



After 'Operation Sindoor' world recognised India's capability to act firmly against terror: Prez Murmu

'Across conventional, counter-insurgency, humanitarian operations Indian Armed forces have shown remarkable adaptability, resolve'

Sajid Raina

New Delhi, Nov 27: Stating that the 'Operation Sindoor' demonstrated India's military strength as well as its moral clarity in acting firmly against terror, President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday said that world has recognised India's capability to respond decisively while upholding its commitment to security and stability.

Addressing at the inaugural session of the third edition of the Indian Army's seminar, 'Chanakya Defence Dialogue-2025', here, President Murmu, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, "The success of Operation Sindoor represented a defining moment in India's counter-terror and deterrence strategy. It demonstrated



the nation's military strength as well as its moral clarity in acting firmly yet responsibly to maintain peace."

"The world has recognized India's capability to respond decisively while upholding its

"Across conventional, counter-insurgency, and humanitarian operations, the forces have shown remarkable adaptability and resolve. Beyond operational roles, the armed forces also contribute to national development by improving border infrastructure, enhancing connectivity, promoting tourism, and supporting education initiatives in frontier areas."

The President said that rapid technological advancements, competing power centres, and shifting alliances are rewriting international relations. Emerging domains such as cyber, space, information, and cognitive warfare are increasingly blurring the lines between peace and conflict.

She highlighted that India's approach, guided by the civilisational | [More on P6](#)

PM Modi's 5s approach will guide India towards Viksit Bharat: Army Chief

Says we're living in turbulent times; outlines roadmap to transform the force

Sajid Raina

New Delhi, Nov 27: Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi on Thursday described Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 5Ss approach — 'Samman, Samvad, Sayog, Samridhi, and Suraksha', as a roadmap to guide India through the 'Amrit Kal' towards a Viksit Bharat.

Addressing the inaugural session of the third edition of Chanakya Defence Dialogue, a key conclave hosted by the Army here, General Dwivedi, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, "The world has moved from the Cold War's bipolarity through a brief unipolar moment into an uncertain and fractured order."

He underlined that the long piece is declining and comprehensive conflicts are on the rise.

The Army Chief outlined a "set of springboards" that would drive the years of transformation ahead for the force, so as to remain decisive and



future-ready in this rapidly-evolving global landscape.

"We are living in an increasingly multipolar world, where major powers are continuously jostling and competing. The world has moved from the Cold War's bipolarity through a brief unipolar moment, into an uncertain and fractured order. The long piece is declining, and comprehensive conflicts are on the rise," Gen Dwivedi said.

He underlined that with over 50 ongoing conflicts world over, to say "we live in turbulent

times, may actually be an understatement".

So, if the globe is swivelling towards national security, deterrence and war-fighting, it inevitably "raises a fundamental question for us — how must the Indian military transform to remain decisive and ready in this rapidly-evolving global landscape," the Army chief said.

"The starting point to this question lies in the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 5Ss | [More on P6](#)

Syed Qamar Sajad is new Director Tourism Kashmir

KNO Correspondent

Srinagar, Nov 27: The Government on Thursday ordered transfers and postings of two JKAS officers with immediate effect, posting Syed Qamar Sajad as Director Tourism, Kashmir.

According to the official order, a copy of which lies with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), states that Syed Qamar Sajad, JKAS, Managing Director, J&K Cable Car Corporation has been transferred and posted as Director Tourism, Kashmir against the available vacancy.

The government said that he will continue to hold the charge of Managing Director, J&K Cable Car Corporation, in addition to his own duties, till further



orders.

The order further reads that Pankaj Magotra, JKAS, who was awaiting adjustment in the General Administration Department has been posted as Director, Command Area Development, Jammu, against an available vacancy.

The transfers have according to the | [More on P6](#)

PM, HM, NSA to participate in DGP, IGP Conference in Raipur

KNO Correspondent

New Delhi, Nov 27: Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Ministers of State (Home Affairs), DGPs of States/UTs and heads of central police organisations will participate in the 60th edition of the All India Conference of DGPs and IGPs at Chhattisgarh's Raipur on Saturday.

According to the details available with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) the 3-day conference, scheduled from November 28 to 30, aims to review the progress achieved in addressing key policing challenges so far and to outline a



forward-looking roadmap for building a 'Surakshit Bharat' in alignment with the national vision of 'Viksit Bharat'.

An official said that to bring in fresh and innovative ideas to the table, Heads of the Home Department of States/UTs and some selected cutting-edge

level Police Officers in the ranks of DIG and SP will also participate in the conference physically this year.

Pertinently, since 2014, the format of the conference has undergone continuous upgradation under the Prime Minister's | [More on P6](#)

CS calls for intensifying vigil against food adulteration

KT News Desk

Jammu, Nov 27: Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo on Thursday chaired a high-level meeting to comprehensively review the performance of the Food Safety Organization and deliberate upon future strategies aimed at curbing the supply of adulterated food items and ensuring safe, hygienic and quality food for consumers across all districts of the Union Territory.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Finance; Divisional Commissioners of Jammu and Kashmir; Secretary, Health; Secretary, Law; Commissioners, JMC and

SMC; Commissioner, Food & Drug Administration; DG, Budget and other senior officers concerned.

The Chief Secretary underscored the critical importance of continuous monitoring and stringent enforcement of the legal framework to protect public health. He stressed that food safety is a non-negotiable aspect of public welfare, as food is consumed daily and has a direct and lasting impact on the health of citizens.

He called for a robust, technology-driven and proactive enforcement mechanism to eliminate adulteration and ensure compliance with prescribed | [More on P6](#)

Kashmir parts record coldest Nov temp since 2007; mercury falls Srinagar, Qazigund, Kupwara, other areas break records; next 10 days mostly dry: MeT

Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Nov 27: Kashmir witnessed a severe drop in night temperatures on Thursday, with Srinagar, Qazigund and Kupwara registering their coldest November minimum temperatures in more than a decade, signalling an early peak of winter conditions in the Valley.

Meteorological data shared with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) by weather expert Faizan Arif shows that several stations recorded their lowest November night temperatures since 2007 and 2009, accompanied by widespread sub-zero readings across the region.

According to the figures, Srinagar recorded a minimum temperature of -4.4°C,



marking its coldest November night since 2007, when -4.8°C was recorded on November 28. The lowest ever November

minimum in Srinagar remains -7.8°C, registered on November 29, 1934.

Qazigund also recorded its

coldest November temperature since 2007, touching -4.0°C. The town last saw a similar minimum of -5.5°C on November 28, 2007. Its lowest-ever November reading stands at -8.2°C, recorded on November 24, 1962.

Kupwara dipped to -4.4°C, the lowest November minimum in the district since 2009, when -4.6°C was recorded on November 19. The all-time lowest November temperature for Kupwara remains -5.5°C, measured on November 29, 2007.

The cold wave extended across South and North Kashmir, with most stations witnessing sharp falls in night temperatures.

Pahalgam recorded -5.0°C, Pampore -5.5°C, Budgam -4.6°C. | [More on P6](#)

Police carry out valley-wide raids on banned Jel network

Officials say electronic devices, documents seized to 'curb radicalisation'

Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Nov 27: Jammu & Kashmir Police on Thursday conducted a series of coordinated searches across the Valley at multiple residential and commercial premises linked to individuals and institutions allegedly associated with Jamaat-e-Islami (Jel), as part of an ongoing security exercise to maintain public order.

Officials informed the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the searches formed part of a continuing effort to identify and prevent activities considered detrimental to the region's

security and stability.

In Srinagar, searches were conducted at the residences and business establishments of Umar Sultan Guru, son of Mohammad Farooq Guru, resident of Al Noor Colony Chanpora, linked to Tour and Travel "Syndicate"; Mohd Abdullah Wani, son of Late Mohd Akber Wani, resident of Wadwan Budgam and presently living at Mandir Bagh Baghat Srinagar; Gh. Mohd Bhat, son of Ab. Jabbar Bhat of Bemina; Haji Mohammad Ramzan Lone, son of Late Ali Mohammad Lone of Soura Sheikh Mohalla and associated with Ramzana Memorial Educational | [More on P6](#)

Man stabbed in Srinagar, police register case

KNO Correspondent

Srinagar, Nov 27: A 55-year-old man was injured after allegedly being attacked with a knife in Rainawari Srinagar on Thursday, officials said.

An official informed the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), that the victim was injured with a knife near Zaroo Gun Factory in the Rainawari area of Srinagar.

He said the man sustained abdominal injury and was shifted to hospital for treatment. "The victim is stable."

The victim has been identified as Hilal Ahmad Panjra (55), son of Ghulam Hassan Panjra, a resident of Tujgari Mohalla, Nowhatta.

Meanwhile, | [More on P6](#)

NC CWC focuses on party strengthening, Budgam setback

Party may act against MP Ruhullah | Expected to pass key resolutions | MLAs pitch for empowerment, cabinet expansion

KNO Special Correspondent

Srinagar, Nov 27: On the first day of the National Conference's two-day Central Working Committee (CWC) meeting, the issue of strengthening the party organisation dominated the discussions, even as other issues such as the electoral setback in Budgam and the rebellion by Member of Parliament (MP) Aga Ruhullah Mehdi also figured in deliberations.

Sources told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer



(KNO) that the meeting was chaired by NC president Dr. Farooq Abdullah and

attended by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary,

all cabinet ministers, Members of Parliament, MLAs, and senior leaders of the party.

During the meeting, Dr. Farooq Abdullah stressed the need to strengthen the party at

all levels. "We should work for strengthening NC at every level -from the grassroots, to the districts, and up to the party headquarters," Dr. Farooq was quoted by an NC legislator as saying during the meeting.

The NC president told party leaders that strengthening the organisation would also strengthen the government. "A strong party means a strong government," he told the participants. He further directed the leadership to take all necessary measures and reforms to strengthen the organisation.

Chief Minister and NC vice president Omar Abdullah opened the floor for discussion, urging legislators to express their views and suggestions freely. Omar also intervened intermittently, explaining the challenges faced by the government in governance due to the dual power structure in the Union Territory.

The issue of the electoral debacle in Budgam as well as the rebellion of Aga Ruhullah also came up for discussion.

Some leaders maintained that the | [More on P6](#)

Shailendra Kumar chairs pre-budget review for Agriculture, Horticulture sectors

KT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, NOVEMBER 27: Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department (APD), Shailendra Kumar Thursday chaired a pre-budget meeting to review and discuss the Revised Estimates (RE) 2025-26 and Budget Estimates (BE) 2026-27 for the Agriculture and Horticulture sectors of Jammu & Kashmir.

The meeting, as per an official statement, focused on a detailed review of expenditure and proposed allocations under CAPEX, HADP, SASCI, CSS and NABARD.

Present in the meeting were Secretary in APD, Director Finance APD, Director (Planning) APD, Managing Director JKAGROS; Secretary Kisan Advisory Board; Director Agriculture, Director Horticulture, Director CAD Jammu; Director Sericulture; representatives of SKUAST-J & SKUAST-K; Joint Directors of Agriculture and allied sectors; Deputy Director Agriculture (Planning); Chief Agriculture and Horticulture



Officers of Jammu Division, scientists and senior officers of the department

while officers from the Kashmir Division participated virtually.

During the meeting, the ACS emphasised that special attention is being given to ensure expenditure under HADP, CSS and CAPEX aligns with

long-term infrastructure development goals of the agriculture and horticulture sectors. He conducted an extensive review of CSS components under Krishon-nati Yojana, highlighting flagship schemes including PMKSY, PDMC, SMAM, RAD, RKVY, PKVY, ATMA, NFSM, and others aimed at promoting rural prosperity and farm sustainability.

He issued clear instructions to all the departments under the APD to integrate awareness on stray animal management during every extension activity, noting that this is also in compliance with directions of the Supreme Court. He stressed that stray animals must not be seen within office premises and directed that Nodal Officers be

appointed in each department to monitor and manage stray animal-related responsibilities.

Reviewing the PDMC component, he stressed strengthening of the micro-irrigation initiatives. He directed the officers to enhance farmer awareness regarding micro-irrigation facilities and associated subsidies. He added that the greatest benefits must reach the farmers who have adequate water availability for irrigation expansion.

He further instructed that Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) be circulated to all departments, ensuring that no work is executed outside approved project guidelines. He directed all the departments to submit Utilisation Certificates (UCs) and ensure financial achievements are reported within one month.

ACS also reviewed the progress on JKICP, discussed existing bottlenecks and directed that year-wise targets be communicated to all Chief Officers for effective and timely implementation.

2 Kashmiri master craftsmen win national award

2 others get special mention

KT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 27: Adding yet another badge of honour to its already coveted robe, 02 master craftsmen have brought glory to Kashmir by winning the prestigious National Award in the handicrafts category, recently announced by the Union Ministry of Textiles. Manzoor Ahmad Khan, from Rainawari and Khawaja Nazir Ali, from Alamgiri Bazar, Srinagar, shall be conferred with the National Award by the Hon'ble President of India for excellence in the field of hand-knotted carpet weaving and sozni embroidery at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, on December 09, next month. In a press release issued here on Thursday, a spokesman of the Handicrafts and Handloom Department, Kashmir, thanked the Ministry of Textiles for bestowing the honour and congratulated the two master craftsmen for bringing laurels to Kashmir Handicrafts, which are famous for its intricate designs and vibrant colours all over the world. "We are elated on their recognition for their immense contribution in taking crafts like sozni and carpet weaving to the next level," he added.

el," he added.

