

# Kashmir Convener



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## Unity key strength of India besides its military power: PM Modi

KC News Network

**AMARAVATI:** After getting full support from NDA allies for his government's response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, which left 26 people, mostly tourists dead, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said that India's strength today is not just in its weapons but also in its unity.

Addressing a rally in Amaravati, PM Modi said, "Unity is a key strength of India besides its military strength."

Minutes before the Prime Minister's address, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan referred to the Pahalgam terror attack and voiced their open support to the Prime Minister in his actions against



Pakistan and terrorism. "Today, our strength is not just weapons but also our unity," (Aaj

humari taqat humare hathiyaar hi nahi hai...humari ekta bhi hai). Ekta malls are being built throughout the country," said, PM Modi.

"India has tested a new DRDO missile. We are boosting our defence sector by spending more on the defence sector. We laid the foundation stone of DRDO's Missile Test Range at Nagayalanka. The Navdurga Testing Range being built in Nagayalanka will empower the nation's defence power, just like Goddess Durga," he added.

Pertinently, after the Pahalgam terror attack PM Modi led Government has downgraded diplomatic ties with Pakistan. The Indus

>>>SEE ON P-7

## Country is heading towards building drug-free Bharat under PM Modi: HM

KC News Network

**SRINAGAR:** Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah has said that, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Bharat is axing down drug cartels with ruthless aggression. According to News Service, Associated News Bureau, ANB,

In a post on X platform, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah said that "The Amritsar Zonal Unit of the NCB axed a drug diversion cartel through a 4-month-long operation across 4 states, seizing drugs worth 547 crore and arresting 15. It is a giant stride



towards building a drug-free Bharat under the vision of PM Narendra Modi ji. Congratulations to Team NCB." In a major step towards Government's zero tolerance approach against drugs under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Narcotics

>>>SEE ON P-7

## Bye-elections in J&K Electoral roll to be unveiled on Monday



KC News Network

**SRINAGAR:** The authorities are set to complete the special summary revision of electoral rolls in Budgam and Nagrota seats, which are lying vacant in Jammu & Kashmir Assembly for more than six

months now.

Official sources told news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that voter revision exercise would be completed in these segments on May 5 (Monday) with publication of the final electoral roll. "The conclusion of the exercise would set the ball rolling for the announcement of the schedule for electoral exercise by the Election Commission of India," they said, adding that it will take into account the situation in Jammu and Kashmir following the Pahalgam attack before announcing the schedule for the upcoming polls.

Both these seats fell vacant in October last year. Omar Abdullah vacated the Budgam seat on October 21, while the Nagrota seat became vacant on October 31 following the demise of BJP MLA Devinder Singh Rana.

>>>SEE ON P-7

## SC temporarily halts deportation of a family to Pakistan



KC News Network

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Friday came to the

rescue of a family detained for deportation to Pakistan, after it claimed that they were holding Indian passports and Aadhaar

cards.

The Union government, in response to the deadly terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's (J&K) Pahalgam, has revoked all valid visas issued by India to Pakistani nationals starting April 27 and had directed all states and Union Territories for their immediate removal.

In the writ petition filed before the top court, the petitioners claimed that they are Indian nationals, and were residents of Mirpur till the year 1997 but later moved

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## Air Marshal N Tiwari Assumes Charge as Vice Chief of Air Staff



KC News Network

**NEW DELHI:** Air Marshal Narmadeshwar Tiwari PVSM AVSM VM took over as the Vice Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force today.

An alumnus of the Rashtriya Indian Military College (RIMC), Dehradun, and a President's Gold Medalist from the National Defence Academy (NDA), Khadakwasala, Air Marshal Tiwari was commissioned as a

fighter pilot in the IAF on June 7, 1986. With over 3,600 hours of flying experience across various aircraft, he is a Qualified Flying Instructor,

>>>SEE ON P-7

## India gives befitting reply to cross border shelling by Pak army

Sajid Raina

**SRINAGAR:** Pakistani troops continued unprovoked firing in five districts along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir for eight consecutive night on Thursday, officials said.

Jammu based defence spokesman, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, "During the night of May 1-2, 2025, Pakistani

Army posts resorted to unprovoked small arms fire from posts across the LoC opposite Kupwara, Baramulla, Poonch, Naushera, and Akhnoor areas of J&K." "Indian Army responded in a calibrated and proportionate manner," he added.

Pertinently, the most recent cross-border shelling along the Line of Control (LoC) began on April 23, 2025, with unprovoked firing from Pakistan reported

in the Tattapani sector of Poonch.

This marked the start of a series of ceasefire violations by Pakistani forces, escalating tensions following the Pahalgam terror attack on April 22, 2025, which killed 26 people, mostly tourists.

Since then, shelling and small-arms fire have continued intermittently,

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## Cloudburst Triggers Flash Flood In Ramban

>>> Jammu-Srinagar Highway closed <<<

Umair Gull Ganaie/  
Rehan Qayoom Mir

**SRINAGAR:** A man died after a lightning struck him in South Kashmir's Kulgam district, while flash floods triggered by a cloud burst in Ramban District led to the closure of Jammu-Srinagar National Highway yet again, officials and reports said on Friday.

According to the details available with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) a 37-year-old auto driver, Tariq Ahmad Padder, of Gansorgam, Kulgam, died after being struck by lightning in his native village.

He was rushed to District Hospital Kulgam where doctors declared him "brought dead."

The Srinagar-Jammu National Highway was once again closed for vehicular movement after a landslide occurred at Chamba Seri in Ramban area. "It occurred soon after the area near the highway was hit by the cloudburst, leading to the flash floods again," said an official. The commuters have been advised not to travel until the road is cleared.

"Please check the status of roads before starting your journey," a traffic official said.

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## Data Lost In Floods SC Grants Time To J&K Govt To Submit Report On Pak Nationals

KC News Network

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Friday granted more time to the Jammu and Kashmir government to inform it about the number of Pakistani nationals detained under the provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, 1978.

A bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan gave six more weeks after the authorities informed that data relating

>>>SEE ON P-7

## Pahalgam Attack Will Be Avenged: LoP Sharma

Rehan Qayoom Mir

**SRINAGAR:** Stating that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi April 22 Pahalgam attack will be avenged, Leader of Opposition and senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader, Sunil Sharma on Friday said that the perpetrators will be hunted down and taught a lesson.

Sharma, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, "Everyone is aware that PM Modi fulfills his promise. But, we will have to wait for the revenge of the Pahalgam attack. Those responsible will be hunted down."

Sharma also said that the country under the leadership of PM Modi has witnessed a change.



"The time has gone when the other countries would dare to undermine Bharat. It is Modi's Bharat and those

>>>SEE ON P-7

## "India To Ask Global Multilateral Agencies To Review Loans, Grants To Pakistan"

KC NEWS NETWORK

**NEW DELHI:** India will be asking global multilateral agencies, including the IMF, to have a relook at funds and loans provided to Pakistan, as New Delhi seeks to corner the neighbouring state diplomatically following the dastardly terror attack in Pahalgam last month which killed 26 tourists.

"We will be asking all multilateral agencies to review the loans and support to Pakistan," a government source said.

The IMF Executive Board is scheduled to meet Pakistan officials on May 9 for first review of the extended funding facility, and request for an arrangement under the resilience and sustainability facility.

The IMF Board will evaluate fresh USD 1.3 billion arrangement for Pakistan under its climate resilience loan programme. It will also assess an ongoing USD 7 billion bailout package.

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## Dal Lake boat capsizes near Duck Park; one rescued, one still missing



Rehan Qayoom Mir

**SRINAGAR:** A boat capsized in Dal Lake near Duck Park on Friday afternoon, after which authorities launched a rescue operation that was halted late in the evening due to poor visibility and fading light.

While one person was rescued earlier in the day, efforts to locate

the second individual have so far been unsuccessful. The rescue teams plan to resume their search with the first light on Saturday morning.

Officials told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the incident occurred during gusty winds when two fishermen in the lake were

caught off guard. Their boat was overwhelmed by the sudden weather change and capsized near Duck Park.

"The two fishermen jumped into the water in an attempt to save themselves. One of them, identified as Abdul Majeed Khosa, son of Mohammad Sultan Khosa from Rainawari, Srinagar, was rescued immediately. Despite continuous efforts, the second person, Taufeeq Ahmad Chopan (24), son of Ghulam Mohammad Chopan, a resident of Chopan Mohalla, Rainawari remains missing," an official said.

The rescue operation involved teams from the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) along with divers and rescue boats deployed to

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## India's GERD Doubled In Last Decade: Dr Jitendra Singh



KC News Network

**NEW DELHI:** Marking the 55th Foundation Day of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology; Earth Sciences and Minister of State for PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel,

Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh disclosed that India's Gross Expenditure on R&D (GERD) has doubled in last one decade from Rs 60, 196 cr to 1,27,380 cr.

The Minister outlined India's evolving scientific landscape, emphasising the need for increased industry involvement to the extent of industry led innovation, changes in approach and long-term

innovation to position the country among leading global players.

Addressing a packed audience that included leading innovators, academicians, researchers and former Secretaries, Dr. Jitendra Singh traced the DST's journey since its inception on May 3, 1971, crediting it with catalysing India's evolution into a science and technology powerhouse.

"The founding of DST mirrors the march of post-independence India in the field of science," he said, highlighting how the department has bridged research and governance, turning vision into verifiable outcomes.

The Minister hailed DST's efforts in nurturing a nationwide research ecosystem, particularly through mission-mode programmes such as the National Supercomputing Mission, Cyber-Physical Systems, and the recent National Quantum

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# BJP Govt’s Pattern To Oppose Good Policy, Defame, Then Adopt It Under Public Pressure: Cong

**NEW DELHI:** The Congress on Friday said the government's caste census decision is in line with its pattern of first opposing every good scheme or policy, defaming it and then adopting the same policy in the face of public pressure and reality.

Congress general secretary in-charge communications alleged that the Modi government is only adept at diverting the attention of the public, running away from real issues and furthering its divisive agenda.

“Apart from this, they have neither any policy nor any intention – only the politics of lies, propaganda and hatred,” he said in a post in Hindi on X.

“Caste census – which the Modi government tried to suppress for years – the same government has finally succumbed to the unwavering fight of Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi, the Congress party and countless social workers and organizations. This is an important milestone in the fight for social justice,” Ramesh said.

The Modi government, which till yesterday was shying away from even its name and was leaving no stone unturned to ridicule and procrastinate, has today agreed to conduct a caste census, bowing to the heavy pressure of the public and the struggle of the opposition, he said.

“In fact, this has been the pattern of the BJP government – first oppose every good scheme or policy, defame it – and when faced with public pressure and reality, adopt the same policy,” Ramesh said. “Remember what the Prime Minister



said in Parliament about MGNREGA – ‘Monument of failure’ – The scheme which the world called a model of rural employment and poverty alleviation, the same MGNREGA was mocked, it was said that people are digging pits. But when a crisis like Coronavirus came, this MGNREGA became the backbone of the poor of the country. What happened then? The government also increased its budget and also tried to take credit for it,” the Congress leader said.

Ramesh pointed out that the same happened with Aadhaar as when the BJP was in opposition, it used to say that “it is a threat to privacy and is just a political stunt” but as soon as it came to power, it made the same Aadhaar the foundation of the entire welfare system.

“The story of GST is also no different. When the Congress took the initiative to bring GST, the BJP strongly opposed it, stating that it is against the interests of the

states. But as soon as it came to power, it implemented it without any major changes and then started praising itself by calling it a ‘game changer,’” Ramesh said.

He also said that the system of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) was created by Congress so that subsidy reaches directly to the account of the public.

“At that time BJP rejected it, saying- ‘This will not work’. But as soon as it came to power, it implemented this DBT in the entire country and started beating the drum of ‘Digital India,’” Ramesh said.

Ramesh further said that the policy of giving cash assistance to women was started by Congress.

“The BJP had said then- ‘This is just the politics of announcements’. Today the same government is running different cash transfer schemes for women.

