



SIR could interfere with J&K polls: CM Abdullah

Says 'haven't forgotten delimitation'; cabinet expansion likely after talks with Dr Farooq Abdullah, Delhi visit; congratulates PM Modi on 25 years in public life

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Oct 07: Alleging that the delimitation exercise was held to benefit Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday said the proposed Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Jammu and Kashmir could be used to interfere with elections.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of a function here, Chief Minister Omar, as per the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said, "There is a possibility that the SIR could be used in J&K in a manner similar to what had happened during the delimitation exercise. We have already been victims of this game. We have not forgotten the delimitation."

The Chief Minister said the purpose of the delimitation exercise was to "benefit" the BJP and expressed apprehension that a similar situation could



arise during the SIR.

He, exuded hope that the proceedings underway in the Supreme Court, particularly concerning Form 6, would make it difficult to exclude people from the electoral rolls. "I hope it will be difficult for them to get people out of the voter list," he said.

CEC PROTESTS PART OF INDIA BLOC PROGRAMME

On the protests related to the Chief Election Commissioner and the detention of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, the Chief Minister questioned the government's failure to initiate defamation proceedings against The Indian Express if its reporting was fabricated.

"If this is all fabrication, then why don't you take action against them? I have not seen

any defamation against them. What The Indian Express has written is right. If it was not written, then the government would have taken action against them," he said. "At least there would have been defamation," he added.

CM Omar said the ongoing protests were part of the programme announced by INDIA bloc leaders following their recent meeting in Delhi. "This is the result of the INDIA bloc meeting that took place in Delhi the other day. And the calendar of the whole month was presented to the media. We are taking that forward," he said.

CABINET EXPANSION LIKELY AFTER DELHI VISIT

On the expansion of his Council of Ministers, the Chief Minister said a decision would likely be taken after his return from Delhi | [More on P6](#)

J&K Govt rejigs top Admin, Mamta Yadav gets Info Dept

49 IAS, JKAS officers transferred in major reshuffle

Basharat Qayoom gets SMC, Shaleen Kabra add'l Revenue charge

KNO Correspondent

Srinagar, Oct 07: The Jammu and Kashmir Government on Wednesday carried out a major administrative reshuffle involving 49 IAS and JKAS officers, appointing Mamta Yadav as Director, Information, Basharat Qayoom as Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) and assigning Shaleen Kabra additional charge of Administrative Secretary, Revenue Department.

A copy of the order, accessed by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said the transfers and postings have been ordered with immediate effect in the interest of administration.

The order reads: Shaleen Kabra, IAS (AGMUT: 1992), Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary),



Jal Shakti Department (Additional charge of the posts of Financial Commissioner, Revenue, J&K and Administrative Secretary, Estates Department), shall also hold the additional charge of the post of Administrative Secretary, Revenue Department relieving Kumar Rajeev Ranjan, IAS of the additional charge.

Dr. Ashish Chandra Verma, IAS (AGMUT: 1994), Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Tourism Department (Additional charge of the post of Administrative Secretary, Agriculture Production Department) is transferred and posted as Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Agriculture Production Department.

Sarmad Hafeez, IAS (AGMUT: 2009), Commissioner/Secretary to the Government, Social Welfare Department is transferred and posted as Commissioner/Secretary to the Government, Youth Services and Sports Department.

Ramesh Kumar, IAS (AGMUT: 2011) Divisional Commissioner, Jammu (Additional | [More on P6](#)

Rain lashes J&K parts, temps above normal at several places

Met forecasts more showers, thunderstorms

Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Oct 07: Light to moderate rain lashed parts of Jammu and Kashmir over the past 24 hours, with Jammu-Chatha recording the highest rainfall of 53.5 mm, while the Meteorological Centre forecast intermittent showers, thunderstorms and gusty winds at several places in the coming days.

Katra received 19 mm of rain, while Baderwah recorded 4 mm and Jammu 0.6 mm during the 24-hour period ending Wednesday morning, according to the Meteorological Centre, Srinagar.

Srinagar recorded trace rainfall, while Qazigund, Pahalgam, Kupwara, Kulkarnag, Gulmarg and Konibal also received trace

or no measurable rainfall during the period.

According to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the weather remained generally cloudy across many parts of the Union Territory, with light snowfall possible over higher reaches during spells of precipitation, the weather office said.

On October 8, generally cloudy weather with light rain and light snowfall over higher reaches is likely at scattered places, while another brief spell of light rain may occur towards the evening of October 9.

Weather conditions are likely to become more unsettled on October 10, with light rain or snowfall over higher reaches, thunderstorms | [More on P6](#)

CM Omar inaugurates Rs 30.35 crore sports facility at Gindun Rajbagh

New Olympic-sized swimming pool, all-weather training & toddler pools, gymnasium

KT News Desk

Srinagar, Oct 07: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday inaugurated a Rs 30.35-crore package of sports infrastructure at the Sher-i-Kashmir Multi Sports Activity Centre (SKMSAC) at Gindun Rajbagh, marking a significant expansion of facilities for swimming and gymnastics in Jammu & Kashmir.

The newly inaugurated facilities include a 50-metre × 25-metre, 10-lane Olympic-sized swimming pool, an all-weather heated training and toddler swimming pool, and a modern indoor gymnastics hall



equipped with state-of-the-art equipment. Speaking on the occasion,

the Chief Minister said the new facilities would provide young people with | [More on P6](#)

Taxpayers are partners in nation-building: IT Dept

Pr Commi'r Dhama sensitises industrialists, hoteliers, DDOs on new provisions

Raja Syed Rather

Ganderbal, Oct 07: Tax is a tool for nation-building and should not be viewed as a burden, but as a contribution towards nation-building, Principal Commissioner of Income Tax, Srinagar, Monika Dhama said on Wednesday.

Dhama was addressing an awareness programme organised by the Income Tax Department at the Mini Secretariat, Ganderbal,

to sensitise industrialists, traders, hoteliers, Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs) and other stakeholders about the provisions of the New Income Tax Act, 2025 and promote

voluntary tax compliance. She was the chief guest at the programme.

According to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the Principal Commissioner was accompanied by Joint Commissioner of Income Tax, Srinagar, Dr Ruveda Salam; Assistant Commissioner of Income Tax Sandhya Partap; and Income Tax Officers Vikash Parihar, Samsudin and Avinash Singh.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal Jatin Kishore was also present and addressed the gathering. He welcomed the initiative and stressed the need for greater awareness among the local | [More on P6](#)

AK-47, grenades, rounds re-covered from hideout

KNO Correspondent

Kupwara, Oct 07: Security forces on Wednesday recovered a cache of arms and ammunition from an old hideout in the Nagda Nar forest area of Handwara in north Kashmir's Kupwara district, officials said.

A top officer told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that, based on specific information, a joint team of Handwara Police, Rashtriya Rifles and CRPF conducted a search operation in the forest area.

He said that during the search, the joint team detected and destroyed an old hideout and re-covered one AK-47 rifle, three grenades, 857 AK rounds, 192 PIKA rounds, eight AK magazines, one | [More on P6](#)

Two festival special trains to run between New Delhi - Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra

To departs New Delhi at 2 pm, reach Katra at 3 am next day

Yogesh

Jammu, Oct 07: In view of the extra rush of passengers during the festive season, Northern Railway has decided to run two reserved Festival Special Express trains between New Delhi and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra for the convenience of travellers and devotees.

Officials told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the railway administration will operate Train No. 04083/04084 New Delhi - Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra - New Delhi Reserved Festival Special Express for two trips each.



Train No. 04083 from New Delhi to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra will depart from New Delhi at 14:00 hrs on October 9 and October 16, 2026 (Friday) and will reach Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra at 03:00 hrs the next morning. On its return journey, Train No. 04084 from Shri Mata

Vaishno Devi Katra to New Delhi will depart from Katra at 10:00 hrs on October 10 and October 17, 2026 (Saturday) and will reach New Delhi at 23:30 hrs on the same day.

The train will cover a total distance of 655 kilometres and will have a total of 22 modern LHB coaches | [More on P6](#)

5 terrorist associates held, arms cache recovered

KNO Correspondent

Kulgam, Oct 07: Police in Kulgam, in a joint operation with the Rashtriya Rifles and CRPF, arrested five terrorist associates and recovered arms and ammunition from their possession at Khrewan Chadder in Kulgam, officials said on Wednesday.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the operation was launched on the basis of credible inputs, leading to the arrest of five persons.

He said the recoveries included two pistols, three magazines, 40 rounds of 9mm ammunition and three grenades.

The official identified the arrested persons as Tajamul Hussain Mir, son of Manzoor



Ahmed Mir, resident of Gulbal; Rehmat Ali Naikoo, son of Gh Hassan Naikoo, resident of Khrewan; Tehrim Ahmed Bhat, son of Mushtaq Ahmed Bhat, resident of Khrewan; Manzoor Ahmed Bhat, son of Gh Hassan Bhat, resident of Khrewan Chadder; and Kifiyat Ahmed Dar, son of Ab Rasheed Dar, resident of Maltahama, Kulgam.

He said a case under relevant sections | [More on P6](#)

PoK girl sent back to Pakistan through Poonch

KNO Correspondent

Poonch, Oct 07: A girl from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), who was apprehended by security forces earlier this month, was sent back to Pakistan through the Chakkan Da Bagh crossing point in Poonch on Wednesday, officials said.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the girl was apprehended by the Army on October 2 and was sent back to Pakistan through the Chakkan Da Bagh crossing point on Wednesday.

He said that after completion of all legal formalities, the In-Charge of Police Post Lam, along with an escort vehicle, took the girl | [More on P6](#)

Keran: Peace replaces fear, from shelling hit area to tourism destination

Residents say better connectivity, sanitation, waste management essential for sustainable growth

Sajid Raina

Keran, Oct 07: Once overshadowed by the fear of cross-border shelling and the constant threat from across the Line of Control (LoC), Keran in North Kashmir's Kupwara district is witnessing a remarkable transformation, with the sense of insecurity gradually giving way to peace and tourism.

According to the details available with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) tourists are arriving in

large numbers to explore its mountains, forests and the Kishenganga river and the frontier area is abuzz with activity.

Located along the LoC, the picturesque area has emerged as an attraction for visitors from different parts of Jammu and Kashmir and other states, offering a combination of scenic landscapes and a rare view of communities living on opposite sides of the international border.

The Kishenganga, known as

the Neelum on the other side, separates the two sides in parts of Keran.

For many tourists, the experience is unlike that offered by conventional destinations such as Gulmarg and Pahalgam. "Keran is different because you are not only seeing mountains and rivers. You are also seeing the border from very close and watching people on the other side," said Aamir Hussain, a visitor from Srinagar.

The increasing tourist footfall has also created new



opportunities for local residents. Several families have opened homestays, while horses are being made available for visitors wishing to explore nearby areas.

"Tourism has given people here another source of income. Earlier, there were very few opportunities, but now families can earn through homestays, horse rides and other services," said Farooq Ahmad, a local resident.

Residents said they were increasingly conscious of the

need to make visitors feel welcome while also explaining the area's history.

"We want tourists to leave with a good impression of Keran. We help them with accommodation, guide them around and also tell them about the history of the place," said Riyaz Ahmad, who runs a homestay in the area.

"The Army has also contributed to promote Keran as a tourist destination by facilitating visits by social media influencers | [More on P6](#)

CEO J&K announces Weekend Voter Enrolment Drives

Special 2 days Drive on October 10, 11

KT News Desk

JAMMU, OCTOBER 07: With the objective of ensuring that no eligible voter is left behind, Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Jammu and Kashmir, Sanjeev Verma, Wednesday announced a two-day Special Intensive Voter Enrolment Drive across the Union Territory on October 10 (Saturday) and October 11 (Sunday), 2026, marking the beginning of a regular weekend voter facilitation initiative.

The special drive, as per an official statement, will be conducted at all Polling Stations across Jammu and Kashmir from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM on both days, providing eligible citizens with an accessible opportunity to enroll themselves as voters and update or correct their electoral particulars.

The announcement was made during a review meeting chaired by the CEO with District Election Officers (DEOs), Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) and



Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs) to review and finalize arrangements for the special drive.

Sanjeev Verma directed the election machinery to ensure extensive outreach and effective facilitation so that no eligible citizen remains outside the electoral rolls.

As part of the initiative, weekend voter enrolment and facilitation drives will be organized regularly, providing citizens with a convenient opportunity to approach their nearest Polling Station for enrolment

and updatation of electoral details.

The CEO directed DEOs and EROs/AEROs to undertake extensive institutional and public outreach to create awareness about the initiative. He also called for regular ground-level updates through official social media platforms, with posts carrying relevant Polling Station, Assembly Constituency and District details to enable citizens to easily access information regarding the facilities available in their respective areas.

During the two days drive, Booth Level Officers (BLOs) will remain stationed at all Polling Stations from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM to assist citizens with the submission of Forms 6, 7 and 8 and facilitate enrolment, deletion and correction/ updatation of electoral details. Citizens will be provided assistance for both physical submission of forms and digital submission through the Voter Helpline App.

The CEO further directed

BLOs to undertake door-to-door outreach to identify and assist eligible citizens who may have been left out of the electoral rolls, with particular focus on youth, first-time voters, women, Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and other eligible citizens requiring assistance.

Urging citizens to make full use of the initiative, Sanjeev Verma called upon all eligible persons to visit their nearest Polling Station on October 10 or 11 and avail the enrolment and facilitation services available there. He emphasised the importance of active citizen participation in ensuring that the electoral rolls remain complete accurate and inclusive.

The Election Department has reiterated its commitment to making voter enrolment more accessible at the grassroots level and ensuring that every eligible citizen has a convenient opportunity to become part of the electoral process.

Additional Commissioner Kashmir visits Shopian

Reviews progress of Land Records Digitization

KT News Desk

SHOPIAN, OCTOBER 07: Additional Commissioner Kashmir, Akramullah Tak, Wednesday visited Shopian and reviewed the progress of land records digitization and updatation in the district.

During the visit, the Additional Commissioner, as per an official statement, took a detailed review of the status of digitization of land records and interacted with the concerned officers regarding the progress achieved, issues being faced and measures being taken to ensure timely completion of the ongoing process.

He stressed the need for ensuring accuracy and transparency in the digitization and updatation of land records and directed the concerned officers to maintain proper verification of records and ensure that the process is completed in a time-bound manner.