Quoting Field Officer, in the office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Sheikh Rafiq, the spokesman stated that the awards come with a citation and a cash prize of 2.00 lakh cheque. "Apart from the winners, two more craftsmen, Mashkoo-ra Hameed from Budgam in sozni embroidery and Mir Arshad Hussain from Srinagar, in papier mache, have won special mention and have been invited to the function at Vigyan Bhawan," he added.

Manzoor Ahmad Khan, a renowned weaver of hand-knotted carpet, was recently conferred first prize in UT Awards for the year 2024, at SKICC on Tuesday. "He also participated in the first edition of Know Your Artisan at Jhelum Riverfront and will also be actively engaged in Guru-Shishya Hastashilp Prashikshan Programme for Kupwara by Indian Institute of Carpet Technology, Srinagar," he added.

Khawaja Nazir Ali has also distinguished himself in the field of sozni embroidery in recognition of which he has been honoured with the prestigious National Award.

JKTPO pavilion closes IITF-2025 with Rs 13.5 Cr sales, 6000+ business leads

KT NEWS DESK

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 27: The Jammu and Kashmir Pavilion at the 44th India International Trade Fair (IITF) 2025 concluded on a highly successful note, registering on-the-spot sales amounting to approximately Rs. 13.50 crore and generating 6000+ business leads for the participating exhibitors.

These results, as per an official statement, underscore the strong market response to Jammu and Kashmir's diverse product range, including world-renowned handicrafts, agricultural and horticultural products, as well as the growing confidence of buyers and trade visitors in the quality, authenticity and competitiveness of products from the region.

Resounding the success of previous editions, this year's Pavilion was strengthened with enhanced branding and extensive publicity of J&K's unique, ODOP and GI-certified products, with promotional displays placed not only across the venue but also at prominent external locations, significantly amplifying the visibility and drawing an even larger and more diverse crowd throughout the fair. This heightened attention transformed the Pavilion into a vibrant hub of culture, creativity and commerce, consistently attracting the domestic and international visitors. The steady engagement facilitated meaningful business interactions for



artisans, women entrepreneurs, startups, FPOs, SHGs and cooperative societies. The substantial sales turnover and sizeable pipeline of business leads generated are expected to convert into repeat orders, long-term buyer, seller relationships and expanded market access, ultimately contributing to income generation, employment creation, and inclusive economic growth in Jammu and Kashmir.

Senior officials lauded the coordinated efforts of participating departments, corporations and partner agencies in curating a vibrant and business-oriented showcase that effectively blended culture with commerce.

The Jammu and Kashmir Trade Promotion Organization (JKTPO) reaffirmed its commitment towards extending sustained handholding support to exhibitors for

follow-up on leads, participation in future trade fairs and integration with broader export promotion and market linkage initiatives. This will further consolidate Jammu and Kashmir's position as a reliable sourcing destination for high-quality products.

The strong sales and lead generation at the Jammu and Kashmir Pavilion have also validated the strategic approach of onboarding a diverse mix of exhibitors, including artisans, women-led enterprises, startup ventures, FPOs, SHGs and cooperative societies, who together presented a comprehensive basket of products to the buyers from across India and abroad. The encouraging response from the retail visitors, bulk buyers, e-commerce platforms and institutional purchasers is expected to translate into repeat orders, new

market tie-ups and wider brand recall for Jammu and Kashmir's authentic handicrafts, handlooms, agro and food products in the months ahead.

Looking ahead to IITF 2026, JKTPO plans to further scale up participation from Jammu and Kashmir by onboarding a larger and more diversified pool of exhibitors, deepening sectoral representation and introducing new product lines aligned with emerging market trends. Efforts will focus on enhanced buyer outreach, more structured B2B meetings, digital and e-commerce integration, and stronger branding of Jammu and Kashmir's unique value propositions, ensuring that the Pavilion not only sustains but surpasses the current year's performance while creating wider and more durable market opportunities for stakeholders from the Union Territory.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONER ANANTNAG

Email: Dc-anantnagjk@gov.in

Phone/Fax: 01932-224514

Subject: Appointment Order for Contractual Engagement for the positions of SBDU/BHDs under Mission YUVA.

ORDER

In pursuance of Mission YUVA Operational Guidelines issued vide No. ED/Plan/Mission YUVA/233/368-414 dated 18-07-2025, and on the basis of the notification issued vide No. ADDCANG/2025-26/478-80 dated 23-7-2025 regarding temporary engagement of personnel for SBDU and BHD positions under Mission YUVA, it is hereby notified as follows:

A total of 292 applications were received through the Online Mission YUVA Portal against 21 No. of Vacancies/ posts, out of which 75 candidates were provisionally shortlisted through the Automatic Scrutiny System. Accordingly, this office issued a Public Notice vide No. ADDC/Ang/2025-26/811-14, dated 18-09-2025, directing the provisionally shortlisted candidates to present their original documents before the Oversight Committee and to submit the required documents in the office of the Deputy Director Employment, Anantnag, for cross-verification of their merit.

After detailed verification of credentials, 46 candidates were shortlisted by the District Selection Oversight Committee for interview. Subsequently, this office issued an Interview Notification vide No. ADDC/Ang/2025-26/1034-1035 dated 18-10-2025, and interviews were conducted on 25-10-2025 at the Conference Hall, DC Office Complex, Anantnag. Out of the shortlisted candidates, 43 candidates appeared before the Interview Committee.

Further, the Merit List of interviewed candidates was put in Public Domain vide No. ADDC/ANG/ 2025-26/1103-05, Dated 07-11-2025, calling for objections, if any. A total of 13 representations/objections were received within the stipulated time and the same were placed before Oversight Committee on 21/11/2025 for the final decision. After thoroughly examining the grievances received the grievance of one applicant namely, Aaliya Jan was found genuine & hence addressed by the committee.

It is pertinent to mention here that as per the guidelines only 12 candidates securing 40 points excluding Interview Points (Qualifying Criteria) have qualified for Final Selection. Furthermore, 9 posts are still vacant & have been re-advertised vide No: ADDC/ANG/2025-26/ 1201-04. Now, based on the recommendations of the District Selection Oversight Committee, Anantnag, sanction is hereby accorded to the appointment of the following candidates for contractual engagement under Mission YUVA against SBDU and BHD positions as indicated below:

List of Selected Candidates

S. No	Name	Father's Full Name	Address	Marks Obtained	Place of Posting	Post Selected for
1	Musharraf Farooq	Mohammed Amin Narchoor	114, Mahalla Sadak, Janglat Mandi, Anantnag	66.78	Anantnag	SBDU Lead
2	Majid Hussain Sheikh	Ab Rashid Sheikh	Trail Srigufwara Anantnag 192401	56.74	Pahalgam	BHD Lead
3	Sheikh Aatif	Tariq ahmad sheikh	Nusso Badragund	54.66	Dooru	BHD Lead
4	Jaspreet Singh	Darbari Singh	Bhai Mohalla Near Gurdawara	51.67	Kokernag	BHD Lead
5	Iqra Jan	Abdul satar gujri	Bemina	50.14	Anantnag	BHD Lead
6	Faisal Gulzar Mir	Gulzar Ahmad Mir	Dangerpora Nanil Anantnag	46.68	Bijbehara	BHD Lead
7	Aaliya Jan	Ghulam Mohamad Shan	Nowpora Dooru	46.53	Dooru	BHD Coordinator
8	Auqub Gulzar	Gulzar ahmad sofi	Lalan	45.84	Kokernag	BHD Coordinator
9	Mohammad Obeid Malik	Zahoor Ahmad Malik	Hanji Danter Anantnag	45.12	Pahalgam	BHD Coordinator
10	Subreena Mushtaq	Mushtaq Ahmad Wani	Iqbalabad KP road pehroo Anantnag	45.08	Anantnag	BHD Coordinator
11	Samreen Farooq	Farooq Ahmad Shah	Near Government Middle school	43.37	Anantnag	SBDU Coordinator
12	Kowsar khan	Gh Nabi Khan	Shirpora bala Anantnag	43.08	Anantnag	SBDU Coordinator

Nature of Engagement

The engagement shall be purely contractual and governed by Mission YUVA Operational Guidelines. The appointment shall not confer any right to permanent absorption or continuation beyond the approved project period.

1. Duration of Contract and Renewal

The initial engagement period shall be 11 months from the date of Joining.

Performance shall be reviewed as per predefined KPIs of Mission YUVA.

Renewal for an additional 11 months may be granted based on satisfactory performance and approval of the competent authority, subject to the project life cycle.

3. Roles and Reporting

> The selected personnel shall perform duties and report as prescribed in the Mission YUVA Operational Guidelines.

4. Terms and Conditions

1. The selected candidates shall report to the Assistant Director Employment, DE&CC Anantnag (Member Secretary Mission YUVA) within 07 days of issuance of this order, along with the following original documents for verification and completion of joining formalities:

- > Domicile Certificate
- > Date of Birth Certificate
- > All Qualification Certificates
- > Experience Certificates
- > Undertaking
- > Character Certificate issued by competent authority
- > Cross Verification of Salaries Drawn from respective companies

2. Failure to report within the stipulated time shall be treated as unwillingness to join, and the next eligible candidate from the waiting list shall be considered.

3. The selectee shall execute a contractual agreement outlining:

Terms of engagement and service conditions Roles, responsibilities, and deliverables Performance evaluation parameters

Compensation and payment terms

Disciplinary and termination clauses

4. Monthly consolidated remuneration shall be paid as per Mission YUVA norms, subject to verification of all documents.

5. Engagement shall be subject to verification of character, antecedents, and document authenticity.

6. The appointee shall maintain utmost integrity, discipline, and confidentiality in official duties.

5. Termination of Contract

The contract may be terminated at any time under the following circumstances:

> Poor performance or failure to meet KPIs

> Misconduct, indiscipline, or violation of code of conduct

> Submission of false or misleading documents

> Unauthorized absence exceeding seven consecutive working days

> Activities inconsistent with the objectives of Mission YUVA or involving political affiliations

The CEO Mission YUVA / Director Employment / SPV, on the recommendation of the District Nodal Officer, may terminate the services of any SBDU/BHD personnel at any time during the contract period, with appropriate notice as per the contractual agreement.

All other terms and conditions shall remain governed strictly under Mission YUVA Operational Guidelines for SBDU and BHD engagements.

Sd/-
District Development Commissioner
Anantnag

No: ADDC/Ang/2025-26/1217-22

Dated: 25/11/2025

DIPK-8456/25

DATED: 27-11-2025

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR SCHOOL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT CIVIL SECRETARIAT, J&K.

Subject: Verification of Character & Antecedents of the applicants who have applied for compassionate appointment case under SRO-43 of 1994.

Reference: O.M No. GAD-SRO/197/2025(7695043) dated 13.11.2025 from General Administration Department.

NOTICE

The applicant namely Ms. Afroza Akhter D/o Assad-Ullah Para Wd/o Naseer Ahmad Najar R/o Ranger, Tehsil Chadoora, District Budgam is hereby informed to submit her email ID and contact details in the office of Secretary to the Government, School Education Department Civil Secretariat Jammu in person, within a period of 21 days positively, for uploading/registering the same on the employees verification system (EVS), for obtaining the Character and Antecedents report from the Criminal Investigation Department, failing which she shall forfeit her right for appointment under Compassionate Appointment rules notified vid SRO-43 of 1994.

(Thanaji Bhat) Under Secretary to the Government
School Education Department

NO: EDU-SROK/44/2024-01(7534539)

DIPK-8411/25

Dated: 24-11-2025

DATED: 27-11-2025

NC losing public trust over key agendas: MP Ruhullah

RAJA SYED RATHER

Ganderbal, Nov 27: National Conference (NC) Member of Parliament (MP), Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi on Thursday said he has neither distanced himself from the party nor planned to form a new one. He, however, criticised the NC for failing to advance key agendas, including Article 370, the Waqf Bill, and reservations.

"The party should not adopt the language of the BJP," Ruhullah said while speaking to reporters during his visit to central Kashmir's Ganderbal district, where he interacted with locals to discuss their issues.

Mehdi reiterated his disagreement with the NC on the reservation issue and promises made during the 2024 Assembly elections. "We made promises to the people that we will fight for the return of protections linked to Article 370. We received votes on that. We cannot switch to a different language after getting that mandate," he said. "I have neither distanced myself from any party nor planned to form any new party. My disagreements with the National Conference are because we have to work on the political agendas for which we sought votes."

The MP Srinagar added, "We cannot speak the language of the BJP. More than a year has passed, but we have not worked on our agenda, have not worked in the name of Article 370, have not worked on the Waqf Bill, have not worked on the issue of reservations."

About the NC's Working Committee meeting, Ruhullah said he was unaware of it.



"I don't know which meeting is going on. I'm a permanent member of the Working Committee. This is the first time since 2002 that I have not been invited," he said.

