

Good Morning

Kashmir

17th
Year Of Publication

GMK

Srinagar • Sunday 25, October 2026 • Vol: 17 • Issue No: 252 • Pages: 08 • Price: ₹ 2/- (Air Surcharge for Delhi, Jammu & Ladakh 50/- Paisa) RNI No. JKENG/2010/36998

“Ministerial List Finalised”

CM Asks Party Colleagues To Stop Lobbying



REHAN QAYOOM

Talking to reporters after meeting Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Lok Bhavan here, Chief Minister Omar said, “We discussed the reshuffle. I requested the Lieutenant Governor to fix a time during the first two or three days of next week so that I can carry out certain changes and expansion in my Council of Ministers.”

The Chief Minister said the schedule would be decided by the Lieutenant Governor, following which the cabinet expansion

CM Omar Calls On LG Sinha

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Saturday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha here, officials said.

Abdullah reached the Lok Bhawan around 11 am

Govt In Touch With MEA Over Stranded Umrah Pilgrims: CM Says J&K Govt Coordinating With MEA To Facilitate Their Safe, Early Return

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has expressed concern over the Jammu and Kashmir pilgrims currently stranded in Saudi Arabia after undertaking Umrah, stating that the J&K Government is in active coordination with the Ministry of External Affairs to facilitate their safe and early return.

The Chief Minister reaffirmed the Government's commitment to taking all necessary measures in coordination with the concerned authorities to ensure the safe and expeditious return of the stranded pilgrims.

He also assured the pilgrims and their families that the Government stands

Office of Chief Minister, J&K
@CM_Jnk



Chief Minister has expressed concern over Umrah pilgrims from Jammu & Kashmir currently stranded in Saudi Arabia and said that the J&K Government is in active coordination with the Ministry of External Affairs to facilitate their safe and early return.

firmly with them and will continue to extend all possible support to facilitate their return home at the earliest.

World Recognizing India As Reliable Partner: LG Sinha

Pays Tributes To Dr Rahi Masoom Raza On His Centenary Celebration Event

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Stating that vision of 'Viksit Bharat 2047' requires the active participation of every citizen, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, on Saturday said India is showcasing its capabilities across diverse sectors and is increasingly being recognised by the world as a reliable partner.

“Under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India is witnessing unprecedented development. Significant progress had been achieved in infrastructure, digital connectivity, financial inclusion, women's empowerment, housing, sanitation, and access to essential services. The massive efforts for inclusive development have enhanced the dignity and opportunities available to ordinary citizens,” LG Manoj Sinha said while paying the rich tributes to eminent litterateur Dr. Rahi Masoom Raza on the occasion of his birth centenary celebration event and highlighted his immense contribution to Indian



literature and cinema.

In a message delivered for the commemorative programme organised in Ghazipur, the Lieutenant Governor noted that Rahi Sahab's writings reflected the spirit of Ghazipur, Purvanchal, and India, while carrying a universal vision rooted in humanity and cultural harmony.

The Lieutenant Governor said that Dr. Rahi Masoom Raza,

- I want us to move forward with a collective resolve and a single goal to build an India that is developed, prosperous

Today, India is demonstrating its capability in many fields, from space to digital public infrastructure

Youth must turn every opportunity into a new possibility

Your responsibility is to ensure that development and heritage move forward together

Dr. Rahi Masoom Raza's birth centenary celebration is an opportunity to give a new direction to the future

It should be our resolve to make our diversity our strength, and by choosing dialogue, cooperation

“UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER SHRI NARENDRA MODI, INDIA IS witnessing unprecedented development. Significant progress had been achieved in infrastructure, digital connectivity, financial inclusion, women's empowerment, housing, sanitation, and access to essential services.”

IGP Kumar Calls For Action Against Overground Workers, Hybrid Terrorists

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir Zone, Sujit Kumar, on Saturday directed officers to strengthen intelligence gathering and take effective action against Overground Workers (OGWs), hybrid terrorists and other elements inimical to peace and security.

In a statement issued, a police spokesman said the IGP Kahmir chaired a high-level meeting here in hybrid mode to review crime disposal, security preparedness and various policing measures across Kashmir Zone.

IGP Kumar stressed close monitoring of emerging security challenges and coordinated efforts to maintain peace and public order, the statement said.

The IGP Kashmir reviewed the progress of crime disposal and stressed the need for timely investigation and disposal of



cases within the stipulated 60/90-day timelines under the relevant provisions of the new criminal laws (NCLs), it said, adding that IGP Kumar also reviewed theft-related cases, recovery rates and measures to dismantle organised theft networks.

The meeting also focussed on winter preparedness, with particular emphasis on heating arrangements and the availability of essential facilities for police personnel deployed at police stations and other establishments, it said.

The IGP Kashmir stressed that adequate arrangements must be ensured for personnel performing duties under harsh winter conditions. He directed officers to make police nakas more dynamic, effective and intelligence-driven while ensuring minimum inconvenience to the general public, the statement said, adding that Kashmir Police Chief also stressed on the need for strengthening inter-agency coordination and increased synergy on ground to enhance operational efficiency and address security concerns.

Reviewing pending cases and cases stayed before courts, the IGP Kashmir stressed

Sajjan Singh Yadav Appointed J&K Chief Secretary

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on Saturday appointed Dr Sajjan Singh Yadav, a 1995-batch IAS officer of the AGMUT cadre, as the new Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir.

According to an official order issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Yadav has been transferred from Delhi to Jammu and Kashmir with the approval of the competent authority.

“With the approval of the Competent Authority, Dr. Sajjan Singh Yadav, IAS (AGMUT:1995) is hereby transferred from Delhi to Jammu & Kashmir and posted as Chief Secretary, Jammu & Kashmir w.e.f. 01.11.2026 or from the date of joining, whichever is later,” the order reads.

Yadav has been serving as Additional Chief Secretary and CEO of the Delhi Jal



Board in New Delhi since June 9, 2026.

The order, bearing number 15041/07/2023. UTS.I, was issued on October 24, 2026, and signed by Anish Muraleedharan, Director in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The appointment will become effective on November 1 or the date Yadav assumes charge, whichever is later.

Copies of the order have been forwarded to the Chief Secretaries of Delhi,

Srinagar Readies For Kashmir Marathon With 2,000 Runners

3 Foreign Athletes From 12 Countries Among 1,807 Registered Runners

REHAN QAYOOM

SRINAGAR: Banners, hoardings and posters have transformed Srinagar's streets ahead of the Kashmir International Marathon, with roads along the route set and barricading completed as around 2,000 runners, including 73 foreign athletes from 12 countries, prepare to hit the streets on Sunday.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah will flag off the full marathon at 6:30 am, followed by the half marathon at 7:45 am, Director Tourism Kashmir Syed Qamar Sajjad said on Saturday, adding that preparations for the event had been completed.

“The preparations are complete. Tomorrow morning at 6:30 am, the flag-off of the full marathon will be done by Chief



Minister Omar Abdullah. After that, at 7:45 am, the half marathon will be flagged off,” Director Sajjad said.

He said efforts had been made to repair potholes along the route, complete barricad-

ing and improve the presentation of the starting and flag-off points to ensure the smooth conduct of the international sporting event.

A total of 1,807 runners have registered online, includ-

ing 1,221 local participants, 513 domestic runners and 73 foreign athletes from 12 countries. The department expects total participation to cross 2,000, with on-the-spot registration also open for those who missed the online deadline.

The Director said the Tour-

ism Department is seeking to establish the marathon as an annual event and strengthen Kashmir's profile as a destination for national and international sporting events.

“Participation of foreign athletes would help present Kashmir to a wider

“THE LOCAL STALLS HERE SHOWCASE all their products, whether handmade or agricultural products. Our local youth get a chance to participate with international athletes,”

Money Laundering Case NIA Court Orders Trial Against Yasin Malik, 6 Others

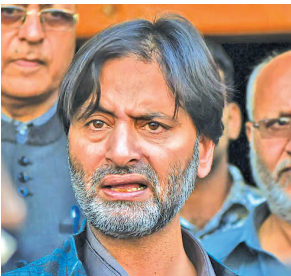
FIANS

NEW DELHI: A Special National Investigation Agency (NIA) court in New Delhi on Saturday ordered the commencement of trial against separatist leader Yasin Malik and six others in a money laundering case involving alleged foreign funding from Pakistan through hawala channels.

The case relates to the alleged laundering of proceeds of crime worth Rs 8.94 crore, which the Enforcement Directorate (ED) claims were generated through illegal financial transactions linked to separatist activities in Jammu and Kashmir.

According to the allegations, the accused received foreign funds originating from Pakistan through hawala networks and other channels.

The money was allegedly used to support separatist



activities and related unlawful operations in the Union Territory.

The ED initiated its investigation on the basis of an FIR registered by the NIA in 2017.

The NIA had registered the case under relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

The ED subsequently investigated the alleged financial transactions, examining the movement of funds and the suspected proceeds of crime.

The court's latest order marks a significant

DC Sgr, Principal GMC inspect newly built Additional NICU Block at LD



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo, along with the Principal, Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar, Dr Iffat, on Saturday visited Government Lal Ded Hospital and inspected the functioning of the newly built additional 15-bed Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) block for new born babies established by the District Administration at a cost of Rs 75 lakh using convergence of funds available at district level.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner and Principal GMC Srinagar reviewed the functioning of the newly established facility, which has been created to augment the hospital's existing capacity and address the growing demand for specialised neonatal healthcare services, catering not only to patients from Srinagar district but also to newborns from across the Kashmir Division.

The Officers assessed the operational status of the additional NICU beds and reviewed the facility's role in strengthening the hospital's capacity to provide specialised medical care to newborns requiring intensive monitoring, treatment and support. The additional beds are aimed at improving the availability of critical neonatal care services for patients from Srinagar and other Districts of

the Kashmir Division.

On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said that the establishment of the additional 15-bed NICU block at a cost of Rs 75 lakh marks an important step towards strengthening neonatal healthcare infrastructure at Lal Ded Hospital, one of the major healthcare institutions catering to expectant mothers and newborns from across the Kashmir Valley.

The DC added that the facility has been created to augment the hospital's existing neonatal care capacity and facilitate the provision of specialised medical services to newborns requiring intensive care. He also emphasised the importance of strengthening healthcare infrastructure to ensure better access to essential medical facilities.

The Deputy Commissioner further stated that the District Administration is also set to establish another 15-bedded NICU block at JLNH Hospital Rainawari soon, further expanding the availability of specialised neonatal healthcare facilities in Srinagar. He underlined that the proposed facility is expected to supplement the existing healthcare infrastructure and enhance the capacity to cater to newborns requiring specialised medical attention.

Earlier, the Principal, GMC Srinagar also highlighted the importance of additional 15 NICU beds at Lal Ded Hos-

pital. She appreciated the continued support extended by the District Administration towards strengthening healthcare infrastructure and improving the availability of specialised medical facilities for newborns. She also highlighted the assistance provided by the District Administration in completing various infrastructure upgradation projects and supporting other developmental initiatives at GMC Srinagar. She noted that these efforts are contributing towards strengthening the overall institutional infrastructure and improving facilities for both staff and students, besides the patient at tertiary care hospitals.

Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mir Imtiyaz ul Aziz, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Aadil Fareed, Administrator GMC Srinagar, Masarat Hashim, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, Superintending Engineer R&B, Theer Manzoor, SDM West, Seerat Bajji, SDM East, Zubair Ahmad, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Umar Gulzar, Medical Superintendent Lal Ded Hospital, Dr Muzafar, Executive Engineer, Mechanical Hospital Division, Executive Engineer R&B, Khalid Mehmood, Tehsildar South, Sajad Rasool Shah, besides other Senior Officers of District Administration and Health Department were present on the occasion.

VC LCMA inspects Dal Lake Shoreline, Pokhribal ahead of Kashmir Marathon

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Ahead of the third edition of the Kashmir Marathon, scheduled for October 25, 2026, Vice Chairman (VC), JKLCMA, Khurshid Ahmad Shah, visited key stretches of the Dal Lake shoreline from Dal Gate to Hazratbal, covering Lalit Ghat, SKICC backwaters, Nishat Basin, Habak, etc. to review the progress of cleanliness and upkeep measures undertaken by the Authority.

The Vice Chairman was accompanied by officers and field staff of the Authority during the visit.

During the inspection, the Vice Chairman reviewed the cleanli-

ness measures undertaken along the shoreline and adjoining areas. He expressed satisfaction with the progress achieved and appreciated the efforts of the concerned officers and field staff in ensuring that the lakefront areas had been properly cleaned and maintained ahead of the prestigious sporting event.

He emphasized that Dal Lake, one of Srinagar's most prominent landmarks and a major tourist attraction, should reflect the city's natural beauty and environmental commitment, particularly during events of national and international significance such as the Kashmir Marathon. He stressed that



maintaining the cleanliness of the shoreline and its adjoining areas was essential to providing a pleasant environment for marathon participants,

visitors and tourists.

The Vice Chairman directed the concerned teams to sustain the cleanliness achieved along the inspected stretch through

regular monitoring and timely intervention to prevent the accumulation of waste and litter. He underscored the importance of continued coordination between the officers and field staff to ensure that the lakefront remains clean and well maintained.

Later, the Vice Chairman visited Pokhribal to review the ongoing cleanliness works and assess the progress achieved by the field teams. He emphasized the need for regular monitoring and proper upkeep of the area, reiterating LCMA's commitment to maintaining the cleanliness, ecological integrity and aesthetic appeal of Dal Lake and its surrounding areas.

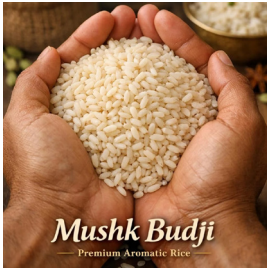
Kashmir's aromatic Rice, Mushk Budji showcased during BIRC

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: A Kashmiri farmer Zafar Ahmad Bhat was felicitated during Bharat International Rice Conference at New Delhi for his efforts in preserving the iconic, highly fragrant Mushk Budji rice variety.

Sagam in Anantnag is celebrated as a major centre and model village for growing this high-altitude, short-grain aromatic rice and was awarded G.I tag during 2023.

In this International Rice Conference, Jammu & Kashmir featured alongside other prominent agrarian states along with Odisha, Assam, and Telangana to highlight indigenous Geographical Indication (GI) and specialty rice varieties. The main objective is to establish robust market linkages to transition these niche local varieties onto mainstream international retail shelves.



Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir is represented by Agriculture Production and Farmers Welfare Department and Director Agriculture Kashmir, Sartaj Ahmad Shah is attending the conference to engage with premier institutions like the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) and the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). The conference brought together global buyers, policymakers, researchers, and exporters to highlight India's prominence in the global rice sector.

DC B'la launches Poster for Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament 2027



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, S.F. Hamid, Saturday launched the official poster for the District-Level Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament 2027, being organised by MY Bharat Baramulla on November 3, 2026, at Government Degree College (GDC), Baramulla.

The district-level competition will be held on the theme "One Nation, One Election," providing a platform for young participants to express their views, engage in constructive debate and develop a deeper understanding of democratic processes.

The competition will be conducted at District, State and National level. Selected participants will have the opportunity to advance to the national level, with the final stage offering them an opportunity to reach the Parliament of India in New Delhi.

During the poster launch, the Deputy Commissioner emphasised the importance of youth participation in democratic processes and encouraged young people to actively engage in discussions on issues of national importance.

The event was attended by the Additional Deputy Commissioner, District Information Officer, District Youth Officer MYBharat and other officials. MY Bharat Baramulla has invited eligible youth to participate in the district-level event and contribute their perspectives on the theme through informed discussion and debate.

CHO Pulwama to organise Machinery Mela on 27 October

GMK NEWS NETWORK

PULWAMA: The Office of the Chief Horticulture Officer, Pulwama, is organising a Machinery Mela on 27 October 2026 (Tuesday) at its office premises in Pulwama to facilitate identified and authorized beneficiary growers in procuring farm machinery of their choice from registered dealers under the Farm Mechanization Scheme.

All registered farm machinery dealers have been invited to participate in the event along with the requisite dealership/brand authorization certificates,

registration particulars and other relevant documents, ensuring the availability of machinery for the authorized beneficiaries.

During the event, physical verification and embossing/marking of the purchased machinery shall be carried out on the spot under the supervision of the District Level Monitoring and Supervising Committee (DLMSC).

The initiative aims to facilitate a transparent and streamlined procurement process, ensuring convenience to eligible growers and timely completion of the requisite departmental formalities.

OPPO raises bar for premium flagship smartphones with 'Find X10 Series'

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: OPPO India launched the all-new OPPO Find X10 Series, comprising OPPO Find X10 and OPPO Find X10 Pro Max, marking the 10th generation of its innovative and premium flagship OPPO Find X Series.

Built to set a new benchmark for the premium smartphone experience, the Find X10 Series brings together breakthrough true-to-life imaging, uncompromising performance, exceptional battery endurance and refined design. All this, along with the new ColorOS 17, aiding superior and smooth user software experience.

OPPO also expanded its flagship connected ecosystem with the OPPO Enco X4 and OPPO Pad Mini, so that users can capture, create and share in one flow. Together, the flagship portfolio elevates everyday experience, so every shot, edit and share feels authentic and true to the moment.

At the heart of the OPPO Find X10 Series is a camera system designed to deliver images closer to how they are seen in real life. The OPPO Find X10 features a Dual 200MP Camera System, while the OPPO Find X10 Pro Max introduces the



revolutionary Triple 200MP Camera System, bringing 200MP resolution across all three rear cameras. Co-developed with Hasselblad, it is paired with the new LUMO True Image Engine and Second-Generation True Colour Camera for natural colours, tones and details, while LUMO Color Palette lets users build a personal style on top of that natural starting point. Video gets cinema-grade tools, including 4K Cine-Grade HDR Video, Dolby Vision and Open Gate Capture.

The all-new ColorOS 17 brings AI Mind Pilot with Agent Mode, which can work with photos and files on the device to complete multi-step tasks. The series is backed by up to an 8000mAh battery, the 2nm MediaTek Dimensity 9600 Pro on the Find X10 Pro Max, and a new Borderless

Design.

Complementing the OPPO Find X10 Series is the OPPO Pad Mini, the brand's first compact 8.8-inch tablet, combining flagship performance with AI-powered productivity in an ultra-portable design, and the OPPO Enco X4, featuring a premium audio experience co-developed with Dynaudio for exceptional sound quality. Together, these devices extend OPPO's flagship experience beyond smartphones, enabling seamless connectivity, productivity, creativity and entertainment across everyday moments.

Commenting on the launch, Goldee Patnaik, Head of Communications, OPPO India, said, "For ten generations, the OPPO Find X Series has pushed the boundaries of smartphone innovation. With the OPPO Find X10 Series, we are solving what creators struggle with most: pictures that drift from what the eyes see, results that change with the light, and AI that adds steps instead of removing them. The Pad Mini brings a new form factor from OPPO, compact and creator-friendly, and with the Enco X4, it completes a connected ecosystem that lets users capture, create and share in one flow." (PR)

District Treasury B'pora concludes Four-Day JKIFMS Training Programme

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: District Treasury Bandipora Saturday concluded a four-day training programme on the implementation of the JKIFMS e-Bill, e-Voucher, e-Receipt and e-Account framework at the Conference Hall, Mini Secretariat, Bandipora.

District Treasury Officer (DTO) Bandipora, Imtiyaz Ahmad, chaired

the concluding session and emphasised the importance of effective implementation of digital financial systems to ensure transparency, accuracy and efficiency in government transactions.

The training, held from October 21 to 24, witnessed participation from Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs), Dealing Assistants and accounts personnel

from various departments.

Participants were provided practical guidance on e-Bill processing, three-tier authentication, e-signing mechanisms and other technical aspects of JKIFMS.

The DTO appreciated the cooperation of the District Administration and participating departments in ensuring the successful conduct of the programme.

DC G'bal holds Public Outreach Programme at Kangan

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shreya Singhal, Saturday chaired a public outreach programme at Kangan Ganderbal, to listen to the grievances, issues and demands of the general public and ensure effective redressal through coordinated departmental intervention.

During the programme, locals from the area put forth their grievances and highlighted various issues concerning essential services and public infrastructure. The Deputy Commissioner gave a patient hearing to the people and directed the concerned officers to address the issues on priority, with particular emphasis on matters related to the Jal Shakti (PHE), Power Development Department (PDD) and Rural Development Department (RDD).

Emphasising responsive and accountable governance, the DC stressed that public grievances must be dealt with promptly and that officers should make every effort to resolve issues on the spot wherever feasible. She directed the concerned departments to



take immediate cognisance of the issues raised, ensure timely action and maintain proper follow up on matters requiring further intervention.

During the outreach programme, the Deputy Commissioner also inspected departmental stalls set up at the venue and reviewed the progress of various activities being undertaken by the departments. She interacted with the concerned officials and took stock of initiatives across agriculture, horticulture and other allied sectors, with particular focus on production, innovative practices and activities being implemented under different government schemes. She stressed the importance of promoting new ideas, improving productivity and ensuring that the benefits of departmental initiatives reach the intended beneficiaries.

The Deputy Commission-

er underscored that public outreach programmes are an important means of bringing the administration closer to the people and ensuring that government services reach citizens at their doorsteps. She directed all officers to remain accessible to the public, strengthen field level coordination and ensure that genuine grievances are addressed without unnecessary delay. Reaffirming her commitment to public service, the DC assured the people that the district administration would remain accessible and responsive to their concerns. She emphasised that effective service delivery, accountability and the welfare of the general public remain the administration's foremost priorities.

All concerned officers were directed to compile grievances pertaining to their respective departments and ensure timely follow up and resolution in a coordinated manner.

MLA Gurez reviews Winter Preparedness, stresses timely Snow Clearance

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: MLA Gurez, Nazir Ahmad Khan, Saturday reviewed winter preparedness and stock arrangements for the snow-bound areas of Gurez at Dak Bungalow, Dawar, in a meeting with concerned district and sectoral officers.

The meeting focused on the advance stocking of essential commodities, snow clearance, road connectivity, uninterrupted power and water supply, healthcare facilities and other essential services ahead of winter.

On the occasion, the MLA took stock of ration availability and advance stocking of supplies in remote areas, stressing the need to prevent shortages during prolonged snowfall and road closures. He emphasised coordination among MED, R&B, PMGSY and Beacon authorities for



timely snow clearance, adequate deployment of snow cutter machines and maintenance of road connectivity.

He also reviewed power supply arrangements, fuel stocks, availability of essential medicines, presence of doctors and paramedical staff, and the provision of medicines and fodder for livestock. The availability of essential supplies under ICDS and the functioning of Anganwadi centres were also reviewed.

The preparedness of Fire and Emergency Services

was also reviewed, with directions to ensure the availability of firefighting equipment, trained personnel and emergency response arrangements to deal with any eventuality during winter.

Emphasising advance planning and interdepartmental coordination, the MLA directed all departments to ensure adequate stocks of essential commodities, medicines and fuel, and remain prepared to respond promptly to emergencies arising from heavy snowfall.

DC Shopian interacts with Media Persons

Highlights Media's role in promoting Public Awareness, Transparency

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Charandeep Singh, Saturday interacted with media persons at the Mini-Secretariat, Shopian.

During the interaction, the Deputy Commissioner highlighted the importance of constructive engagement between the district administration and the media in disseminating information about government schemes, developmental initiatives and public welfare programmes.

During the meeting, the President of the Media Asso-

ciation Shopian and other members put forth various demands, including the provision of a press club, besides other issues concerning the media fraternity.

The DC emphasised the need for close coordination between the district administration and the media fraternity to ensure the timely dissemination of authentic information and effective highlighting of public issues.

He also underscored the importance of responsible journalism in highlighting public concerns, promoting transparency and accountability, and creating awareness about vari-

ous government initiatives being implemented for the welfare of the people.

President of the Media Association Shopian and other members appreciated the Deputy Commissioner's initiative of holding such interactive meetings, noting that these engagements help strengthen coordination between the district administration and the media fraternity and provide a platform to discuss issues of public interest.

They also shared their views and raised issues of public interest, which were discussed during the interaction.

Stay loyal to NC, not just when in power: Farooq Abdullah to party workers

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Saturday cautioned party workers against changing their political loyalties according to which party holds power, saying commitment to the organisation must be based on honesty and principles rather than personal interests.

Addressing a gathering in Baramulla, Abdullah said those who had devoted themselves to the National Conference must remain steadfast in their commitment, irrespective of political circumstances.

"If you have really given your blood for this Jamaat, then walk with it with honesty. Do not walk with dishonesty," Abdullah said.

In a pointed message to party workers, the former Chief Minister questioned the tendency to remain associated with a political organisation only when it is in government.

"Today there is a government, and you are with us. If you want to remain with this Jamaat, will you remain only as long as this government is there?" he asked, stressing that political loyalty should not depend on positions of power.

Abdullah said the



strength of a political organisation lay in the sincerity and dedication of its workers, not merely in electoral victories or government formation.

He urged party members to demonstrate courage and conviction, saying they should not allow fear or personal considerations to influence their political conduct.

The NC president also said his political objectives were not centred on securing positions of authority but on addressing the economic difficulties facing the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

"I am not asking you to make me Chief Minister. I am not asking you to make me President. I am asking you to remove our poverty," he said. JammuKashmir travel

Abdullah further questioned why Jammu and Kashmir continued to face electricity shortages despite generating power from its own resources.

"Electricity is being produced, yet we are

deprived of electricity," he said.

Recalling his tenure as Chief Minister, he referred to efforts to develop major hydropower projects and discussions with the Centre over their eventual transfer to Jammu and Kashmir.

"We will take the projects back," he asserted.

Abdullah also recalled the political understanding between Jammu and Kashmir and India, saying it had been founded on the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru.

"We made peace with Gandhi's India. We made peace with Nehru's India. We never expected that a time would come when Hindus and Muslims would be made to fight each other," he said.

Calling upon people to speak without fear, Abdullah said political workers must stand by their convictions and remain committed to the welfare of the people rather than the pursuit of power. (KNS)

Pulwama Man Booked for Posing as Govt Official, Cheating People

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Pulwama Police have registered an FIR against a man accused of impersonating an Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC), Pulwama, and allegedly defrauding a father-son duo of approximately Rs 28 lakh in connection with a land compensation dispute, following directions from the Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM), Pulwama.

The case has been registered under Sections 319 and 336(3) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) against Haroon Rashid Bandh, a resident of Kachachkoot, Awan-tipora, according to the details provided. The case follows an order issued

by CJM Muzamil Ahmad Wani on October 23, 2026, on an application filed by MuhammadYousuf Thoker and his son, Tariq Ahmad Thoker, residents of Frastabal, Pampore.

According to the complaint, the applicants alleged that Bandh falsely represented himself as the ADC, Pulwama, despite neither holding nor being authorised to exercise that official position. They alleged that he used the purported official identity to induce them to part with approximately ₹28 lakh through representations linked to land compensation and a property transaction.

The complaint states that a portion of Mohd Yousuf Thoker's land at

Gudoora, Pulwama, was acquired in connection with the construction or widening of National Highway-444, for which compensation became payable. The accused allegedly came into contact with the family during proceedings



related to the acquisition and compensation and subsequently obtained the money through fraudulent representations, according to the application.

The court order also refers to an agreement to

sell dated June 10, 2026, concerning the remaining land at Gudoora. The applicants alleged that they later discovered the purported misrepresentation and referred to a civil suit filed on July 4, 2026, which was pending before the Court of the Munsiff, Pulwama.

The applicants told the court that they had approached Police Station Pulwama and the Senior Superintendent of Police, Pulwama, seeking registration of an FIR, but no case had been registered, prompting them to seek judicial intervention under Section 175(3) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS).

In its October 23 order, the CJM noted that the

police had not submitted a report or response despite being directed to do so. The court examined the application, affidavit, transaction-related material and WhatsApp conversations referred to by the applicants and observed that the material prima facie disclosed cognizable offences requiring a thorough investigation.

The court consequently directed the Station House Officer, Police Station Pulwama, to register an FIR under the relevant provisions of law and proceed with the investigation. Police have since registered FIR No. 214/2026 under Sections 319 and 336(3) of the BNS, according to the information provided. [KNT]

Altaf Bukhari appeals to PM, EAM for safe return of stranded Umrah pilgrims



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari on Saturday appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar to intervene and ensure that the Kashmiri pilgrims stranded in Saudi Arabia are brought back home safely and at the earliest. The government must take all necessary measures to help them during this difficult time and ensure that they do not continue to suffer due to the cancellation of their flights," he said.

