

# KASHMIR OBSERVER

Friday 6 August | 26 Zil Hajj | 1442 Hijri | Vol: 24 | Issue: 182 | Pages: 08 | Price: ₹3

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P3 CITY

## COPS KEEP COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES OPEN IN LAL CHOWK

A day after Srinagar traders were warned of consequences for observing shutdown on the second anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370, a battery

P4 HEALTH

## INCESSANT LOSS IN EDUCATION SECTOR

Modernism has brought about globalisation of education, where newer tools, techniques and processes emerge to aid and assist the process of teaching and learning development. The



P7 NEWS

## HC STAYS INTERIM ORDER STOPPING APPOINTMENT OF LAW OFFICERS

A double bench of High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh has stayed the effect and operation of interim order of Single bench issued in response to a



## Quote!

Change the game, don't let the game change you.  
— Macklemore

## NEWS DIGEST

### Govt Orders Transfer Of 4 Officers

**SRINAGAR:** The Jammu and Kashmir government on Thursday transferred an IAS and three JKAS officers in the interest of administration. According to separate orders, Syeed Fakhruddin Hamid (IAS), awaiting orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department, has been posted as Managing Director, Jammu and Kashmir Tourism. [More On P2](#)

### Electric Shock Kills Man

**SRINAGAR:** A man from Shangus area of South Kashmir's Anantnag district died due to electrocution in Srinagar, officials said on Thursday. Mohammad Jawaad Bhat, a resident of Nowgam Shangus was electrocuted while he was repairing a motor in Srinagar, an official said. "He died on the spot," the official said, adding that he was working in a private company. He said Bhat's body was taken to. [More On P2](#)

### Fate Of Missing Pilots Unknown

**JAMMU:** Army and the divers of Indian navy continued operation for the third day on Thursday to trace pilot and co-pilot of a helicopter of Indian Army's aviation corps which crashed near Ranjit Sagar Dam in the Basohli area of Kathua, officials said. The helicopter crashed around 1020 hours on Tuesday. Later teams of Police and National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) rushed to the site and started rescue operations. However the success. [More On P2](#)

### Man Injured In Bear Attack

**SRINAGAR:** A 50-year-old man was injured after he was attacked by a bear in South Kashmir's Shopian district on Thursday morning. Nazir Ahmad Sheikh son of Khazir Mohammad Sheikh, a resident of Chatterwach village in Imamsahib was injured when he was attacked by the bear in an orchard, an official said. Sheikh received injuries on his face and was rushed to district hospital Shopian. [More On P2](#)

### Court Refuses Bail To 3 Former BJP Men

**SRINAGAR:** A local court in Kupwara on Thursday rejected bail plea of three former Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders including a district president, who were detained for faking a militant attack last month. According to reports, the court denied relief to the three former BJP leaders stating that it was not inclined to grant the concession of bail to the accused. While pleading for grant. [More On P2](#)

## August 5 Move Brought Peace, Progress To J&K: PM



Agencies

**NEW DELHI:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday, August 5, 2021, said that since the abrogation of Article 370 two years ago there has been unprecedented peace and progress in Jammu and Kashmir.

On the second anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370, which gave Jammu and Kashmir its special status, and the bifurcation of the erstwhile state into two Union territories, PM Modi

said two years ago on this day the first big step towards a new Jammu and Kashmir was taken.

"A historic day. Two years ago, on this day, the first big step towards a #NewJammukashmir was taken. Since then, there has been unprecedented peace & progress in the region. Head to Your Voice section of the Volunteer module on NaMo App for informative content, graphics and more!" tweeted the official account of Narendra Modi's personal website.

### 'J&K Saw Real Democracy In Last 2 Years'

Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed real democracy, development and good governance in the last two years that resulted in "immeasurably" strengthening India's unity and integrity, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said Thursday on the second anniversary of the withdrawal of special status of the erstwhile state. On August 5, 2019, India announced the withdrawal of Jammu and Kashmir's special status and divided it into two union territories.

"Jammu and Kashmir has seen real Democracy," [More On P2](#)

## Pak Leadership Rue Revoking of J&K Spl Status

Press Trust Of India

**ISLAMABAD:** Pakistan's top leadership, including Prime Minister Imran Khan and Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa, on Thursday criticised India for its decision to revoke the special status of Jammu and Kashmir two years ago and expressed solidarity with the Kashmiri people.

India's Parliament abrogated the special status of Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 on August 5, 2019 and bifurcated it into two Union territories. Reacting to India's decision, Pakistan downgraded ties with New Delhi and also suspended trade relations.

India has maintained that the issue related to Article 370 of the Indian Constitution was entirely an internal matter of the country. India has told Pakistan. [More On P2](#)

## J&K Has Vaccinated 50 Lakh People: Govt

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Jammu and Kashmir government has vaccinated nearly 50 lakh people, forty percent of the Union Territory's population with the first dose, while 1.62 lakh tests per week are being conducted with 0.2% positivity rate, an official spokesperson said Thursday.

He said these details were shared during a high-level meeting chaired by the Union Home Secretary, Ajay Bhalla to review the public health response to COVID-19. Bhalla, he



said, urged all Union territories to vigorously follow the strategy of testing, tracking, and treating COVID. [More On P2](#)

### J&K Logs 128 New Cases, 1 Death

Jammu and Kashmir reported on Thursday 128 fresh cases of novel coronavirus while one more person succumbed to the deadly infection in the Union Territory during the last 24 hours. While 90 fresh cases were reported from Kashmir Valley, the remaining 38 were detected from various parts of the Jammu division, taking the total number of people infected since the outbreak of pandemic last year in J&K to 322142, officials said Thursday. Giving district-wise details, the officials said that. [More On P2](#)

## Situation Worsening In J&K Since Revocation Of Special Status: PAGD



Press Trust Of India

**SRINAGAR:** On the second anniversary of the revocation of Jammu and Kashmir's special status, the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) Thursday expressed concern over the situation in J&K and resolved to continue the struggle for the restoration of the "legitimate rights" of its people.

