the Secretary, Services Selection Board by or before the last date of Document Verification. Such candidates shall also indicate the same while submitting online form.

20.) FINALITY OF DECISION OF THE BOARD:

The decision of the Board in all matters relating to eligibility, acceptance or rejection of the applications, penalty for malpractices, mode of selection, conduct of tests / examination(s), allotment of examination centre, debarment for indulging in false information, preparation of result / merit list, etc. will be final and binding on the candidates and no enquiry/ correspondence in this regard will be entertained.

21.) ABBREVIATIONS:

OM-Open Merit, SC-Scheduled Castes, ST-Scheduled Tribes, RBA-Residents of Backward Areas, EWS-Economically Weaker Sections, OBC- Other Backward Classes, ALC/ IB- Residents of areas adjoining Line of Actual control/ International Border, ESM- Ex-Servicemen, PwBD- Persons with Benchmark Disabilities, DV- Document Verification.

No. JKSSB-PLAN/ 6/ 2025-03 (E-7661495)

Dated: 04.08.2026

(Khurshid Ahmad Sanai) Jt. Secy.,
Secretary, J&K Services Selection Board.

Annexure "A" Name of the Posts, Category wise break up of posts, Qualification and Criteria for Selection of the UT/ Divisional/ District Cadre Posts.

Item No.	Department	Sub Department/ Appointing Authority.	Pay Scale of the Post	Name of the post	Cadre of the post	OM	SC	ST	ST2	OBC	ALC/ IB	RBA	EWS	Total	Qualification prescribed	Criteria for Selection
104	Agriculture Production Department	Director Horticulture Kashmir	Level-2 (9900-63200)	Senior Canning Attendant	Div. Kashmir	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	Matric or its equivalent qualification with 06 (six) months training in Fruit Preservation.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only
105	Agriculture Production Department	Director Horticulture Kashmir	SL-2 (1590050400)	Horticulture Technician Grade-IV	Srinagar	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	10+2 with one year Basic Horticulture training passed.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only
106	Agriculture Production Department	Director Horticulture Kashmir	SL-2 (1590050400)	Horticulture Technician Grade-IV	Budgam	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	10+2 with one year Basic Horticulture training passed.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only
107	Agriculture Production Department	Director Horticulture Kashmir	SL-2 (1590050400)	Horticulture Technician Grade-IV	Shopian	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	10+2 with one year Basic Horticulture training passed.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only
108	Agriculture Production Department	Director Horticulture Kashmir	SL-2 (1590050400)	Horticulture Technician Grade-IV	Kulgam	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	5	10+2 with one year Basic Horticulture training passed.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only
109	Agriculture Production Department	Director Horticulture Kashmir	SL-2 (1590050400)	Horticulture Technician Grade-IV	Ganderbal	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	10+2 with one year Basic Horticulture training passed.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only
110	Agriculture Production Department	Director Horticulture Kashmir	SL-2 (1590050400)	Horticulture Technician Grade-IV	Pulwama	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	10+2 with one year Basic Horticulture training passed.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only
111	Agriculture Production Department	Director Horticulture Kashmir	SL-2 (1590050400)	Horticulture Technician Grade-IV	Anantnag	3	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	8	10+2 with one year Basic Horticulture training passed.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only
112	Agriculture Production Department	Director Horticulture Jammu	SL-2 (1590050400)	Horticulture Technician Grade-IV	Rajouri	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10+2 with one year Basic Horticulture training passed.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only
113	Agriculture Production Department	Director Horticulture Jammu	SL-2 (1590050400)	Horticulture Technician Grade-IV	Poonch	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	10+2 with one year Basic Horticulture training passed.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only
114	Agriculture Production Department	Director Horticulture Kashmir	SL-2 (1590050400)	Horticulture Technician Grade-IV	Bandipora	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	10+2 with one year Basic Horticulture training passed.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only
115	Agriculture Production Department	Director Horticulture Kashmir	SL-2 (1590050400)	Horticulture Technician Grade-IV	Baramulla	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	6	10+2 with one year Basic Horticulture training passed.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only
116	Agriculture Production Department	Director Horticulture Kashmir	SL-2 (1590050400)	Horticulture Technician Grade-IV	Kupwara	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	10+2 with one year Basic Horticulture training passed.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only
117	Health & Medical Education Department	Director Health Services Kashmir	Level-6 (354001200)	Health Educator	Division Kashmir	6	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	15	Graduation with Science from any recognised University.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
118	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-6D (3580013200)	Sanitary Inspector	Division Kashmir	6	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	14	10+2 or above qualification with minimum 2 year Diploma in Sanitation and Public Health from any recognized Institute/ State Medical Faculty /J&K State Para Medical Council.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
119	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-4 (25500-8100)	Junior Pharmacist	Budgam	11	2	3	3	2	1	3	2	27	Minimum 10+2 with Science having Degree/ Diploma in Pharmacy course from any recognized institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
120	Health & Medical Education Department	Director Health Services Kashmir	Level-4 (25500-8100)	Junior Pharmacist	Srinagar	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	6	Minimum 10+2 with Science having Degree/ Diploma in Pharmacy course from any recognized institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
121	Health & Medical Education Department	Director Health Services Kashmir	Level-4 (25500-8100)	Junior Pharmacist	Ganderbal	5	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	11	Minimum 10+2 with Science having Degree/ Diploma in Pharmacy course from any recognized institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
122	Health & Medical Education Department	Director Health Services Kashmir	Level-4 (25500-8100)	Junior Pharmacist	Pulwama	16	3	4	4	3	2	4	4	40	Minimum 10+2 with Science having Degree/ Diploma in Pharmacy course from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
123	Health & Medical Education Department	Director Health Services Kashmir	Level-4 (25500-8100)	Junior Pharmacist	Shopian	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	Minimum 10+2 with Science having Degree/ Diploma in Pharmacy course from any recognized institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.

J&K has 25,248 Waqf properties approved on UMEED portal: Centre

‘Annual income utilisation details to emerge after verification’

RAJA SYED RATHER

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board has uploaded details of thousands of Waqf properties on the UMEED Central Portal-2025, with 25,248 properties shown as approved as of July 31, 2026, the Ministry of Minority Affairs informed the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

The information was provided by Union Minister for Minority Affairs Kiren Rijiju in response to an unstarred question raised by MPs E Tukaram and Sasikanth Senthil regarding digitisation, income reporting and transparent management of Waqf properties following the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025.

According to data annexed to the reply, Jammu and Kashmir has 25,567 Waqf properties under the “initiated/completed till date” category.



Of these, 25,248 properties have been submitted by the checker and are pending with the approver category, while 62 properties have been rejected by the checker/approver and are pending with the maker. The data also lists 221 properties in the initial category, 33 initiated for entry by the maker and three submitted by the maker.

The Centre said the Unified Waqf Management, Empowerment, Efficiency and Development (UMEED) Act, 1995,

as amended by the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, came into force from April 8, 2026. The UMEED Central Portal-2025 was developed and launched on June 6, 2025, to facilitate uploading and registration of Waqf properties and improve transparency in their management and governance.

The Ministry further stated that details to be uploaded on the portal include annual income and expenditure of Waqf properties, along with amounts

set apart for religious, charitable and other purposes. It said the process of uploading, verification and validation of property details is still underway.

On utilisation of Waqf income for educational, healthcare and other welfare activities, the Centre said the Waqf Boards are responsible for ensuring that Waqf properties are properly maintained and administered and that their income is applied for the purposes for which the properties were created or intended. The Central Waqf Council is responsible for advising the Centre, states and Waqf Boards on the administration of auqaf.

The Ministry said a clear assessment of annual income from Waqf properties and its utilisation for intended purposes can be ascertained after completion of the data uploading and validation process—(KNO)

BJP celebrates Article-370 anniversary across J&K



SAJID RAINA

SRINAGAR: The BJP on Wednesday celebrated the seventh anniversary of the abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A as the beginning of a "new era" of unity, equality and development in Jammu and Kashmir.

BJP chief spokesperson Sunil Sethi, chaired a meeting of party leaders in Jammu and said, “The August 5, 2019 decision under the leadership of PM Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah strengthened India's unity and ensured Jammu and Kashmir's full constitutional and developmental integration with the rest of the country. It said the move fulfilled the party's long-standing commitment to “One Nation, One Constitution”.

The BJP leaders highlighted positive changes over the past six years, including accelerated infrastructure development, transparent governance, stronger democratic institutions, improved public welfare and the extension of central laws and welfare schemes to all sections of society. Party leaders also expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister and Home minister for taking what they

termed a historic decision in the national interest.

In Srinagar, BJP general secretary (organisation) Ashok Kaul cut a cake at the party office in Jawahar Nagar to mark the occasion. A proposed bike rally by BJP youth activists from Pantha Chowk to Lal Chowk was diverted by police to the party office after they were not allowed to proceed towards the city centre. BJP youth leader Ajaz Hussain described August 5 as the day of Jammu and Kashmir's complete integration with the country.

In Anantnag, BJP workers took out a Tiranga rally under tight security, while senior leader Altaf Thakur termed the anniversary a day of celebration marking the end of the system of two constitutions and two flags.

In contrast, the Congress and the National Conference held separate protest marches in Jammu, observing the anniversary as a "Black Day" and demanding restoration of statehood and constitutional safeguards for land, jobs and other rights. Police prevented both marches from proceeding towards the city centre, resulting in brief jostling with party workers.(KNO)

Lithium reserves of 10.88 million tonnes identified in J&K: Centre

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: The Union Government on Wednesday informed Parliament that 10.88 million tonnes of lithium resources have been identified in Jammu & Kashmir, with Salal-Haimna and Kotla figuring among the country's major lithium-bearing areas discovered through exploration undertaken by the Geological Survey of India (GSI).

