facebook.com/NewspaperGMK twitter.com/GMKashmir www.dailygoodmorningkashmir.com epaper.dailygoodmorningkashmir.com

Good Morning Kashmir

17th Year Of Publication

Manoj Sinha
@manojsinha_



Paid heartfelt tributes to veteran leader Shri Girdhari Lal Dogra Ji on his Punya-tithi. His lifelong dedication to public service, unwavering commitment to uplifting the marginalized, and monumental contributions to the development of Jammu Kashmir will continue to inspire generations to come.

Srinagar • Saturday 28, November 2026 • Vol: 17 • Issue No: 281 • Pages: 08 • Price: ₹ 2/- (Air Surcharge for Delhi, Jammu & Ladakh 50/- Paisa) RNI No. JKENG/2010/36998

LG Chairs 10th Executive Council Meeting Of BGSBU



GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Friday chaired the 10th meeting of the Executive Council of Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University (BGSBU) Rajouri, at Lok Bhavan.

The meeting was attended by Prof. Jawaid Iqbal, Vice Chancellor, BGSBU; Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu; Prof. Nilofer Khan, Vice Chancellor, University of Kashmir; Shri Govind Jaiswal, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor; Ram Niwas Sharma, Commissioner Secretary, Higher Education Department; Ravi Kumar Sihag, Registrar, BGSBU; Prof. O P Mishra, former Dean (Research) IMS BHU; Prof. Shahid Akhter, Department of Management Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi; Dr. Titi Xavier, Dean, Academic Affairs, BGSBU, and other members of the Executive Council.

The Executive Council accorded in-principle approval to various agenda points and proposals presented during the meeting.

The Lieutenant Governor directed the University to transition toward a skill-centric, employment-oriented curriculum and devise a long-term framework for self-sustained funding.

He underscored the importance of harmonising academic reforms with the National Education • P-06

Architects Showcase Kani Legacy

Kashmir's Weaving Wisdom Takes Global Stage In Dubai

'Taleem' Turns Valley's Textile Codes Into Architecture, Puts Generations-Old Craft Knowledge

REHAN QAYOOM

SRINAGAR: From Kashmir's famed Kani shawls and hand-knotted carpets to the international design stage in Dubai, two architects are taking the Valley's generations-old weaving wisdom to the world through an innovative installation that brings attention to the knowledge behind its celebrated craftsmanship.

Titled 'Taleem', the installation by VARUSSI, an architecture and research practice founded by Kashmiri architects Owais Asif Khan and Samreen Junaid Wani, was showcased at Dubai Design Week 2026 under the Abwab programme, translating the coded instructions used by Kashmiri weavers into



an architectural experience.

The architects said the project was inspired by this year's Abwab theme, 'In Other Words', which encouraged them to explore forms of communication beyond spoken and written language.

Their research led them to the traditional instruction systems used by Kani shawl artisans and carpet weavers, where designs are communicated through sequences of symbols and instructions that skilled craftsmen interpret and translate into intricate patterns.

Rather than reproducing textile designs, the architects explored the underlying logic of the weaving process and translated its traditional language into architecture.

The project also drew on research involving local weavers. Shah Ahsan Illahi, a researcher from Kashmir, visited artisans on behalf of the architects to document their techniques and understand the knowledge involved.

Through him, the team received interviews and videos of master weaver Ghulam Nabi Ganie at work, • P-06

No Written Order, No Strike Withdrawal, Say Resident Doctors

JAHANGEER GANAIE

SRINAGAR: The ongoing strike by resident doctors across Jammu and Kashmir will continue despite what the protesting doctors described as a positive outcome of a high-level meeting with the Finance Department in Jammu on Friday. The doctors said they would not suspend their agitation until a formal written order is issued.

The representatives said discussions were held on the proposed stipend structure for Postgraduate (PG) doctors and Senior Residents (SRs), with an amount of around Rs 90,000 or above for PGs and approximately Rs 1.20 lakh for Senior Residents.

However, the authorities have sought time until Wednesday for final implementation or further • P-06

Dry Weather In J&K Till Dec 3: MeT



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Jammu & Kashmir is likely to experience largely dry weather till December 3, with a fresh spell of light rain and snowfall expected between December 4 and 7, according to the weather forecast.

The Meteorological Centre Srinagar, said weather conditions are expected to remain generally dry across the region during the coming days, with clear to partly cloudy skies and little possibility of precipitation.

A change in weather conditions is likely from December 4 onwards under the influence of a fresh Western Disturbance, which may bring light rainfall to the plains and light snowfall over higher reaches of Jammu and Kashmir.

The weather system is expected to persist till December 7, with temperatures likely to witness a further decline. Daytime temperatures in Kashmir are likely to settle around 6 to 8 degrees Celsius, while night temperatures may hover between 2 and 3 degrees Celsius.

During the dry spell from November 27 to December 3, maximum temperatures in • P-06

No Compromise On Public Health: Farooq Shah

Directs Strict Action Against Spurious Drugs, Food Adulteration

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Chairman of the Committee on Petitions of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, MLA Pirzada Farooq Ahmad Shah, Friday directed the concerned departments to take stringent action against those involved in food adulteration, sale of rotten meat and circulation of spurious and substandard drugs, asserting that no compromise would be made with the public health and safety.

The Chairman issued these directions while chairing a meeting of the Committee held in the J&K Legislative Assembly Complex, Jammu, to deliberate on the petition titled "Widespread Adulteration of Essential Food Commodities within the Union Territory of Jammu



and Kashmir" and review the Action Taken Report.

The meeting was attended by Legislators Javaid Riyaz Bedar, Dr. Sajjad Shafi, Dr. Narinder Singh Raina and Shagun Parihar.

During the meeting, the Chairman sought a detailed status report from the Commissioner, Food and Drug Controller, J&K, and State Drug Controller, J&K, Rajesh Kumar Angurana, regarding the action taken on • P-06

SED Announces Phased Wise Winter Break For Kashmir Schools

Pre-Primary-8th Classes To Observe Vacation From Nov-30, Higher Classes From Dec-14

RIYAZ BHAT

SRINAGAR: School Education Department (SED) Friday announced a phased-manner winter break for Kashmir division from November-30.

Director of School Affairs Education Kashmir (DSEK) in an order said that the vacations for Pre-primary to 8th standard shall commence from November-30 to February-28-2027.

In case of 9th to 12th standard, DSEK said that the vacations shall be observed from December-14 to February-22-2027.

DSEK further ordered that the teaching faculty shall remain available for any academic activity during the vacation period.

"The Teaching staff shall report back to their respective schools 04 days prior to the opening of schools for making



arrangements regarding the opening of schools," it reads.

Earlier, the Education Minister Shameema Firdous had said that the government is considering announcing winter vacation from December 01 for the elementary level classes.

The minister had said, "Our primary focus is the health of the children. Keeping in view the cold weather conditions, we are considering vacation of elementary level classes from nursery to 5th standard from December-01."

She also said that the government was receiving different feedback from the parents regarding the winter vacation. "We were getting two different responses from the parents, some parents are in favour of the vacation and some are saying that it is early to announce the vacation," the minister said—(KNO)

Veteran Leader Peerzada Muhammad Syed Dies At 73

JAHANGEER GANAIE



ANANTNAG: Veteran Congress leader, former minister and sitting Anantnag MLA Peerzada Muhammad Syed passed away at his Jammu residence on Thursday evening after a prolonged illness. He was 73.

A prominent Congress face in south Kashmir and a former Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) president, Peerzada's death drew tributes from leaders across party lines, while thousands attended his funeral prayers on Friday at his ancestral village of Damhal Achabal in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

People from different walks of life, along with political leaders and party workers, gathered to bid a final farewell to the veteran politician.

Leaders from the National Conference (NC), Congress, Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and other parties attended the funeral, reflecting the respect he commanded across the political spectrum.

JKPCC president Tariq Hameed Karra, who attended the funeral, described Peerzada's demise as an irreparable loss to the Congress party, recalling his long association with the organisation and contributions to public life.

Condolences poured in from across the political spectrum, with leaders remembering Peerzada for his commitment to public service and contribution to Jammu and • P-06

Rajnath Singh To Lead BJP's Loktantra Bachao Padyatra In Jammu Today

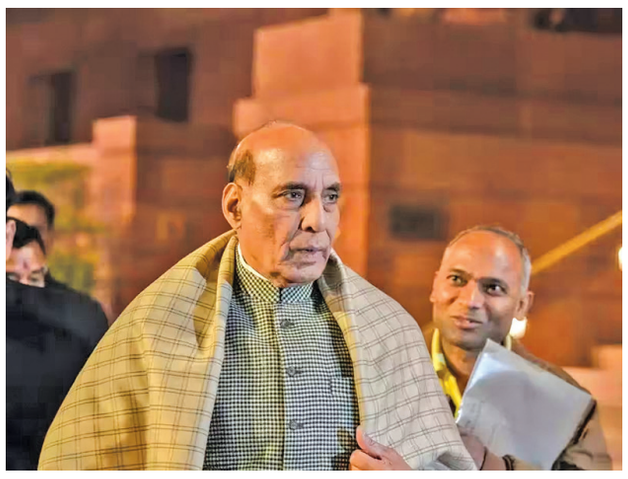
YOGESH SAGOTRA

JAMMU: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is set to visit Jammu today to lead the Bharatiya Janata Party "Loktantra Bachao, Arajakta Hatao Padyatra."

A BJP leader said the padyatra will commence at 10 AM from Radio Station, Panjtirthi, and culminate at Parade Ground near Brahman Sabha, where a public rally will be held.

BJP's Jammu and Kashmir President and Rajya Sabha Member Sat Sharma, Rajnath Singh and other leaders will address the rally, he added.

Party workers, legislators and senior leaders from different parts of the Union Territory, including Kashmir, are expected to participate in the



rally, the leader said.

"The speakers will counter misinformation campaign of the opposition against the democratically elected Modi Government, aimed at creating confusion and political instability in the country," he said.

Another leader said the padyatra is intended to bring together party leaders, elected representatives, workers and citizens to reaffirm their commitment to democracy, constitutional values, national unity and good governance.

Pertinently, BJP had launched its nationwide 'Loktantra Bachao, Arajakta Hatao' campaign on October 22.

The campaign aims to strengthen democratic values and constitutional institutions and counter the alleged "misinformation being spread" by the Congress and its INDIA alliance partners.

The campaign is being organised in phases through public rallies, padyatras, youth conventions and grassroots outreach programmes—(KNO)

3 Terror Associates Held In Shopian

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: Security forces arrested three alleged terror associates during a joint search operation in Narwaw and Rawalpora areas of south Kashmir's Shopian district on Friday, officials said.

An official said that the operation was conducted by the Army's Rashtriya Rifles (RR) in collaboration with the Special Operations Group (SOG) Shopian.

During the operation, three persons were apprehended. A search led to the recovery of two hand grenades, 20 rounds of AK-47 ammunition, five posters of the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), three mobile phones and three Aadhaar cards, the official said.

He said a case has been registered under FIR No. 250/2026 at the concerned police station under relevant sections of law, while further investigation into the case is underway—(KNO)

Calls For Global Response

Attacks On Maritime Shipping And Seafarers Unacceptable: Jaishankar



IANS

NEW DELHI: Calling for a global response, External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar on Friday termed attacks on maritime shipping and seafarers as "unacceptable".

In his remarks at the Indian Ocean Rim Association's (IORA) General Debate on 'A Stronger Regional Voice: Positioning IORA in a Changing Global Order' in New Delhi on Friday, EAM Jaishankar highlighted the volatile aspects of a transforming global order, particularly conflicts, frictions and disruptions.

"We are understandably focused on the volatile aspects of a transforming global order, especially conflicts, frictions and disruptions. It is equally imperative to appreciate the promising aspects: deep interdependence, strong globalisation and the benefits of international cooperation," EAM Jaishankar said.

He emphasised that the Indian Ocean is particularly poised to address its challenges. • P-06

JKSSB announces Additional Preventive Measures for upcoming Exams

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The J&K Services Selection Board (JKSSB), after taking cognizance of the latest modus operandi attempted by unscrupulous elements to resort to unfair means in a recently held FAA examination, has decided to introduce additional preventive measures for upcoming examinations.

These arrangements will operate alongside the existing regulations regarding the conduct of examinations and are intended to strengthen fairness, transparency and security in the examinations. These additional measures include appointment and deployment of invigilation staff through a randomisation process by the concerned Deputy Commissioners from a pool of already identified staff. Candidates will continue to be allotted examination centres through randomisation. However, the period for downloading admit cards has been reduced from seven days to three days before the examination.

The security protocol at examination centres has been reviewed in consultation with the Police Department. Magistrates have been assigned to supervise the frisking of candidates and authorised examination-duty staff deployed at each centre. Magistrates will also ensure that no unauthorised person enters the examination premises and that no person leaves the premises until the examination concludes.

Likewise, Centre Observers appointed by the concerned Deputy Commissioners will be personally responsible for monitoring the movement of invigilation staff and examination material during the examination. They must ensure that unused or unissued Question Booklets and OMR Sheets belonging to absentee candidates are counted, packed and sealed inside the examination rooms or halls by the concerned invigilators, and kept under strict CCTV surveillance.

Furthermore, the Board will continue installing jammers in examination rooms and halls. In view of recent attempts to use sophisticated electronic gadgets, the number of jammers at examination centres has been increased. Magistrates deployed at examination centres will ensure that all deployed staff, including service providers, deposit their mobile phones and other gadgets in the designated control room. These items will remain locked there until the examination is completed.

Similarly, CCTV surveillance will continue at every examination centre, with live monitoring from JKSSB Control Rooms in Jammu and Srinagar. Centre Superintendents have been directed not to engage temporary or need-based staff for centre preparedness. Such duties must be assigned only to permanent government officials. Centre Superintendents will be personally responsible for any lapse.