The alliance held a meeting of its constituents at its chairman and National Conference

president Farooq Abdullah's residence in Gupkar area here.

The meeting was attended by the PAGD's vice chairperson and PDP president Mehbooba Mufti, its spokesperson and CPI(M) leader M Y Tarigami and senior vice president of Awami national Conference Muzaffar Shah.

Speaking to reporters outside Abdullah's residence after the meeting, Tarigami said the alliance "reiterated our resolve to continue our struggle for restoration our."

[More On P2](#)

## What Has Changed For Good In J&K: Cong To Go!

The Jammu and Kashmir Congress on Thursday asked the Centre as to what has changed for betterment of people of the erstwhile state and the nation, two years after revocation of Article 370 of the constitution. It also said that the promise of 50,000 government jobs. [More On P2](#)

## Aug 5 Move Complicated J&K Dispute Further'

The government's "unilateral" and "arbitrary" decision to withdraw Jammu and Kashmir's special status only further complicated the "dispute" in the erstwhile state, the Hurriyat Conference said Thursday on the second anniversary of the revocation of Article 370. [More On P2](#)

## Govt Committed To Empower Panchayati Raj Institutions: LG



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Thursday that the three-tier system of the Panchayati Raj system is a bridge between policies and their implementation on the ground, and the administration is putting concerted efforts to strengthen the grass root level of the democratic setup.

"The integrated approach to institutionalize the active participation of PRLs in implementation of various schemes and projects

will be a key driver of the UT's overall development agenda. The three-tier system of the Panchayati Raj system is a bridge between policies and their implementation on the ground, and the administration is putting concerted efforts to strengthen the grass root level of the democratic setup," Sinha said Thursday.

He made these remarks while interacting with the Chairpersons of District Development Councils of Kashmir Division at Civil Secretariat here, an official spokesperson said. A similar interaction with. [More On P2](#)



Tight security measures were put in place in Srinagar on Thursday to mark the second anniversary of the abrogation of J&K's special status. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

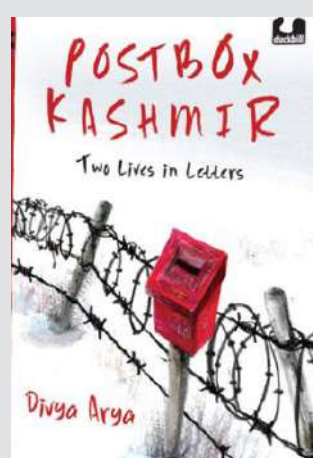
## Exchanging Letters To Portray Life In Kashmir

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** Communication between two girls through exchange of letters form the subject of a new book which attempts to portray life in Kashmir from the perspective of its young minds and provides a context of understanding for the new generation in other parts of the country.

"Post Box Kashmir: Two Lives in Letters" provides an insight into the minds and hearts of teenage girls, one in Delhi and the other in Kashmir, undergoing momentous points in history.

Do only Muslims live in Kashmir? Why do girls in Kashmir do stone pelting? Can you imagine being confined to the four walls of your home



with no internet, no social media? Are Kashmiris really invisible to the rest of the country?

These are some of the questions two teenagers - Saumya Sagrika in Delhi and Duaa Tul

Barzam in Kashmir - asked through letters they exchanged over almost three years.

The answers they seek are likely to be the answers that all teenagers growing up in India would ask.

Framing these letters is the detailed history and commentary provided by journalist Divya Arya, who asked them to be pen pals, which places their conversations against the backdrop of the political history and happenings in Kashmir.

"Post Box Kashmir" is the result of these conversations. Published by Penguin Random House imprint Duckbill, it is a non-fiction for teens on the history and present of Kashmir, as seen through the letters of Duaa and Saumya.

The book hit stores on August

5, the second anniversary of the revocation of Jammu and Kashmir's special status.

"They had to be girls. Equally impacted but less expected to be the tellers, characters or readers of writings about conflict," Arya says about her characters.

"Women's experiences are documented less, especially in the context of issues that are not specifically about them," she adds.

Arya says to capture the impact of geopolitics, there was a need to step away from it.

"From the action on the streets back into the quiet of homes. We wanted to understand Kashmir from the perspective of the young minds growing inside it, and to explain it to. [More On P2](#)



## ‘J&K Saw Real

Development, Good Governance and Empowerment in the last two years. As a result, India’s unity and integrity has been immeasurably strengthened,” Jaishankar tweeted with a hashtag “#NewJammuKashmir”.

Jammu and Kashmir had enjoyed the special status that was granted under Article 370 of the Constitution.

Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs Meenakshi Lekhi said that the “historic move” has brought an era of peace and development in Jammu and Kashmir.

“On this day two years ago, Article 370 was abrogated. The historic move has brought an era of peace and development in Jammu & Kashmir. Under the leadership of @narendramodiji & @amitshah ji we bear witness to the formation of #NewJammuKashmir #Article370,” she tweeted.

In June, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh had said the decision to create Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh as two separate union territories has bolstered national security and led to a major reduction in militant activities.

## Situation Worsening

legitimate rights”. He said the meeting expressed concern over the situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

“Despite tall claims of the government, the situation since August 5, 2019 is worsening day by day. They claimed that normalcy will be restored and violence will end, but look what they have said on the floor of the Parliament recently in response to a question about statehood. The minister said that statehood will be restored only at an appropriate time when normalcy is restored,” Tarigami said.