Talking about the internship/ apprenticeship scheme, the Congress had promised an apprenticeship scheme under

Yuva Nyay in its ‘Nyayapatra’ for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

“During the elections, the BJP had also taken a dig at it. But later Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced it in the budget. Sadly, till date, that too has remained only an announcement,” Ramesh said.

This list does not end here and actually, these are just a few examples, he added.

“The truth is that this government has neither any vision of its own nor any direction to solve the problems. This government is only adept at diverting the attention of the public, running away from the real issues and furthering its divisive agenda. Apart from this, they have neither any policy nor any intention – only the politics of lies, propaganda and hatred,” he said.

The Congress on Thursday claimed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is the “master of giving a headline without a deadline” and called the government's caste census decision a “diversionary tactic” in the face of demands for taking strong action against Pakistan following the Pahalgam terror attack.

Ramesh had said many questions arise about the decision, especially on the intention of the government, and asked “where is the deadline” for conducting the census.

The Centre on Friday announced that caste enumeration will be part of the next population census, with the inclusion of caste details for the first time since Independence. (Agencies)

## Mayawati slams BJP- Congress over caste census, says OBCs’ welfare lies only with BSP

**LUCKNOW:** BSP president Mayawati on Friday accused the BJP and Congress of politicising the issue of caste enumeration, claiming their anti-Bahujan character continues to deprive OBC communities of their due rights.

Reacting to the Centre's decision to include caste enumeration in the upcoming census, she said Centre has taken the decision after a “long delay” and “much reluctance”.

In a series of posts on X, the former Uttar Pradesh chief minister said, “The BJP and Congress are now rushing to take credit for it, attempting to position themselves as champions of OBCs. However, their track record shows a pattern of oppression and exclusion of Bahujan communities.”

Mayawati further stated that if the intentions and policies of the BJP and Congress had truly been honest and inclusive, the OBC community would already have had a fair share in the country's development.

“In that case, the mission of self-respect and dignity initiated by Babasaheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar would have seen real success,” she added.

Highlighting the “political motivations” behind the move, the BSP chief said the OBC community, like Dalits, has become politically aware due to the sustained struggle of Babasaheb Ambedkar and the BSP.

“Today, OBCs are largely conscious of their rights. The apparent support they receive from other parties is merely driven by electoral compulsions, not genuine concern. It is clear that the true welfare



of OBCs lies only with the BSP,” she asserted. Mayawati said that the time has come for the Bahujan community to give real meaning to the slogan, ‘Vote hamara, raj tumhara nahi chalega’ (Our vote, your rule - this won't work).

“It's time for the marginalised to rise through a humane and result-oriented struggle. Continued negligence and tokenism by the BJP, Congress and other parties are dangerous, and they cannot be trusted for the welfare and upliftment of Dalits, OBCs, and the larger Bahujan society,” she said.

## National Herald PMLA Case: Delhi Court Issues Notice To Sonia Gandhi, Rahul

**NEW DELHI:** A Delhi court on Friday issued notices to Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi in National Herald money laundering case.

Special judge Vishal Gogne said their “right to be heard” was available at the time of cognisance of the chargesheet. “Right to be heard at any stage breathes life into fair trial,” the judge said, posting the matter on May 8. The ED, which filed its chargesheet recently, began its probe in 2021 after a magistrate court took cognisance of a private complaint filed by BJP leader Subramanian Swamy on June 26, 2014. The complaint, the ED said, highlighted a “criminal conspiracy” by several prominent political figures, including the first family of the Congress party led by Sonia, her MP son Rahul, late Congress leaders Motilal Vora and Oscar Fernandes aside from Dubey, Pitroda and a private company Young Indian for their alleged involvement in money laundering in relation to the fraudulent takeover of properties valued over Rs 2,000 crore belonging to the Associated Journals Limited (AJL).

Congress leaders Sonia and Rahul are majority shareholders of Young Indian with 38 per cent shares held by each one of them. They were questioned for hours by the ED in this case a few years ago.

## Data Lost In Floods SC Grants Time To J&K Govt To Submit Report On Pak Nationals

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Friday granted more time to the Jammu and Kashmir government to inform it about the number of Pakistani nationals detained under the provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, 1978.

A bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan gave six more weeks after the authorities informed that data relating to such prisoners was lost during floods in the union territory.

The top court then posted the matter for hearing on July 25.

The apex court was hearing a plea filed by late Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party leader and senior advocate Bhim



Singh who petitioned the court on Pakistani citizens detained under the provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, 1978.

His plea sought such persons to be freed and deported to Pakistan.

The top court previously expressed concerns over the fate of those Pakistani nationals who were released from Indian jails after completing their terms and if the neighbouring country did not accept them as its citizens.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION TANGDAR

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

E- NIT No.03 –R&B Div./TDR /of 2025-26 e-tendering Endtt. No:197-207 DATED: 01//05//2025.

For and on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of J&K Union Territory, e-tenders are being invited on an percentage basis(as applicable) from approved and eligible Contracts registered with the J&K Government, CPWD, Railways, and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost ofT/ Doc.(In Rs)	E/Money (In rupees)	Time ofCompletionIn days	Class of Contract	Major Head of Account
1	2	3	4	5	7	8	9
01	Construction of Boundary wall at middle school Nopora.	7.43	300	14860	1 month	CEE/DEE	SAMAGRA
02	construction of Boundary wall at Boys primary School Thamanian.	7.43	300	14860	1 month	CEE/DEE	SAMAGRA
03	Construction of Boundary wall at Middle School Kandi Bala.	7.43	300	14860	1 month	CEE/DEE	SAMAGRA
04	Construction of Boundary wall at Middle School Hajinar.	7.43	300	14860	1 month	CEE/DEE	SAMAGRA
05	Construction of Boundary wall at Middle School Suleman Payeen.	7.43	300	14860	1 month	CEE/DEE	SAMAGRA
06	Construction of Boundary wall at Primary School ChothaiMohalla.	7.43	300	14860	1 month	CEE/DEE	SAMAGRA
07	Construction of Boundary wall atPrimary School at Tangdar Nard.	7.43	300	14860	1 month	CEE/DEE	SAMAGRA

Position of AAA/TS=Accorded.

1. The bidding documents, which would include qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications/drawings, a bill of quantities (B.O.Q), a set of contract terms and conditions, and other details, can be viewed/downloaded from the departmantal website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) on the dates listed below: -

01.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	01/05/2025
02.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	01/05/2025
03.	Bid submission start date	01/05/2025
04.	Bid submission end date	14/05/2025 upto 4:00 PM
05.	Date & time of opening Bids (on line)	15/05/2025.2025 at10.00 AMin the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Div Tangdar

Terms and Conditions:-

The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploading softcopy any short fall found in the soft copy the tender shall be rejected.

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape Treasury Challan (Under Account Head 0059) (Treasury Challan) must be written boldly the Name of Work, Name of Contract along with Cell No, NIT No. & Sr. No of NIT) in favour Executive Engineer R&B Div Tangdar (tender inviting authority) and Earnest money /Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Div Tangdar.

At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Div. Tangdar. The successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the total cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.

All other terms and conditions as laid down in the CPWD shall also remain in force.

9. Notice Board

DIPK-1058/25

Sd/-Executive Engineer  
R&B Division Tangdar

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

JAMMU AND KASHMIR SERVICES

SELECTION BOARD (JKSSB)

CPO Chowk, Panjtirthi, Jammu/ZamZam Complex, Rambagh, Srinagar

[www.jkssb.nic.in](http://www.jkssb.nic.in)

Subject: Document Verification of candidates falling under consideration zone for the post of Public Address System Operator (PASO), advertised vide Notification No. 01 of 2021, Item No. 118, for which the OMR based written examination was held on 11-02-2025 – regarding.

NOTIFICATION

The Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB), vide Notification No. JKSSB-COEEXAM(UT)/9/2025-06 (7650128) dated: 21-04-2025, issued the Result/Score-sheet of the candidates who appeared in the OMR based written examination held on 11-02-2025 for thepost of Public Address System Operator (PASO), advertised vide Notification No. 01 of 2021, Item No. 118.

Accordingly, keeping in view the need and objective to fill all requisitioned vacancies, the candidates who are falling under the consideration zone for the aforementioned posts, given in Annexure “A” to this notification, are hereby called upon to appear physically before the designated Document Verification Committees of the Board for the verification/scrutiny of their documents/certificates as per the schedule indicated against eachon 08-05-2025 at JKSSB, Central Office, CPO Chowk, Panjtirthi, Jammu (Jammu Centre Based Candidates) and JKSSB, Central Office, ZamZam Complex, Rambagh, Srinagar (Kashmir Centre Based Candidates). Further, the candidates are required to produce following documents/certificates in original, along-with one set of self-attested copies, before the designated Document Verification Committee:

1.

Copy of Application Forms.

2.

Two passport size recent colour photographs.

3.

One original photo ID Proof i.e. Aadhar card/Voter Card/Pan Card/Passport etc.

4.

D.O.B Certificate (10th Diploma/Marks card).

5.

Valid Category Certificate, if belongs to reserved categories.

6.

Domicile Certificate.

7.

Prescribed Qualification/Certificates/Diploma as per Advertisement Notifications.

8.

Bonafide certificate on the format prescribed by the Board duly issued by the Controller/Registrar of the concerned University/Institute in respect of candidates, who have obtained the qualification/Diploma from outside the UT of J&K.

9.

Checklist sheet/form to be submitted by candidates at the time of their D.V. (as per Annexure “B”).

The candidates who fail to appear before the respective Document Verification Committee(s) on the scheduled date shall forfeit their right to selection.

No.: JKSSB-COEEXAM(UT)/9/2025-06 (7650128)

Dated: 01-05-2025

Sd/-Reyaz Ahmad Malik (JKAS)

Controller of Examinations

J&K Services Selection Board

DIPK-1065/25

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES, KASHMIR

Subject: Final Seniority list of Senior Staff Nurses (Kashmir Division).

NOTIFICATION

Whereas, on the basis of information received from subordinate offices, this Directorate notified 1st & 2nd tentative seniority lists of Senior Staff Nurses of Kashmir Division, as it stood on 01.01.2025, under this Directorate's Notifications issued vide No.DHSK/NG/Est-5th/SSN/E-7662162/1366-80 dated 17.03.2025 and No.DHSK/NG/Est-5th/SSN/7662162/2113-27 dated 11.04.2025.

Whereas, it was specifically notified in the 2nd tentative seniority list that after expiry of the stipulated period, no objection in this regard shall be entertained and the seniority list shall be treated as final. Since, till date no representation/objection has been received from any quarter.

Therefore, the final seniority list of Senior Staff Nurses forming Annexure to this Notification, is hereby notified amongst all concerned through their Controlling Officers for information. The date(s) of birth and category status of the officials reflected in the seniority list shall not be taken as authentic and shall be subject to further verification with the service record/Matriculation Certificate issued in respect of these officials by the concerned authorities. The seniority list shall be without prejudice to the final outcome of Writ Petition(s), if any, pending before the Competent Court(s) of Law.

The seniority list is also made available on the official website [www.dhskashmir.org](http://www.dhskashmir.org) of this Directorate.

Annexure to Notification No DISK/NG BA=5a/SSN/E-7602162/2764-81

Dated 30/04/2015

S. No	Name of Official	D.O.B	Date of 1st Appointment	Date of Promotion as Sr. Nurse	Present place of posting
01	Mumena	17.06.1967	11.10.1989	23.04.2022	DH Pulwama
02	Mahbooba Akhter	02.05.1966	11.10.1989	23.04.2022	EH Qazigund
03	Afroza Akhter	01.01.1966	11.10.1989	23.04.2022	SDH Kokernag
04	Raja Bano	13.02.1966	11.10.1989	23.04.2022	SDH Varipora
05	Shakeela Akhter	02.03.1966	13.10.1989	23.04.2022	SDH Seer
06	Zareefa Akhter	07.08.1966	11.10.1989	23.04.2022	SDH Seer
07	Afroza Bano	02.02.1967	18.10.1989	23.04.2022	SDH Kokernag
08	Sheraza Akhter	02.03.1966	21.10.1989	23.04.2022	JLNM Hospital Srinagar
09	Shafiq Bano	03.05.1966	11.10.1989	23.04.2022	JLNM Hospital Srinagar
10	Dilnaz Akhter	15.04.1965		23.04.2022	EH Qazigund
11	Naseema Bano	07.03.1967	07.11.1989	23.04.2022	SDH Chandoosa
12	Rafiq Bano	01.01.1966	08.11.1989	23.04.2022	SDH Chandoosa

No.DHSK/NG/Est-5th/SSN/E-7662162/2764-81

Dated: 30/03/2025

Sd/

Director Health Services,

Kashmir.