JKSSB
Jammu & Kashmir Service Selection Board

Chief Justice highlights enduring strength of Constitution

Releases booklet on Fundamental Duties at Constitution Day celebrations

GMK NEWS NETWORK



JAMMU: Commemorating 77 years of the adoption of the Constitution of India and reaffirming the collective commitment to its cherished ideals of Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity, the Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority, in collaboration with the High Court Legal Services Committee and District Legal Services Authority, Jammu, observed Constitution Day, 2026 at Police Auditorium, Gulshan Ground, here.

The programme was graced by Dr. Justice Pushpendra Singh Bhati, Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Patron-in-Chief, J&K Legal Services Authority, as the Chief Guest, in presence of Justice Rajnesh Oswal, Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal, Justice Rajesh Sekhri, Justice Sanjay Parihar, Justice Yash Paul Bourney, Judges, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh at Jammu.

The programme was aimed at rekindling constitutional consciousness among the masses, fostering respect for the supremacy of the Constitution and instilling a sense of responsible citizenship, particularly among the younger generation. It also sought to emphasize that preservation of constitutional democracy is a shared responsibility of institutions and citizens alike.

In his presidential address, Chief Justice, through an engaging interaction with the students and several real-life illustrations, elaborated upon the three dimensions of justice i.e social, economic and political, as enshrined in the Preamble to the Constitution.

Highlighting the equal value of every citizen's vote irrespective of their social or economic standing, Dr. Justice Pushpendra Singh Bhati, underscored the remarkable achievement of political equality while emphasizing the need for sustained efforts towards social and economic equality and securing a dignified life for every individual.

Referring to the constitutional foresight of its framers, Chief Justice highlighted how Article 395 severed the remaining constitutional links with colonial rule and emphasized that the inherent flexibility of the Constitution is its greatest strength, binding the country's vast geographical, cultural and social diversity into a unified national fabric.

Reflecting upon the rich judicial heritage of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh, Chief Justice made a special reference to the establishment of the High Court in 1928, which is now approaching its centenary, as a reflection of the region's deep-rooted constitutional values.

Drawing upon his recent experiences in Ladakh, he highlighted the functioning of judicial institutions and Legal Services Authorities even in remote and high-altitude regions despite geographical and climatic challenges, describing it as a true manifestation of the beauty and strength of the Constitution.

Chief Justice exhorted the younger generation to keep the flame of constitutional values alive, harness their potential constructively and contribute meaningfully towards strengthening the Constitution, democracy and the nation.

Speaking on the occasion, Justice Rajnesh Oswal, highlighted the Preamble as the essence of the Constitution and elaborated upon its four foundational ideals i.e. Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity.

Laying particular emphasis on equality and liberty, he underscored the importance of safeguarding the constitutional rights of every citizen, ensuring equality of opportunity and upholding individual dignity.

Justice Rajnesh Oswal further emphasized that constitutional freedoms must be exercised with responsibility and due regard for the rights of others, while stressing the need to inculcate constitutional awareness among the younger generation so that they remain conscious of both their rights and responsibilities.

The deliberations were further enriched by the insightful addresses of Prof. Dr. Sanjay Gupta, Faculty of Law, University of Jammu, and Seema Khajooria Shekhar, Senior Advocate, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, who brought academic and professional perspectives to the discourse on the historical evolution of the Constitution, constitutional morality and contemporary challenges.

JKSSB conducts training session for Invigilators, supporting Staff

GMK NEWS NETWORK



JAMMU: In preparation for the smooth, transparent and fair conduct of the OMR-based written examination for the post of Sub-Inspector in the Home Department, scheduled to be held on November 29, 2026 (Sunday), from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM, the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) organised a comprehensive training session for invigilators and supporting staff of Jammu district at the Convention Centre here Friday.

The training programme witnessed the participation of more than 3,000 invigilators and supporting personnel, reflecting the extensive preparations being undertaken by the Board for the forthcoming examination.

The session was presided over by Rakesh Kumar Badyal and Sudhir Bali, Members of JKSSB and Coordinators for Jammu District, who addressed the participants and emphasised the importance of meticulous planning, coordination and strict adherence to the prescribed examination guidelines.

During the training session, participants were sensitised about their respective duties and responsibilities, standard operating procedures and various aspects of examination management. Detailed instructions were imparted regarding the reporting and deployment of staff, verification of candidates' identity and admit cards, frisking procedures, maintenance of discipline, prevention of unfair means and ensuring a secure and conducive examination environment.

Special emphasis was laid on maintaining the confidentiality and sanctity of examination material, proper handling of question paper-related documents, adherence to prescribed timelines, effective coordination among Centre Superintendents, invigilators and supporting staff, and prompt reporting of any untoward incident or procedural irregularity.

The participants were also briefed about the importance of vigilance inside examination halls, proper seating arrangements, accurate documentation and ensuring that every candidate is treated fairly and uniformly in accordance with the examination instructions.

Addressing the gathering, the Members underscored that the successful conduct of a large-scale examination requires collective responsibility, professional commitment and close coordination at every level. They called upon all personnel to discharge their assigned duties with utmost sincerity, impartiality and alertness, leaving no scope for negligence or procedural lapses.

The Board reiterated its commitment to conducting the Sub-Inspector examination in a free, fair, transparent and orderly manner, ensuring equal opportunity for all candidates.

The training session concluded with an appeal to all invigilators and supporting staff to remain fully prepared and ensure strict compliance with the instructions issued by JKSSB for the smooth and successful conduct of the examination on November 29, 2026.

YDS Stages Theatrical Performance at SKICC on Ministerial Staff Day



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Young Dramatists Society (YDS), Srinagar, presented a theatrical performance at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC) here Friday as part of the celebrations of Ministerial Staff Day, organised by the Jammu & Kashmir Joint Clerical Staff Association.

The programme celebrated the contribution, dedication and role of ministerial employees in the smooth functioning of government administration. The theatrical presentation by YDS added a cultural and artistic dimension to the occasion, underlining the importance of theatre as a medium of expression, social engagement and cultural enrichment.

The Young Dramatists Society expressed gratitude to the organisers for inviting the group and providing it an opportunity to showcase Kashmir's rich tradition of theatre and performing arts on an important occasion.

The event saw the participation of employees, officials and members of the cultural fraternity.

Dir Agri reviews performance of potato seed development farms



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Director Agriculture Kashmir, Sartaj Ahmad Shah, Friday chaired a virtual meeting with all Chief Agriculture Officers (CAOs) and other concerned officers to deliberate on the fixation of district-wise targets under the Seed Village Programme for Kharief 2027.Joint Director Agriculture Inputs Kashmir also attended the meeting.

During the meeting, the Director held detailed discussions on the proposed targets, emphasising the need for proper planning, effective coordination and timely implementation of the programme to ensure adequate availability of quality seeds to farmers across Kashmir Division.

The meeting also reviewed the procurement achievements under the Seed Village Programme for Kharief 2026. The Director took stock of the progress made by various districts and stressed the importance of strengthening seed production and procurement activities to achieve the desired objectives of the programme.

He called upon the Chief Agriculture Officers and other concerned officers to ensure realistic target fixation, close monitoring of field-level activities and coordinated efforts for the successful implementation of the Seed Village Programme.

The Director underscored that timely availability of quality seeds is crucial for enhancing agricultural productivity and strengthening the overall seed production system in the region as per the existing requirements.

NIT Srinagar flags off tobacco-free youth campaign 4.0

GMK NEWS NETWORK



SRINAGAR: The National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar on Friday flagged off the Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign 4.0 (TFYC 4.0), with active participation from faculty members, administrative officers, staff and students of the Institute.

The programme was graced by Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Anurag Misra, along with Dean Student Welfare, Prof. Mohammad Abid Bazaz, and Dean Research and Consultancy, Prof. Roohie Naz Mir.

On the occasion, Director Prof. Anurag Misra emphasised the need to protect young people from tobacco consumption and create greater awareness about its harmful effects. He said educational institutions have an important role in promoting healthy lifestyles and discouraging tobacco use among students.

Prof. Misra called upon the Institute fraternity to actively contribute towards making the campus tobacco-free.

The campaign was conducted with the active support of NSS Coordinator Dr. Pramod Kumar Yadav, EBSB Coordinator Dr. Ashok Kumar, Dr. Jitendra Gurjar and other Institute officials and staff members. Security personnel and sanitation staff also extended their support to the initiative.

As part of the programme, participants assembled at the Main Faculty Block, where they took the Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign pledge. This was followed by a tobacco-free campus rally in which faculty members, staff and students participated, spreading awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco consumption and encouraging people to refrain from using tobacco products.

Dr. Pramod Kumar Yadav, NSS Coordinator and coordinator of the event, said that the campaign aimed to sensitise young people about the health risks associated with tobacco use and encourage them to adopt a tobacco-free lifestyle. He emphasised the importance of collective participation in discouraging tobacco consumption and promoting a healthier campus environment.

The rally focused on raising awareness among students and members of the campus community about the adverse consequences of tobacco consumption and the need to prevent its use among the younger generation.

DLRC meeting held at Kupwara to review progress of banks, line departments

RAHEE MUSHTAQ



KUPWARA: The District Level Review Committee (DLRC) meeting was held Friday under the chairmanship of Gh. Rasool, ADDC Kupwara to review the performance of banks as on closing of Q2 2026-27.

The meeting was attended by CPO Kupwara, CEO Kupwara, LDO RBI, DDM NABARD, Cluster Head J&K Bank, AD DECCO, AD Handicrafts, other district officers, representatives of line departments and Nodal Officers of banks.

At the outset, Manzoor Ahmad Sheikh, LDM Kupwara, welcomed the chairperson and participants and emphasised the importance of close coordination between banks and line departments for effective implementation of government-sponsored schemes and improving credit delivery.

The meeting reviewed progress under various schemes, including Mission YUVA, PMEGP, PMFME, KCC, HADP, PMJDY, PMJJBY, PMSBY and APY, besides Aspirational District indicators and Priority Sector Lending performance. Pending cases and areas requiring improvement were also discussed.

The chair advised banks and line departments to strengthen coordination, expedite pending cases, ensure saturation of eligible beneficiaries and work collectively towards achieving prescribed targets and improving the district's overall performance.

Joint team conducts field visit to Leopard-attack-affected villages in Kupwara

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: A joint team comprising officers and officials from the Wildlife Department, Forest Department, Forest Protection Force and District Administration Kupwara, led by the Regional Wildlife Warden, Kashmir, Friday visited Zonireshi, Marsary and Mazpather villages of Chowkibal area to assess the situation and put in place necessary mitigation measures following the death of a woman in a leopard attack on November 24, 2026.

During the visit, joint patrolling teams were constituted on the spot for night surveillance. Two separate teams, each equipped with a tranquilising gun, have also been deployed for night ambush operations to chemically immobilise the leopard identified as the problem animal.

Additionally, four trap cages have been installed at strategic locations, which will be baited and regularly monitored to capture the animal.

The joint team also held awareness meetings at Zonireshi and Chowkibal, attended by village heads and community representatives. The locals were assured that all concerned departments have mobilised their staff and formulated a coordinated strategy to address the situation at the earliest.

The demands raised by the local residents regarding the establishment of a control room at Chowkibal and deployment of additional staff in the area were addressed on the spot. The Regional Wildlife Warden, Kashmir, issued clear directions for establishing a joint control room, which will initially function from rented accommodation until a suitable permanent arrangement is made.

The village heads expressed satisfaction over the measures initiated and assured the officials of their full cooperation and support.

Meanwhile, advisories are being continuously disseminated through Public Address Systems and local mosques to sensitise residents about precautionary measures and safety protocols to be followed in the affected areas.

JKBOSE issues schedule for submission of examination forms in summer zone

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (J&K BOSE), has notified schedule for online submission of permission cum examination forms for Classes 10, 11 & 12 along with Renewal Registration Returns (RR) for Class 11 and 12, for the Annual/Regular, 2027 (Feb–March session) for the Summer Zone in the Jammu Division.

As per the notification of J&K BOSE, eligible on-roll candidates from JKBOSE-affiliated institutions can fill up the online forms on payment of prescribed fees from November 27 to December 11 and the details thereof have been elaborately laid down in the notification available on the J&K BOSE website jkbose.jk.gov.in. The schools which fail to fill the forms during the timeline shall be liable to late fee.

The HOIs have been advised to generate an online checklist and submit it to the concerned board office within five days after completion of the form submission process. The checklists must be duly signed and stamped by the school principal/ headmasters.

The notification states that only the institutions affiliated with JKBOSE will be eligible to fill the examination cum permission forms.

The students with a disability of 40% or more, have been exempted from payment of examination and renewal registration fee dues.

The Board has directed all concerned institutions to ensure timely submission of forms, emphasising upon meticulous verification of particulars during punching of information on the designated portal.

Kashmir-born journalist Danish Bhat Takes on Newsweek Leadership Across 3 continents

GMK NEWS NETWORK



SRINAGAR: Kashmir-born journalist and media entrepreneur Danish Manzoor Bhat is set to take on an expanded leadership role at American legacy news magazine Newsweek as Executive Vice President and Editorial Director, Asia, Middle East & Africa, marking a significant milestone for a journalist from the Valley in global media leadership.

The new role, effective January 1, 2027, expands Bhat's existing responsibility for Asia to include the Middle East and Africa, placing him among the most senior India-based Indian journalists holding an editorial leadership position at a major international legacy news publication.

Bhat, who hails from Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir, joined Newsweek in 2022 as Editorial Director, Asia and has since led coverage of some of the region's biggest stories across geopolitics, foreign policy, conflict, business and technology.

His work has included interviews and conversations with heads of state and government across Asia and Africa. In 2024, Bhat became the first journalist of Kashmiri origin to extensively interview Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He has also interviewed the Prime Minister of Bhutan, the President of Sri Lanka and the President of Zanzibar, among other senior global leaders.

For Kashmir, the appointment carries a particular significance. Bhat began his journey through Indian journalism before moving into senior editorial leadership at an international publication, while continuing to remain based in India.

He has also retained a strong connection to his roots in the Valley. Bhat studied journalism at the GDC Baramulla, University of Kashmir, before going on to study Journalism further at Osmania University and later becoming an alumnus of the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIM Ahmedabad).

He is currently part of the 2027 cohort of the Advanced Management Programme in Public Policy at the Indian School of Business (ISB).