Replying to an unstarred question in the Lok Sabha, Minister of State for Coal and Mines Satish Chandra Dubey, said the lithium resources have been augmented through exploration projects carried out by GSI and funded by the National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT). Besides Jammu & Kashmir, major lithium resources have also been identified in Rajasthan.

The Minister said the Centre has simultaneously stepped up efforts to secure critical mineral supplies by strengthening domestic exploration and expanding overseas partnerships. He said Khanij Bidesh India Limited (KABIL) has signed an Exploration and Development Agreement with Argentina's state-owned CAMYEN for exploration and mining of five lithium brine blocks covering 15,703 hectares. KABIL has also entered into an MoU with Australia's Critical Mineral Office for cooperation in mining and processing of critical and strategic minerals.

To encourage private participation in mineral exploration, the Government has introduced a series of



incentives, including 100 per cent funding for exploration projects undertaken by notified private exploration agencies, reimbursement of exploration costs under various licence categories and incentives linked to successful auction of explored critical mineral blocks, the House was informed.

The Minister further said the Government has launched the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) to ensure long-term availability of minerals essential for electric vehicles and green technologies.

"Exploration of critical minerals has been significantly expanded, while 56 critical mineral blocks and six Exploration Licence blocks have already been auctioned across the country," he said.

The Centre has also introduced a ₹1,500-crore incentive scheme to promote recycling and recovery of critical minerals from secondary sources and expanded support for overseas mineral exploration.

According to the annexure tabled in Parliament, Jammu & Kashmir's Salal-Haimna and Kotla are among the major areas where lithium resources have been augmented, with the total identified lithium resources standing at 10.88 million tonnes—(KNO)

Deputy Chief Minister chairs 107th BoDs meet of KVIB

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary Wednesday chaired 107th Meeting of the Board of Directors (BoDs) of J&K Khadi & Village Industries Board (KVIB) at Fair View House Gupkar, here.

Addressing the Board, the Deputy Chief Minister said that KVIB has to be transformed into a people-centric institution that empowers artisans, revives traditional crafts and creates sustainable livelihoods in every village. “Khadi is more than a product, it is a symbol of self-reliance and cultural identity of Jammu & Kashmir”, he observed .

The Deputy CM called upon the KVIB management to work with transparency, compassion, and urgency to ensure that the benefits of government



schemes reach the last person.

Reviewing flagship schemes, Surinder Choudhary expressed satisfaction that PMEGP and JKREGP have emerged as the biggest engines of rural employment in Jammu and Kashmir.

Underlining the importance of Rural industries in J&K's economy, the Deputy Chief Minister called upon the officers that focus must now shift to handholding

of beneficiaries, proper skill training and strong market linkages so that every unit set up becomes successful and sustainable.

In a landmark decision, the Board authorized preparation of a Detailed Project Report for a new integrated complex comprising Divisional Office, District Office and a Khadi Plaza at Jammu. This will provide artisans and entrepreneurs a dedicated space for marketing, training,

and administrative support, and will give a major boost to Khadi and village industries in the region.

The meeting, among others, was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce, Vikramjit Singh; Registrar Cooperatives, Director Industries & Commerce Kashmir, DG Codes, Secretary/CEO KVIB, Director MSME and senior officers of KVIB and Industries & Commerce department.

Shailendra Kumar chairs review meeting of State Taxes Deptt

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Finance, Shailendra Kumar, Wednesday chaired a review meeting of the State Taxes Department, Kashmir Division, here today to assess the revenue generation, statutory compliance and operational efficiency across all circles.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner State Taxes, J&K, P.K. Bhat; Additional Commissioner State Taxes, Kashmir, Parveez Ahmad Raina; Additional

Commissioner TPAR, Kishori Lal; Deputy Commissioners of State Taxes Department and State Taxes Officers representing all Circles of the Kashmir Division.

During the meeting, the ACS conducted a detailed circle-wise performance evaluation, scrutinizing key parameters including Input Tax Credit (ITC) verification, return filing compliance (GSTR-3B and GSTR-1), recovery of pending tax arrears, scrutiny of returns and enforcement operations across Kashmir Division.

Reiterating the core policy

directives outlined in the recently held review meeting in Jammu, Shailendra Kumar emphasized that the State Taxes Department must adopt a dual strategy focused on augmenting revenue collection while ensuring a business-friendly environment.

He said that the tax administration must pivot towards a facilitator-first model, instructing the officers to guide the taxpayers and simplify compliance processes. "Facilitation, guidance and tax education must be the cornerstone of our operations. While eva-

sion and deliberate non-compliance will be met with firm enforcement actions under the GST framework, taxpayers making genuine efforts to comply must be supported without undue hindrance or harassment," maintained the ACS.

Commissioner State Taxes assured that the department is committed to achieve its targets through enhanced capacity building, automated discrepancy tracking and transparent taxpayer outreach programs across both Jammu and Kashmir divisions.

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER SOCIAL FORESTRY DIVISION PULWAMA.

Re-Tendering of e-NIT No : 01 of 2026-27, Dated 16-07-2026.

(Scheme: CAPEX District Pulwama and District Shopian)

Owing to poor response, insufficient participation and administrative reasons the following works, put to e-Tendering vide e-Nit No: 01 of 2026-27,dated 16-07-2026, are hereby Re-tendered and as such for and on behalf of the Hon'ble President of India, e-tenders (Two cover system) are invited from registered, reputed and resourceful Contractors/Firms registered with Jammu & Kashmir Govt./ Central Govt. Organizations for the following works retendered vide this Re-Tendered Notice: -

Name of Works:						
S.NO	Name of Work	Adv. Cost in Lacs	EMD Percentage of Adv. Cost	Tender Document Cost	Class Of Contractor	Time of Completion in Days
1	<u>PART I</u> DISTRICT: PULWAMA Scheme :CAPEX District Pulwama 2026-27. Providing and Fixing of 06 Strands of Black Annealed Barbed Wire with Angle Iron Fence Posts having standard specifications of 50*50*6mm of 6.5 feet in length(250 Nos) in Cement Concrete Blocks at Village Woodlot Padgampora. Scheme:CAPEX Area:6Ha RFTS: 2000 Plantation: 4500 No of Male Poplar Plants in pits of size 45*45*45 cms. Location VWL Padgampora Range: SF Range Awantipora 1 st	5.574	2%	500	“C & “D”	150
2.	Providing and Fixing of 04 Strands of Black Annealed Barbed Barbed Wire with Round Robinia Wooden Fence Posts having length of 1.85 meters and 8 inches mid girth(390 nos) A tVillage Woodlot IUST Awantipora. Scheme:CAPEX Area: 3 HA RFTS: 3000 Plantation: 4000 No of Almond Plants in pit size of 45*45*45 cms. Location VWL IUST Awantipora. Range: SF Range Awantipora 1 st	2.762	2%	500	“D”	150
3.	Providing and Fixing of 04 Strands of Black Annealed Barbed Barbed Wire with Round Robinia Wooden Fence Posts having length of 1.85 meters and 8 inches or more mid girth(144 nos) at Village Woodlot Parigam. Scheme:CAPEX RFTS: 1100 Plantation: 3500 No of Naked Root Plants in pit size of 45*45*45 cms. Location VWL Parigam. Range: SF Range Awantipora 2nd	1.581	2%	200	D”	150
4	Providing and Fixing of 04 Strands of Black Annealed Barbed Wire with Round Robinia Wooden Fence Posts having length of 1.85 meters and 8 inches or more mid girth(312 nos) at Village Woodlot Khrew. Scheme:CAPEX RFTS: 2400 Plantation: 2600 No of Medicinal Plants in pit size of 45*45*45 cms. Location VWL Khrew. Range: SF Range Awantipora 1st	2.07	2%	500	“D”	150
5.	2 nd Standard Nursery Maintenance operations viz Hoeing /weeding/ watering/ application of fertilizers/manures/pesticidesetc including re-couping of mortalities/failures at Rakhchidran NR Nursery. Maintenance to be carried out for: i) 60,000 No of Naked Root plants ii) 30,000 No of male Poplar Plants. Location Rakhchidran Nursery. Range: SF Range Awantipora 2nd	1.367	2%	200	D”	TILL JANUARY 2027
6	2 nd Standard Nursery Maintenance operations viz Hoeing /weeding/ watering/ application of fertilizers/manures/pesticidesetc including recouping of mortalities/failures at Arigam Conifer Nursery. Maintenance to be carried out for: I) 37384 No of 1 st year conifer polybagged plants. Location Arigam Nursery. Range: SF Range Awantipora 2nd	0.49	2%	200	D”	TILL JANUARY 2027
1	<u>PART II</u> DISTRICT SHOPIAN Scheme :CAPEX District SHOPIAN 2026-27. Providing and Fixing of 04 Strands of Black Annealed Barbed Wire with Round Robinia Wooden Fence Posts having length of 1.85 meters and 8 inches or more mid girth(106 nos) at Co.33 Nagwani Shopian. Scheme:CAPEX RFTS: 800 Plantation: 1500 No of Quince in pit size of 45*45*45 cms. Location Co.33 Nagwani. Range: SF Range Shopian	0.974	2%	200	D”	150
2	Providing and Fixing of 04 Strands of Black Annealed Barbed Wire with Round Robinia Wooden Fence Posts having length of 1.85 meters and 8 inches or more mid girth(182 nos) at Co.Rb-28 Kathallan Shopian. Scheme:CAPEX RFTS: 1400 Plantation: i) 3000 No of NR Plants ii) 2000 No of conifer Plants iii) 400 No of medicinal Plants Location Co.Rb-28 KathallanShopian Range: SF Range Shopian	2.27	2%	200	D”	150
03	2 nd Standard Nursery Maintenance operations viz Hoeing /weeding/ watering/ application of fertilizers/manures/pesticidesetc including re-couping of mortalities/failures at Chowgam Conifer Nursery. 2 nd Maintenance to be carried out for: I) 12000 No of 1 st year conifer polybagged plants & Location Chowgam Nursery. Range: SF Range Chowgam	0.15932	2%	200	D”	TILL JANUARY 2027
04	2 nd Standard Nursery Maintenance operations viz Hoeing /weeding/ watering/ application of fertilizers/manures/pesticidesetc including re-couping of mortalities/failures at Chowgam Conifer Nursery. 2 nd Maintenance to be carried out for: I) 30000 no of 2 nd year old conifer poly bagged plants. Location Chowgam Nursery. Range: SF Range Chowgam.	0.39831	2%	200	D”	TILL JANUARY 2027

