## JAMMU AND KASHMIR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT JAMMU/SRINAGAR

## 1<sup>ST</sup> LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

## (2<sup>ND</sup> SESSION) <u>BULLETIN</u> Thursday, March 20, 2025

The House met today on 20<sup>th</sup> of March, 2025 at 10.00 AM in the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly Hall, Jammu.

Advocate Abdul Rahim Rather, Hon'ble Speaker in the Chair at 10.00 hours.

Starred Questions: Out of 30 Starred Questions set down in the Question list, only 12 questions were called and answered. Twenty (20) Supplementary Questions were also raised and answers given.

**Un-starred Questions**: Written replies to 30 un-starred questions set down in the Question List were distributed among the concerned Hon'ble Members.

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The following Hon'ble Members took part in the discussion on Demands for Grants:-

1. Mr. M.Y. Tarigami (CPIM) 11.03 hrs to 11.22 hrs

2. Mr. Sajad Shaheen (NC) 11.22 hrs to 11.28 hrs

Note 1: At this stage, Hon'ble Speaker informed the Leader of Opposition about the remaining time left to be consumed by the Hon'ble Members during the Discussion on Grants adding that a list consisting of eight (08) Hon'ble Members of BJP have been forwarded to me by the Leader of the Opposition who wants to deliberate on Demands for Grants. He informed the House about the extension of the time in order to accommodate every Hon'ble Member to participate in the debate but at the same time impressed upon them to be precise in their speech. Hon'ble Member, Mr. S. S. Salathia (BJP) requested to review the time which was honoured by the Hon'ble Speaker stating that his request will be considered.

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3. Mr. Rajeev Jasrotia (BJP) 11.31 hrs to 11.42 hrs

4. Mr. Gh. Mohi-ud-Din Mir (NC) 11.42 hrs to 11.50 hrs

5. Mr. Mushtaq Guroo (NC) 11.50 hrs to 11.54 hrs

6. Mr. Muzaffar Iqbal (Ind.) 11.54 hrs to 12.07 hrs

7. Dr. Devinder Kumar Maniyal (BJP) 12.07 hrs to 12.15 hrs

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8. Mr. Javed Riyaz Bedar (NC)

12.15 hrs to 12.24 hrs

9. Mr. Shabir Ahmad Kullay (Ind.)

12.24 hrs to 12.36 hrs

Note 2: At this stage, Hon'ble Member, Mr. Shabir Ahmad Kullay (Ind.) raised the issue of use of Chartered flights and spending crores of rupees on guests in Jammu and Kashmir. Subsequently, all the Hon'ble Members of National Conference levelled an allegation against the Opposition for looting the ex-chequer and demanded to constitute a House Committee with regard to investigate the spending of crores of rupees on such guests by the administration during the span of seven (07) years. This allegation irked the BJP Legislators which led to the upheaval in the House. However, Hon'ble Speaker stood up from his seat requested the agitating Hon'ble Members to occupy their seats but they continued to protest. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Balwant Singh Mankotia (BJP) stated that it is the government which is authorized to initiate the probe into this matter. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Pawan Kumar Gupta (BJP) demanded proof from the Hon'ble Members of National Conference for the allegations levelled. Meanwhile, Hon'ble Members, Mr. Mehraj Malik (AAP) and Mr. Shabir Ahmad Kullay (Ind.) came into the Well of the House displaying a paper as proof in support of their arguments. Moreover, Hon'ble Member, Mr. Nizam-ud-Din Bhat (Congress)

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said that it needs to be probed to ascertain its veracity as the Members have levelled serious allegation. Meanwhile, the Hon'ble Speaker stood up from his chair and requested the Hon'ble Members to maintain discipline and said that some issues have came up during the discussions on grants and Hon'ble Chief Minister will address them during his reply on the grants.

10. Mr. Baldev Raj (BJP) 12.40 hrs to 12.54 hrs
Mr. Mubarik Gul (A Member on Panel of Chairman) in the Chair
at 12.50 hours.