The Additional Commissioner also emphasized effective coordination among the Revenue functionaries and timely resolution of issues related to land records and public grievances.

Earlier, the Additional Commissioner visited Chitragam and other areas of the district to assess the on-the-spot progress of the digitization process.

The Meeting was attended by ADC, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz, ACR, Shakoor Ahmed Dar, Tehsildars and other revenue officers.

Distribution Camp under ADIP, RVY schemes held in Kulgam

KT News Desk

KULGAM, OCTOBER 07: Social Welfare Department, Kulgam, in collaboration with Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO), Wednesday organised a distribution camp under the Assistance to Persons with Disabilities (ADIP) Scheme and Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY) at the Conference Hall, Mini-Secretariat, Kulgam.

The camp, as per an official statement, was organised for the benefit of persons with disabilities and senior citizens, with the objective of providing them assistive devices to facilitate mobility, independence and improved quality of life.

The distribution was carried out in

the presence of MLA Kulgam, Mohd. Yousuf Tarigami, District Social Welfare Officer Kulgam, Rameez Raja Ganie, and other officials of the Social Welfare Department.

More than 140 beneficiaries were covered during the camp and provided with various assistive devices as per their assessed needs. The devices distributed included hearing aids, battery-operated tricycles, wheelchairs, walking sticks, braces and other assistive aids.

Speaking on the occasion, the dignitaries appreciated the efforts of the Social Welfare Department and ALIMCO in facilitating the beneficiaries and ensuring that the benefits of welfare schemes reach the intended sections of society.

Vice Chairman JKLCMA visits Tchunti Khul, Dal Lock gate to review water flow, hydraulic infrastructure

KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 07: Taking forward the Authority's efforts to restore and strengthen the water channels associated with Dal Lake, Vice Chairman, JKLCMA, Khurshid Ahmad Shah, visited Tchunti Khul and the Dal Lock Gate to review the water flow, hydraulic infrastructure, and condition of the adjoining areas.

The Vice Chairman, as per an official statement, was accompanied by the Superintending Engineer, Executive Engineers of Lake Division 1st and Lake Division 2nd, and other officers and officials of the Authority.

During the visit, the Vice Chairman took a detailed assessment of the existing condition of Tchunti Khul and the Dal Lock Gate and reviewed the water channel, adjoining stretches, and associated hydraulic infrastructure. He stressed the importance of maintaining the channel in a manner that facilitates smooth movement of water and supports effective water level



management of Dal Lake.

The Vice Chairman directed the concerned officers to undertake necessary cleanliness and site clearance measures along Tchunti Khul and its adjoining stretches. He called for identification of locations requiring desilting, dredging, removal of obstructions, and other restoration measures so that necessary works can be taken up in a systematic and time bound manner.

Doda starts preparations for Launch JOSH Teams, felicitation of TB Muk Panchayats

KT News Desk

DODA, OCTOBER 07: The health department Doda has started preparations for the launch of JOSH (Joint Squad for Health) Teams and the felicitation of TB Muk Panchayats scheduled to be held on October 8, 2026 across the country.

In this regard, a virtual review meeting was convened by Chief Medical Officer Dr. Vinod Sharma, which was attended by District Tuberculosis Officer (DTO) Dr. Raj Kumar; Block Medical Officers, Divisional ASHA Coordinator, District ASHA Coordinator, District Nodal Officer, NTEP, besides

Senior Treatment Supervisors (STS) and other concerned officials and field functionaries.

The CMO reviewed the preparedness for the district-level programme and discussed the key components and requisite actions to ensure successful conduct of the events scheduled for October 8, 2026.

The meeting discussed the plan for organising district-level activities, community mobilization, orientation sessions, inter-sectoral coordination and overall preparedness for the programme.

"The district-level activities will be organized in a coordinated and meaningful manner, with active

participation from health personnel, ASHAs and other stakeholders, so as to strengthen community engagement and reinforce the collective commitment towards TB elimination and improved public health outcomes," Dr. Vinod Sharma emphasized.

The meeting concluded with directions to all concerned to remain closely coordinated and ensure that the necessary arrangements are completed well in advance for the successful conduct of the JOSH Teams launch and TB Muk Panchayats felicitation programme on October 8, 2026.

Children's Eye Health Programme

DC Budgam distributes free spectacles to students

KT News Desk

BUDGAM, OCTOBER 07: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan, Wednesday distributed free spectacles among students at a programme held at Boys Higher Secondary School, Budgam, as part of the District Administration's ongoing Children's Eye Health Programme.

The programme is being implemented by the District Administration Budgam in collaboration with Nayanika Eye Care Charitable Trust, covering children in the 6-18 years age group across the district.

Under the initiative, 60,500 out of 70,280 students have been screened so far for vision-related issues. The screening has covered government schools across



the district, with comprehensive screening carried out during September.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said, "We have undertaken a comprehensive eye-screening programme covering all children in the 6-18 years age group in government schools across Budgam. So far, around 60,500 children have been screened."

He said that the initiative is aimed at ensuring timely identification and treatment of vision-related problems among school-going children. "Around 450 children have been identified with vision-related difficulties or those requiring specialised eye care. Our focus is to ensure that every such child receives timely treatment and support," he added.

The DC said that the second stage of the programme involves examination by ophthalmology teams at Sub-District Hospitals, where children requiring spectacles are assessed and their prescriptions prepared.

"After the initial screening, children requiring further examination are being assessed by ophthalmology teams at our

Sub-District Hospitals. Based on the prescriptions, spectacles are being provided free of cost," he said.

The DC further informed that the administration is working towards completing the screening of all students in government schools shortly. "We are hopeful that 100 per cent of the children in government schools will be screened within the next few days," he said.

Emphasising the importance of continued care, the Deputy Commissioner said, "For children requiring specialised or tertiary-level treatment, we have also established linkages with medical colleges and tertiary care hospitals so that they receive appropriate treatment and follow-up care."

OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER MISSION POSHAN SOPORE

- Whereas, one post of Anganwadi Worker (AWW) was advertised for AWC Khan Mohalla Muqam, Panch Ward No. 02 PH-Putkha Muqam, vide Advertisement Notice No: CDPO/SOP/Estt/2025-26/1169-79 dated 01-01-2026;
- Whereas, in response to the said advertisement, seven (07) application forms were received from the eligible female candidates
- Whereas, Shaziya Mohi Ud Din D/O Ghulam Mohi Ud Din Khan was tentatively selected by the Selection Committee on the basis of being the highest meritorious candidate among the applicants;
- Whereas, a Tentative Selection List was issued vide No: - CDPO/Sop/Estt/2026/1380-91 Dated: -20-02-2026 and placed in the public domain for a period of 10 days to invite objections;
- Whereas, an objection was filed by one Ms. Raheena Akther W/O Mohd Iqbal Mir at the Office of the Block Development Officer (BDO) Sangrama challenging the residential status of the selected candidate;
- Whereas, upon receipt of the said objection, the BDO Sangrama verified and found that while a Residence Proof Certificate was initially issued in favor of the candidate for Ward No. 02, her family actually resides in Ward No. 01 (Khana No. 13);7.
- Whereas, the BDO Sangrama has communicated vide letter No: BDO/Estt/2362 dated 26/02/2026 that the candidate, Shaziya Mohi Ud Din D/O Ghulam Mohi Ud Din Khan was inadvertently registered in the Electoral Roll of Ward No. 02 during a routine updation process and has officially requested that her Residence Proof Certificate be treated as cancelled;
- Whereas in view of the above-stated facts, the Tentative selection of Shaziya Mohi Ud Din D/O Ghulam Mohi Ud Din Khan is hereby cancelled/quashed. Consequently, Raheena Akther W/O Mohammad Iqbal Mir (2nd meritorious candidate), being eligible and having fulfilled the criteria, is hereby considered for selection for the post of AWW at AWC Khan Mohalla Muqam.
- Whereas, the Tentative Merit/Selection List is hereby put in the public domain, and any person having any grievance regarding this selection shall approach the office of the CDPO Sopore with a written grievance within 10 days from the date of issuance of this notice failing which no objection if any shall be entertained.

Provisional Merit List											
S. No	Index No.	Name of Candidate	D/O, W/O	Residence	Ward No.	D.O.B	Marital Status	Qualification	Marks obtained in 10+2 / out of	Percentage	Weightage
1	35	Putkha Mirza	W/o Mohi Ud Din Khan	Putkha Muqam	02	26-03-1992	Married	12th	276/750	36.80	36.80
2	14	Aamir Gul	W/o Tariq Ahmad Wani	Putkha Muqam	02	04-04-1989	Married	12th	316/750	42.13	42.13
3	28	Raheena Akther	W/o Mohammad Iqbal Mir	Putkha Muqam	02	08-06-1993	Married	Graduation	452/750	60.26	60.26
4	4	Rakana Nade	W/o Aqar Ahmad Bhat	Putkha Muqam	02	16-02-1993	Married	Graduation	517/750	68.66	68.66
5	33	Shaziya Mohi ud din	D/O Ghulam Mohi Ud Din Khan	Putkha Muqam	02	15-03-2003	Un-married	Graduation	383/500	76.60	76.60
6	30	Sareeya Nade	D/O Ghulam Nade Wani	Putkha Muqam	02	04-04-1995	Married	12th	232/500	46.4	46.4
7	34	Aamir Nade	D/O Ghulam Nade Wani	Putkha Muqam	02	03-05-2000	Un-married	12th	245/500	49.00	49.00

Provisional Selection List											
S. No	Index No.	Name of Candidate	D/O, W/O	Residence	Ward No.	D.O.B	Marital Status	Qualification	Marks obtained in 10+2 / out of	Percentage	Weightage
1	20	Raheena Akther	W/o Mohammad Iqbal Mir	Putkha Muqam	02	08-06-1993	Married	Graduation	452/750	60.26	60.26

No: -CDPO/SOP/ESTT/2026/770-79
Dated: -07-10-2026

DIPK-6505/26
DATED: 07-10-2026

Child Dev. Project Officer
Mission Poshan Sopore

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR GOVT ANCILLARY MEDICAL TRAINING SCHOOL SRINAGAR Deewan Bagj, Srinagar, J&K-190010 NOTICE

Subject: Extension of Last Date for Submission of Applications for Admission to Leftover Seats in General Nursing & Midwifery at Govt. AMT School Srinagar.

Reference:- JKNC-26/157/1509-1514 Dated: 25/09/2026.

In continuation to this office Admission Notification No: AMTs/2026/ss/448- 53 Dated:15.09.2026 (Copy enclosed), issued pursuant to J&K Nursing Council Notification No: JKNC-26/157/1400-1409 Dated: 11.09.2026; it is hereby notified for information of all eligible/desirous candidate that the last date for submission of duly completed application forms for admission against the leftover seats in General Nursing & Midwifery (GNM) course for the session 2026-27 is hereby extended up to 20.10.2026 (working days only). All other terms and conditions mentioned in the original admission notification shall remain unchanged. No application shall be entertained after the expiry of the extended deadline.

No: AMTs/2026/ss/751-56
Dated: 05/10/2026

DIPK-6524/26
DATED: 07/10/2026

NODAL OFFICER GOVT.
AMT SCHOOL SRINAGAR

Urs Sheikh Nooruddin Noorani (RA) begins at Charar-i-Sharief



Naveed Ul Haq Ganaie

Budgam, Oct 07: The annual Poshak Bandi ritual was performed with religious fervour at the revered shrine of Hazrat Sheikh Nooruddin Noorani (RA) at Charar-i-Sharief in Budgam on Wednesday, marking the beginning of the annual Urs celebrations of the revered Sufi saint.

The sacred ritual of changing the cloth draped over the holy grave was performed by Senior Member of the J&K Waqf Board Syed Mohammad Hussain Hakani, Administrator Mohammad Amin Dar, and Mutawali Ziyarat Mohammad Younis Haji, in the presence of other Waqf board officials and a large gathering of

devotees.

The shrine reverberated with Manqabats, Naats, prayers and slogans in praise of Alamdar-e-Kashmir, as devotees gathered to witness the sacred ritual and offer prayers.

Popularly known as "Alamdar-e-Kashmir" and "Sheikh-ul-Aalam", Hazrat Sheikh Nooruddin Noorani (RA) is among the most revered spiritual personalities of Kashmir, whose teachings, poetry and message of peace have deeply influenced the Valley's spiritual and cultural traditions.

The annual Urs attracts devotees from different parts of Jammu and Kashmir, who visit Charar-i-Sharief to pay their respects, offer prayers and seek

blessings.

As per the programme issued by the J&K Waqf Board, Shab Khwani will be held on October 8, while the main Urs Mubarak will be observed on October 9. The concluding Friday ceremony is scheduled for October 16.

Authorities have made arrangements for the smooth conduct of the Urs, with concerned departments directed to ensure adequate water, electricity, sanitation and transport facilities, besides necessary security arrangements for the devotees.

The administration and police have also put in place measures to regulate the movement of devotees and ensure the peaceful conduct of the annual Urs celebrations—(KNO)

Delegations call on LG Sinha



KT News Desk

Srinagar, Oct 07: Ravinder Pandita, Chairman, Save Sharda Committee and President of All India Kashmiri Samaj called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday and put forth important matters related to development of the Maa Sharda Temple, located at Teetwal along the LoC in Kupwara. He was accompanied by Mahaveer Thusoo.

Ravinder Pandita also discussed promotion of border and religious tourism, enhancement of pilgrim facilities including establishment of Yatri Niwas at Teetwal. He informed that the Sharda Temple has seen a significant increase in footfall, with the number of visiting yatris crossing the 10,000 mark this year. In the meantime, a delegation of Pashmina Entrepreneurs Makers and Artisans (PEMA) Foundation led by its President, Tariq Dar called on the Lieutenant Governor.

The delegation comprised of Imran Rashid, Chairman and Abdul Manan Baba, Secretary, PEMA Foundation expressed gratitude to the Lieutenant Governor for his continued support to the Pashmina Artisan Awaras.

They also lauded the UT Administration's dedicated efforts to promote

J&K's artisans and their craftsmanship.

Furthermore, Omar Kakroo, former President, Municipal Council, Baramulla called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and put forth various developmental issues of Baramulla.

Subsequently, a delegation of J&K Handloom Cooperative Societies and Weavers Association headed by its President Ghulam Jeelani Zargar, called on the Lieutenant Governor and submitted a memorandum highlighting dedicated measures for the growth and promotion of the handloom sector in the UT.