DIPK-1071/25



## Frustrated by Neglect, Drivers Repair Bandipora-Sopore Road Themselves

**BANDIPORA:** The worsening condition of the Bandipora-Sopore road has become a daily ordeal for locals, particularly those working in the transport sector. With no action forthcoming from the authorities, drivers associated with the Madhumati Sumo Stand have taken it upon themselves to initiate repair work on the damaged stretch of road.

Frustrated by government inaction, the drivers began filling potholes and conducting minor repairs as part of a self-help initiative. Speaking to media persons, they said they had repeatedly urged the government and concerned de-



partments to address the issue, but their appeals fell on deaf ears.

"There are huge potholes all along the road. Our vehicles suffer frequent damage, causing financial losses on a daily basis," said one of the drivers. "Since no steps were taken, we decided to act on our own."

The effort has drawn praise from local residents, who lauded the drivers' determination and community spirit. They also appealed to the administration to intervene urgently and ensure that the crucial road is repaired without further delay.

## Illegal Mining: Police seizes 13 Vehicles in Joint Operations in Pampore, Srinagar



**BILAL HABIB**

**PAMPORE:** In a major crackdown against illegal mineral extraction, law enforcement agencies and the Department of Geology and Mining intensified its enforcement efforts with night raids in Srinagar's Nishat, Qamarwari, Khanyar, and Khonmoh areas. These operations led to the seizure of seven more vehicles, including a JCB machine, based on specific intelligence about unauthorized mineral extraction. Officials said the vehicles have been taken into custody and warned of strict legal action against violators.

In a parallel raid in Pampore's Khrew area, a team from the Geology and Mining Department Pulwama, headed by District Mineral Officer (DMO) Er Mohammad Manzoor, seized an L&T chain-type machine involved in illegal mining. The DMO emphasized that enforcement drives will continue and urged residents to procure minerals only from legal sources to avoid punitive action.

Both the police and mining authorities reaffirmed their commitment to protecting natural resources, public health, and government revenue, urging community members to report any illegal activities related to mineral extraction.

## Div Com Kashmir reviews progress under Special Summary Revision for 27-AC Budgam

**BUDGAM:** The Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, who is also the Electoral Roll Observer, chaired a meeting to

and will be published on 5th May 2025 accordingly for the 27-AC Budgam.

Div Com emphasised upon the concerned



review the progress achieved under the Special Summary Revision (SSR)-2025 of Electoral Rolls for 27-AC Budgam.

The meeting was held at the Conference Hall, Budgam, where Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Akshay Labroo, who is also the District Election Officer (DEO), briefed the chair about the progress and status of work with regard to the SSR of Photo Electoral Rolls in the constituency.

At the outset, the ERO of 27-AC Budgam provided a detailed review of the progress achieved under SSR as of date, and also highlighted the number of fresh applications received, as well as the number of claims, objections, and rejections so far.

On the occasion, the ERO also briefed the chair that the Special Summary Revision commenced on 8th April and ended on 24th April,

Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) and Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs) to conduct revisions strictly according to the guidelines of the ECI and as per the notified schedule.

Div Com stressed on intensifying SVEEP activities and ensuring timely disposal of claims and objections.

ERO and AEROs were directed to cross-check the completed summary revision with a focus on 100 percent enrolment of eligible voters, including the addition of new voters and deletion of duplicate voters, within the set timeline.

He emphasised that the successful conduct of all SVEEP programmes in 27-AC Budgam must focus on achieving maximum registration of all eligible voters in the constituency.

ACR/ERO for 27-AC Budgam, Dy. Election Officer, AEROs, and representatives of various political parties were present in the meeting.

## Dementia & its variants: National Midterm CME-2025 inaugurated at GMC Srinagar

**SRINAGAR:** The Indian Association for Geriatric Mental Health (IAGMH) in collaboration with Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar inaugurated the two-day National Midterm CME-2025 on "Dementia & Its Vari-



ants: Recent Advances and Innovation" today.

The conference aims to bring together leading mental health professionals to deliberate on evolving clinical practices, research, and innovation in dementia care.

The event has drawn a significant gathering of national delegates including Founding president IAGMH- Dr S.C Tiwari, President IAGMH-Dr Alka Subramanyam, Vice President - Dr Sandeep Grover, senior psychiatrists in the valley, Dr Arshid Hussain, Dr Abdul Majid, Dr Zaid wani, faculty members, and mental

health experts from across the country.

The inaugural session was presided over by Prof. Dr. Ifhat Hassan, Principal / Dean GMC Srinagar who while speaking on the occasion said that this conference highlights the importance of addressing dementia and its variants in the context of an aging population and provides a platform for mental health professionals to share their expertise, experiences, and insights on the latest developments in dementia care.

As our population ages, the prevalence of dementia is expected to rise significantly, making it one of the most pressing public health challenges of our time.

Prof. Dr. Mohammad Maqbool, Organising Chairperson and Head of the Department, Government Psychiatric Diseases Hospital (IMHANS), also shared his insights on the importance of addressing dementia and its variants.

Dr. Alka Subramanyam highlighted the need for a specialized unit in Geriatric Mental Health and proposed starting fellowship programs in Geriatric Psychiatry in Kashmir.

Dr. Junaid Nabi, Organising Secretary and Incharge Geriatric Unit at IMHANS, emphasized the rising prevalence of dementia in India and the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. He advocated for adopting a convergence model in geriatric mental health care, focusing on a rights-based approach to treatment and support services for the elderly. The conference features expert talks, panel discussions, case studies, research paper presentations, and poster presentations covering all dimensions of dementia and its variants.

Over the course of two days, participants will engage in discussions and deliberations on the latest advances and innovations in dementia care.

## Once a Soldier, Always a Soldier: War Veteran Offers to Return

75-year-old Capt Amar Jeet Kumar writes to Army Chief, offers to rejoin without pay

**MOHALI:** Amid rising tensions between India and Pakistan, a decorated war veteran of the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War, Captain Amar Jeet Kumar (Retired), has written a heartfelt letter to the Chief of Army Staff, General Upendra Dwivedi, volunteering to return to active duty.

In the letter dated April 27, Capt Kumar, now 75, expressed his unwavering patriotism and readiness to serve the nation once again.

A former Short Service Commissioned Officer who fought in the historic 'Battle of Garibpur' in November 1971, he offered to contribute his experience and skills to the Indian Army without seeking any remuneration or compensation.

"This time war is going to be very decisive and fight to finish. Army is likely needing more manpower that is too trained and experienced

in war. I wish to offer my services to the nation," Capt Kumar wrote, adding that despite his age, he remains "physically fit and mentally prepared" to join his fellow soldiers at the front.

Stating that "a soldier can be taken from the army, but soldiering can never be taken out of him," the veteran urged the Army Chief to consider his offer and deploy him wherever required. He also said that many other veterans and fellow course mates would follow his lead, should the nation call upon them.

Capt Kumar previously served with 14 Punjab (Nabha Akal) and 21 Punjab (Chanderkala), and resides in Greater Mohali, Punjab.

Commenting on the letter an army officer said his letter serves as a stirring reminder of the spirit and sacrifice that continues to define India's veterans, decades after their formal service ends.



## Greenland Hr Sec School Organises Seerat Conference in Sumbal

**SUMBAL:** Green Land Higher Secondary School, Sumbal on Friday organised a Seerat Conference to highlight various aspects of the life of Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W).

Students from across Bandipora actively participated in a Seerat Conference while Principal of Government Degree College Sumbal, Prof. Shabeena Shawl chaired the event.

SDPO Sumbal Abdul Hamid and prominent educationist Sayyed Sajjad Hussain attended the conference and praised the organizers for promoting spiritual and moral education among the youth.



Students recited Naats and delivered powerful speeches on the life and teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), emphasizing values like compassion, honesty, and integrity in daily life.

Speaking on the occasion, the guests and speakers emphasized the timeless relevance of the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W), urging students to embody values of compassion, humility, and truthfulness in their daily lives.

Chairman Syed Sajad Hussain highlighted the importance of organizing such spiritual programs in educational institutions. He underlined the role of Seerat in shaping the moral foundation of young minds and stressed the need to instill Islamic values alongside modern education.

Seerat and Naat competitions were held in two categories, with students displaying remarkable talent and devotion. The winners were later felicitated with prizes and certificates by the chief guest and other dignitaries.

Officials said the conference aimed to instill ethical values in students and inspire them through the Prophet's message. Organizers concluded the event with a vote of thanks, appreciating the enthusiastic participation of both teachers and students.

## Indian Army Brings Medical Care to Remote Jallerian Village in Rajouri

**RAJOURI :** The Indian Army conducted a medical patrol at Jallerian village in Rajouri, reaching out to residents in this remote, road-inaccessible area with essential healthcare services. The initiative aimed to promote healthy living and strengthen ties with the local population.

Army medical personnel provided on-the-spot treatment and health advice to villagers, many of whom face daily challenges in accessing basic medical facilities. By organizing such patrols, the Army continues to foster goodwill and cooperation with the awaam (local people), especially in isolated regions.

The patrol not only addressed immediate medical needs but also reinforced the Army's commitment to supporting and standing with local communities.



## Indian Army Organizes AYUSH and Veterinary Camp in Remote Balmatkote, Reasi

**REASI:** Continuing its outreach to underserved areas of Jammu & Kashmir, the Indian Army organized a comprehensive AYUSH and Veterinary Camp at Balmatkote in Reasi district. The initiative provided essential medical and veterinary services to residents of remote villages with limited access to healthcare.

Teams of Indian Army doctors, AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy) specialists, and veterinary experts delivered services including general health check-ups, free medicine distribution, AYUSH consultations, livestock treatment and vaccinations, and awareness sessions on hygiene and well-being.

More than 425 locals, including members of the Gujjar and Bakarwal communities, and 235 livestock benefited from the camp. Villagers expressed deep gratitude for the Army's continued humanitarian efforts and its commitment to community welfare in some of the most challenging terrains.

The initiative underscored the Army's ongoing efforts to build trust, ensure well-being, and strengthen bonds with citizens in remote areas.





Editorial

## Ageing with Dignity

The launch of key initiatives for senior citizens by President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhawan on Friday is both timely and transformative. At a time when India's elderly population is steadily increasing, the government's renewed focus on their welfare underscores a national commitment to ensure that ageing is not only graceful, but dignified and secure. One of the standout features of the event was the launch of the Senior Citizen Welfare Portal—a digital gateway to government schemes, healthcare, and welfare services. By bringing critical information to the fingertips of senior citizens, the portal bridges the digital divide and champions inclusion in a demographic often sidelined by the rapid pace of technological advancement. It signals a decisive move from paternalistic care to digital empowerment. The establishment of senior citizen homes promise safe, compassionate environments for vulnerable elders. In a world often fragmented by migration and nuclear families, such support structures become the bedrock of a humane society. Equally commendable is the symbolic and practical significance of the Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana which saw the distribution of assistive devices. These aids may be modest in appearance but represent a dignified step toward mobility, independence, and self-worth for our elderly. India is at a demographic crossroads. As we reap the rewards of a young population, we must not forget the shoulders we stand upon. Programmes like these embody our constitutional promise of equality, care, and inclusion. But real dignity for senior citizens will come not just from policies but from daily compassion, intergenerational respect, and societal empathy. The message from Rashtrapati Bhawan is clear: in the India of tomorrow, senior citizens must not just live longer—they must live better.