Replying to a query on reports of him flouting a political party, the senior NC leader said he has not distanced himself to build a separate political platform. "I have not kept a distance from any party, nor have I spoken to anyone to form another party," he said. On the reservation issue, Ruhullah said students are losing opportunities due to delays. "More than a year has passed. If this matter remains unresolved after a month, I will again sit with the students until the issue is settled," he said.

He further said that the failure of mainstream parties to honour public trust would damage the entire political system. "If the party does not follow its own manifesto, it will lose people's trust, and losing trust is the biggest loss," he said.

Mehdi said his political stance is driven by principles and not

positions of power, a day after Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary advised him to raise his voice in Parliament and stop seeking the limelight.

Ruhullah said that people who lack discipline, principle, honesty, and loyalty in their politics are not even worthy of a response. "The Deputy CM left the PDP, and yet he advises me about principles and party. My fight is for principles, not for the chair. I have not changed the party and principles for the chair," he said. He added, "Two years ago, the Deputy CM was not in the National Conference, and sometimes aligned with the BJP, sometimes with the PDP. Wherever he gets the chair and opportunity, he goes there. Such people have no principles, no values, and no direction in their lives. My politics and my efforts are based on principles and values. That is why, if I have expressed disagreement with the party, it is based on principles, and not for the chair."

The Member Parliament also demanded immediate

Ruhullah not invited to CWC meet: CM's advisor

REHAN QAYOOM MIR

Srinagar, Nov 27: Chief Minister's Advisor and senior National Conference (NC) leader, Nasir Aslam Wani on Thursday said that Member Parliament Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi was 'not invited' to the ongoing Central Working Committee (CWC) meeting of the party in Srinagar.

Talking to reporters after the day one of the meeting, Wani said the two-day working committee session was still underway, with deliberations continuing on several key issues and resolutions expected to be framed after discussions conclude.

"It is too early to say anything right now. The working committee session is still going on for two days and discussions are in progress. We have a large number of members and so far, around 19-20 members have spoken," Wani said adding the session will continue tomorrow as well, after which resolutions will be framed," he said.

Asked whether Srinagar MP Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi was invited to the meeting, Wani replied briefly, "No, he was not invited." MLA Hazratbal, Salman Sagar said the meeting will strengthen both the party as well as government. "The Chief Minister sought firsthand feedback from MLAs and assured that all the issues would be addressed. The idea is to ensure better coordination between the party and the people so that people at the grassroots level ultimately are benefited. This meeting will strengthen both the party and governance structure," he said—(KNO)

compensation and a government job for the family of Bilal Ahmad Songoo, the sole breadwinner of his household, who was killed in the recent Delhi blast. He called the incident "a murder of humanity", saying that people from different religions, including Kashmiri Muslims, lost their lives and that no tragedy should be communalised.

Ruhullah said he has written to the Union Home

Minister seeking compensation and jobs for victims' families in recent incidents and will continue to pursue the matter. He also criticised recent demolition drives, claiming that even those who committed no violations were targeted. Referring to it as a "bulldozer model", the MP urged the administration to stop such actions and protect the rights and property of the people—(KNO)

Delhi Court permits Jailed Er Rashid to attend Parliament

SAJID RAINA

New Delhi, Nov 27 (KNO): A Delhi court on Thursday permitted Baramulla Member Parliament (MP), Abdul Rashid Sheikh, also known as Engineer Rashid, to attend the sixth session of the 18th Lok Sabha while remaining in custody.

According to details, the court said that the permission is subject to conditions imposed previously.

Additional Sessions Judge Prashant Sharma clarified that the cost of travel for Rashid would depend on the outcome of an ongoing appeal in the Delhi High Court.

Rashid has been lodged in Tihar jail since 2019 in connection with a terror funding case registered in 2017. He is represented by a team of advocates, including Vikhyat Oberoi, Nishita Gupta, Shivam Prakash, and Ravi Sharma.

On November 7, a division bench of the Delhi High Court delivered a split verdict regarding Rashid's plea to waive the cost of his security and travel arrangements while attending Parliament. The bench comprised Justices Vivek Chaudhary and Anup Bhambhani. Justice Chaudhary concluded that Rashid does not have any entitlement to attend parliamentary proceedings while in lawful custody.

Justice Bhambhani, in contrast, ruled that Rashid is only required to cover the expenses of transportation from jail to Parliament and back, including the costs of the



jail van and escort vehicle.

The police had estimated the total per-day cost for Rashid's attendance at approximately Rs 1.45 lakh, including charges for accompanying officers.

Justice Bhambhani stated that the state's demand for Rashid to pay for police personnel accompanying him is not justified.

Rashid was formally charged by a special NIA court in Delhi in March 2022 after the case was lodged in 2017.

Earlier in March 2025, the Delhi High Court allowed him to attend the Lok Sabha during the Budget session, subject to the condition that expenses related to his travel and other arrangements would be borne by him while he remained in state custody.

The court's decision ensures that Rashid can participate in parliamentary proceedings without being released from custody, while clarifying the financial obligations associated with his attendance—(KNO)

JK Govt to take up 'extortion' issue with Punjab

REHAN QAYOOM MIR

Srinagar, Nov 27: Days after the Kashmir Wholesale Mutton Dealers Association warned of a "fresh price hike" over alleged extortion and harassment at Punjab checkpoints, the Jammu and Kashmir Government on Thursday assured swift action with a joint high-level committee scheduled to take up the matter with Punjab authorities after the December 2.

Mehraj-ud-Din Ganai, General Secretary of the Association said that the delegation recently met senior, NC leaders and government officials who assured them of "immediate intervention."

"They assured us that a high-level committee will be formed and on December 2 (Tuesday), a delegation including Nasir Aslam Wani, the concerned Minister, Satish Sharma and an MLA, along with members of the mutton dealers' association, will proceed towards Punjab

to hold talks with the Government there to resolve the issue," Mehraj said.

He said, they are hopeful the delegation will meet Punjab Government officials and the issue will be resolved.

Notably, the development comes after weeks of tension, with dealers alleging "extortion" of Rs 10,000-15,000 per truck at Shambhu and Madhopur checkpoints. The association had earlier set November 27 as the deadline for government intervention, warning that mutton prices could soar to Rs 800 per kg if the issue persisted.

Earlier this year, similar harassment led to the suspension of livestock imports and the death of over 50 sheep due to delays and heat stress.

With the government now stepping in, the dealers have expressed "cautious optimism" but also warned that unless ground-level extortion stops, they will be forced to pass on the losses to consumers—(KNO)

DSEK's enrolment drive hits reality of poor infra

JAHANGEER GANAIE

Srinagar, Nov 27: As the school education department is conducting enrolment drives in Kashmir to attract more and more students towards government schools, several institutions in Tral sub-division of south Kashmir's Pulwama district are grappling with staff shortage and poor infrastructure.

As per the details, many government schools in Tral continue to reel under severe infrastructure deficiencies and acute staff shortages, leaving hundreds of students, mostly from economically weaker families, struggling for basic educational facilities.

Aggrieved parents and locals have urged the Education Minister to personally intervene and address what they describe as "years of neglect".

They said that despite multiple requests to authorities, several schools in Tral are functioning under extremely difficult conditions, with children studying in tin sheds, overcrowded classrooms, and buildings lacking even basic amenities.

At Middle School Tral-e-Bala, more than 70 students are forced



to attend classes in tin sheds, exposed to extreme heat in summer and freezing temperatures in winter. "It becomes unbearable for our children during harsh summers and even worse in the cold months," said Abdul Rashid, a concerned parent. "If the government can provide other facilities across the district, why can't they give our kids proper classrooms?" Teachers also expressed

helplessness, saying that teaching in such conditions directly affects learning outcomes.

The situation is similar at Government Middle School Lanzdun Branthpatri, where around 70 students from nine different classes are taught by only five teachers in just four rooms. "How can nine classes run in four rooms? Students end up disturbing each other because different subjects

are taught in the same space," said Shabir Ahmad, a local. "Our children deserve better than this."

At Government Middle School Gurtoo, 140 students are cramped into only three functional rooms. Parents said the shortage of both classrooms and staff has severely impacted the quality of education. "Our kids are bright, but how can they learn properly when they are squeezed into overcrowded rooms?" said Rafiq Begum, a mother of two. "The government should at least provide additional classrooms and appoint teachers where needed."

Schools in Satoora and Zarihad also face similar issues. GMS Satoora has around 150 students but is functioning with just six rooms. Locals said the infrastructure has not been upgraded for years. "It's the same story every year. Promises are made, but nothing changes," said Manzoor Ahmad, a resident of Satoora. "We urge the department to take our children's future seriously."

The most alarming condition has been reported from Gojer Basti Showjan Panzoo, where the school, functioning from nursery to class 8th in four rooms, has no

toilet facility whatsoever. "This is the only government school in the area without a toilet," said Ghulam Nabi, a local elder. "Girls especially suffer the most. How can a school run without something as basic as a washroom?"

Parents warn that the absence of a toilet not only affects hygiene but also discourages students, especially girls, from attending regularly.

Parents across these villages have appealed for immediate intervention by the Education Minister to ensure proper infrastructure, adequate staffing, and basic amenities. "We are not demanding anything extraordinary—just the fundamentals of a dignified education system," said Mohammad Yousuf, a parent. "We are poor people. The government schools are our only hope."

Locals said that unless urgent action is taken, the educational future of hundreds of children in Tral will continue to hang in the balance. They questioned the government's enrollment drives: "On what basis can they lure students when there is poor infrastructure and staff shortages?"—(KNO)

Shopian slaughterhouse delay angers residents

JAHANGEER GANAIE

Shopian, Nov 27: Residents of Shopian town have voiced strong resentment over the failure of authorities to commission the long-awaited slaughterhouse, despite its construction being completed months ago.

Locals said that the delay has caused inconvenience, health concerns, and raised questions about administrative inefficiency.

According to residents, the slaughterhouse project, taken up by the Municipal Council Shopian, was completed well within the stipulated timeframe — yet it remains non-functional, forcing butchers to continue slaughtering animals in open or

makeshift spaces.

Abdul Majid, a local from Jamia Market, expressed frustration over the unexplained delay. "We were told the slaughterhouse would start functioning immediately after completion. Months have passed, but the building is lying locked. If everything is ready, what is stopping the authorities from commissioning it?" he said.

Residents said the non-commissioning has not only defeated the very purpose of the project but also affected hygiene standards in the town. Shabir Ahmad, who runs a shop near the main market, said the delay has created more problems than solutions. "Animals are still being slaughtered in the open. Waste is dumped wherever

possible. The whole point of constructing a modern slaughterhouse was to maintain hygiene, but nothing has changed on the ground," he said.

Locals argue that the absence of a functional, regulated facility poses risks to public health, especially with rising concerns about sanitation in urban areas.

Several residents also questioned the lack of communication from the concerned departments.

Abdul Hamid, a local, said: "We appreciate that the structure was completed quickly, but what is the use if it is not commissioned? Authorities

must come forward and explain what is causing the delay."

The residents urged the district administration and the Municipal Council to remove all hurdles,



whether administrative, technical, or manpower-related, at the earliest—(KNO)

ACB files DA case against director SMG

KNO

Srinagar, Nov 27: The Jammu & Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) has registered a major Disproportionate Assets (DA) case against director for State Motor Garages (SMG) Malik Tahir Gani, following a secret verification that reportedly uncovered massive properties, bank holdings, and commercial assets allegedly far exceeding his known sources of income. In a statement, the official said that based on a specific input, a secret verification was conducted by Anti-Corruption Bureau into the allegations of possession of huge disproportionate assets by Malik Tahir Gani, S/O Abdul Gani Malik, R/O H. No. 185-A, Sanat Nagar, Srinagar A/P Q. No.55-C Gandhi Nagar, Jammu presently posted as Director, State Motor Garages, J&K.

The verification revealed that the suspect while posted in different places/departments like ARTO Anantnag, Pulwama and Director State Motor Garages J&K has raised huge assets in the shape of plots, houses, shops, shopping complexes, bank accounts etc in his name as

well as in the name of his family members/relatives which were found highly disproportionate to his known sources of income. On the basis of the verification conducted, a prima facie case of criminal misconduct was found made out against the accused Malik Tahir Gani, Director State Motor Garages, J&K under offences punishable U/S 13(1)(b) r/w section 13 (2) of PC Act 1988. Accordingly, a formal case FIR No. 11/2025 was registered at P/S ACB Central for investigation. During the course of investigation, search warrants were obtained for conducting searches from the Hon'ble court of Special Judge Anti-Corruption Jammu. Thereafter, searches were conducted by the ACB teams at 04 different locations which include his residential houses at Sanat Nagar Srinagar, residential house at Hyderpora Srinagar, residential quarter at 55-C Gandhi Nagar, Jammu and official premises at New Plot, Jammu. During the course of search incriminating material was recovered and seized as evidence in the instant case.