Another delegation led by Basharat Hussain Moosa, National Advisor, All India Gujar Bakerwal Foundation called on the Lieutenant Governor and raised various issues of Saakshar Bharat Mission employees, Seasonal Teachers and Sanitation workers engaged in Health Department.

Meanwhile, Bharat Priye, Chairman, Kisan Congress, J&K Pradesh Congress Committee called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and projected various welfare issues of farmers and border residents of the Union Territory.

Thakur Randeep Bhandari, social activist from Kishtwar also called on the Lieutenant Governor.

Intern doctors urge Govt to hike stipend within 5 days

Threatens to resume strike

Jahangeer Ganaie

Srinagar, Oct 07: The Association of Interns and Medical Students Association (AIMSA) on Wednesday urged the Jammu and Kashmir Government to issue a formal order within five days on the enhancement of stipends for MBBS and BDS interns, warning that failure to meet the deadline would leave them with no option but to resume their agitation.

According to the details available, a delegation of medical interns and AIMSA representatives on Wednesday met Peerzada Zahoor Ahmad, JKAS, Officer on Special Duty (OSD) to the Minister for Health and Medical Education to seek an update on the pending file and issuance of the formal order.

The association said the concerned officer informed the delegation that all required levels of processing and signatures have already been completed. The officer assured the representatives that the order would be issued within the stipulated timeframe and is expected in the next few days.

Following the assurance, the intern representatives decided to give the administration some more time to complete the process, while making it clear that their patience would be limited to five days.

AIMSA State President Dr Mohammad Momin Khan said, "The government must hike the stipend within the given timeframe. We have already waited for a long time and now expect the written assurance to be honoured without any further delay."

Meanwhile, the association said: "If the order is not issued within the stipulated five days, we will most likely resume our strike. We will subsequently hold a press conference in Srinagar and formally announce the next course of action," the association said.

The development comes after MBBS and BDS interns suspended their agitation last month following an assurance by the Health Minister that their stipend will be hiked and the formal order will be issued. The interns have sought an increase in the stipend from the existing Rs 12,300 to Rs 30,000 per month. The interns had set October 9 as the deadline for the government to fulfil its written assurance, with a warning that they could launch a hunger strike from October 10 if the order was not issued.

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GMC Srinagar faces shortage of 347 faculty, 1,853 non-gazetted staff

Jahangeer Ganaie

Srinagar, Oct 07: Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar is facing a significant shortage of manpower, with 347 faculty posts, 1,853 non-gazetted posts and 158 gazetted posts lying vacant.

The shortage has been reported across different categories of posts, raising concerns over the availability of adequate human resources for patient care, teaching and other hospital services at the premier healthcare institution.

The details reveal that GMC Srinagar has a sanctioned strength of 620 faculty posts, of which 347 are vacant, leaving only 273 positions filled.

Among the faculty posts, out of 125 sanctioned posts of Professors, 37 are vacant. Similarly, 107 posts are vacant out of 187 sanctioned Associate Professor posts.

The highest number of vacancies has been in the Assistant Professor category, where 203 posts are lying vacant against a sanctioned strength of 307.

The shortage is not confined to the teaching faculty.



Among non-gazetted employees, 1,853 posts are vacant against a sanctioned strength of 4,840, leaving a substantial gap in the workforce required for day-to-day functioning of the institution.

Likewise, 158 posts are vacant among the gazetted category against a sanctioned strength of 379.

The vacancies assume significance as GMC Srinagar caters to a large number of patients not only from Srinagar but also from different districts of Kashmir and other parts of the Union

Territory, with many patients being referred to the institution for specialised and tertiary-level treatment.

Patients and attendants said that adequate staffing is essential for ensuring timely consultations, investigations, procedures and other healthcare services, particularly in departments witnessing heavy patient footfall.

An attendant at the hospital said that patients often have to wait for consultations and other services and that strengthening the available manpower could

help improve the overall patient experience.

"Patients come here from different districts with the hope of receiving specialised treatment. Adequate staff is important so that patients can get consultations and other services without unnecessary delays," the attendant said.

Another patient said that doctors and other healthcare workers are already dealing with a large number of patients and that filling vacant posts would help reduce the pressure on the existing workforce.

"We understand that doctors and staff have a heavy workload. If the vacant posts are filled, it can benefit both patients and the staff by improving the availability of services," the patient said.

The shortage of faculty members also has implications for medical education and training, as GMC Srinagar serves as an important teaching institution for undergraduate and postgraduate medical students.

With hundreds of faculty posts vacant, the existing

Continued on
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ACB holds DVOs conference in Srinagar



KNO

Srinagar, Oct 07: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Wednesday held a conference of 51 Departmental Vigilance Officers (DVOs) from Kashmir-based departments at its headquarters in Peerbagh, Srinagar, reviewing pending matters and stressing timely enquiries into complaints involving alleged misconduct by public servants.

In a statement, a spokesperson said the conference was inaugurated and chaired by Shakti Pathak, IPS, Director, ACB J&K,

along with senior officers of the bureau.

The spokesperson said the Director ACB reviewed matters pending with the DVOs and stressed that old cases be expedited on priority.

He emphasised the need to conduct proper enquiries into complaints reflecting any element of misconduct by public servants and advised the DVOs to furnish enquiry reports that clearly bring out such misconduct.

The DVOs were also advised to

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BSF woman constable dies after gunshot injury at Border Post

Yogesh

Jammu, Oct 07: A 27-year-old woman constable of the Border Security Force (BSF) died after suffering a gunshot injury from her service rifle at a border post in the R S Pura sector of Jammu on Wednesday. An official said constable Raj Lakshmi sustained the gunshot injury at Border Outpost (BOP) Sushil at around 3 pm. She was initially taken to the Sub-District Hospital, R S Pura, and was subsequently referred to Government Medical College (GMC) Hospital, Jammu, for specialised treatment, where doctors declared her "brought dead."

The deceased was posted with the 7th Battalion BSF at BOP Sushil in the R S Pura area. She was the daughter of Balamurugan G and hailed from Tamil Nadu.

Her body has been shifted to the mortuary for post-mortem examination and other legal formalities.

The circumstances leading to the gunshot injury are yet to be ascertained. Officials said it was premature to conclude whether the weapon was fired accidentally or otherwise. Police Station R S Pura was informed through PCR Jammu, and further investigation is underway to establish the exact circumstances of the incident—(KNO)

Bear mauls Man in Tral

KNO

Tral, Oct 07: A man was injured after being mauled by a bear in the Monghama Dankaad area of Tral in south Kashmir's Pulwama district on Wednesday, officials said.

An official said that the man was attacked by a bear in Dankaad area of Tral. He said the injured was shifted to Sub-District Hospital (SDH) Tral for treatment, from where he was referred to Srinagar for further medical care. His condition is stated to be stable.

The injured was identified as Bilal Ahmad, son of Ghulam Mohammad Bhat, a resident of Monghama Dankaad.

Meanwhile, the incident has triggered alarm in the area. It is the second bear attack reported in the Tral sub-division today—(KNO)

‘AgriStack initiation to be completed within 10 days’

Waris Fayaz

Baramulla, Oct 07: Commissioner, Survey and Land Records, J&K, Inderjeet on Wednesday directed officials in Baramulla district to complete the AgriStack initiation process within 10 days.

The directions were issued during a review meeting here to assess progress on the Digital Crop Survey, AgriStack, Farmer Registration and backlog mutations.

As of October 7, a total of 4,53,975 plots have been covered under the Digital Crop Survey, accounting for 98.6 per cent progress. Another 22,787 plots remain unsurveyed.

Under AgriStack, 5,48,012 of the 6,95,975 Jamabandi entries have been approved, representing 78.7 per cent progress. The initiation process has



reached 85.4 per cent.

The district has completed 9,944 farmer registrations, of which 3,080

have been approved. Another 5,570 registrations are pending verification, while 1,294 await approval. The review

also showed substantial progress in clearing backlog mutations. Of the 46,905 mutations, 46,282, or 98.7 per cent, have been approved, leaving 623 cases pending.

The Commissioner directed officers to intensify efforts to clear the remaining cases, particularly those pending verification and approval. He called for close monitoring at the tehsil level to ensure timely completion of AgriStack entries, farmer registrations and mutations.

Inderjeet specifically set a 10-day deadline for completing the AgriStack initiation process and directed officials to maintain strict tehsil-wise monitoring.

He also directed that Parti Sarkar land be reflected and made available in all mutations wherever applicable, stressing the need for proper updation and transparency in land records—(KNO)

Blaze damages 5 houses in Anantnag

KNO

Anantnag, Oct 07: Five residential houses were damaged after a fire broke out in the Qazi Mohalla area of Anantnag during the intervening night of Tuesday and Wednesday, officials said. An official said that the fire damaged five residential houses in the area, leaving one person injured. He said the Fire and Emergency Services Department rushed to the spot after receiving information and brought the blaze under control with the assistance of local residents.

The official said no loss of life was reported in the incident, while the injured man sustained minor burn injuries and was shifted to a hospital for medical assistance. Meanwhile, the cause of the fire is under investigation, he added—(KNO)

EDITORIAL

Why Census 2027 Matters For J&K

The completion of Census 2027 population enumeration in the snow-bound areas of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh is indeed an administrative milestone. However, its significance is anything but small. Covering 5,292 Enumeration Blocks—4,597 in J&K and 695 in Ladakh—this exercise has reached communities that are often the last to be counted and the first to be forgotten. What makes this Census

particularly noteworthy is that it is India's first paperless Census, with self-enumeration introduced for the first time. The fact that J&K ranked first among Union Territories and eighth nationally in self-enumeration speaks volumes about public participation. It tells us that when people are trusted with a process, they respond with responsibility. The credit belongs as much to the citizens as to the enumerators who braved

high-altitude terrain, snow-bound passes, and remote villages to complete this task within the stipulated timeline. The benefits of this exercise are far-reaching. A Census is not merely a head-count; it is the foundation upon which development planning rests. Reliable population data determines how resources are allocated, where schools and hospitals are built, how welfare schemes are designed, and which regions need

priority attention. Without accurate numbers, even the best-intentioned policies can miss the people they are meant to serve. For Ladakh, where every district fell under the snow-bound category, and for districts like Kishtwar, Doda and Ramban in J&K that face similar challenges, this enumeration ensures that remote and difficult-to-access populations are not left out of the development story. The District Census

Handbook, now being prepared, will serve as a valuable planning document for years to come. The release of Rs 49.2 crore for infrastructure, training and honorariums also reflects a serious commitment to getting this right. As Census 2027 moves to the plain areas in February, it is worth remembering that counting every citizen is not just an administrative obligation—it is an act of democratic inclusion.

Building J&K's Place In India's GCC Future

The first GCC centre matters disproportionately. Every subsequent investor will ask: who else is already here? The answer today has to change from zero. An anchor GCC can do more than create direct employment—a centre employing 500 professionals can support a comparable ecosystem of opportunities in facilities, transport, hospitality, food services and other allied sectors. Securing that first anchor tenant is the decisive step in establishing confidence

Atal Dulloo (IAS)

On 9 and 10 October 2026, something quite interesting is going to happen at IIM Jammu. The J&K GCC Summit 2026, being organised by IIM Jammu in collaboration with the Government of Jammu and Kashmir and in knowledge partnership with NASSCOM, will bring together some of the country's leading Global Capability Centre (GCC) companies, policymakers, academics and industry leaders.

But I believe the significance of these two days goes well beyond a summit. For perhaps the first time, some of the senior-most administrative leaders of Jammu and Kashmir will sit across the table with leaders of India's GCC industry in a series of candid, no-holds-barred conversations about a question that matters deeply to us: What will it take for Jammu and Kashmir to enter India's growing GCC ecosystem, and to do so as a credible Tier-2 and Tier-3 destination?

That may sound like a familiar proposition at a business summit. It is not. Economic growth is ultimately driven by two sets of stakeholders—the government that creates the enabling environment and the businesses that take the risk of investing in it. Genuine growth begins when these two sides are willing to listen to each other, ask difficult questions and speak honestly about what works and what does not. That is precisely the spirit in which we are approaching the J&K GCC Summit.

Let me explain why.

In June 2025, a train crossed the Chenab on the world's highest railway arch bridge, connecting the Kashmir Valley to the national rail network. The bridge was decades in the making. Its deeper value, however, can be expressed in one word that matters as much to an investor as it does to a traveller: predictability. A journey that once depended heavily on weather and a single highway can now be planned with greater certainty.

That is the journey we want to begin for J&K's GCC ecosystem. Building a significant GCC destination will not happen overnight. It may take years. Perhaps decades. But the journey can be made predictable if we learn from those who have already travelled it. Be they leading GCC companies or

States that have successfully attracted such investments.

That is why the Summit is bringing industry leaders together with representatives of States such as Gujarat, Bihar and Tamil Nadu, which have valuable lessons to share. We do not intend to reinvent the wheel. We want to understand what has worked elsewhere, what has not, and what can be adapted to J&K's own circumstances.

The opportunity before us.

India already hosts more than 2,200 capability centres employing around 1.9 million professionals and generating close to USD 65 billion in annual exports. Importantly, more than 220 of these centres have already chosen Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities. The next phase of the GCC story is increasingly moving beyond the established metropolitan centres, with locations outside the metros expected to account for a substantial share of the sector's future workforce.

This is where J&K must position itself. The question is not whether Jammu and Kashmir can replicate Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Chennai or Pune. We should not try to become another metro. Our opportunity lies in becoming a different kind of GCC destination.

Over the last decade, the case for J&K has changed significantly. Rail and road connectivity has been transformed and air connectivity has expanded. The Union Territory today has an institutional ecosystem that includes an IIM, an IIT and an AIIMS, alongside CSIR-IITM, NIT Srinagar, the Islamic University of Science and Technology, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University and the prestigious Universities of Jammu /Kashmir, among several other institutions offering new-age and specialised programmes.

In addition to that we also have something that every GCC ultimately needs—human resource. Jammu and Kashmir has a young, educated and increasingly aspirational population. Its universities and technical institutions are producing talent across disciplines. Office, talent and utility costs remain competitive compared to established metropolitan locations. And the security environment today provides a foundation for businesses to plan for the long term.

Yet a good proposition is not enough. An investor looking at a new location will ask

some very practical questions. Who will take my decision? How long will my approvals take? Where will my people sit on the first day? And who will do the work? The answers to these questions can determine where a GCC chooses to locate, often more decisively than the headline value of an incentive.