# State And Statelessness In South Asia



Smruti S Pattanaik

After assuming office as the President of the United States, Donald Trump has not only reversed some of the Biden administration's foreign policies but also started ostentatious deportation of students and migrants, violating the US laws. Many Indians illegally working in the US were deported, and 12 Bhutanese refugees who had settled in the US as a part of a UN-led third-country settlement to resolve the long-pending Bhutanese refugee issue also suffered the same fate. However, Bhutan disowned these people as their citizens and deported them. They were given 30,000 Ngultrum each and were escorted by Bhutanese officials to the Indian border, from where they were sent to Nepal. The Nepal police arrested them for illegally entering the country. Families of some of these deportees are still living in camps in eastern Nepal. Notably, they were sent to Nepal in 1990 via the same way. This is a double whammy for the Bhutanese refugees who were rendered stateless by Bhutan when it decided to expel Lhotshampas (Bhutanese of Nepali origin) from southern Bhutan, alleging that they are illegal migrants. They are now dismissed by the US. Nepal and Bhutan initiated bilateral talks on a four-point agreement that included joint verification by officials from the two countries to identify and repatriate more than 100,000 refugees living in the eastern Nepal camp. However, this did not yield any results. Bhutan refused to take the refugees back, claiming that they are not its citizens but illegal migrants. This four-point agreement was silent on what happens to those who cannot prove themselves as Bhutanese. In 2007, eight countries—the US, Australia, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Norway and the United Kingdom—joined hands to facilitate the settlement of Bhutanese refugees in their own countries. Some of them, settled in a third country, were also fighting for their right to return to Bhutan. It is worth noting

that more than 7,000 refugees who did not opt for third-country settlement are still languishing in the camps as international aid is slowly drying up. Not long ago, in 2023, some Nepali politicians, including former deputy prime minister Top Bahadur Rayamajhi and home minister Bal Krishna Khand, were accused



of corruption for providing fake Bhutanese refugee documents to send Nepalis to the US.

### Statelessness in the region

Statelessness is not new in South Asia. Bhutan claims that Nepalis entered Bhutan as illegal immigrants and should be expelled from the country, as it feared erosion of its unique identity because of the growing population of Lhotshampas. There were efforts to assimilate and absorb them into a Bhutanese identity under the cultural rubric of Driglam Namzha. This cultural confirmation with the majority has been a part of the nation-building project in Bhutan since 1985, with the enactment of the Citizenship Act. Similarly, in Myanmar, Rohingyas are not considered citizens but are illegal immigrants as per the 1982 Burmese Citizenship Act. They are also not recognised as part of the country's 135 acknowledged ethnic groups. The Rohingyas are rendered stateless as they were expelled from the state through violence, and at present, are staying in the refugee camps in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar. The influx of Rohingyas to Bangladesh started in 1978, with a notable one

beginning in 2015 and culminating in 2017 with a million more. The Chinese facilitated an agreement between Bangladesh and Myanmar for repatriation. But that has not fructified as Rohingyas do not want to return without a legal guarantee. Moreover, in the unfolding civil war, Rohingyas are recruited both by

the Arakan Army and the Tatmadaw, as the Myanmar Army is popularly known. There is a long-standing issue of 'stranded Pakistanis' between Pakistan and Bangladesh. The Biharis (Muslims originally from Bihar) who had migrated to the then East Pakistan opted for Pakistan after Bangladesh was formed in 1971. Most of them became unwanted. While Pakistan took some of these people back in 1998 with the Saudi organisation—Rabita Al-Alam Al-Islami which funded a resettlement plan in Pakistan's Punjab province—many of them were left behind in Bangladesh for political reasons. Earlier, some of these 'stranded Pakistanis' were settled in Karachi. There was fear that the repatriation of these Bihari refugees from Bangladesh would strengthen the Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM) political constituency. Bangladesh had refused to accept them as citizens due to their collaboration with the Pakistan Army to repress the Bengalis during the liberation war. However, the Bangladesh Supreme Court ruled that those born in Bangladesh after 1971 should get Bangladeshi citizenship. Yet, many who are awaiting repatriation are leading miserable lives in congested Geneva camps.

India and Sri Lanka cooperated to end the statelessness of Tamil plantation workers after Sri Lanka implemented the Citizenship Act. Both the Shastri-Sirimavo Pact and the Indira-Sirimavo Pact resulted in the repatriation of Tamil plantation workers at a ratio of 7:4. Those who were born in Sri Lanka after the initiation of the repatriation process were absorbed as Sri Lanka's citizens. Yet the issue of discrimination against the Tamil plantation workers remains. Moreover, their subject is sometimes merged with the broader Tamil issue in Sri Lanka, which is awaiting a political resolution. The treatment of Afghan refugees by Pakistan is well known, as some of them were repatriated back to Afghanistan against their will. 80,000 Afghan nationals termed as 'Pakistan repatriated illegal foreigners' till April 1 this month. Pakistan considers Afghan refugees a security risk, and they are also accused of being involved in criminal activities. In all these cases of expulsion, the fear of erosion of identities by majoritarian states of South Asia is visible. This has resulted in a humanitarian crisis and bilateral tensions between the refugee-sending countries and the receiving countries. Politicians view refugees from a political perspective—whether their presence would contribute to their electoral prospects or not. Yet, many of these refugees do not even have access to a livelihood or education. India, which has been home to refugees from the neighbourhood, is not willing to accept any more refugees, both for political and security reasons. Its approach towards Bhutanese and Rohingya refugees is distinct compared to other refugees. Most of the states look at the refugees as 'unwanted' people and a drain on limited resources. They are keen on repatriating refugees as they are an economic burden and put pressure on the local labour market. They lack access to health care and employment opportunities, and many of them have been living for decades, awaiting repatriation to their home. Yet, repatriation has remained elusive as the sending countries do not even accept them. Statelessness is a new reality for millions in this region.

Author Pattanaik is a research fellow at the Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi, India. She published the article in The Kathmandu Post.

# The Dark Web Challenge



PULOMA PAL

The Dark Web is the part of internet which is not easily accessible to users and requires special web browsers.[1] It enables anonymous activities through web browsers like The Onion Router (Tor) and other similar software.[2] Due to its technological underpinnings, the dark web is used for both legitimate and illicit purposes. Illicit purposes may include trading stolen data, drugs, weapon supply, etc. On the other hand, dark web is also put to use by intelligence agencies and law enforcement departments to monitor illicit activities. The Dark Web is a bustling marketplace where one can buy and sell anything.[3] As a hidden segment of the internet, accessing dark web requires special software like Tor and anonymous network layers like I2P. For instance, Tor employs an onion routing system, which encrypts the information that moves through a number of relays by volunteers. Another distinctive feature is the multi-layered encryption that makes it difficult to identify the user. The decentralised nature coupled with continuous adaptation of cybercriminals makes it challenging for law enforcement agencies to monitor and combat activities in the domain. Given the intrinsic anonymity that the dark web offers, takedown of one marketplace is quickly followed by the creation of similar platforms by threat actors. Successful law enforcement operations like the shutdown of marketplace Silk Route, which left a vacuum, was swiftly filled by new marketplaces such as Alpha Bay, Hansa and Ghost Market. These illegal marketplaces utilised advanced encryption and complex structures to evade detection. International efforts like Operation Disruptor (2020), Operation SpecTor (2023), Operation Cookie Monster (2023)[4] also suggests global agreement on confronting threats emanating from dark web. These international operations dismantled multiple dark web websites leading to multiple arrests. Access to stolen data and the value attached to it makes the dark web a suitable place for such transactions. The data available

for sale includes credit card details, personal identity and even classified data. Therefore, these activities pose a major threat to individual privacy as well as national security. In fact, compromised data can potentially be put to use to deploy various cyber threats. For instance, Iranian-linked threat actors have stolen personal and confidential data of one of Israel's high-ranking military officials and a nuclear scientist. This was followed by releasing some screenshots and personal pictures of the scientist working at the Soreq Nuclear Research Centre.[5] The data related to former defence minister director general and Israel's ambassador to US and some other senior officers[6] were released on Telegram. The Office of Israel's Prime Minister denied that the images leaked on Telegram belonged to Israel's Atomic Energy Commission's facility. Cyber Security and Recent Indian Initiatives In India, a report released by Website Planet[7] claimed that a database consisting of data worth 496.4 GB was leaked[8] and released on Dark Web related Telegram group. The stolen data had information related to military personnel, teaching professionals, police officers, railway staff and many others. The data, linked to Thought Green Technologies and Timing Technologies, included crucial and personal data[9] like biometric information and identification marks. India has faced considerable challenges in its efforts to combat drug trafficking through darknet marketplaces such as DrugXpress. These platforms utilised advanced technologies, including rapid delivery systems and encrypted communication, making it increasingly difficult for authorities to intercept messages and make timely arrests. The widespread adoption of such sophisticated cyber tools has resulted in a surge of cybercrimes, including significant financial losses for individuals across the country. On an average, hundreds of people are affected by cyber fraud on a daily basis, with annual losses reaching several crores of rupees.[10] Estimates suggest that these financial damages will continue to grow, highlighting the urgent need for enhanced cybersecurity measures. [11] India has implemented a comprehensive cybersecurity strategy over the past decade. It focuses on institutional reforms, legislative enhancements, technological advancements

and international collaborations. The establishment of the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) and National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC) have streamlined cybercrime investigations and threat analysis. The amendments to IT Act and the formation of the sector-specific Computer Emergency Response Teams have enhanced the management of incidences. India's commitment to technological innovation which may include Quantum Cryptography and Cyber forensic laboratories, had led it to achieve Tier-1 status in the Global Cybersecurity Index 2024.[12] The Indian government has been taken decisive actions to fortify cybersecurity and combat threats that come from the Dark Web. The Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 and its Draft Rules of 2025,[13] establish stringent guideline for data security. This emphasises transparency and explicit user consent. In addition to further safeguard the financial data, SEBI now monitors the Dark Web for Market Infrastructure Institutions.[14] This ensures a proactive threat detection. The Union Budget 2025 allocated Rs 1,900 crore[15] to bolster cybersecurity initiatives and protect critical infrastructure. The government has launched coordinated efforts focusing on dismantling criminal networks exploring the Dark Web, particularly those related to drug trafficking.[16] The government is actively raising awareness among the public,[17] educating the citizens on best practices to lower the risks in cybersecurity. These multi-faceted initiatives underscore India's commitment towards a safe digital ecosystem, by addressing cyber threats through robust legal frameworks, financial investments and proactive enforcement strategies. Addressing this problem requires a well-resourced and highly skilled cybersecurity workforce, but India currently faces a shortage of trained specialists in this field. The understaffing of cybercrime units hampers coordinated efforts to respond swiftly and effectively to cyber incidents.[18] As the demand for cybersecurity professionals continues to rise, increasing investment in training and recruitment will be essential to protect against evolving cyber threats. Plugging the Vulnerabilities Poor cybersecurity practices amplify vulnerabilities. To address this, there is an urgent need to spread awareness and organise work-

shops pertaining to cyber hygiene. While encrypted communication tools protect privacy, their misuse for illegal coordination calls for the tech company collaboration to balance security and user rights. The growing prevalence of IoT devices exposes critical vulnerabilities. This requires stringent security standards and public awareness. Furthermore, international agreements to unify cybercrime protocols and facilitate intelligence sharing are also essential. Countering extremist groups and their recruitment can be achieved through online counter-narratives and community engagement. Lastly, the marketplace for tools targeting critical infrastructure necessitates robust cybersecurity investment and public-private partnerships. By addressing these multifaceted issues proactively, authorities can boost national security and create a safer digital ecosystem. AI-based cyber deception tools can be used for predictive modelling and enhanced training purposes. A thorough understanding of the Dark Web, including how it operates and its potential impacts—both positive and negative—is essential for ensuring societal and national security. In rapidly digitising countries like India, where cybercriminals frequently devise new tactics, being prepared for emerging threats is crucial. Governments should implement laws that grant law enforcement agencies the necessary authority to carry out their responsibilities effectively in the face of evolving cyber challenges. Equally important is the responsibility of ordinary citizens in maintaining cybersecurity. Raising awareness and improving knowledge about the risks and safe practices associated with technology use is essential for public protection. Efforts to educate the population should be supported by non-governmental organisations and community groups, which play a key role in disseminating information and fostering a culture of responsible digital citizenship. By combining legislative action with community engagement and individual responsibility, a stronger and more secure digital environment can be achieved. Paper was published by Manohar Parrikar IDSA, Author Puloma Pal is Research Intern, North America and Strategic Studies. Views expressed are of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Manohar Parrikar IDSA or of the Government of India.