Further investigation of the case is going on, statement added—(KNO)

EDITORIAL

Friday Brief: Gheebah – Eating The Flesh Of A Dead Brother

Of all the moral failings that can corrode a community, backbiting, known in Arabic as Gheebah, is one of the most insidiously common. It is the social poison we often indulge in while considering it a harmless pastime. Yet, the Quran and Hadith present a starkly different and profoundly sobering perspective on this act, defining it in the most vivid terms to jolt the believer into awareness. The Quran delivers one of

the most powerful analogies for backbiting in Surah Al-Hujuraat: “And do not backbite one another. Would one of you like to eat the flesh of his dead brother? You would detest it” (49:12). This imagery is intentionally shocking. To speak ill of an absent person is spiritually equivalent to consuming their dead flesh - a notion that is universally revolting. This comparison strips away the casual veneer of gossip, revealing it as a vile and parasitic act

that preys on the honour and dignity of another human being. The Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him) further elaborated on its gravity. He was once asked, “O Messenger of Allah! What is backbiting?” He replied, “It is to mention about your brother something that he would dislike.” When asked if the fault must be real to constitute backbiting, he clarified, “If what you say about him is true, then you have backbitten him. If it

is not true, then you have slandered him,” which is an even greater sin. This Prophetic definition is profoundly comprehensive. It is not about the truth of the statement, but about the violation of a person's right to their reputation and privacy. It is a betrayal of trust that fractures the bonds of brotherhood and sows seeds of enmity and suspicion within the community. In a world saturated with social media and instant communication,

the temptation to engage in Gheebah is ever-present. The divine guidance, however, remains our moral compass. Guarding our tongues from backbiting is an active affirmation of faith, a protection of communal harmony, and a fulfilment of the rights we owe to one another as members of a single, dignified humanity. It is a direct command to embody the respect for human dignity that Islam so emphatically champions.

Asian Youth Games 2025: A Record-Breaking Run For India's Young Athletes

Press Information Bureau

Origins and Evolution of the Asian Youth Games

The Asian Youth Games (AYG) created under the aegis of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), nurtures the next generation of Asian sporting talent to help them compete internationally and also provide a stepping stone towards larger events. Born from Singapore's ambitious bid to host the 2010 Summer Youth Olympics, the Games were envisioned as more than just a sporting competition, they were designed as a comprehensive platform for youth development, cultural exchange, and sporting excellence.

In 2008, the OCA's Executive Board unanimously approved Singapore's hosting of the inaugural edition, with all 45 member nations endorsing the decision on April 6, 2008.[1] This marked the beginning of the multi-sport event, specifically targeting athletes aged 14 to 18 years.[2]

For India, the Asian Youth Games represent far more than a continental sporting competition, they symbolise our nation's commitment to nurturing young talent and building a robust pipeline for future Olympic champions.

Tracing India's Progress in the Asian Youth Games

India's journey across the three editions of these Games tells a compelling story of systematic improvement, enhanced support structures, and the transformative impact of government initiatives in grassroots sports development.

Asian Youth Games: Singapore 2009 (June 29 - July 7, 2009)

The inaugural edition in Singapore brought together young athletes from across Asia in what was described as a celebration of youth, sports, and learning. According to the Olympic Council of Asia, the Games featured 1,321 athletes across 9 sports in over 90 sporting events.[3]

India's debut at the Asian Youth Games in Singapore yielded 11 medals- five gold, three silver, and three bronze, this performance placed India 11th in the overall standings, a respectable showing that established the nation's presence on the youth sporting stage.

Asian Youth Games: Nanjing, China 2013 (August 16- August 24, 2013)

The second edition in Nanjing, China, marked a significant expansion of the event's scope and scale. The Games featured 2,314 athletes competing across 16 sports in 122 events.[4]

At the second Asian Youth Games, India made a strong impression with a well-rounded performance across multiple disciplines.

Indian athletes bagged 14 medals- three Gold, four Silver, and seven Bronze, securing 10th place in the overall standings.

The 2013 Games highlighted India's expanding and increasingly diverse talent base, as young athletes ventured into new disciplines and performed more competitively on the Asian stage.

Asian Youth Games: Manama, Bahrain 2025 (October 22- October 31, 2025)

After more than a decade, the Asian Youth Games returned in a spectacular fashion. The event brought together over 4,000 young athletes from all 45 Asian nations competing across 26 sports.

Marking a historic milestone, India delivered its best-ever performance at the Asian Youth Games 2025, winning 48 medals – 13 Gold, 18 Silver, and 17 Bronze – to finish 6th overall.

The Indian contingent of 229 athletes (107 men and 122 women), supported by 90 officials, showcased the nation's growing inclusivity in youth sports.

India delivered exceptional performances across multiple disciplines at the Asian Youth Games 2025.

The nation topped the medal tally in Beach Wrestling with three Gold and two Silver, while Wrestling added three Gold, two Silver, and two Bronze to the overall count.

Boxing emerged as India's most successful discipline in terms of gold medals, contributing four Gold, two Silver, and one Bronze.

In Kabaddi, both the boys' and girls' teams remained unbeaten throughout the tournament, clinching gold medals in the sport's debut appearance at the Games.

Overall, India's 48-medal haul was more than four times the 2009 tally and over three times the 2013 count, cementing the nation's place among Asia's top sporting powers and making Manama 2025 a defining chapter in India's youth sports journey.

Asian Youth Games 2025: Gender Parity and Participation

A remarkable highlight of India's participation at this year's Asian Youth Games was the strong gender balance within the team. Of the 229 athletes, 122 were female and 107 male, marking a notable instance where women outnumbered men in a major multi-sport international event. This highlighted the increasing inclusivity and

empowerment of young female athletes in the country.

In the category of medals, girls won 9 gold, 11 silver, and 6 bronze medals, totaling 26 medals, which accounts for 54.17% of the total medals. Boys secured 4 gold, 7 silver, and 8 bronze medals, making a total of 19 medals, representing 39.58%. The mixed category did not have any gold or silver medals but won 3 bronze medals, totaling 3 medals, which is 6.25% of the total medals.

Female athletes accounted for over half of India's total medals and an even higher share of gold medals (69.23%). This remarkable trend underscores the growing strength of India's women athletes, nurtured through consistent opportunities and structured support at the grassroots levels.

NOTE: Out of 77 medal winning athletes, 46 were female, 31 were male.

Official Recognition and Support
India's historic performance this year received widespread recognition from the highest offices.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated the contingent, stating: "Our young athletes have scripted history at the Asian Youth Games 2025 with their best-ever performance, winning an impressive 48 medals. Congrats to the contingent. Their passion, determination and hard work are clearly visible. My best wishes for their future endeavours." [5]

The Indian Olympic Association also announced substantial cash rewards for athletes and coaches, recognising their achievement:

Gold medalists- 5 lakh rupees each
Silver medalists- 3 lakh rupees each

Bronze medalists- 2 lakh rupees each
Fourth-place finishers- 50 thousand rupees each

Coaches of medal-winning athletes- 1 lakh rupees each

Both the boys' and girls' kabaddi teams- 10 lakh rupees each in recognition of their outstanding performances.

Indian Olympic Association (IOA) President P.T. Usha stated: "The Indian Olympic Association takes immense pride in the exemplary performance of our young athletes at the 3rd Asian Youth Games. Their achievements reflect the future of Indian sport and the potential that lies within our youth. The IOA remains fully committed to providing every possible support to nurture and develop this emerging talent." [6]

Conclusion

India recorded its best-ever performance at the 2025 Asian Youth Games winning 48 medals, surpassing previous tallies from 2009 and 2013. This represents more than statistical growth—it reflects systematic transformation in youth sports infrastructure, coaching quality, athlete support systems, and competitive mindset.

With the next Asian Youth Games scheduled for 2029 in Uzbekistan, India's trajectory suggests continued improvement is not just possible but probable. The foundation laid through comprehensive government support via the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Sports Authority of India programs including Khelo India and Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) Development, and the involvement of National Sports Federations has created an ecosystem conducive to sustained excellence.

How To Measure Climate Progress

Ending reliance on oil, coal, and gas, and embracing technologies that will only improve and become cheaper over time, is not just smart climate policy. It is the best way to improve economic competitiveness and human prosperity for decades to come.

Gernot Wagner

Try putting yourself in Bill Gates's shoes. You could spend your days on what made you one of the world's richest people while also deploying your wealth to do the most good. You could invest in for-profit ventures pursuing things like clean-energy breakthroughs, or in effecting changes in policy. And to mark your 70th birthday, you could publish an essay that would quickly become a global news story.

Gates has done it all. His essay, "Three Tough Truths About Climate," sent a shockwave through the climate movement on the eve of this year's United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30) in Belém, Brazil. But the essay is less blueprint than Rorschach test, because anyone can selectively quote from its 5,000 words to support a wide variety of viewpoints.

Like many such documents, this one begins with a strawman. In a move more typical of the Breakthrough Institute, a California-based group founded on the premise that environmentalism harms the climate cause, Gates rejects the "doomsday" argument that "nothing matters more than limiting the rise in temperature." Little does – but Gates chose to go with "nothing," a much stronger word.

He then argues that climate change, though a "serious" problem, "will not be the end of civilization." But supercharged storms and other climate-driven disasters are already upending lives and livelihoods. Of the five recorded storms severe enough to warrant the proposed "category 6" classification, all have happened in the past 15 years.

Moreover, we are not dealing only with massive, headline-grabbing extremes and global tipping points (irreversible



planetary changes). There are also the pernicious, often hidden "slow burn" effects, like the 0.04% loss in annual payroll for one additional day above 32°C (90°F) in any given year. Such costs add up quickly. To point out that we can still live with average global warming below 3°C is hardly reassuring, especially for the poor and vulnerable who already suffer the most.

Gates's reasoning on this socioeconomic dimension is understandable. His second and third tough truths focus on human suffering and prosperity, and these are indeed the criteria against which climate progress should be measured. Annual greenhouse-gas emissions, their atmospheric concentrations, the resulting warming, and effects like rising seas and

more devastating storms are all ultimately proxies for lives that will be disrupted or even ended prematurely.

Climate change kills. Economists can now calculate the mortality cost of carbon. Each ton of CO2 emitted today kills around 0.0002 people. Again, such costs can add up quickly. The lifetime emissions generated by every 3.5 Americans today will kill one person by the end of the century.

True, many people already die from other preventable causes. Gates himself has called out US President Donald Trump's administration for cutting aid funding in ways that will kill children in some of the poorest parts of the world. In an effort to make up for some of the shortfall with his own foundation and personal wealth,

Gates has reduced his giving for climate programs and investments, both in the US and globally.

No one doubts that there are only so many philanthropic dollars to go around. But climate finance goes well beyond charity, as Gates shows by his own actions. His own total public health and climate funding have increased over time. "Funding," in this case, includes support for Breakthrough Energy (which has no relation to the Institute), which has invested in more than 150 companies that need help scaling up climate technologies by driving down the "green premium" (the added costs of low-carbon technologies relative to high-carbon ones that pay nothing for their negative externalities).

Reducing this premium is necessary for many early-stage startups that have yet to climb the learning curve and benefit from economies of scale. Fortunately, there are plenty of other climate technologies that are already in the money. Solar power's rapid growth over the past half-decade is the result of economics, not benevolence. The same goes for battery prices, which have fallen by about 50% since 2010.

While other low-carbon technologies still command a green premium, most are trending toward profitability. Still, we need creative thinking to help them get there. Co-production helps. A company focused on a single product might lose against incumbents, but spreading the green premium across two or more products can cut costs significantly. The Gates-funded company Brimstone, for example, focuses both on producing lower-carbon cement and on making money from the alumina extracted in the production process. Sublime, a rival cement startup, is pursuing a similar strategy. (I recently co-authored a study with

Brimstone's CEO, Cody Finke, and a half-dozen colleagues, including an employee of another Gates-funded venture, on precisely this point.)

Patience helps, too. Back when Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney was the governor of the Bank of England, he poignantly described the climate as a "tragedy of the horizon." Too many businesses feel compelled to focus on short-term earnings, just as political leaders are unable to think beyond election cycles. But some of Gates's climate investments, like those in the next-generation nuclear company TerraPower, and especially his investments in Commonwealth Fusion, are deliberately structured to yield returns years or even decades from now.

Supportive policies help, such as the explicit carbon prices and decarbonization targets in the European Union, or the subsidies that are more prominent in the United States. The key, in each case, is to provide long-term investment certainty. This is an area where Gates's essay is especially weak. While Gates fully recognizes the importance of policy, he has created an opening for those, like Trump, who put their personal, short-term gain first.

But make no mistake: the benefits of shifting away from fossil fuels far outweigh the costs. Gates clearly understands that. Clean energy is about sovereignty, energy security, equity, and, yes, future competitiveness. Ending reliance on oil, coal, and gas, and embracing technologies that will only become better and cheaper over time, is not just smart climate policy. It is the best way to improve economic competitiveness and human prosperity for decades to come.

Gernot Wagner is a climate economist at Columbia Business School

Source: Project Syndicate

The views expressed by contributors on this page are their own and do not necessarily reflect the policies or positions of the newspaper

KU team completes first Kashmiri translation of Constitution of India

KT News Desk

Srinagar, Nov 27: On the eve of the Constitution Day, the President of India, Droupadi Murmu, released translated versions of the Constitution in nine Indian languages— Malayalam, Marathi, Nepali, Punjabi, Bodo, Kashmiri, Telugu, Odia and Assamese at Samvidhan Sadan, New Delhi.

Among these, the Constitution of India has been translated into the Kashmiri language for the first time, marking a historic moment for the region and its linguistic heritage.