The e-NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities,(B.O.Q), Set of Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/ downloaded from the departmental Website:-www.jktenders.gov.in

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Good Morning

Kashmir

EDITORIAL

When The Highway Stops, Kashmir's Economy Stops

The recurring closure of the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway is no longer merely a traffic inconvenience—it has become an economic emergency. Every time NH-44 is blocked by landslides, shooting stones, or repair works, Kashmir's lifeline is severed. The first casualty is not just mobility; it is the livelihood of lakhs of families whose survival depends on horticulture.

At a time when apple orchards across the Valley are entering the crucial harvesting season, trucks loaded with fresh fruit are being forced to wait for hours and sometimes days. Apples are not sacks of cement that can withstand indefinite delays. They are perishable, time-sensitive produce destined for competitive markets where every hour matters. By the time many consignments reach wholesale mandis, quality has deteriorated, prices have fallen, and the grower bears the loss. This is not an unforeseen crisis. It is a recurring failure of planning.

Year after year, governments promise all-weather connectivity, better disaster preparedness and improved highway management. Yet every monsoon exposes the same vulnerabilities. Landslides halt traffic, restoration takes time, and when the road finally opens, there is little distinction between trucks carrying perishable horticultural produce and ordinary commercial cargo. The result is avoidable losses running into crores of rupees.

The Jammu and Kashmir administration cannot continue treating the apple industry as just another stakeholder. Horticulture is the backbone of Kashmir's rural economy, contributing thousands of crores annually and sustaining lakhs of growers, labourers, traders, transporters and packaging workers. Protecting this sector demands more than sympathetic statements—it requires decisive policy intervention.

A dedicated priority corridor for fruit-laden trucks during the harvesting season should become standard operating procedure whenever traffic resumes after closures. Coordination between the Traffic Police, district administrations and the National Highways Authority of India must be seamless, not reactive. Technology should be used to monitor truck movement, regulate traffic intelligently and minimise unnecessary waiting.

At the same time, the larger question cannot be ignored. How long will Kashmir's economy remain hostage to a single fragile highway? Every prolonged closure reinforces the urgent need to accelerate alternative connectivity projects, strengthen vulnerable stretches, and build infrastructure capable of withstanding increasingly frequent extreme weather events.

The government's commitment to farmers cannot be measured only through subsidies and announcements. It must be reflected in its ability to ensure that their produce reaches the market on time.

An apple delayed is often an apple devalued. And when thousands of such consignments are delayed, it is not just fruit that rots—it is confidence, investment and the future of Kashmir's most important industry.

The Valley does not need another round of assurances. It needs a highway management system that recognises one simple truth: when Kashmir's apples are stranded, Kashmir's economy is stranded with them.

Women, Ai And The Future Economy

New Opportunities For Young Kashmiri Women

Today, Digital Technologies And Ai-Powered Tools Are Beginning To Change That Equation. A Woman In Baramulla, Kupwara Or Anantnag Can Now Attend Online Courses, Work With Clients Remotely Or Sell Products Through Digital Platforms Without Relocating.



ASIYA AKHTER

For young women in Kashmir, a government job remains the first career choice. At the same time, AI workshops, online courses and digital skill programmes are becoming more common across Kashmir. Some students are learning how to use AI tools, while entrepreneurs are using digital platforms to reach customers beyond their local markets. These developments are creating new career options alongside traditional ones.

AI is no longer limited to technology companies or software engineers. Teachers use it to prepare classroom material, journalists use it for research, entrepreneurs use it to promote their businesses and freelance writers use it to organise their work. As AI becomes part of everyday professions, knowing how to use these tools is becoming an increasingly valuable skill. The future economy will not depend only on those who create technology but also on those who know how to use it effectively.

Recognising this shift, the Government of India launched the India AI Mission to prepare the country for an economy where AI supports innovation, entrepreneurship, education and public services. The National Commission for Women's Yashoda AI Abhiyan reflects the same thinking. It introduces women to AI not as a complex technology; it is a practical skill that can support learning, entrepreneurship and employment. Across several states, women are being trained to use AI for business development, digital marketing and skill enhancement. These initiatives recognise an important reality: if women are left behind in the AI era, they risk being left behind in tomorrow's economy as well.

Kashmir has witnessed a steady rise in women's education over the past decade, but employment opportunities have not grown at the same pace. Many talented young women are unable to relocate outside the region for work. Today, digital technologies and AI-powered tools are beginning to change that equation. A woman in Baramulla, Kupwara or Anantnag can now attend online courses,



work with clients remotely or sell products through digital platforms without relocating.

Kashmir already has examples of women using technology to solve local problems. Mehvish Mushtaq, the first Kashmiri woman to develop an Android application, created Dial Kashmir after recognising how difficult it was for people to access contact details of essential services. It addressed a problem familiar to many Kashmiris and offered a practical solution through technology.

That spirit is now finding new direction through initiatives like The Women Empowerment, Artificial Intelligence (WE-AI) Club, founded by Taleyn Taheer Khan and co-founded by Aiza Naveed Shah. Through workshops and practical sessions, the WE-AI Club is introducing school and college students to Artificial Intelligence. These sessions allow students to experiment with AI tools, ask questions and understand how the technology can be used in different professions. For many participants, it is their first structured exposure to AI outside the classroom.

The opportunities created by technology are not limited to coding or software development.

Award-winning photojournalist Masrat Zahra has used digital platforms to take stories from Kashmir to international audiences. Her work shows how journalists today can publish, share and reach readers far beyond their immediate surroundings through digital platforms. AI tools are now becoming part of this work by assisting with research, translation and content organisation. It is opening new possibilities for people from diverse educational backgrounds.

Digital platforms have made it easier for artisans to reach customers beyond local markets. Many women involved in Pashmina, Sozni embroidery and Papier-mache already use smartphones to receive orders, share photographs of their products and connect with buyers. AI-powered tools become more accessible; they can also help prepare product descriptions and manage online marketing.

At the same time, digital devices are not always affordable, and opportunities for practical AI training are still limited. Unless these gaps are reduced, many young women will find it harder to benefit from the same digital opportunities as those living in better-

connected areas.

The experiences of Mehvish Mushtaq, Taleyn Taheer Khan, Aiza Naveed Shah and Masrat Zahra reflect different aspects of Kashmir's changing digital landscape. Their work spans technology, education and journalism, highlighting how digital tools are becoming part of professional opportunities for women across different sectors.

The India AI Mission is creating new opportunities through investments in AI infrastructure, innovation and skill development. For young women in Kashmir, the real impact will depend on how widely these opportunities are accessed through education, training and digital employment. Across the country, AI is gradually becoming part of classrooms, workplaces and businesses. As these opportunities expand through the India AI Mission, more young women in Kashmir can access the skills and digital platforms needed to participate in India's growing AI-driven economy.

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Complex Political Movements In The Middle East



NAVEED QAZI

For more than four decades, political Islam was one of the Middle East's most influential political ideas. The 1979 Iranian Revolution inspired Islamist movements across the region, while organisations such as Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood, Tunisia's Ennahda and Turkey's Justice and Development Party (AKP) argued that Islam should provide the foundation for politics and government. Scholars including John L. Esposito, Gilles Kepel and Olivier Roy regarded the late twentieth century as the period in which political Islam emerged as one of the dominant ideological forces shaping Middle Eastern politics. When the Arab Spring erupted in 2011, many observers believed the region was entering an Islamist era through democratic elections. That expectation proved short-lived. Today, although political Islam remains influential in countries such as Iran, Palestinian territories, Yemen and Turkey, it no longer dominates political debate across much of the Arab world. In its place has emerged a new political order centred on state nationalism, and stability.

This transformation did not occur because religion became less important. Islam continues to occupy a central place in public life across the Middle East. What has changed is the appeal of Islamism as a political project. More than three decades ago, the French political scientist Olivier Roy argued in The Failure of Political Islam that Islamist movements were often highly effective at mobilising supporters but struggled to provide a workable model for governing complex modern states. Political scientist Graham E. Fuller similarly observed that while Islamist movements possessed considerable ideological appeal, they faced the

same structural constraints and governance challenges as secular governments. Following the Arab Spring, Roy revisited his earlier arguments, noting that although Islamist parties could succeed electorally, they frequently moderated or compromised their ideological ambitions, once confronted with the practical realities of governing, including prioritising coalition building and constitutional compromises.