It meant that the situation “continues to be abnormal” and the claim of restoring peace in the region has not been achieved by the measures initiated on that ‘unfortunate day of August 5, 2019’.

The alliance spokesperson asked where was the investment and employment opportunities the Centre claimed the revocation of J-K’s special status will bring.

“If you move around whether it is Kashmir or Jammu, or even in fact in Ladakh region as well, whatever development was initiated by the previous governments even that is not yet being completed.

“They claimed that lot of investment will be made here that will generate employment, that will generate hope for the youngsters, just tell me, where are those projects, where is that investment taking place? Forget about Kashmir, what about Jammu? Ask the chamber there, ask the chamber here and ask the people in Leh,” he said.

Tarigami said none of the promises made by the Centre has been fulfilled.

“Rather, implementing such laws which restrict the freedom of the press, of the people, have become an order of the day. While there have been two lockdowns (in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic) elsewhere (in the country), our Kashmir has continuously passed through crackdowns since August 5, 2019,” he said.

## BJP Hoists Tricolor

Anantnag district’s Khanabal, kicked off the party’s celebrations in the valley by hoisting the Tricolour near the Degree College at Khanabal. She was accompanied by around 200 party workers.

Bandipora BJP district chief Abdul Rehman Tikri was joined by a dozen party workers as he hoisted the national flag at the party office.

Block Development Council (BDC) member Sushma Nehru along with 20 other people hoisted the national flag at Panzulla Panchayat Ghar in Baramulla district.

BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh, who is also the party affairs in-charge for the union territories of J&K and Ladakh, said one of the more significant achievements of the 2019 decision was that it dealt a big blow to the divisive and terrorist forces.

Addressing the party workers in Srinagar, Chugh said that after many decades, the Pakistan-sponsored militancy seems to be on the back foot. Anti-national feelings among people have been replaced by the ideas of inclusive development and progress, he said.

Chugh came down heavily on the Gupkar alliance parties for “trying to disrupt the positive narrative in J&K”.

In Srinagar, wearing black bands, scores of PDP leaders and activists, led by party president Mehbooba Mufti, took out a protest march from the party’s head office near the Sher-e-Kashmir Park.

They shouted slogans against the Centre’s August 5, 2019 decisions and in favour of a “resolution of the Kashmir issue”. The protesters were, however, stopped by police near GPO and turned back.

Speaking to reporters, Mehbooba said, “Today is a day of mourning for J-K. It is unfortunate that the BJP is celebrating across the country, while Kashmir is mourning,” she said.

“The existence of the people of J-K will remain only when we all will together restore our constitutional position and then resolve the Kashmir issue by forcing the Government of India to talk to the people of J-K to address the internal dimension and talk with Pakistan as well to address the external dimension,” she said.

“There is no other option. They are already talking to Pakistan resulting in the ceasefire which in turn resulted in decline in infiltration,” she said.

Mehbooba said her party is of the view that J-K has to become a bridge of peace between India and Pakistan. She said the BJP will have to take back the decisions taken on August 5, 2019.

In Jammu also, pressing for the revocation of the August 5, 2019 decision to withdraw J&K’s special status and divide it into two union territories, the party took out a protest rally from its office in Gandhi Nagar and tried to move deeper into the city, but was

stopped by police.

They observed the day as a ‘black day’ and held anti-government protests.

They alleged no positive change has come in J&K since August 2019. “Militancy is going on. Stone-pelting is on. Violence is on. Killing of civilians and political workers is on. No development has taken place. None of MNC has come,” said a leader.

Also in the Jammu winter capital city, led by J&K Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) president Arun Dev Singh, hundreds of BJP youth activists marched carrying the Tricolour and raising patriotic slogans of Vande Mataram and Bharat Mata Ki Jai.

The Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party (JKNPP) batted strongly for the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir and holding of early assembly elections.

Back in Srinagar, NC chief Farooq Abdullah told a meeting of party functionaries at its headquarters, “The party’s position on the unilateral, unconstitutional and undemocratic decisions taken on August 5, 2019 will never change and the party will keep up with its struggle for the restoration of J-K people’s abridged constitutional and democratic rights.”

## What Has Changed

in three-month time and opening of private sector for jobs was a big bluff with the educated youth of J&K.

“What has changed for the benefit and betterment of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, two years after the August 5, 2019 decision? Instead, J&K has lost its identity, rights and protection available to its residents, which are available in various other states in the country too, in one or other form, former minister and J&K Congress vice president, Raman Bhalla told reporters here.

“The militant activities continue to be increasing and terrorism is spreading its tentacles to Jammu region as well, he claimed.

The Congress leader also said that local traders, contractors, businessmen and transporters were losing business to outside residents, especially in Jammu region.

The refusal to restore statehood so far itself indicates that things have not normalised in the region , he said.

“All claims and adjectives used to disband and downgrade the historical state into UTs have proved to be a failed experiment. People are yearning for statehood with protection for land and jobs to the residents, Bhalla added.

The Centre had on August 5, 2019 revoked the special status of Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcated the erstwhile state into two Union territories. (PTI)

## Aug 5 Move

The separatist amalgam said in a statement, “On this occasion, would also like to draw the attention of the citizens of India and the world at large, that the present Indian Government’s actions of August 5, 2019 has only complicated the dispute further over the state of J&K.”

“This is illustrated by the fact that it ignited the flames along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) even as some measure of calm has been introduced along the Line of Control,” it said, alluding to the standoff with China in eastern Ladakh.

It reiterated its strong resentment and opposition to the “unilateral and arbitrary actions” related to Articles 370 and 35-A.