We have to answer each of them.

The first is facilitation. The hardest part of entering a new region for an established business is often not the investment itself, but understanding whom to approach and how to navigate the system. In J&K, an investor should not have to make multiple rounds of enquiries across Departments. The investor should have one phone call or one email to make.

We therefore need a named facilitation officer, with the authority to convene Departments, resolve issues and remain accountable as a single point of contact for the prospective investor. If banks can provide relationship managers to their customers, there is no reason why government cannot provide the same degree of institutional ownership to an investor.

The second question is time.

Approvals relating to registration, premises, power, fire safety and labour compliance should carry clear and published timelines. These should be tracked through the single-window system and, importantly, measured against actual performance. An investor can plan around a known timeline. It is uncertainty that stalls a project. Strict adherence to prescribed timelines translates to confidence which is quintessential for attracting investments.

The third question is space and infrastructure.

J&K needs to identify and earmark ready-to-occupy office spaces in both Jammu and Srinagar, with floor plates, tenure and tariffs clearly stated in advance. A GCC that decides to come here should be able to occupy its premises within months, not years. The space has to exist before the decision is made.

There is also a unique advantage here that few locations can offer. Jammu and Srinagar are two major cities within one Union Territory, under one administration, one policy framework and one institutional

point of contact. They draw upon different talent pools and can potentially serve as primary and continuity locations for the same GCC. A company should be able to scale across both cities without having to navigate two different administrations.

The fourth question is people.

Our commitment has to be simple: killing must respond to actual employer demand. Here comes the role of Mission YUVA and our technical institutions. Mission YUVA, the Skill Development institutions, our universities and the ITI network being upgraded under PM-SETU must increasingly train people for specific roles, in specific numbers and within specific timelines. The Department of Labour and Employment, which is spearheading the organisation of the Summit, will have an important role in translating industry conversations into an actionable talent strategy. This is also where the GCC opportunity becomes much more than an investment proposition.

A GCC does not merely bring an office. It brings new skills, new career paths, new technologies and new aspirations. For a young person in Jammu or Srinagar, the arrival of a global company should mean that a world-class career no longer necessarily requires leaving home for Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Mumbai or Delhi. That is the human dividend we must keep at the centre of this conversation.

And then comes the most important question of all: Who will be the first?

The first GCC centre matters disproportionately. Every subsequent investor will ask: Who else is already here? The answer today has to change from zero.

An anchor GCC can do more than create direct employment. A centre employing 500 professionals can support a comparable ecosystem of opportunities in facilities, transport, hospitality, food services, professional services and other allied sectors.

Securing that first anchor tenant is therefore not just another investment target. It is the decisive step in establishing confidence. The administration will concentrate its efforts accordingly. This is why the J&K GCC Summit matters.

Every panel, every panellist, every question and every answer over these two days will be an opportunity for us to learn and,

equally important, to allow industry to tell us what it needs from us.

We are not approaching the Summit merely to showcase J&K. We are approaching it to listen. If we want global capability centres to look beyond the metros, then we must demonstrate that a Tier-2 or Tier-3 location can offer something equally compelling: access to talent, competitive costs, quality institutions, reliable infrastructure, responsive governance and, above all, confidence that commitments made today will hold tomorrow.

Jammu and Kashmir has many of these ingredients. The task before us is to bring them together into an ecosystem that works.

Our entrepreneurial spirit is gathering momentum. Our young people are increasingly looking towards new-age sectors and new forms of enterprise. The GCC ecosystem can benefit from this talent and ambition, even as its presence here can accelerate the development of that very ecosystem.

The Path Forward

I do not believe J&K needs to become the biggest GCC destination in India. I believe it can become one of the most differentiated.

We have learnt something from building the Chenab Rail Bridge. Great journeys begin with an audacious idea, but they are completed through engineering, patience, persistence and thousands of smaller decisions made correctly along the way.

The GCC journey will be no different. We have the ambition. We have the foundations. We have a growing pool of talent. What we now need is execution, industry partnership and the patience to build for the long term.

The first J&K GCC Summit is therefore not the culmination of a journey. It is the beginning of one. And if we get the beginning right, I believe the destination is within reach. A GCC ecosystem that proves that the next generation of India's growth need not come only from its largest cities, but can also emerge from its most promising Tier-2 and Tier-3 centres.

Jammu and Kashmir is ready to make that journey. The promise is not that it will happen overnight. The promise is that we are ready to make it happen.

The writer is Chief Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir

J&K GCC Summit 2026:
The Arithmetic Of A Capability Centre

The Summit at IIM Jammu on 9 and 10 October gives the Union Territory a rare opportunity to hear from operators what can actually work

Shailendra Kumar (IAS)

Ask the chief financial officer of a Global Capability Centre what it costs to run. The answer begins with people. Salaries, pension, gratuity, power subsidy and social benefits take the largest share of UT's annual budget.

That simple fact should shape how Jammu and Kashmir competes for the sector. And that simple fact is what the J&K Government is going to position at the J&K GCC Summit 2026, being organized by Government of J&K and IIM Jammu. If a capability centre is a ten-year commitment to recurring cost, the location decision turns on what the centre will cost to run in its fifth and eighth years, discounted to today. The one-time cost of setting up is a minor line in that calculation.

We have 55 investors from the world's leading Fortune 500 GCC and GCC-enabling companies and India's leading multinationals descending at IIM Jammu on 9-10 October for the Summit. And each one of them perhaps already knows that a capital subsidy, however generous, only addresses the smallest part of the problem. A subsidy is easy to announce and it makes good PR.

But what moves a location decision is sustained relief on recurring cost. That means employment-linked support for each professional hired and retained, a defined share of payroll cost reimbursed for a limited period, lease rental assistance, electricity tariff subsidy, stamp duty relief on leases and a grant for each candidate trained and placed.

Outcome-linked support also has a fiscal property that capital subsidies lack. Its cost rises only when jobs rise. The exposure of the exchequer is therefore bounded by success and can be budgeted year by year against verified employment. A capital subsidy is paid at the start, whatever happens afterwards. Recovering it from a nucleus that underperforms is slow and uncertain.

Retention is the second variable. Here Jammu and Kashmir holds a structural advantage. Consider an illustrative centre of 500 professionals. At an annual attrition rate of 20 per cent it must replace 100 people every year. At 10 per cent it replaces 50. Over a decade the difference is 500 replacements, equivalent to rebuilding the entire centre once over. Each replacement carries the cost of recruitment, training and months of reduced productivity.

Professionals who work in Jammu and

Kashmir are, for the most part, working where their families live. The pull of a marginally better offer across town, which drives much of the churn in metropolitan clusters, operates with far less force here. Add office, talent and utility costs well below metropolitan levels and the Union Territory has a cost position that rests on its own fundamentals.

The competition is real. At least eight States have notified dedicated GCC policies, from Karnataka, which moved first, to Haryana in May 2026. Tamil Nadu addresses the sector through a dedicated framework and Andhra Pradesh through its IT policy. Their incentive menus vary widely. So do the thresholds at which benefits begin. A Union Territory without an existing GCC base cannot borrow a threshold designed for a mature cluster. It must set thresholds that a first entrant can realistically meet.

J&K's GCC Policy has been drafted and will be showcased to the prospective GCC multinationals that are attending the J&K GCC Summit. These multinationals will benchmark J&K against the above expected benefits. Be that as it may, we should assess support for the sector in J&K against five rules.

First, pay for outcomes. Support from the J&K Government should be attached to jobs created and sustained, payroll actually paid and candidates actually placed, each verified against EPFO and ESIC records, the exchequer may pay for delivery and only after it.

Second, setting a horizon. Every incentive should reduce over time and end on a known date, so that a centre's economics is tested on its own profitability rather than continuing purely because of support.

Third, avoid paying twice. A Union Territory instrument should fill the gaps left by Central and Union Territory schemes already in force for industry and skilling, chiefly on operating and lease cost and not vice versa.

Fourth, weigh the return. At an illustrative average salary of 10 lakh a year, a centre of 500 professionals pays 50 crore in salaries every year, much of it spent locally. It pays stamp duty on its leases. Its local spending and the consumption of its employees generate GST. It supports a comparable number of indirect jobs in facilities, transport and hospitality. For a Union Territory working to strengthen its own revenue base, a sector whose spending stays local is fiscally

attractive.

Fifth, publish the ledger. The incentives paid and the jobs verified against them should be disclosed every year. Transparency is the cheapest way to sustain public confidence in industrial incentives.

But then, the caveat is that no incentive can compensate for an unclear approval timeline, a building that is yet to be built or a talent pipeline that falls short of an employer's requirement. And that is where the J&K Government is ensuring that investors, and not just from the GCC ecosystem, are provided clear approval timelines, assessed and industry-ready talent pool and infrastructure that is plug-and-play ready than bare land.

As I mentioned earlier, the J&K GCC Summit 2026 at IIM Jammu on 9 and 10 October gives the Union Territory a rare opportunity to hear from operators what actually can work for us to be considered as the emerging destination for GCCs. Join the conversation and give us your inputs on what may work. Well, this is a first step, and we hope one that goes a million miles.

The writer is Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department, Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

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CS Dulloo reviews progress on solarization of houses, Govt buildings in J&K

Discoms directed to take up all rejected loan cases with concerned banks, ascertain reasons for rejection, resolve issues instantly

KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 07: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, Wednesday reviewed the progress on implementation of the solarization programme in Jammu and Kashmir, taking detailed stock of rooftop solar installations among residential consumers and solarization of Government buildings through CAPEX and RESCO modes under PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana here.

The meeting, as per an official statement, besides ACS, Power was attended by Commissioner Secretary, S&T; MD, JPDCL/KPDCL; Chief Engineers; CEO, JAKEDA and other concerned officers. Deputy Commissioners attended the meeting through video conferencing.

The Chief Secretary while taking appraisal of the progress directed the Power Development Department (PDD) and implementing agencies to address the bottlenecks affecting the pace of installations, with particular focus on bank financing, availability and distribution of vendors, metering and expeditious execution of PPAs.

Taking note of the high rejection rate of bank loans, the Chief Secretary directed the Discoms to take up all rejected loan cases with the concerned banks, ascertain the reasons for rejection and resolve the issues instantly so that eligible consumers are not denied the benefits of the rooftop solar programme due to avoidable financing bottlenecks.

The Chief Secretary also directed the Discoms to proportionately distribute vendors across districts to ensure adequate availability of



service providers and accelerate the pace of rooftop solar installations.

He also took a detailed appraisal from the concerned Deputy Commissioners regarding district-wise progress, seeking details of the impediments hampering achievement of assigned targets and calling for their resolution through coordinated intervention of the concerned agencies.

The meeting was informed by the ACS, PDD, Ashwani Kumar that J&K has achieved 55.24 per cent of its target under PM Surya Ghar, with 46,133 residential rooftops installed against the UT target of 83,500 installations by March 31, 2027. The achievement is higher than the national progress of 50.80 per cent.

While explaining the MD, KPDCL, Mehmood Ahmad Shah highlighted that of the total installations, 17,809 have been completed in JPDCL areas with a capacity of 62.69 MW, while 28,324 installations have been completed in KPDCL areas with a capacity of 102.55 MW, taking the cumulative installed rooftop

solar capacity in J&K to 165.24 MW.

The meeting was informed that 344.14 crore of Central subsidy and 13 crore of UT subsidy have so far been credited to beneficiaries. Against the 83,500 target, 89,680 applications have been received, with 82,591 applicants who had selected vendors, 69,460 consumer agreements uploaded and 42,686 rooftop systems commissioned.

It was further divulged that around 75 per cent of rooftop solar installations in KPDCL areas are dependent on bank financing. Of the 61,566 loan applications submitted, 17,416 cases have been rejected, including 14,232 in KPDCL areas. Meanwhile, 38,773 cases have been sanctioned and disbursed, while another 5,367 cases are under process.

Reviewing the solarization of Government buildings, the meeting was informed by Commissioner Secretary, S&T, Babila Rakwal that against a total CAPEX target of 12,994 Government buildings, 8,850

buildings have already been solarized, with a combined capacity of 95.64 MW.

This includes 4,793 buildings covered under PM Surya Ghar and hybrid projects with a capacity of 41.50 MW, besides 4,057 buildings solarized under the ongoing programme with a capacity of 54.14 MW, she added.

The remaining projects are also at various stages of implementation, with materials supplied to 1,300 buildings, 943 sites under active implementation and surveys underway for another 1,901 buildings.

Under the RESCO mode, the CEO, JAKEDA, PN Dhar detailed out that it has proposed solarization of 8,000 Government buildings with a cumulative capacity of 152 MW, with work orders already placed for 5,185 buildings. Moreover it was given out that NHPC has proposed solarization of 1,500 Government buildings with a capacity of 23 MW under this arrangement.

It was also highlighted that a Power Purchase Agreement for 8 MW has already been

signed for the Health and Medical Education Department in Jammu, while the solarization survey of School Education Department buildings in Jammu is underway.

The Chief Secretary directed JAKEDA to take up installation of meters with the respective Discoms simultaneously, so that metering does not become a bottleneck after installation of rooftop solar systems on Government buildings.

He, in turn, directed the PDD to ensure installation of smart meters forthwith, facilitating early commissioning and functioning of the solar rooftop systems already installed on Government buildings.

The Chief Secretary also called upon the concerned departments to complete the requisite PPAs expeditiously, stressing that administrative and procedural formalities should move in tandem with physical implementation to ensure that completed solar assets become operational without delay.

He further advised JAKEDA to accord greater focus to the RESCO mode of solarization, observing that the progress under this component is slow and needs to be accelerated through closer monitoring and timely resolution of implementation issues.

The Chief Secretary called for time-bound action and close inter-agency coordination to sustain the momentum of solarization, stressing that bottlenecks related to financing, vendor availability, metering, PPAs and project execution should be resolved promptly to translate the growing pipeline of rooftop solar projects into commissioned assets.

J&K Prosecution Deptt secures conviction in NDPS case, bail refusals in 3 other cases

KT News Desk

JAMMU, OCTOBER 07: The Prosecution Department of Jammu and Kashmir Wednesday highlighted three significant judicial outcomes of 5 and 6 October 2026, achieved through the dedication, thorough preparation and persuasive advocacy of its prosecutors.