The sociologist Asef Bayat described this broader evolution as "post-Islamism". In Post-Islamism: The Changing Faces of Political Islam, he argued that many Muslims were not abandoning religion but were increasingly separating personal faith from political ideology. Bayat maintained that citizens continued to value religion while simultaneously demanding accountable government, economic opportunity, individual dignity and effective public services. His analysis echoes the earlier observations of John L. Esposito that the future of Muslim politics would depend increasingly on governance and institutional performance rather than ideological purity. In other words, growing numbers of citizens sought better government rather than an explicitly Islamic state.

Nowhere has this transition been more evident than in the Gulf monarchies. As political scientist F. Gregory Gause III argues, Gulf states increasingly derive their legitimacy from economic performance, competent administration and national identity rather than ideological mobilisation. Steffen Hertog similarly observes that ambitious programmes of economic diversification, bureaucratic reform and state-led development projects have become central instruments of political legitimacy. National flags, cultural heritage, global sporting events, tourism initiatives and large-scale development projects have become as significant to state legitimacy as religious symbolism.

This transformation, however, should not be mistaken for democratisation. Most Middle Eastern states remain highly centralised, with political power



concentrated in the hands of the state. Independent civil society organisations continue to operate under legal restrictions, while labour unions enjoy no or far less autonomy than those in established democracies. As political scientist Eva Bellin argues, the resilience of authoritarian rule in the Middle East stems not only from ideology but also from the adaptability and institutional strength of the state. As a result, economic modernisation has progressed much faster than political liberalisation.

Political scientist Steven Heydemann anticipated this evolution nearly two decades ago. Writing about what he termed "authoritarian upgrading", he argued that many Arab governments were adapting rather than collapsing. Instead of resisting globalisation, they embraced selective economic reform, technological innovation, administrative modernisation and carefully managed market liberalisation while preserving concentrated political authority. More recently, scholars such as Sean L. Yom have likewise argued that many Middle Eastern governments have reinforced state capacity without undertaking meaningful democratic reforms. These issues include minority rights, political pluralism and questions of equal citizenship as per Andrew F March. Together, these analyses help explain why many governments have become more economically ambitious and administratively effective without becoming substantially

more democratic.

Demographic change has further reshaped regional politics. According to the United Nations and the World Bank, the Middle East remains one of the world's youngest regions. Young people entering the labour market are generally more concerned with employment, affordable housing, inflation, education, entrepreneurship and social mobility than with ideological debates. Successive Arab Barometer surveys consistently show that corruption, economic hardship and poor public services rank among citizens' greatest concerns across countries including Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon and Tunisia. Political scientist Marc Lynch has argued that the frustrations exposed during and after the Arab Spring were rooted less in ideological competition than in failures of governance, accountability and economic opportunity. Religion remains important, but effective government increasingly matters more than ideological identity. Across much of the region, demands for dignity have increasingly become demands for competent governance.

Political Islam, however, has by no means disappeared. Iran remains the region's foremost Islamist state, although repeated waves of protest have exposed growing tensions between clerical authority and significant sections of society. Hamas continues to combine Palestinian nationalism with Islamist ideology, while Islamist movements retain influence in Yemen and Turkey.

Shadi Hamid has argued that religion remains deeply embedded in the political identities of many Middle Eastern societies and is unlikely to disappear from public life, even where support for Islamist parties fluctuates. Moreover, recent Arab Barometer findings suggest that support for a greater public role for religion has increased in several countries following the instability of recent years, although attitudes continue to vary across the region. The story, therefore, is not one of the disappearance of political Islam but of its uneven evolution and complexity across different political and social contexts.

The Middle East is thus entering a new political era. The region is not replacing political Islam with liberal or pluralist democracy. Rather, it is replacing one principal source of political legitimacy with another. Across much of the Middle East, governments increasingly seek public support through economic growth, technological innovation, infrastructure development, state capacity and national development while retaining firm political control rather than embracing conventional democratic institutions. This shift reflects what Samuel P. Huntington once described as the enduring importance of political order and institutional effectiveness in societies undergoing rapid social and economic change.

As Olivier Roy anticipated decades ago and Asef Bayat later refined through the concept of post-Islamism, the central political question is no longer who governs in the name of religion, but who can deliver prosperity, stability and effective government. Whether this emerging model can satisfy the aspirations of one of the world's youngest populations will shape the political trajectory of the Middle East for decades to come.

NOTE: Views expressed are the authors' own and may not be found in accord with those of GMK

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■ Silent Corridors

Sexual Harassment In Educational Institutions

Sexual Harassment In Academia Occurs In Various Ways, Including Sexual Remarks, Inappropriate Touches, Emotional Abuse, And Intimidation. One Of The Most Alarming Aspects Of Sexual Harassment Is The Gross Misuse Of Power. People In Positions Of Authority Often Use The Opportunity To Force Students Into Providing Sexual Services In Exchange For Good Grades Or Other Forms Of Academic Help.

ZESHAN NABI

Schools, colleges, and universities are places of learning and self-improvement where people discover themselves as well as learn from books. Furthermore, the educational institution plays a critical role in developing a moral and ethical framework for an individual's life and makes him understand his civic responsibility. This process presupposes a relationship of trust and cooperation between a teacher and a student. Traditionally, teachers were perceived as guides who not only taught their students the basic principles of literacy but also acted as mentors and spiritual fathers of the latter. Nowadays, the idyllic picture of relations in a classroom is being destroyed by the reality of sexual harassment in educational institutions.

Sexual harassment is becoming one of the major problems for Kashmir's educational institutions, where numerous sexual harassment cases occur. A few cases are reported in newspapers and generate public discussions, but the problem is much bigger than it seems to be at first glance. Sexual harassment in the educational environment is not a recent phenomenon and definitely not a separate event but a problem that results from the existing gender inequalities in society.

One of the main challenges involved in tackling this problem is the huge culture of silence around it. The majority of victims choose to be silent due to fears of social stigmatisation, defamation, and negative repercussions from their respective communities. There are significant social ramifications attached to speaking up. Often, the behaviour of the victim is heavily criticised, while that of the perpetrator goes relatively unnoticed. Victims are made to remain



silent by their families to avoid embarrassment and preserve family honour. This response demonstrates the patriarchal tendency to prefer image over supporting the victim.

The failure of institutions further worsens the current situation. Despite the presence of policies and guidelines against sexual harassment and violence, there are no practical steps to ensure that such policies are enforced properly. Many institutions fail to establish proper processes through which complaints can be made. In addition, some institutions make efforts to cover up cases in order to save their

image rather than safeguarding the interests of their students. In such an environment, it is very difficult to get any concrete action in place.

Sexual harassment in academia occurs in various ways, including sexual remarks, inappropriate touches, emotional abuse, and intimidation. One of the most alarming aspects of sexual harassment is the gross misuse of power. People in positions of authority often use the opportunity to force students into providing sexual services in exchange for good grades or other forms of academic help. This type of behaviour is not personal misconduct;

it is a complete breach of ethics that should govern teaching activities. By using such power, places of learning cease to be empowering sites and become places of abuse.

The consequences that the victims have to suffer are severe and prolonged. Apart from causing emotional distress to the victim, harassment can trigger anxiety disorders, depression, trauma, and lack of self-esteem. All these issues are bound to negatively affect the student's academic performance in the form of bad results, absenteeism, and sometimes even leaving education. Sexual harassment, thus, is detrimental

not only to the victimized individual but also to gender equality since it prevents young women from receiving quality education.

Addressing the crisis in question requires taking serious action at various levels. The educational institutions should ensure that effective complaint mechanisms are put in place. Internal Complaints Committees (ICCs) should be empowered to work independently, without any kind of political interference, with complete confidentiality, a fair investigation process, and immediate resolution of complaints. Along with stringent regulations, institutions should conduct periodic programmes for sensitising all students, faculty members, and administration regarding the issue of consent and professional standards.

Society, at large, needs to change its mindset. Families, local communities, religious leaders and civil society organisations have to stop the practice of victim-blaming. There should be no taboo surrounding issues related to gender justice. Moreover, police and legal institutions should rigorously enforce laws and penal measures to make sure that the offenders are punished while the victims receive adequate protection.

In conclusion, sexual harassment in educational institutions in Kashmir is not just an issue of unethical behaviour. This is essentially an issue of crisis of trust, accountability, and professionalism. If the educational institutions are supposed to fulfil their social mission, then they have to ensure the safety and equal rights for all students. Without it, education will fail in its core purpose as a tool for human empowerment and social progress.

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Ending AIDS Is Impossible Without Rights



SHOBHA SHUKLA

At a recent global meet, a session cut through the usual conference optimism with a stark warning: the global AIDS response is being hit by a coordinated anti-rights and anti-gender backlash at the precise moment when funding is collapsing.

Gender justice, bodily autonomy and the leadership of key populations are not optional add-ons. They are the foundation on which any credible path to ending AIDS rests. With only 54 months left to the 2030 targets, that foundation is cracking.

Fragile progress meets organised resistance

The numbers do look impressive on paper. Since 2010 the world has cut new HIV infections by more than 40% and AIDS-related deaths by 57%. Last year 32 million people were on treatment - a scale once unimaginable. Yet in 2025 alone 1.2 million people were diagnosed with HIV and someone still dies of an HIV-related cause every minute. The hardest remaining work depends entirely on reaching those most at risk. None of those who got diagnosed with HIV should have got infected in the first place given the science, evidence and combination prevention tools we have. Likewise, no one should have died of AIDS.

But we cannot end AIDS unless we recognise the simultaneous assault. Deep cuts in HIV programmes' financing worldwide coincide with an organised, well-funded political campaign that seeks to roll back the very rights that make an effective response possible. These are not separate crises. They compound each other. Money is being withdrawn just as political attacks make community-led services harder to deliver and people harder to reach.