He stressed that the stranded pilgrims, many of whom may be facing financial difficulties, need timely support and assistance until arrangements are made for their safe return.

many of them facing uncertainty and financial hardship, with reports indicating that they are struggling to afford accommodation, food and essential medicines.

Apni Party president urged the Union government to take immediate steps to facilitate their return and provide necessary assistance to those affected.

"I appeal to Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Hon'ble External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar to intervene and ensure that the Kashmiri pilgrims stranded in Saudi Arabia are brought back home safely and at the earliest. The government must take all necessary measures to help them during this difficult time and ensure that they do not continue to suffer due to the cancellation of their flights," he said.

He stressed that the stranded pilgrims, many of whom may be facing financial difficulties, need timely support and assistance until arrangements are made for their safe return.

Police bust alleged clandestine module linked to banned Ittihad-ul-Muslimeen



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: Jammu and Kashmir Police in Bandipora have uncovered an alleged module associated with the banned organisation Ittihad-ul-Muslimeen, reportedly operating under the directions of a Pakistan-based handler.

According to an official spokesperson, Bandipora Police busted an alleged prison-linked module of the banned organisation that was targeting women to promote separatist ideology and propaganda.

Police said the investigation has revealed suspected links involving prison-based coordination, covert meetings to propagate separatist ideology and financial transactions.

In this connection, a case vide FIR No. 168/2026 under Sections 10 and 13 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA),

1967, as amended, has been registered at Police Station Bandipora.

So far, according to the police statement, six persons have been arrested in the case: Mubeena Bano, daughter of Gh Ahmad Dar, resident of Dachigam, Bandipora; Waheed Ahmad Bhat, son of Mohd Maqbool Bhat, resident of Bhat Mohallah, Kachloo Qazipora, Handwara, District Kupwara; Kushboo Jan, daughter of Ab Rashid Sheikh, resident of Check Panzigam, Bandipora; Mehak Jan, daughter of Mohd Sultan Sheikh, resident of Check Panzigam, Bandipora; Aliya Jan, daughter of Ab Rashid Sheikh, resident of Check Panzigam, Bandipora; and Irfan Ahmed Reshi alias Rayees, son of Gh Nabi Reshi, resident of Ananwan, Handwara.

Further investigation into the case is underway.

Speaker inaugurates 5 km Kutbal-Yousmarg road, villages

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: In a major boost to connectivity and tourism in the area, Speaker Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Abdul Rahim Rather, who is also MLA Charar-i-Sharief, Saturday inaugurated the much-awaited 5 kilometre Kutbal-Yousmarg road, turning a long-cherished dream of residents of dozens of villages into reality.

The newly inaugurated road is expected to significantly improve connectivity between the villages and the popular tourist destination of Yousmarg. Besides facilitating the movement of local residents, the road is likely to give fresh impetus to tourism-related activities and create new employment and livelihood opportunities for local youth.

Speaking on the occasion, Abdul Rahim Rather reiterated the government's commitment to



strengthen the road connectivity across rural and remote areas of Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasized that improved road infrastructure is vital for ensuring equitable development, facilitating access to essential services and unlocking the tourism and economic potential of underserved areas.

He directed the concerned authorities to maintain a focused approach towards addressing the connectivity-related issues and ensuring timely completion of road projects

while adhering to prescribed quality standards. He stressed that development initiatives must translate into tangible benefits for the people, particularly those residing in far-flung and rural areas.

Expressing gratitude to the Speaker, the residents said the project had been a long-pending demand of dozens of villages which has come to reality. They said improved connectivity with Yousmarg would open new avenues for tourism, trade and employment in the region.

Secy RDD directs officers to expedite rural development works

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Secretary, Rural Development Department (RDD) and Panchayati Raj, Ramesh Kumar, on Saturday directed officers to accelerate the implementation of rural development schemes, ensure financial accountability, expedite the completion of pending works and resolve outstanding liabilities, recoveries and administrative issues.

Chairing a comprehensive review meeting at Panchayat Bhawan, Humhama, Budgam, the Secretary assessed the progress of major rural development programmes, including Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-GRAM-G), Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G), Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM-G) and Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA). The review also covered UT CAPEX works, infrastructure for District Development Councils (DDCs), Block Development Councils (BDCs) and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), Viksit Village projects, financial management, development planning, court cases and administrative compliance.

The meeting was attended by Secretary in RDD Rachna Sharma; Mission Director, NRLM, Shubhra Sharma; Director, RDD Kashmir, Riyaz Ahmad Wani; CEO, IWMP, Rajnish Kumar; Director Finance, Umar Khan; Joint Director Planning, Kamal Kumar Sharma; Additional Secretary, RDD, Waseem Raja; Joint Director, RDD, Mantasha Binti Rashid; Deputy Director Rural Sanitation, Kashmir, Shabir Ahmed



Hakak; besides all Assistant Commissioners Development, Assistant Commissioners Panchayats and Executive Engineers of REW in the Kashmir Division.

Reviewing VB-GRAM-G, the Secretary stressed the need to improve implementation, expedite wage and material payments, and strengthen field-level monitoring. He called for regular inspections, improved reporting and greater accountability among officers responsible for executing works under the programme.

He directed officers to ensure the timely completion of incomplete works under VB-GRAM-G and other relevant schemes. Wherever irregularities, excess payments or other recoverable amounts have been identified, the concerned officers were instructed to initiate recovery proceedings in accordance with applicable rules.

Emphasising the importance of effective development planning, the Secretary directed officers to prepare comprehensive Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDs) and ensure their proper approval and accurate uploading on the relevant portals. Deficiencies communicated by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) were to be examined carefully, and discrepancies between approved plans and

online records rectified promptly.

He further stressed that the Viksit Gram Panchayat Plans (VGPPs) should incorporate all important activities and interventions relevant to local development, with special attention to provisions for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs). Water-related works and other relevant interventions of the Jal Shakti Department were also to be incorporated wherever applicable.

The Secretary directed officers to utilise Gram Sabha meetings effectively for discussing, validating and documenting proposed developmental activities. Information relating to Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities, assets created, works undertaken and proposed interventions must be accurately reflected in portal records to ensure transparency, accountability and effective planning at the grassroots level.

Reviewing PMAY-G, the Secretary stressed the need to complete pending houses, expedite verification and approval processes, and take appropriate action in cases involving delayed construction. He directed officers to pursue recoveries wherever warranted and deal with delayed or incomplete houses strictly in accordance with prescribed guidelines.

Tanvir Sadiq urges CS to submit daily wagers' regularisation report to CM by Oct 31

REHAN QAYOOM

SRINAGAR: National Conference (NC) chief spokesperson and Zadalil MLA Tanvir Sadiq on Saturday urged Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo to submit the pending report on daily wagers' regularisation by October 31 and send the file to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah before the deadline.

"There is still time till the 31st. I request the Chief Secretary, who is the son of the soil, to send the regularisation file to the Chief Minister before the deadline so that the promise made to daily wagers can be fulfilled," Sadiq told reporters after reviewing developmental works in his Zadalil constituency.

The NC chief spokesperson, said daily wagers and casual workers had approached him earlier in the day, adding that the Chief Secretary had been given six months to submit a report on their regularisation, but it was yet to be

submitted.

"History will always see what you have done for your people. I think now is the time to submit that report before the 31st," he said, adding that those responsible for delaying the report would be answerable if the workers were forced to take to the streets.

During the interaction, Sadiq also reviewed developmental works and winter preparedness in Zadalil, stressing the need to complete pending projects before snowfall.

He said Kashmir has a working season of around six months and urged departments to take up pending works under the CAPEX budget, Constituency Development Fund (CDF) and other schemes on priority.

"I have requested every department to immediately talk to contractors and ensure that all works, whether under CAPEX, CDF or other schemes, are completed as soon as

possible, before the snow starts," he said.

He added that roads, lanes, drains and interior areas needed improvement ahead of winter.

Sadiq said projects worth around Rs 100-150 crore were underway in the constituency and expressed satisfaction with the progress of works in sectors including health, roads and other civic infrastructure.

On the possibility of cabinet expansion, he said the decision rested with Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and the party leadership, adding that he was not in a position to comment on the matter.

"The Chief Minister has promised that he will do it and he will definitely do it," Sadiq said.

He also criticised the BJP, alleging that misleading claims were being made about development works in Srinagar and that some political leaders were taking credit for projects funded by the government—(KNO)

Choose books, bats, balls, stay away from drugs: SSP Srinagar to youth

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Urging youth to channel their energy towards positive activities, SSP Srinagar Dr G. V. SundEEP Chakravathy on Saturday said the aim of organising sports events under the Civic Action Programme is to engage young people constructively and keep them away from drugs and other social evils.

Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the concluding ceremony of a T20 cricket tournament in downtown Srinagar, the SSP Srinagar, said the tournament was organised by Srinagar Police as part of its Civic Action Programme.

"Keep books, bats and balls in your hands and stay away from drugs. The purpose of organising such tournaments is to channelise the energy of youth in a positive direction," he said.



Congratulating all participating teams, Chakravathy said, "Whoever has participated in this tournament, whether winners or runners-up, I congratulate everyone from the bottom of my heart."

The tournament, which began on October 17 at MPML Higher Secondary School Playground, Shamswari, witnessed participation from eight teams representing different areas of Srinagar district.

In the final, Gojwari Cricket Club defeated Krashbal Cricket Club to clinch the title.

The SSP also distributed trophies, medals, mementoes and cash prizes among the winners, runners-up and outstanding performers. He also appreciated the players and local community for their support, saying such initiatives help promote sports and strengthen police-public relations—(KNO)

Put facts before people: Minister Dar tells media

WARIS FAYAZ

BARAMULLA: Asking the media to present facts objectively while reporting on developments in the region, Agriculture Minister Javed Dar on Saturday said Jammu and Kashmir has faced numerous challenges since 2019, which needed to be highlighted through factual and balanced reporting.

Addressing National Conference (NC) workers' convention here in North Kashmir, Minister Dar, referred to party President Dr Farooq Abdullah's remarks, saying the developments that had taken place in Jammu and Kashmir since 2019 were evident and should be presented before the public through factual reporting.

The Minister said the party

convention was a response to those who claimed that the National Conference has "weakened and lost its political relevance."

"Those who say NC stands weakened should open their eyes," Dar said, pointing to the presence of thousands of party workers at the convention.

He said the large gathering, along with the joining of new members, reflected

the party's grassroots strength and the trust it continued to enjoy among sections of the public.

The Minister asserted that the National Conference remained a strong political force in Jammu and Kashmir, adding that the participation of party workers demonstrated its continued presence on the ground.

On speculation sur-

rounding a possible cabinet reshuffle and reactions from leaders who had been dropped, the Minister said the opposition relied on statements, while the National Conference believed in practical work.

He said the party's approach was evident to the people, adding that political statements alone could not be compared with work on the ground—(KNO)

Good Morning

Kashmir

EDITORIAL

Much Anticipated Cabinet Reshuffle

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has indicated that the much-awaited expansion and reshuffle of his Council of Ministers is likely to take place within the next two to three days, bringing an end to speculation over the formation of his new team. His remarks suggest that the process has moved beyond consultations and that the final decisions have already been taken.

Speaking to reporters in Srinagar on Saturday after meeting Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, Omar said he had requested the LG to fix a time during the first two or three days of the coming week to carry out the proposed changes. The formal exercise, he indicated, is now awaiting the Lieutenant Governor's scheduling.

More significant than the announcement itself was the Chief Minister's assertion that the list of ministers had already been finalised in consultation with National Conference president Farooq Abdullah. By making this clear, Omar appeared keen to put an end to the uncertainty and political manoeuvring that often accompany cabinet formation.

His message to party colleagues seeking ministerial positions was unusually direct. Asking them to stop making calls, sending WhatsApp messages and approaching senior leaders in the hope of securing a berth, Omar made it clear that the decision-making process was effectively over.

"There is no need to knock on Farooq Abdullah's door, my door or anyone else's door," he said, underlining that the names had already been decided.

The statement carries a clear political message. Cabinet formation is often a period of intense lobbying, with party leaders and aspirants trying to make a case for themselves by highlighting their political contributions, regional influence and organisational standing. Omar's remarks suggest that he wants to close that chapter and prevent further pressure from influencing the final composition of his government.

For the National Conference leadership, the reshuffle will be an important exercise in balancing political expectations, regional representation and administrative priorities. Those who make it into the Council of Ministers will have the responsibility of helping the government deliver on its commitments, while those left out may have to reconcile themselves to the leadership's choices.

At the same time, the expansion will be watched closely for what it signals about the government's priorities and its approach to governance in Jammu and Kashmir. Beyond the names and portfolios, the public will expect the reshuffle to strengthen the administration and improve its ability to address everyday concerns.

Omar Abdullah's firm message appears intended to end the race for ministerial berths before the formal announcement. With the list reportedly finalised and the next step resting with the Lieutenant Governor, attention has now shifted from who is lobbying for a place in the Cabinet to who will ultimately be entrusted with the responsibility of governing.

The coming days are therefore likely to bring clarity not only on the composition of the Council of Ministers but also on the political balance Omar Abdullah intends to maintain within his government.

J&K's Fields Have Changed, Have Its Revenue Rules?

Outdated Crop-Recording Practices Cannot Reflect A Changing Agricultural Landscape; Revenue Rules Must Evolve To Protect Accuracy, Farmers' Rights And Legal Certainty.



MOHD AMIN MIR

Jammu and Kashmir's agricultural landscape has undergone a significant transformation over the decades. Fields that were once cultivated primarily for paddy production have, in many areas, been converted into apple orchards and other forms of horticulture. This transformation reflects changing agricultural practices, farmers' economic choices, market demand and the growing importance of horticulture in the rural economy. However, while the nature of cultivation has changed, an important question remains: have the rules, procedures and official instructions governing Girdawari, the seasonal inspection and recording of crops by revenue officials, evolved at the same pace?

In numerous areas, agricultural land historically recorded under the category of Abi Awal, associated with a particular class of irrigated land, is now being used for apple cultivation. The land may continue to carry its historical revenue classification even though its actual agricultural use has changed substantially. This raises a serious administrative and legal issue: should crop-inspection records continue to reflect traditional patterns of cultivation, or should they accurately document what is being grown on the ground today? The answer should be guided by the principles of factual accuracy, transparency and the law.

