

JAMMU AND KASHMIR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT
JAMMU

**1ST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR**

(5th SESSION)

BULLETIN

Saturday, April 4th, 2026

The House met today on 4th of April, 2026 at 10:00 A.M. in the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly Hall, Jammu.

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

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As soon as the Hon'ble Speaker took the Chair, both ruling and opposition Members excluding those from the BJP raised the issue of an alleged fake encounter in Ganderbal. Condemning the killing of an "innocent," they demanded a statement from the Chair. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Mubarik Gul (NC) called for a strong message from the House against the killing and emphasized the need for accountability. He informed the House that the family members of the deceased, Rashid Ahmad Mughal, said that he was not a terrorist and had no terror links. The family termed the encounter fake and demanded the return of Mughal's body for a ceremonial burial. Supporting this

demand, Hon'ble Member, Justice Hasnain Masoodi (NC) underlined that the right to a decent burial is a fundamental, constitutionally recognized right that must be respected to uphold justice. He noted that any restriction on this right undermines the principles of justice and democratic values.

Hon'ble Member, Mir Saifullah (NC) described the incident as "deeply concerning" and emphasized the need for a judicial inquiry to ensure accountability and said that those guilty in the killing of an innocent must get an exemplary punishment.


Hon'ble Member, Mr. Nizam-ud-Din Bhat (INC) asserted that an administrative inquiry would be insufficient for such a serious matter, arguing that only a judicial probe could ensure fairness and credibility. He noted, inquiries at the administrative level tend to balance competing interests, which can compromise accountability.

Hon'ble Member, Mr. Irfan Hafiz Lone (INC) staged a protest, holding a placard to demand that the family of the deceased be heard and justice be served. He called for a result-oriented inquiry to uncover the truth. In addition, he raised the issue of the detention of Legislator Mr. Mehraj Malik (AAP), demanding his immediate release. In response, the Hon'ble Speaker informed the House that the Hon'ble

Lieutenant Governor had already ordered a time-bound magisterial probe, with a report due within seven days.

However, Hon'ble Member, Mr. R. S. Pathania (BJP) questioned the discussion of a law-and-order issue within the House. He noted eight of his questions were previously disallowed for falling under the authority of the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor or the Government of India and further added how discussion is taking place on the matter which is not under the jurisdiction of the House.

Starred Questions: 32 Starred Questions set down in the Question list were answered in writing, out of which, six (06) questions were called and answered orally as well. Eleven (11) Supplementary Questions were also raised and answers given.

 **Un-starred Questions:** Written replies to 35 un-starred questions set down in the Question List were distributed among the concerned Hon'ble Members.

Note 1: During Question Hour, while responding to supplementary regarding up-gradation of Schools, Hon'ble Minister, Ms. Sakina Masood Itoo informed the House that around 842 institutions were upgraded prior to 2014 under the leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Mr. Omar Abdullah, however, subsequent changes in Government stalled further progress. She further added that there has been no

recruitment in the Education Department since 2019 and blamed the PDP for the challenges the Government is presently facing in the UT. Subsequently, Hon'ble Member, Mr. Waheed-ur-Rehman Para (PDP) stood up from his seat and targeted the Government over education policy and infrastructure besides, questioned the Hon'ble Minister's academic qualifications. In response, Hon'ble Minister, Ms. Sakina Masood Itoo retaliated by questioning Para's alleged business interests in cold stores and accused him of being influenced by external forces better known to everybody.

Note 2: At this stage, Hon'ble Member, Mr. Rajiv Jasrotia (BJP) raised A. Q. No. 1328 on behalf of Hon'ble Member, Mr. Vijay Kumar (BJP).

Note 3: At this stage, Hon'ble Member, Mr. Arvind Gupta (BJP) raised A. Q. No. 1189 on behalf of Hon'ble Member, Mr. Surinder Kumar (BJP).

Note 4: At this stage, Hon'ble Member, Mr. Shabir Ahmad Kullay (Ind.) was dissatisfied with the response from the Hon'ble Minister, Mr. Javed Ahmad Rana (on behalf of Hon'ble Chief Minister). The Hon'ble Speaker directed the Hon'ble Member to submit his suggestions in writing, noting that the Government would be asked to examine them and take appropriate action.

Note 5: At this stage, Hon'ble Member, Mr. Pawan Kumar Gupta (BJP), expressed dissatisfaction with the reply provided by Hon'ble Minister,


Mr. Javed Ahmad Rana (on behalf of the Hon'ble Chief Minister) regarding land disputes stalling local projects. Consequently, Mr. Gupta staged a walkout in protest.