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# Javid Dar assesses functioning of Sheep Breeding Farm Khimber

**SRINAGAR:** Minister for Agriculture Production Department, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Javid Ahmad Dar, today visited Sheep Breeding Farm (SBF) Khimber here to assess the functioning of the facility and inspect the newly introduced Texel sheep breed imported from Australia.

MLA Hazratbal, Salman Ali Sagar, Director Sheep Husbandry Kashmir, Rafiq Ahmad and other senior officers of the department also accompanied the Minister during the visit.

While inspecting the facility, the Minister said, "The Texel sheep breed will emerge as a revolutionary force in the livestock industry in J&K. Its introduction offers tremendous potential for transforming sheep rearing practices, enhancing productivity, and ultimately

improving the livelihoods of our farming community."

He directed the concerned officers to organize awareness camps to educate farmers on the benefits and management practices associated with the Texel breed. He highlighted that the awareness camps will serve as vital platforms to disseminate technical know-how and improve adoption of scientific sheep husbandry practices.

The Minister also appreciated the department for their efforts in successful completion of the importation process of Texel

Sheep.

During the visit, Director Sheep Husbandry informed the Minister on the introduction of around 450 high-quality Texel sheep; including 338 ewes and 112 rams—imported from Australia under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP).

He added that the initiative is aimed at addressing the J&K's substantial mutton demand of approximately 310 lakh kilograms annually.

He also informed that the Texel breed will be reared under

intensive farming conditions at SBF Khimber, adding that the breeding lines will be scientifically maintained to preserve pedigree records.

He also briefed the Minister that the first-generation (F1) progeny will serve a dual purpose of establishing breed-based farms by distributing male and female Texel sheep to farmers in isolated clusters for further propagation and upgrading local sheep breeds by distributing superior-quality Texel rams to local farmers for breeding, with requisite approvals from the Scientific Advisory Committee of SKUAST.

Pertinently, the Minister's visit highlights the government's efforts towards strengthening the livestock sector through innovation, scientific management, and farmer-centric interventions.

# Div Com visits Hajj House Bemina; inspects arrangements for Hajj-25

**Srinagar:** Ahead of the commencement of Hajj-25, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri today visited Hajj House Bemina to take first hand appraisal of arrangements & basic amenities laid out by various departments.

Intending pilgrims would start leaving for the pilgrimage from Sunday, May 04, 2025.

During the visit, Div Com was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Srinagar Bilal Mohi ud din Bhat. Other officers present during the visit included Director, Airport Authority of India, Srinagar International Airport, Regional Director of BCAS, representatives from Health, PHE, KPDCI, Information, Hajj Committee, SMC, JK Police, Customs, Emigration, SpiceJet,

and various banks.

On the occasion, Div Com took comprehensive inspection of services and infrastructure, including forex counters set up by banks, luggage screening machines, e-bracelet counters, and boarding facilities.

Div Com also reviewed the cleanliness of lodging rooms and the availability of basic

amenities, such as water and uninterrupted electricity supply.

On the occasion, Officers from the Hajj Committee briefed the Div Com on the extensive measures taken to ensure comprehensive arrangements for security, traffic management, sanitation, and other essential services.

Speaking on the occasion, the Div Com emphasized the importance of delivering meticulous services to the pilgrims during their time at the Hajj House and during their departure.

He called for coordinated efforts to provide the best possible experience for the Hajjaj, ensuring their comfort and safety during the sacred journey.



# DDC Chairperson Kulgam expresses grief over loss of life in cloudburst

**KULGAM:** Chairperson of the District Development Council Kulgam, Mohammad Afzal Parray, expressed profound grief over the death of Tariq Ahmad Paddar, Son of Mohd

Subhan Padar in a cloudburst at Gownsgargam village of the district.

He extended his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and prayed for

the departed soul. He urged the District Administration and concerned authorities to provide immediate compensation and rehabilitation support to the affected family.

# Multifarious activities against drug abuse held in educational institutions in G'b'l

**GANDERBAL:** In a determined effort to curb substance abuse and raise awareness among the youth, multifarious activities under the "Nasha Mukht J&K" campaign against drug abuse were held today in various educational institutions of district Ganderbal.

Several educational institutions were actively engaged under the campaign's banner, aiming to maximize outreach to the most vulnerable and impressionable age group to create a drug-free district by fostering awareness, community participation,

and support for rehabilitation.

Energetic student rallies echoed through streets, inside classrooms and auditoriums, vibrant poster-making competitions, debates, and thought-provoking awareness sessions were organized, each one a testament to the youth's commitment to a healthier future.

In the rallies, teachers, volunteers, and officials from various departments joined hands to ensure that the message of a drug-free society reach every corner of the district.

While in the institutions, students enthusiastically participated in debates, poster-making competitions, and awareness talks, voicing their commitment towards building a healthier and drug-free future.

The resource persons from various departments emphasized the importance of the campaign against drug abuse. Parents and guardians were urged to remain vigilant for early warning signs.

Furthermore, the campaign also emphasized rehabilitation and support for those already affected, reminding the community that compassion and solidarity are key to recovery.

# Maintain quality work, expedite ongoing works for its timely completion, Deputy CM

**RAJOURI:** Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Chowdhary, today visited the PWD Dak Bunglow in Nowshera to inspect the progress on construction works being executed there. According to News Service, Associated News Bureau, ANB, the visit aimed to evaluate the progress on ongoing developmental works, especially conference hall at PWD Dak Bunglow Nowshera.

During his visit, the Deputy Chief Minister was apprised that the estimated cost of the project is Rs 249 Lakh and it will be completed by December 2025. The Dy CM inspected the

quality of construction works and directed the executing agencies to expedite the pace of progress while maintaining high standards in work execution.

Highlighting the significance of infrastructure development, he directed the officials to ensure strict adherence to deadlines besides addressing any bottlenecks hindering the timely completion of projects.

"Quality should not be compromised at any cost, as these projects are pivotal for overall development of the region and well-being of the people," Surinder Choudhary remarked.

# Mission Director JJM reviews progress of Water Supply schemes in Rajouri district

**JAMMU:** Mission Director Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), J&K Khurshid Ahmad Shah today reviewed the implementation of JJM in Rajouri district. The meeting was attended by Chief Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Department Jammu Superintending Engineer, Hydraulic Circle Rajouri, Executive Engineers of field divisions, AEEs and JEs including their counterparts from the Mechanical wing.

The chair was briefed about the schemes being executed in the district through a power point presentation elaborating that out of total 87,188 rural households in the district 55,454 have been provided with Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs) till date.

It was further informed that

as many as 183 civil schemes comprising of 351 works which include 10 dugwells, 108 bore wells, 43 Rapid Sand Filtration plants (RSFPs), two overhead tanks (OHTs) 183 pipe networks and 5 Slow Sand Filtration plants (SSFPs) are at different phases of execution, while 43 schemes comprising of 159 works stand completed till date.

The Mission Director, while commending the department

for successfully drilling 107 bore wells in the district, stressed on immediate commissioning of Rapid Sand Filtration Plants (RSFPs) which form an essential component of ensuring quality drinking water to the beneficiaries. He stressed on effective financial management to prevent cost escalation of Water Supply Schemes.

The MD was assured that most of these RSFP are in advanced stages of completion and will be commissioned soon along with other components of the ongoing schemes.

The MD was further informed that 145 mechanical schemes are being implemented in the district of which machinery has been procured for 92 schemes and 50 schemes have been completed.



# Chairman, Secretary, DLSA Shopian visit fire victims of Peer Mohalla

**Shopian:** In a compassionate outreach to families affected by the recent devastating fire in Peer Mohalla, Shopian, Mehmood Ahmad Chowdhury, Chairman DLSA Shopian along with Mudasar Farooq, Secretary DLSA Shopian today visited the affected area to assess the damages.

the visit, the Chairman DLSA Shopian assured the victims that necessary steps would be taken to expedite compensation through insurance companies.

He further directed SHO Shopian to expedite the investigation and determine the cause of the fire.

Accompanying the delegation were Mohammad Waseem Mirza, Munsiff and Rafie Ahmad Ganie, Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel who provided legal guidance and assistance to the distressed families, reinforcing the DLSA's commitment to upholding justice and welfare in times of crisis.

# Dr. Itoo highlights measures for Quality Education in Government Schools

**Srinagar:** Following the announcement of Class 12 examination results, it has become evident that teaching standards in government schools are progressing rapidly. There has been a significant and positive shift not only in innovative achievements but also in academic outcomes.

A recent example of this is the exceptional performance by students from the Valley in a national-level innovation competition, besides, remarkable performance of government school students by securing more than 100 merit positions in the Class 12 results.

Sharing the details, Director of School Education Kashmir, Dr. G. N. Itoo, stated that while the Class 12 results are encouraging with no school having a pass percentage close to zero, the performance in Class 10 exams is equally commendable with 438 schools achieving over 90% pass percentage.

He further added that 219 schools recorded a 100% pass rate, which is extremely encouraging.

Expressing satisfaction over the success, Dr. Itoo said these achievements are the result

of the students' hard work, the dedicated role of teachers, and the growing trust of parents in government schools.

Director affirmed his full confidence in the overall success rate of students in both Class 10 and 12 examinations, emphasizing that these statistics indicate a significant improvement in the quality of education.

He credited this progress to initiatives like the establishment of various laboratory facilities, ICT labs, implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, and the provision of education aligned with modern-day requirements.

Dr. Itoo attributed this success to the collective efforts of teachers, school heads, and parents, stating that these achievements are the result of their consistent dedication.

He extended heartfelt congratulations to the successful students and assured that the government and the Department of Education will continue to ensure modern educational facilities are made accessible to students in every corner of Jammu and Kashmir.

It is worth noting that this year, 39,768 students appeared for the Class 10 exams, out of which 31,010 passed, bringing the overall pass percentage to 77.97%.

# Chairman DLSA Budgam stresses on identification of court cases for settlement in National Lok Adalat

**Budgam:** Following directions of Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Executive Chairman, JK Legal Services Authority, a meeting of Judicial Officers of District Budgam was held under the chairmanship of O.P Bhagat, Pr. District & Sessions Judge and Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, (DLSA) Budgam, here.

Yahaya Firdous, Additional District and Session Judge Budgam, Imran Hussain Wani Sub-Judge/Chief Judicial Magistrate Budgam, Nusrat Ali Hakak Sub Judge/Secretary District Legal Services Authority Budgam, Easar ul Nabi Shah Special Mobile Magistrate Budgam and Tasneem Kawoosa Munsiff/JMIC Budgam attended the meeting in person while Iqbal Rafiq Vakeel Sub judge, Chadoora, Nazia Hassan Munsiff/JMIC Budgam, Rabiya Snober Gulzar Munsiff Magam, Aiman Aiman Munsiff/JMIC Char-i-Sharif and owfeel Ahmad Mir Additional Special Mobile Magistrate Beerwah attended the meeting virtually.

During the meeting, Chairman DLSA stressed upon all Judicial officers to identify the maximum number of pending court cases for their amicable settlement in the upcoming National Lok Adalat scheduled on 10th of May, 2025.

He emphasized upon all officers to focus on old cases and identify these cases for the said National Lok Adalat. He also stressed to identify Civil Suits, Matrimonial disputes, 138 NI Act cases etc, where there is an element of settlement for the said National Lok Adalat so that the cases of more and more litigants can be amicably resolved.

# JKAACL organises classical cultural event 'Kala Darpan 2025' at Jammu

**JAMMU:** Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL) organised 'Kala Darpan 2025', a classical cultural event, in collaboration with Bhavishya Academy and Institute of Classical Dance at Abhinav Theatre here today.

The event was themed

and dedicated to Lord Shiva (SWAYAMBHU).