Girdawari is not merely a routine exercise in filling columns in a revenue register. It is an important field-level process through which the actual condition and cultivation of land are recorded. The reliability of this exercise depends upon the revenue official's ability to distinguish between the permanent or historical classification of land and the crop or horticultural activity found during inspection. A parcel recorded historically as agricultural land suitable for paddy may now contain a fully developed apple orchard. Trees may have replaced seasonal paddy cultivation, irrigation practices may have changed, and the farmer's investment may extend over several years before the orchard becomes commercially productive. If the crop column continues to reflect an outdated cultivation pattern instead of the actual condition of the field, the revenue record risks becoming disconnected from reality.

Such discrepancies are not merely technical mistakes. They can create difficulties in agricultural planning, crop-related verification, compensation assessments where applicable, administrative reporting and the resolution of disputes concerning the actual use of land. A revenue record should be a dependable account of the land as it exists, subject to the legal framework governing the particular entry. It should not become a historical document that fails to acknowledge genuine changes in cultivation.

The central issue requires an important distinction. A historical classification such as Abi Awal and the seasonal Girdawari entry serve different purposes and should not be confused with one another. Land classification records the category or nature of land recognised in the relevant revenue record. Girdawari, on the other hand, concerns field inspection and the recording of cultivation or other prescribed particulars for the relevant season. The establishment of



an apple orchard does not automatically erase the historical land classification, nor does a change in the crop entry by itself authorise a change in land use where statutory permission is required. These are separate questions that must be addressed under the applicable revenue laws, land-use restrictions, rules and official instructions.

Nevertheless, the distinction cannot justify recording paddy where an orchard is actually standing, if the applicable Girdawari procedure requires the actual cultivation to be entered. If traditional instructions or departmental practices have restricted the recording of fruit cultivation in circumstances where horticulture is now widespread, the Revenue Department must examine whether those instructions remain legally valid, whether they were intended for a particular purpose, and whether they require formal amendment. An administrative practice cannot be allowed to create confusion between the historical identity of land and its present agricultural use.

Has the Meaning of Crop Inspection Kept Pace with Horticulture? Traditionally, seasonal crop inspection has been associated with the identification and recording of crops cultivated in agricultural fields. But the agricultural economy of Jammu and Kashmir can no longer be understood exclusively through the lens of seasonal cereal cultivation. Apple orchards, walnut plantations and other horticultural activities occupy an important place in the region's rural landscape. These are long-term agricultural investments rather than crops that are sown and harvested in the same manner as paddy.

An orchard may remain on the same parcel for many years. Its presence, age, condition and productive status may be more relevant to describing the actual land use than a conventional seasonal crop entry alone. This calls for a more comprehensive approach to Girdawari. The inspection process should be capable of distinguishing among seasonal crops, established orchards, newly planted orchards, fallow land and other relevant agricultural conditions, according to a standardised system prescribed by the competent authority. Where the existing forms or software do not provide suitable categories, the solution should be to revise them rather than compel field officials to fit changing agricultural realities into outdated columns.

Revenue records are frequently consulted in administrative proceedings and may become relevant in disputes relating to possession, cultivation, compensation, agricultural benefits and other land-related matters. Their evidentiary value depends, among other things, on the nature of the entry, the governing law and the circumstances in which it was made.

An incorrect crop entry can therefore create avoidable complications. Consider a parcel historically recorded as Abi Awal and associated with paddy cultivation. Over time, the owner establishes an apple orchard, but the seasonal record continues to describe the land as paddy cultivation. A subsequent official verification

may reveal a discrepancy between the revenue record and the physical condition of the land. The resulting question is not simply why the farmer changed the crop. It is also why the inspection record failed to reflect the change, whether the relevant entry was made in accordance with the prescribed procedure, and whether the applicable law or instructions adequately address such situations. Such discrepancies may lead to additional verification, requests for correction or disputes over the reliability of the record. They can also create uncertainty for farmers and officials alike.

At the same time, no entry should be altered merely on the basis of an unverified claim. The prescribed inspection, supporting evidence, notice requirements where applicable, and competent authority's approval must be respected. Girdawari should document the facts within its lawful scope; it should not be used to bypass statutory restrictions or to determine ownership rights beyond the authority conferred by law. The objective must be twofold: ensure that genuine horticultural cultivation is accurately recorded and preserve the legal safeguards governing land classification and land use.

Patwaris and other field revenue officials are expected to maintain records that correspond with conditions on the ground while following the prescribed legal and departmental framework. They should not be left to interpret conflicting or outdated instructions independently. If the existing Girdawari framework does not adequately recognise established orchards, the competent authorities should review the relevant rules, prescribed forms, departmental circulars and digital recording procedures. Any necessary change should be made through the legally appropriate mechanism. Clear instructions should explain how an orchard is to be recorded, how its presence is to be verified, what particulars must be entered, and how the historical land classification should be preserved alongside the present agricultural use.

The procedure should also distinguish between an orchard lawfully established under the applicable framework and a change in land use that requires permission or further scrutiny. Where permission is necessary, the crop entry must not be treated as a substitute for it. This clarity would protect farmers from arbitrary treatment and revenue officials from avoidable allegations arising from inconsistent practices.

Jammu and Kashmir is moving towards digitisation and modernisation of land records. This process offers an opportunity to correct a longstanding weakness: the tendency to reproduce old entries electronically without adequately verifying whether they continue to reflect present conditions. Digitisation alone does not guarantee accuracy. An outdated entry copied into a digital system remains outdated, even if it is accessible online. A modern Girdawari system should allow field officials to record the actual crop or horticultural use through standardised categories. Where authorised and appropriate, geotagged photographs, location-based verification and supporting field observations

could strengthen the reliability of entries. Any such system should also preserve the date of inspection, the identity of the inspecting official and a clear audit trail for subsequent corrections.

Historical records should not be erased simply because agricultural practices have changed. Instead, the digital system should maintain the original land classification and separately record verified changes in cultivation, together with the relevant dates and legal approvals where required. This approach would help distinguish a legitimate agricultural transformation from an unauthorised land-use change and make the record more useful for both administration and the public.

The Revenue Department should initiate a structured review of the Girdawari framework, particularly in areas where paddy cultivation has increasingly given way to apple orchards and other horticultural activities. The review should identify villages where historical crop entries frequently differ from actual field conditions. Revenue officials could then conduct verification according to a prescribed procedure, while farmers should be provided an appropriate opportunity to submit relevant information and supporting documents.

The department should also examine whether existing instructions concerning the recording of fruit cultivation remain applicable and whether the prescribed Girdawari forms require amendment. If a change in the law or statutory rules is necessary, the competent government should initiate the appropriate legislative or rule-making process rather than relying solely on informal directions. The objective should not be to change every historical classification or retrospectively rewrite every record. It should be to ensure that each relevant entry serves its intended purpose and that the actual agricultural use of land is recorded accurately in accordance with law.

Agriculture is dynamic. Farmers change cultivation patterns in response to climatic conditions, market opportunities, investment requirements and economic necessity. Revenue administration must be capable of documenting these changes without compromising the legal integrity of land records. When a paddy field becomes an apple orchard, the historical classification of the land and its present cultivation may both remain relevant. One describes an aspect of the land's recorded identity; the other describes what is actually being cultivated. A sound revenue system must accommodate both. Jammu and Kashmir therefore needs a clear, updated and legally consistent framework for Girdawari. The government should review outdated crop-recording practices, clarify the treatment of horticultural land, revise digital and manual formats wherever necessary, and ensure that field officials receive unambiguous instructions.

The ultimate purpose of revenue reform is not simply to modernise registers or introduce new software. It is to ensure that official records reflect verified facts, protect lawful interests and provide certainty to citizens. A field that now bears apple trees should not continue to be described as a paddy crop merely because of an old recording practice. The law must preserve the land's legitimate historical classification while allowing its verified present agricultural use to be recorded accurately. When cultivation changes, revenue administration must respond through lawful reform, not outdated assumptions.

Mohd Amin Mir is a columnist and legal affairs writer who focuses on governance, land reforms, and institutional accountability in Jammu & Kashmir. He can be mailed at miram354@gmail.com

Old Pension Scheme

Employees Deserve Dignity, Financial Security



MUSHTAQ AHMAD BHAT

A government employee spends the best years of his life serving the people and fulfilling his official responsibilities. During this period, he works hard to support his family, educate his children and contribute to society. But a question continues to trouble thousands of employees: what will happen when they retire and their regular salary stops? For an employee, pension is not an additional luxury. It is the only dependable source of income in old age for many retired employees. When physical strength declines, medical expenses increase and opportunities to earn become limited, a regular pension becomes essential for a respectable life.

It is unfortunate that employees who have dedicated decades to public service are still worried about their financial future after retirement. This uncertainty has become one of the major concerns among government employees, particularly those covered under

the National Pension System (NPS). The Old Pension Scheme (OPS) provided eligible employees with a defined pension based on their last drawn salary and qualifying service. It gave them a sense of security that, after retirement, they would not be left entirely uncertain about their monthly income.

NPS, on the other hand, is a contributory system in which retirement benefits depend on accumulated contributions, investment returns and the applicable withdrawal and annuity rules. This difference has created genuine apprehensions among employees about whether their retirement income will be sufficient to meet their needs. The demand for restoring OPS is not about seeking any special favour from the government. Employees are asking for a secure future after spending their entire working lives serving public institutions. They want to meet their household expenses, pay for medicines and live with dignity without depending on their children or other family members.

The matter deserves particular attention in the education sector. A teacher may spend thirty years or more educating children, working in remote areas and carrying responsibilities that extend well beyond the classroom. After retirement, that teacher deserves



peace of mind, not the constant worry of managing daily expenses with an uncertain income.

The government must also understand that financial security after retirement has a direct bearing on the morale of serving employees. An employee who remains worried about his future cannot be expected to remain free from anxiety throughout his working life. A fair pension policy can strengthen employees' confidence in the system and help them serve with greater satisfaction.

It is often argued that restoring the Old Pension Scheme may place an additional burden on government finances. Financial considerations cannot be ignored, but the issue should not be reduced to a calculation of expenditure alone. The welfare of employees who have devoted

their lives to public service must also form an important part of the government's priorities. A balanced and sustainable solution can be discussed, but the genuine concerns of employees should not be brushed aside.

In Jammu and Kashmir, the government should give serious consideration to the demand raised by employee organisations for the restoration of OPS. It should also address the concerns of Rehbar-e-Taleem teachers, contractual employees and others who were appointed before 2010 but regularised after the introduction of NPS, subject to the applicable rules and the need for a fair and equitable policy. The government needs to sit across the table with employee representatives and find a solution that provides real retirement security. Mere assurances cannot remove the anxiety of employees

who are approaching retirement or those who have many years of service ahead of them.

The question is simple: after serving the government and the people for decades, should an employee have to worry about how he will survive after retirement? The government should scrap NPS and restore the Old Pension Scheme for eligible employees. Employees are not asking for a reward beyond their rights; they are asking for protection during the most vulnerable stage of their lives.

A government employee may retire from service, but his needs do not retire with him. His responsibilities continue, his family still depends on him, and his medical and household expenses remain. A secure pension can make the difference between a life of dignity and a life of constant financial struggle. The government must recognise this reality. Restoring OPS would be a meaningful step towards rebuilding employees' confidence and ensuring that years of dedicated service are followed by a peaceful and dignified retirement. Pension is not charity. It is a matter of security, dignity and justice for those who have devoted their lives to public service.

(The author is an educator and a Trade Union Leader. He can be reached at mushtaqbhat1312@gmail.com)

IDEAS, OPINIONS AND VIEWS EXPRESSED IN ARTICLES PUBLISHED ARE WRITERS' OWN AND MAY NOT BE FOUND IN ACCORD WITH THOSE OF GOOD MORNING KASHMIR



Mathematics

The Language Of Order, Balance, And Divine Wisdom



DR. REYAZ AHMAD

Mathematics is often misunderstood as a dry subject of numbers, formulas, and calculations. Many students see it only as a classroom requirement, many adults remember it as a difficult academic burden, and many societies treat it as a technical discipline limited to engineers, scientists, accountants, and economists. But this narrow view does not do justice to the real spirit of mathematics. Mathematics is not merely about solving equations; it is about understanding order. It is not simply the art of counting; it is the discipline of reasoning, measuring, balancing, comparing, and discovering patterns in the world around us.

From the movement of planets to the rhythm of time, from the balance of justice to the division of inheritance, from the structure of nature to the responsibilities of human life, mathematics silently operates everywhere. It is one of the most powerful languages through which human beings understand creation. Interestingly, the Qur'an itself repeatedly draws attention to calculation, number, proportion, measure, balance, and order. This does not mean that the Qur'an is a mathematics textbook. Rather, it means that the Qur'an invites human beings to reflect on the mathematical structure of the universe and to recognize that creation is not random, chaotic, or meaningless.

One of the most powerful Qur'anic references to mathematical order appears in Surah Ar-Rahman: "The sun and the moon move according to precise calculation" (55:5). The Arabic word *husbun* is closely related to calculation, reckoning, and measured movement. This short verse contains a profound intellectual message. The sun and the moon do not move carelessly. Their motion is not accidental. Their rising, setting, phases, and cycles follow a precise order. Human beings discovered calendars, seasons, timekeeping, navigation, and astronomy by studying this order. In other words, the heavens themselves

teach us that mathematics is built into the structure of the universe.

The Qur'an makes this idea even clearer in Surah Yunus, where it says that Allah made the sun a shining light and the moon a reflected light, and determined phases for the moon "so that you may know the number of years and the calculation" (10:5). Here, two important mathematical ideas are directly mentioned: number and calculation. Time is not only experienced emotionally; it is also measured mathematically. Days, months, years, calendars, fasting schedules, pilgrimage dates, agricultural seasons, and social planning all depend upon mathematical calculation. Without mathematics, human society would lose one of its most basic organizing systems: the measurement of time.

This is why mathematics must not be reduced to examination marks alone. A society that neglects mathematics weakens its ability to plan, measure, forecast, organize, and make responsible decisions. The Qur'an's attention to calculation reminds us that mathematical thinking is part of disciplined living. A person who understands calculation learns precision. A community that values calculation learns accountability. A civilization that respects mathematical order learns to build calendars, institutions, architecture, economies, and technologies.