A recurring theme in Bhat's journalism has been the need for greater context and nuance in the way developing nations are covered internationally.

Speaking recently on a podcast, he argued that developing countries should not seek favourable media coverage, but should expect fair reporting that does not allow isolated incidents to define an entire country or society.

That subject is also forming part of a book he is working on examining global media narratives, language, context and the way developing societies are represented in international journalism.

With his expanded Newsweek mandate, Bhat will now hold editorial responsibility across Asia, the Middle East and Africa while continuing to operate from India and continue his work related travels across the regions and U.S.

The appointment takes effect from January 1, 2027.

CM inaugurates, dedicates development projects worth ₹9.69 crore to Bani

Announces new projects for education, healthcare and connectivity

GMK NEWS NETWORK



KATHUA: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Friday reaffirmed the government's commitment to equitable development across Jammu and Kashmir, saying that no region would be left behind in the ongoing development process.

Addressing a large public gathering at Bani during his visit to Kathua district, the Chief Minister said his visit was aimed at fulfilling the commitment he had made to the local MLA to return with concrete initiatives for the development of Bani and its adjoining areas.

Earlier, the Chief Minister dedicated a series of educational and healthcare projects to the public, besides laying foundation stones for new infrastructure, with a total project investment of ₹9.69 crore.

At Government Degree College (GDC), Bani, he laid the foundation stone of a 50-bedded Girls' Hostel to be constructed at an estimated cost of ₹3.40 crore and inaugurated the Laboratory Block, completed at a cost of ₹2.60 crore. The laboratory facility will strengthen science education at the college, with facilities for Chemistry, Botany and Physics, enabling local students to pursue science studies without having to travel to Kathua.

At Sub-District Hospital (SDH), Bani, the Chief Minister laid the foundation stone of residential quarters for doctors, costing ₹1.62 crore, and inaugurated the OPD Complex constructed at a cost of ₹1.80 crore. He also inaugurated a Dialysis Unit established at a cost of ₹27 lakh to facilitate patients requiring regular dialysis, particularly those from far-flung areas.

Addressing the gathering, Omar Abdullah appreciated the people of Bani-Lohai-Malhar for electing Dr Rameshwar Singh as their representative, observing that they had made the right choice for the area. He credited the MLA with consistently raising local development issues and conceptualising initiatives to promote Bani as a tourism destination.

Highlighting the government's efforts to strengthen healthcare services, the Chief Minister acknowledged the shortage of doctors in Bani and appreciated Health Minister Sakina Itoo for facilitating the deployment of seven doctors to the area.

He said that the establishment of dialysis facilities would provide significant relief to kidney patients, who otherwise had to travel considerable distances for treatment. He also informed that doctors' residential quarters were being developed with a target of completing the project within one and a half years. Better accommodation facilities, he said, would help encourage doctors to serve in remote areas.

The Chief Minister also dedicated two ambulances to strengthen emergency medical services and facilitate the transportation of patients. He said road connectivity and electricity infrastructure were receiving due attention to improve the living conditions of people in Bani and its adjoining areas.

On education, Omar Abdullah said the availability of Science stream facilities at GDC Bani would open new opportunities for students, particularly those from remote habitations who faced difficulties in accessing higher education. He assured that he would visit Lohai-Malhar by road and give priority to examining the demand for establishing a degree college there.

However, he emphasised that educational institutions are established on the basis of criteria and also taking into account the requirement of the area and feasibility, observing that opening colleges without adequate infrastructure, enrolment and other necessary facilities might not serve the intended purpose.

The Chief Minister also assured that the demands for a bus stand and a library, raised by the local MLA, would be addressed shortly.

Referring to tourism potential, he said Dr Rameshwar Singh deserved credit for conceptualising tourism promotion in Bani and turning it into a popular annual event. He assured the government's support for further strengthening the Sarthal Winter Snow Festival and expressed his willingness to participate in the festival.

On economic development, the Chief Minister said efforts would be made to revive the SEWA project, emphasising that its revival must translate into tangible benefits for local residents, particularly through employment opportunities for the people of the area.

Min Itoo seeks Centre's intervention on safety of medical students pursuing studies abroad

GMK NEWS NETWORK



JAMMU: Minister for Health and Medical Education and Social Welfare, Sakeena Itoo has sought the personal intervention of Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare for putting in place a comprehensive institutional mechanism to ensure the safety, security and welfare of Indian students pursuing medical education in foreign countries.

In a communication addressed to the Union Health Minister, Sakeena Itoo expressed her appreciation for the efforts made by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, in coordination with the Ministry of External Affairs, for facilitating the repatriation of the mortal remains of a student from Jammu and Kashmir who passed away in Bangladesh while pursuing his medical course.

The Minister observed that incidents involving the death or critical injury of Indian students overseas are a matter of serious concern, causing immense distress and trauma to affected families. She emphasised that while the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the National Medical Commission (NMC) regulate foreign medical qualifications, the safety, security and overall welfare of Indian students abroad also require a robust and coordinated institutional response.

Seeking the Union Minister's personal intervention in taking up the matter with the Ministry of External Affairs, Sakeena Itoo urged the establishment of a structured and time-bound mechanism to ensure prompt assistance to students and their families in the event of any unfortunate incident abroad.

The Minister specifically called for initiating formal and transparent inquiries in coordination with host governments whenever the death or critical injury of an Indian student is reported overseas. She also stressed the need for a standardised, time-bound protocol within the Ministry of External Affairs and Indian diplomatic missions to facilitate affected families through requisite formalities and ensure expeditious repatriation of mortal remains.

Further, she called for a comprehensive review of the safety standards, emergency redressal mechanisms and student support services available at foreign medical universities recognised by the National Medical Commission.

Emphasising the need for a coordinated approach involving the concerned Central Ministries, the Minister said that families facing such tragic circumstances must receive timely institutional support, clear communication and all possible assistance, rather than being left to navigate complex procedures on their own.

Speaker Puducherry LA visits JKLA; Holds Interaction with Legislators, Officers

GMK NEWS NETWORK



JAMMU: Speaker of the Puducherry Legislative Assembly, A. Anbalagan, accompanied by a delegation of MLAs and the Secretary of the Puducherry Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Friday visited the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly Complex in Jammu.

Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Manoj Kumar Pandit, accorded a warm welcome to the visiting Speaker, legislators and accompanying officers.

During the interaction, Manoj Kumar Pandit briefed the visiting delegation about the functioning of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, its legislative procedures, committee system and various administrative and parliamentary practices. He also shared insights into the working of the Assembly Secretariat and its institutional framework.

The visiting legislators from Puducherry also interacted with J&K legislators, including MLA Arjun Singh Raju and Er. Khurshied Ahmad, besides senior officers of the J&K Legislative Assembly Secretariat. The interaction provided an opportunity for legislators from both sides to exchange views and share experiences on legislative governance, parliamentary functioning and institutional best practices.

Before the conclusion of the visit, the dignitaries, legislators and officers observed a moment of silence in tribute to the departed soul of late MLA from Anantnag, Peerzada Mohammad Syed, and prayed for eternal peace to the departed leader.

Javed Rana calls for strong, empowered ST-SC-OBC cell in J&K

GMK NEWS NETWORK



JAMMU: Minister for Tribal Affairs, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs and Transport, Javed Ahmed Rana, Friday by held an interactive session with members of the ST/SC/OBC Cell of Jammu Division with a focus on strengthening engagement with these communities and promoting their collective empowerment.

The meeting highlighted the importance of unity, collective strength and effective representation of Scheduled Tribes (ST), Scheduled Castes (SC) and Other Backward Classes (OBC) in Jammu and Kashmir. The participants deliberated on the need to address the aspirations and concerns of these communities through sustained dialogue and coordinated efforts

Emphasising the need for a strong and empowered ST/SC/OBC Samaj, the Minister said that meaningful empowerment goes beyond representation and requires a comprehensive approach centred on quality education, employment opportunities, awareness of constitutional rights, social justice and equal opportunities for all. He stressed that education remains a key instrument of social transformation and empowerment, particularly for the younger generation. He called for collective efforts to ensure that every individual gets the opportunity to realise their potential and contribute meaningfully to society.

The Minister underscored that unity among ST, SC and OBC communities would strengthen their collective voice and enable them to effectively highlight their genuine concerns before the government. He said that a united and organised society can play a constructive role in shaping the policies and initiatives aimed at addressing the developmental gaps and promoting equitable growth.

Rana said that the government remains committed to the principles of social justice, inclusivity and equal opportunities, adding that the welfare and empowerment of marginalised and underrepresented sections are essential for building a progressive and equitable society.

The Minister reiterated that inclusive development can be achieved only when every section of society is provided with equal opportunities, dignity and a meaningful role in the development process.

Sagar Seeks Special Central Package for J&K Power Sector

Flags Winter Deficit and Infrastructure Needs

GMK NEWS NETWORK



NEW DELHI: Minister for Power Development Department (PDD), Revenue, Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (DMRRR) and Elections, Ali Mohammad Sagar, Friday interacted with the Group of Ministers during the State Ministers' Conference on Power, held in New Delhi under the chairmanship of Union Minister for Power, Manohar Lal.

During the interaction, the Minister highlighted the distinctive challenges confronting Jammu and Kashmir's power sector and sought special financial assistance from the Government of India for its comprehensive modernisation, strengthening and long-term sustainability.

The Minister also submitted a detailed memorandum to the Union Minister for Power, outlining the sector's key requirements and seeking a dedicated financial package to address infrastructure gaps, reduce distribution losses, strengthen transmission networks, enhance hydropower generation and improve power availability, particularly during the winter months.

Emphasising the geographical and climatic challenges of Jammu and Kashmir, Sagar pointed out that the mountainous terrain, scattered habitations, remote locations and extreme weather conditions make power infrastructure development and maintenance particularly demanding. He said that heavy snowfall, avalanches, landslides, cloudbursts and flash floods frequently disrupt electricity infrastructure, while winter demand rises sharply at a time when hydropower generation declines.

Highlighting the progress made in improving the financial and operational performance of power distribution companies, the Minister informed that revenue realisation by Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDCL) and Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) had increased from approximately ₹3,060 crore in 2021–22 to ₹5,290 crore in 2025–26, registering a growth of nearly 73 per cent.

He also highlighted the reduction in AT&C losses, which had declined from 49.82 per cent to 27.13 per cent in JPDCL and from 65.61 per cent to 33 per cent in KPDCL. The gap between average cost of supply and average revenue realised had also witnessed substantial improvement.

Under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), 14.07 lakh smart meters have been sanctioned, of which nearly 12.25 lakh had been installed as of November 19, 2026. Distribution strengthening and loss-reduction works worth ₹4,708.52 crore have also been sanctioned, with substantial physical progress achieved in both power distribution companies.

The Minister sought continued Central support for strengthening the distribution network, including replacement of ageing and overloaded transformers, augmentation of 33/11 kV infrastructure, installation of additional substations, strengthening of low-tension networks and development of alternate feeding arrangements. He also stressed the need for underground and insulated cabling in vulnerable areas and dedicated enforcement wings to curb power theft and unauthorised consumption.

Referring to the winter power scenario, Sagar said that Jammu and Kashmir's peak demand during the previous winter had touched approximately 3,362 MW, comprising 1,456 MW in Jammu and 1,906 MW in Kashmir. The anticipated restricted demand for winter 2026–27 is around 3,450 MW, with an estimated supply gap ranging between 600 MW and 1,300 MW.

He urged the Union Government to provide additional unallocated Central power, ensure predictable allocations and continue or enhance the additional 329 MW allocation for December 2026 to February 2027. He also sought support for affordable long-term power procurement and banking arrangements with neighbouring states, including Punjab and Uttar Pradesh.

On hydropower development, the Minister underlined that Jammu and Kashmir possesses an estimated potential of 14,635 MW, of which only around 3,540 MW has been harnessed so far. He highlighted the ongoing projects of Pakal Dul, Kiru, Kwar and Ratle, with an aggregate capacity of approximately 3,563.5 MW, and said that the Government aims to increase installed hydropower capacity to around 10,975.65 MW by 2035.

CM Omar expresses grief over demise of Peerzada Mohammad Syed

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has expressed profound grief over the demise of Peerzada Mohammad Syed, MLA Anantnag and former Minister.

Paying rich tributes to the veteran Congress leader, the Chief Minister recalled his long and distinguished career in public service and his invaluable contributions towards the welfare of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Peerzada Mohammad Syed, 73, passed away on Thursday evening following a brief illness.

The Chief Minister extended his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family, friends and supporters. He prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and the highest place in Jannah, and for strength and fortitude to the family to bear this irreparable loss.

CAT declines to defer J&K Police SI exam

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: The Jammu & Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) has informed the concerned candidates and the general public that the OMR-based written examination for the post of Sub-Inspector (Home Department), Jammu & Kashmir Police, will be conducted strictly as per schedule on Sunday, November 29, 2026.

In an Original Application bearing O.A. No. 1326/2026 titled Bilal Ahmad Khoja and Others verses Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir & Others, some contesting applicants approached the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), Srinagar Bench, seeking interim directions to defer the upcoming J&K Police Sub-Inspector examination scheduled to be held on November 29, 2026, and to stay further recruitment procedure of the Finance Accounts Assistant (FAA) examination which was held on November 15, 2026, expressing apprehension over the fairness, transparency and sanctity of the examination process.

JKSSB, in order to ensure the highest standards of fairness, transparency and sanctity for the upcoming Sub-Inspector examination, placed on record existing Government Protocols, Standing Operating Procedures (SOPs) alongside additional preventive measures recently notified by the Controller of Examinations, JKSSB.

Taking note of the Board's proactive safeguards, CAT declined to grant any interim relief for staying the selection process of the posts of Finance Accounts Assistant (FAA), Finance Department and also decided against deferment of the examination of Sub-Inspector (SI), Jammu & Kashmir Police, Home Department, scheduled to be held on 29.11.2026.

Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

Keep Cheating Out Of Exams

The Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board's decision to tighten security arrangements for upcoming examinations is a welcome move. But the need for so many additional safeguards also raises an uncomfortable question: how far have attempts to cheat entered a system that is supposed to select candidates purely on merit? The recent incident during the Finance Accounts Assistant examination should not be taken lightly. For thousands of unemployed youth in Jammu and Kashmir, every recruitment examination carries years of hard work, sleepless nights and hopes of securing a decent future. When someone tries to gain an unfair advantage through electronic gadgets, leaked information or possible collusion, it is not just an examination that gets compromised; the dreams of deserving candidates are put at risk.

The new measures announced by JKSSB, including random deployment of invigilators, random allotment of centres, stricter frisking, additional jammers and round-the-clock CCTV monitoring, are necessary. The involvement of district administrations and police can further strengthen the arrangements. But the real test will be how seriously these instructions are followed on the ground.

No security system can succeed if those entrusted with its implementation fail to do their job honestly. The possibility of staff involvement, outside assistance or organised networks must be investigated wherever evidence points in that direction. Merely catching a candidate with an electronic device will not be enough if those helping such attempts remain beyond the reach of the law. At the same time, genuine candidates should not be made to suffer because of the misconduct of a few. Security checks must be strict but reasonable, and the same rules must apply to everyone, without exception or favour.

JKSSB must also ensure that complaints of irregularities are investigated promptly and that those found guilty face strict action. Public confidence in recruitment cannot be restored through announcements alone; it requires transparency, accountability and a process that leaves no room for manipulation. Young people in Jammu and Kashmir have already spent years waiting for recruitment opportunities. They deserve a system where success depends on preparation and ability, not money, connections or access to sophisticated gadgets.

A government job should go to the most deserving candidate, not the most resourceful cheater. Protecting the sanctity of examinations is therefore not just JKSSB's responsibility; it is a responsibility towards an entire generation of aspiring youth.

Good Morning Kashmir

Editor, Owner, Printer, Publisher
Javed Ashraf Shah
Associate Editors
Suhail Mir
Sulaiman Muhammed Shah
Legal Advisor
Bashir Sidiq
Bureau Chief Jammu:
Harbans Nagokay
R.N.I No: JKENG/2010/36998
Regd No: 109555
Office No: **0194-3593724**
Email:
goodmorningkashmir@gmail.com
Office Address:
B-11, Budshah Flats, Jehangir Chowk, Srinagar-190001
Printed at:
Khidmat Offset Printing Press, The Bund, Srinagar
Published From:
Main Bus Stand, Near Masjid Rehmat, Lal Bazar, Srinagar - 190023
Layout Designer
Aijaz Ahmad Dar

Buildings Don't Build Universities: Professors Do!

Stop Demanding Global Rankings While Compromising Academic Quality. Buildings Don't Build Universities. Professors Do!

R.K UPPAL

India aspires to establish world-class universities, compete with leading global institutions and emerge as a knowledge superpower. Massive investments are being made in university infrastructure, smart classrooms, modern laboratories, digital libraries, research parks and international collaborations. Universities proudly showcase magnificent buildings, sprawling campuses, sophisticated facilities and impressive rankings.

However, an uncomfortable question remains: Can India build world-class universities without building world-class faculty? The answer is clearly no. Buildings may provide physical space for education, but professors create intellectual environments, generate knowledge, inspire innovation and shape future generations. A university without outstanding faculty is merely an institution with impressive infrastructure but limited academic substance.

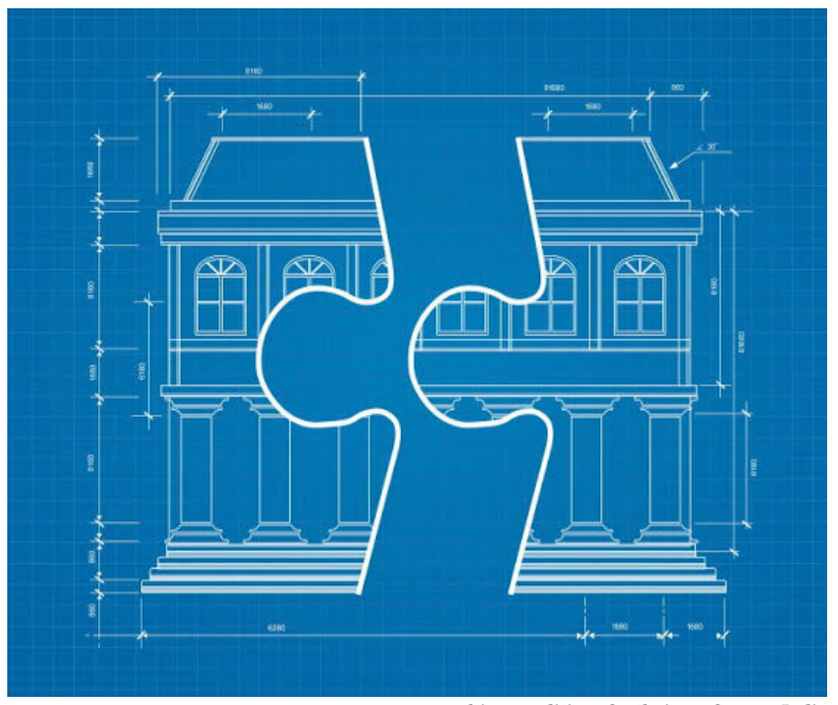
Unfortunately, the Indian higher education system continues to face serious faculty-related challenges. Many universities and colleges struggle with vacant teaching positions, inadequate recruitment, contractual appointments and an excessive dependence on temporary faculty. The shortage of qualified and experienced permanent teachers directly affects teaching quality, research productivity and institutional development.

When institutions cannot attract and retain talented academics, their ambitions of achieving international standards become difficult to realise. Recruitment delays, bureaucratic procedures and uncertainty in academic careers further discourage promising researchers from entering the teaching profession.

Another major concern is the treatment of professors in several private higher education institutions. Instead of allowing academics to concentrate on teaching, research, innovation and student development, some institutions increasingly burden them with admission targets, marketing activities, administrative assignments and other non-academic responsibilities.

Professors are sometimes evaluated more on their ability to generate admissions and achieve institutional targets than on their academic contributions. This approach undermines the dignity of the teaching profession and weakens the research environment. Professors are educators and knowledge creators, not marketing machines or admission agents.

Faculty remuneration and professional security also demand urgent attention.



Professors are sometimes evaluated more on their ability to generate admissions and achieve institutional targets than on their academic contributions. This approach undermines the dignity of the teaching profession and weakens the research environment.

Talented academics cannot be expected to deliver internationally competitive research and teaching standards when they face inadequate salaries, delayed payments, limited career progression and uncertain employment conditions.

Academic excellence requires motivation, professional independence and financial stability. Countries aspiring to become global education destinations must create attractive working conditions for their professors. India cannot expect to retain its best academic talent if talented researchers find better professional opportunities abroad.

Research quality is another important dimension of world-class faculty development. The number of research papers, doctoral degrees and institutional publications cannot independently establish academic excellence. What matters is originality, methodological rigour, scientific contribution and measurable societal impact.

Professors must be encouraged to undertake interdisciplinary research, develop patents, establish industry partnerships and address national and international challenges. Research funding should be allocated transparently, while academic evaluation must focus on quality rather than merely counting publications. Universities must move beyond the culture of publication targets and develop an environment in which original ideas are encouraged, and intellectual independence is protected.

The growing importance of artificial intelligence, biotechnology, advanced manufacturing, financial technology, climate science and digital transformation makes faculty development even more urgent. Professors must continuously update their knowledge, acquire new skills and integrate emerging technologies into teaching and research.

Universities should provide regular faculty development programmes, international research collaborations, postdoctoral opportunities, research sabbaticals and exposure to global academic practices. A professor who is not provided opportunities for professional development cannot be expected to prepare students for an increasingly competitive global economy.

India's ambition to attract foreign universities and establish international campuses also makes faculty quality a strategic priority. Competition will not be determined by attractive buildings or promotional campaigns alone. International institutions will bring different academic cultures, teaching methodologies, research standards and faculty expectations.

Indian universities must prepare themselves by strengthening recruitment, improving faculty retention, promoting research excellence and ensuring academic freedom. Otherwise, foreign university campuses may attract students and talent while domestic institutions struggle to retain their best academics.

Equally important is the need to restore respect for the teaching profession. Professors should be treated as the intellectual foundation of universities, not as administrative resources available for every institutional assignment. Their time must be protected for teaching, research, mentoring and innovation. A healthy university culture must encourage questioning, debate, creativity and independent thinking. Without these conditions, academic excellence becomes a slogan rather than a reality.

India cannot become a global knowledge leader by measuring its universities through buildings, enrolment figures, infrastructure expenditure and rankings alone. It must measure them through the quality of their professors, the originality of their research, the employability and intellectual development of their students, and their contributions to society. The real transformation of Indian higher education will begin when faculty development becomes a national priority rather than an administrative formality.

The buildings provide space, technology provides tools, but professors create knowledge and transform society. If India genuinely wants world-class universities, it must first create world-class conditions for its faculty. Stop glorifying infrastructure while neglecting intellectual capital. Stop demanding global rankings while compromising academic quality. Buildings don't build universities. Professors do!

The Author is Prof. Emeritus, PhD, D.Litt. and can be reached at: uppalmlt@gmail.com

The Wisdom Of Learning Before We Fall



DR. REYAZ AHMAD



Almost every Indian household knows the sting of four familiar words: "I told you so." They are often heard after an avoidable mistake: a risky financial decision, a quarrel that went too far, or a warning dismissed as unnecessary interference. By then, the lesson has become expensive. The question is why we so often insist on paying for knowledge that was available to us for free.

An old insight captures the dilemma: the wise learn from everyone, while the foolish learn only after they fall. Its purpose is not to divide humanity into the intelligent and the unintelligent. Brilliant people can make reckless choices, and those with little formal education can possess extraordinary judgement. The real distinction lies in our willingness to listen, observe and reconsider before consequences force us to do so.

Learning from everyone does not mean believing everything we hear. An elderly neighbour may understand the history of a locality; a young colleague may know a better digital method; a child may ask the inconvenient question adults have stopped asking. Even a critic can expose a weakness in our argument. Wisdom begins when we separate the value of an observation from the age, status or popularity of the person offering it.

That is not merely a comforting moral lesson. Psychologist Albert Bandura's pioneering research on observational learning demonstrated that people, especially children, can acquire patterns of behaviour by watching others. Observation can transmit harmful conduct as readily as constructive habits. The challenge, therefore, is not simply to imitate. It is to examine what we see, test it against evidence and decide which lessons deserve to guide our own actions.

Consider two imaginary young professionals beginning their careers in Bengaluru on similar salaries. One watches an experienced colleague struggle under high-interest consumer debt and decides to build a modest emergency fund. She also learns useful software skills from a younger teammate. The other assumes that financial planning and retraining can wait. When an unexpected family expense or a change at work arrives, the second employee has fewer choices. Neither story guarantees success or failure; their difference illustrates how small, informed decisions can widen our room for manoeuvre.

Of course, it would be unfair to lecture a low-income household about savings when income barely covers rent, food and school fees. Debt is sometimes a necessity, not a luxury. Likewise, unemployment cannot be reduced to a failure to acquire skills. The wiser lesson is that individual foresight matters, but so do fair wages, accessible education, reliable public services and institutions that respond to warning signs. Personal responsibility must never become an excuse for ignoring structural hardship.

The Indian classroom offers a revealing test of our relationship with learning. For generations, many students have been rewarded for producing the expected answer more readily than for asking a difficult question. Yet genuine understanding requires the courage to admit confusion. In mathematics, a carefully examined error can teach more than a correct solution copied without thought. The teacher, too, must be willing to learn from a student who approaches a problem differently.

The learning challenge is real. The Annual Status of Education Report 2024 found that only 48.8 per cent of children in Standard V surveyed in rural India could read a Standard II-level text. This was an improvement over 2022, but it still revealed a substantial foundational gap. The National Education Policy 2020 rightly emphasises critical thinking and experiential learning. Translating that ambition into everyday classrooms will require patient diagnosis, regular feedback, teacher support and space for children to question without embarrassment.

The same attitude is needed at home. Indian families often pass down valuable experience across generations, but respect should not be confused with unquestioning obedience. A parent may know the value of thrift; a daughter may understand an emerging profession better. Young people need not reject inherited wisdom to establish independence, and elders need not surrender dignity when they change their minds. A household becomes stronger when experience and fresh knowledge can speak to each other.

In workplaces, the cost of refusing to listen can spread beyond one person. A junior employee spots a safety problem, but a supervisor regards the warning as criticism. A customer repeatedly identifies a defect, but management dismisses the complaint. An employee proposes a better process, yet hierarchy silences the suggestion. These are not simply failures of individual humility; they are failures of organisational design. The strongest institutions make it safe to report problems early and expect leaders to respond.

Road safety shows why learning after disaster is an inadequate national strategy. According to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, India recorded 4,80,583 road accidents and 1,72,890 deaths in 2023. Behind those numbers are families who lost earners, children who lost parents and survivors whose lives changed permanently. Unsafe driving decisions are part of the problem, but road design, enforcement, vehicle safety and emergency care also matter. A responsible society studies near-misses and known hazards before another family receives tragic news.

Public life presents a similar challenge. Citizens can learn from history without treating every disagreement as disloyalty. Administrations can learn from independent research, local experience and criticism without surrendering their authority. When a policy fails, the useful questions are what the evidence showed, whose warnings were missed and what should change. Democracy is healthier when people are prepared to revise an opinion in the light of facts rather than defend it simply because it belongs to their group.

Our digital habits make this discipline more difficult and more necessary. Social media rewards quick certainty; thoughtful corrections rarely travel as fast as confident misinformation. We can surround ourselves with voices that repeat our own assumptions and mistake agreement for proof. Learning from everyone requires listening beyond that circle, while checking a claim's source, expertise and supporting evidence. Openness without judgment invites deception; judgment without openness hardens into prejudice.

What, then, can we practise? Before a major decision, seek three perspectives: someone directly affected, someone with relevant expertise and someone likely to disagree. Ask not only, "Who is right?" but also, "What evidence could change my mind?" When corrected, resist the immediate urge to defend yourself. At the end of a week, recall one lesson learned from another person's success, failure or question. These small habits turn humility into a practical skill.