On 6 October 2026, the Principal District & Sessions Judge, Poonch Susheel Singh, convicted Sherbaz Ahmed, Anzar Ahmed and Rafiq Azam under Section 8/21 (c) of the NDPS Act in the case registered as FIR No. 56/2022 at Police Station Mendhar. The Court held that a total of four kilograms of heroin, a commercial quantity, was recovered. The Ld. Public Prosecutor Pankaj Sethi examined 27 PWs out of the 29 cited witnesses, including naka party members, Malkhana and link witnesses and the forensic expert. The Court, as per an official statement, noted that the Forensic Science Laboratory detected Diacetyl Morphine (heroin) in all samples and that discrepancies on peripheral matters did not damage the core prosecution case. Arguments on sentence are listed for 7 October 2026.

In another matter, On 5 October 2026, the Special Judge (NDPS Cases), Jammu Parvaiz Iqbal, rejected the regular bail plea of accused Mohd Mangal Hussain in FIR No. 35/2026 of Police Station Miran Sahib. The Ld. Special Public Prosecutor Sunil Kumar vehemently opposed

the application, stressing that commercial quantity was involved, hence bar under Section 37 of the NDPS Act applied and that the accused could re-indulge in drug peddling or tamper with evidence if released. The Court found the plea hit by the rigour of Section 37, noting that charges had already been framed on 17 September 2026 on prima facie evidence of conspiracy with the co-accused, from whom 268.59 grams of heroin was recovered.

In a third matter, On 6 October 2026, the Court of Judicial Magistrate 1st Class (Munsiff), Jammu Rekha Sharma, rejected the bail application of Raman Kumar in FIR No. 260/2026 of Police Station Satwari under Section 318(4) of the BNS. The Ld. Asst. Public Prosecutor Palak Sharma objected, pointing to alleged prolonged fraud from 2021 to 2023 on the promise of government employment, similar FIRs against the accused, his residence about three kilometres from the complainant and the risk of intimidating witnesses and tampering with electronic evidence. The Court agreed that the accused appeared to be a repeat offender, along with investigation being incomplete and that influencing witnesses was highly probable.

The Department said these results reflect meticulous case preparation, fairness and unwavering commitment by its prosecutors, who protect society from the drug menace and safeguard citizens against fraud.

VB-G RAM G: DDC Reasi reviews implementation



KT News Desk

REASI, OCTOBER 07: A day-long training-cum-workshop on the Viksit Gram Panchayat Plan under VB-G RAM G was organised Wednesday by the Rural Development Department here in the Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex, Reasi, to sensitise field functionaries about the implementation framework and operational requirements of the scheme.

Addressing the workshop, the District Development Commissioner Kumar Abhishek, as per an official statement, called upon Gram Panchayat Secretaries and GRSS to ensure effective implementation at the grassroots level. He also urged the technical staff to make full use of the training and seek necessary clarifications on different aspects of the VB-G RAM G portal, particularly with regard to works and related procedural requirements.

The DDC stressed strict adherence to the permissible categories of works under VB-G RAM G and cautioned against any unauthorised change or deviation from approved Panchayat works. He said that such deviations could invite action and may also result in rejection of proposals on the portal.

He further directed the concerned officials to ensure that Gram Sabha and Ward

meetings are conducted properly and the Perspective Plans and Annual Action Plans are prepared and duly approved before being uploaded on the portal, along with the required resolutions and supporting documents.

Emphasising the importance of accurate and timely data entry, the DDC called upon field functionaries to develop a clear understanding of the portal and the implementation framework. He said that coordinated efforts at the Panchayat level were essential for effective implementation of the Mission and for the creation of durable and quality assets in rural areas.

Resource persons gave detailed demonstrations of different features of the portal and explained the procedures for making entries and uploading the requisite documents. Participants also raised queries and discussed practical issues being encountered during field-level implementation.

Additional District Development Commissioner Krishan Lal; Additional Deputy Commissioner Rakesh Kumar; Chief Planning Officer Narinder Kumar; Assistant Commissioner Development Mukesh Sharma; Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Block Development Officers and other concerned officers and officials were present on the occasion.

MMU Doda holds free medical camps at Bari, Bhargran



KT News Desk

DODA, OCTOBER 07: The Health Department Doda, under Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) initiative, Wednesday organized free medical camps at Bari and Bhargran villages of Medical Block Assar.

As many as 121 individuals were examined at the twin camps. They were provided free medical consultation with screening and diagnostic tests, besides essential medicines.

The health team, as per an official statement, also sensitized the public about preventive healthcare practices and the importance of timely medical consultation for early detection of diseases.

In addition, awareness regarding the JK Sehat App was imparted to the beneficiaries. They were provided hands-on assistance and guidance for completing registration, enabling them to access various digital health services with greater ease.

The initiative reflects the department's continued efforts to bring essential healthcare services closer to the community and strengthen the delivery of preventive and primary healthcare at the grassroots level.

ECONFEST 2026

KU creates vibrant platform for economics, research, career dialogue

KT News Desk

Srinagar October 07: The Department of Economics, University of Kashmir (KU), began the second edition of its annual academic and institutional festival, EconFest-2026, at the Main Campus on Wednesday.

Envisioned as a vibrant platform for intellectual engagement, research development, professional guidance and community building, the week-long fest brings together students, faculty, researchers, alumni, eminent scholars and industry representatives to facilitate meaningful academic exchange, strengthen research capabilities and provide students with wider exposure to career and professional opportunities.

Speaking at the inaugural session, Vice-Chancellor KU, Prof. Nilofer Khan, as per a KU statement, highlighted the importance of creating academic spaces that encourage curiosity, critical thinking and meaningful engagement beyond the classroom. She appreciated the Department for creating a platform that connects students with scholars, alumni and professionals and provides them with opportunities to broaden their academic and professional horizons.

"Universities must create spaces where knowledge is



shared and young minds are encouraged to think beyond the classroom," she said.

In his remarks Dean Academic Affairs KU, Prof. Shariefuddin Pirzada, said that such academic festivals provide students with an opportunity to engage with contemporary economic debates and interact with experts from diverse academic and professional backgrounds.

Registrar KU, Prof. Naseer Iqbal, and Dean, School of Business Studies KU, Prof. Mushtaq Darzi, also

expressed their views on the occasion, appreciating the Department's initiative to create an engaging academic platform that brings together teaching, research, professional development and alumni engagement.

Earlier, in her welcome address, Head, Department of Economics and Convener of the event, Prof. Effat Yasmin, said that the festival has been conceived as an extension of the department's academic environment, offering students opportunities to learn

from experts, interact with alumni and professionals, and develop their research and career-oriented skills.

The proceedings of the event were conducted by Dr. Elizabeth Mariam, while the vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Javid Iqbal Khan, Organising Secretary of the event.

The week-long festival features a diverse range of academic and student-centric programmes, including the Annual Economics Academic Series-2026: Eminent Scholar Lectures & Interaction, Fresher-cum-Farewell Party, "From Classroom to Career," Capacity Building Research Workshop for Young Scholars, "Meet the Distinguished Alumni," and Industry-Academia Interaction.

A major attraction of EconFest-2026 is the participation of eminent scholars and experts from leading academic and international institutions. The academic series features Prof. Indrani Roy Chowdhury, Professor of Economics, CSRD, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and Prof. Suraj Jacob, Professor, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram.

The festival will also feature a 'Meet the Eminent' interaction with Dr. Sajitha Bashir, former Advisor, Education Practice, World Bank.

One-day NITI TARA capacity building, orientation programme held in Kishtwar

KT News Desk

KISHTWAR, OCTOBER 07: A one-day Capacity Building and Orientation Programme on NITI TARA (Toolkit for Analysis, Review and Action) was held Wednesday in the Conference Hall, Mini Secretariat, New DC Office Complex Kishtwar. Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma chaired the Orientation session.

The programme was organised for district- and block-level officers to enhance their technical understanding and operational knowledge of the NITI TARA platform for the saturation of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), besides planning and monitoring of development works on the basis of data in Aspirational Block Marwah.

The Deputy Commissioner, as per an official statement,



emphasised the need to use technology for planning and

monitoring development works. He directed the officers to make

best use of the NITI TARA platform for taking decisions based on facts and ensuring better results for the welfare of the public.

Master Trainer Rajkumar Saklani delivered a detailed session on the purpose, features and use of the NITI TARA platform, including how to access the platform, check and study the available data, track important indicators and identify gaps in development.

The participants were made aware of the importance of using NITI TARA for data-based planning, proper monitoring of progress, identifying priority areas and taking informed decisions. The platform was described as a useful tool to improve the implementation of development works and achieve better results at the district and block levels.

The programme also laid emphasis on better coordination

among different departments for effective monitoring and timely completion of developmental works.

The meeting was attended by PO ICDS Rishi Kumar Sharma; CPO Akhil Thakur; ACD Manoj Kumar; ACP Neeraj Sharma; DSWO/DIO Tariq Parveez Qazi; CMO Dr. Sanjay Bhat; DSHO; DIO NIC Faizal Khan; LDM Praveen Kumar; BMO Dr. Sajjad Hussain; besides other concerned officers and officials.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

SIR could interfere

and consultations with National Conference president Dr Farooq Abdullah.

He said the government would first complete the GST Council meeting in Delhi an would consult Dr Farooq Abdullah on the cabinet expansion.

On recent administrative changes, the Chief Minister said some transfers had been ordered by the elected government while others had been carried out by the Lieutenant Governor.

He said the government would work together with the officers who had been posted in vari-ous departments.

CONGRATULATES PM MODI ON 25 YEARS IN PUBLIC LIFE

On Prime Minister Narendra Modi completing 25 years in public life, the Chief Minister said it is not easy to win elections continuously for such a long period. "He has been standing here for 25 years. People must have voted again and again. It is not easy to win elections for 25 years in the government and then to come at the central level," he said. "I would like to con-gratulate him on behalf of myself and my colleagues," he added.

GMC RECRUITMENT RULES NEARING NOTIFICATION

Regarding the pending recruitment rules for Government Medical Colleges (GMCs), CM Omar said the rules were almost ready and were being given the final shape. "There were some contradictions in the rules that were made and proposed. Those contradictions are be-ing removed," he said.

He said the government did not want to rush the process and added that the contradictions and conflicts were being resolved. "The whole process is being done. All the contradictions and conflicts are being removed. I think it will be notified soon," he said.

RA 30.35-CR SPORTS PACKAGE INAUGURATED AT GINDUN RAJBAGH

Earlier, the Chief Minister Omar inaugurated a Rs 30.35-crore package of sports infrastruc-ture at the Sher-i-Kashmir Multi Sports Activity Centre (SKMSAC) at Gindun Rajbagh, mark-ing an expansion of swimming and gymnastics facilities in Jammu and Kashmir.

The newly inaugurated facilities include a 50-metre by 25-metre, 10-lane Olympic-sized swimming pool, an all-weather heated training and toddler swimming pool, and a modern indoor gymnastics hall equipped with modern equipment.

Speaking on the occasion, he said the new facilities would provide young people with oppor-tunities to take up sports beyond traditional disciplines and enable them to train throughout the year.

"Through this facility, we are trying to provide students with new sports milieu. For example, there is an Olympic-sized swimming pool in Kashmir for the first time. Now, there is an ar-rangement for heating, which will be done through solar energy so that children can practice and train here for 12 months a year," he said.

He said the main swimming pool, constructed at a cost of rupees 19.96 crore, is 50 metres by 25 metres and has 10 competition lanes.

It is equipped with diving platforms at 1, 3 and 5 metres, modern filtration, circulation and disinfection systems, changing rooms, wash-rooms, storage lockers and spectator seating for 300 people.

The facility has been developed to support competitive swimming, diving and other aquatic sports.

The Rs 5.35-crore training and toddler swimming pool facility has been designed for year-round use. It includes a heating system, indoor lap pool, child-friendly toddler pool, anti-skid pool decking, modern filtra-tion and disinfection systems, besides supporting changing and shower facilities.

The facility is intended to cater to athletes, students and the wider community, including winter training.

INDOOR GYMNASTICS HALL INAUGURATED

The rupees 5.04-crore gymnastics hall, spread over 36 metres by 21 metres with a 10-metre height, has been equipped with modern gymnastics equipment.

The facility is expected to provide a dedicated platform for gymnastics training and coaching in Kashmir, where the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council has been conducting coaching camps and working towards developing a dedicated Gymnastics Academy.

Referring to the new gymnastics facility, the Chief Minister said there is considerable interest among children in Kashmir in taking up the sport, but the lack of dedicated infrastructure had limited opportunities.

"Generally, when we talk about gymnastics in Jammu and Kashmir, we only talk about Jammu. However, our children are interested in it and want to do it in Kashmir. But due to the lack of infrastructure, they could not do it," he said.

"A magnificent indoor gymnastics hall was inaugurated today. In

the same way, we will keep adding more sports so that we can give our children options and alternatives. And they can also develop an interest in new sports," the Chief Minister added.

During the inauguration, Omar witnessed live swimming and gymnastics demonstrations by sportspersons and trainees at the newly developed facilities.

The new infrastructure is aimed at strengthening grassroots participation, widening access to professional coaching and creating better pathways for young athletes to progress to national and international competitions.

The all-weather aquatic facilities will also enable sustained training during the winter months.

Minister for Youth Services & Sports Satish Sharma, Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, MLA Lal Chowk Sheikh Ahsan Ahmed, MLA Hazratbal Salman Sagar, MLA Zadibal Tanvir Sadiq, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, Secre-tary J&K Sports Council Tazayun Mukhtar Kawoosa, besides students, sportspersons and other concerned officers, were present on the occasion. (KNO)

J&K Govt rejigs

charge of the posts of Additional CEO, Jammu Metropolitan Regional Development Authority and Resident Commissioner, J&K Govt., New Delhi) is transferred and posted as Secretary to the Government, Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj. He shall also hold the additional charge of the post of Administrative Secretary, Culture Department and continue to hold the charge of Resident Commissioner, J&K Govt., New Delhi.

Naveen S L, IAS (AGMUT: 2012), Secretary to the Government, Civil Aviation Department (Addl. charge of Commissioner, Civil Aviation) is transferred and posted as Commissioner of Enquiries, J&K.

Avny Lavasa, IAS (AGMUT: 2013), Secretary to the Government, Transport Department (Additional Charge of the posts of Administrative Secretary, Hospitality & Protocol Depart-ment and Tribal Affairs Department) is transferred and posted as Secretary to the Govern-ment, Tourism Department. She shall continue to hold the charge of the post of Administra-tive Secretary, Tribal Affairs Department.