Another important Qur'anic idea is that everything has been created with measure. Surah Al-Qamar states: "Indeed, We created everything according to measure" (54:49). The word *qadar* carries meanings of measure, proportion, limit, and determined quantity. This is an extraordinary statement about the nature of reality. The universe is not a disorderly collection of objects. It is full of proportion and structure. The human body has proportions. Plants grow according to patterns. The planets move in orbits. Sound, light, force, energy, and motion can all be described through mathematical relationships. Modern science, in many ways, is the study of this measured order.

The same idea can be observed in daily life. A medicine must be given in the correct dose. A building must be constructed with accurate measurements. A bridge must be designed with correct calculations. A business must calculate cost, revenue, profit, and risk. A family must plan income and expenditure. Even cooking requires proportion. Too much salt can spoil food; too little support can weaken a structure; an incorrect calculation can cause financial loss or engineering fail-



ure. Mathematics, therefore, is not separated from life. It is life understood with discipline and precision.

The Qur'an also connects mathematical balance with moral responsibility. In Surah Ar-Rahman, Allah says that He raised the heaven and established the balance, and commands human beings not to violate the balance and to establish weight with justice (55:7-9). The word *mizn* refers to balance, scale, proportion, and justice. This is a deeply meaningful connection. Mathematics is not only about numbers; it is also about fairness. A correct weight in the market is a mathematical matter, but it is also an ethical matter. A fair distribution of resources is a numerical matter, but it is also a moral matter. A dishonest measurement is not merely a technical error; it is an injustice.

This teaches us that mathematics has an ethical dimension. When numbers are manipulated, people suffer. False statistics can mislead nations. Wrong financial calculations can exploit the poor. Biased data can create unjust policies. Incorrect measurements can endanger lives. Therefore, mathematics must be taught not only as a technical skill but also as a responsibility. The Qur'anic concept of balance reminds us that the purpose of measurement is not manipulation, but justice.

Perhaps one of the clearest practical examples of mathematics in the Qur'an is found in the laws of inheritance in Surah An-Nisa (4:11-12). These verses mention shares such as one-half, one-fourth, one-eighth, two-thirds, one-third, and one-sixth. These are mathematical fractions, but they are also part of a legal and moral system. The purpose is to ensure that wealth is not distributed according to emotion, pressure, or power, but according to a defined and accountable structure. This shows that mathematics can protect rights. It can prevent injustice. It can make decisions transparent.

In inheritance, a small mathematical error can create a major human conflict. A wrong fraction can deprive someone of their rightful share. This demonstrates that mathematics is not an abstract luxury; it is a tool for justice in family and society. The Qur'an's use of fractions in inheritance shows that accurate calculation is necessary for responsible social life.

The Qur'an also uses numerical expression in a powerful way. In Surah Al-Ankabut, it is stated that Prophet Nuh remained among his people for "a thousand years minus fifty years" (29:14). This expression itself involves subtraction: 1000 minus 50 equals 950 years. The style is not merely numerical; it is rhetorical and reflective. It invites attention. It makes the reader pause and think. Numbers in the Qur'an are not meaningless decorations; they often carry lessons, emphasis, and intellectual value.

Similarly, Surah Al-Jinn states that Allah has "counted everything in number" (72:28). This verse reinforces the idea that creation is known, measured, and encompassed by divine knowledge. Human beings count in order to understand a small part of reality. Divine knowledge encompasses all reality. This distinction should make human beings humble. Mathematics gives us power, but it should not make us arrogant. It allows us to discover patterns, but it does not make us the owners of creation. It teaches us both confidence and humility.

The argument, therefore, is clear: mathematics is not alien to faith, life, morality, or civilization. It is deeply connected with all of them. The Qur'an does not ask us to escape from calculation; it asks us to observe, measure, think, and reflect. It presents a universe based on order, not chaos; balance, not excess; proportion, not randomness; accountability, not confusion.

In the modern world, this message is more

important than ever. We live in an age of data, artificial intelligence, finance, engineering, medicine, climate science, and digital technology. Every major decision today involves numbers. Governments use statistics. Doctors use measurements. Economists use models. Engineers use calculations. Teachers use assessment data. Businesses use forecasting. Even social media uses algorithms. A person who cannot understand numbers becomes vulnerable to misinformation, manipulation, and poor judgment.

But mathematics must be humanized. It should not be taught as fear. It should be taught as a way of seeing. Students should be told that when they study mathematics, they are not merely preparing for exams; they are learning the language of accuracy, truth, order, and responsibility. They are learning how the moon marks time, how balance protects justice, how fractions protect rights, and how measurement supports civilization.

Mathematics, in this broader vision, becomes more than a subject. It becomes a discipline of the mind and a training of character. It teaches patience because solutions require steps. It teaches honesty because the answer must be correct. It teaches discipline because careless thinking leads to error. It teaches humility because even a small mistake can change the result. It teaches hope because every complex problem can be approached step by step.

The Qur'anic worldview gives mathematics a noble place. It reminds us that the universe is intelligible, that creation has measure, that time can be calculated, that justice requires balance, and that human life needs accountability. Mathematics is therefore not just the science of numbers; it is the language of order, the structure of responsibility, and one of the signs through which thoughtful people can recognize wisdom in creation.

In the end, mathematics should not be feared as a difficult subject. It should be respected as a gift of understanding. It helps us read the universe, organize society, protect justice, and discipline our own thinking. The Qur'an does not present mathematics as a cold calculation separated from life; it presents calculation, number, measure, and balance as signs of a meaningful and ordered reality. To study mathematics, therefore, is not merely to solve problems on paper. It is to learn how to see the world with clarity, fairness, and wonder.

Author is a researcher, he can be mailed at reyaz56@gmail.com

Kashmir's Ecological Future And The Wisdom Of Dependence

What A 13Th-Century Philosophy Of Existence Can Tell 21St-Century Kashmir About Its Relationship With The Natural World



MAUZAM BAKSHI

What would a thinker who lived more than seven centuries ago make of Kashmir today? Not of its politics or technology, but of its rivers, forests, wetlands, mountains and changing landscapes. What would Muhyiddin Ibn Arabi, one of the most profound thinkers of the 13th century, make of a world in which human beings possess extraordinary power to alter nature, yet increasingly struggle with the consequences of doing so? The question may appear archaic. Ibn Arabi was not an environmentalist, and the ecological vocabulary of our time did not exist in his world. He could not have spoken of climate change, biodiversity loss, carrying capacity or ecosystem services.

Yet his philosophy was concerned with something that lies beneath all of these modern questions, what does it mean for human beings to exist within a world that they did not create and upon which they themselves depend? That question has acquired a new urgency in 21st-century Kashmir. Ibn Arabi's starting point was "Wujud" or existence. His thinking revolves around the nature of existence, the relationship between the One and the many and the dependence of created things upon the source of their existence. His philosophy is complex and has been interpreted in different ways. The important point for our present discussion is his insistence that created existence cannot be understood as independent existence. Everything we encounter exists within relationships. That idea acquires a striking contemporary meaning when placed against Kashmir's landscape.

A mountain is not simply a mountain. Its snow and rainfall feed streams, its slopes influence watersheds, its vegetation affects soil and water, its condition has consequences far beyond the mountain itself. A river is not simply a river. It belongs to a catchment and connects mountains, forests, wetlands, farms, settlements and eventually people. A wetland is not simply a piece of land covered by water. It is part of a larger hydrological and ecological system. Modern ecology explains these relationships through science. Ibn Arabi approached the



world through metaphysics and philosophy. The two should not be confused. But they converge on an important insight: what appears separate may be profoundly related. This is where his 13th-century thinking begins to speak to Kashmir's 21st-century reality. The modern environmental crisis has exposed the limitations of seeing nature as a collection of separate objects available for human use. We speak of a forest, a river, a wetland or a mountain as though each were an isolated entity.

But ecological systems do not operate in isolation. Their relationships often determine their survival. Ibn Arabi's philosophy invites us to look beyond the visible object towards the relationships that give it meaning. This is not simply an environmental lesson. It is a lesson about perception. How we see something determines, to a considerable extent, how we treat it. If a forest is seen primarily as timber, its value can be calculated in cubic metres. If a mountain is seen primarily as terrain, its value can be calculated in terms of roads and buildings. If a wetland is seen primarily as land, its apparent value may be determined by what can be constructed upon it. But if these are understood as parts of a larger order, their significance becomes much greater than their immediate utility. This is close to another important dimension of Ibn Arabi's thought - the created world is not meaningless matter. It discloses signs and relationships that invite contemplation and understanding. The natural world, in this sense, is not merely something to possess. It is something to perceive.

For Kashmir, that distinction matters. The region's extraordinary natural beauty has always been one of its defining characteristics. But beauty can itself become a commodity. A lake becomes a destination. A meadow becomes a tourist attraction. A mountain becomes an adventure site. The more successful such places become economically, the greater the danger that the qualities that made them valuable in the first place may be weakened by excessive use. Ibn Arabi offers no policy for this problem. But his philosophy raises a more fundamental question, what happens when the value of something is reduced to what it can

provide us. That question extends well beyond economics. It reaches the heart of the modern relationship between human beings and nature. The 21st century has given humanity an extraordinary capacity to transform its surroundings. Roads can be driven into mountains. Rivers can be engineered. Forests can be cleared. Wetlands can be reclaimed. Entire landscapes can be transformed within a single generation. But Ibn Arabi's understanding of existence begins from a very different premise, human beings are themselves dependent beings. This is one of the most powerful points of contact between his philosophy and the ecological realities of our time. Modern civilisation can create the illusion of independence.

Water arrives through pipes. Food arrives through markets. Energy comes through grids. Buildings protect us from weather. Technology allows us to travel through landscapes that once imposed natural limits. The infrastructure of modern life can make the systems that sustain us almost invisible. But invisibility does not mean independence. Kashmir's modern economy may be increasingly urban and technologically connected, but it remains deeply dependent upon mountains, water, forests, soils, climate and biodiversity. The more sophisticated our technology becomes, the easier it can be to forget that dependence. Ibn Arabi's philosophy cuts through that illusion. Human beings may possess knowledge and power, but they do not possess independent existence. They remain part of a larger order upon which they depend.

This has an important consequence for the question of human power over nature. The ability to alter something does not automatically establish the right to alter it without limit. This distinction is particularly relevant in the 21st century, when technological capability has grown much faster than ecological understanding. We can build faster, than ecosystems can recover. We can extract faster than natural systems can replenish. We can destroy in years what took centuries to develop. The question is therefore no longer simply whether something can be done. It is whether it should be done, where it should be done and at what ecological cost. This is where Ibn Arabi's concept of "Adab"

becomes relevant, not as a technical environmental doctrine, but as an idea of appropriate conduct and awareness of one's proper place. To know one's place is also to know one's limits. For Kashmir, that idea has contemporary significance. A fragile mountain landscape cannot be treated in exactly the same way as an urban plain.

An alpine ecosystem cannot absorb the same pressure as a city. A wetland cannot be judged by the same criteria as a construction site. The question is not whether human beings should use nature. They always have and always will. The question is whether human use recognises the character and limits of what is being used. That is a much more sophisticated environmental ethic than simply declaring nature sacred or, at the other extreme, treating it as an unlimited resource. It recognises both human needs and ecological limits and this is where Ibn Arabi becomes particularly relevant to Kashmir's development debate.

Kashmir cannot remain outside modernity. It needs infrastructure, economic opportunity, tourism, agriculture, connectivity and better living conditions. But modernity does not require the abandonment of ecological intelligence. Indeed, the opposite may be true. The more intensely we develop a landscape, the more carefully we must understand the systems that sustain it. This is where the 13th century can unexpectedly illuminate the 21st. Ibn Arabi lived in a world without modern environmental science. Yet he was deeply concerned with the relationship between the individual thing and the larger reality of which it is a part. Our science now gives us extraordinarily detailed knowledge of those relationships. We can map watersheds from satellites. We can measure changes in glaciers and snow. We can monitor forests, groundwater and biodiversity. We can model climate risks and understand ecological thresholds with increasing precision. But knowledge alone does not determine behaviour. We may know that a wetland performs important ecological functions and still destroy it. We may know that a forest stabilises a mountain slope and still fragment it.

We may know that an alpine ecosystem is fragile and still subject it to increasing pressure. The problem, therefore, is not always an absence of knowledge. Sometimes it is a failure to translate knowledge into restraint. This is perhaps where Ibn Arabi's philosophy offers something that environmental science alone cannot. Science can tell us how a system works. Philosophy can make us ask how we should conduct ourselves within it. That distinction should not be underestimated. Kashmir's environmental future will require science. It will require

institutions, regulation, planning, monitoring and restoration. But it will also require a change in the way society thinks about its relationship with the natural world and that change begins with perception. Ibn Arabi's world was one in which existence was not understood as a collection of unrelated things.

The world was intelligible through relationships, signs and dependence. Our ecological crisis is teaching us a similar lesson through a different language. The destruction of one component can affect many others. The degradation of one system can weaken another. The consequences of an action can travel far beyond the place where that action occurred. What Ibn Arabi explored philosophically, modern ecology demonstrates empirically, separateness can be an illusion when relationships are what sustain existence. For Kashmir, this is not an abstract philosophical proposition. It is a question of how the region imagines its future. Will development be understood simply as the expansion of human activity across the landscape. Or will development increasingly be understood as finding a way for human activity to exist within ecological limits.

The answer will determine much more than the condition of individual forests, rivers or wetlands. It will influence the character of Kashmir itself.

Perhaps, then, the value of returning to Ibn Arabi is not that he gives us answers to modern environmental problems. He does something more subtle. He makes us question the assumptions behind those problems. He asks us to think about existence before exploitation, relationship before isolation, dependence before independence and responsibility before power. These are 13th-century ideas. But they have acquired an unmistakably 21st-century relevance. Kashmir today possesses technologies Ibn Arabi could never have imagined and faces environmental pressures his world could never have experienced.

Yet the fundamental question remains surprisingly familiar - How should a human being live within a world upon which his own existence depends. Perhaps the answer begins by recognising that nature is not simply the space around us. It is the network of relationships within which we exist and perhaps that is where Ibn Arabi's centuries-old philosophy meets Kashmir's contemporary reality, not in a prescription for conservation, but in a change of vision. Before we decide what we can take from the landscape, we must understand what we are part of and before we reshape the world around us, we must understand the relationships that make that world possible.

The author can be mailed at mauzambakshi@gmail.com

■ Experts Urge Scientific Planning

Paddy land increasingly converted to apple orchards amid high-density farming trend

JAHANGEER GANAIE

SRINAGAR: High-density apple cultivation is rising across Kashmir, with more orchardists switching to modern, high-yielding varieties for better returns, higher productivity, and lower fertiliser and pesticide costs.