Numan Afifi of the APCOM Foundation in Thailand put it plainly: "This is not an abstract mood. It is a strategy." The tactics are concrete. First come 'family values' bills (like the draft charter on family, sovereignty and values) and anti-propaganda laws that re-criminalise same-sex relations, sex work and gender expression. Protections that were advancing are being pushed back, said Afifi, who was among the speakers of SHE & Rights session at the 26th International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2026) in Rio



de Janeiro, Brazil, organised by Global Center for Health Diplomacy and Inclusion (CeHDI), CNS and partners.

Numan Afifi added that the regressive Geneva Consensus Declaration and the proposed draft African Charter on Family, Sovereignty and Values are being used to water down global health and human rights norms, redefining 'family' and 'gender' in ways that erase the people the HIV response must serve.

Defunding and disinformation starve community organisations while framing LGBTQ+ people and the idea of gender itself as dangerous 'foreign ideology.' The goal is consistent across regions: to dismantle the rights environment that allows key populations to access testing, treatment and prevention without fear.

Why rights are non-negotiable for ending AIDS

Criminalisation and stigma do not make key populations disappear. They push them away from services. Globally the risk of acquiring HIV is 80 times higher among gay men and other men who have sex with men, 17 times higher among transgender people, 34 times higher among people who inject drugs, and 17 times higher among sex workers. UNAIDS is clear: this risk is driven by marginalisation, discrimination and criminalisation — not by identity, said Numan Afifi.

He reflected that a young gay man who fears arrest will not walk into a clinic. A transgender woman turned away once may never return. Every law that treats com-

munities as criminal becomes a barrier to the tests, medicines and prevention tools that end the epidemic. When budgets are cut, they are cut first from the community-led services that reach these groups, widening the gap further. In the Asia-Pacific region, PrEP — one of the most powerful prevention tools — still reaches only about 2.5 percent of people who need it, even as Fiji, the Philippines and Papua New Guinea report sharp alarming increases in HIV infections.

"When we defend the rights of the most marginalised, we defend the health of everyone," Afifi said. "Rights are not a luxury of the response. They are the foundation." APCOM's demands are concrete: decriminalise same-sex relations; sex work and drug use; protect the rights of transgender and gender-diverse people; fund community-led organisations with sustained, predictable financing that reaches grassroots level; and reject instruments such as the regressive Geneva Consensus Declaration and the regressive draft African Charter.

Youth and communities forced to start from scratch

The human cost is felt most sharply by the next generation. Fairuze Diedricks of Y+ Global (Global Network of Young People living with HIV) described the emotional weight of watching hard-won gains unravel. "So much of this anti-rights movement is undoing work that has been done over so many generations... The young people that I work with now have

to kind of start almost from scratch and to rebirth on things and progress that we thought we have already made."

Young people consistently say they need spaces where they can be themselves. Those spaces are shrinking. Respectful dialogue, support to challenge misinformation, and the confidence to advocate in hostile environments are all under pressure. Diedricks rejected the caricature that 'family values' exclude queer people. Lesbian mothers, she noted, are often among the most protective, values-driven parents. Queer young people carry faith, community and moral frameworks; they are not "lesbian" or "gay" for a living. They simply need the same access to healthcare, rights and belonging.

Despite the pressure, young people continue to organise, educate peers and support one another. The role of allies, Diedricks stressed, is not to speak for them but to ensure they have real space, resources and influence in decision-making - not merely token consultation.

Domestic pushbacks and the COVID turning point

Sangeet Kayastha of YPEER Asia Pacific Center, who has worked on HIV, gender rights and sexual and reproductive health and rights since 2006, reminded the session that the rollback did not begin with recent US funding cuts. "When COVID happened, many countries found a way how they can push back the rights they have already given and they also cut the services that were already available."

Pre-COVID progress - decriminalisation of same-sex relations in several countries, growing recognition of same-sex marriage, expanding domestic funding - has stalled or reversed. Domestic funding cuts for communities have been severe. The impact reaches beyond formal organisations to individuals, young people seeking information, and advocacy efforts. Violence against LGBTIQ communities has spiked. One country's regressive turn influences others in the region.

In Bhutan, Dechen of Disability 2030 noted hard-won gains: same-sex activity was decriminalised in 2021, health centres across districts began providing check-ups, self-testing kits and PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis) for HIV prevention. Those programmes are now at high risk as international funding dries up. Continuity depends on whether the government integrates them into national plans and allocates domestic resources. Youth advocates continue working to keep politicians informed and to dismantle remaining human rights and gender barriers.

Gender equality remains the strongest prevention strategy

As the host of SHE & Rights, I would like to remind our readers that a 2026 study across 47 countries has found steep reductions in community-led services - including 82 percent cuts to services for sex workers and 72 percent to services for survivors of gender-based violence. It is shameful that the draft African Charter on family, sovereignty and values urges governments to withdraw from progressive agreements including the legally binding Maputo Protocol of 2003, which has been central to advancing gender equality and reproductive rights across Africa.

Gender equality is one of the strongest HIV prevention strategies. We cannot end AIDS without gender equality, bodily autonomy and the leadership of women in all their diversity.

Writing on the wall is crystal clear: Progress against HIV has always depended on rights. When those rights are attacked, the epidemic gains ground. Defending community-led responses, rejecting regressive international instruments and delivering on rights-based international instruments, restoring funding that reaches the people most affected, and centring young people and key populations in decision-making are not side issues. They are the only practical path left to ending AIDS. Rights are not a distraction from the response. They are the response.

Shobha Shukla is a feminist, health and development justice advocate

Art 370 Abrogation

added significance as the country is commemorating the 125th birth anniversary of Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee.

"His lifelong commitment to national unity continues to inspire generations. What he envisioned decades ago found historic fulfilment on 5th August 2019," he said.

The Prime Minister reaffirmed the government's commitment to the progress of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh and to ensuring that every citizen has the opportunity to "dream big, achieve and contribute to the making of a Viksit Bharat".

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh hailed the seventh anniversary of the abrogation, saying the move had heralded "a new era of peace, progress and equal opportunity" in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

"As we also commemorate the 125th birth anniversary of Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee, we salute his unwavering commitment to India's unity, a vision that found historic fulfilment on 5th August 2019," Singh said in a post on X.

He said India remained committed to building "a prosperous Jammu and Kashmir, a thriving Ladakh and a Viksit Bharat".

The erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir was stripped of its special status under Article 370 on August 5, 2019, and bifurcated into the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh—(KNO)

CM Visits Flood-Affected

expressed his heartfelt condolences and assured them of the Government's unwavering support in overcoming the tragedy.

At Murrah, the Chief Minister visited the residence of Mohammad Latif, who tragically lost eight members of his family in the flash floods. Offering his deepest sympathies, he prayed for eternal peace to the departed souls and strength to the bereaved family to bear the irreparable loss.

In Surankote, the Chief Minister interacted with affected families and a delegation from Sangla, Darra Sangla and Lower Sangla. The delegation apprised him of the extensive damage caused to residential houses, agricultural land and infrastructure, besides the tragic loss of lives.

The Chief Minister also visited Arigam-Loran, where he met the family of Mohd Rafiq and Riaz Ahmed, who lost seven members of their family in the flash floods. He participated in Fatiha Khwani, prayed for the departed souls and conveyed his profound condolences to the grieving family.

Interacting with the affected residents, the Chief Minister patiently heard their grievances and hardships arising from the natural calamity. He assured them that the Government stands firmly with every affected family and would ensure all possible relief, rehabilitation and assistance.

Announcing a major rehabilitation measure, the Chief Minister said that families who have been rendered landless due to the disaster would be provided 5-marla plots for their resettlement.

Referring to the unprecedented nature of the disaster, the Chief Minister said it was unfortunate that cloudbursts remain difficult to predict with the existing technological capabilities. He said the Government would explore the adoption of advanced early-warning technologies to improve disaster preparedness and help minimise the loss of lives and property in the future.

Later, the Chief Minister chaired a review meeting to assess the rescue, relief and rehabilitation measures undertaken by the District Administration in the aftermath of the disaster. The Chief Minister directed officers to expedite damage assessment, ensure immediate relief and restore essential services.

He appreciated the prompt, coordinated and dedicated response of the civil administration and other agencies involved in relief operations.

He particularly commended the Deputy Commissioner, Poonch and the Senior Superintendent of Police, Poonch, for their proactive leadership and timely interventions that helped save lives and ensure swift assistance to the affected population.

The Chief Minister was accompanied by Minister for Jal Shakti Javed Ahmed Rana, MLA Poonch-Haveli Aijaz Ahmed Jan, MLA Surankote Choudhary Mohammad Akram, Additional Chief Secretary to the CM Dheeraj Gupta, senior district officers and other concerned officials.

Govt Jobs For Terror

large extent, strengthened the law and order, restored equal rights and created opportunities that allow families to rebuild their lives with confidence.

"The transformation we witness today in Jammu Kashmir is due to the historic changes of 5th August 2019. That day marked a constitutional correction and a new beginning for the UT. Discriminatory barriers were removed, equal rights were extended to those who were suffering due to discriminatory laws. The principle of one nation, one flag, one constitution was fully implemented and one standard of dignity, justice, and opportunity for all the Indian citizens was upheld," the Lieutenant Governor said, further adding that under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the marginalized groups, tribals, displaced persons from PoK and Chhamb and refugees have received legal rights such as full citizenship, voting rights and ownership rights over property under the Constitution of India. Farmers and artisans, he said, are creating new opportunities. Our universities, colleges, research and incubation centres are preparing the new generation for global competition.