Ms. Anjali Sehrawat, IAS (AGMUT: 2013), Mission Director, Jal Jeevan Mission is transferred and posted as Secretary to the Government, Public Grievances Department.

Vikas Kundal, IAS (AGMUT: 2013) Chairman, J&K Services Selection Board is transferred and posted as Divisional Commissioner, Jammu. He shall also hold the additional charge of the post of Additional CEO, Jammu Metropolitan Regional Development Authority.

Majid Khalil Ahmad Drabu, IAS (AGMUT: 2013) Commissioner of Enquiries, J&K is trans-ferred and posted as Inspector General of Registration, J&K relieving Dr. Sagar Doifode Dattatray, IAS of the additional charge.

Rahul Yadav, IAS (AGMUT: 2014) Managing Director, J&K Power Development Corpora-tion Limited (Additional charge of MD, JK Power Corporation Limited) is transferred and posted as Administrative Secretary, Information Technology Department relieving Sh. Saurabh Bhagat, IAS of the additional charge. He shall also hold additional charge of the Managing Director, J&K Power Development Corporation Limited.

Owais Ahmed, IAS (AGMUT: 2014), Director, Skill Development J&K (Additional charge of Special Secretary to the Government, Planning, Development & Monitoring Department) is transferred and posted as Administrative Secretary, Planning, Development & Monitoring Department. He shall also hold additional charge of the post of Director, Skill Development J&K.

Dr. Sagar Doifode Dattatray, IAS (AGMUT: 2014), Special Secretary to the Government, Ag-riculture Production Department (Additional charge of Mission Director HADP, JKICP, Agristack & Inspector General of Registration, J&K) is transferred and posted as Administra-tive Secretary, Social Welfare Department.

Dr. Devansh Yadav, IAS (AGMUT: 2016), Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation (Additional charge of the posts of CEO, SPV, Jammu City and Mission Director, Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban)) is transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, Rajouri.

Rakesh Minhas, IAS (AGMUT: 2016), Deputy Commissioner, Jammu is transferred and post-ed as CEO, State Health Agency, J&K with additional charge of MD, Ayushman Bharat Digital Health Mission, J&K.

Shrikant Balasaheb Suse, IAS (AGMUT: 2016), Deputy Commissioner, Kupwara is transferred and posted as Chairman, J&K Services Selection Board.

Ms. Akriti Sagar, IAS (AGMUT: 2016), Managing Director, National Health Mission, J&K (Additional charge of Special Secretary to the Government, Health & Medical Education Department) is transferred and posted as Managing Director, J&K Tourism Development Cor-poration with additional charge of CEO, J&K Economic Reconstruction Agency (ERA).

Athar Aamir Ul Shafi Khan, IAS (RJ: 2016), Deputy Commissioner, Budgam is transferred and posted as Managing Director, National Health Mission, J&K.

Basharat Qayoom, IAS (JH: 2016), Deputy Commissioner, Pulwama is transferred and posted as Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation with additional charge of CEO, SPV for Srinagar City for implemen-tation of the Smart City Project.

Ms Ayushi Sudan, IAS (AGMUT: 2017), Deputy Commissioner, Samba is transferred and posted as Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation with additional charge of the posts of CEO, SPV, Jammu City and Mission Director, Swachh Bharat Mission, (Urban).

Minga Sherpa, IAS (AGMUT: 2017), Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur is transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, Jammu.

Faz Lul Haseeb, IAS (AGMUT: 2018), Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation is transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Agriculture Production Department. He shall hold the additional charge of Mission Director HADP and JKICP.

Abhishek Sharma, IAS (CG: 2018), Deputy Commissioner, Rajouri is transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, Kupwara.

Rupesh Kumar, IAS (AGMUT: 2019), Vice Chairman, Jammu Development Authority is transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, Samba.

Jatin Kishore, IAS (AGMUT:2020), Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal is transferred and post-ed as Deputy Commissioner, Budgam.

M Shreya Singhal, IAS (AGMUT: 2020), Managing Director, J&K Tourism Development Cor-poration (Additional charge of CEO, JK ERA and Director, Information, J&K) is transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal.

Ananth Dwivedi, IAS (AGMUT: 2021) CEO, State Health Agency, J&K with additional charge of MD, Ayushman Bharat Digital Health Mission, J&K and Additional Secretary to the Govt., Revenue Department is transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, Ud-hampur.

Ms. Mamta Yadav, IAS (AGMUT: 2021), awaiting orders of post-ing in the General Admin-istration Department, is posted as Director, Information, J&K.

Ms. Mahima Madan, IAS (AGMUT: 2021) Additional Deputy Commissioner Kathua, is transferred and posted as Additional District Development Commissioner, Anantnag.

Vidhu Shekhar, IAS (AGMUT: 2021) Additional Deputy Commissioner, Jammu is transferred and posted as Vice Chairman, Jammu Development Authority.

Pranjal Hazarika, IAS (AGMUT: 2021), Additional District Development Commissioner, Baramulla is transferred and posted as Director, J&K Archives, Archaeology and Museums.

Vivek Agarwal, IAS (AGMUT: 2021), Additional District Development Commissioner, Bud-gam is transferred and posted as Director, Employment, J&K with additional charge of CEO, Mission YUVA.

Ms. Ishita Rathi, IAS (AGMUT: 2022), awaiting orders of post-ing in the General Administra-tion Department, is posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Jammu vice Sh. Vidhu Shekhar, IAS

Vikas Ahlawat, IAS (AGMUT: 2022), Additional Deputy Commissioner, Anantnag, is trans-ferred and posted as Labour Commissioner, J&K.

Prince Kumar, IAS (AGMUT: 2023), Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Uri is transferred and posted as OSD, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board (SASB).

Gaurav Yadav, IAS (AGMUT: 2024), awaiting orders of posting in the General Administra-tion Department, is posted as Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Uri.

Ms. Seerat Baji, IAS (AGMUT: 2024), awaiting orders of posting in the General Administra-tion Department, is posted as Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Srinagar (West).

Ms Leena Padha, IAS (AGMUT), Mission Director, Skill Development Mission is transferred and posted as Registrar, Cooperative Societies, J&K vice Md. Shafiq Chak who shall report to General Administration Department for further posting.

Rajinder Singh Tara, IAS (AGMUT) Secretary in the Department of Forest, Ecology and Envi-ronment is transferred and posted as Secretary in the Revenue Department.

Ms. Anoo Malhotra, IAS (AGMUT), Director General, Rural Sanitation, J&K is transferred and posted as Mission Director, Jal Jeevan Mission.

Kuldeep Krishan Sidha, JKAS, Director, J&K Archives, Archaeology and Museums is trans-ferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, Pulwama.

Charandeep Singh, JKAS, Labour Commissioner, Jammu and Kashmir is transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, Shopian.

Rakesh Kumar, JKAS Additional Deputy Commissioner, Reasi is transferred and posted as Special Secretary, Lok Bhawan.

Sachin Jamwal, JKAS, Additional Secretary JKPSC is transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Kathua.

Sushil Kesar, JKAS, Deputy CEO, SASB is transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Reasi.

Irfan Bahadur, JKAS Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Srinagar (West) is transferred and posted as Assistant Commissioner (Revenue), Budgam.

Ms. Afroza Bano, JKAS Assistant Commissioner (Revenue), Budgam is transferred and shall await in the General Administration Department for further posting. By Order of the Lieu-tenant Governor. (KNO)

CM Omar inaugurates

opportunities to take up sports beyond traditional disciplines and enable them to train throughout the year.

"Through this facility, we are trying to provide students with new sports milieu. For example, there is an Olympic-sized swimming pool in Kashmir for the first time. Now, there is an ar-rangement for heating, which will be done through solar energy so that children can practice and train here for 12 months a year," he said.

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Referring to the new gymnastics' facility, the Chief Minister said there was considerable in-terest among children in Kashmir in taking up the sport, but the lack of dedicated infrastruc-ture had limited opportunities.

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"A magnificent indoor gymnastics hall was inaugurated today. In the same way, we will keep adding more sports so that we can give our children options and alternatives. And they can also develop an interest in new sports," the Chief Minister added.

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Taxpayers are

business community about tax compliance, taxpayer services and facilities available to them.

Addressing the participants, Dhami called for timely, accurate and transparent compliance with income tax laws, while highlighting the role of taxpayers in strengthening the

country's economic growth and development. She urged members of the business community to make full use of taxpayer services provided by the department and seek professional guidance wherever required.

Speaking to reporters, Dhami said the department had conducted extensive outreach in the district and interacted with the business community, chartered accountants and taxpayers.

"Our main message was that tax is a tool for nation-building and should not be viewed as a burden, but as a contribution towards nation-building," she said.

She said the department now had better data, improved data processing and stronger con-nectivity, enabling it to "connect all the dots", and stressed that voluntary compliance was the way forward.

"We appeal to the people of Kashmir to join the nation-building process through voluntary compliance. The Income Tax Department, assesses and taxpayers are all partners in nation-building," Dhami said.

On DDOs, the Principal Commissioner said the department had planned a DDO Awareness Week programme and was ready to address their concerns. "We have explained various tools and measures to help DDOs improve compliance. I hope DDO awareness will become stronger and that they will not face difficulties in TDS filing," she said.

Assistant Commissioner of Income Tax Sandhya Partap delivered a detailed presentation on the New Income Tax Act, 2025, covering income tax return filing, deductions and exemp-tions, TDS-related documentation and other issues relevant to the business and industrial community.

The programme witnessed participation from taxpayers, traders, hoteliers and representa-tives of various trade and professional bodies, including the Bar Association and District Le-gal Services Authority.

The programme also provided an interactive platform for participants to raise queries and seek clarifications on tax-related matters. Income Tax officials addressed their concerns and provided guidance on compliance and other relevant provisions.

The department reiterated its commitment to facilitating taxpayers, strengthening taxpayer services and promoting voluntary compliance, transparency and taxpayer-friendly admin-istration.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by the Principal Commissioner of Income Tax, Srinagar, to departmental officials, the district administration and participants for their presence and active participation. (KNO)

Rain lashes J&K

and gusty winds expected at many places, par-ticularly during the morning and forenoon hours.

Generally dry weather is expected from October 11 to the evening of October 13, followed by another spell of generally cloudy weather with light rain, light snowfall over higher reaches, thunderstorms and gusty winds at many places on October 14 and 15.

Srinagar recorded a maximum temperature of 24.6 degrees Celsius on Tuesday, 0.9 degrees below normal, while the minimum temperature settled at 9 degrees Celsius, 3.1 degrees above normal.

Qazigund recorded a maximum of 25 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 9.8 degrees, while Pahalgam recorded 19 degrees and 9.2 degrees respectively.

Kupwara recorded a maximum of 24.8 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 10 degrees, while Kulkernag recorded 24.4 degrees and 9.8 degrees respectively.

Gulmarg recorded a maximum temperature of 14.5 degrees Celsius, the lowest among the Valley stations, while its minimum temperature was 6.8 degrees.

In the Jammu division, Jammu recorded a maximum temperature of 32.9 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 20.9 degrees. Kathua recorded the highest maximum temperature in the divi-sion at 33.6 degrees, while Katra recorded 29.6 degrees.

The weather office advised farmers to ensure safe storage of harvested apples and paddy dur-ing October 6-10 in view of the possibility of rain and gusty winds.

People have also been advised to stay away from loose structures, electric wires and old trees during periods of strong winds.

The Meteorological Centre said people should take necessary precautions during the forecast wet spells. (KNO)

Two festival special

of law has been registered, while further investigation is underway. (KNO)

PoK girl sent

to Chakkan Da Bagh for her return to Pakistan.

The girl was identified as Samiya Azeem, daughter of Mohammad Azeem and a resident of Bains Gala,

Seri, Tehsil Khuiretta, District Kotli.

Meanwhile, details regarding the circumstances leading to her apprehension were not imme-diately available. Further details are awaited. (KNO)

Two festival special

for the convenience of passengers.

En route, the festival special train will halt at Sonipat, Panipat, Kurukshetra, Ambala Cantt, Dhandari Kalan, Jalandhar Cantt, Pathankot Cantt, Shaheed Captain Sunil Kumar Choudhary Kathua, Jammu Tawi and Shaheed Captain Tushar Mahajan stations.

In the same sequence, special train No. 04081/04082 is also currently being operated, which will remain operational till October 26.

Giving information in this regard, Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Jammu, Uchit Singhal, said, "During the festive season, there is a huge increase in the number of devotees visiting Mata Vaishno Devi. In view of this, these special trains are being run so that passen-gers can be provided with a smooth and comfortable journey with confirmed seats."

He appealed to passengers to plan their journey in advance and book tickets through the IRCTC website or railway reservation counters.

The Jammu Division Railway Administration is fully committed to providing better facilities to passengers during the festivals. (KNO)

AK-47, grenades,

silencer and 83 pistol rounds, besides other incriminating material.

The official said that in this regard, FIR No. 232 under relevant sections of law has been regis-tered and further investigation initiated. (KNO)

Keran: Peace replaces

and travel content creators," locals said, adding, "Army initiatives have helped bring attention to Keran. A few years ago, very few people outside Kupwara knew much about this place. Now people from different parts of the country are coming here."

But the rise in tourist numbers has also exposed gaps in basic infrastructure, particularly waste management. Garbage, including plastic bottles and food wrappers, are found at several locations near areas frequented by tourists. "It is disappointing to see people throwing waste along the river. We need proper disposal arrangements, but tourists also have a responsibility to keep the area clean," said Javed Ahmad a local resident.

Mobile connectivity remains another major concern for both residents and visitors.

Rohit Sharma, who had travelled to Keran with his family, said the lack of reliable mobile connectivity made it difficult to remain in contact with relatives and access online services.

"For a tourist destination that is receiving more visitors every year, basic communication facility-ites are important. The administration should address this issue," he said.

Officials said the administration is aware of the infrastructure requirements and is working to improve facilities in the area.

Several public toilets are being constructed in and around the tourist areas, while a plan for scientific disposal of waste is also under consideration, officials said.

For residents, however, the biggest change in Keran has come not from tourism but from the relative peace that has prevailed since the February 2021 ceasefire understanding between India and Pakistan.

The ceasefire brought a significant change to life along the LoC, residents said, after years in which shelling had disrupted daily life and damaged homes and other property.