The growing popularity of this method continues to prompt farmers to remove old apple and almond trees and prepare additional land for high-density plantations. In some areas, farmers are also increasingly converting agricultural land traditionally used for paddy cultivation into apple orchards, reflecting a shift in farming practices driven by the prospect of higher earnings.

Fruit growers in Kashmir

are showing greater interest in imported apple varieties that can accommodate more plants in a smaller area and begin producing commercially within a shorter period compared to conventional orchards. The transition is being driven by the perceived economic advantages of high-density plantations, which allow growers to make more efficient use of available land while potentially reducing the cost of crop management.

The Jammu and Kashmir government introduced a scheme in 2016 to promote high-density apple cultivation, offering financial assistance to growers seeking to replace old and less productive orchards with modern plantations. Under the scheme, eligible farmers are provided a 50 per cent subsidy

for establishing high-density orchards, subject to departmental assessment and prescribed conditions. The Horticulture Department also provides technical guidance regarding site selection, plantation layout, irrigation and other essential aspects of orchard management.

An official from the Horticulture Department SAID that the scheme was intended to help growers modernise their orchards and improve productivity. "After assessing the site, its suitability and the availability of irrigation facilities, financial assistance is provided to eligible growers for establishing high-density plantations. The objective is to encourage scientific cultivation and help farmers obtain better returns from

their land," the official said.

He said the estimated cost of establishing a high-density orchard on one kanal of land was around 1.60 lakh, of which the government provides 80,000 as subsidy, while the beneficiary contributes the remaining amount. High-density plantations require proper planning and regular maintenance, with irrigation being one of the most important components, he added.

According to horticulture officials, while traditional orchards generally accommodate around 250 trees per hectare, high-density systems can accommodate approximately 4,000 plants per hectare, depending on the planting system and variety.

Showkat Ahmad, a high-

density apple grower, said the productivity of these orchards improves as the trees mature, encouraging more farmers to adopt the system. "The response from growers has been encouraging because high-density plantations offer the possibility of better production and improved returns. The yield increases as the orchard develops, and the quality and market value of the produce can also make a difference to a grower's income," he said.

Horticulture experts said high-density cultivation could also help reduce the excessive use of agricultural inputs associated with some traditional orchards, as conventional apple trees often grow considerably taller, making spraying and other management operations

more difficult.

Ansar-ul-Haq, Assistant Manager at Master Pro Lassi-pora, said high-density apple plantations can reduce fertiliser consumption by around 70 per cent and pesticide spraying by nearly 80 per cent compared to conventional systems. He said some high-density varieties could produce around 50 to 70 metric tonnes of apples per hectare by the third year under suitable conditions, whereas traditional orchards generally produce considerably lower quantities.

A scientist associated with SKUAST said modernisation of the horticulture sector was essential to improve the economic prospects of fruit growers, and that high-density cultivation offered an opportunity to

increase productivity by utilising every inch of land more efficiently. He said certain varieties also offered improved resistance to apple scab, potentially reducing crop losses and the need for chemical treatments.

However, the increasing conversion of agricultural land into apple orchards has brought the changing pattern of land use into focus, particularly in areas where paddy cultivation has traditionally been an important source of livelihood. Experts say farmers should carefully assess the suitability of their land, long-term water availability, establishment costs and market conditions before making the transition, and stress the need for technical guidance and effective implementation of government support schemes—(KNO)

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

CM Asks Party

would be carried out.

Making it explicitly clear that the selection process has already been completed, the Chief Minister said there is no need for anyone to approach him or Dr Farooq Abdullah seeking a ministerial berth. "The list has already been prepared after consultations with Dr Farooq Abdullah. There is no need for anyone to knock on Farooq Sahib's door, my door or anyone else's door. The decision regarding who will become a minister has already been taken," he said.

The Chief Minister said he had been receiving numerous WhatsApp messages, phone calls and detailed biodatas from people seeking ministerial positions. "I request my party colleagues to refrain from such efforts," he added.

"Please do not send me WhatsApp messages, make phone calls or knock on doors. People are sending me their complete biodata as though I do not know them. I already know them. Decision has already been taken," he said.

CM Omar asked his colleagues to remain patient, adding that those selected for ministerial positions would get their opportunity within the next two or three days.

The Chief Minister said he had also met the Lieutenant Governor to enquire about his health following his return to Srinagar after a period of illness. He added that several issues were discussed during the meeting and that he sought the LG's opinion on them.

On Umrah pilgrims stranded in Saudi Arabia, the Chief Minister said the government is taking up the matter with the Ministry of External Affairs to facilitate their return.

He said pilgrims from several states are stranded due to flight cancellations and a sharp increase in airfares. "The problem is not that flights are unavailable, but that ticket prices have increased significantly. Those who had booked budget airline tickets are finding it difficult to purchase fresh tickets," he said.

The Chief Minister said the government would explore possible solutions with the Ministry of External Affairs and was prepared to provide financial assistance from its own budget, if necessary.

"If the Ministry of External Affairs does not have the budget to bring our stranded people back or assist with their tickets, we will allocate some money from our own budget to facilitate their return," he said.

Responding to a question regarding powers given to the Lieutenant Governor for regulating dentistry, CM Omar said the business rules would need to be examined to determine whether the matter fell under the jurisdiction of the Centre or the elected government.

He suggested that the issue be taken up with Minister Sakina Itoo upon her return.

On China border-related issues, he said the matter concerned the Government of India and the Ladakh administration. "Earlier, the border with China touched our erstwhile state. However, after Ladakh's separation, this is no longer under my jurisdiction. The question should be addressed to the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh or the Central Government," he said—(KNO)

strengthen social trust through dialogue, cooperation, and compassion, and to view India's diversity as a source of collective strength.

The Lieutenant Governor urged the youth to remain connected to their roots while pursuing ambitious goals. He said the younger generation should carry the values of their heritage wherever they go and transform opportunities into new possibilities through innovation, hard work, and dedication.

The Lieutenant Governor underscored that the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 requires the active participation of every citizen and the accelerated development of all the regions so that they can play a vital role in India's transformation.

"Today, India is demonstrating its capability in many fields, from space to digital public infrastructure and the world sees our country as a reliable partner. I want us to move forward with a collective resolve and a single goal to build an India that is developed, prosperous, strong, self-reliant, and technologically advanced.

Dr. Rahi Masoom Raza's birth centenary celebration is an opportunity to give a new direction to the future. It should be our resolve to make our diversity our strength, and by choosing dialogue, cooperation, and compassion, we will further strengthen social trust," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Higher Reaches

Celsius, two degrees above normal, while the tourist resort of Gulmarg registered a low of 1.6 degrees Celsius, 0.4 degrees below normal.

Qazigund recorded a minimum of 7.2 degrees Celsius, while Kupwara and Kukernag registered minimum temperatures of 4.6 and 7 degrees Celsius, respectively.

In Jammu division, Jammu city recorded a maximum temperature of 29.7 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 15.5 degrees Celsius.

The Meteorological Centre has advised farmers to continue harvesting and other agricultural operations.

The weather department has forecast generally dry conditions from October 26 to 31, with cloudy weather likely towards the end of the month—(KNO)

IGP Kumar Calls

the importance of proper monitoring and timely follow-up in accordance with judicial directions and established legal procedures, it said.

The meeting also deliberated on identifying suitable police stations for development as Model Police Stations as well as upgrading existing police stations and police posts to improve policing standards, infrastructure and public service delivery, the statement said.

Highlighting the importance of community engagement, the IGP Kashmir stressed the need for regular police-public meetings to address public grievances, promote community participation and further strengthen public trust in the police.

During the meeting, the IGP Kashmir directed all officers of Kashmir Zone to ensure close supervision of crime disposal, strengthen preventive and intelligence-based policing, ensure adequate winter preparedness and maintain coordinated efforts to uphold peace, security and public safety across Kashmir Zone, the statement said, adding that the meeting was attended by all three Range DIGs and District SSPs of Kashmir Zone—

(KNO)

Sajjan Singh Yadav

Jammu and Kashmir and other AGMUT cadre administrations, besides the Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir.

Srinagar Readies For

international audience," he said, adding that the event would also provide opportunities for local businesses to showcase their products and enable young athletes from Jammu and Kashmir to participate alongside international runners.

"The local stalls here showcase all their products, whether handmade or agricultural products. Our local youth get a chance to participate with international athletes," he said. The Director said such events could boost the local economy and tourism sector.

Earlier, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah had told the department had introduced a separate prize category for Jammu and Kashmir to encourage local participation and provide runners from the region with greater opportunities to showcase their talent. At the Marathon Expo, inaugurated by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, 20 stalls showcasing local handicrafts, handlooms, agricultural produce and other products were set up.

Srinagar Traffic Police has also announced extensive traffic restrictions and diversions for Sunday to facilitate the marathon and regulate vehicular movement along the route.

Residency Road, from Radio Kashmir Crossing to Polo View, will remain closed to traffic from 5 am to 5 pm. The stretch of M.A. Road from Budshah Chowk towards Dalgate and Badyari, up to Nehru Park, will face restrictions from 5 am to 9 am.

Residency Road, from Court Road—Clock Tower to Biscoe School Crossing, will remain closed from 5 am to 8:30 am. Restrictions will also apply to routes towards Rajbagh and Presentation Convent School from Jawahar Nagar and Lal Mandi between 5 am and 8:30 am.

No traffic will be allowed from Nehru Park towards Kralsangri, Nishat, Habbak Crossing and Kashmir University, up to Sir Syed Gate, from 5 am until the marathon concludes. Traffic from Hotel Lalit towards Gupkar Road and Ram Munshi Bagh, as well as from Sonwar towards Ram Munshi Bagh, will also remain restricted during the event.

Heavy motor vehicles will not be allowed on R.R. Road, Gupkar Road, Boulevard Road and Foreshore Road from 8 pm on Saturday.

Traffic cut-off points will include Lal Mandi, Jahangir Chowk, Mamta Crossing and Ikhwan Chowk from 5 am to 8:30 am. Nishat, Kralsangri, Unani Hospital, Pantha Chowk, Harwan and Grills Junction at Hazratbal will remain restricted from 5 am until the marathon concludes.

Motorists travelling from Harwan, Shalimar, Nishat and Brein have been advised to use the Burzahama—Chandpora—Tailbal—Zakura—Habbak—Naseembagh route in both directions. Those travelling from Ganderbal and Nagbal towards Lal Chowk should use the 90 Feet Soura Road, while commuters travelling from Rambagh towards Rajbagh have been advised to take Jawahar Nagar Bund Road.

People travelling from Rainawari and Saidakadal towards Hazratbal have been advised to use Lal Bazar Road via Grills

Cut towards Kanitar.

Designated parking facilities for marathon participants include SP College Ground, SDA Parking opposite Pick 'N' Choose, Multilevel Parking at Press Colony, Presentation Convent School, Gindun Park Rajbagh, Institute of Hotel Management Rajbagh, Directorate of Horticulture Rajbagh, Football Ground TRC, Floriculture Park on R.R. Road and Cricket Ground TRC opposite J&K Bank headquarters.

Traffic Police has advised commuters to plan their journeys in advance and avoid unnecessary travel on Gupkar Road, M.A. Road, Residency Road, Boulevard Road, Badyari, Dalgate, Nishat Foreshore Road, Habbak Crossing and areas near Sir Syed Gate of Kashmir University during the restrictions.

Students appearing for examinations have been advised to carry valid admit cards to facilitate movement through restricted routes. Ambulances, fire tenders and other emergency vehicles will be prioritised. The Srinagar Traffic Police helpline is 103—(KNO)

NIA Court Orders

development in the case, as the accused will now face trial over the allegations of money laundering and the alleged receipt and utilisation of foreign funds.

The NIA court had framed charges in the case last month, paving the way for the trial proceedings.

The case is part of the broader investigation into alleged financial networks used to channel funds from Pakistan into Jammu and Kashmir for supporting separatist activities.

The prosecution is expected to establish its allegations through documentary evidence, financial records and other material collected during the investigation.

It is important to note that the allegations against the accused are yet to be proved during trial.

The commencement of proceedings does not amount to a finding of guilt, and the accused will have the opportunity to contest the charges before the court.

The trial is expected to examine the alleged funding network, the source of the money and the role attributed to each accused in the suspected money laundering operation.

The court's order brings the case into its next legal phase, with the prosecution now required to present evidence supporting its allegations.



ADDRESS:- SADAT MARKET, NEAR PNB, SHADIPORA SUMBAL

+91- 9906230114- 6006600834

DAR MATTING SHOP

DEALS IN:- BLANKETS, BED SHEETS, BED COVERS, PILLOW COVERS, DOOR MATS, ROOM SHEETS, GRAPHICS, LINING, ROTTERY & MUCH MORE

JASHN-E-MANASBAL

Manasbal to emerge as adventure tourism hub: Dr Chisti

Says lake dredged after 15 years, 6.5 lakh square metres brought under waste management

RAJA SYED

GANDERBAL: Chief Executive Officer of Wular-Manasbal Development Authority (WMDA), Dr Ehsan-ul-Haq Chishti on Saturday said the authority is exploring adventure tourism activities, including rock climbing, paragliding, zip-lining and rope cycling, to transform Manasbal from a day-tourism destination into a major adventure tourism hub.

Speaking at the fifth edition of Jashn-e-Manasbal, held at the Open Theatre in Manasbal, Chisti, said the authority is working to introduce new tourism activities while prioritising the conservation and cleanliness of Manasbal Lake.

Chishti said a team of mountaineers recently visited the area to assess its potential for adventure tourism. “We are hopeful that rock climbing can be introduced on an experimental basis from the next tourism season. We are



also exploring paragliding, zip-lining and rope cycling,” he said.

Highlighting conservation measures, Chishti said the authority undertook dredging of Manasbal Lake last year after nearly 15 years and has brought around 6.5 lakh square metres of the surrounding area under solid waste collection and disposal.

He said nearly 20 lakh gallons of water are drawn from the lake daily for drinking purposes, making

its protection essential.

“Manasbal is not only a tourist destination but also an important source of drinking water and livelihood. Its conservation and preservation remain our top priorities,” he said.

Chishti said several tourism assets that had remained closed or underutilised have been made functional through outsourcing arrangements.