The Lieutenant Governor noted that the terror victim families receiving appointment letters today are among the many beneficiaries of this new order post abrogation of Article 370.

"Their cases, delayed for decades, have finally been addressed. This is not compensation for loss because no money, no job, no paper can replace a loved one. It is, however, an assurance that the nation stands beside them and we are determined to help rebuild lives and restore dignity," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor highlighted that due to Article 370 and 35 A, the terror ecosystem was operating with impunity and their aim was to fracture the society, spread fear and silence the hope and dream.

"After abrogation of Article 370, the attempt of neighbouring country and terror ecosystem operating in the valley was foiled. The people of Jammu Kashmir have chosen peace over violence, education over indoctrination, jobs over dependency, and dignity over despair. The young generation deserve a future free of fear and that is the future we are building together under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor observed that our work is about justice, development, and inclusion. He said peace must be anchored in opportunity.

"A society that trusts its institutions becomes resilient against fear. A family that receives services without discrimination becomes a stakeholder in peace and progress. A youth empowered with education and employment is empowered to fight separatism and terrorism. Justice for terror victims is moving with speed and sincerity because it is a national obligation. No grievance is being ignored, no family will be left invisible. Justice delayed has caused enough suffering. Now justice to the terror victim families is timely, humane, responsive and consistent. This day also sends a message to the enemies of peace that terrorism cannot defeat a determined nation. Its handlers from across the border may conspire in darkness, but the light of justice will find them. Jammu Kashmir's future will be written by its youth, its workers, its teachers, its women and all who believe in peace and progress," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor called upon people to remember this day as a turning point, when wounds of common man were acknowledged, suffering was met with swift action, equal rights were provided to all, discriminatory laws were revoked and the nation renewed its resolve to secure a brighter future for Jammu Kashmir.

"We are absolutely resolved to dismantle the terror network, to bring its perpetrators and enablers to justice and to secure for every citizen of UT a life of peace, equality, and hope. Under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji, the shadows of discrimination lifted in 2019, ushering in a new era of social justice and inclusive development. Today, Jammu Kashmir is advancing with renewed confidence and all-around development is driving peace and prosperity.

By ending the system that bred discrimination and terrorism, the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi made it clear that in Jammu Kashmir, lamps of prosperity would not burn only in a select few palaces but also in the huts of the poor. Today, after 33 years, a lamp has been lit in the home of martyr Wali Mohammad Wani of Shopian. On 16 July 1993, Wali Mohammad was killed by terrorists' bullets. Today not only his family but the entire Shopian feels connected to the national mainstream," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor said that Industrial growth witnessed by Jammu Kashmir post abrogation of Article 370 is unprecedented. Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has also fulfilled the decades-long dream of rail travel from Kashmir to Kanyakumari.

"In the financial year 2025-26, investment in Jammu Kashmir amounted to Rs 5,824 crore, which is 13 times the average investment in the period before 2021. Jammu Airport and Srinagar Airport are being expanded and connectivity is being further strengthened by GoI. Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is committed to double hydroelectric power generation by 2028," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Issuing a stern warning to conflict profiteers, the Lieutenant Governor said that the days of those with corrupt intentions including individuals attempting to influence the system are officially over. He warned that anyone trying to cause disruptions will face severe consequences.

Appointment letters were also handed over to 32 beneficiaries under Compassionate Appointment Rules SRO-43 and Rehabilitation Assistance Scheme (RAS).

Chief Secretary, Shri Atal Dulloo; DGP, Shri Nalin Prabhat; Principal Secretary Home, Shri Chandraker Bharti; Commissioner Secretary, GAD, Shri M Raju; IGP Kashmir, Shri VK Birdi; Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Shri Anshul Garg; Chairman, Save Youth Save Future Foundation, Shri Wajahat Farooq Bhat and other members of the Foundation, senior officials, members of various social organisations and family members of victims of terrorism were present.

Aug 5, 2019 Marked

fully implemented and one standard of dignity, justice, and opportunity for all the Indian citizens was upheld."

"After 5th August 2019, we have dismantled the terror ecosystem to a large extent, strengthened the law and order, restored equal rights and created opportunities that allow families to rebuild their lives with confidence."

He said that under the leadership of PM Modi, the marginalized groups, tribals, displaced persons from PoK and Chhamb and refugees have received legal rights such as full citizenship, voting rights and ownership rights over property under the Constitution of India. Farmers and artisans, he said, are creating new opportunities. Our universities, colleges, research and incuba-

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The Lieutenant Governor said, "Industrial growth witnessed by Jammu Kashmir post abrogation of Article 370 is unprecedented. PM Modi has also fulfilled the decades-long dream of rail travel from Kashmir to Kanyakumari. In the financial year 2025-26, investment in Jammu Kashmir amounted to Rs 5,824 crore, which is 13 times the average investment in the period before 2021. Jammu Airport and Srinagar Airport are being expanded and connectivity is being further strengthened by GoI."

He said, "PM Modi is committed to double hydroelectric power generation by 2028."—(KNO)

Rain Lashes Kashmir

precaution against possible flash floods and inundation.

The MeT office has forecast light to moderate rain and thundershowers at many places between August 6 and 8, with the possibility of brief intense showers at a few locations.

It said most places are likely to receive spells of light to moderate rain between August 9 and 11, with heavy rainfall or brief intense showers expected in a few districts, while light rain and thundershowers are likely at many places from August 12 to 15.

The weather office warned that heavy rainfall and intense showers during August 5 and August 9-11 could trigger flash floods and landslides at vulnerable locations and advised people to remain cautious—(KNO)

Autumn Session Of Assembly

shall not intervene between its last sitting in one session and the date appointed for its first sitting in the next session, "reads sub-section(1) of section 18 of J&K Reorganization Act- 2019.

Since the last sitting of the House was held on April 4, 2026, the Assembly had to be convened by or before October 3, 2026.

The J&K Assembly was adjourned sine die on April 4, 2026, after completing a 22-sitting budget session that began on February 2 and resumed on March 27 following a recess—(KNO)

Amarnath Yatra Tops

while the pilgrimage continued in a regulated manner through the Baltal route," he said.

The annual Amarnath Yatra commenced on July 3 and is scheduled to conclude on August 28, coinciding with Raksha Bandhan. The traditional Pahalgam route has already been closed for the pilgrimage due to maintenance works, while the Baltal route remains operational—(KNO)

Focus On Terror

The MEA also accused Pakistan of attempting to divert global attention from its own human

rights record and alleged role in terrorism.

Jaiswal said the international community was witnessing the suppression of fundamental rights in Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK), alleging that Pakistani security forces had resorted to lethal violence, targeted killings and restrictions on peaceful protests in the region.

He further urged Pakistan to take "credible, verifiable and irreversible action" against terror networks operating from its soil and to vacate "all Indian territories under its illegal and forcible occupation."

The remarks came on the seventh anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370, which ended the special status of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir and reorganised it into the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh—(KNO)

Terror Incidents

Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL), the Jammu railway division, the Sonamarg Tunnel and the under-construction Zojila Tunnel.

It said the introduction of Vande Bharat trains and full railway electrification had provided faster, all-weather rail connectivity between the Kashmir Valley and the rest of the country.

The statement said AIIMS Jammu had strengthened access to advanced healthcare and medical education in the region.

On the legislative front, the government said nearly 890 central laws now apply to Jammu and Kashmir, bringing the Union Territory under the same constitutional framework as the rest of the country.

The government highlighted what it described as growing global recognition for Jammu and Kashmir's cultural heritage, saying Srinagar had earned the titles of UNESCO Creative City and World Craft City, while 18 traditional Kashmiri crafts had received Geographical Indication (GI) tags.

It said Kashmiri handicrafts, including Pashmina and Papier-Mâché, were gaining international recognition and creating new opportunities for artisans.

Referring to cultural and sporting activities, the government said religious festivals, including Muharram and Jannashtami, were being observed peacefully, while the Valley had also hosted its first Formula 4 motorsport event, reflecting increasing normalcy and expanding opportunities.

The Centre said the developments over the past seven years reflected its commitment to strengthening connectivity, expanding economic opportunities and improving the quality of life for the people of Jammu and Kashmir—(KNO)

Cruise Boat

the revival of the cruise boat reflects the department's commitment to improving facilities for tourists and making Dal Lake more attractive for visitors. He, however, said there is no immediate plan for developing a dedicated water tourism circuit connecting Dal Lake, Nigeen Lake and other water bodies.

Along with the 18-seater cruise boat, three small recreational boats are now available at Dal Lake. One boat was already operational, another was brought from the Jhelum River, while the third was repaired and restored.

It is noteworthy that, on May 4 this year, Cabinet Minister Satish Sharma had announced that major lakes and river stretches in Kashmir would soon witness cruise and steamer operations under a proposed Rs 900 crore project.

The proposed network, he had said, would cover Wular Lake, Dal Lake, Nigeen Lake and nearly 62 kilometres of the Jhelum River. The initiative aims to reduce congestion, create employment opportunities and expand tourism-related activities.

The Tourism Department believes that restoring the cruise boat on Dal Lake will expand the range of experiences available to visitors and strengthen Kashmir's position as a destination for water-based tourism—(KNO)

Families Of Terror

family's life changed after they were rehabilitated on August 5, 2025.

"Today, I proudly call myself the son of a martyr. Earlier I felt my father's sacrifice had been forgotten, but today I feel proud. We have finally received dignity and respect in society," he said.

Thanking Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, he said, "He recognised the sacrifices of martyrs' families and made us feel we are not alone. He stood with us like a family."