Schools can make constructive feedback routine rather than humiliating. Employers can protect those who raise concerns and examine failures without automatically searching for a scapegoat. Public authorities can publish clear information, evaluate interventions and act on early warnings. None of these measures makes mistakes disappear. They do, however, reduce the number of mistakes we repeat simply because we were unwilling to listen.

There will always be lessons that experience alone can teach. Even the most attentive person will sometimes fall. But suffering should not be mistaken for a necessary qualification for wisdom. A mature individual learns from other lives without looking down on them; a mature society builds systems that notice danger before it becomes catastrophe. Life will remain a demanding teacher. Our task is to become better students.

The author can be mailed at reyaz56@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

Shamilat Dafa 4 And Dafa 5

Legal Distinction That Revenue Authorities Must Understand

Confusing Common Village Land With Proprietary Shamilat Can Lead To Serious Injustice. Historical Revenue Rules And Judicial Pronouncements Clearly Distinguish Between The Two Categories.



MOHD AMIN MIR

Shamilat land occupies a distinctive position in the revenue administration of Jammu and Kashmir. For generations, such land has been associated with village communities, common facilities and the proprietary interests of individual landholders. However, one issue that continues to create confusion in revenue records and administrative decisions is the failure to properly distinguish between Shamilat Dafa 4 and Shamilat Dafa 5.

Although both categories fall within the broader concept of Shamilat, their legal character, ownership structure, rights of enjoyment and consequences are fundamentally different. Treating them as interchangeable can deprive legitimate landholders of their proprietary rights or, conversely, encourage unauthorised claims over land reserved for public and common purposes.

The distinction is not merely administrative. It has been recognised and explained by the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir in important judicial pronouncements.

The historical origin of Shamilat Dafa 4 and Dafa 5

The origin of these two categories can be traced to Boon No. 4 and the historical revenue rules governing the creation and recording of Shamilat land in Kashmir.

The rules regarding entry of Shamilat in Kashmir Province were sanctioned by the Maharaja through Minister-in-Waiting's No. 2439 dated September 20, 1927, and notified through Ailan No. 2 dated 16th Katik, 1984 (1928 CE).

These provisions recognised two distinct categories of Shamilat.

Shamilat Dafa 4 comprised land required or reserved for State and common village purposes. It included village roads, tanks, shrines, burning ghats, burial grounds, grazing grounds and other common facilities. It also covered specified categories of Khalsa waste and other land falling within the historical provisions of the rules.

Such land was not intended to become the individual proprietary property of village landholders merely because they lived in the village or possessed adjoining agricultural holdings.

Shamilat Dafa 5, on the other hand, represented land in the vicinity of private holdings and village abadi which was not required or likely to be required for State purposes and was brought under Shamilat through a prescribed mutation.

The landholders of a particular Mahal were entitled to shares in such Shamilat in proportion to their respective cultivated holdings. Their rights were proprietary in nature and could be adjusted through partition according to their respective shares.

This is the fundamental distinction: Dafa 4 was essentially intended for common and public purposes, whereas Dafa 5 carried proportionate proprietary rights of individual landholders.

What the High Court has said

One of the most significant judicial pronouncements on this subject is Mohd Sultan Khan and Others v. State of J&K and Others, decided on January 29, 2014, by the Jammu and Kashmir High Court.

The judgment, reported on Indian Kanoon under the case title Mohd Sultan Khan v. State of J&K & Others, examined the historical rules and the distinction between the two categories.

The Court explained that land mutated under Rule 5 constituted partible Shamilat, with individual landholders entitled to their respective shares on a pro-rata basis according to their holdings in the Mahal.

In contrast, land covered by Rule 4 was not partible in that manner. It continued to vest in the State for the purposes for which it had been reserved.

The Court made the distinction particularly clear by observing that Shamilat under Rule 5 represented the portion granted to landholders proportionate to their holdings, whereas Shamilat under Rule 4 continued to vest in the State and was not partible.

This judgment is extremely important for revenue officers because it establishes that merely describing land as Shamilat does not determine the nature of ownership. The historical mutation, applicable rule and original revenue record must be examined.

Division Bench judgment: Union of India v. Mst. Freeni Boga

Another important authority is Union of India v. Mst. Freeni Boga, decided by a Division Bench of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court on November 29, 2004.

The Court held that a holder of Shamilat land, known in revenue terminology as Shamilat Dafa 5, enjoys the same rights in respect of that land as in



proprietary land.

Consequently, where such land is acquired for a public purpose, its holder is entitled to compensation in the same manner as an owner of proprietary land.

This judgment reinforces the proposition that Dafa 5 is not merely a possessory arrangement or a concession granted to a village resident. It carries legally recognisable proprietary rights.

The distinction is significant because the same conclusion cannot automatically be extended to Dafa 4 land, which is reserved for common or State purposes.

Further clarification in Haleema Bano's case

The Jammu and Kashmir High Court again discussed the distinction in Haleema Bano and Others v. UT of J&K and Others, decided on July 20, 2022, in WP(C) No. 1451/2022.

The judgment referred to the historical classification of Shamilat under Rules 4 and 5 and discussed earlier judicial authorities, including Salam Rather v. Mohd Gani, AIR 1964 J&K 46.

The Court reiterated the principle that landholders in a particular Mahal possess proprietary rights in Shamilat Dafa 5 in proportion to their holdings. Such rights are capable of partition.

The judgment also referred to State of Jammu and Kashmir v. Smt. Hamida Begum, AIR 1979 J&K 48, concerning the rights of persons in possession of Shamilat land and their entitlement to compensation in acquisition proceedings.

These authorities demonstrate that the distinction between the two categories is not a recent administrative interpretation but has a substantial judicial history.

What does the Supreme Court say?

The Supreme Court's decisions must also be understood in their proper context.

In Spl. Land Acquisition and Rehabilitation Officer v. S. Seshagiri Rao, AIR 1968 SC 1045, the Supreme Court dealt with principles relating to compensation and rights in acquired land. This authority was among the decisions relied upon in the subsequent litigation concerning Shamilat rights.

Similarly, in Sharda Devi v. State of Bihar, (2003) 3 SCC 128, the Supreme Court examined important questions concerning the rights of persons interested in acquired property and compensation proceedings.

In M/s Ahad Brothers v. State of Madhya Pradesh, (2005) 1 SCC 545, the Court also considered issues relating to compensation and the legal position of interested persons in acquisition proceedings.

However, an important distinction must be maintained: these Supreme Court decisions concern broader principles of land acquisition and compensation. The specific historical classification of Shamilat Dafa 4 and Dafa 5 under Kashmir's revenue rules has been explained most directly by the Jammu and Kashmir High Court, particularly in Mohd Sultan Khan and Union of India v. Mst. Freeni Boga.

Therefore, general Supreme Court principles should not be presented as though the Supreme Court itself has directly interpreted the local Dafa 4 and Dafa 5 classification.

Why revenue records require careful examination

The practical implications of this distinction are enormous.

Whenever a dispute arises regarding Shamilat land, the revenue authorities should not reach a conclusion merely by looking at the present entry in the Jamabandi.

They should examine:

1. The original Shamilat mutation and its attestation.
2. Whether the land was recorded under Rule 4 or Rule 5.
3. The historical purpose for which the land was reserved or created.
4. The original Mahal-wise cultivated holdings forming the basis of proportionate shares.
5. Whether the land was subsequently partitioned or subjected to valid revenue proceedings.
6. Whether any subsequent entry or mutation has a lawful foundation in the original record.

A mere entry describing land as Shamilat cannot, by itself, establish that it is Dafa 4 or Dafa 5 without examining the underlying historical documents.

Likewise, long-standing possession cannot automatically convert common-purpose Shamilat into individual proprietary property.

The original records, historical mutations, applicable rules and subsequent lawful orders must be read together.

A responsibility for the Revenue Department

In the era of digitisation, when Jamabandis and other revenue records are being brought online, it is particularly important that these historical distinctions are preserved.

Digitisation should not merely reproduce existing entries. It should also ensure that the legal character of land is correctly reflected wherever the original records establish it.

Revenue officers, particularly Tehsildars, Naib Tehsildars and other officers dealing with land disputes, should be familiar with the historical Shamilat rules and the judicial interpretations governing them.

The Revenue Department should consider issuing a comprehensive clarification based on the relevant historical rules and court judgments so that uniformity is maintained across districts.

Such clarification would help prevent arbitrary classification, protect genuine proprietary interests and safeguard land reserved for the collective benefit of villagers.

The central principle is simple: Shamilat Dafa 4 and Shamilat Dafa 5 are not interchangeable expressions. One concerns land reserved for common and State purposes; the other recognises proportionate proprietary rights of landholders. Confusing the two is not merely a technical revenue mistake. It can become a serious question of ownership, justice and public interest.

The author can be mailed at miramin354@gmail.com

Beyond The Red Mark

The Supreme Court's Verdict On Our Food Habits

LALIT GARGG

India is identified not only by its spirituality, diversity and rich cultural heritage, but also by its kitchens. In our culinary tradition, taste has always been accompanied by health, food by seasonal balance, and eating by Indian, values and discipline. The food prepared by grandmothers was never merely a means of filling the stomach; it was the family's first school of health. Lentils, millets, sorghum, ragi, green vegetables, seasonal fruits, buttermilk, sprouted grains, and the balanced use of spices, along with fresh home-cooked food, have long been the strengths of the Indian way of life. But over the past few decades, our plates have gradually changed. In the name of taste, the market has entered our kitchens, and in the name of convenience, packaged food has begun to push the traditional cooking pot into the background.

Against this rapidly changing food culture, the recent direction of the Supreme Court comes as an important wake-up call. The Court has called for strengthening front-of-pack nutrition labelling on food products, with clear and prominent warnings for products high in sugar, saturated fat and salt. It has stressed the need to prominently display information on total sugar and saturated fat and to provide clear indicators such as "High Sugar," "High Fat" and "High Salt." The objective is unmistakable: consumers must be given crucial health information upfront—information they often fail to notice while searching through the fine print on the back of a packet.

This is not merely a decision about changing labels; it is an attempt to change the mindset through which we judge food. Today, the market often sells attractive packaging, taste and convenience more aggressively than nutritional value. Children are drawn to colourful packets, young people increasingly view quick and processed food as a lifestyle, and busy families find packaged food an easy way to save time. The real problem begins when convenience gradually becomes a habit, and the habit eventually becomes a health hazard. The deeper danger is that the very meaning of food is changing. Food was once regarded as a process of nourishing life; increasingly, it is becoming merely another commodity of consumption. Excessive salt, sugar and fat may satisfy our taste buds for a short while, but they do not satisfy the body's long-term needs. The tongue seeks instant pleasure, whereas the body demands lasting balance. The market has tried to win over our taste buds; now we must win over our own judgment and awareness.

For a country like India, this challenge is particularly serious because food is not merely a matter of personal choice—it is an integral part of our culture. Our tradition has long carried the wisdom that "as is the food, so is the mind." Food was traditionally consumed according to age, season, individual constitution and the nature of one's physical activity. Indian kitchens have always possessed countless foods that the world is today rediscovering and calling "superfoods." Millets, barley, pulses, sesame, peanuts, diverse grains, vegetables and countless local culinary traditions are part of our own heritage. Ironically, the very foods towards which the world is turning for better health are being abandoned by us in favour of highly processed and packaged alternatives. Therefore, the Supreme Court's initiative cannot be viewed merely as a matter of consumer rights. It should be seen as an opportunity to revive and rejuvenate India's traditional food culture.

The responsibility of the government is equally significant. Food safety should not mean merely ensuring that a product is fit to eat. It must also ensure that consumers can easily understand the actual health implications of what they are buying. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) must formulate scientific, transparent and consumer-centric regulations. Merely framing rules is not enough; their effective enforcement and rigorous monitoring are equally essential.

The Supreme Court's direction provides an opportunity to strengthen the regulatory framework in this very direction. But the entire responsibility cannot rest with the government or the judiciary. Consumers themselves must become guardians of their



own plates. Just as we consider price, location and quality before buying a house, we must develop the habit of examining ingredients and nutritional information before buying food. A large word such as "healthy" printed on a packet does not automatically make the product healthy. Advertising is not a health certificate. The real measure lies in the nutritional facts of the product and whether they are compatible with our actual dietary needs.

Children require special protection in this regard. They are the quickest to be influenced by advertising and packaging. If foods high in sugar, salt and fat continue to be promoted attractively around schools and across digital platforms, healthy food may come to be regarded as "boring," while unhealthy food is perceived as "fun." Schools, therefore, must go beyond teaching health in textbooks. They must cultivate healthy habits through the food available in their canteens and around their campuses as well. The Supreme Court has also emphasised the need to move towards greater control over such foods and their advertising in and around schools.

Here, we need to embrace another transformative idea— "food literacy" as a part of mass education. Just as financial literacy and digital literacy are increasingly being taught, children should also be taught food literacy. They should understand what sugar does to the body, why excessive salt can be harmful, what saturated fat means, how to read a nutrition label and why fresh, locally available food can often be a better choice. A food-literate child will not only make healthier choices personally but can also become a catalyst for healthier eating habits within the family.

At the same time, India's food culture must be revitalised in a contemporary form. Healthy food does not mean giving up taste. India possesses a culinary heritage spanning thousands of years, capable of creating a remarkable balance between taste and nutrition. What is needed is to present millets, pulses, vegetables, traditional beverages and local cuisines to the younger generation through modern presentation, hygienic packaging and reasonable pricing. We do not need to reject foreign food cultures; instead, we need to make our own rich culinary heritage so attractive and aspirational that Indian youth embrace it with pride. A nationwide social campaign could be built around a simple idea: "My Plate, My Responsibility." Families could consciously reduce packaged food on at least some days of the week; schools could observe health-food days; workplaces could promote nutritious meals; public institutions could encourage local and traditional foods; and the media could use food advertising not merely to stimulate appetite but also to awaken health consciousness. The food industry, too, should not be treated as an adversary but as a responsible partner. Earning profits is its legitimate right, but making profits at the cost of public health cannot be socially acceptable.