11. Ch. Mohammd Akram (Ind.) 12.54 hrs to 1.00 hrs

12. Mr. Hilal Akber Lone NC) 1.00 hrs to 1.08 hrs

13. Mr. Saif-ud-Din Bhat (NC) 1.08 hrs to 1.14 hrs

14. Mr. Narinder Singh Raina (BJP) 1.14 hrs to 1.20 hrs

15. Mr. Mehraj Malik (AAP) 1.20 hrs to 1.30 hrs

Note 3: At this stage, Hon'ble Member, Mr. Balwant Singh Mankotia (BJP) demanded an apology from the Hon'ble member, Mr. Mehraj Malik (AAP) for using objectionable remarks against a particular religion during his speech in the House and sought a direction from the Chair on this count. There was an uproar in the House as Hon'ble Member, Mr. Balwant Singh Mankotia (BJP) entered into a heating argument with the

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Hon'ble member, Mr. Mehraj Malik (AAP) and broke a mike in the House. Subsequently, Hon'ble Members of BJP namely Mr. Yudhvir Sethi, Mr. Surinder Kumar, Mr. Vikram Randhawa and Mr. Arvind Gupta in the fit of anger moved towards Hon'ble member, Mr. Mehraj Malik (AAP) but were stopped by the Watch & Ward staff. In the meantime, Mr. Mubarik Gul (A member on Panel of Chairmen) stood up from his Chair and requested the agitating Members to occupy their seats and maintain the sanctity of the House but they continued their protest. However, the Member on Panel of Chairman directed to expunge the remarks and warned the Hon'ble Member, Mr. Mehraj Malik (AAP) not to hurt the sentiments of any religion by issuing such statements in the House. Amid turbulence in the House, the Hon'ble Member on Panel of Chairmen adjourned the House at 1.30 hours.

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## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sitting

The House re-assembled at 2.15 hours.

Advocate Abdul Rahim Rather, Hon'ble Speaker in the Chair.

Note 3: At this stage, Mr. Sunil Kumar Sharma, Leader of Opposition while addressing the Chair leveled an allegation against the Hon'ble Members from Treasury Benches for encouraging the un-ethical behavior exhibited by Hon'ble Member, Mr. Mehraj Malik (AAP) from time to time and he should apologize for hurting sentiments of one particular community. Reacting to the allegation, all the Hon'ble Members of National Conference stood up from their seats and said that we all condemn this act. The Leader of Opposition wanted to know about a breach of privilege motion moved against the Hon'ble Member, Mr. Mehraj Malik (AAP). In response, the Hon'ble Speaker informed the Hon'ble Member that the privilege motion notice will be deliberated upon in the Privilege Committee which will be constituted in the coming days. Furthermore, the Hon'ble

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Speaker recounted that since he was not present in the House at the time when the objectionable remarks were made by the Hon'ble Member, he will verify the records and if any Member has hurt religious sentiments with his remarks, we will condemn and expunge the words from the proceedings of the House. The Hon'ble Speaker informed the House who so ever will dare to injure the sentiments of anybody particularly about religion, he will not be spared and action will be taken against him. Intervening, Hon'ble Member, Mr. Mubarik Gul informed the Chair that he had already expunged the words uttered by the Hon'ble Member.

**Further discussion on Demands for Grants.** 

16. Thakur Darshan Singh (BJP) 2.24 hrs to 2.32 hrs

17. Mr. Altaf Ahmad Wani (NC) 2.32 hrs to 2.44 hrs

18. Mr. Riyaz Ahmad Khan (NC) 2.44 hrs to 2.50 hrs

Note 4:- At this stage, Mr. Omar Abdullah, Hon'ble Chief Minister informed the House about the sad demise of former Hon'ble Member of Gurez, Mr. Faqeer Mohammad Khan who has committed suicide at his official residence in Srinagar. He on behalf of his party expressed his condolence to the bereaved family. However, the Hon'ble Speaker, Leader of Opposition, Mr. Sunil Sharma and Hon'ble Member of Gurez, Mr. Nazir Ahmad

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Khan Gurezi also expressed their condolences to the bereaved family. At this stage, two minutes silence was observed as a mark of respect to the departed soul under the direction of the Chair.