He said the authority organised six to seven cultural events during the

past year in collaboration with the Cultural Academy, besides performances involving the North Zone Cultural Centre, Patiala, and a translation workshop with Sahitya Akademi.

The objective, he said, is to connect Manasbal's cultural heritage with tourism promotion.

Chishti said the initiatives are being undertaken under the vision of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and with the encouragement of his Advisor Nasir Aslam Wani.

He expressed hope that Manasbal would emerge as a prominent adventure tourism destination in Jammu and Kashmir and across the country.

The Jashn-e-Manasbal event was organised by the Wular-Manasbal Development Authority and Manasbal Dramatics in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages and the Department of Information and Public Relations—(KNO)

DLSA Kulgam organises mega legal awareness programme on POCSO Act

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Kulgam, under the aegis of the Jammu and Kashmir Legal Services Authority, organised a Mega Legal Awareness Programme on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, at the Auditorium Hall of Government Degree College, Kulgam.

Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Judge, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, and Executive Chairman, Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority, presided over the programme as the Chief Guest.

The programme commenced with the registration of participants and the arrival of dignitaries, followed by a Guard of Honour and the rendition of the National Song and the National Anthem.

Justice Sanjeev Kumar, in his address, emphasised the need to strengthen child protection mechanisms and ensure the effective implementation of the POCSO Act, 2012.

Stressing the importance of safeguarding the privacy, dignity and



emotional well-being of child victims, he called for their concerns to be handled with utmost sensitivity at every stage. He also encouraged girls to come forward and raise their voices against abuse without fear or hesitation, underscoring the responsibility of the legal system and concerned institutions to ensure justice.

Furthermore, he highlighted the need to create awareness about the provisions of the Act in educational institutions and among officers and departments dealing with such cases and called for prompt action, better coordination among stakeholders and a child-friendly approach to ensure effective protection of children and timely delivery of justice.

Addressing the gathering, Aijaz Ahmed Khan, Principal District and Sessions Judge (Chairman, District Legal Services Authority), Kulgam, pro-

vided a detailed overview of the POCSO Act, 2012, highlighting its key provisions and the importance of ensuring effective legal protection for children and also underscored the collective responsibility of all stakeholders to stand by victims and extend the necessary assistance throughout the process.

This was followed by an address by Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Shahzad Alam who emphasised the importance of quality education, proper guidance and adequate exposure in ensuring the safety and overall development of children. He stressed that the provisions of the POCSO Act, 2012, must be implemented more effectively on the ground. Further emphasising a victim-centric approach, he called for ensuring that victims are not subjected to pressure or intimidation and receive appropriate support during difficult

circumstances.

The technical sessions featured presentations by experts from different fields. Dr. Nadiya Muzaffar, Assistant Professor Sociology at Government Degree College Kulgam, spoke about child-friendly procedures and the rights of child victims under the Act. Subsequently, Mohd. Ayoub Rather, Dy. SP DAR and Nodal Officer of the Special Juvenile Police Unit, Kulgam, elaborated on the specific roles and responsibilities of the police and special courts in dealing with cases involving offences against children.

Adil Mushtaq Laway, Legal-cum-Probationary Officer at the District Child Protection Unit, Kulgam, highlighted the importance of mandatory reporting of sexual offences against children and the role of child protection mechanisms in safeguarding their rights.

Dr. Jahangeer Hussain, Consultant Paediatrician at District Hospital, Kulgam, spoke about the crucial responsibilities of medical professionals in handling cases of child sexual abuse, with particular emphasis on the sensitive and appropriate care of child victims.

KPDCL announces power shutdown

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Engineer, Distribution, KPDCL has informed that the Shutdown of 33 kV Panzan Tapline, 33 kV Budgam SIDCO Tapline, 33 kV Budgam line and 33 kV Ichgam line will be observed due to which power supply to Gudothoo, Panzan, Lalgam, Ranger, Kathaigund, Ichgam, Ichkoot, Choon, Budhbagh, Razwan, Kanir, Borwah, Hushroo, Zohama, Hanjoora, Dadaompura, Ompora, SIDCO Housing Colony, Railway Station, NIFT, Budgam, Sebdan, Jawalapore, Ompora, SIDCO, Housing Colony, Railway Station Budgam, NIFT and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 am to 03 pm on 28 October 2026.

Similarly, shutdown of 33 kV Kremshore line will be observed due to which power supply to Old Kremshore, Arigam, Nunner, Shamsabad, Dreygam, Parnewa, Branwar, Sursyar, Raithan, Khansahib, Shinipora, Yarikah, essential and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 am to 03 pm on 28 & 31 October 2026.

Likewise, shutdown of 33 kV Khansahib Tapline will be observed due to which power supply to Branwar, Sursisar, Khansahib, Sheenipora, Yarikah, Gurweth, Essential, Raithan,

Watred and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 am to 03 pm on 05 November 2026.

Similarly, shutdown of 33 kV Branwar Tapline will be observed due to which power supply to Branwar, Sursyar, Raithan, Watred and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 am to 03 pm on 03 November 2026.

Further, shutdown of 33 kV Beerwah Tapline will be observed due to which power supply to Sail, Gonsipora, Old Beerwah, Arwah, Najan, Chewdara, Beerwah Town, Sonpah, Hospital, Zani-gam, Arizal, Raiyar, Doodhpathri, Khag, Poshkar, Suresh, Sugan and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 am to 03 pm on 27 & 29 October 2026.

Likewise, shutdown of 33 kV Khag Tapline will be observed due to which power supply to Khag, Poshkar, Suresh, Sujana and other adjoining areas will be affected from 09 am to 03 pm on 02 November 2026.

Similarly, shutdown of 33 kV Arizal Tapline will be observed due to which power supply to Arizal, Doodhpathri, Raiyar and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 am to 03 pm on 03 & 05 November 2026.

Likewise, shutdown of 33 kV Ahmadpura Magam line will be observed due to which power

supply to Mazhama, Old Sanoor, Aripanthan, Magam, Weriahama, Badren and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 am to 03 pm on 27 & 29 October 2026.

Similarly, shutdown of 33 kV Watrehail line will be observed due to which power supply to Samsan, Parthan, Watrehail, Watrewani, Charangam, PHE Substation and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 am to 03 pm on 28, 31 October and 02 November 2026.

Likewise, shutdown of 33 kV Charisharief Tapline will be observed due to which power supply to Kakawring, Yousmarg, Charisharief, Tilsera, Chrawnli, Kanidajan and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 am to 03 pm on 29 October 2026.

Similarly, shutdown of 33 kV Badampora-Lar Tulmulla line and 33 kV Badampora-Kurhama Dab line will be observed due to which power supply to Lar, Waliwar, Wattlar, Repora, Tulmulla, Dangerpora, Theeru, Larsun, Kurhama, Youngoor, Barsoo, Old Dab, Checki Baba, Salun, Sainik School, Rabitar, Kondbal, GCET and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 am to 03 pm on 27 & 31 October 2026.

Furthermore, shutdown of 33 kV Badampora Wangipora Safapora line and 33 kV Bad-

ampora Army Hakbara line will be observed due to which power supply to Batwina, Nowgam, Wangipora, Waskura, Kharbagh, Sumbal, Nesbal, Hajin, Preng, Madwan, Banyar, Hakbara, Chenderger and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 am to 03 pm on 28 October & 02 November 2026.

Similarly, shutdown of 33 kV Nehalpora Markundal line will be observed due to which power supply to Markundal, Naidkhai, Sumbal, Gund Boon and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 am to 03 pm on 01 & 04 November 2026.

Likewise, shutdown of 33 kV Shadipora HMT line will be observed due to which power supply to Shadipora, Trigam, Diver, Ganastan, Odina, Migrant Colony and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 am to 03 pm on 31 October & 03 November 2026.

Similarly, shutdown of 33 kV LHP-Peernia Transmission Line will be observed due to which power supply to Peernia and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 am to 03 pm on 27, 29 & 31 October 2026.

Meanwhile, the Chief Engineer informed that the Scheduled Shutdown of 132/33 kV Grid Station Laspipora (132 kV Yard, 33 kV Yard and Transformer Yard) on 27 October has been cancelled.

DC Poonch reviews functioning of Industries and Commerce Department

GMK NEWS NETWORK

POONCH: Deputy Commissioner Poonch Ashok Kumar Sharma today chaired a review meeting to assess the physical and financial progress of the District Industries Centre (DIC) and the implementation of industrial development schemes.

The Deputy Commissioner assessed sector-wise progress, achievements against targets and the implementation of schemes promoting industrial growth and entrepreneurship.

To strengthen the local economy and create sustainable livelihood opportunities, the DC directed General Manager DIC Naheem Un Nissa Bhatti to formulate an investment roadmap focussed on attracting fresh investment through Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and other government

incentives.

The DC said the district's industrial development strategy should align with its local resources, tourism potential, agricultural produce and entrepreneurial capabilities. He called for a proactive approach to facilitate new enterprises, encourage private investment and generate employment for local youth.

The focus areas identified for the roadmap include promotion of rural tourism through registered homestays, development of hospitality infrastructure, establishment of modern restaurants and highway amenities and expansion of agro-based industries, particularly food-processing units, to add value to locally produced agricultural commodities.

The DC directed the GM DIC to strengthen coordination with financial institu-

tions, departments concerned and prospective entrepreneurs to ensure effective implementation of government schemes and facilitate access to institutional finance and other benefits. He called for timely guidance and hand-holding support for aspiring

entrepreneurs, particularly young people seeking to establish micro and small enterprises, and for focussed efforts to translate the district's untapped potential into viable business opportunities, sustainable livelihoods and long-term economic growth.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified to the general public that the name of my daughter, Inaya Waseem, D/o Waseem Manzoor, R/o New Colony, Batamaloo, Srinagar, has been wrongly recorded in her school records as “Inaya Waseem Sheikh” instead of her correct name, “Inaya Waseem.” I intend to have the necessary correction made in the school records. Any person having any objection to the proposed correction may submit their objection within three (3) days from the date of publication of this notice. After the expiry of the stipulated period, no objection shall be entertained.

Waseem Manzoor Father of Inaya Waseem
R/o New Colony, Batamaloo, Srinagar

E-Mail: - bmlolab@gmail.com

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE BLOCK MEDICAL OFFICER SOGAM (LOLAB)

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders duly affixed with Revenue Stamps worth Rs. 10/- (Rupees Ten only) are invited by the Block Medical Officer Sogam from authorized dealers/contractors for supply of Gas Cylinders 19 kg. The tenders completed in all respects should reach the office of the Block Medical Officer Sogam by or before 02/11/2026 up to 2:00 P. M which shall be opened on the same day in presence of the tenderers/or their authorized representatives who may like to be present at the time of opening. The detailed tender documents can be had from the Office of the Block Medical Officer Sogam. Earnest Money to the tune of Rs: 20000/- (Twenty Thousand Only) in the shape Of CDR on any Nationalised Bank Duly Pledged to the Block Medical Officer Sogam shall have to be enclosed along with the offer without which the tender /offer shall be rejected. The Block Purchase Committee Sogam reserves the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reasons thereof.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- The sealed tenders should be handed over personally at the office of the Block Medical Officer Sogam after obtaining a receipt or can be sent by registered post. Tenders received after the due date shall not be entertained. Postal delay will not be the responsibility of the Department.

The Tenders should be accompanied with the following documents.

- Earnest Money deposit as prescribed in the tender Notice.
 - Latest Sales Tax/ GST No. and GST clearance certificate of previous year and attested photocopy of PAN of the firm.
 - Price Bid only (in duplicate) written in words and figures and without any cutting /over writings.
 - The tender documents should be page marked and bearing signature with seal on each page.
- On receipt of the sealed tender document the Technical Bid will be opened in the first instance by the Block Purchase Committee Sogam in presence of the Tenderer(s) or their authorized representative who may wish to be present at the time of opening.
- The rates quoted should be inclusive of all Taxes (GST), Transportation, and other incidental, handling, charges etc.
 - The rates should be 0 NIT shall also form a part of supply order and agreement.
 - The successful tenderer/s shall have to abide by the standard terms and conditions of contractual obligations as laid down in J & K Financial Code/Rules and the conditions as per the contract.
 - Weight of each gas cylinder will be checked at the time of reception at Block Store SDH Sogam.,
 - If approved supplier fails either to supply the heating Gas of prescribed specification or to deliver the goods within specified period, the purchasing officer shall be at liberty to arrange supplies either through re-tender or otherwise after giving notice to the approved supplier, the Earnest Money deposit and other deposit if any available with the Department shall be retained to make good any loss or extra cost incurred by the department in procurement of those supplies.
 - Payment will be made only after receiving the budget/ allotment and no claim will be entertained before releasing the budget/ allotment.
 - The approved supplier shall not sublet the contract or a part thereof to any other Agency.
 - No conditional tender shall be accepted. The Block Purchase Committee Sogam reserves the right to accept or reject any tender/ all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
 - The rate contract will remain valid till 31/03/2027.