"Before the ceasefire, people lived in fear. Shelling could happen at any time and families had to remain prepared to move to safer places," said Gulham Nabi, a resident of Keran.

He said the cessation of firing has allowed people to resume normal activities and opened the possibility of tourism developing in the area. "We have lost people and seen houses damaged during the years of shelling. Nobody wants those days to return. Today, when we see tourists coming here, it feels like a completely different Keran," Nabi said.

Some families who moved away during the years of conflict have not returned, residents said, leaving behind abandoned and damaged houses in the area.

The residents, however, believe that sustained investment in infrastructure could help Keran emerge as one of the major tourist destinations in north Kashmir.

Better roads, mobile connectivity, sanitation and scientific waste management would be cru-cial for sustaining the growth in tourist arrivals, they said.

For a region once defined by the sound of shelling, the growing presence of tourists along the Kishenganga now offers a markedly different picture of Keran, where the border remains vis-ible but everyday life is increasingly shaped by tourism and the pursuit of peace. (KNO)

We Will Do It: PM Modi gives new slogan to make India developed nation by 2047

PTI

New Delhi, Oct 07: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday gave a new slogan -- "We Will Do It" -- for realising the dream of making India a developed country by 2047, saying the goal will be achieved through visionary policies and hard work.

Addressing the 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Sabha' on his completion of 25 years as head of government, Modi also said that one of the biggest challenges the country faces is the division of society along the lines of votes.

"But when a farmer's field lacks water, does the problem affect only one caste? When there is no electricity, does darkness fall only on one community? The answer is no. If the problem belongs to everyone, the solution must be for everyone," he said.

The prime minister said the dream of a developed India that people are seeing today will surely come true.

"There is no reason for India to stop. A hundred years ago, there were less than 40 crore of us; today, we are more than



140 crore. The 140 crore citizens together will build a developed India by 2047, and we certainly will. We Will Do It," he said.

"Viksit Bharat by 2047: We Will Do It. Top 3 Economy: We Will Do It. Self-reliant: We Will Do It. Global Manufacturing Hub: We Will Do It. Hosting the Olympics: We Will Do It. Step into space: We Will Do It. This energy, this enthusiasm, this confidence is extraordinary," he said.

Highlighting his government's achievements in different sectors, Modi said what once seemed unimaginable has

become possible.

Who would have thought that 25 crore people could rise out of poverty within a decade, yet India made it happen, he said.

"That is why I believe in the strength and potential of 140 crore Indians. After 25 years of experience, I can say with confidence that we are witnessing India's transformation right before our eyes," he said.

Referring to Captain Smit Machchhar, an Indian pilot with flydubai who foiled an attempt by his co-pilot to crash an Israel-bound flight despite being stabbed, the PM said the world

is talking about India's pilot today and a day will come when the world will talk about made-in-India aircraft.

"These goals will be achieved through visionary policies and relentless hard work. India may have challenges, but we also have 140 crore solutions," he said.

Modi has been serving continuously as head of government -- first as chief minister of Gujarat for three terms and subsequently as prime minister of India after winning three Lok Sabha elections -- since October 7, 2001.

Modi said when he took oath as Gujarat chief minister on October 7, 2001, he never imagined this milestone would come.

"I bow before the people of India for their trust in me. For me, people are God; hard-working BJP workers are my strength," he said.

He also expressed gratitude to all colleagues of BJP, NDA and all those who hold immense reverence for democracy. He said that while his well-wishers encouraged him, critics taught him to look within.

India urges de-escalation following Black Sea ship attacks Says protecting seafarers critical

PTI

New Delhi, Oct 07: India on Wednesday condemned a string of attacks targeting four commercial vessels in the Black Sea over the past two days that left two of the 33 Indian nationals on board injured.

New Delhi renewed its call for dialogue and diplomacy to de-escalate tensions and restore regional peace, emphasising that attacks on commercial shipping and seafarers must cease immediately to ensure free and unimpeded international navigation.

External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal, at the same time, referred to India's ongoing conversations with Russia and Ukraine to push for a peaceful solution to the lingering conflict between the two countries.

"We have ongoing conversations with both Russia and Ukraine in this regard," he said.

Jaiswal said New Delhi condemns the attacks on commercial vessels in the Black Sea region.

"We have seen a string of attacks targeting commercial vessels in the Black Sea region. We condemn such attacks that threaten commercial shipping and endanger lives of our seafaring community," Jaiswal said at his regular media briefing.

Elaborating on the incidents, he said commercial vessel MV Royad Mammadov came under attack while it was sailing plying in the Black Sea.

"There were three Indian nationals onboard. One of them was injured and has since received medical treatment. Our embassy in Romania is in touch with them for their safety and welfare," he said.

Jaiswal said a Togo-flagged ship, Alfa Watan, was attacked on Tuesday and the fate of its crew is unknown.

"Another vessel, the Palau flagged MV Able came under a drone attack, but fortunately all its 18 crew, including seven Indian nationals, have been rescued. One Indian national suffered injuries and is under medical supervision," he said.



Jaiswal thanked the Bulgarian authorities for their timely help, adding Indian mission in Bulgaria is offering all possible assistance to the seafarers.

"The fourth ship which came under attack is the Liberian flagged Aframax Rio, an oil tanker. All the crew, consisting of 23 Indian seafarers, have been rescued," he said.

Jaiswal said India has been consistently calling for dialogue and diplomacy to de-escalate tensions and enable early return of peace to the region.

"The targeting of commercial shipping and seafarers in the region must end, and free and unimpeded navigation and commerce through the international waterways must be restored at the earliest," he said.

Jaiswal, responding to a question on the Ukraine conflict, said India has consistently maintained that dialogue and diplomacy are the way forward.

"The prime minister has on multiple occasions expressed that this is not an era of war, and that solutions will not emerge from the battlefield," he said.

The spokesperson said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi told Russian President Vladimir Putin during a meeting in Bishkek in August that time has come for "endless war to give way to end of war".

"In keeping with this idea to bring peace, India has engaged both sides. This has been appreciated by both Russia and Ukraine. You would have seen the comments made by President Putin and Foreign Minister Sybiha of Ukraine," he said.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Sunday that India has moved beyond advocacy and stepped up its efforts in recent months for resolving the Ukraine conflict by engaging in conversations with both Kyiv and Moscow.

Last week, Putin said Modi has "good ideas" to find a mutually acceptable solution to the conflict. Ukraine Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha said on Friday that Kyiv received separate proposals from India and three other nations for a possible ceasefire.

"Insofar as specifics are concerned, the external affairs minister recently elaborated on them. He noted that we are trying to be helpful, starting with the Black Sea safety of shipping issue, addressing immediate concerns of Russia and Ukraine on grain and energy exports, and non-attack possibilities," Jaiswal said.

"We have ongoing conversations with both Russia and Ukraine in this regard," he said.

RBI hikes repo rate by 25 basis points to 5.5 pc Changes stance to 'calibrated tightening'

PTI

Mumbai, Oct 07: After nearly three-and-half years, the Reserve Bank of India on Wednesday raised key benchmark policy rate by 25 basis points to 5.5 per cent in a bid to tame rising inflation amid continuing West Asia crisis.

With the rate hike, home loans, vehicle loans and corporate loans would become expensive and EMI for existing

borrowers would also go up.

A hike in the short-term lending rate (repo) by the RBI marks a reversal from its previous policy action.

The last repo rate hike was in February 2023, when the RBI raised the rate by 0.25 per cent to 6.50 per cent. It kept the rate unchanged through 2023-24 before beginning its rate-cut cycle in 2025.

Announcing the bi-monthly monetary policy, RBI Governor

Sanjay Malhotra said the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) unanimously decided to raise the policy repo rate by 25 basis points.

Meanwhile, retail inflation rose to 4.82 per cent in August as compared to 4.45 per cent in the previous month.

MPC changed its stance to 'calibrated tightening' from 'neutral' and also underscored that rate cut is unlikely in the near term given the current conditions.

Besides, MPC must have taken into account the recent actions by central banks of developed nations especially the US Federal Reserve and the European Central Bank.

Last month, the US Fed effected a 25 basis points rate hike to rein in inflation brought on by spiralling oil prices and other factors.

Prior to the Fed, the European Central Bank too raised its key interest rate by 25 basis points.

IAF moving in right direction, needs faster induction, more combat mass: Air Chief



PTI

New Delhi, Oct 07: IAF air chief marshal A P Singh on Wednesday said the Air Force is moving in the "right direction", but the pace can be little faster than it is today, and asserted that it needs to bolster its capabilities in the age of rapidly evolving technology.

Addressing a gathering of air warriors and IAF veterans on the eve of its 94th anniversary at the Air Force Auditorium at Subroto Park here, he also said there are areas in which we need "greater capacity, faster induction and more combat mass".

The chief of the air staff who retires this month, will hand over the mantle to Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, who has been named his successor.

In his address, Singh said in the last few years, the focus in the IAF has shifted from "platform-centric to capability-centric" approach, and also on the integration of various components.

"And, it proved its worth during Operation Sindoor," he said.

The IAF chief underlined that the progress taking place in the force, with regards to its capabilities enhancement and other areas, but flagged delays in some projects.

"I am happy that we are progressing in the right direction, but whether we are progressing at the correct pace, is something for everybody to judge. Yes, we can be a little faster than we are today," the IAF chief said.

He also mentioned about the delay in LCA Mk-1A project.

In his address, he further said that operations have tested the IAF, military exercise have stretched it, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief efforts have taken it beyond the border, and air diplomacy has expanded the partnerships.

India, Canada agree to boost security ties, extradition cooperation

PTI

New Delhi, Oct 07: India and Canada have agreed to deepen coordination on combating transnational organised crime, terrorism, violent extremism, and the extradition of criminal offenders, a move that comes amid New Delhi's growing concerns over activities of pro-Khalistani elements from Canadian soil.

These issues were discussed during talks in New Delhi on Tuesday between National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and David Morrison, the Senior Diplomatic and International Affairs Advisor to the Canadian prime minister.

A joint press statement released on Wednesday said the two sides noted with satisfaction the sustained and constructive bilateral engagements over the past year, guided by mutual trust, respect for each other's concerns and sensitivities, and a shared commitment to strengthening bilateral relations.

It said both sides welcomed efforts to advance negotiations for a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), adding they discussed the growing potential for advancing a substantive bilateral defence relationship.

Morrison was on a three-day visit to India from October 5 to 7.



In the Doval-Morrison talks, the two sides reviewed progress in bilateral security and law enforcement cooperation, including the implementation of the shared Security Work Plan concluded in February 2026, the statement said.

"They agreed to deepen coordination and cooperation in combating transnational organised crime, terrorism and violent extremism, human and drug trafficking, cybercrime, extortion, and extradition of criminal offenders.

The meeting was held as part of the ongoing bilateral security dialogue at the

NSA level. The previous dialogues in this format took place in New Delhi in September 2025 and in Ottawa in February 2026.

"Both sides acknowledged the guidance provided by their respective prime ministers during their meetings in New Delhi in March and on the margins of the G7 Summit in E vian in June," the statement noted.

The India-Canada relations hit rock bottom following then Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's allegations in 2023 of a potential Indian link to the killing of Sikh separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar.

India had dismissed Trudeau's accusation as "absurd". In October 2024, India recalled its high commissioner Sanjay Kumar Verma and five other diplomats after Ottawa attempted to link them to the Nijjar case.

New Delhi also expelled an equal number of Canadian diplomats.

However, Liberal Party leader Mark Carney's victory in the parliamentary election in April last year helped rebuilding the relations. Subsequently, both sides posted their high commissioners in each other's capitals. The two countries also agreed to revive several mechanisms to advance relations in a range of areas. The relations witnessed a major upswing since Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney's visit to India in March.

Rajnath nod to revised SOP for utilisation of defence ministry's field firing ranges

PTI

New Delhi, Oct 07: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has approved the revised Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for utilisation of his ministry's proof ranges, field firing ranges and test facilities by members of the Indian defence industry, officials said on Wednesday.

The revised SOP aims to provide simpler, transparent and industry-friendly access to these facilities, the defence ministry said.

"The procedure for calculation and payment of proof/ testing charges, wherever applicable, has been incorporated in the SOP, thereby simplifying the documentation and process for industry," it said in a statement.

The SOP lists the proof ranges, field firing ranges and laboratory test



facilities available with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), government's quality assurance agencies and the three services for utilisation by the Indian defence industry. The defence minister has approved the revised SOP for utilisation of such

facilities of the ministry by the country's defence industry, it said.

The revised SOP provides for a detailed and simplified procedure for allotment and utilisation of such facilities, along with requisite formats.

The provision for arbitration in the existing SOP has been replaced with a simpler and industry-friendly conciliation agreement clause, to facilitate ease of doing business through faster resolution of issues faced by the indigenous defence industry, the ministry said.

The revised SOP incorporates various government initiatives aimed at facilitating indigenisation, innovation and defence exports, besides providing proof and test support to developmental projects undertaken by the defence industry.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, ZAHOOR AHMAD MIR
S/O AB KHALIQ MIR
R/O GANDERHAMA, GANDERBAL
WORKING AS HEAD CONSTABLE TELECOM
IN J&K POLICE TELECOMMUNICATION UNDER
REGIMENTAL NO. 2444/PW TEL- 013277
AM REPRESENTING FOR CORRECTION OF MY NAME
AND PARENTAGE RECORDED AS ZAHOOR AHMED MIR
IN MY SERVICE RECORDS INSTEAD OF ZAHOOR
AHMAD MIR
AS SUCH, OBJECTIONS IF ANY, IN THIS REGARD
ARE INVITED FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC WHICH
SHOULD REACH TO ZONAL HEADQUARTERS POLICE
TELECOMMUNICATION KASHMIR ZONE SRINAGAR
WITHIN THE PERIOD OF (07) SEVEN DAYS FROM THE
DATE OF THIS PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for information of all concerned that my name has been wrongly recorded in my service record as Mohd. Anwar instead of my correct name Mohd. Anwar Khan, and my parentage has been wrongly recorded as Ab. Maten instead of my correct parentage Abdul Mateen Khan, as per my school records.
I hereby request the concerned Police Department to make the necessary corrections in my service record. Any person having any objection in this regard may file the same before the concerned Police Department within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which no objection shall be entertained thereafter.