At its core, the Supreme Court has placed a fundamental question before us: Have we allowed convenience to become more important than our health? The answer must come from society as a whole. The Court may have shown us the path of placing a warning on the packet, but the real warning must ultimately be written on our conscience. If we continue to purchase the same products even after seeing a clear red warning, merely changing the label will not transform society.

Preserving India's food culture does not mean returning to the past. It means creating a harmonious synthesis of tradition and modern science. We need a food system in which farmers receive a dignified market, local foods gain respect and recognition, the food industry embraces responsibility, children have access to healthier choices, and consumers receive complete and comprehensible information. The true prosperity of a nation should not be measured merely by its Gross Domestic Product, but also by the health, vitality and well-being of its citizens. If our kitchens survive, our culture will survive; if our plates remain healthy, our future will remain healthy.

The Supreme Court's direction is therefore not merely a red mark to be printed on a packet. It is a powerful social mirror held up to our changing food habits. The choice now rests with us: will we see the danger reflected in that mirror and change our habits, or will we read the warning and continue walking down the same path? The time has come for India not to lead the world in the consumption of junk food, but to lead it in the culture of healthy, balanced and mindful eating. That would be the most meaningful and positive outcome of this important judicial initiative.

The author can be mailed at lalitgarg11@gmail.com

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

Houseboat saved from sinking in Dal Lake after swift rescue operation

Teams pump out water, shift belongings to safety near Ghat six

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: A mishap was averted in Dal Lake on Thursday night after a houseboat that had started taking in water and was gradually sinking near Ghat No. 06 was saved through a swift rescue operation involving multiple emergency response teams, officials said.

An official said that the houseboat was in distress when information was received late Thursday night, prompting personnel from multiple emergency response teams, including CRPF's C/144 Battalion, River Police, SDRF and Fire and Emergency Services, to rush to the spot with dewatering pumps.

He said the teams worked in coordination and immediately launched efforts to pump water out of the houseboat and shift its belongings to safety. The official said the coordinated intervention helped save the houseboat from sinking and avert further damage—(KNO)

Police foil attempted SBI ATM loot in Chadoora; seize JCB, vehicle

Suspects Flee, Hunt On For Accused; Locals Hail Swift Action

AGENCIES

BUDGAM: Police foiled an alleged attempt to loot a State Bank of India (SBI) ATM located adjacent to the bank's branch in Chadoora area of central Kashmir's Budgam district during Thursday-Friday night, seizing a JCB machine and a vehicle abandoned by the accused while fleeing.

A police spokesperson said that after receiving information about the attempted theft, Chadoora Police acted promptly and reached the spot within minutes despite the sub-zero temperatures, thereby foiling the attempt

The accused persons fled from the spot, leaving behind the JCB machine and the vehicle allegedly used in the attempted theft. Both have been taken into police custody, while a search operation has been launched to identify and apprehend those involved.

Police said the investigation is underway and efforts are being made to trace the accused involved in the incident.

Meanwhile, the owner of the JCB machine, Bilal Ahmad, who belongs to Ichgam, Budgam, said that his machine was allegedly stolen earlier during the night. He claimed that he had no knowledge of its use in the incident until he learnt about the theft.

Meanwhile, locals appreciated the prompt response of police, including the SHO Chadoora, SDPO and SSP, saying they reached the spot within minutes despite the chilling night and sub-zero temperatures and foiled the theft attempt.

They urged the police to maintain the same proactive approach in future, assuring full support. Locals demanded strict action against those involved in the attempted theft—(KNO)

FROM THE FRONT PAGE .....

LG Chairs 10th

Policy (NEP) 2020, advancing faculty capacity building, and fostering robust industry-academia partnerships.

The Lieutenant Governor directed the Executive Council to convene its meetings on a biannual basis and ensure the timely conduct of the convocation. He stressed the need for maintaining institutional discipline and fostering a conducive academic environment, calling for stringent action against any elements attempting to disrupt campus harmony.

He further issued directives to strengthen institutional accountability and organise national-level programmes along with student outreach initiatives such as Yuva Connect.

The meeting also deliberated on vital academic and administrative matters including faculty recruitment, career advancement, admissions, new academic programmes, the promotion of research publications, and infrastructure upgrades to enhance the university's overall functioning.

Prof. Jawaid Iqbal, Vice Chancellor, BGSBU presented various Agenda items before the Executive Council for approval and ratification.

The Executive Council also reviewed the Action Taken Report pertaining to the previous meeting held in January 2026.

Kashmir's Weaving

helping them understand the intricacies of the craft. The architects also studied existing documents and references before developing the installation.

The duo, currently based in Dubai, said their professional experience spans cultural buildings, museums, hospitality, sports and large public developments. They added that their connection to Kashmir continues to influence their approach to architecture, space, material and cultural identity.

VARUSSI's proposal was selected for the Abwab commissioning programme, with 'Taleem' exhibited at Dubai Design District from November 3 to 8. The pavilion attracted visitors from the creative community, including the Director General of Dubai Culture, alongside artists, architects, designers and curators.

Khan and Wani said visitors showed particular interest in how the coded instructions behind Kashmiri textile designs had been translated into a spatial experience, offering an opportunity to introduce the Valley's cultural heritage to a wider international audience.

While Kashmir's Kani shawls and hand-knotted carpets are admired for their colours, patterns and craftsmanship, the techniques, instructions and skills behind them represent an equally important body of knowledge passed down through generations of artisans, the architects said—(KNO)

No Written Order,

communication on the issue. The doctors said that no written assurance or definite implementation timeline had been provided to them so far.

Speaking about the outcome, representatives of the protesting doctors, said the meeting was positive and that a decision on the proposed stipend amounts had been discussed. However, they stressed that a verbal understanding could not be treated as a final resolution of their demands.

"We are not calling off the strike until we receive something in writing," one of the representatives said, adding that other GMCs across J&K were closely watching the developments and waiting for the protesting doctors to decide their next course of action.

The representatives said that withdrawing the strike at this stage, merely on the basis of verbal assurances, could weaken the collective position of resident doctors and undermine the momentum of the ongoing agitation.

The indefinite strike, which began at GMC Jammu on November 19, has spread to GMC Srinagar, Anantnag, Baramulla, Kathua, Rajouri, Doda and Handwara, and several district hospitals.

The protesting doctors have suspended routine Outpatient Department (OPD) services and elective surgical procedures, while emergency and other essential medical services continue to operate.

The resident doctors are demanding a uniform stipend across all government medical institutions in J&K under the slogan "One State, One Pay", arguing that doctors performing similar duties should not receive different remuneration at different institutions.

Their demands also include implementation of 7th Pay Commission benefits, a minimum stipend of Rs 92,000 for PG doctors, full stipend during maternity leave and protection against any punitive action for participating in the protest.

On November 25, representatives of the resident doctors met Health and Medical Education Minister Sakeena Itoo, who acknowledged that their demands were genuine but said the matter required detailed examination in view of its financial implications—(KNO)

Dry Weather In J&K

the Kashmir region are expected to remain around 11 to 14 degrees Celsius, while minimum temperatures are likely to range between 4 and 6 degrees Celsius.

The dry weather is expected to provide a favourable window for farmers to continue agricultural activities and complete pending fieldwork before the anticipated wet spell.

Meanwhile, Srinagar recorded a minimum temperature of minus 2.0 degrees Celsius on Thursday, while Qazigund settled at minus 2.4 degrees Celsius and Pahalgam at minus 2.8 degrees Celsius.

Kupwara recorded a low of minus 1.5 degrees Celsius, Kukernag minus 0.3 degrees Celsius and Gulmarg 1.0 degree Celsius. Konibal recorded minus 3.0 degrees Celsius.

In the Jammu division, Jammu city recorded a maximum temperature of 24.9 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 10.9 degrees Celsius. Banihal recorded 18.3 degrees Celsius as the maximum and 4.8 degrees Celsius as the minimum, while Batote recorded 17.1 and 6.6 degrees Celsius, respectively.

Katra recorded a maximum of 21.4 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 10 degrees Celsius, Bhaderwah 18.2 and 2.4 degrees Celsius, while Kathua recorded 24.9 and 10.8 degrees Celsius, respectively.

Among other automatic weather stations, Srinagar recorded a maximum of 13.6 degrees Celsius and a minimum of minus 3.0 degrees Celsius. Awantipora recorded 15.0 and minus 3.0 degrees Celsius, Jammu 23.9 and 12.1 degrees Celsius, Udhampur 24.0 and 7.6 degrees Celsius and Ramban 23.7 and 6.9 degrees Celsius.

Samba recorded 23.3 degrees Celsius as the maximum and 7.8 degrees Celsius as the minimum, Badgam 14.6 and minus 2.7 degrees Celsius, Rajouri 23.2 and 3.2 degrees Celsius, Poonch 22.5 and 6.6 degrees Celsius, and Anantnag 18.2 and minus 2.7 degrees Celsius.

Baramulla recorded a minimum of minus 0.5 degrees Celsius, Bandipora minus 1.3 degrees Celsius, Pulwama minus 3.4 degrees Celsius, Shopian minus 4.2 degrees Celsius, Kulgam 0.5 degrees Celsius, Ganderbal minus 0.2 degrees Celsius, Sonamarg 0.8 degrees Celsius, Kishtwar 7.2 degrees Celsius and Reasi 8.2 degrees Celsius.

The weather bulletin also recorded no rainfall or snowfall across the reporting stations during the preceding 24 hours, with snow depth remaining nil—(KNO)

No Compromise On

the issues raised in the petition.

Expressing serious concern over the use of synthetic pesticides and other harmful substances in food production besides the sale of rotten meat, spoiled food items and adulterated edible oils and spices, the Chairman observed that such practices pose a grave threat to public health. He categorically directed the departments to ensure that no life is endangered due to the circulation of spurious drugs or the sale of adulterated food items and unsafe meat. He stressed that those found violating the provisions of the relevant laws must face stringent action and that no leniency should be shown towards offenders.

Emphasising the need for effective enforcement of food safety and drug control regulations, the Chairman sought details regarding the monitoring of pharmaceutical companies, quality testing of generic medicines, seizure of substandard and spurious drugs, laboratory testing of samples and action taken against those involved in the sale of unauthorised medicines.

He also sought details about the functioning of unlicensed drug outlets and called for strict action against establishments operating in violation of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act. He stressed the need for regular inspections, greater accountability and a robust monitoring mechanism to prevent the circulation of unsafe and substandard medicines.

The Chairman further sought a comprehensive account of the action taken by the departments since the previous meeting, including the number of inspections conducted, samples collected and tested, cases registered, penalties imposed and highest fines levied against violators. He also enquired about delays in taking action and sought an update on the implementation of directions issued during the previous meeting.

Highlighting the public health risks associated with adulterated food, particularly unsafe milk and other essential food products, he stressed the need for sustained enforcement to protect people from serious health complications. He also reviewed the availability of essential enforcement infrastructure, including vehicles and manpower, and sought details of the measures being taken to address the gaps.

Commissioner, Food and Drugs Authority, J&K, Khalid Jehangir and State Drug Controller, J&K, Sanjeev Kumar Angurana briefed the Committee on the status of the petition and apprised the members of the action taken so far. They also outlined the measures undertaken and further steps proposed to strengthen the enforcement mechanism and ensure strict compliance with food safety and drug control laws.

Members of the Committee raised various issues and offered suggestions for strengthening the monitoring mechanism, improving enforcement and taking firm action against those involved in adulteration and other violations.

Earlier, the Committee conveyed condolences over the demise of sitting MLA from Anantnag and former Minister Peerzada Mohammad Syed, who passed away today.

Among others, Joint Commissioner, Food Safety, J&K, Sanjeev Kumar; Deputy Commissioner, Food Safety Jammu, Rafi Ahmad Dar; Under Secretary, J&K Legislative Assembly, Shabir Ahmad Wani and other senior officers of the concerned departments were also present at the meeting.

Veteran Leader Peerzada

Kashmir's political landscape.

Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi expressed grief over the veteran leader's demise and extended sympathies to his family, friends and supporters, saying his loyalty to the Congress party and service to the people would always be remembered.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah also condoled his death, recalling his long public life and contributions to the welfare of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Health and Medical Education Minister Sakina Itoo remembered Peerzada's decades-long political journey and his tenure as JKPCC president, cabinet minister and legislator.

Senior Congress leader Prof Saifuddin Soz described his death as a major loss for Jammu and Kashmir and the Congress party, while PDP president Mehbooba Mufti remembered him as a humble and compassionate public figure.

Former Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad, NC leader and Minister Ali Mohammad Sagar, Peoples Conference president Sajad Gani Lone, Apni Party president Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, former JKPCC president Ghulam Ahmad Mir and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge also paid tributes to the veteran leader.

A prominent Congress leader from south Kashmir, Peerzada was first elected to the Assembly from Kokernag in 1987 and was re-elected in 2002 and 2008. During his political career spanning nearly four decades, he held several key portfolios, including Education, Rural Development, Science and Technology, and Haj and Auqaf.

He also served as JKPCC president and remained an influential figure within the Congress for several years.

After a political hiatus, Peerzada returned to electoral politics in 2024, winning the Anantnag Assembly seat on a Congress ticket and defeating PDP candidate Mehboob Beg by over 1,600 votes.

His death marks the end of a long political journey and leaves a void in the Congress organisation, particularly in south Kashmir, where he remained an influential political figure for decades—(KNO)

Attacks On Maritime

Recognising the criticality of maritime trade to global growth, EAM Jaishankar called on nations to deliver on safety and security of the Indian Ocean and stated that international law, especially the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), must be respected.

"Whether it is to counter terrorism, narcotics trade or illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, or indeed response to climate events and disaster situations, we have to become more self-reliant as well as more enthusiastic about cooperating with partners," EAM Jaishankar said.

The meeting is being held under India's IORA 2025-2027 chairship with the theme of 'Innovation, Openness, Resilience and Adaptability in the Indian Ocean Region'.

The 23-member states of IORA are India, Australia, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Comoros, France, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Seychelles, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.