New Delhi would argue, the Hurriyat said, that before August 2019 “Kashmir was the main trouble spot in the state, today it is faced with four trouble spots of Leh, Kargil and Jammu as there is disaffection in these regions too”.

It alleged the government continues to “assault” the locals by incarcerating political prisoners and youths and “intimidating” them by arrests and bringing in arbitrary and anti-people laws.

“Going forward, Hurriyat is convinced that the Government of India must accept the need to address the Kashmir dispute, engage with those who truly represent the political will and aspirations of its people, and defuse the building geopolitical pressures in the region along its northern and western borders,” it said.

It also urged the government to resume engagement with Pakistan.

The Hurriyat said it has had a long-standing policy of engagement in meaningful dialogue among all the stakeholders that sees the situation on the ground for what it is, and encourages dialogue rather than armed confrontation.

“Hurriyat is cognisant that although we cannot match the muscle of status quo powers, our political education in the last thirty years has been significant and we appreciate all platforms that give us a voice. These platforms must be created and we should be allowed to participate in them - not only to allow our voice as peoples representatives be heard, but because it is just.

“It is time that the conflict over the state of J&K is resolved so that not just Kashmir, but all of South Asia can look forward to living up to its collective potential,” it added. (PTI)

## Pak Leadership

that Jammu and Kashmir “was, is and shall forever” remain an integral part of the country.

“Today marks 2 years since India’s unilateral & illegal actions of 5 Aug 2019,” Prime Minister Khan said as Pakistan observed “Youm-e-Istehsal” (the day of exploitation) to mark the event.

“In these 2 years the world has witnessed unprecedented oppression,” Khan claimed as he accused India of making attempts to change the demography of the region.

He said that Pakistan would continue to raise its voice for the right of self-determination of the people of Kashmir at all forums.

Gen Bajwa alleged that India was keeping the people of Kashmir under a “military siege,” according to a statement by the Army.

He also said that the “resolution of Kashmir dispute as per the UN Resolutions and aspirations of Kashmiri people is imperative for enduring peace and stability in the region.”

President Arif Alvi attended a rally in support of Kashmiris and later addressing the participants, he said that Pakistan will continue to stand by their Kashmiri brethren.

He said India was playing with fire and destroying regional peace and stability.

He also made it clear that Pakistan will not hold any talks with India until New Delhi rescinds its decision of 5th August 2019. He urged the world community of its obligations towards the lingering dispute.

Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi, Information Minister Fawad Chaudhary, Minister for Science and Technology Shibli Faraz, Railways Minister Azam Swati and many other people from government and other segments of the society joined the rally.

Speaking to the media on the occasion, Qureshi said the entire Pakistani nation and Kashmiri people reject the “illegal and unilateral” steps of 5th August 2019 taken by the Indian government.

“We will continue to support the just cause of Kashmiri people,” he said.

Protest rallies, solidarity walks and other events were organised to denounce India’s move to revoke the special status of Kashmir two years ago. One minute silence was also observed across Pakistan at 0900 hours and all traffic stopped for one minute to show support for Kashmiris.

## J&K Has Vaccinated

cases in their jurisdictions, besides, focusing on speedy vaccination of the eligible population towards successful containment of the COVID pandemic.

Chief Secretary, Jammu & Kashmir Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta along with Additional Chief Secretary, Health & Medical Education Department, besides Chief Secretaries/ Administrators of other Union Territories also participated in the meeting.

“It was informed that Jammu and Kashmir is conducting 1.62 lakh tests per week with 0.2% positivity rate. The UT registered 999 cases and 9 COVID-related deaths in the last week,” the official spokesperson said.

The Union Home Secretary, he said, advised Jammu and Kashmir to focus on administration of vaccination to eligible population in a decentralized manner through dedicated day-specific and vaccination centre-specific targeted drives.

Bhalla, he said, stressed on speedy administering of first doses to the unvaccinated population while ensuring second dose of vaccines to eligible population in time.

“So far, Jammu and Kashmir has vaccinated approximately 50 lakh people constituting 40% of its eligible population with the first dose. The vaccinated population also includes 100% vaccination in above 45 years age category and 31% vaccination in 18- 45 age category,” the official spokesperson said.

Giving a brief of the measures being taken in J&K to contain the spread of COVID, the Chief Secretary, he said, informed that the Government has been vigorously enforcing COVID Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) and conducting high numbers of tests and vaccinations for early detection and containment of COVID virus.

Mehta, he said, also requested the Central Government to provide 60 lakh additional doses of vaccination so as to enable the UT to universally vaccinate its eligible population at the earliest.

“Later, the Chief Secretary directed the Health & Medical Education Department to focus on contact tracing of COVID patients and ensure quarantine of suspected cases to prevent spread of infection among the general population. The Department was asked to ensure strict enforcement of CAB and imposition of graded-penalty on habitual defaulters,” the official spokesperson said.

Further, he said, the department was directed to undertake machinery and equipment audit and ensure their functionality along with sufficient availability of technical manpower, besides, organizing district-level mock drills for establishment of micro containment zones and enforcement SOPs thereof.

While reviewing the COVID situation in the Union territories, the official spokesperson said that Home Secretary stated that the UTs have witnessed a constant decline in cases over the past few weeks.

“The new cases reported and COVID fatalities have come down to 4,244 and 54, respectively over the last two weeks,” Bhalla said, as per official spokesperson.

“The Home Secretary asked the UT Administrations to remain in a state of readiness to mitigate future surges, besides undertaking a combined strategy of test-track-treat COVID cases, micro containment of emerging hot spots, speedy vaccination, enforcement of COVID appropriate behaviour, and ramping up of COVID dedicated medical facilities for successful containment of the disease,” he added.