The following Hon'ble Members raised their Constituency related issues:-

1. **Mr. G. A. Mir (INC)**
2. **Mr. Rajiv Jasrotia (BJP)**
3. **Engineer Khurshied Ahmad (NC)**
4. **Mr. Balwant Singh Mankotia (BJP)**

Note 6: At this stage, Hon'ble Member, Mr. Balwant Singh Mankotia (BJP) requested the Chair to uphold the practice of providing Legislators with copies of speeches delivered on the floor of the House, emphasizing the need for systematic printing and documentation. The Hon'ble Speaker noted that under Rule 414, matters not qualifying as a point of order require written notice to the Secretary. This notice must explicitly state the issue to be addressed, once forwarded to the Speaker and granted formal consent, the point may be raised by the Hon'ble Member. He further added that while the House is in Session and the Secretariat is operating with a skeleton staff, even then the proceedings of the House must be recorded and published. Accordingly, the Assembly Secretariat was directed to strictly adhere to the prescribed rules and norms.

5. Mr. M. Y. Tarigami (CPIM)
6. Mr. Gh. Mohi-ud-Din Mir (NC)
7. Mr. Ali Mohammad Dar (NC)
8. Mr. Nazir Ahmad Khan (NC)
9. Mr. Mubarik Gul (NC)
10. Mr. Muzaffar Iqbal Khan (Ind.)
11. Mr. Javaid Riyaz Bedar (NC)
12. Mr. Shakti Raj Parihar (BJP)
13. Mr. Kuldeep Raj Dubay (BJP)
14. Aga Syed Muntazir Mehdi (PDP)
15. Mr. Sajad Gani Lone (PC)
16. Mr. Javiad Iqbal (NC)
17. Mr. Zaffar Ali Khatana (NC)
18. Peerzada Feroz Ahmad (NC)

 **Note 7:** Hon'ble Member, Mr. Abdul Majid Larmi (NC) rose to remind the Chair about the "microphone incident." It was previously alleged that Hon'ble Member, Mr. Waheed-ur-Rehman Para (PDP) brought a private microphone into the House to record or amplify his speech. The Hon'ble Speaker, taking serious note of the matter, had directed the Assembly Secretariat to conduct a thorough investigation. Accordingly, Mr. Larmi requested an update on the investigation report.

➤ **CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

- (I) **Justice Hasnain Masoodi** called the attention of Hon'ble Minister for Forest, Ecology and Environment towards a matter of urgent public importance namely; the situation arising out of widespread damage to saffron and agricultural fields in Letapora and adjoining areas due to porcupine (a wild animal) infestation, and similar damage caused by monkeys in Wahab Sahab, Pampore, resulting in significant loss to saffron and agricultural production, and the need for immediate remedial measures.

Hon'ble Minister (Incharge Agriculture, Forest & Ecology), Mr. Javed Ahmad Dar read out a reply.

- (II) **Mr. Salman Ali Sagar** called the attention of Hon'ble Minister for Health and Medical Education towards a matter of urgent public importance namely; the situation arising out of non-functional status of the Mini Maternity-cum-Child Care Hospital (MCH), Zakoora, which despite substantial public investment, remains non-operational and has fallen into a dilapidated condition.

Hon'ble Minister (Incharge Health & Medical Education), Mtr. Sakina Masood Itoo read out a reply.

- (III) **Miss Devyani Rana** called the attention of the Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti towards a matter of urgent public importance namely; the situation arising out of increasing incidents of theft of transformers and allied Public Health Engineering (PHE) equipments being sold as scrap, resulting in public inconvenience and financial loss to the exchequer.

Hon'ble Minister (Incharge Jal Shakti), Mr. Javed Ahmad Rana read out a reply.

- (IV) **Sheikh Khursheed** called the attention of the Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti towards a matter of urgent public importance namely; the situation arising out of acute scarcity of drinking water in Magam, Nelipora and other areas of Handwara Division due to disconnection of water supply schemes on account of non-payment of dues, resulting in severe hardship to general public, particularly women and children.

Hon'ble Minister (Incharge Jal Shakti), Mr. Javed Ahmad Rana read out a reply.

- (V) **Mr. Irshad Rasool Kar** called the attention of the Hon'ble Chief Minister (Minister Incharge Housing and Urban Development) towards a matter of urgent public importance namely; the situation arising out of frequent rains, resulting in severe water logging, choking of drains, and the deteriorating condition of drainage infrastructure in Sopore town.

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Hon'ble Minister (Incharge Health & Medical Education), Mtr. Sakina Masood Itoo read out a reply.

Note 8: At this stage, Hon'ble Minister, Ms. Sakina Masood Itoo raised objection over the personal attacks made by Hon'ble Member, Mr. Waheed-ur-Rehman Parra (PDP), while making it clear that she will no longer remain silent, if provoked subsequently cautioned the Hon'ble Member to behave respectfully in the House.