The Kashmiri translation, as per a statement issued on Thursday, has been carried out by a team from the University of Kashmir (KU) under the Ministry of Law, Government of India, and executed through the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysore.

The project, initiated in September 2023 and completed in March 2025, was coordinated by Prof. Aejaz Mohammad Sheikh, Professor, Department of Linguistics;



Head, Department of Urdu; and Dean, School of Arts, Languages & Literature.

The translation and review team included Afaq Aziz: Centre of Central Asian Studies, University of Kashmir. Basher Bashir: Shaikh-ul-Aalam Centre for Multidisciplinary Studies,

University of Kashmir. Ghulam Nabi Haleem: Department of School Education, Government of Jammu & Kashmir. Ifitikhar Hussain Bhat: Department of Law, University of Kashmir. Irshad Shamsi: Department of Higher Education, Government of Jammu & Kashmir. Khurshid

Ahmad Mir: Department of Higher Education, Government of Jammu & Kashmir. Mir Junaaid Alam: Department of Law, University of Kashmir. Mir Mubashir Altaf: Department of Law, University of Kashmir. Ratan Lal Talashi: Department of Kashmiri, University of Kashmir. Satish Vimal: All India Radio Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir.

Vice-Chancellor KU, Prof. Nilofer Khan, who keenly monitored and supported the work throughout, congratulated the team for completing this nationally significant assignment.

"This is a moment of immense pride for the University and for the people of Jammu & Kashmir. Bringing the Constitution into Kashmiri will greatly strengthen constitutional awareness and linguistic inclusion. I commend the team for their scholarly dedication and hard work," she said.

The University extends its appreciation to all contributors and reiterates its commitment to advancing academic excellence, multilingual scholarship and national development.

Rana reviews implementation of Rs 80 Cr development projects in Mendhar

KT News Desk

MENDHAR, NOVEMBER 27: A day after unveiling and laying foundation stones for developmental projects worth Rs 80 crore in Mankote Block, Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, Thursday convened a comprehensive review meeting at Mendhar to assess the implementation roadmap for the same.

The Minister also assessed progress on several ongoing works across the division.

The meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioner Development, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Executive Engineers of Jal Shakti, PWD, PMGSY, REW and PDD, Deputy Chief Education Officer and the Block Development Officers of Mendhar, Balakote and Mankote who briefed the Minister on the status of various projects initiated under their respective departments.

The Minister emphasized that it is imperative that all the departments work in close coordination to ensure time-bound, transparent and quality-oriented execution of the sanctioned works. He underscored



that projects related to road connectivity, drinking water supply, education infrastructure, public utilities and sports facilities carry immense importance for the socio-economic advancement of the people living in the remote and border belts of Mendhar subdivision. Any delays, he said, would directly impact public welfare.

Rana directed the officers to promptly identify and address bottlenecks, streamline tendering and administrative processes and maintain regular field supervision so that works progress efficiently on the ground. He also called for periodic joint reviews between the departments to tackle interlinked issues, especially those concerning land clearance, electricity shifting, water pipelines and road alignments.

To ensure accountability, the Minister instructed the officers

to establish a strengthened monitoring mechanism involving weekly progress reports, on-site inspections and adherence to technical standards. He reiterated the government's commitment towards maintaining the highest levels of transparency and quality in public works.

Rana reaffirmed that the developmental roadmap rolled out for Mendhar is part of a broader vision of the government led by Omar Abdullah, aimed at transforming the underserved and geographically challenging regions into vibrant and self-sustaining zones of growth. He added that the projects inaugurated and launched earlier represent only the first phase and further interventions would follow in a systematic manner to ensure that each village receives equitable attention in terms of infrastructure, services and opportunities.

DC Srinagar inspects upgradation works at GDC Eidgah

Orders immediate start of Phase-II

KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 27: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo Thursday visited Memorial Government Degree College at Eidgah to review the progress of ongoing infrastructure upgradation works being executed under various developmental initiatives.

During the visit, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mir Imtiyaz Ul Aziz, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, Principal GDC Eidgah, Prof. Deebea Sarmad, Executive Engineer Water Works Divisions, Aijaz Ahmad Executive Engineer R&B Core, Arif Rehman Hazari, Tehsildar Eidgah, Mohammad Iqbal Zargar and other Officers and Engineers accompanied the Deputy Commissioner.

On the occasion, the DC, as per an official statement, inspected the works executed under phase first on the Rs 13 crore project for the construction of Academic-cum-Administrative Block of the College.

He assessed the quality and pace of execution and



emphasized the importance of making the new facilities functional at the earliest for the benefit of students and staff.

The DC also reviewed the preparations for the second phase of infrastructure development, which includes the construction of a boundary wall, landscaping, development of the approach road and other allied works. He directed the executing agency to initiate these works immediately, ensuring timely completion in line with the approved plan.

Further, the DC instructed the concerned officers to prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for water and power supply connections to the newly created blocks of the College. He stressed that essential utilities must be completed promptly so that all new facilities can be made operational at the earliest.

DC Budgam inspects new drug de-addiction centre

Calls for holistic rehabilitation

KT News Desk

BUDGAM, NOVEMBER 27: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam Dr. Bilal Mohiud-Din Bhat Thursday conducted a detailed visit to the newly established Drug De-addiction Centre in Budgam to assess the facilities, infrastructure, and overall preparedness of the institution.

During the inspection, the DC, as per an official statement, was briefed about the ongoing arrangements, availability of medical care, and initiatives being taken to establish a safe and supportive environment for individuals undergoing treatment for substance dependence. A thorough review of infrastructure, patient wards, counselling rooms, and medical support systems was carried out.

While interacting with the concerned officers and staff, it was emphasised by the DC that trained and professional personnel are essential for effectively managing patients



battling addiction. It was stressed that the staff must be properly skilled, sensitised, and equipped to handle patients with compassion, patience, and discipline.

The DC instructed the concerned authorities to ensure the availability of all basic amenities, essential medicines, clinical support, and a hygienic atmosphere within the centre. It was directed that the centre function proactively so that every patient receives uninterrupted care, counselling, and medical attention.

Highlighting the importance of holistic treatment, the DC also called for the provision of adequate recreational, motivational, and therapeutic facilities for patients

undergoing rehabilitation.

It was conveyed to the DC that such facilities significantly aid psychological recovery and help create a positive mindset for long-term healing.

The DC noted that the newly established Drug De-addiction Centre is poised to become an important pillar in the district's efforts to combat substance abuse. He further added that the administration remains committed to strengthening de-addiction, counselling, and rehabilitation mechanisms to safeguard youth and promote a healthy, drug-free society.

SDM Beerwah, ACD Budgam, DSWO, CMO Budgam and other concerned officials accompanied the DC.

DC Kulgam reviews RDD progress, stresses timely completion of works

KT News Desk

KULGAM, NOVEMBER 27: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan Thursday chaired a comprehensive review meeting of the Rural Development Department and Panchayati Raj (RDD&PR) at the Mini Secretariat to assess the functioning, progress, and implementation status of various schemes across the district.

During the meeting, the DC, as per an official statement, took a detailed review of progress under major programmes and schemes including District Capex, CDF, MGNREGA, PMAY-G, SBM, RGSA, and other initiatives.

The chair was informed that under MGNREGA, 22,683,032 person-days have been generated so far.

He instructed concerned officers to complete the eKYC of workers and improve coverage under social security schemes.

Reviewing the progress under PMAY-G, the DC was apprised that out of 5,867 sanctioned units, 5,515 units have been completed. While reviewing the District Capex budget, the DC instructed officers to ensure timely completion of all works and expedite pending estimates.

He also reviewed progress in solid waste management, including door-to-door waste collection. Underscoring the importance of field monitoring, the DC stressed maximum onsite inspections to ensure quality standards.

Kupwara hosts Mobile Passport Seva Camp to ease citizen access

KT News Desk

KUPWARA, NOVEMBER 27: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Shrikant Suse Thursday inaugurated a mobile Passport Seva camp at D. C Office Complex Kupwara, ensuring convenient access to essential citizen services.

ACR Kupwara, Peerzada Mumtaz Ahmad and Regional Passport Officer (RPO), B.S Rawat were present on the occasion.

The camp has been organized in coordination with the Regional Passport Office (RPO) Srinagar with the objective of providing hassle-free passport application and verification services to residents of



Kupwara district. This initiative aims to reduce the burden on applicants who otherwise had to travel long distances for passport-related processes.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC highlighted the administration's commitment to improving citizen-centric

services and bringing governance to people's doorsteps. He noted that the Passport Seva Camp will particularly benefit students, job seekers, and individuals needing timely passport issuance for travel, education, employment, and other urgent needs.

JKRLM, Handicrafts Dept hold Artisan Registration Camp in Pulwama

KT News Desk

PULWAMA, NOVEMBER 27: The Jammu & Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission (JKRLM), in convergence with the Handicrafts Department Pulwama, successfully conducted an Artisans Registration Camp for the Women Self Help Group (SHG) members at Wasimarg, Pulwama.

The camp was organised with the objective of formalising artisan identities, enabling access to government schemes, skill development opportunities, and market linkages for rural women artisans engaged

in traditional crafts.

The programme, as per an official statement was held in the presence of Assistant Handicrafts Training Officer (AHTO) Pulwama, and District Programme Manager (Livelihoods) JKRLM Pulwama and other employees from Handicraft department.

All officers interacted with the SHG members and highlighted the importance of artisan registration in strengthening livelihood opportunities under the Mission.

Speaking on the occasion, AHTO appreciated the

craftsmanship of the SHG women and assured continuous support from the Handicrafts Department for training, certifications, and promotional platforms.

District Programme Manager (Livelihoods) JKRLM, emphasized that such camps bring government services to the doorsteps of rural women, ensuring their inclusion, empowerment, and recognition as skilled artisans.

A large number of SHG members from the Village level organisation participated in the camp and availed on-spot registration services.

DDMA conducts earthquake mock exercise at GDC Shopian

KT News Desk

SHOPIAN, NOVEMBER 27: District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) Shopian Thursday conducted a District Level Mock Exercise on Earthquake and Other Disasters at Government Degree College Shopian.

The exercise, as per an official statement was aimed at strengthening the district's disaster preparedness, response capabilities and coordination among various line departments through training and practical demonstration of frontline staff of departments.

The mock exercise was



conducted by a 30-member team of NDRF, supported by trainers from the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and experts from the Fire & Emergency Services Department.

The trainers demonstrated rescue techniques, evacuation procedures, emergency response protocols and community preparedness measures relevant to earthquake scenarios.

J&K Bank Board approves capital raise of Rs 1250 Cr to support future growth

KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 27: J&K Bank has announced that the Board-of-Directors, in a meeting held on 26th November 2025, has approved raising capital aggregating up to Rs 1250 Crore to strengthen the Bank's balance sheet and support its future growth plans.

In a regulatory filing, the Bank, as per an official statement said that the capital raise comprises Rs 750 Crore of Equity Share Capital through Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP) in one or more tranches and Rs 500 Crore through issuance of Non-Convertible, Redeemable, Unsecured, BASEL III-compliant Tier 2 bonds in the nature of debentures on a private placement basis, subject to applicable regulatory approvals.

Commenting on the Board's decision, MD & CEO Amitava Chatterjee said, "The approval to raise fresh capital



underscores the Board's confidence in the Bank's trajectory and strengthens our ability to pursue calibrated growth. The infusion will further enhance our capital adequacy, support business expansion across key sectors, enhance our ability to absorb risk thereby reinforcing our long-term commitment to improved asset quality, profitability, and shareholder value."

He further added, "The leadership remains focused on building a strong, resilient and future-ready Bank by strengthening its ability to grow sustainably while meeting future business and regulatory requirements."

DC Kupwara flags off Girls Trekking Camp to Nowgam

KT News Desk

KUPWARA, NOVEMBER 27: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Shrikant Suse, Thursday flagged off a Girls Trekking Camp to Nowgam, Handwara from the DC Office Kupwara.

The flag-off ceremony, as per an official statement was attended by ACR Kupwara, Peerzada Mumtaz Ahmad, ASP Kupwara, Javid Ahmad, along with officials from the District Youth Services & Sports Office.

The trekking camp has been organised by the Youth Service & Sports department Kupwara with the objective of encouraging young girls to explore adventure sports, build confidence, and develop a healthy connection with nature. The participants will trek through the picturesque landscapes of

Nowgam, Bangus, known for its serene environment and rich biodiversity.

Speaking on the occasion, DC Kupwara highlighted the importance of such outdoor camps in shaping the personality of young participants, stating that adventure activities play a key role in promoting discipline, teamwork, and resilience among youth. He also appreciated the efforts of the Youth Services & Sports Department for consistently organizing meaningful and youth-centric programs.

This initiative is part of the Youth Services & Sports Department's annual activity calendar for 2025, which includes a series of programs aimed at enhancing youth participation in sports, adventure, and cultural activities across the district.

CS advocates robust lifelong skilling ecosystem for J&K

Discusses mega skilling ‘Action Plan’ for youth with key stakeholders

KT News Desk

Jammu, Nov 27: Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo on Thursday convened a high-level meeting of concerned officers and academicians to deliberate upon the proposed action plan of the Skill Development Department (SDD) for initiating a comprehensive mega skilling programme for the population of Jammu & Kashmir in the productive age group of 18–39 years.