MLA Jammu East, Yudhvir Sethi was the Chief Guest on the occasion, while as Commissioner Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment, Sheetal Nanda was guest of honour.

Secretary, JKAACL, Harvinder

music and dance enthusiasts were also present on the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, Sheetal Nanda appreciated the performances given by the students and organisers. She hoped that such events should be organised regularly to promote

our classical music and culture.

The event showcased various levels of Kathak by young and dynamic performers that blended the seamless singing of classical music to promote a classical music, with new take on the traditional Indian dance form.



# District Admin Ramban intensifies anti-drug campaign

**RAMBAN:** In a determined effort to combat the menace of drug abuse, the District Administration Ramban, under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, intensified its anti-drug campaign under the nationwide Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan and Nasha Mukht Jammu and Kashmir initiative.

A series of awareness activities were organized across various educational institutions in the district to sensitize students and the community about the harmful effects of drug and substance abuse.

These initiatives are part of a sustained campaign initiated by DC Ramban Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary to eradicate drug abuse and build a safer, healthier future for the youth of Ramban.

In Gool, the girl students of the Government Model Higher Secondary School led from the

front by conducting sensitization drives within their community. Their active participation

and leadership underlined the role of youth especially young women in driving social change.

At the PM Shri Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS) Tethar, students

actively participated in anti-drug pledge ceremonies and awareness programs aimed at promoting a healthy and drug-free lifestyle.

Similarly, the PM Shri Government High School Chakka also held awareness events under the same campaign, where students took part in discussions and activities emphasizing the importance of staying away from drugs.

In a notable grassroots effort, the students of the Government High School Shagan staged a Nukkad Natak (street play) highlighting the devastating impact of drug addiction. The performance received appreciation for its impactful message and creativity.

Meanwhile, students at Kaskoot, Bankoot and various other schools took a pledge to observe the Anti-Tobacco campaign and joined the Nasha Mukht Bharat campaign, reaffirming their commitment to an addiction-free lifestyle.

# Celebrating Excellence: Dir Education felicitates Sehrish Jahangir

**Kulgam:** A felicitation ceremony was held at Higher Secondary School Bugam, Kulgam to honor outstanding academic achievers. The highlight of the event was the recognition of Sehrish Jahangir, a 12th class student of the institution, who secured 2nd position in the Science stream across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The ceremony was graced by the Director of School Education, Kashmir, Dr. G. N. Itoo, who felicitated Sehrish Jahangir for her exceptional performance. Dr Itoo also congratulated the students, their parents, and teachers for their hard work and success in the Class 10th and 12th examinations for which results were declared by the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (BOSE).

In his address, Dr Itoo stated that the

Department of Education has implemented the National Education Policy 2020 and undertaken several initiatives to modernize school education, among which the establishment of ICT laboratories is particularly noteworthy.

He added that aligning the education system with contemporary demands remains a top priority of the state government.

On this occasion, Chief Education

Officer Kulgam, Mohammad Shabir, welcomed the Director and expressed that his presence had greatly encouraged successful students, teachers, and field officers across the district. He also briefed the Director on the overall educational landscape of the district and mentioned that educational services are being advanced in full accordance with the Director's guidance.

Dr. Itoo, while addressing the gathering, further lauded the efforts of the students and the faculty, emphasizing the importance of dedication, hard work, and quality education in shaping the future of the region.

The event concluded with a round of applause and appreciation for the young achievers, with Sehrish Jahangir serving as an inspiration for her peers and juniors.





BOOK REVIEW

Destiny Disrupted: A History Of The World Through Islamic Eyes



FIRDOUS AHMAD MALIK

Introduction to Author – Tamim Ansary

Tamim Ansary is an Afghan-American author, historian, and public intellectual best known for his work bridging Western and Islamic worldviews. Born in Kabul, Afghanistan, in 1948 to an Afghan father and an American mother, Ansary grew up immersed in both Eastern and Western cultures. This bicultural background deeply informs his writing, especially his interest in how different civilizations perceive and narrate history.

He moved to the United States as a teenager and later graduated from Reed College in Oregon. Over the years, Ansary has worked as an editor, teacher, and columnist, but he gained widespread recognition with his bestselling book *Destiny Disrupted: A History of the World Through Islamic Eyes* (2009). In this book, he uses storytelling to present Islamic history from within the worldview of the Muslim world, helping Western readers understand the parallel yet distinct historical experience of Islamic civilization.

Ansary's work is celebrated for its clarity, accessibility, and ability to humanize complex historical narratives. He has also written memoirs and young adult fiction, and frequently lectures on issues of history, identity, and culture.

About the Book – *Destiny Disrupted: A History of the World Through Islamic Eyes*

*Destiny Disrupted* by Tamim Ansary is a sweeping narrative history that explores the Islamic world from its own internal perspective. Rather than viewing history solely through a Western lens, Ansary presents the unfolding of global events as experienced by Islamic civilization—from the time of the Prophet Muhammad to the modern era.

The book begins with the birth of Islam in the 7th century and traces the rise of the caliphates, the golden age of Islamic science and culture, the Crusades, the Mongol invasions, and the long period of European colonization. It also delves into the 20th century, explaining how colonialism, nationalism, and modern political ideologies have shaped the Muslim world's identity and struggles today.

Ansary's central argument is that the Islamic and Western worlds have followed two distinct historical narratives. While the Western world progressed toward secular democracy and scientific advancement, the Islamic world pursued a different trajectory—centered on faith, community, and divine purpose—which was disrupted by colonial domination and globalization.

Written in an engaging and accessible style, *Destiny Disrupted* makes complex historical themes understandable for a broad audience. It's both educational and thought-provoking, providing readers with a deeper appreciation for the Islamic world's contributions, challenges, and enduring worldview.

Introduction to the Book

In *Destiny Disrupted: A History of the World Through Islamic Eyes*, author Tamim Ansary sets out to offer a fresh and insightful perspective on world history by presenting it through the lens of Islamic civilization. The book aims to challenge the commonly held Western-centric view of global history and provide readers with a more nuanced understanding of the Islamic world's historical trajectory. Ansary, who was born in Afghanistan and later moved to the United States, brings a unique bicultural perspective to the work, making it both informative and accessible.

The central premise of the book is that world history, as told from the Islamic perspective, differs significantly from the Western narrative of progress, science, and secularism. Ansary begins by discussing how the history of the West has often been presented as a continuous march towards modernity, whereas the history of the Islamic world has been framed as either static or declining in comparison. The book seeks to correct this imbalance by revealing the richness and complexity of Islamic history, offering a view that runs parallel to Western developments but often follows a different course.

Ansary starts the historical narrative by recounting the life of Prophet Muhammad and the birth of Islam in the 7th century, emphasizing the profound social and spiritual transformation that Islam brought to the Arabian Peninsula. From there, the book traces the rise and expansion of the Islamic Empire, covering key events, figures, and intellectual movements that shaped the civilization. The narrative extends to the modern era, where Ansary examines the impact of colonialism, nationalism, and modernity on the Muslim world, and the continuing struggles for identity and relevance in the contemporary geopolitical landscape.

Written in an engaging and conversational style, *Destiny Disrupted* is not just a history book, but a bridge for understanding. It offers insights into Islamic culture, politics, and philosophy, aiming to dispel common misconceptions and foster greater empathy between the Islamic world and the West. By telling the history of Islam from an insider's perspective, Ansary invites readers to see the world from a different vantage point and understand the challenges and triumphs of a civilization that has often been misunderstood or misrepresented.

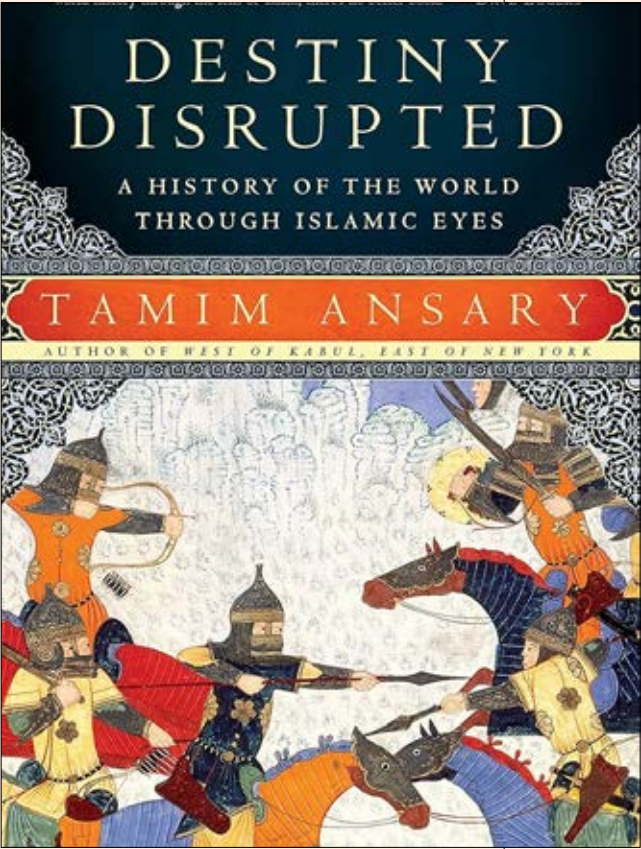
Motives behind Writing the Book

Tamim Ansary's primary motivation for writing *Destiny Disrupted: A History of the World Through Islamic Eyes* was to provide a narrative that contrasts the traditional Western-centric view of world history with the perspective of the Islamic world.

Growing up in Afghanistan and later moving to the United States, Ansary was acutely aware of the differences between the history he was taught in the West and the way history was perceived in his native culture. This dual perspective, shaped by his bicultural upbringing, led him to realize that many Western histories of the world often marginalize or misrepresent Islamic civilization.

One of Ansary's key motivations was to offer an alternative narrative that could bridge the gap between these two worldviews. Western histories, according to Ansary, tend to portray the rise of the West as a linear progression toward modernity, democracy, and secularism. In contrast, Islamic history is often depicted as a static or regressive force, especially in modern discussions. Ansary wanted to challenge these one-sided portrayals and provide a fuller, more nuanced understanding of Islamic civilization's history, one that reveals its rich intellectual, cultural, and political contributions throughout history.

Additionally, Ansary was motivated by a desire to foster understanding and empathy between the Islamic world and the West. In a time of increasing geopolitical tensions and misunderstandings, particularly after the events of 9/11 and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, Ansary sought to demystify the history and beliefs of the Muslim world for a Western audience. He wanted



to break down stereotypes and provide a more complete picture of the history that shaped the Islamic world, offering insights into how Islamic societies have interacted with Western powers throughout the centuries and how they have adapted to challenges posed by colonization, modernization, and globalization.

Ultimately, Ansary wrote the book to encourage readers to see history from multiple perspectives and to recognize the importance of understanding the diverse cultural and historical narratives that shape the world we live in. By doing so, he hoped to promote greater dialogue and understanding between cultures and to challenge the oversimplified narratives that often dominate global discussions.

Overview of the Contents

Overview of *Destiny Disrupted: A History of the World Through Islamic Eyes* by Tamim Ansary

Tamim Ansary's *Destiny Disrupted: A History of the World Through Islamic Eyes* offers a compelling retelling of Islamic history, from its roots in the 7th century to its modern-day significance. Written from an Afghan-American perspective, the book provides readers with a chronological exploration of the rise of Islam and the Muslim world, helping bridge the divide between Western and Islamic historical narratives.

Introduction to Islam and Early Expansion

The book opens with a recounting of the birth of Islam in the 7th century, focusing on the life of Prophet Muhammad and the early years of the Muslim community. Ansary describes Muhammad's role not only as a religious leader but also as a political figure who united the tribes of Arabia under the banner of Islam (Ansary, p. 1-30). Following Muhammad's death in 632 CE, Islam quickly spread across the Arabian Peninsula through the leadership of the "Rightly Guided Caliphs" (Ansary, p. 31-55). These early caliphs expanded the Islamic state through conquests that reached far beyond the Arabian borders, establishing the Islamic Caliphate.