While intervening, Hon'ble Speaker urged all the members to maintain dignity of the House and avoid personal vendettas.

➤ **BILLS FOR CONSIDERATION AND PASSING**

(i) **Hon'ble Minister, Mr. Javed Ahmad Dar on behalf of Mr. Omar Abdullah, Hon'ble Chief Minister** moved that:-

“A Bill to amend certain enactments decriminalising and rationalizing offences for ease of living and ease of doing business and also to repeal certain enactments” **(L.A. Bill No.07 of 2026) be taken into consideration.**

The Motion was carried and the Bill was taken into consideration.

Amendments moved by Hon'ble Members, Mr. Nizam-ud-Din Bhat, Mr. Balwant Singh Mankotia, Pirzada Farooq Ahmad Shah and Mr. Tanvir Sadiq were deemed to have been moved to save the time of the House.

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Hon'ble Minister, Mr. Javed Ahmad Dar also moved that the Bill be passed.

The following Hon'ble Members also took part in the discussion on the consideration motion:-

- 1. Mr. Nizam-ud-Din Bhat (INC)**
- 2. Mr. Balwant Singh Mankotia (BJP)**
- 3. Pirzada Farooq Ahmad Shah (NC)**
- 4. Mr. Tanvir Sadiq (NC)**

Hon'ble Minister, Mr. Javed Ahmad Dar replied the points raised by the Hon'ble Members.

The Motion was carried and the Bill was passed by the House with the voice vote whereof amendments moved by Hon'ble

Members, Mr. Balwant Singh Mankotia, Pirzada Farooq Ahmad Shah and Mr. Tanvir Sadiq was withdrawn with the leave of the House. However, amendment moved by Hon'ble Member, Mr. Nizam-ud-Din Bhat was rejected with the leave of the House.

(ii) **MS. Sakina Masood (Itoo) Hon'ble Minister** moved that:-

"A Bill to provide for the establishment and incorporation of Private Universities in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, and to regulate their functioning, management, and academic standards for ensuring quality education and protecting the interests of students". **(L.A. Bill No. 08 of 2026) be taken into consideration.**

The Motion was carried and the Bill was taken into consideration.

Amendments moved by Hon'ble Members, Mir Saifullah, Mr. Nizam-ud-Din Bhat, Mr. Balwant Singh Mankotia, Pirzada Farooq Ahmad Shah and Mr. Tanvir Sadiq were deemed to have been moved to save the time of the House.

Hon'ble Minister, Mtr. Sakina Masood Itoo also moved that the Bill be passed.

The following Hon'ble Members also took part in the discussion on the consideration motion:-

1. Mr. Nizam-ud-Din Bhat (INC)
2. Mr. Balwant Singh Mankotia (BJP)
3. Pirzada Farooq Ahmad Shah (NC)
4. Mr. Tanvir Sadiq (NC)
5. Mr. Sajad Gani Lone (PC)

6. Mr. M. Y. Tarigami (INC)

Hon'ble Minister, Mtr. Sakina Masood Itoo replied the points raised by the Hon'ble Members.

The Motion was carried and the Bill was passed by the House with the voice vote whereof amendments moved by Mr. Nizam-ud-Din Bhat, Pirzada Farooq Ahmad Shah, and Mr. Tanvir Sadiq was withdrawn with the leave of the House. Besides, amendments moved by Mr. Balwant Singh Mankotia were rejected with the leave of the House.

➤ SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION

Mr. Pawan Kumar Gupta initiated discussion on privileges, dignity and protocol of the august House/Hon'ble Members.

Note 9: At this stage, the time was extended by one hour with the leave of the House.

The following Hon'ble Members also participated during discussion:-

1. Mr. Nizam-ud-Din Bhat (INC)
2. Mr. Hasnain Masoodi (NC)
3. Mr. Salman Sagar (NC)

Note 10: At this stage, Hon'ble Members reached a consensus that resolving the 'dual control' between the Administration/DDCs and MLAs is essential for the legislative branch to effectively oversee the executive. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Nizam-ud-din Bhat

(INC) asserted that the Re-organization Act, 2019 has not weakened the powers of the legislators and made it clear that only Parliament can amend the Constitution and the fundamental provisions of legislative privilege remain intact despite nomenclature changes.

The Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Mr. Surinder Choudhary, while responding on behalf of the Government, assured the House that the dignity of the Hon'ble Members is a "prime concern" and strong action would be taken against any officers found breaching the privileges of the Members.

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The Hon'ble Speaker while expressing dissatisfaction with "mere assurances," directed the Government to implement concrete corrective measures and review Warrant of Precedence within two months to restore and maintain the dignity and protocol of the Legislators. Hon'ble Speaker, specifically questioned the Government regarding delays in updating the "Warrant of Precedence," which dictates official hierarchy and protocol during public functions and administrative meetings.