## J&K Logs 128

Srinagar reported 42, Baramulla 2, Budgam 9, Pulwama 7, Kupwara 9, Anantnag 2, Bandipora 4, Ganderbal 9, Kulgam 6, Jammu 4, Udhampur 10, Rajouri 5, Doda 6, Kishtwar 6, Poonch 4 and Reasi 3 new cases of Covid-19. Four districts of Kathua, Samba, Ramban and Shopian reported no new case of coronavirus.

Regarding the death, officials said, it has been reported from Jammu division. With this, 4386 people have fallen victim to the pathogen in J&K—2148 in Jammu division and 2238 in Kashmir.

Moreover 83 more COVID-19 patients have recovered, 10 from Jammu Division and 73 from Kashmir Division, they said.

There were also two new confirmed case of mucormycosis (black fungus) reported today. So far 37 black fungus cases have been confirmed in J&K, the officials added. (With GNS inputs)

## 140 Militants Waiting

grid has so far desisted them from making any such attempts.

“They tried in the past but had to return after alert jawans foiled all their nefarious

designs,” the official said.

The official said Pakistan is using the ceasefire window to strengthen its infrastructure along the LoC that was damaged in cross-border shelling last year in response to their troops’ firing at civilian areas on the Indian side of the LoC.

Commenting on the situation in Jammu and Kashmir since the Centre abrogated its special status two years ago, the official said foreign militants have suddenly disappeared from the scene and got themselves locked in either some hideouts in densely populated areas or mountainous heights having natural caves.

On locals joining militant outfits, the official said there has been a constant message to anyone and everyone that those having any evil design “against our country” should shun such ambitions as all those who either pick up a weapon or harbour ill intentions against the sovereignty of the nation “will be dealt with iron hand”.

Simultaneously, he said, the Army has been constantly contacting the families whose children are likely to be brainwashed and asking them to take appropriate precautions against it.

The results have borne fruits as a number of lives have been saved so far due to a pro-active approach of educating families and preventing their wards from joining militant ranks, he added.

Following talks between the Directors General of Military Operations of India and Pakistan over hotline, a joint statement was issued on February 25, 2021 in which the two countries agreed to the strict observance of all agreements, understandings and ceasefire along the Line of Control and all other sectors with effect from the February 24-25 midnight 2021.

## Govt Committed

DDCs of the Jammu Division will be held soon

During the interaction, the LG, he said also sought feedback on the pace of the developmental projects and their implementation on ground, besides other issues of public importance in their respective constituencies. He said Sinha also reiterated his government’s commitment to making Panchayati Raj Institutions more empowered and vibrant in true sense.

“The integrated approach to institutionalize the active participation of PRIs in implementation of various schemes and projects will be a key driver of the UT’s overall development agenda. The three-tiers of the Panchayati Raj system is a bridge between policies and their implementation on the ground, and the administration is putting concerted efforts to strengthen the grass root level of the democratic setup”, the LG said, as per the official spokesperson.

Terming the Panchayati Raj system as the cornerstone of participatory governance in J&K, the LG, he said, observed that the Funds, Functions and Functionaries have been made available to the Public Representatives for grass-root development.

“For invoking a greater role of Jan Bhagidari in the development process, the PRIs will be further strengthened in the near future,” Sinha said.

The LG, he said, called upon the DDCs to work in collaboration with the administration at all levels, and also assured full cooperation and support of the government towards meeting the aspirations of people and their elected representatives.

“The UT Government is treading successfully on the five principles viz. Transparency in governance, Empowering Grassroots Democracy, People’s Welfare, Accelerated Development, Creation of Employment opportunities which were laid down one year ago for the development and prosperity of Jammu & Kashmir,” the LG said, as per the official spokesperson.

The LG, he said, also the roles and responsibilities of the DDC Chairpersons for the development of their respective districts and said that people of J&K have high aspirations from the DDC Chairpersons in fulfilling their development aspirations and needs, and formulation of historic District Capex Budget 2021-22 with the active participation of District Development Councils was a step ahead in this direction.

“The Lt Governor appreciated the functioning of the DDC Chairpersons and said that their rich experience and knowledge would complement the government’s efforts in the holistic development and welfare of the people of J&K,” he added.

The official spokesperson said that the DDC Chairpersons apprised the LG about their district-specific issues related to the development and public welfare.

He said addressing the issue of providing continuous water supply to every household under Jal Jeevan Mission including those residing in far-flung and remote areas; the LG said that directions have already been passed to the concerned Secretary for the constitution of a team for monitoring the specific mission only.

“The UT administration is working on the underground cabling project with Power Grid Corporation of India for providing power to Gurez even during the heavy snowfall season. The DPR of the project would be completed this month,” Sinha said, as per official spokesperson on being apprised regarding power outage in Gurez region due to heavy snowfall.

While informing the achievements of macadamization of roads under PMGSY in the UT, he said, the LG stated that the UT administration has cleared a large number of cases and completed various works pending for several years. He further informed the DDC Chairpersons that work is also going on in full swing to provide pot-hole free roads and this year, the department aims to make 6000 km road length free of pot-holes.

“Soon the remaining villages left without proper road connectivity would be connected in the next two years,” the LG said.

The official spokesperson said that on being informed about the shortage of staff in

the offices of line departments in some districts, the LG said that rationalization would be done to strengthen the departments facing a shortage of officers.

“The Lt Governor directed the concerned officers to provide upgraded/new vehicles to the DDC office. He informed the DDC Chairpersons that DPR has been formulated for providing them accommodation and office facilities in every district,” he said.