The meeting, held to chart out a structured roadmap for transforming J&K into a skilled and employment-ready workforce hub, was attended by Additional Chief Secretary, Higher Education Department; Principal Secretary, Finance; Managing Director, J&K Bank; Vice Chancellor, BGSBU; Secretary, Skill Development; Secretary, School Education; Managing Director, Skill Development Mission; Director, SDD; senior faculty members and Deans from universities, IIT Jammu, and other eminent



academic and technical institutions, besides senior officers of the administration.

Speaking in the meeting, the Chief Secretary underscored the critical importance of creating a robust and sustainable platform for skilling the youth of J&K, describing skilling as a continuous and evolving process that cannot be achieved in a short span of time.

He maintained that establishing a strong foundational ecosystem would provide the necessary momentum and

allow gradual expansion and strengthening of skilling initiatives in future.

He emphasized the urgent need for a well-defined and targeted action plan to skill lakhs of individuals in the 18–39 age group, enabling them to enhance their employability and secure sustainable livelihoods.

Drawing parallels with sectors such as medicine and engineering, he highlighted how the creation of dedicated regulatory frameworks like NMC and AICTE, along with premier

institutions such as AIIMS, IITs and NITs, led to the systematic development of trained manpower and attracted private sector participation.

The Chief Secretary called for emulating a similar model in the skill development sector, stressing its alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. He underlined the necessity of defining clear roles for schools, colleges, universities, institutions of excellence like IITs, IIMs, AIIMS, and technical institutions such as ITIs and Polytechnics.

He further stressed that the success of this model should be measured through tangible outcomes, with strong linkage to employment whether through self-employment or private sector placements.

Participants from academic institutions and stakeholder departments shared valuable insights and assured their full cooperation by contributing resources, expertise and manpower to ensure the effective implementation and success

of the proposed action plan in accordance with its core objectives.

Secretary, Skill Development Department, Kumar Rajeev Ranjan, elaborated on the roadmap, stating that the proposed framework envisions skilling as a lifelong process beginning right from school education. He outlined a structured approach whereby students from Classes 6th to 9th would be imparted foundational vocational skills, followed by elective courses in Artificial Intelligence and Entrepreneurship from Classes 9th to 12th. This initiative aims to equip every learner with essential competencies required to thrive in the rapidly evolving global economy.

He further explained that at the collegiate level, a ‘Career Launchpad’ model would be introduced, offering minor skill-ing courses in digital and technology skills, business, finance, entrepreneurship, green energy, creative and design fields, complemented by soft skills, workplace readiness and structured placement support.

Why accident insurance cover only for those purchasing tickets online, SC asks railways



PTI

New Delhi, Nov 27: The Supreme Court has asked the Indian Railways to apprise it why an accident insurance cover is provided only to passengers purchasing tickets online and not to those booking tickets offline.

A bench of Justices Ahsanuddin Amanullah and K Vinod Chandran was told that the insurance cover is provided only to passengers purchasing tickets online to cover accidents.

Additional Solicitor General (ASG) Vikramjit Banerjee appeared in the court for the railways in the matter. “In addition, the amicus has pointed out that an insurance cover is provided to passengers purchasing tickets online to cover accidents,

which is not available to those who purchase tickets offline. Mr Banerjee is required to take instructions as to the reason for this distinction between the two modes of procurement of tickets,” the bench said in its order passed on November 25. The top court was hearing a matter concerning the Indian Railways.

The bench perused a report submitted by the national transporter and said at the initial stage, the focus should be on the safety of tracks and railway crossings, from which other aspects would emerge. It said the railways should continue carrying out its overall plan for the improvement of the system in its entirety. The court, which posted the matter for hearing on January 13, asked the railways to respond with regard to the insurance issue.

Worsening AQI in Mumbai: BMC says it has issued 53 stop-work notices to construction sites

PTI

Mumbai, Nov 27: The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation on Thursday said it has issued stop-work notices to 53 construction sites for contributing to air pollution, as the city is grappling with deteriorating Air Quality Index (AQI).

The civic body also directed that the air pollution guidelines laid down by it should be followed strictly. These include installing sensors to monitor AQI that remain operational all the time.

Ashwini Joshi, Additional Municipal Commissioner

(city), warned of strict action if AQI sensors were found to be non-operational.

Earlier in the day, the Bombay High Court said the authorities cannot blame ash clouds from the volcanic eruption in Ethiopia for the air pollution in India's financial capital as the AQI has been poor for long.

A bench of Chief Justice Shree Chandrashekhar and Justice Gautam Ankhad was urged to take up hearing of a bunch of pleas from 2023 on the issue of air pollution in the city. Senior counsels Darius Khambata and Janak Dwarkadas, appearing for the petitioners, said the AQI in

the city has been consistently poor and above 300 this month.

Additional government pleader Jyoti Chavan said air pollution has worsened due to the volcanic eruption in Ethiopia two days back.

The court, however, did not entertain the argument.

“Even before this eruption, if one stepped out visibility was poor beyond 500 metres,” the court said.

Referring to the situation in Delhi which is witnessing alarming levels of AQI, the HC asked what effective measures can be taken to address the issue.

“We are all seeing what is happening in Delhi. What is the effect of that,” the bench questioned, posting the matter for hearing on Friday.

Hayli Gubbi, a shield volcano in Ethiopia's Afar region, erupted on Sunday, producing a large ash plume that rose to around 14 km in the sky. The plume spread eastward across the Red Sea, and towards the Arabian Peninsula and the Indian subcontinent.

Shiv Sena MP Milind Deora wrote to the BMC Commissioner Bhushan Gagrani, urging him to take immediate and extraordinary action, including temporary halt to all digging and

construction sites until the air quality improves.

“Mumbai's air pollution crisis in no longer a seasonal issue --- it is a public health emergency. India needs a nationwide war and a national consensus against air pollution,” Deora said.

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Aaditya Thackeray said even as the AQI of Mumbai gets worse every day and Mumbai competes with Delhi on this score, the governments from top to bottom, currently controlled by the BJP and its allies, conveniently ignore the plight of the people.

“In Mumbai, builders and

contractors are a priority for the BJP government, while apart from the construction and demolition works, tree felling in the name of development is the new mantra of the BJP,” he alleged.

On its part, the civic body said various steps are being undertaken to address air pollution which includes forcing bakeries and crematoriums to use cleaner fuels, introducing electric buses, managing construction debris scientifically, and using machines for sprinkling water on roads to control dust.

In October last year, the BMC had issued 28 guidelines which include installing metal

fencing and green cloth covering around construction sites to control dust, carrying out water sprinkling, properly storing and transporting debris, installing air quality monitoring devices and setting up smoke absorption systems, among other measures.

To ensure compliances of these guidelines, flying squads have been formed, the civic body said.

The BMC added that as of November 26, it has issued 53 stop-work notices to construction sites contributing to air pollution. These included 17 in Siddharth Nagar (G-South ward), five in Mazgaon (E ward) and 31 in Malad West (P-North ward).

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

After ‘Operation Sindoor’

principle of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, shows that strategic autonomy can coexist with global responsibility, with the country prepared to defend its citizens while pursuing peaceful relations.

President Murmu welcomed the Indian Army's ongoing reforms under its ‘Decade of Transformation,’ aimed at modernizing structures, doctrines, and capabilities to remain future-ready across all operational domains.

She said these reforms would strengthen India's defence self-reliance and mission readiness.

The President also noted the Army's investment in youth and human capital through education, sports, and the expansion of the NCC, as well as the increasing participation of women officers and soldiers. According to her, these initiatives foster inclusion and inspire more young women to join the armed forces or pursue professional careers.

President Murmu said that the discussions at Chanakya Defence Dialogue-2025 would provide valuable insights to policymakers. She expressed confidence that the armed forces would continue striving for excellence, moving ahead with determination to achieve the vision of a ‘Viksit Bharat’ by 2047. (KNO)

PM Modi's 5s

approach — ‘Samman, Samvad, Sayog, Samridhi, and Suraksha’, meaning respect, dialogue, cooperation, prosperity and security, the general officer said.

It guides how the whole-of-nation ecosystem must deliberate, coordinate and act through the ‘Amrit Kal’ towards a Viksit Bharat,” he said.

He said the theme of Chanakya Defence Dialogue 2025 is “Reform to Transform: Sashakt and Aur Surakshit Bharat”.

Gen Dwivedi recalled the ‘Decade of Transformation’ vision earlier announced by the Army for the period 2023-2032, and outlined a three-phase plan to make it a future-ready force.

The phase one, ‘hop’, set the agenda for the journey of the force by 2032.

Phase two, for 2037 vision, is a five-year consolidated period, drawing on the gains from phase one, and phase three, ‘jump’, with a 2047 vision, to graduate to the next level of “integrated future-ready force design”, Gen Dwivedi said.

This trajectory has been further strengthened by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh earlier designating 2025 as the ‘Year of Reforms’ and it proved its merit in Operation Sindoor, where years of reforms and readiness, translated into “decisive outcomes”.

“So, as we carry this sovereign strategic success forward for future operations, and the larger aspirations of a Sashakt, Surakshit and Viksit Bharat, the real question before us is what must propel our next leap,” the Army Chief said.

He outlined a set of springboards that will drive the years of transformation ahead.

The first one is ‘atmanirbharta’, the self-reliance and empowerment through indigenisation.

The second one is accelerated innovation, he said, adding, “we must now move on from experimentation to enterprise-scale impact at a much faster pace in AI, cyber, quantum, autonomous systems, space and advanced materials.”

The other two springboards are adaptation and military-civil fusion.

Gen Dwivedi said he was confident that this conclave will deliver “actionable items”.

Senior officials of the Indian armed forces, and defence and strategic affairs experts from India and abroad, have gathered in Delhi for this two-day conclave hosted at the Maneksahw Centre in Delhi Cantonment. (KNO)

CS calls for

quality standards.

The meeting assessed the department's overall activities carried out under the mandates of the Food Safety and Standards Act (FSSA), highlighting significant progress in surveillance, inspections and legal action against violators.

Commissioner, Food & Drug Administration, SmethaSethi informed the meeting that the department has substantially intensified its surveillance operations. Against an annual target of 7,080 samples, the department has already lifted 10,620 surveillance samples, achieving over 150% of the target, reflecting a strong commitment toward consumer safety.

In terms of enforcement, Food Safety Officers conducted 1,423 Risk-Based Inspections and 13,944 Routine Inspections across the Union Territory. To ensure infrastructure and hygiene compliance, 943 Improvement Notices were issued to Food Business Operators (FBOs) under Section 32 of the FSS Act, surpassing the target of 625 notices.

The Chief Secretary was apprised that strict legal action is being taken against violators. Under the civil adjudication process (Section 30), a total of 718 prosecutions have been launched, of which 671 cases have already been decided, resulting in penalties amounting to Rs 84.33 lakhs. Additionally, 21 criminal cases pertaining to unsafe food have been filed, with convictions secured in 10 cases involving fines and imprisonment.

The meeting also reviewed the outcomes of special enforcement drives conducted during November. A dedicated drive on Ghee led to the seizure of 80.78 kg of stock. Of the 41 samples tested, 12 failed to meet quality standards. Consequently, Prohibition Orders have been issued against the manufacturers of the failed products and the information has been shared with FSSAI and concerned States including Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Gujarat for action at the source.

Similarly, a drive on Poly Pack Milk saw 95

samples tested, out of which only 2 failed, indicating high compliance levels. Meanwhile, 32 samples of Packaged Drinking Water were collected and their test reports are awaited.

The meeting further reviewed the department's roadmap for strengthening the food safety ecosystem in the UT. Key strategic decisions included upgrading laboratory infrastructure to enhance testing capabilities. The FSSAI-NABL integrated assessment for the State Food Testing Laboratory (SFTL), Jammu is scheduled within one month, while the upgradation of laboratories in Jammu and Srinagar for advanced antibiotic and microbiological testing is targeted for completion within three months.

Regarding expansion of infrastructure, proposals have been submitted for establishing two additional state-of-the-art food testing laboratories and procuring 10 more ‘Food Safety on Wheels’ mobile vans to enhance outreach and surveillance in remote and rural areas.

To enhance consumer awareness and promote responsible food practices, the department will roll out “Eat Right Initiatives” and structured training programmes for street food vendors across all districts within the next quarter.

The Chief Secretary directed the concerned officers to maintain strict vigil on the market, especially with regard to high-risk commodities, and expedite rationalisation and strengthening of enforcement staff to bridge manpower gaps. He emphasized that sustained vigilance, strong enforcement and public participation are essential to ensuring a safe and healthy food ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir.

PM, HM, NSA

guidance, including hosting it at diverse locations across the country.

The conference has been held in Guwahati (Assam), Rann of Kachchh (Gujarat), Hyderabad (Telangana), Tekanpur (Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh), Statue of Unity (Kevadiya, Gujarat), Pune (Maharashtra), Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh), New Delhi, Jaipur (Rajasthan) and Bhubaneswar (Odisha).