Mohd. Anwar Khan
S/o Abdul Mateen Khan
R/o Gotli Bagh, Ganderbal

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Ghulam Hassan Ganaie, S/o Ghulam Mohammad Ganaie, R/o Barsoo, Tehsil & District Ganderbal, hereby give notice to the general public that, as per my Declaration-cum-Undertaking, I have voluntarily undertaken to provide land measuring 10 Marlas situated at Mouza Barsoo, along with 4 (four) rooms out of my residential house situated at Mouza Barsoo, for the residential benefit and future welfare of my grandchildren namely Sadiya and Momin, children of my son Talib Ahmad Ganaie and his wife Zamrooda.
I have further undertaken to execute the proper legal instrument/document in respect of the aforesaid land and residential portion in favour of Sadiya and Momin, subject to applicable law and completion of necessary formalities.
Any person having any objection/claim in respect of the above declaration/undertaking may submit the same before the concerned authority within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which no objection shall be entertained thereafter.

Ghulam Hassan Ganaie
S/o Ghulam Mohammad Ganaie
R/o Barsoo, Tehsil & District Ganderbal

Quick Read

Over 900 Participate in north Kashmir Women's Sports Festival, MLA Kar bats for sports and well-being



Waris Fayaz

Sopore, Oct 07 : The first North Kashmir Women's Sports Festival concluded at Government Degree College for Women (GDCW), Sopore on Wednesday.

More than 900 athletes from 14 degree colleges and five higher secondary schools participated in the event.

The 3-day festival, which commenced on October 5, featured competitions across multiple sporting disciplines and provided young women athletes a platform to showcase their talent and competitive spirit.

The valedictory function was presided over by Sopore MLA Irshad Rasool Kar as the chief guest. Addressing the gathering, Kar stressed the importance of sports in developing the physical and mental well-being of young people.

He also appreciated the efforts of GDCW Sopore Principal Prof Subeena Chiloo and the organising team for conducting the festival successfully, describing the initiative as an important platform for encouraging girls to participate in sports.

Arteta extends Arsenal contract until 2030 after premier league title

AP

London, Oct 7 : Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta has signed a new contract that is set to extend his stay at the English champions beyond a decade.

Arteta penned a deal that keeps him at Arsenal until 2030, the club said Wednesday.

The 44-year-old Spanish coach took charge in December 2019 and is now comfortably the longest-serving coach in the Premier League.

He led Arsenal to the league title last season to end the club's 22-year wait to be the champions of England again.

"We have already built a special bond and created memories that will last a lifetime," Arteta said in a club statement, "and what is so exciting is that this is only the beginning of what we can achieve together."

Arteta also played for Arsenal, spending the last five years of his career there.

"He has a deep understanding of Arsenal's values and carries them in his heart," Arsenal co-chairmen Stan and Josh Kroenke said.

"He knows what this club means to everyone connected to it and is committed to building on everything we have achieved together."

BCCI praises Agarkar's contribution as chief selector

PTI

New Delhi, Oct 7 : The Board of Control for Cricket in India lauded outgoing chairman of selectors Ajit Agarkar for showing commitment, conviction and contribution in his role over the last three years.

Agarkar's tenure ended last month and the BCCI on Tuesday invited applications to fill the vacant post. This was after weeks of speculation over whether he would be considered for an extension.

"A tenure marked by some truly special moments for Indian cricket -- three ICC trophies, two Asia Cup titles and back-to-back Asian Games Gold medals, along with a run to the 2023 ODI World Cup final," the BCCI posted on its official X account.

"Thank you, Mr Ajit Agarkar for your commitment, conviction and contribution as Chairman of the Men's Selection Committee. Wishing you the very best for the journey ahead," the country's apex cricket governing body added.

India won the 2024 and 2026 T20 World Cup, along with the 2025 Champions Trophy during Agarkar's tenure, during which he handled a transition that involved T20 and Test retirements of batting greats Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma.

BCCI's congratulatory message follows head coach Gautam Gambhir's note of thanks to Agarkar earlier in the day.

Gambhir said "history would be kinder" to Agarkar whose conviction in "team first" theory was crucial to the country winning three ICC trophies during his tenure.

UK PM Burnham vows to stamp out antisemitism on Israel attacks anniversary

PTI

London, Oct 7 : British Prime Minister Andy Burnham on Wednesday marked the third anniversary of the October 7 Hamas-led attacks in Israel with a pledge to stamp out antisemitism and violence targeted at the country's Jewish community.

In a statement from 10 Downing Street in London, Burnham said the UK stands with Jews in Britain and that abuse and violence targeted at the community would not be tolerated.

His statement came as a series of events were held across the UK to commemorate the third anniversary of the October 7, 2023, attacks in Israel, which retaliated by launching a major military offensive in Gaza in which more than 74,200 people have been killed.

"Three years on from the October 7 attacks on Israel, we remember those who were senselessly killed by Hamas terrorists," stated Burnham.

"The impact of the attacks has been felt not just in Israel, but in Jewish communities across the world who still bear the burden of the tragic events that day.

"I want Britain's Jewish community to hear this from me directly. We stand with you. Abuse and violence against you, in any form, will not be tolerated. Not on our streets, not online, not in our schools or universities," he said.

The British Prime Minister referenced the terrorist attack on the Heaton Park Hebrew Congregation in Manchester last year among several "attacks against Jewish people and institutions"



in the UK since October 2023.

"At home, we are committed to protecting our citizens from vile hatred. Abroad, we continue to work towards a two-state solution, with Israelis and Palestinians living side by side in peace and security. An attack on Jewish people in Britain is an attack on all of us. Antisemitism has no place in this country, and we will do everything we can to stamp it out," said Burnham.

Meanwhile, British Jewish organisations gathered in central London for a vigil honouring victims of the October 7 attacks.

"Three years ago, Hamas terrorists infiltrated Israel, murdering 1,200 men, women and children, injuring thousands and taking 251 people captive. May their memories forever remain a blessing," the Board of Deputies of British Jews said in a statement.

The Jewish Leadership Council said the attacks had been "the deadliest day for our people since the Holocaust."

The Israeli Embassy in London

expressed "deep sadness" over the position of the British government towards Israel, which it claimed has changed so "substantially from the solidarity expressed in those first days". It added that the atmosphere for Jewish people "continues to worsen" in the UK.

The commemorations coincided with hundreds of students turning out for pro-Palestinian protests across the country on the third anniversary of the attacks, amid calls from political leaders and police to reschedule.

"I want to send a message to anyone intending to join that march: please reflect on the impact and distress it will cause on this very significant date, and exercise your right to protest on a different day," said Ade Adekan, the Metropolitan Police's assistant commissioner.

The police force imposed strict conditions on the march in London, ensuring a set route for the rally. Similar pro-Palestine rallies led by student societies also took place at Scottish universities.

Baramulla clinches all six IDPL Kho-Kho championship titles

KT News Desk

Baramulla, Oct 7: Baramulla scripted a remarkable sporting achievement by winning all six Inter-District Provincial Level (IDPL) Kho-Kho championship titles across different age categories, completing a historic clean sweep.

The 18-day championship, organised by the Directorate of Youth Services and Sports, J&K, under the supervision of Director General Anuradha Gupta, concluded today at HSS Doabgah. The Under-14 Girls final saw Baramulla defeat Budgam to complete the unprecedented six-title sweep.

Around 720 boys and girls from different districts of Kashmir Province participated in the championship. The closing ceremony was attended by the Principal, HSS Doabgah, who congratulated the players, coaches, officials and organising teams for the successful conduct of the event.

DYSSO Baramulla, Mushtaq Ahmad Pampori appreciated the dedicated efforts of the organising committees, officials, volunteers and staff of HSS Doabgah for ensuring the smooth conduct of the championship.

ADC Bandipora inaugurates boys rugby competition at S.K. Stadium



KT News Desk

Bandipora Oct 07: Department of Youth Services and Sports, District Bandipora, successfully commenced the Inter-District UT Level Rugby AAG Boys Competition at S.K. Stadium Bandipora with an energetic opening ceremony.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Zaffar Husson Shawl, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and interacted with the young participants, sharing inspiring words and encouraging them to play with discipline,

confidence and true sportsmanship. DYSSO Bandipora Ab Majeed Rather was also present on the occasion.

The opening matches witnessed exciting action. In the U14 Boys category, Bandipora defeated Jammu in the opening match. In the U17 Boys category, Jammu secured victory over Bandipora in the first game.

The competition continues with young athletes from across the UT showcasing their talent, determination and sporting spirit at S.K. Stadium Bandipora.

Road ahead for 36-year-olds: Can Shami follow Bhuvneshwar to Indian team?



PTI

Bengaluru, Oct 7: Can Mohammed Shami emulate Bhuvneshwar Kumar to make an India comeback?

The question has been ringing across the country's cricketing landscape since Bhuvneshwar's return to India squad after a four-year hiatus, for the away T20I series against New Zealand.

But the situation is far too

complex once the layer of hope is peeled off.

There was a huge outcry to call the Bhuvneshwar back once he grabbed 45 wickets from 30 IPL matches in 2025 and 2026 for Royal Challengers Bengaluru.

But Shami has largely remained a forgotten figure in the last two seasons of IPL, taking just 18 wickets from 22 matches at an average economy rate of 10.

In theory, Bhuvneshwar, who

bowls at a gentle pace on flat decks, has less chance than Shami to succeed in T20s.

However, the Meerut pacer tides over the lack of pace with his ability to prodigiously swing the new ball in the Power Play, and endless variations -- from an accurate yorker to a befuddling slow bouncer -- in the death overs.

RCB assistant coach Omkar Salvi decoded Bhuvneshwar's success.

"First of all, I'd like to congratulate Bhuvneshwar on his comeback to the Indian T20 team. It's great to see him back in the national team, and it reflects the consistency and hard work he has put in over the last couple of years.

"One of his biggest strengths is the clarity he has about his game. He knows what works for him and keeps things simple. He has continued to adapt to the demands of T20 cricket, whether it's creating chances with the new ball or using his variations in the later stages of an innings," Salvi told PTI.

Russia tightens information over suspected pneumonic plague case

AP

Moscow, Oct 7 : Russian authorities are keeping a tight lid on information about last week's suspicious death of a lab worker in Siberia that has been surrounded by secrecy and claims that it could have been caused by pneumonic plague.

While the case has raised global concerns, Russian state TV and other national state-controlled media have steered clear of the subject. Some state-sponsored news outlets withdrew earlier reports about the case, which had topped independent online news outlets.

Russia's public health watchdog, Rospotrebnadzor, said Sunday the lab worker was diagnosed with "pneumonia of unknown aetiology," meaning its origin was not known.

In its official, tersely worded statements, it does not link the case to pneumonic plague, saying only that "extensive" testing found no evidence her illness was caused by any of the pathogens she worked with at the Irkutsk Anti-Plague Research Institute of Siberia and the Far East.

A state TV station in Irkutsk

reported she died Oct. 2 in a hospital in Shelekhov, a town just outside Irkutsk.

Officials have quarantined a hospital and are monitoring the contacts of the worker, who died of what unconfirmed media reports said could have been pneumonic plague -- a less common but severe form of plague that can spread from person to person.

Moscow informed the World Health Organisation that no case of plague has been registered in the Irkutsk region in southeastern Siberia.

President Donald Trump said Tuesday he would speak about the issue "very soon" with Russian President Vladimir Putin and report about it "probably tomorrow." Wednesday is the Kremlin leader's 74th birthday.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Wednesday that a Putin-Trump call hasn't been set yet but could be organised quickly.

Trump said the US stands ready to help Russia. Asked what the US intelligence community was saying about the case, Trump said the US is in "very deep discussions" on the topic.

The WHO prods Russia for more information

Israel commemorates third anniversary of Hamas' October 7 attack



PTI

Jerusalem, Oct 7 : Israel on Wednesday commemorated the third anniversary of Hamas' October 7 attack, which caused an unprecedented and unfathomable single-day loss in the country's history and united the nation at that time. However, three years later, Israeli society faces deep internal divisions, and many questions remain unanswered.

On October 7, 2023, Hamas-led terrorists killed around 1,200 people and kidnapped 251 in Israel, which retaliated by launching a major military offensive in Gaza, in which more than 74,200 people have been killed.

The attack challenged the Jewish state's long-standing image of a country that prides itself on its intelligence and technological superiority.

Hamas, which launched the multi-front attack -- by air, land and sea -- called October 7 an "extraordinary military achievement", in a statement on Wednesday, the Times of Israel reported.

As the war enters its fourth year, fatigue, financial instability, personal losses, acute manpower shortage and unresolved questions about the war's goals have raised several internal issues in Israel, with sharp divisions emerging in the society.

On Wednesday, as Israelis gathered at commemorative ceremonies, protests were held against the government's handling of the attack.

Commemorative ceremonies began at 6:29 am, matching the time the attack began three years ago, with survivors and bereaved families coming together at Kibbutz Re'im, the site of the Nova music festival, where terrorists massacred 378 people and took 44 hostages to Gaza. Official state ceremonies commemorating the attack took place on Monday, the

Hebrew memorial date set by the government.

The main ceremony, organised by survivors and bereaved families, is taking place at Tel Aviv's Yarkon Park.

The ceremonies not only honoured those lost but also carried strong political overtones, with participants at several key locations expressing outrage at the government's failures and its resolute stand to stall an independent enquiry by constituting a state commission of inquiry.

At a gathering near the Knesset (Israeli parliament), Gal Goren, whose parents Avner and Maya were killed on October 7 and whose bodies were taken to Gaza, addressed the demonstrators and raised several questions, stressing: "What do you say about three years of guilt, shame and regret?"

The iconic fountain in Dizengoff Square, in the heart of Tel Aviv, was painted red on Wednesday morning.

Protesters brought the burned-out shells of cars belonging to victims of the Nova music festival massacre to the demonstration outside the Knesset.

Protests were also held outside the homes of senior politicians, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's residence in Caesarea, his official residence in Jerusalem, Knesset Speaker Amir Ohana's home in Tel Aviv, Justice Minister Yariv Levin's home in Modi'in and Education Minister Yoav Kisch's home in Hod Hasharon. Activists from the social democratic and Zionist political party 'Young Democrats' arrived outside Netanyahu's residence at 6:29 am, "to make sure that this time, three years after the terrible massacre, Netanyahu wakes up", supporters said. They were mocking the recent allegations that the Israeli prime minister was too late in acting on the information of the dastardly attacks passed on to him that morning three years ago.