Another beneficiary, whose brother was killed by terrorists in 2018, said the family went through immense hardship after the incident.

"After my brother was martyred, our family suffered a lot. Several family members fell ill and life became extremely difficult. Last year, on August 5, our family was rehabilitated. We are thankful for the support," the beneficiary said.

Another person whose father was killed by terrorists in 1996 said her family spent decades struggling after the attack.

"My father was martyred in 1996. Since then, we have lived through pain and hardship. We never imagined we would receive justice after so many years. The rehabilitation has given our family a new beginning," he said.

Notably, the function witnessed several emotional moments as beneficiaries narrated how terrorism had changed their lives forever, with many saying the rehabilitation and government jobs had restored hope, dignity and confidence after years of suffering—(KNO)

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Director Panchayati Raj reviews GPDP 2026-27 progress

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Director Panchayati Raj, Jammu and Kashmir, Riyaz Ahmad Wani, on Wednesday chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the progress of the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) 2026-27 across all 20 districts of the Union Territory.

The meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioners Panchayat (ACPs), Block Development Officers (BDOs), staff of State Panchayat Resource Centre (SPRC) and District Panchayat Resource Centre (DPRC).

The Director reviewed district-wise progress, pendency status and Action Taken Reports with a focus on accelerating the completion and uploading of GPDPs on the



e-GramSwaraj portal.

The Director stressed the need for time-bound completion of all pending GPDP parameters. He reviewed district-wise performance and sought explanations from officers wherever progress remained unsatisfactory.

He directed officers to immediately resolve such bottlenecks in coordination with the technical teams and ensure uninterrupted uploading of plans.

During the meeting, the Director instructed district officers to pay special attention to 285 Panchayats requiring focused hand-holding, particularly those yet to complete basic profile updates. Officers were instructed to ensure that these Panchayats improve their planning quality and achieve scores above 80, as they are under close monitoring by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.

Reviewing the overall progress, the Director noted that out of 4,291 Gram Panchayats, 3,627 GPDPs had been approved while only 1,294 plans had been uploaded on the portal, indicating a significant gap requiring immediate attention.

He directed officers to convert approved plans into uploads on priority and ensure that facilitation

over mere numerical achievement, Wani directed all districts to undertake random quality checks of uploaded plans, verify Gram Sabha records, resolutions and supporting documentation, and ensure that development plans are based on local needs, resource mapping and community participation.

He reiterated that GPDPs should be prepared in accordance with the prescribed framework, focusing on people-centric planning, sustainable development, resource convergence and inclusive growth. Panchayats were also instructed to strengthen community participation by conducting Ward Sabhas, Gram Sabhas and Bal Sabhas, Gram Sabhas and Bal Sabhas and preparing evidence-based development plans.

The Director directed them to identify practical solutions rather than merely reporting problems and instructed that all pending land and infrastructure-related issues be resolved within two days. The review also covered the construction of Panchayat Ghars, availability of land, inter-departmental coordination and project implementation status.

Emphasizing qual-

ity over mere numerical achievement, Wani directed all districts to undertake random quality checks of uploaded plans, verify Gram Sabha records, resolutions and supporting documentation, and ensure that development plans are based on local needs, resource mapping and community participation.

43,183 beneficiaries deleted in J&K under NFSA's 'rightful targeting' exercise

Centre says 2.35 crore ineligible or duplicate beneficiaries deleted nationwide

RAJA SYED

SRINAGAR: As many as 43,183 beneficiaries have been deleted in Jammu and Kashmir under the Centre's "Rightful Targeting" exercise aimed at identifying and removing ineligible and duplicate beneficiaries from the National Food Security Act (NFSA) database.

The figures were provided by Union Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Nimbun Jayantibhai Bambhaniya in a written reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2884, raised by Dr Kirsan Namdeo, regarding the adequacy of foodgrain coverage under the NFSA.

The Centre, said the NFSA provides coverage of up to 75 per cent of the rural population and up to 50 per cent of the urban population, amounting to

81.35 crore persons as per the 2011 Census. Against the intended coverage, States and Union Territories have identified 79.08 crore beneficiaries, leaving scope for identification of another 2.27 crore eligible beneficiaries.

In Jammu and Kashmir, the annexure to the Lok Sabha reply shows that 43,183 beneficiaries were deleted through the Rightful Targeting exercise. The exercise is based on Aadhaar and Public Distribution System (PDS) data analytics to identify duplicate and ineligible beneficiaries.

At the national level, the government said 5.95 crore beneficiaries had been flagged under the exercise, excluding land-holding cases, while 2.35 crore beneficiaries had been deleted. The State/UT-wise figures were furnished in the annexure to the reply.

The government said updating of beneficiary databases is a continuous process under which ineligible beneficiaries are deleted, and eligible beneficiaries are added. It has also advised States and UTs to identify eligible poor and vulnerable households for inclusion under the NFSA.

The Centre further said ration card and beneficiary databases have been fully digitised across all States and UTs, while 99.7 per cent of ration cards have been Aadhaar-seeded. It said online grievance-redressal systems and toll-free helplines are operational across the country.

Under the One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) system, nationwide portability has been implemented across all 36 States and UTs, with more than 221 crore portability transactions recorded so far, according to the reply—(KNO)

Art-370 Abrogation Opened New Avenues for Development in J&K: Bali

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: On the seventh anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370, Shaldev Bharatiya Samaj Party (SBSP) Jammu & Kashmir State President Vivek Bali welcomed the historic constitutional decision, describing it as a landmark step that has strengthened national unity, ensured equal rights for all citizens, and accelerated the pace of development across Jammu & Kashmir. He said the past seven years have witnessed significant progress in infrastructure, governance, connectivity, public welfare, healthcare, education, tourism, and investment, creating a stronger foundation for the Union Territory's future growth and prosperity.

In a statement issued



here, Vivek Bali said the abrogation of Article 370 marked the beginning of a new era of peace, progress, and inclusive governance in Jammu & Kashmir. He stated that the decision has enabled the effective implementation of Central Government welfare schemes, strengthened democratic institutions, improved road and public infrastructure, enhanced transparency and accountability in

administration, expanded educational and employment opportunities for the youth, and encouraged investment, tourism, and economic development across the region.

Vivek Bali further said that the constitutional changes have ensured that the people of Jammu & Kashmir enjoy the same rights, constitutional safeguards, and opportunities as citizens across the rest of the country. He emphasized that sustained development, transparent governance, industrial investment, employment generation, women's empowerment, social justice, digital connectivity, and improved public services should remain the collective priority of all stakeholders to ensure inclusive and balanced growth throughout the Union Territory.

'Over 1.81 lakh minority scholarships sanctioned in B'la LS seat since 2019'

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Union Government on Wednesday informed Parliament that 1,81,650 minority scholarships under different Central schemes were sanctioned in the Baramulla Lok Sabha constituency between 2019-20 and 2025-26, while several infrastructure and development works have been undertaken at Waqf properties across Baramulla, Bandipora and Kupwara districts of Jammu and Kashmir.

Replying to an unstarred question by Baramulla MP Abdul Rashid Sheikh in the Lok Sabha, Union Minister for Minority Affairs Kiren Rijiju, said the Ministry implemented Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Merit-cum-Means Scholarship Schemes for six notified minority communities—Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists, Jains

and Parsis—across the country till 2021-22. He said details of scholarships sanctioned in the Baramulla parliamentary constituency from 2019-20 to 2025-26 have been placed in the annexure.

According to the reply, 1,53,138 Pre-Matric scholarships were sanctioned with financial assistance of ₹33.13 crore, 24,781 Post-Matric scholarships with assistance of ₹15.54 crore, and 3,731 Merit-cum-Means scholarships amounting to ₹9.69 crore during the period.

The year-wise figures show that in 2019-20, 75,323 Pre-Matric, 16,350 Post-Matric and 904 Merit-cum-Means scholarships were sanctioned. In 2020-21, the numbers stood at 43,890, 5,038 and 1,186, respectively, while 33,387 Pre-Matric, 3,105 Post-Matric and 1,214 Merit-cum-Means scholarships were sanctioned in 2021-22.

CS mourns demise of the staff member, Manzoor Ahmad

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, along with the officers and staff of the Office of the Chief Secretary, has expressed profound grief and sorrow over the sad demise of Manzoor Ahmad Sheikh, Head Multitasking Staff of the J&K Secretariat (Subordinate) Service, who passed away in the early hours Wednesday.

Sheikh was presently posted in the Office of the Chief Secretary, where he discharged his duties with exemplary dedication, sincerity and an unwavering sense of responsibility. Known for his humility, discipline and courteous disposition, he earned the admiration and affection of all those working with him.

Expressing heartfelt condolences, the Chief Secretary said that

Sheikh's untimely demise is an irreparable loss to the Secretariat fraternity. He recalled his selfless service and appreciated his unwavering commitment to duty, which reflected the highest standards of dedication and integrity.

On this occasion the officers and staff of the Office of the Chief Secretary also expressed deep sorrow over the loss of their colleague.

They fondly remembered him as a diligent, dependable and soft-spoken individual whose warmth, sincerity and willingness to assist others made him a valued member of the office. They prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and conveyed their heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved family during this hour of immense grief.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that the original provisional cum Character Certificate of the following candidate, issued by Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Chanapora, has been lost/misplaced by the candidate and remains untraceable despite best efforts. Name: AIDA BEIGH Father's Name: HAIDAYAT ULLAH BEIGH Mother's Name: HANEEFA Date of Birth: 14-08-2005 Roll No :339038011Registration No: 2039010001920054 Stream: Arslif any person has any objection to the issuance of a Duplicate provisional Cum Character Certificate in favour of the above-mentioned candidate, he/she may submit the objection within seven (07) days from the date of publication of this notice. In the event that no objection is received within the stipulated period, the Duplicate provisional Cum Character Certificate shall be issued in accordance with the applicable rules.