The conference being held under the overarching theme ‘Viksit Bharat: Security Dimensions’, will host detailed deliberations on key security issues such as left-wing extremism, counter-terrorism, disaster management, women's safety, and use of forensic science and artificial intelligence in policing, the official said.

He said the Prime Minister will also confer the President's Police Medals for Distinguished Service. (KNO)

Syed Qamar Sajad

government ordered has been issued ‘in the interest of administration’ with effect immediately. (KNO)

Kashmir parts record

Bandipora –4.5°C, Awantipora –4.0°C, while Anantnag and Pulwama registered –5.7°C and –5.8°C respectively. Shopian remained the coldest in the Valley at –6.5°C. Gulmarg settled at –1.0°C, and Zojila Pass reported the lowest overall reading at –16.0°C.

In the Jammu region, night temperatures also declined but largely stayed above freezing. Jammu recorded 8.7°C, Katra 8.5°C, Batote 4.0°C, Bhaderwah 0.4°C, Rajouri 2.0°C, and Udhampur 4.6°C. Jammu Airport registered 10.1°C, the highest minimum across both regions.

In Ladakh, the cold spell was more intense, with Leh recording –8.6°C, Kargil –9.5°C, and Nubra –7.7°C.

Faizan forecast mostly dry weather across Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh over the next 10 days.

He said that a weak Western Disturbance around 30 November may bring isolated snowfall over the upper reaches, followed by another weak system expected from December 5. (KNO)

Police carry out

Institute; Shahid Zahgeer, son of Abdul Salam of Buchpora Soura and associated with Ramzana Memorial School; Mohd Ramzan Naik alias Faheem, son of Ghulam Qadir Naik of Barhar Lalbazar; Bashir Ahmad Lone, son of Ab. Samad Lone of Syedpora Harwan; Peer Giyas Ud Din of Nowgam, linked to Falah Research Ramzan Centre; and Manzoor Ahmad of Nowgam Chowk.

In addition to residences and private establishments, searches were also carried out at institutions said to be associated with Jel ideology. These included Jamiat-ul-Banaat, Kashmir University, located at Umer Colony Lal Bazar; Rahat Manzil (JK Yateem Khana) at Bagh-i-Nand Singh Chattabal; Chinara Publication Trust at Maisuma; and Al-Kousar Book Shop, also in Maisuma, the officials said.

Srinagar Police said the searches were conducted strictly in accordance with legal procedures and in the presence of independent witnesses as mandated. Incriminating materials relevant to the ongoing investigation were seized from several locations and will undergo further examination.

Officials said the exercise is part of sustained efforts to prevent unlawful activities and ensure a secure atmosphere for the residents of Srinagar. Police added that further investigation is underway, and legal action will follow based on the findings.

Authorities urged the public to cooperate with law enforcement agencies and report any information or activity that could threaten public order.

In Awantipora, police conducted searches at multiple residential premises belonging to Jel members. Incriminating material and digital devices were recovered, and several individuals were questioned and bound down under the law.

In Handwara, acting on credible intelligence,

PM launches Skyroot's facility in Hyderabad, says Indian space sector attractive for investors

PTI

Hyderabad, Nov 27: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday virtually inaugurated Indian space startup Skyroot's Infinity Campus, here, and also unveiled the company's first orbital rocket Vikram-I, which has capability to launch satellites to orbit.

In his address, the PM highlighted the government's 'historic' space reforms and said that opening up the space sector to private players has resulted in Skyroot and others coming up with such innovations.

The PM said that today in India's space ecosystem, private sector was emerging with flying colours. Over 300 space startups were giving new hopes to the sector.

"The Infinity Campus is a reflection of India's new thought, innovation and the bigger youth power. Youth's innovation, risk taking-ability and entrepreneurship are touching new heights," the PM noted.

Today, the country's space sector was becoming attractive for global investors. India's private space talent was making its own identity across the globe.

"India's private space talent is making its own identity in the world. Today, India's space sector is becoming an attractive destination for global investors. Today, the demand for small satellites is increasing rapidly in the world," Modi said.

He traced the journey of the Indian space programme from its nascent stages-- where rocket parts were moved in a bicycle, to building the "most trusted launch vehicle."

The journey might have started with limited resources but the growth proved determination decides dreams, Modi said.

In these changing times, space sector is expanding so much, covering the areas of communication, weather prediction, urban planning and national security, among others.

"So that is why we have made



historic reforms in space sector, opened it up to the private sector, made new space policy. Startups and industry were linked with innovation, set up In-Space," he said.

He further said plans were there to open up the nuclear sector also to private players.

Skyroot's state-of-the-art facility will have around two lakh sq.ft. workspace for designing, developing, integrating and testing multiple launch vehicles, with a capacity to build one orbital rocket every month.

Skyroot is India's leading private space company, founded by Pawan Chandana and Bharath Dhaka, both IIT alumni and former scientists of ISRO.

In November 2022, Skyroot launched its sub-orbital rocket, Vikram-S, becoming the first Indian private company to do so.

The rapid rise of private space enterprises is a testament to the success of the transformative reforms carried out by the NDA Government in the last few years, reinforcing India's leadership as a confident and capable global space power, an official release had earlier said.

In his address, Modi recalled that India's space journey started with limited resources, but its ambitions were never limited. For decades, ISRO

has given new wings to the country's space journey, he said, and stressed that credibility, capacity, and value have established India's distinct identity in the sector.

The space agency's facilities and technologies were made available to the startups, he said, pointing out that India's space sector has been transformed into an open, cooperative and innovation-driven eco-system in the last six-seven years.

He said India's youth always place national interest above all and make the best use of every opportunity. Modi said when the government opened the space sector, the country's youth, especially the Gen-Z generation, came forward to take full advantage of it.

"Today, over 300 Indian space startups are giving new hopes to India's space future. Most of these space startups began with small teams-- sometimes two people, sometimes five, sometimes in a small rented room--with limited resources but with determination to reach new heights. I had the opportunity to meet them," he said, adding this spirit gave birth to the private space revolution in India. The Prime Minister said today, Gen Z engineers, Gen Z designers, Gen Z coders and Gen Z scientists are

creating new technologies.

Be it the propulsion system, composite materials, rocket stages, satellite platforms, India's youth are working in areas that were unimaginable a few years ago, he said.

India possesses space sector capabilities that only a few countries in the world have, the Prime Minister said emphasising that its space capability is both cost-effective and reliable, which is why the world has high expectations from the country.

He remarked that global companies want to manufacture satellites in India, avail launch services and seek technology partnerships, and stressed that the nation must make the most of this opportunity.

He highlighted that over the past decade, a new wave of startups has emerged across diverse sectors such as FinTech, AgriTech, HealthTech, ClimateTech, EduTech and DefenseTech, with India's youth, particularly the Gen-Z generation, providing innovative solutions in every field.

Modi further said that more than 10,000 Atal Tinkering Labs have already been set up to instill a spirit of research and innovation among students, and added that work is underway to establish 50,000 new labs in the coming days.

SC asks Centre to mull stringent law to deal with derogatory remarks against disabled



PTI

New Delhi, Nov 27: Highlighting the need for a stringent law to protect the dignity of the disabled, the Supreme Court on Thursday asked the Centre to consider framing a statute to make derogatory remarks ridiculing persons with disabilities and rare genetic disorders a penal offence on the lines of the SC-ST Act.

The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 criminalises casteist slur, acts of discrimination, humiliation, and violence against the members of SCs and STs and makes offences non-bailable.

"Why can't you bring a stringent law on the lines of the SC-ST Act which criminalises casteist remarks - there is punishment if you demean them," a bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi said.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, appreciated the observation and said humour cannot be at the cost of someone's dignity.

The bench also said that there was a need for a "neutral, independent and autonomous" body to regulate obscene, offensive or illegal content in online platforms.

On the issue of framing guidelines or putting in place a mechanism to deal with derogatory remarks and ridicule against persons with disabilities (PWD), the bench was informed by the Ministry of Broadcasting that certain guidelines are in the process of making.

The bench asked the ministry to bring the guidelines in public domain for discussion and listed the matter after four weeks.

The top court was hearing a petition filed by M/s SMA Cure Foundation, which works for individuals affected by rare Spinal Muscular Atrophy disease. The plea flagged jokes made by "India's Got Latent" host Samay Raina and other social media influencers, Vipun Goyal, Balraj Paramjeet Singh Ghai, Sonali Thakkar, and Nishant Jagdish Tanwar.

Asking them to be careful about their conduct in future, the bench also directed comedians Raina and others to hold two programmes or shows per month about the success stories of PwDs to generate funds for the treatment of disabled persons, especially those suffering from SMA.

The bench said it is part of social penalty and they are spared of other punitive measures.

They have been asked to do so as a reparation for their insensitive jokes about the disabled.

CJI Kant said the influencers can invite specially-abled persons on their platforms to promote the cause of generating funds to provide timely treatment to those suffering from rare diseases such as SMA.

The bench refused to consider the plea for recall of the direction on the ground that they are not hosting shows that regularly.

"This is a social burden we are putting on you," it said.

Children in climate vulnerable districts of India 25 pc more likely to be underweight: Study

PTI

New Delhi, Nov 27: Children in India districts that are highly vulnerable to climate change could be 25 per cent more likely to be underweight, compared to those in less vulnerable districts, indicating how climate vulnerability can impact public health outcomes, a study has found.

Districts highly vulnerable to climate change consistently underperform on achieving health targets, such as stunting and problems accessing healthcare, compared to less vulnerable districts, the study published in the journal PLOS one said.

Researchers from Delhi's Institute of Economic Growth said that with 80 per cent of India's population living in areas highly vulnerable to extreme weather events such as cyclones, floods and heat-waves, risks due to climate change could undermine the country's progress on several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Member states of the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015, a blueprint for ensuring peace and prosperity for people and the planet by 2030. Seventeen SDGs have been described which include ending poverty, achieving gender equality and improving access to clean water and sanitation.

Low and middle-income countries are projected to experience the worst effects of climate change owing to geographical location, such as tropical regions, and a limited capacity to adapt.

The researchers analysed data from the National Family Health Survey-Round 5 and 'Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture' (CRIDA), which provides information on a district's climate vulnerability. The study also found a 38 per cent higher likelihood of a non-institutional delivery -- birth occurring outside a healthcare facility -- in districts highly vulnerable to climate change.

"The chance of children being underweight and that of women having non-institutional deliveries, is (25 per cent and 38 per cent) higher, respectively, in districts that are highly vulnerable to climate change than districts that are less vulnerable," the authors wrote.

Raw turmeric vs powdered turmeric: Which is best for glowing winter skin?



TOI HEALTH

New Delhi, Nov 27: While we all aspire for glowing and clear-looking skin in winter, one home remedy that nobody ignores during the chilly mornings is how to include turmeric in one's everyday skincare routine. Turmeric is a plant-based herbal source that is yellow in colour and possesses tonnes of antibacterial and antioxidant properties, which help in keeping our skin glowing, clear, and bright. But do you know whether raw turmeric or processed powdered turmeric is better for your skin? Let's find out.

The transition from raw to processed powdered form

Raw turmeric is the fresh root of the plant, whereas processed turmeric is found in dried and powdered form. Raw turmeric contains curcumin, which is an active compound, along with the other vitamins and minerals in their natural state. Processed turmeric is made from boiling the raw roots, drying them, and then grinding them into a fine powder. This process, though, removes the natural moisture and other volatile oils that are present in the fresh and raw turmeric.

Benefits of turmeric on skin

Turmeric contains natural oils that can be highly beneficial for moisturising the skin. The fresh form retains more vitamins and minerals, with some volatile compounds that also keep the face clean and healthy and instantly give you a glowing boost. Using fresh turmeric ensures that you're applying a more natural product with no preservatives and additives, which are usually used to enhance the bright colour. Turmeric gently exfoliates our skin and also fights signs of premature ageing.

How to use turmeric on the skin? You can start by applying

turmeric with other natural ingredients like honey, yoghurt, and milk to create a fresh face mask, which needs to be applied on the skin for 10-15 minutes. After that, you can wash and rinse it with lukewarm water and apply your usual moisturiser. You can also consume fresh turmeric juice in a concentrated dose. From fighting inflammation to promoting collagen production, it shields us from sun damage and reduces the appearance of marks and spots.

Is it safe to apply pure turmeric to the skin?

Yes, it is safe to apply pure turmeric on the face, as in Hindu and other South Asian traditions, both bride and groom apply turmeric on their face and body to ward off evil spirits, bring in prosperity, and symbolise purity. The use of turmeric not only imparts a clear winter glow but also holds auspicious significance, proving that it has been loved and cherished by people since ancient times.

Which is better for glowing skin?

When we talk about skincare, none can beat the presence of raw turmeric, which is a better option for those who are seeking natural and unprocessed ingredients, with some moisturising benefits. As processed powdered turmeric undergoes multiple processing, it can diminish its natural properties and might also involve some chemical additives as well. Therefore, if you want carefree and fresh-looking glowing skin, then raw turmeric is the real deal.