DIPK-7042-26
DT: 24/10/2026

Block Medical Officer
Sogam

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ELECTRIC DIVISION-III RD, SHEREEN BAGH, SRINAGAR

Tel- 0194-3510830 Email ID: -electricdivision3rd@rediffmail.com, electricdivision3rd@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Dated: 24-10-2026

e-NIT No.: - ED-III /24 of 2026-27

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, e-Tenders, (In Two Cover System) are hereby invited from reputed companies Registered with ROC of INDIA, Original Manufacturers or relevant class A registered electrical contractors/suppliers enlisted with CPWD /MES/Railways/DGS&D and Inspection Agency of JKPPD for “Replacement of worn-out Conductor and rotten Poles falling under the jurisdiction of ED-3rd Shereen Bagh Srinagar (Rate Contract) under SASCI as details below:

Name of the work.	Estimated Cost (Lacs)	EMD	Cost of Tender Document	Status of funds	Validity of Contract
“Replacement of worn-out Conductor and rotten Poles falling under the jurisdiction of ED-3rd Shereen Bagh Srinagar (Rate Contract) Under SASCI	7.50	2% of estimated Cost (Rs 15000.00)	Rs. 500/-	Available Under SASCI 2026-27	FY 2026-27

- Bidders are advised to study the Bidding Document carefully. Submission of e-Bid against this SBD shall be deemed to have been done after careful study and examination of the procedures, terms and conditions of the Standard Bidding Document with full understanding of its implications by the bidder.
- The tender document is available on website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below:

A	Date & Time of downloading of Standard Bidding Document/ Sale of Bid Document (Start)	The standard Bidding Document can be downloaded over http://jktenders.gov.in from 24-10-2026; 05:00 PM
B	Sale of Bid Document (End)	09-11-2026; 03:00 PM
C	Clarification start date	24-10-2026; 05:00 PM
D	Clarification End date	04-11-2026; 02:00 PM
E	e-Bid submission (start) date and time (Submission of e-tender fee, and other supporting documents in PDF/XLS format)	24-10-2026; 05:00 PM
F	e-Bid submission (End) date and time Submission of e-tender fee, and other supporting documents in PDF/XLS format)	09-11-2026; 03:00 PM
G	Hard copy of tender document Submission end date (along-with Original Copy of e-tender fee, Instruments and other supporting documents)	Required for L1 only & to be submitted on or one day after opening of financial e-bid.
H	Online commercial and technical e-bid opening date and time	10-11-2026; 02:00 PM
I	Online financial e-bid opening date & time (only of the technically qualified bidders)	Will be communicated to the technically qualified bidders
J	Venue of opening of technical & financial e-bids	Office of Executive Engineer ED-III, Sgr.
K	Cost of e-bid document. (Copy of treasury challan/ receipt to be up-loaded with e-tender)	Treasury Receipt of Rs. 500.00/- (Rupees Five Hundred only)

No.: - ED-III/TS/
Date: 24-10-2026

DIPK-NB-1952-26
DT: 24/10/2026

Executive Engineer
Electric Division 3rd

CM attends prize distribution ceremony of Labaika Invitational Golf Cup



GMK SPORTS DESK

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Saturday attended the prize distribution ceremony of the Labaika Invitational Golf Cup 2026 at the Royal Springs Golf Course (RSGC), Srinagar.

The day-long tournament witnessed enthusiastic participation from over 100 golfers, including professionals, women and junior golfers from Jammu and Kashmir. Besides professional golfers from other parts of the country also participated, bringing together golf enthusiasts in a celebration of sports-

manship and camaraderie amid Kashmir's scenic surroundings.

The main aim of the day-long tournament focused on local golfers and emerging talent and provide emerging players with opportunities to showcase their abilities.

The Chief Minister highlighted the growing interest among golf enthusiasts from J&K and other parts of North India in visiting Srinagar for weekend golfing, noting that such sporting events contribute to the local tourism economy.

He also underscored the importance of encouraging local golfers and nurturing

young talent, observing that initiatives of this kind can help popularise the sport and provide emerging players with opportunities to showcase their abilities.

The championship was organised by Labaika Haj & Umrah Services.

Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) Gurwinder Singh Oberoi, MLA Zadibal Tanvir Sadiq, Secretary Royal Springs Golf Course Haris Ahmed Handoo, Director Tourism Kashmir Syed Qamar Sajjad, and golfers, among others, were present on the occasion.

Badminton: Sindhu storms into final of French Open 2026, will meet An Se Young

IAN S

PARIS: Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu stormed into the final of the BWF French Open 2026, beating Hina Akechi of Japan in three hard-fought games in the women's singles semifinals at the Arena Grand Paris on Saturday.

In the match played on Court 1, Sindhu recovered from the loss of a close second game to win 21-10, 20-22, 21-16 in the match that lasted 73 minutes.

She next faces World No. 1 An Se Young of South Korea, who defeated Nozomi Okuhara of Japan 21-12, 21-19 in just 45 minutes, setting herself up to extend her record as the



player with most titles on the BWF circuit.

In her semifinal clash, Sindhu started strongly, comfortably taking the opening game 21-10. However, Akechi held the lead through the latter half of the second game, with Sindhu briefly moving ahead at 16-all and holding it for the next two points, but the Japanese shuttler managed to level the game

to force a decider.

The decider saw a close contest, with the scores level at multiple points. Sindhu dominated most of the game before Akechi fought back to level the scores at 14-all and take a 16-15 lead. But the Indian star remained error-free, winning six consecutive points to close out the decider 21-16 and seal her place in the final.

2nd T20I: Could easily have been 2-0 up, rues NZ skipper Santner after India's heist at Hagley Oval

IAN S

CHRISTCHURCH: New Zealand captain Mitchell Santner said his side could easily have been 2-0 up in the five-match T20I series had they held their catches, after India pulled off a dramatic late heist to win the second game at Hagley Oval here on Saturday.

India chased down 181 with a ball to spare and won by four wickets, with Tilak Varma (51 not out) and Nitish Kumar Reddy (26 not out) adding 69 runs in the unbroken partnership for the seventh wicket after the visitors had slumped to 70/5.

Santner, who returned impressive figures of 4-21, said the margins between the two sides had been razor-thin across both games, with dropped catches and misfields proving decisive.

"It's a tough catching ground, and the wind kind of swells a little bit. I think if you look at the skills of both teams, it's been very close, and it's come down to some small moments in the field, especially us kind of at the back end of that chase tonight. I think we're in a very good position.

"A couple of drop catches, misfields, and it's that difference between



winning and losing in the game. So I think it, from a skills perspective, has been playing some very good cricket; it's just some small moments where if you seize those moments, we could have easily been, I guess, 2-0 up as what India are again," Santner said in the post-match press conference.

The left-arm spinner felt 180 was a competitive total on a surface that behaved differently from the one dished out for the series opener. "I think it was a little bit different. I think there was a bit more tennis ball bounce. I think probably 180 was still a pretty good score.

"But we knew we had to take wickets at the start, and we managed to do that

and squeeze through the middle, which was nice. I think we obviously lost the game due to a couple of good partnerships by India in the end."

Santner was full of praise for Bevon Jacobs (58) and Glenn Phillips (70), whose 116-run partnership rescued New Zealand after they lost three early wickets in the power-play. "I think it was a very good partnership in the context of the game. Three down reasonably early and they gave themselves a chance to reassess the conditions, and it's one of those wickets where it was probably tough to start.

"But once you're in, you gave yourself a chance and could cash in a little bit later on, and that's what

they did and got us up to a pretty good score. So, BJ is just going to keep getting better and better with more opportunities, and we've seen Glenn do that for a long time and take more responsibility at four, and he's shown that he's a pretty good number four batter."

On his own four-wicket haul, Santner said the tacky surface offered him more grip than in the first game. "Don't get four for that often. So with the wicket, we talked about it being a little bit tacky, and the late nature of the games, there was a little bit of hold, which was nice. So I feel like you could mix it up a bit more, and be a little bit more aggressive, whereas the other night it was skidding on and felt like you were just trying to get out of the overall.

"So it was nice. I think (Michael) Bracewell's been bowling very well in the powerplay, and then the way he's been operating through the middle, and we've been after squeeze for a little bit of pressure. So I guess the size of the ground helps as well, and a couple of them were caught on the fence today; it's probably six at some other ground, so we have to wait and see."

Asian Para Games: India sign off with record 114 medals as contingent marches at closing ceremony

IAN S

AICHI-NAGOYA: India's para-athletes marched with national flags at the closing ceremony of the Asian Para Games 2026 at Paloma Mizuho Stadium on Friday, bringing the curtains down on the country's most successful campaign at the continental showpiece with a record haul of 114 medals.

Double gold medallist para-shooter Mona Agarwal and athlete Nishad Kumar led the Indian contingent as co-flag-bearers at the ceremony, which marked the end of an impressive campaign in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, where India secured 30 gold, 35 silver and 49 bronze medals.

The tally surpassed India's previous best of 108 medals at the 2022 edition in Hangzhou, where the country won 27 gold, 32 silver and 49 bronze medals after three medals were subsequently revoked following doping violations involving Neeraj Yadav and Parveen.

India's achievement in 2026 was particularly significant given that the



contingent comprised 168 para-athletes, considerably fewer than the 309 who competed in Hangzhou three years ago. Despite the smaller contingent, the Indian team delivered historic performances across para-athletics, para-badminton, para-archery, shooting, table tennis and swimming.

Among the standout performances was para-badminton, where Paralympic champion Nitesh Kumar defeated world champion Pramod Bhagat 21-18, 21-16 in the men's singles SL3 final to win gold and ensure an all-Indian podium.

Thulasimathi Murug-

esan and Manasi Girishchandra Joshi clinched gold in women's doubles SL3-SU5, defeating China's Qiuxia Yang and Xuxian Xiao 21-16, 21-13. Thulasimathi also secured silver in women's singles SU5, while Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan finished with silver in women's singles SH6 after losing to China's Fengmei Li.

India also made history in para-archery, with Harvinder Singh and debutant Vijay Sundi winning gold in men's recurve doubles. Pooja Jatyan and Bhawna Choudhary claimed silver in women's recurve doubles, giving India its first medal in the event at the

Asian Para Games.

Para-athletics once again contributed significantly to the medal tally, with several athletes producing record-breaking performances.

Haneey set a world record of 60.49 metres in the men's javelin throw F37/38 competition, winning gold in the T37 category. Debutant Sandeep also struck gold in the men's 400m T64 with a time of 52.28 seconds, setting a world record in the T44 category, while Ajay Kumar claimed bronze in the same race.

India completed a podium sweep in the men's javelin throw F42-F44/F61-F64 final, with Sumit winning gold in T64 with a throw of 72.46 metres for 1,112 points. Mahendra Gurjar took silver in T42 with a Games-record effort of 59.03 metres, while Sandip Sanjay Sargar secured bronze in T44 with a Games-record throw of 64.48 metres.

Pranav Soorma won gold in the men's club throw F51 with a Games-record distance of 32.87 metres, while Dharambir

took bronze. Navdeep Singh won bronze in the men's javelin throw F40/41, while Rakeshbhai Bhatt secured bronze in the men's 200m T37.

Sandeep added another medal to his tally with bronze in the men's 100m T44, clocking 11.67 seconds to finish the Games with one gold, one bronze and a world record.

In para-shooting, co-flag-bearer Mona Agarwal capped her campaign with gold in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions SH1, scoring 357.5 points to set world and Asian Para Games records. She also became the first Indian para-shooter to win a medal in the event at the Games.

India's para-table tennis contingent added a bronze through Jehan Dorab Madan and Shubham Wadhwa in men's doubles Class MD4. At 50, Madan became the oldest Indian medallist at the Games.

Para-swimmer Himanshu Nandal won bronze in the men's 100m freestyle S11 in 1:05.90, taking his medal tally at the Games to three bronze medals.

'Every individual is a match winner': Shreyas says after Tilak guides India to win

IAN S

CHRISTCHURCH: India T20I captain Shreyas Iyer hailed Tilak Varma's performance after his deputy guided the Men in Blue to an unlikely win in the second T20I against New Zealand at the Hagley Oval here on Saturday.

Tilak scored an unbeaten 51 from 26 balls to play an instrumental role in India securing a four-wicket win with a ball to spare against the Kiwis after they were in trouble at 70/5 in 10.5 overs.

"I feel that every individual in our game is a match winner, and today we saw the example of that. Like, honestly speaking, when we lost wickets, consecutive wickets especially, we thought that the game was going away from us. But Tilak and Reddy, they showed immense character, and also a great cameo by Naman Dhir," Shreyas told broadcasters after the four-wicket win.

With the surface assisting the slower bowlers, India were in trouble. Mitchell Santner took a four-wicket haul and conceded only 21 runs in his four overs as



special praise for him.

"We saw him in a couple of games back home against West Indies. He's a phenomenal bowler as well, and once you get both the parts covered in terms of batting and bowling, I think he brings in a lot of character, and also when you see him move around in the field, he basically, he's a comprehensive player," he added.

He also praised the New Zealand spinners Santner and Michael Bracewell for their bowling that nearly denied India. "I think we played a lot of dot balls initially, and that basically piled up the run rate as well, and also when we went in, we wanted to actually cruise, but they bowled amazing, especially Bracewell and Santner, the way they controlled the game in the middle.

"It wasn't easy to strike the ball, but I think if we would have picked up the gaps and tried to find boundaries, we could have easily cruised. But unfortunately. You know, it happens. Just another day, and I'm sure that we'll bounce back pretty strong," the skipper highlighted.

ISL 2026/27: Kerala Blasters look to rebound at home as Mumbai City chase first win

IAN S

KOCHI: Hoping to rebound from their defeat in their last match, Kerala Blasters FC will host Mumbai City FC in what is their first home match of the 2026-27 season of the Indian Super League (ISL) at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Kochi on Sunday.

The Blasters will look to respond after their 4-1 defeat to NorthEast United FC, while the Islanders seek their first win after managing just the sole point from two games.

Kerala head coach Ashley Westwood acknowledged the defensive errors that contributed to the defeat but stressed that his team was still in the process of finding its feet. Having had limited time together during pre-season, the Blasters are continuing to build combinations and establish a consistent starting eleven.

Westwood, however, expects his side to maintain an aggressive approach. "We try and play intense, aggressive football. We try and get numbers forward. We try and win every game," he

said, outlining his intention to take the game to the opposition rather than adopt a cautious approach.

The Kerala coach also highlighted the importance of reconnecting with the club's supporters ahead of their home opener. "You can't guarantee a result, but we can guarantee we give everything we've got," he said, urging fans to back the team as it develops through the season.

Mumbai City, meanwhile, will look to turn their performances into three points. Both of their goals so far have come from penalties, and head coach Manolo Márquez acknowledged that creating chances in open play remains an area for improvement. "Obviously, we would like to create more chances," Márquez said. "I think that we have more problems getting to the goal in open play."

Forward Farukh Choudhary echoed that assessment, stressing the need for greater precision in the final third. "The chances we create in the game, I think, as attackers, not only me, whoever is playing, I think we need to be more clinical," he said.

INOX
SRINAGAR

MOVIES SCHEDULE

25 OCTOBER 2026, SUNDAY

DRISHYAM : THE CONCLUSION
(HINDI) (UA 16+)
12:05 PM | 03:10 PM | 06:15 PM

UDTA TEER
(HINDI) (UA 13+)
10:45 AM | 01:35 PM | 04:25 PM | 07:15 PM

PEHLA PYAAR DOOSRI BAAR
(HINDI) (A)
11:05 AM | 04:30 PM

CLAYFACE
(ENG WITH ENG SUBTITLE) (A)
02:05 PM | 07:30 PM

CALL 95416 13868
FOR ASSISTANCE WITH TICKETS

TICKETS AT:
Paytm, Innox App, or directly from the booking counter at the cinema.

www.bookmyshow.com | www.inoxmovies.com