The 12 dialogue partners are China, Egypt, the European Union, Germany, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

The Council of Ministers is the Association's highest decision-making body and comprises the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of IORA Member States. It provides the overall policy and strategic direction of the organisation. Its key responsibilities include formulating policies, reviewing progress in cooperation among member states, and identifying and deciding on new areas of collaboration to further advance the objectives of the Association.

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

Planning is backbone of rural development: Altaf Wani

Calls for convergence, participatory planning at VGPP Workshop in Jammu

GMK NEWS NETWORK



JAMMU: Minister for Rural Development Department & Panchayati Raj, Forest, Ecology & Environment, Altaf Ahmad Wani, Friday described planning as the backbone of development and called for effective convergence with line departments to make rural areas developed, self-reliant and sustainable.

Addressing a day-long workshop on the Viksit Gram Panchayat Plan (VGPP), organised by the Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj in Jammu, the Minister said the initiative is aligned with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of making India a developed nation by 2047, coinciding with the centenary of independence. He said the workshop marked an important step towards achieving this vision at the grassroots level.

Emphasising the importance of planning in shaping rural development, Altaf Wani said the Government of India has laid special emphasis on structured and participatory planning under the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision. He urged officers and field functionaries to take ownership of the initiative and translate its objectives into tangible outcomes, asserting that with commitment, dedication and determination, even the most challenging goals can be achieved.

The Minister said field functionaries are the face of the Department and play a vital role in strengthening rural governance and development. He observed that the Department has the potential to achieve remarkable progress if its personnel demonstrate the will, commitment and dedication required to deliver on their responsibilities.

Altaf Wani underscored the need for greater public participation in Gram Sabha meetings and stressed consultations with elected representatives while preparing development plans. He said that, as part of a democratic system, planning must reflect the aspirations and needs of every section of society. He further emphasised that elected MLAs, irrespective of party affiliation, should be taken on board during the planning process to ensure inclusive and comprehensive development.

Highlighting the importance of convergence, the Minister called upon the Department to work in close coordination with other line departments to ensure integrated development and strengthen rural livelihoods.

Altaf Wani observed that if other departments contribute towards the material component of development works, the Department of Rural Development can complement these efforts through the labour component under the VB-G RAM G scheme, thereby ensuring need-based, comprehensive and effective development of rural areas. He said convergence mechanisms would be further strengthened and the matter would also be taken up with the concerned departmental Ministers to ensure better inter-departmental coordination and collaboration.

The Minister directed officers to expedite works under UT CAPEX, PRI grants and other development programmes, emphasising that the working season in snow-bound areas of Jammu and Kashmir is limited and requires timely execution of projects. He stressed the need to accelerate progress and ensure optimal utilisation of available funds to facilitate the release of additional resources. He also called for expediting projects initiated under the Swachh Bharat Mission.

Calling for a citizen-centric approach, Wani urged officers to remain responsive to public needs and discharge their duties with sincerity and accountability. He cautioned that negligence in the discharge of official responsibilities would invite appropriate disciplinary action. He also stressed the proper protection, preservation and maintenance of assets being created by the Department.

Speaking at the workshop, Secretary, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Ramesh Kumar, highlighted the objectives and framework of the Viksit Gram Panchayat Plan, stating that the initiative aims to facilitate participatory and comprehensive planning through Gram Sabhas based on the identified needs and priorities of local communities. He said the plan incorporates technology-driven planning mechanisms, including the use of Yuktdhara, and brings together the Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj and other line departments to ensure coordinated interventions at the Panchayat level.

The Secretary highlighted the four key thematic areas of the Viksit Gram Panchayat Plan—water security, rural infrastructure, rural livelihoods and disaster mitigation—and emphasised that convergence is a central component of the initiative to avoid duplication of works and ensure tangible, holistic and sustainable development. He said technology would be utilised at every stage of planning and implementation, including geo-tagging and monitoring, while district-level officers would play a crucial role in ensuring effective implementation. He exhorted officers to remain accountable and responsible, describing field functionaries as the eyes and ears of the Department.

Speaker condoles demise of veteran Congress leader Peerzada Mohammad Syed

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Speaker, Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Abdul Rahim Rather, has expressed profound grief and sorrow over the demise of senior Congress leader and sitting MLA from Anantnag, Peerzada Mohammad Syed.

In his condolence message, the Speaker described Peerzada Mohammad Syed as a veteran political leader of high integrity, who made significant contributions to public life and the political landscape of Jammu and Kashmir.

Recalling his long political career, the Speaker said that Peerzada Mohammad Syed represented the Kokernag Assembly Constituency 1987, 2002 and 2008 and Anantnag Assembly Constituency since 2024 till date besides serving the people as a legislator in his subsequent political innings. He also headed the Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee for a considerable period.

The Speaker recalled that Peerzada Mohammad Syed held several important portfolios during his tenure in the State Government, including Education, Sports, Haj and Auqaf, and Public Enterprises. He first served as Minister of State for Education in 1987 and subsequently held the portfolios of Education and Public Enterprises. In 2009, he was again inducted into the State Cabinet.

A law graduate from the University of Kashmir (LL.B., 1980), Peerzada Mohammad Syed was widely respected for his calm demeanour, political experience and strong connect with grassroots workers.

Expressing solidarity with the bereaved family, the Speaker prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and strength and fortitude to the family members to bear this irreparable loss.

MY Bharat B'la announces 100th Edition of Fit India Sundays on Cycle

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: District Youth Officer Srijan Singh Patel, MY Bharat Baramulla, Friday addressed a press conference to announce the organisation of the 100th Edition of Fit India Sundays on Cycle, scheduled to be held on November 29, 2026.

In Baramulla district, the cycling event will commence at 11:00 AM from Jeel Bridge, Singhpora Pattan, and culminate at Motipora, Pattan.

During the press conference, Srijan Singh Patel highlighted the significance of the initiative in promoting fitness, a healthy lifestyle and greater participation of citizens, particularly youth, in sporting activities.

The 100th edition celebrates India's growing sporting culture and its aspirations towards the Olympic dream, reinforcing the message of making fitness an integral part of everyday life.

The event will also be integrated with Week-11 activities under the Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat (NMYVB) Campaign, conveying a strong message of a healthy, active and drug-free society.

The initiative, organised under the Fit India Movement, aims to encourage people from all walks of life to adopt cycling and other physical activities as part of their daily routine.

The District Youth Officer appealed to youth, sports enthusiasts and the general public to participate enthusiastically and make the 100th edition a grand success.

ADC Sopore reviews arrangements for JKSSB JKPSI Exams

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Sopore, S.A. Raina, chaired a meeting at Dak Bungalow Sopore to review and finalise arrangements for the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) examination for the posts of Jammu and Kashmir Police Sub-Inspector (JKPSI), scheduled to be held on November 29, 2026, across eight examination centres in the district.

The meeting was attended by Superintendents, Magistrates and other concerned officers from the Police and Civil Administration.

During the meeting, the ADC reviewed various arrangements pertaining to the smooth, transparent and hassle-free conduct of the examination. Detailed discussions were held on security arrangements, frisking procedures, adequate lighting, deployment of staff, sanitation, availability of drinking water and other essential facilities at all designated examination centres.

The ADC directed the concerned officers to ensure foolproof security arrangements, proper coordination between the Police and Civil Administration and strict adherence to the prescribed guidelines. He further instructed that electronic devices and gadgets must not be allowed inside the examination premises and directed the authorities to ensure thorough frisking and effective checking at all entry points to prevent any malpractice.

Emphasising the importance of timely preparedness, the ADC directed all concerned officers to ensure adequate sanitation, clean drinking water, proper lighting and other necessary facilities at every examination centre so that candidates face no inconvenience.

He stressed that all arrangements must be put in place well in advance to ensure the fair, smooth and transparent conduct of the examination.

Animal Husbandry Deptt organises Mega Awareness Camp in Nowgam



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: Acting on the directions of District Development Commissioner Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, the Department of Animal Husbandry, Bandipora, Friday organised a Mega Awareness Camp in Nowgam area.

The camp primarily focused on sensitising livestock farmers and the general public about various schemes being implemented by the Department of Animal Husbandry, with particular emphasis on eligibility criteria, mandatory documentation, application procedures, prevailing scheme guidelines and benefits available to eligible beneficiaries.

A large number of local residents and livestock farmers participated in the programme and actively interacted with the departmental officers to seek clarification and guidance regarding different schemes and their implementation.

The participating members of the public highly appreciated the initiative and expressed their gratitude to the department for organising the awareness camp and providing necessary information, guidance and facilitation at their doorstep.

The programme marked a significant step towards strengthening public outreach, ensuring transparency in the implementation of departmental schemes and facilitating greater participation of eligible beneficiaries in various government initiatives.

The programme was attended by Livestock Development Officer, Sumbal; Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, Nowgam; and other officials of the department.

DDC G'bal reviews block-wise RDD progress

GMK NEWS NETWORK



GANDERBAL: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Ganderbal, Shreya Singhal, Friday chaired a comprehensive follow-up meeting in the VC Room, Mini Secretariat Complex, Ganderbal, to review the block-wise physical and financial progress of developmental works under the Rural Development Department (RDD).

During the meeting, the DDC took a detailed, block-by-block appraisal from the concerned Block Development Officers and officials of the Rural Engineering Wing (REW) regarding the physical and financial progress of works under key flagship schemes and funding heads, including (PMAY 2.0), CAPEX, CDF, VB-G RAM G, Aspirational Block Development Programme (ABDP), Aspirational Panchayat Development Programme (APDP), and Spill-over works.

In addition to ongoing projects, the chair thoroughly reviewed the status of newly approved works under Untied Grants and Tribal UT Capex, assessing the tendering, allotment, and on-ground execution across all blocks of the district.

Taking serious note of the pace of progress achieved since the previous review meeting, the DDC strictly impressed upon the RDD workforce and engineering wing officials to adopt a proactive, result-oriented approach. She directed the officers to maintain close synergy between administrative and technical wings to accelerate on-ground delivery and ensure tangible outcomes within the stipulated timelines.

The meeting was attended by the Additional District Development Commissioner, Ganderbal, Chief Planning Officer, Ganderbal, all Block Development Officers and other concerned officials.

FDA directs FBOs to ensure transparency in sale of non-vegetarian food products

GMK NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG: The Food & Drugs Administration (FDA) has issued statutory compliance notices to more than 100 Food Business Operators (FBOs) across Anantnag and Srinagar districts, directing them to ensure transparency in the sale and preparation of non-vegetarian food products.

The establishments have been instructed to clearly mention the type of meat or fish being offered, including Mutton, Beef, Chicken and Fish, along with a clear indication of whether the product is fresh or frozen.

The department has also directed the FBOs to properly declare all ingredients used in food preparations in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Regulations. The ingredients must be listed in descending order of their composition by weight or volume, as applicable.

To ensure consumer awareness and informed choices, the concerned establishments have been asked to prominently display the requisite information through display boards at their premises and incorporate the same in their menu cards.

The initiative aims to prevent misleading representations, eliminate ambiguity regarding meat and fish products and strengthen consumer protection and food safety standards.

The department has directed all concerned FBOs to comply with the instructions, warning that any violation or non-compliance shall invite appropriate regulatory action.

KPDCL announces power shutdown in Kashmir parts

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Engineer, Distribution, KPDCL Friday informed that the Shutdown of 33 kV Potushai Gurez line will be observed due to which power supply to Wanpora, Dawar, NHPC, Tragbal, Peerbaba, Kanzalwan, Bagtore, Koragbal, Razdantop and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 am to 03 pm on 28 November and 01 December 2026.

Similarly, shutdown of 33 kV LJHP Uri line will be observed due to which power supply to Mohura, Noorkhah, Gingle, Salamabad, Lalpul, Garkote, Bandi, Paranpillan, Rampur, Dhani, Bijhama, Bagna, Uri, Kamalkote and adjoining areas will be affected from 10 am to 03 pm on 02, 05, 08 & 12 December 2026.

Likewise, shutdown of 33 kV Amargarh Watergam line will be observed due to which power supply to Watergam, Dangiwacha, Palpora, Behrampora, Chatoosa, Kangroosa, Hachipora, Hadipora, Ganapora, Safalpora and adjoining areas will be affected from 10 am to 03 pm on 30 November and 03 December 2026

DIRECTORATE OF FORENSIC SCIENCE LABORATORY J&K, JAMMU/SRINAGAR

Tel/Fax No. 0191-2435249 (Jmu), 0194-2490528 (Sgr) E-mail:director.jkfsl@jk.gov.in

Subject: Waiting List for the post of Chowkidar under Item No. 236 UT Cadre, Home Department, advertised vide Advertisement Notification No.06 of 2020 dated 29.12.2020.

Ref'nce: i) Communication No.JKSSB-Scry/18/2024-03 (E-7593420) dated 28.10.2026 of J&K SSB.
ii) Communication No.Home-FSL/ 12/2024- 10-Home (7467142) dated 23.11.2026 of the Home Department.

NOTICE

The following candidate who has been recommended by the J&K SSB for the post of Laboratory Attendant in the waiting list is hereby informed to submit his "Mobile Number and E-mail Address" in the Directorate of FSL, J&K, Jammu/ Srinagar within a period of 21 days from the date of publication of this notice for uploading the same on Employee Verification System (EVS) Portal, in terms of circular instructions issued by General Administration Department vide No.18-JK (GAD) of 2022 dated 20.05.2022

D.V.S. No	Roll No.	Name of the Candidate	Father's Name	D.O.B.	Category
46-KMR	2040054	Firdous Ahmad Tantray	Nazir Ahmad Tantray	20.02.2001	OM

In case of failure to submit the "Mobile Number & E-mail Address" within the stipulated time period, it shall be presumed that the candidate is not willing to opt the appointment in J&K Forensic Science Laboratory.

No: DFSL/ESTTOPREF/1/2026-04/E-7876498/2828-31
Dated: 27.11.2026.
DIPK-8017-26
DT: 27/11/2026

(Om Prakash) JKAS
Director General,
Forensic Science Laboratory,
J&K, Jammu/Srinagar.