Note 11: At this stage, the following Hon'ble Members cutting across party lines lauded the Hon'ble Speaker for conducting the

proceedings with remarkable efficiency and also appreciated the working of Secretary L.A. and his staff members:-

1. Mr. S. S. Slathia (BJP)
2. Mr. M. Y. Tarigami (CPIM)
3. Mr. Nizam-ud-Din Bhat (INC)
4. Mr. Sajad Gani Lone (PC)
5. Pirzada Farooq Ahmad Shah (NC)
6. Mr. Tanvir Sadiq (NC)
7. Mir Saifullah (NC)
8. Mr. Rafiq Ahmad Naik (PDP)
9. Mr. Nazir Ahmad Khan (NC)
10. Mr. Sajad Shaheen (NC)
11. Mr. Ajaz Ahmad Jan (NC)
12. Mr. Salman Sagar (NC)

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Note 12: At this stage, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Mr. Surinder Kumar Choudhary praised the Hon'ble Speaker for his smooth, efficient and impartial conduct of the session. He noted that his experience helped to maintain order despite different political view-points. He emphasized that the session served as a valuable learning platform, particularly for first-time MLAs who benefited from the nuances of legislative functioning under the Hon'ble Speaker's guidance. He also expressed gratitude to the Hon'ble Chief Minister and Hon'ble Ministers for collectively ensuring that the concerns of the people are effectively raised

and addressed. He highlighted that the session provided a platform for "meaningful discussions and constructive debate," which he cited as essential for strengthening regional democracy besides appreciated Secretary L.A. and his staff members besides media for their role in ensuring the session's success bringing public issues to the forefront.

Note 13: At this stage, Hon'ble Speaker noted that J&K's 22 sittings outperformed many other States (e.g., Punjab-7, Haryana-13, Delhi-4, Karnataka-13, Chhattisgarh-15, Andhra Pradesh-15, Uttar Pradesh-10 and Uttarakhand-5) except Gujrat-23 in terms of legislative activity. He commended Hon'ble Chief Minister, Mr. Omar Abdullah for his consistent presence and for personally answering questions despite holding multiple portfolios that reflects his seriousness towards the House and a strong commitment to accountability. He also congratulated the Hon'ble Ministers for handling multiple responsibilities effectively during the Session. While applauding all the members for their co-operation, the Hon'ble Speaker stated that the House ensured broad participation and reflected a healthy democratic spirit. He further emphasized the need to protect the dignity and privileges of Hon'ble Members. Thereafter, the Hon'ble Speaker provided the below mentioned information to the House:-

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S. No.	Detail	Total
1.	TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTINGS	22-Sittings
TIME CONSUMED		
S. No.	Total Time Consumed In Hours	Total Time Consumed In Minutes
1.	110 Hours and 36 Minutes	6636 Minutes
GOVERNMENT BILLS		
1.	Received	08-Bills
2.	Introduced and Passed	08-Bills
1.	Papers Laid	25-Papers
2.	Ordinances Laid	1-Ordinance
PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILLS		
1.	Previous Pending Bills	36-Bills
2.	Received during this Session	39-Bills
3.	Admitted	36-Bills
4.	Disallowed	3-Bills
5.	Listed	72-Bills
6.	Taken Up	24-Bills
7.	Introduced	2-Bills
DETAILS OF QUESTIONS		
1.	Total AQs Received	1528
2.	Starred AQs Received	802
3.	Un-Starred AQs Received	726
4.	Total AQs Listed	1379
5.	Disallowed AQs	144

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6.	AQs Withdrawn	02
7.	AQs Not Listed	03
8.	AQs Taken Up In House	151
9.	Supplementaries Raised	331

CALLING ATTENTION NOTICES

1.	Total Notices Received	110-Notices
2.	Disallowed	63-Notices
3.	Admitted	47-Notices
4.	Listed	26-Notices
5.	Taken Up	26-Notices

DETAILS OF RESOLUTIONS

1.	Total Resolutions Received	128-Resolutions
2.	Admitted	101-Resolutions
3.	Disallowed	27-Resolutions
4.	Balloted	14-Resolutions
5.	Listed	14-Resolutions
6.	Taken Up	4-Resolutions
7.	Adopted	Nil

SHORT DURATION NOTICES

1.	Discussed	2-Notices
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DETAILS OF CUT MOTIONS

1.	Total Number of Cut Motions Received	2231
2.	Allowed	2059
3.	Disallowed	172

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Following the completion of business and the Hon'ble Speaker's valedictory address, the House was adjourned **sine die** at 2:53 P.M.

Jammu
April 4th, 2026



(Fouzia Tabbassum)
Deputy Secretary