The Sunni-Shia Split and the Umayyad Caliphate

As the Muslim empire expanded, it also began to experience internal conflicts. One of the most pivotal moments in Islamic history occurred during the succession struggle following the death of the Prophet. This dispute led to the Sunni-Shia split, a division that remains a significant aspect of Islamic politics today (Ansary, p. 56-78). The Umayyad dynasty, which came to power in 661 CE, is highlighted for its role in spreading Islam across vast regions, including North Africa and Spain. Ansary explains how the Umayyads solidified Islamic governance and introduced

significant cultural and architectural developments, even as their rule became increasingly autocratic (Ansary, p. 79-105).

The Abbasid Golden Age

The Abbasid Caliphate, which succeeded the Umayyads, ushered in what is often considered the golden age of Islamic civilization (Ansary, p. 106-150). Ansary describes how the Abbasids moved the capital to Baghdad, which became a center of learning, culture, and scientific innovation. This period saw the translation of Greek and Roman works into Arabic, preserving critical knowledge that would later influence the European Renaissance. Advances in mathematics, astronomy, medicine, and philosophy flourished, and Baghdad became the intellectual hub of the Islamic world. Ansary highlights the significance of this cultural exchange in shaping the Islamic world's intellectual legacy (Ansary, p. 151-200).

Mongol Invasions and the Decline of the Abbasid Caliphate

The Mongol invasions of the 13th century, led by Genghis Khan and later his descendants, marked a dramatic shift in the Islamic world. Ansary recounts how the Mongols destroyed Baghdad in 1258, ending the Abbasid Caliphate and decimating its intellectual and political structures (Ansary, p. 201-230). Despite this catastrophic loss, Islam endured. New Islamic empires rose from the ashes, including the Ottoman, Safavid, and Mughal empires, which continued to shape Islamic culture, governance, and identity for centuries to come.

The Ottoman Empire: Power and Decline

The Ottoman Empire, founded in the late 13th century, would become one of the most enduring and powerful Islamic empires in history. Ansary discusses the empire's rise under leaders like Suleiman the Magnificent and its eventual decline in the 19th century. By the 19th century, the Ottoman Empire, like many others, was struggling with internal decay and external pressures from European colonial powers (Ansary, p. 231-280). The empire's ultimate dissolution after World War I in the early 20th century marked the end of the era of empires in the Muslim world and gave way to the modern nation-states of the Middle East (Ansary, p. 281-310).

Colonialism and Its Impact on the Muslim World

The 19th and early 20th centuries brought European colonialism to the Muslim world, fundamentally altering its political, economic, and social structures. Ansary delves into the effects of Western imperialism on Muslim societies, particularly in the context of the disintegration of the Ottoman Empire and the partition of the Middle East (Ansary, p. 311-350). The Sykes-Picot Agreement and the creation of artificial borders by European powers, coupled with the Balfour Declaration and the establishment of Israel, continue to influence the geopolitical landscape of the region (Ansary, p. 351-375).

The Rise of Nationalism and Islamic Revivalism

The early 20th century also saw the rise of nationalist movements across the Muslim world, challenging colonial rule and seeking self-determination. Ansary explores the complex interplay between nationalism and Islam, highlighting figures like Atatürk in Turkey who sought to modernize their countries while distancing them from traditional Islamic governance (Ansary, p. 376-400). In parallel, Islamic revivalism gained momentum, with movements aimed at returning to traditional Islamic values and governance structures, including the rise of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt and the establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran in 1979 (Ansary, p. 401-416).

Contemporary Issues and Global Islam

In the final sections of the book, Ansary discusses the challenges faced by Muslim societies in the modern world, including the rise of Islamic fundamentalism, the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and the political dynamics of oil wealth (Ansary, p. 417-450). The narrative moves into the 21st century, focusing on issues like terrorism, the war on terror, and the complex relationship between Islam and the West. Ansary concludes with a reflection on the future of Islam, calling for greater understanding between the Muslim world and the West and advocating for a more nuanced view of Islam's role in global affairs.

*Destiny Disrupted* provides a thorough and accessible history of Islam from its origins to the present day. By approaching the narrative from an Islamic perspective, Tamim Ansary offers readers a fresh and vital perspective on global history. This book is an invaluable resource for anyone seeking to understand the complexities of the Muslim world and the lasting legacy of Islam throughout history. Through its blend of historical narrative, analysis, and reflection, *Destiny Disrupted* is an essential work that helps bridge the gap between the East and West.

Criticism of the Book

*Destiny Disrupted: A History of the World Through Islamic Eyes* by Tamim Ansary has received a generally positive reception, but like any work, it has also faced some criticisms.

One major critique of the book is its focus on the broad sweep of history, which some readers feel sacrifices depth in certain areas. For example, while Ansary covers a wide range of topics, from the early history of Islam to the modern era, some critics argue that the book lacks an in-depth exploration of key events or figures. Certain important aspects of Islamic history, such as the intellectual and cultural movements that occurred outside of the caliphates, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa and parts of Central Asia, are not as thoroughly discussed. These omissions leave gaps in the portrayal of Islamic civilization's diversity and its contributions to the global intellectual tradition. Some reviewers have pointed out that Islamic empires in regions like Mali, Songhai, or the Sultanate of Delhi are not adequately explored, which might have enriched the reader's understanding of the



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**Author:**  
Tamim Ansary

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global reach and impact of Islam.

Another criticism involves Ansary's portrayal of Islamic history as a linear narrative. While his intention is to provide a coherent account from the perspective of Islamic civilization, some argue that the book at times oversimplifies complex historical developments. For instance, the historical trajectory of Islam and its engagement with the West could have been elaborated more deeply, especially in terms of how Islam adapted to, resisted, and synthesized Western influences. Some scholars have noted that Ansary's treatment of political Islam in the modern era, while insightful, can come across as somewhat generalized and lacks a deeper examination of the diverse ideological movements that have emerged within Muslim societies. This could leave readers with an incomplete understanding of the complexity of contemporary Islam, especially when addressing issues like the rise of political Islam, Salafism, or radicalization.

TO BE CONTINUED...



# Continued From P1...

## Unity key strength

Water Treaty has been put in abeyance, while Pak nationals and diplomats in India have been sent back. Amid growing indications of tough action against the Pahalgam terror attack perpetrators, PM Modi has given complete operational freedom to the armed forces to decide on the mode, targets and timing of response to Pakistan. During the past ten days PM Modi has chaired two back to back meetings of the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) and has passed strict directions to eliminate terror and its supporters.

## Country is heading

Control Bureau (NCB) has seized 1.36 crore psychotropic tablets from a distributor in Himachal Pradesh and Delhi. NCB has also seized 11,693 CBCS bottles & 2.9 kg of Tramadol powder from a manufacture in Haridwar, Uttarakhand. The total value of seized drugs is around Rs. 547 crores. In pursuance of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of Nasha Mukht Bharat, Amritsar Zonal Unit of NCB has busted major networks involved in illegal diversion and distribution of pharmaceutical medicines for non-medical use across Punjab, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, and Delhi. Under the guidance of Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, a sustained intelligence-driven operation and Top to Bottom and Bottom to Top approach in investigation of cases from December 2024 to April 2025 led to significant seizures and arrests, exposing a complex nexus between manufacturers, stockist, and front operators. On April 20-21, 2025, the raids were conducted in Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Delhi. The search in Uttarakhand resulted in seizure of 11,693 CBCS bottles and 2.9 kg of Tramadol powder from J R Pharmaceuticals. The search at the premises of key distributor, Embit Bio Medix, Himachal Pradesh, resulted in the seizure of 19,25,200 tablets and the search at the premise of Aashi pharmaceutical, Bawana, Delhi resulted in the seizure of 1.17 crore tablets of Tramadol and Alprazolam indicating massive unauthorized possession and illegal distribution of pharmaceuticals medicine. The proprietor of Embit Bio Medix was arrested earlier, while attempting to flee to Vietnam on 18th April at Indira Gandhi Airport, Delhi.

## SC temporarily

to the city of Srinagar in J&K. The family had received a notice on April 25 from the Foreign Registration Office (PRO) in Srinagar asking them to leave India on expiration of their visa on the premise that they are Pakistani nationals. Further, the lead petitioner, who obtained an MBA from IIM, Kerala and is presently working in Bengaluru, claimed that his father, mother, elder sister and younger sisters were arrested by the J&K Police illegally on April 29 at around 9 pm. The plea stated the family members were taken to the India-Pakistan Border on April 30 at around 12.20 pm and are at present being forced to leave India from the border. In an interim relief, a Bench of Justices Surya Kant and NK Singh ordered that no coercive measures be taken against the petitioners till verification of documents. "Since factual pleas raised require verification, including genuineness of documents, we dispose of the present writ petition at this stage without expressing any opinion on merits, with a direction to authorities to verify the documents or any other relevant facts that may be brought to their notice. "Let an appropriate decision be taken at the earliest, though we are not stating any timeline," ordered the Justice Kant-led Bench. The apex court clarified that its order will not be treated as precedent in other cases of deportation.

## Electoral roll

As per Section 151A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, a bye-election to fill any vacancy must be conducted within six months from the date the seat was vacated. However, the poll-body couldn't hold the exercise within the six-month deadline. As of now, National Conference appears to have a strong position in the Budgam seat, benefiting from a weak and fragmented opposition in Kashmir. On the other hand, the BJP is expected to secure the Nagrota seat without significant obstacles. In the 2014 and 2024 assembly polls, these seats were respectively won by NC and BJP

## Air Marshal

an Experimental Test Pilot, and a graduate of the Air Command and Staff College, USA. Throughout his distinguished career, Air Marshal Tiwari has contributed significantly to operational testing and capability enhancement. He played a key role in operationalising the 'Litening' Laser Designation Pod during the 1999 Kargil conflict. He was actively involved in the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) flight testing from 2006–2009 and later as Project Director (Flight Test) at the National Flight Test Centre during its Final Operational Clearance in 2018–19. He also served as the Air Attaché in Paris from 2013 to 2016 and held instructional roles at the IAF Test Pilots' School and the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington. Prior to this appointment, he served as Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the South Western Air Command. In recognition of his exceptional service, the President of India awarded him the Param Vishisht Seva Medal (2025), Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (2022), and Vayu Sena Medal (2008).

## India gives befitting

with notable incidents reported across multiple sectors, including Naushera, Sunderbani, Akhnoor, Kupwara, Baramulla, and the Pargwal sector along the International Border, occurring over several consecutive nights up to last night. It may be recalled that during a hotline conversation on April 30, 2025, between the Directors General of

Military Operations (DGMOs) of India and Pakistan, India issued a stern warning to Pakistan, reiterating that such unprovoked actions violate the 2003 ceasefire agreement and will not be tolerated. The Indian DGMO emphasized the need for Pakistan to adhere to bilateral commitments and cease all hostile activities along the LoC and IB.

## Pahalgam Attack

responsible will be brought to justice," he said. "Bharat continues to follow values of humanity even after witnessing the attacks like Uri, Pulwama and Pahalgam. India has never compromised with these values and witnessed the growth. However, some people who are not happy with this growth are trying to destabilize the peace and killing innocents," he said. He added that PM Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah have already promised that the Pahalgam terror attack will be avenged. "India stands at the top and follows the values of humanity in letter and spirit," he said. Sharma also remembered Adi Shankaracharya and greeted the people on the occasion of Shankaracharya Jayanti.