Disclaimer: This article is for informational purposes only and should not be considered medical advice. Please consult a healthcare professional before making any changes to your diet, medication, or lifestyle.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

DIRECTORATE OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY KASHMIR

(GOWKADAL SRINAGAR 190001)

Ph no: 0194-2455091 Email:est@jkanimalhusbandry.net Fax: 0194-270518Mr. Owais Ahmed Shigan

S/o Mohammad Shaban Shigan R/o Batamalo

Sub:- Final Selection list for the post of Veterinary Pharmacist.

Ref:- Adm Deptt's letter No. ASHF-AHONGAZ/38/2024 (7540394) dated 13.08.2024.

NOTICE

Your late joining application was taken up with Administrative Department for approval who vide No. ASHF-AHONGAZ/38/2024 (C.no 7540394) dt:29.10.2025 has desired to allow you to join in the Department as Veterinary Pharmacist (District Cadre Srinagar) prospectively. Accordingly, you are directed to report CAHO Srinagar within a period of 07 days from date of publication of this notice in print media, failing which your appointment ordered vide this office No. 885-DAHK of 2024 dated 21-10-2024 shall deemed to have been cancelled ab-initio.

DIPK-8443/25

DATED: 27-11-2025

Dy Director

Animal Husbandry Deptt. Kashmir

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

MACHINERY DIVISION KASHMIR MECHANICAL & HOSPITAL

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, KASHMIR

| Fax No: 0194-2497093 |

GIST of e-Tender

e-NIT No: MDSK/TS/2025-26/67

Date: 26.11.2025

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders are invited on percentage BoQ basis from eligible contractors/ experienced firms for the below mentioned works: -

S.No	Name of the Work	Cost of Tender Doc. (In rupees)	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)	Bid security (EMD) in Rs	Position of AA	Position of TS
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Card cloth for woollen carding Machine installed at UNDP (Handloom Project) Nowshera Srinagar of Handicrafts and Handloom Department Kashmir.	500.00	15,98,406.00	31,968.00	AA accorded by Director handicrafts & Handloom Kashmir vide order No. 354, DHHK of 2025 Dt. 29.07.2025.	Accorded vide No:SE.No.21 OF 2025, 26 Dated: 29.08.2025

The bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the Govt. website as per schedule of dates given below: -

01	Publish date	26.11.2025 (18:00hrs)
02	Period of downloading of bidding document	26.11.2025 (18:30hrs)
03	Bid submission start date	26.11.2025 (18:55hrs)
04	Bid submission end date	05.12.2025 (18:55hrs)
05	Date and time of opening of bids (online)	06.12.2025(14:00hrs)

No: MDSK/TS/4088-91

DIPK-8461/25

DATED: 27-11-2025

Sd/

Executive Engineer,

Machinery Division, Kashmir

Bangladesh court sentences Sheikh Hasina to 21 years in jail in corruption cases

PTI

Dhaka, Nov 27: A Bangladesh court on Thursday sentenced deposed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to 21 years in jail in three corruption cases related to irregularities in allocations of land in a government housing project.

Judge Mohammad Abdullah Al Mamun of Dhaka Special Judge Court-5 sentenced 78-year-old former premier to seven years each in three cases of corruption in the Rajuk New Town Project in Purbachal, totalling 21 years. The judge said Hasina would serve them consecutively.

The judge also fined Hasina Taka one lakh in each case, or 18 months more in prison if she failed to submit the amount.

Judge Mamun also sentenced Hasina's son Sajib Wazed Joy and daughter Saima Wazed Putul to five years imprisonment each in the cases filed against them in the housing project near the capital. Joy and Putul were fined Taka one lakh each, or one month more in case of default.

"The plot was allotted to Sheikh Hasina without any application



and in a manner that exceeded the legally authorised jurisdiction," Judge Mamun said while delivering the judgment.

The judgement came 10 days after Hasina was sentenced to death in absentia by a special tribunal for "crimes against humanity" over her government's brutal crackdown on student-led protests last year.

Hasina maintains the charges against her are "biased and politically motivated".

Hasina has been living in India since she fled Bangladesh on

August 5 last year in the face of the massive protests that toppled her Awami League government. She was earlier declared a fugitive by a court. Authorities tightened security in and around the court complex in the old part of Dhaka ahead of Thursday's verdict.

Apart from the Hasina family, 20 others, including former Junior Minister for Housing, Sharif Ahmed, and officials of the housing ministry and Rajdhani Unyan Kartipakkah, were tried in the cases, and except one, all were sentenced to varying prison terms.

The man, who was acquitted, is a junior officer of the Ministry. Only one of the accused faced the trial in person, and he was sentenced to three years.

The Anti-Corruption Commission filed six cases between January 12 and 14 and submitted charge-sheets in all of them on March 10.

On July 31, the court framed charges in the three cases and issued arrest warrants against the accused. A total of 29 witnesses testified in the cases.

A day earlier, Foreign Affairs Adviser M Touhid Hossain said Bangladesh expects a response from New Delhi to its earlier request seeking the extradition of Hasina, as the "situation is different now" with the judicial process completed and the former premier convicted. India on Wednesday said it is examining the interim government's request to extradite Hasina and asserted that it is committed to ensuring the best interests of the people of that country.

Most Awami League leaders have either been arrested or have fled the country since the collapse of the Hasina regime.

South Africa will NOT be receiving an invitation to 2026 G20: Trump

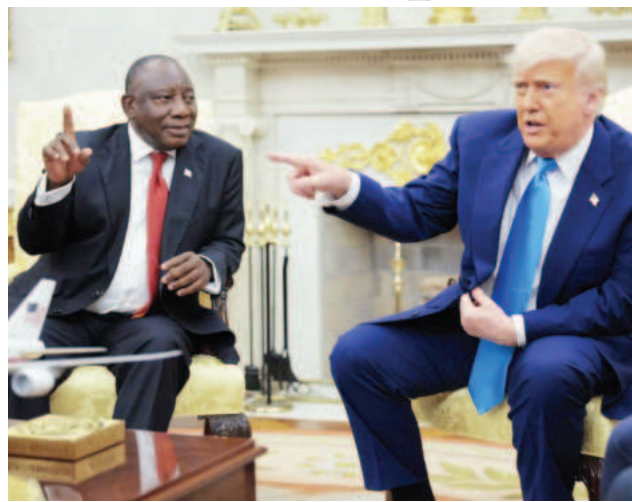
ANI

Washington, Nov 27: US President Donald Trump has said that South Africa will not be invited to the 2026 G20 Summit in Miami, announcing the decision while sharply criticising the South African government over what he described as "horrific Human Rights abuses."

In a post on his social media handle "Truth Social," Trump wrote, "the United States did not attend the G20 in South Africa because the South African Government refuses to acknowledge or address the horrific Human rights abuses endured by Afrikaners and other descendants of Dutch, French, and German settlers."

"To put it more bluntly, they are killing white people and randomly allowing their farms to be taken from them," he added.

Trump also criticised major US media outlets for not reporting on the issue. "Perhaps, worst of all, the soon to be out of business New York Times and the Fake News Media won't issue a word against this genocide. That's why all the Liars and Pretenders of the Radical Left Media are going out of



business!" he said.

"At the conclusion of the G20, South Africa refused to hand off the G20 Presidency to a Senior Representative from our US Embassy, who attended the Closing Ceremony. Therefore, at my direction, South Africa will NOT be receiving an invitation to the 2026 G20, which will be hosted in the Great City of Miami, Florida, next year," he added.

Announcing further steps, Trump added that the US would halt financial contributions to South Africa. "South Africa has demonstrated to the world that

they are not a country worthy of membership anywhere, and we are going to stop all payments and subsidies to them, effective immediately," he said.

Trump suspended aid to South Africa in February, alleging discrimination against White farmers. It is unclear what further "payments and subsidies" are being halted, according to CNN.

The US boycotted the 2025 meeting in South Africa amid unfounded accusations that the government there is committing genocide against White South Africans, CNN reported.

Ukraine disagrees about constitutional amendments in peace deal

IANs

Washington, Nov 27: Ukraine will not amend its Constitution as part of any potential peace deal, local media reported, citing a member of the Ukrainian delegation involved in talks with the United States, other partners and Russia.

"We have stated that Ukraine will not accept any form of recognition and Ukraine will not make any changes to the Constitution — these are red lines," said Oleksandr Bezz, an advisor to the head of Ukraine's presidential office, on Wednesday (local time).

He said territorial issues should be addressed on two principles: the current contact line should serve as the basis for talks, and such questions must be handled at the level of national leaders, reports Xinhua news agency, quoting local media outlet Interfax-Ukraine.

According to the head of the presidential office, Andriy Yermak, Ukrainian and US negotiators have reached an agreement in principle on most elements of Washington's proposed peace plan, though it has been significantly revised from the original 28 points.

On Tuesday, President Volodymyr Zelensky said the updated plan could evolve into "deeper agreements."

Zelensky said he had discussed the plan with Ukraine's negotiating team. "The principles in this document can be developed into deeper agreements. And it is in our shared interest that security is real," he said. He also voiced hope for continued active cooperation with the US side.

Ukrainian and US negotiators reached an agreement in principle on most aspects of the US-proposed peace plan, Andriy Yermak, head of



Ukraine's presidential office, said earlier in the day. But the plan was significantly modified from the original 28 points, he added.

Zelensky hopes to discuss territorial issues directly with Trump, Yermak said.

The 28-point draft plan aimed at ending the Ukraine crisis has been trimmed to a 19-point framework drafted by the United States and Ukraine

on Sunday in Geneva, multiple media outlets reported.

Trump said Tuesday in a Truth Social post that his team has made "tremendous progress" over the past week, and the original 28-point peace plan "has been fine-tuned, with additional input from both sides."

"There are only a few remaining points of disagreement," Trump said, noting

that he has directed his special envoy, Steve Witkoff, to meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Moscow next week in the hope of finalising a peace deal.

"At the same time, Secretary of the Army Dan Driscoll will be meeting with the Ukrainians," he added.

Trump said he looks forward to hopefully meeting with Putin and Zelensky soon, but only when the peace deal is finalised or in its final stages.

Moreover, the US president backed away from a Thursday deadline for Ukraine to agree to the US-backed peace plan. "The deadline for me is when it's over," Trump told reporters on board Air Force One as he flew to Florida for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Trump also noted that Moscow had agreed to some concessions, without detailing them.

WPL 2026 to be held in Navi Mumbai and Vadodara from Jan 9 to Feb 5



PTI

New Delhi, Nov 27: The fourth edition of the Women's Premier League would be held in Navi Mumbai and Vadodara, starting from January 9.

The league which is usually held during the February- March window has been moved ahead this year to accommodate the men's T20 World Cup which commences on February 7.

"The upcoming edition of the WPL will be played in Navi Mumbai and the final will be held in Vadodara,"

WPL Chairperson Jayesh George announced in his opening remarks at the WPL auction here.

The league once again would be played in a caravan model, wherein the first half the tournament would be played at the DY Patil Stadium, the same venue where India lifted the women's ODI World Cup earlier this month, before moving to Vadodara, where the final would be held on February 5.

Mumbai Indians are the defending champions of the league that is three seasons old.

Ahmedabad could consider nearby venues like Vadodara for cricket in 2030 CWG: IOA CEO Iyer

PTI

New Delhi, Nov 27: Ahmedabad's neighbouring city of Vadodara could be in contention to co-host cricket matches during the 2030 Commonwealth Games, Indian Olympic Association (IOA) CEO Raghuram Iyer told PTI on Thursday but also insisted that the organisers would be aiming to conduct a "compact" event overall.

Ahmedabad was on Wednesday formally awarded hosting rights of the Games during the Commonwealth Sport general assembly in Glasgow. The multi-sport event will return to India after two decades, bolstering the country's plan of becoming an Olympic host in 2036. Most of the events are expected to be conducted in the twin cities of Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar as spelt out by Gujarat Principal Secretary for Sports Ashwani Kumar during the press conference on Wednesday.

But since disciplines like cricket could require more venues for multiple matches, the organisers could be looking for stadia at nearby cities. Cricket in T20 format is set to be one of the events in the 2030 CWG.

Women's T20 cricket was included in the 2022 Birmingham CWG, but it is still not known whether the men's event will also be added in the 2030 edition.

"Nothing is finalised as yet but the organisers would be looking



for venues near Ahmedabad like Vadodara. But it is just in the consideration stage," Iyer told PTI in a telephonic interaction.

Vadodara is just over a 100km away from Ahmedabad.

Iyer was among the Indian officials, led by IOA chief PT Usha and Gujarat deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi, who were in Glasgow for the Commonwealth Sport General Assembly.

"For sports like cricket, we may need more than one venue to host multiple matches. That is why we would be looking for other venues."

Vadodara has two main cricket stadiums -- Vadodara International Stadium and Reliance Stadium. The city also has an indoor sports complex.

The Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, which can house more than 1,00,000 spectators, is expected to host the marquee cricket matches and the final.

Sports programme will evolve over time

On Wednesday, Commonwealth Sport confirmed that 15 to 17 sports will feature at the 2030 Games, which will be "dynamic and exciting with strong local resonance and global appeal."

Athletics and Para Athletics, Swimming and Para Swimming, Table Tennis and Para Table Tennis, Bowls and Para Bowls, Weightlifting and Para Powerlifting, Artistic Gymnastics, Netball and Boxing are the confirmed disciplines.

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HINDI - 02:40 PM

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