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

DEPARTMENT OF FLORICULTURE, GARDENS & PARKS

CIVIL SECRETARIAT JAMMU/KASHMIR

Email ID: jkfloripg@jk.gov.in

Subject: Verification of Character and Antecedents of the applicant namely Mr. Bilal Ahmad Shah S/o Late Noor Mohammad Shah in terms of Jammu & Kashmir Rehabilitation Assistance Scheme-2022.

Reference: No. O.M. No. GAD-RAS/68/2026(7803962) Dated: 17.11.2026, from General Administration Department.

NOTICE

Mr. Bilal Ahmad Shah S/o Late Noor Mohammad Shah is hereby informed to submit his e-mail ID and contact details to the Department of Floriculture, Gardens & Parks, Civil Secretariat, Jammu (Room No. BT-6, above J&K Bank) / Winter Secretariat, Srinagar (Room No. 529, 5th Floor), in person, within a period of twenty-one (21) days positively from the date of issuance of this notice, for the purpose of filling up the e-verification roll to obtain his Character and Antecedents Report from the Criminal Investigation Department (CID), J&K.

In case the applicant fails to report to the Department of Floriculture, Gardens & Parks, Civil Secretariat, Jammu / Winter Secretariat, Srinagar, within the prescribed time period, he shall forfeit his right to appointment under the Jammu and Kashmir Rehabilitation Assistance Scheme-2022.

No. FLORI-NGZ/12/2026-09 (775707)
Dated: 27.11.2026.
DIPK-8019-26
DT: 27/11/2026

(Vivek Modi) JKAS
Additional Secretary to the Government,
Department of Floriculture,
Gardens and Parks.

Dubey returns to Taide-led Vidarbha squad for Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy Super League

IANS



NAGPUR: India left-arm spin bowling all-rounder Harsh Dubey has returned to Vidarbha's squad for the Super League stage of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, with Atharva Taide set to lead the side in their backyard.

The senior selection committee of the Vidarbha Cricket Association (VCA) has named an 18-member squad for the Super League stage, which will run from November 30 to December 6. Vidarbha head into the Super League in fine form.

They went through the group stage in Kolkata without a defeat and won six games, with one ending in no-result due to rain, to finish on 26 points. They were second in Elite Group D and level on points with Mumbai but behind them on net run rate.

That record will count for little now, though. Every side starts the Super League afresh, with no points or net run rate carried over from the Elite group stage. Vidarbha have been drawn in Group A with Baroda, Delhi and Kerala, while Andhra Pradesh, Mumbai, Punjab and Rajasthan make up Group B.

The group matches will be played from November 30 to December 4 across two venues - the VCA Stadium in Jamtha and the VCA Ground in Civil Lines. Each team will face the other three in its group once. Only the two group winners will go through to the final, to be played at Jamtha on December 6, with net run rate separating any sides that finish level on points.

Dubey's return is the only change to the previous group, with Mandar Ghodmare making way for him. Ghodmare has been moved to Vidarbha's under-23 men's side, which begins its own T20 campaign in Jaipur on December 1.

Dubey, who's coming off being a part of India A team reaching semi-final in Men's Rising Stars Asia Cup in Doha, gives Vidarbha an experienced spin option for the business end of the competition.

His fellow India A teammates, Abhishek Sharma, Prabhsimran Singh, Suryansh Shedge, Tanush Kotian, Harshit Rana, Prince Yadav and Ayush Badoni are also expected to join their respective state teams for the Super League stage. India's T20I captain Shreyas Iyer is also likely to join Mumbai for the Super League part of the competition after a break post the white-ball tour of New Zealand.

Vidarbha squad: Atharva Taide (captain), Aman Mokhade, Danish Malewar, Shubham Dubey, R. Samarth, Varun Bisht, Yash Kadam, Yash Rathod, Harsh Dubey, Vedant Jajoo, Adhyayan Daga, Parth Rekhade, Nachiket Bhute, Yash Thakur, Praful Hinge, Saurabh Dubey, Darshan Nalkande, Abhishek Agrawal.

ISL 2026-27: Chennaiyin FC aim to build momentum against winless Mumbai City FC

IANS



CHENNAI: Chennaiyin FC are set to welcome Mumbai City FC to the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium on Saturday for a Gameweek 7 fixture of the Indian Super League (ISL) 2026-27. The two former champions enter the clash on contrasting trajectories as Chennaiyin look to extend their three-match unbeaten run, while Mumbai arrive in search of their first win of the season.

The home team have picked up four points from their last two outings, following a 5-3 victory over East Bengal with draws against Kerala Blasters and Punjab FC. They currently sit eighth with six points from six matches, and will be keen to turn their recent improvement into a more consistent run of results.

However, Head Coach Clifford Miranda has cautioned against underestimating Mumbai City, despite the Islanders' difficult start to the campaign.

"In this league, almost all the teams are at the same level. Of course, sometimes, most often, the team that plays well on the day makes a difference. My players and I have no illusion that this game will be easy," he said.

Chennaiyin have also identified areas that need attention as Miranda acknowledged that his side must improve its output from attacking set-pieces. Defender Nuno Reis pointed to the importance of building greater understanding within a squad that has undergone considerable change.

"It's natural that you need some time to get to know each other better," Reis said, before stressing the need to tighten up defensively.

There could also be a couple of selection concerns for the hosts as Ramon Tanque and Madih Talal both face late fitness assessments, with their availability to be determined after training.

Mumbai, meanwhile, are navigating a period of transition under new boss Ashvir Singh Johal, who took charge recently following Manolo Márquez's departure. Johal's immediate task is to get results while gradually restoring the playing identity that has defined Mumbai City in recent seasons. The Englishman acknowledged that the process would require patience, particularly with a demanding fixture schedule ahead.

"Our objective now is to get the team playing back to that. It's not going to happen overnight, but slowly but surely and week by week, that's going to be one of the objectives," he said.

Johal was also complimentary of Chennaiyin's recent performances, suggesting their results have not reflected their displays. "They performed really well, but things didn't go their way," he said.

Mumbai will be monitoring the fitness of Carlos Delgado, who was forced off against Bengaluru and remains under assessment by the medical team. Johal also made it clear that competition for places is open, insisting: "Every space in the XI is open every week."

For Chennaiyin, the challenge is to make home advantage count. For Mumbai, it is an opportunity to claim a first win of the season to get their season moving. Both sides have plenty to play for in Chennai.

South Africa U19 women enter final stage of WC preparation via camp in Tshwane

IANS



TSHWANE: South Africa's under-19 women's team has started its last national camp before the ICC U19 Women's T20 World Cup takes place in 2027. Twenty players are in the mix for 15 places in the squad that will travel to Bangladesh and Nepal to take part in the tournament happening from January 21 to February 7.

The eight-day camp is being run by Cricket South Africa (CSA) in partnership with SA20 at the CSA Centre of Excellence in Tshwane. It began on Wednesday and runs until December 3. The camp is part of a joint CSA-SA20 programme to develop young women cricketers by giving them a taste of the high-performance environment they will face at international level.

"We have come a long way with this group of players over the course of the year, and this camp is about putting the final touches in place and making sure we are as well prepared as possible for the challenges that await us at the World Cup.

"With 20 players in camp, there are still important decisions to be made in terms of finalising our 15-player squad. We want to give every player a fair opportunity to put their hand up while also ensuring that we have the right balance and combinations to compete at a World Cup," said head coach Dinesha Devnarain in a CSA statement on Friday.

The players have had a busy year, which included a Youth T20I series win over Pakistan in July. Once the camp ends, they will go back to their provinces to play in the CSA national youth weeks in December before regrouping in January for the World Cup.

"From a cricketing perspective, there will be a strong emphasis on fine-tuning our skills, tactical awareness and execution through practical sessions that replicate the different match scenarios we could find ourselves in during the tournament.

"Equally important is preparing the players for what comes with representing their country on the world stage. For many of these young players, this will be their first World Cup experience, so we have also incorporated media training and other off-field sessions to ensure they are equipped to handle the demands of an international tournament.

Rohit Sharma returns as Mumbai Indians skipper ahead of IPL 2027

IANS



MUMBAI: Rohit Sharma is back as Mumbai Indians (MI) captain as the five-time champions said on Friday that he would lead the side in IPL 2027. IANS had previously reported on November 3 and 26 that there was a possibility of Rohit, who led India to 2024 Men's T20 World Cup triumph, being reappointed to the top role at MI.

Rohit's return comes after seam-bowling all-rounder Hardik Pandya, who had captained MI from 2024 to 2026, was traded to Punjab Kings (PBKS) earlier this month. The 2027 edition will also be the franchise's milestone 20th season in the league.

Rohit, who first joined MI in 2011, is the most successful captain in the franchise's history. He led the team to the IPL title in 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019 and 2020. The date of the announcement also has a special place in his career - exactly nine years ago, on November 27, 2017, Rohit was named India captain for the first time, as stand-in skipper for the ODI series against Sri Lanka.

"Mumbai Indians has been a huge part of my life, and leading this team has always been something I have always taken great pride in. The conversations with Nita Bhabhi and Akash about the season ahead have been exciting, and I have a lot of belief in what we can achieve.

"I am ready for the 20th season, to the challenges ahead, and to giving our Paltan plenty of moments to celebrate. The focus will be on playing our brand of cricket, competing together and enjoying the game," Rohit said in a statement issued by the franchise.

The franchise said it was handing the side back to one of its most popular players who built MI's winning culture, backed young players and formed a close bond with the team's loyal fans.

"We bid for Rohit in 2011, and from that moment, he became part of our Mumbai Indians family. I still remember the young Rohit who joined us, and it has been such a joy and privilege to watch him grow over the years as a cricketer, a champion, a leader, and a wonderful family man," she said.

"As we celebrate the 20th season of Mumbai Indians, it is a very special moment for all of us to see Rohit lead the team once again. He has given us so many wonderful memories over the years, and I know how much he means to our Paltan. I hope this new chapter brings many more moments of pride for him, for our team and for the millions of fans who love Mumbai Indians. Rohit, we are all cheering for you!" said MI owner Nita M Ambani.

Previous century belonged to Sachin, this one probably to Sooryavanshi: MSK Prasad

IANS



NEW DELHI: Former India chief selector MSK Prasad believes teenaged batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi is the cricketing star of this century, just like how Sachin Tendulkar was for the previous one. He also felt that Sooryavanshi is a once-in-a-generation talent who must be shielded by the right mentors if he is to fulfil that promise.

"I think Vaibhav is a once-in-a-generation player. I can say the same about other players – Priyansh is also a fantastic player. When it comes to Vaibhav, I think the previous century belonged to Sachin Tendulkar. Probably this century belongs to Vaibhav," Prasad, currently the Team Director of Venice Livewires, told IANS in an exclusive chat.

Prasad spoke days after Sooryavanshi, playing for India A against the UAE in the Men's Rising Stars Asia Cup in Doha, hammered 204 off 53 balls, the fastest double-century in men's List A cricket. His 28 sixes were the most maximums ever struck in a single innings.

On the way, the opener also broke the records for the fastest List A hundred, fastest 150, where he bettered his own record and fastest double ton. Sooryavanshi already held the record for the fastest List A fifty, an 11-ball effort against Sri Lanka A in June that beat the 12-ball mark Sri Lanka's Kaushalya Weeraratne set in 2005. He is also the youngest centurion in both List A and T20 cricket, and the youngest captain in T20s.

Mir Saifullah Inaugurates DPL Season 12 Winter Edition at Bakshi Stadium

Calls for greater participation in sports to promote fitness, discipline, team spirit

GMK SPORTS DESK

SRINAGAR: Minister for Planning, Monitoring & Development, Youth Services & Sports, Culture and ARI & Trainings, Friday inaugurated the Department Premier League Season 12 Winter Edition at the iconic Bakshi Stadium, Srinagar

The tournament, organised by the Kashmir News Service (KNS), witnessed the participation of representatives and sports enthusiasts, marking another important initiative towards promoting sporting activities and encouraging a culture of fitness, teamwork and healthy competition among employees of various government departments.

Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council, Tanazul Mukhtiyar was also present.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister appreciated the Kashmir News Service for taking the initiative to organise the Department Premier League and providing a meaningful platform for employees from different government departments to demonstrate their sporting abilities. He said that such initiatives go beyond competitive sports, as they help bring people together, strengthen institutional bonds and promote a healthy and active lifestyle.

The Minister observed that sports are an essential component of a progressive society and play a vital role in shaping discipline, leadership, perseverance and team spirit. He emphasised that participation in sporting activities should not remain confined to professional athletes and young players alone, but should



become an integral part of everyday life, including within government institutions and workplaces.

He said that the Department Premier League reflects the growing enthusiasm for sports among government employees and provides an opportunity for individuals to balance their professional responsibilities with physical fitness and recreational activities.

Highlighting the importance of developing a comprehensive sporting ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir, the Minister said the Government is committed to strengthening sports infrastructure, expanding access to sporting facilities and creating opportunities for people across different age groups and sections of society.

He emphasised that the Youth Services & Sports Department, in coordination with the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council and other stakeholders, would continue to encourage sporting initiatives at the grassroots level while providing adequate opportunities for emerging talent to flourish.

The Minister further observed that sporting events organised during the winter season carry particular significance, as they help sustain sporting enthusiasm and encourage people to remain physically active even during colder months.

He also appreciated the organisers, participating teams and all those associated with the successful conduct of the tournament, urging the players to uphold the highest standards of sportsmanship, discipline and mutual respect.

The Minister said that winning and losing are integral aspects of sports, but the real achievement lies in participation, dedication and the ability to work collectively towards a common goal.

He encouraged all participating teams to utilise the tournament as an opportunity to strengthen interdepartmental relationships and promote a spirit of healthy competition.

The presence of the Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council, as Guest of Honour further reflected the importance of institutional support and collaboration in promoting sporting activities across Jammu and Kashmir.

The inauguration of the Department Premier League Season 12 Winter Edition at Bakshi Stadium marks another step towards strengthening the sporting culture among government employees and reinforcing the role of sports in promoting a healthier, more active and cohesive society.