## SC Grants Time

to such prisoners was lost during floods in the union territory. The top court then posted the matter for hearing on July 25. The apex court was hearing a plea filed by late Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party leader and senior advocate Bhim Singh who petitioned the court on Pakistani citizens detained under the provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, 1978. His plea sought such persons to be freed and deported to Pakistan. The top court previously expressed concerns over the fate of those Pakistani nationals who were released from Indian jails after completing their terms and if the neighbouring country did not accept them as its citizens. The government was, therefore, asked to bring in a suitable mechanism to ensure such foreign nationals were not forced to remain in jails as courts frequently dealt with complaints about Pakistani nationals being incarcerated in jails despite having served their sentence. (Agencies)

## Cloudburst Triggers

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Traffic National Highway (Ramban), Raja Adil Hamid said that restoration work is underway to clear the debris and resume traffic. He said most of the vehicles have already been cleared, while some stranded ones have been halted at safer locations. "Our priority will be to clear traffic going uphill," he said. Pertinently, flashfloods last month had washed away significant portion of Jammu-Srinagar National Highway and the restoration work is on. Meanwhile, the gusty winds followed by the moderate rainfall wreaked havoc in several areas as the reports about the uprooting of a tree was received from SKICC here, leading to the massive traffic jam along the route. Moreover, the reports were received that a tree uprooted near SKICC this afternoon amidst the gusty winds, causing huge traffic jam along the route. Furthermore, two flights were also diverted due to the windstorm today. According to an official, IndiGo flights 6E896/2305 (Delhi-Srinagar-Delhi) and 6E214 (Mumbai-Srinagar-Ix) were unable to land at Srinagar International Airport due to windstorms and have been diverted to Chandigarh and Delhi, respectively. Moreover, as predicted by the local Meteorological department, (MeT), rains lashed several central and southern areas of Kashmir this afternoon. Director MeT, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said that there is a possibility of brief spell showers at isolated to scattered places with thunder and gusty winds till May 05

**India's GERD** Mission. Dr. Jitendra Singh emphasised that DST's interventions have not only advanced science but also driven grassroots development, with focused efforts on women, children, and marginalised communities. The Minister spotlighted India's rising global rankings as a measure of DST's impact – from a dramatic leap in the Global Innovation Index (from 81st in 2015 to 39th in 2024), to securing the 3rd spot globally in

start-up numbers, PhDs in science and engineering, and research publications. India is now also ranked 6th worldwide in intellectual property filings. But the core of Dr. Jitendra Singh's message was forward-looking: science must align with market forces. Advocating for "industry-determined innovation research," he argued that sustainable innovation must be both driven and funded by private players. "In India, knowledge partnerships alone don't work – industry must have skin in the game," he quipped, underlining that private sector buy-in is essential for enduring scientific success. He also highlighted the role of the newly formed statutory body, ANRF (Anusandhan National Research Foundation), as a transformative force aimed at democratizing research funding and boosting university participation. Two major schemes – the 1 lakh crore Research, Development and Innovation Fund and the National Geospatial Mission – are now housed under DST's leadership. Calling out a quiet revolution, Dr. Jitendra Singh pointed to the "digitalisation of mind" that has ignited India's scientific temper, reshaped India's socio-scientific fabric. "Even a semi-literate person today prefers WhatsApp over writing down a number – that's the extent of behavioural change," he said, stressing that the real transformation lies not only in numbers but in the rise of aspiration and confidence among ordinary Indians. The Minister didn't shy away from calling for a strategic return of talent from abroad, urging scientists to plan their overseas journeys with a return timeline. "India today has everything to offer. It's time we built a reverse pipeline for global talent," he said. Concluding on a note of optimism, Dr. Jitendra Singh declared, "This is one of the best times for science and research in India – and the best is yet to come." The Foundation Day celebrations saw participation from Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood, DST Secretary Prof. Abhay Karandikar, Dr. Sharad Sharma of ISPIRT, and Adil Zainulbhai, Chairman, CBC reflecting a strong convergence of scientific, institutional, and industry leadership.

**Dal Lake boat** thoroughly scan the area. However, as darkness set in, the operation was suspended due to limited underwater visibility and poor lighting conditions. An SDRF official said that despite extensive search efforts using specialised equipment, there were no signs of the missing person. "The rescue teams will resume the search at first light tomorrow (Saturday) morning to ensure all efforts are exhausted in locating the individual," the official said

## “India To Ask Global

As of December 31, 2024, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has committed 764 public sector loans, grants, and technical assistance totalling USD 43.4 billion to Pakistan. ADB's current sovereign portfolio in Pakistan includes 53 loans and 3 grants worth USD 9.13 billion. ADB committed a USD 320 million loan for the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Rural Roads Development Project to upgrade around 900 kilometers of flood-susceptible rural roads in the province. In January 2025, the World Bank approved USD 20 billion lending package for Pakistan for the cash-strapped country to overcome its challenges. (Agencies)

**Pahalgam Handlers Same As Those Behind 26/11, Uri, Pulwama: Farooq Abdullah** NEW DELHI: Hinting at Pakistan's role in the Pahalgam terror attack, former Union Minister and president of the National Conference party Farooq Abdullah on Friday said the same handlers who perpetrated 26/11, Uri, Pulwama and Pathankot strikes are behind the April 22 tragedy in the Baisaran Valley. Talking to news agency, the former J&K Chief Minister described the Pahalgam strike as 'very painful' and 'murder of humanity', adding, "Anyone could be involved in the Pahalgam incident. Until we catch them, we cannot say who it is. The handlers must be the same ones who did it before. It's not just about today. They did it in Uri too. You must have seen what happened in Pulwama. Who did it in Mumbai? Who did it in Pathankot? Who did it in Rajouri and Poonch? The handlers are sitting there." He suggested that Pakistan's objective behind the Pahalgam strike was to disrupt J&K's journey of progress. "They feel that we are living in peace, living calmly, thousands of tourists are roaming here. They didn't like it. They want us not to stay with them.

# IN THE COURT OF SUB-JUDGE/CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE, LEH

Civil Misc. Apl. No. 7 of 2025  
CNR No. LDLH020000852025  
Case No. Civil Misc/30/2025

In the case:  
Residents of Phyang village through Tashi Chotak S/O Phunstog Namgal R/O Phyang, Union Territory of Ladakh  
Applicant  
Versus  
1. Secretary of Public Works Department Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh  
2. Deputy Commissioner/ CEO LAHDC Leh., UT Ladakh  
3. Superintending Engineer, PWD Circle, Leh, UT Ladakh  
4. Executive Engineer R&B Division Leh, UT Ladakh  
5. Gurmet Tundup S/O Jamyang Tundup R/O Phyang, Contractor Card No. A447.  
6. Tundup Nurboo S/O Tsering Dorjay R/O Phyang, Leh, UT Ladakh

Non-Applicants  
Suit for permanent injunction  
In the matter Application under Order 18RCP, 1908  
NOTICE

Whereas the above named Plaintiff filed the above titled suit in representative capacity on behalf of the villagers of Phyang village against the named above Defendants seeking relief of permanent injunction in regard of the subject matter of the suit i.e., construction of football ground on the community land/shelter situated at Changmachan Mohallah Phyang, Leh.  
Now, through the medium of this notice objection, if any, is invited from all concerned in the case to be filed before this Court within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice.  
Issued under my hand and seal of the Court today on 28/04/2025.

Sd/-  
Tsewang Phuntsog  
Sub Judge/Chief Judicial Magistrate  
Leh

# NOTICE

This is an information for general public that Electricity Agreement Bearing Consumer ID No: 02160100014388, my parantege has been Mistakenly Mentioned as Ab Aziz pinchoo, while as my Actual and correct parantege as per my Aadhaar Card is Mohammad Hayat pinchoo. Now i want to apply for its correction in this regard any person having any objection he/she may file the Objections in office of the Assistant Executive Engineer Electricity Sub Division Bandipora with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

**Gayas Ahmad pinchoo.**  
**S/O Mohammad Hayat pinchoo.**  
**R/O kulhama Madiha, District Bandipora.**

# NOTICE

This is an information for general public that Electricity Agreement Bearing Consumer ID No: 0216020005778, Which is Registered in the name of Shamshad Ahmad Shah, S/O Gh Mohidin Shah. Now i want to apply for change this Electricity Agreement in the name of Ghulam Mohi Uddin Shah, S/O Ali Shah, in this regard any person having any objection he/she may file the Objections in office of the Assistant Executive Engineer Electricity Sub Division Kaloosa Bandipora with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

**Ghulam Mohi Uddin Shah.**  
**S/O Ali Shah.**  
**R/O Romi Mohalla Muqam, Tehsil Aloosa District Bandipora.**

# NOTICE

This is an information for general public that i have lost Number plate of my Scoty bearing Registration No- JK15 B-0853, some where Now i want to apply for its duplicate and also want to submit missing report in police station, in this regard any person having any objection he/she may file the Objections in office of the Assistant Regional Transport Office Bandipora with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

**Hilal Ahmad Mir.**  
**S/O Mohd Afzal Mir.**  
**R/O Mir Mohalla, Kaloosa, Bandipora jammu and kashmir, pin code: 193502.**

# OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN THE PURSUIT ACADEMY BANDIPORA

(A Youthful Stride In The Pursuit Of Progressive and Qualitative Education)  
Contact: +91-7006806902 / 7006332743

SNo	Name of Faculty member	Qualification
1.	Adnan Ali	M.Sc. Physics
2.	Mohammad Irfan	M.Sc. Chemistry
3.	Akeel Fayaz Shah	M.Sc. Bio-Chemistry
4.	Dr Arif Shafi Wani	Ph.D. Botany (PDF) (B.Ed)
5.	Zubair Altaf Khan	M.Sc. Bio-Chemistry (B.Ed)
6.	Fidat ul Islam	M.Sc. Mathematics (B.Ed)
7.	Sadam Hussain Bhat	M.A History / LLB
8.	Adil Hussain	M.A Political Science
9.	Showkat Ahmad Mir	M.A Urdu/Kashmiri (B.Ed)
10.	Mahpara gull	M.A English (B.Ed)
11.	Gulshan Mohuiddin	B.A (Computer Diploma)

## FEE STRUCTURE

1. 8 th 10,999/-  
2. 9 th 12,999/-  
3. 10th 14,999/-  
4. 11 th & 12th Medical PCBZ 36,000  
Non-Medical PCM- 36,000

## SUBJECT-WISE

Physics - 12,000/-  
Chemistry - 12,000/-  
Botany - 6,000/-  
Zoology - 6,000/-  
Mathematics - 12,000/-  
Bio-Chemistry - 12,000/-  
11th & 12th Humanities Per Subject- 7,000/-

# NOTICE

This is an information for general public that i have lost Number plate of my vehicle bearing Registration No JK15 A - 5355. Some where Now i want to apply for its duplicate and also want to submit missing report in police station, in this regard any person having any objection he/she may file the Objections in office of the Assistant Regional Transport Office Bandipora with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

**Mohammad Hussain Lone.**  
**S,/O Late Fateh Mohammad Lone.**  
**R/O. Ashtangoo Tehsil Aloosa District Bandipora, jammu and kashmir. pin code: 193502.**

# NOTICE

This is an information for general public that i want to apply for Birth certificate of my Son Namely Ayaan - ul - Islam Bhat, reading in Muslim Model school Qazipora Bandipora, under DOB 15-07-2013. In this regard any person having any objection he/she may file the Objections in office of the Concern Authorities with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

**Mohammad Shahnaz Bhat.**  
**F/O Ayaan - ul - Islam Bhat.**  
**R/O Watapora Bandipora, District Bandipora.**

# NOTICE

I, RAJVEER SINGH S/O RAGHUVVEER SINGH, R/o- Rooppura, PO - Thoi, Teh- Shrimadhopur, Dist- Sikar, State- Rajasthan, PIN- 332719, hereby solemnly affirm and declare that my father Army No. 4589892K Nk Raghuveer Singh, 6 Mahar (Borders) c/o 56 AP0, PIN - 911506, has mistakenly mentioned in army official records, wrong Name- RAJVEER SING, Whereas as per birth certificate No. 08110002000001007642, My correct Name- RAJVEER SINGH. Anybody having objection in this regard may file the same before the concerned office within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection will be entertained thereafter.



Cox will likely have to wait a little longer to make it a full set of international caps. With Smith returning to the fold and Jacob Bethell away on IPL duty with Royal Challengers Bengaluru until the completion of their tournament - as per the ECB's agreement with the BCCI - Ollie Pope will likely slot back in at No. 3 with Cox having to make do as a spare batter.

There is seemingly no place for Ben McKinney. The highly regarded opener has established himself in Durham's four-day side, showing his worth with 153 in the second round of the Championship against Warwickshire. That came off the back of rave reviews on the Lions tour, on which he struck a run-a-ball 110 in the unofficial Test against Australia A.