147	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-4 (25500-81100)	Junior Lab. Technician	Kulgam	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	5	Matric or above qualification with minimum two years' diploma in Lab Technician or having degree in Lab technology course from any recognized Institute/ State Medical Faculty/ J&K State Paramedical Council.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
148	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-4 (25500-81100)	Junior Lab. Technician	Anantnag	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	Matric or above qualification with minimum two years' diploma in Lab Technician or having degree in Lab technology course from any recognized Institute/ State Medical Faculty/ J&K State Paramedical Council.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
149	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-4 (25500-81100)	Junior Lab. Technician	Kupwara	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	Matric or above qualification with minimum two years' diploma in Lab Technician or having degree in Lab technology course from any recognized Institute/ State Medical Faculty/ J&K State Paramedical Council.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
150	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-4 (25500-81100)	Junior Lab. Technician	Baramulla	3	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	8	Matric or above qualification with minimum two years' diploma in Lab Technician or having degree in Lab technology course from any recognized Institute/ State Medical Faculty/ J&K State Paramedical Council.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
151	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-4 (25500-81100)	Junior Lab. Technician	Bandipora	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	Matric or above qualification with minimum two years' diploma in Lab Technician or having degree in Lab technology course from any recognized Institute/ State Medical Faculty/ J&K State Paramedical Council.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
152	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-4 (25500-81100)	Junior Staff Nurse	Pulwama	4	0	1	2	1	1	1	1	11	Matric or above qualification with Science and having diploma in General Nursing/Midwifery from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
153	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-4 (25500-81100)	Junior Staff Nurse	Kulgam	4	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	Matric or above qualification with Science and having diploma in General Nursing/Midwifery from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
154	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-4 (25500-81100)	Junior Staff Nurse	Anantnag	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	Matric or above qualification with Science and having diploma in General Nursing/Midwifery from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
155	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-4 (25500-81100)	Junior Staff Nurse	Kupwara	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	4	Matric or above qualification with Science and having diploma in General Nursing/Midwifery from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
156	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-4 (25500-81100)	Junior Staff Nurse	Baramulla	3	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	8	Matric or above qualification with Science and having diploma in General Nursing/Midwifery from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
157	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-4 (25500-81100)	Junior Staff Nurse	Srinagar	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	5	Matric or above qualification with Science and having diploma in General Nursing/Midwifery from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
158	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-4 (25500-81100)	Junior Staff Nurse	Ganderbal	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	Matric or above qualification with Science and having diploma in General Nursing/Midwifery from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
159	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-4 (25500-81100)	Junior Staff Nurse	Budgam	4	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	7	Matric or above qualification with Science and having diploma in General Nursing/Midwifery from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
160	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	FMPHW	Budgam	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	Matric or above qualification with Science & Diploma in FMPHW from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
161	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	FMPHW	Srinagar	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	4	Matric or above qualification with Science & Diploma in FMPHW from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
162	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	FMPHW	Ganderbal	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	Matric or above qualification with Science & Diploma in FMPHW from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
163	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	FMPHW	Pulwama	2	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	6	Matric or above qualification with Science & Diploma in FMPHW from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
164	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	FMPHW	Shopian	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	Matric or above qualification with Science & Diploma in FMPHW from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
165	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	FMPHW	Kulgam	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	6	Matric or above qualification with Science & Diploma in FMPHW from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
166	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	FMPHW	Anantnag	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	5	Matric or above qualification with Science & Diploma in FMPHW from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
167	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	FMPHW	Kupwara	3	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	8	Matric or above qualification with Science & Diploma in FMPHW from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
168	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	FMPHW	Baramulla	3	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	6	Matric or above qualification with Science & Diploma in FMPHW from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
169	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	FMPHW	Bandipora	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	4	Matric or above qualification with Science & Diploma in FMPHW from any recognized Institute.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
170	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	MMPHW	Budgam	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	Matric or above qualification with minimum one year or above Diploma in MMPHW from any recognized Institute /State Medical Faculty /State Para Medical Council.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.

171	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	MMPHW	Ganderbal	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	Matric or above qualification with minimum one year or above Diploma in MMPHW from any recognized Institute /State Medical Faculty /State Para Medical Council.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
172	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	MMPHW	Pulwama	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	Matric or above qualification with minimum one year or above Diploma in MMPHW from any recognized Institute /State Medical Faculty /State Para Medical Council.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
173	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	MMPHW	Shopian	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	Matric or above qualification with minimum one year or above Diploma in MMPHW from any recognized Institute /State Medical Faculty /State Para Medical Council.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
174	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	MMPHW	Kulgam	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	Matric or above qualification with minimum one year or above Diploma in MMPHW from any recognized Institute /State Medical Faculty /State Para Medical Council.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
175	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	MMPHW	Anantnag	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	Matric or above qualification with minimum one year or above Diploma in MMPHW from any recognized Institute /State Medical Faculty /State Para Medical Council.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
176	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	MMPHW	Kupwara	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	Matric or above qualification with minimum one year or above Diploma in MMPHW from any recognized Institute /State Medical Faculty /State Para Medical Council.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
177	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	MMPHW	Baramulla	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	Matric or above qualification with minimum one year or above Diploma in MMPHW from any recognized Institute /State Medical Faculty /State Para Medical Council.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
178	Health & Medical Education Department	Director, Health Services Kashmir	Level-2 (19900-63200)	MMPHW	Bandipora	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	Matric or above qualification with minimum one year or above Diploma in MMPHW from any recognized Institute /State Medical Faculty /State Para Medical Council.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
179	Higher Education Department	Director Colleges	Level-2 (19900-63200)	Junior Laboratory Assistant	Div. Kashmir	12	3	2	2	2	1	2	3	27	Graduate with Science preference shall be given to candidates having obtained Post Graduate Diploma in professional Lab. Course in Chemistry/ other Science.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
180	Higher Education Department	Director Colleges	Level-2 (19900-63200)	Junior Laboratory Assistant	Div. Jammu	9	1	3	3	1	2	1	1	21	Graduate with Science preference shall be given to candidates having obtained Post Graduate Diploma in professional Lab. Course in Chemistry/ other Science.	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
181	Labour and Employment Department	Labour Commissioner, J&K	Level-2 (19900-63200)	Supervisor	UT	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	Matriculation or its equivalent examination from any recognized University or Board of Examination	The selection for the post shall be made on the basis of merit obtained in the written/OMR examination only.
Total						221	54	63	52	32	22	38	36	518		

Note:— (i) Candidates applying after the post of Senior Canning Attendant (Item No.104) and Horticulture Technician Grade-IV (Item No. 105 to 116) must possess the prescribed training certificate issued by a Central Government, State Government or Union Territory Government department/institution, a statutory university or University Grants Commission-recognized university and its duly affiliated institution, a State or Central Agricultural/Horticultural University, an Indian Council of Agricultural Research institute or an Indian Council of Agricultural Research-National Agricultural Education Accreditation Board accredited institution/programme, wherever applicable, or any other institution specifically recognized, affiliated or authorized by a competent Government or statutory authority to conduct the relevant course.

(ii) For the post of Junior Laboratory Assistant (Item No. 179 and 180), the preference shall be given to the candidate having Post Graduate Diploma in Professional Lab. Course in Chemistry/Other Science (i.e. in equal merit candidate the preference shall be given to PG Diploma as mentioned in the R. Rules). Moreover, Graduate in Science implies Bachelor's in Science in Physics, Chemistry, Biology (Zoology and Botany) Mathematics with its derivative subjects with nomenclature of Bachelor's in Science. Similarly, the PG Diploma in Professional Laboratory Course besides already prescribed Chemistry subject in the Recruitment Rules shall include all such Laboratory Courses which are done in relation to basic subjects and its derivatives as given above. Post Graduate diploma has to be minimum of one year duration from recognized institutions.

Sd/-
(Khurshid Ahmad Sanai) JKAS
Secretary
J&K Services Selection Board.

“ANNEXURE-B”

Certificate regarding Physical Limitation of an Examinee to Write

This is to certify that, I have examined Mr/Ms/Mrs _____ (name of the candidate with disability), a person with _____ (nature and percentage of disability as mentioned in the certificate of disability), S/o / D/o/ W/o _____ a resident of _____ Village/District/State) and to state that he/she has physical limitation which hampers his/her writing capabilities owing to his/her disability.

Name & Designation: _____ Signature _____
Name of Government Hospital/ Health Care Centre with Seal: _____ Chief Medical Officer/Civil Surgeon/Medical Superintendent of a Government Healthcare Institution

Place: _____
Date: _____

Note: Certificate should be given by a Specialist of the relevant stream/disability (e.g. Visual Impairment-Ophthalmologist, Locomotor Disability-Orthopedic Specialist/ PMR).

ANNEXURE-C

Letter of Undertaking for Using Own Scribe

I, _____ a candidate with _____ (name of the disability) appearing for the _____ (name of the examination) bearing Roll No. _____ at _____ (name of the centre) in the District _____ State/UT). My qualification is _____ (name of the scribe) will provide the service of scribe/reader/lab assistant for the undersigned for taking the aforesaid examination. I do hereby state that _____ In case, subsequently it is found that his/ her qualification is not as declared by the undersigned and is beyond my qualification, I shall forfeit my right in the post and claims relating thereto.

(Signature of the candidate with disability opting for Scribe)

Place: _____
Date: _____