## Exchanging Letters

the young generation watching it from the outside,” she writes.

## Govt Orders Transfer

Development Corporation. Nisar Ahmad Wani (JKAS), Managing Director, Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Development Corporation, has been transferred and posted as Director, Employment, J&K, against an available vacancy.

As per a separate order, Anil Sharma (JKAS), Secretary, J&K Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Commission, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary in the J&K Public Service Commission.

S. Paramjeet, Singh (JKAS), Deputy Chief Electoral Officer, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Secretary, J&K Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Commission.

## Electric Shock

a nearby hospital for medico-legal formalities before it was handed over to the family—(KNO)

## Fate Of Missing

eluded them till evening when the operation was called off due to darkness.

On Wednesday, the army pressed navy divers into service to find out the missing pilots. “There was no trace of the missing pilots as rescue operations by army and navy divers continued,” the officials said.

So far some helicopter parts were recovered along with a helmet, two big size bags and one shoe, the officials said.

The operation was suspended on Thursday evening and would be resumed on Friday morning, the officials said. (GNS)

## Man Injured

for treatment. Meanwhile, a team of wildlife department has rushed to the spot to trace the wild bear

## Court Refuses

of bail to the accused, the learned counsel stated that the individuals were not involved in the act and were arrested for the misfire by the security guard, which has been constructed as an offense attributed to the accused persons.

Meanwhile, the learned APP submitted that the averments made in the bail application were frivolous and concocted and the accused persons are anti-social, monstrous and non-bailable in nature and such persons cannot claim bail as a matter of right.

He also argued that the commission of the offence is well designed with criminal intent and conspiracy and the accused persons wanted to enhance the security cover and bulletproof vehicles.

It may be recalled that a case was registered under FIR number 251/2021 for the offenses U/s 307-120-B-324 IPC 3/27 Arms act on 19-7-2021, following which the Kupwara police swung into the action and arrested accused persons.

The three BJP associates whose bail has been rejected by the court include former BJP district president, Mohammad Shafi Mir his son Ishfaq Ahmad Mir and Basharat Mir (KNO)

## FROM PAGE 07

## HC Stays Interim

It may be pertinent to refer to the certain observations from the judgment of Supreme Court in the case of ‘State of Punjab and another vs. Brijeshwar Singh Chahal and another’ (2016) 6 SCC 1 which have been quoted by learned Single Judge himself to point out that the Government and public bodies are free to choose the method of selecting best lawyers but such selection ought to be unaffected by any extraneous considerations and that no lawyer has any vested right to be appointed, reapointed or to seek extension of term and that all such claims should be considered on merits uninfluenced by political or other extraneous consideration. The engagement of any lawyer if done in any arbitrary fashion without adopting the transparent method of selection would be amenable to judicial review but it would be limited to examine whether the process is affected by any illegality, irregularity or perversity but the Court exercising judicial review would not sit in appeal and reassess the merit of the candidates.

In view of the above legal position and the facts and circumstances of the case, when no appointment/engagement of lawyers has been made by the Government, the Court exceeded its power of judicial review and to pass a stop-order on the appointments which is apparently without jurisdiction as at one place the Court refers the matter to the Chief Justice for treating it as a Public Interest Litigation and, at the other, makes observations on the merits so as to pass the interim order. 5 LPA No. 82 of 2021

Accordingly, we call upon the respondents to file response, if they so desire, and direct this appeal to be listed with WP(C) PIL No. 6/2021 which has been registered in pursuance to the order impugned and, in the meantime, the effect and operation of the interim order stopping fresh appointment of Law Officers except that of Advocate General shall remain stayed but subject to any order that may be passed in the above referred Public Interest Litigation.

The DB listed the case for hearing on 23rd August 2021 along with WP(C) PIL No. 6/2021.



## Put Extra Efforts To Implement District Environment Plan: DC Sgr Directs Officers

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad Thursday took feedback from different departments, asked to conduct a thorough study to identify the exact pollution level in the district to facilitate formulation of the Environment Plan as per the National Green Tribunals (NGT's) latest guidelines and the local needs.

He convened a meeting here to discuss and review the District Environment Plan.

The DDC directed the officers of all line departments to work in coordinated manner and put in extra efforts in formulation and implementation of

effective District Environment Plan.

During the meeting, detailed discussions on methods and plan for segregation and disposal of biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste, in the light of solid, liquid, plastic, biomedical, e-waste management, water quality management and noise pollution monitoring and other activities were held.

In addition, the meeting held deliberations on steps taken to control water and air pollution, implementation of new technologies to reduce the waste and pollution, besides preservation of water bodies, awareness on usage of dust bins, door to door collection of waste material and management of mining activities in the district.

## SDA Seals Illegal Under-construction Building

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Srinagar Development Authority in continuation to its demolition drive in their areas of jurisdiction sealed an under-construction illegal and "un-authorised" structure at Nowgam bypass on Thursday.

In a statement, a spokesperson said that the offender had took undue advantage of the Covid-19 pandemic and carried out the construction illegally and unauthorisedly.

"The sealing drive was

successfully executed under the direction of vice-chairman, SDA Dr Bashir Ahmad Lone. General public is advised not to indulge in any illegal/un-authorised construction whether residential or commercial without obtaining proper building permission from the SDA," the statement reads.

It reads that any structure raised without obtaining building permission and land use or deviations of building permission shall be directly sealed and demolished as per the provisions of COBA Act 1988.

## Cops Keep Commercial Activities Open in Lal Chowk

Zaid Bin Shabir

Srinagar: A day after Srinagar traders were warned of consequences for observing shutdown on the second anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370, a battery of cops Thursday enforced 'normalcy' in Lal Chowk, the capital's commercial nerve centre.