19.	Mr. Iftikhar Ahmad (Congress)	2.54 hrs to 2.57 hrs
20.	Mr. Pawan Kumar Gupta (BJP)	2.58 hrs to 3.10 hrs
21.	Dr. Sajad Shafi (NC)	3.10 hrs to 3.14 hrs
22.	Mr. Zafar Ali Khatana (NC)	3.14 hrs to 3.22 hrs
23.	Mr. Sunil Kumar Sharma (LOP)	3.22 hrs to 3.47 hrs

Mr. Mubarik Gul (A Member on Panel of Chairman) in the Chair at 3.33 hours.

Note 7: At this stage, the Leader of Opposition, Mr. Sunil Kumar Sharma stated that for last 15 days he had been monitoring the proceedings of the House and alleged the Treasury Benches for interrupting him continuously during his speech.

Note 8: At this stage, Hon'ble Member, Sheikh Khursheed Ahmad (Ind.) lodged a strong protest and alleged that he was not allowed to speak by the Chair during the discussion on Demands for Grants. He moved from his seat towards Well of the House raising papers but was not allowed by the Watch & Ward staff. The Hon'ble Speaker asked him to sit at his seat but he ignored the repeated calls of the Chair. Consequently,

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Hon'ble Member, Sheikh Khursheed Ahmad was marshalled out of the House under the direction of the Chair.

Mr. Omar Abdullah, Hon'ble Chief Minister replied the debate from 3.56 hours to 4.55 hours.

**Note 9:-** During his reply on Demands for Grants, Mr. Omar Abdullah, Hon'ble Chief Minister emphasized that government expenditure on State Guests is a common practice and has been followed by previous governments as well. He assured the House that steps are being taken to utilize the existing assets affectively.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister acknowledged the acute shortage of government accommodations forcing many Hon'ble Members and Ministers to seek private housing. He assured the new infrastructure projects would be undertaken with comprehensive planning and strict adherence to DPR. The Hon'ble Chief Minister highlighted the need for robust tourism infrastructure to fully exploit Jammu and Kashmir's tourism potential. He emphasized the importance of promoting pilgrimage tourism in Jammu and Kashmir.

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The Hon'ble Chief Minister while addressing the issue raised by the majority of the Hon'be Members cutting across the party lines with regard to enhancement of their salaries and pension of ex-legislators, suggested that Hon'ble Speaker may constitute a House Committee comprising of Leader of Opposition and other party leaders to recommend the suitable enhancement of salaries of Hon'ble Members on the analogy of Parliament which provides salary revision after every five years keeping in view the inflation and other aspects. While acknowledging the demand for an increase in CDF allocation, he stated that a reasonable enhancement have been considered to increase CDF from 3-4 crores for each Hon'ble Member. He also requested the Hon'ble Member for withdrawal of their Cut Motions which was subsequently agreed upon by the House.

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Cut Motion Notices moved by Hon'ble Members viz Mr. Balwant Singh Mankotia (BJP), Mr. Sajad Gani Lone (PC), Mr. Pawan Kumar Gupta (BJP), Mr. R. S. Pathania (BJP), Mr. Shakti Raj Parihar (BJP), Dr. Devinder Kumar Maniyal (BJP), Mir Mohammad Fayaz (PDP), Mr. Waheed-ur-Rehman Parra (PDP), Dr. Rajeev Kumar Bhagat (BJP), Mr. Darshan Kumar (BJP), Mr. Khursheed Ahmad Sheikh (Ind.), Mr. Shabir Ahmad Kullay (Ind.), Mr. Randhir

Singh (BJP), Mr. Satish Kumar Sharma (BJP), Mr. Vikram Randhawa (BJP), Mr. Rafiq Ahmad Naik (PDP), Mr. Baldev Raj Sharma (BJP), Mr. Arvind Gupta (BJP), Mr. Kuldeep Raj Dubey (BJP) were withdrawn with the leave of the House except the Cut Motion moved by Hon'ble Member, Mr. Sajad Gani Lone (PC) who was absent from the House.

Demand for Grants for the year 2025-26 viz 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 14, 19, 20, 24, 31, and 33 alongwith Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2024-25 viz 1, 8, 10, 12, 18, 19, 24, 29, 30, 32, 33 and 36 were passed in the House with the voice vote.

The Hon'ble Speaker then adjourned the House at 5.00 PM to meet again on Saturday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, 2025 at 10.00 AM in the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly Hall, Jammu.

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