Several J&K Police teams, one of which was led by SSP Srinagar City, Ms. Tanushree were seen walking around the trade heartland and talking to shopkeepers.

In a series of videos posted on social media, men in civvies accompanied by cops could be seen directing shopkeepers to open their business establishments.



"I was called by a police official who sternly directed me to open my shop or face action," alleged a trader in Lal Chowk wishing anonymity.

"When I reached my shop, two cops were trying to open the shutters," he said.

In a video viral on social media, one of the police officials can be even heard asking for a hexablate to cut open the lock of one of the establishments. "Had anybody else done that, we would have complained to police. But in this situation we feel helpless", said another store owner.

While attempts to seek SP East's comments on the situation didn't yield any response, the lady IPS officer on Wednesday had

denied Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry said that several members from his association called him alleging that the police was coercing them to open their shops. "When they refused, the police officials, many of whom were dressed in civvies, threatened them with strict actions and broke locks of many shop," the KCCI President alleged.

Meanwhile, many traders from Lal Chowk said they are caught a catch 22 situation.

"If we open our shops, we will be called anti-Kashmir and if we close our shops, the police will come hounding us," said a trader. "In either way, we shopkeepers become scapegoats."



## Govt To Brand Kashmir Silk For International Market: LG

- Inaugurates Modernised And Upgraded Government Silk Weaving Factory Rajbagh
- Revamped Silk Factory To Have The Capacity Of Producing 4,50,000 Meters Of Silk Fabric Per Annum

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha Thursday observed that the government will begin the branding of Kashmir silk to provide it an international market. "We will soon launch Rajbagh Silk as a new brand for Kashmir silk. Moreover, the Tourism Department will work in tandem with the department of Industries and Commerce to ensure ease of access to Kashmir silk market for our tourists," he said.

He inaugurated the Modernized & Upgraded Government Silk Weaving Factory at Rajbagh, Srinagar marking an important step towards the revival and holistic development of the silk industry in UT.

Government Silk Weaving Factory was established in the year 1937 and has been in operation since then. Over a period of time, most of the machinery had become obsolete and the factory suffered huge damage to the infrastructure in the floods of 2014.

As part of the revival plan, the Century-old Government Silk Weaving Factory Rajbagh has been upgraded and modernized with a project cost of Rs.23.54 crores under the World Bank Funded Jhelum Tawi Flood Recovery Project.

Under the upgradation plan, a new factory with state-of-the-art preparatory and weaving machinery has been installed.

The revival plan of Jammu Kashmir Industries Limited (JKI) is being implemented focusing on making the organization as a profitable and viable entity, besides providing livelihood support to the marginalized sections of the society, especially those associated with the cocoon rearing and production of wool, the Lt Governor said.

The revamped Government Silk Factory would provide a cocoon consumption market to approximately 50000 cocoon growers/ farmers of the Kashmir Division. Pertinently, in absence of such a big consumption Centre for the local cocoon, the farmers were exploited by middle men and major quantity of cocoon would get exported to other parts of the country without any value addition.

The Government Silk Weaving Factory Rajbagh will now be capable of producing 4,50,000 meters of silk fabric per annum creating a viable economic cycle and employment opportunities both directly and indirectly. Further, the Government Silk Weaving Factory

Jammu established in the year 2020 is providing direct market to the cocoon rearers of the Jammu Division, added the Lt Governor.

In the second phase, the Industries department will restore two heritage buildings of the silk factory. This will have a design studio, quality control lab & areas for tailoring where customers can select the fabric & talk to the master tailors, it was informed.

Later, the Lt Governor also interacted with the Artisan clusters of Willow wicker (Ganderbal), Papier machie (Zadibal), Crewel (Noorbagh) and Wool (Bandipore). The artisan clusters have been established under the World Bank funded Jhelum Tawi Flood Recovery Project for the skill enhancement of the artisans, training them in the management of the artisan owned clusters and developing market linkages for their products.

A presentation was also made by the experts of the consultancy engaged by JTFRP for the adaptive reuse of the Rajbagh Silk Factory, and the steps proposed for the retrofitting of the old factory, using the old campus for dyeing, yarn certification and other beautification measures, besides linking the campus with the tourist circuit.

## OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER CITY ROADS (SMC) DIVISION SRINAGAR.

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDERS.

NIT No: - E-NIT/11/CRD/SMC/SGR/2021-22 DATED: 04-08-2021.

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of J&K, e-tenders (in Single cover System) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for below mentioned work:-

S.No	Name of Work	Adv't. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rs.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	Major Head of Account	Time & Date of Opening of Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Upgradation of road from Lawaypora to Panzinara via Mujung LHS Sumbal canal bund with allied links by way of providing and laying of WBM Grade 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade 3 <sup>rd</sup> in patches and stretches and 25mm thick compacted semiride with premixed seal coat. (Machine mix to be laid manually)	10.33	600/-	10 Days	HMPO or BEE/ CEE/ DEE Class Civil	M&R	16-08-2021
2	Improvement Upgradation of Zainakadal Aalikalal via Gurgari Mohalla road including allied links by way of providing and laying of 75mm thick compacted wet mix 25mm thick compacted semiride with premixed seal coat in patches and stretches. (Machine mix to be laid manually)	4.50	200/-	8 Days	HMPO or DEE Class Civil	M&R	16-08-2021
3	Upgradation of New Colony Wanihama Batpora Hazratbal road including construction of cement concrete drain.	3.55	200/-	18 Days	DEE Class Civil	M&R	16-08-2021
4	Providing and fixing of MS Trash Guard at Gasiyar Srinagar.	4.00	200/-	20 Days	DEE Class Civil	M&R	16-08-2021
5	Upgradation of Shah Firdous Colony Tulbagh Syedpora road by way of providing and laying of GSB and WBM Grade 2 <sup>nd</sup> .	3.45	200/-	10 Days	DEE Class Civil	M&R	16-08-2021
6	Restoration of sunken portion of road at Solar lane alongside the Nishatbagh boundary Near Rathan Ghat and Restoration of sunken portion of road at Ishber Nishat near Elite Public School by way of providing and laying of GSB and WBM Grade 2 <sup>nd</sup> .	0.76	200/-	8 Days	DEE Class Civil	M&R	16-08-2021
7	Improvement Upgradation of road at Link road No 1 Airport Avenue sector A by way of providing and laying of WBM Grade 1 <sup>st</sup> stone aggregate.	0.52	200/-	8 Days	DEE Class Civil	M&R	16-08-2021
Position of AAA: Authorization		Accorded. Accorded vide Commissioner SMC's order no. 806-SMC of 2021 Dated: 10-06-2021.					
Position of TS		Accorded					

1. The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specification, Drawings, bill of quantities, (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen / downloaded from the departmental website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per the schedule of dates given below:

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	04-08-2021.
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	FROM 05-08-2021 10:00 A.M TO 14-08-2021 10:00 A.M
3.	Bid submission Start Date	05-08-2021
4.	Bid Submission End Date	14-08-2021 UPTO 4:00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	16-08-2021 at 11:00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer City Roads (SMC) Division Srinagar.

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of introducing Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer City Roads (SMC) Division Srinagar (tender receiving authority), by simply uploading a copy of necessary Treasury Challan Receipt and bid security Declaration as per format attached.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer City Roads (SMC) Division Srinagar. (Tender receiving authority).
- The bids for the work shall remain Valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids.
- As per the circular issued by the Govt. of Union Territory of J&K Finance Department vide No.A/Misc(2018)-III-895/I dated 22.12.2020.
- (a) All the bidders have to submit bid security declaration instead of bid security deposit (Earnest money) on court stamp paper (100 rupees) which shall be duly signed by the bidder with full residential address, Card registration details & active Phone / Cell Nos. Form of bid security declaration attached as Annexure-A.
- (b) The lowest bidder (LI) also called the successful Bidder has to produce a performance security amount equal to 3% (Three percent) of the contract value in the shape of CDR / FDR immediately after the opening of financial bids, but prior to fixation of contract. The same shall be released after successful completion of the Defect Liability Period (DLP).
- (c) In case of abnormally low bids, the tender inviting Authority reserves the right to ask from the bidder for additional performance security with the approval of the next higher Authority which shall be binding upon the bidder in such case.
- If any bidder / tenderer withdraws / modified his bid during the period of validity etc, the Department is at liberty to suspend the bidder for one year or as shall be deemed suitable by the tender inviting Authority. Same shall hold good if the bidder fails to produce performance security within the specified time.
- The successful bidder (LI) shall have to furnish hard copy of the uploaded documents viz Registration card duly renewed, Valid GST Registration, PAN Card, GSTR-3B etc. along with Treasury Challan Receipt & Bid security declaration form (Annexure-A) on court stamp paper (Rupees 100) in original.
- (i) The longitudinal profile of the finished surface shall be tested with a straight edge and the Transverse profile with a camber template. Any irregularity greater than 6mm shall be rectified.
- (j) The defects noticed in the work during execution or maintenance period shall be corrected by the Contractor within the length of time specified by the Engineer. If the contractor does not correct the defects pertaining to maintenance period to the satisfaction of the Engineer within the time specified, the same shall be got rectified at his risk and cost.
- The tender / bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in NIT and SBD.

NIT/11/CRD /SMC/SGR/2021-22/e-tendering/  
DATED: 04-08-2021.

DIPK-5931/21

Executive Engineer,  
City Roads (SMC) Division,  
Srinagar.

### DIAL-EMMA

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092, 2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488, 2452222, 2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
- Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200



### AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



### RAILWAYS

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- ANANTNAG: 01932-228243
- BARAMULLA: 0194-102029
- BUIHERA: 01932-228243
- PAMPORE: 01933-294132
- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153



### HIGHWAY STATUS



Sgr-Jammu highway - ( Open )  
Mughal Road - ( Open )  
Srinagar- Leh- ( Closed )



**HIJRI  
CALENDAR**  
26 Zil Haj  
1442

### PRAYERS

FAJR	4:10
ZUHR	12:37
ASR	5:30
Magrib	7:32
ISHA	9:03

## This Day In History

- 939- Battle at Simancas - Spain beats Moors
- 1726 - Treaty of Alliance between the Holy Roman Emperor Charles VI and the Russian Empire signed at Vienna
- 1824 - Battle at Junan - Simon Bolívar's army defeats the Spanish
- 1825 - Bolivia gains independence from Peru (National Day)
- 1861 - The British annex Lagos, Nigeria
- 1870 - Battle at Spicheren: Prussia beats France
- 1896 - France annexes Madagascar
- 1914 - WWI: Austria-Hungary declares war on Russia
- 1914 - WWI: Serbia declares war against Germany
- 1915 - The British land more troops at Suvla Bay on the northern shore of Gallipoli in an effort to break the stalemate on the peninsula during WWI
- 1918 - Ferdinand Foch becomes Marshal of France during WWI
- 1918 - World War I: Second Battle of the Marne ends
- 1919 - 1st air flight over a major body of water in Australia (Harry Butler)
- 1940- Estonia is annexed into Soviet empire
- 1945 - Atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima by the US B-29 Superfortress "Enola Gay"
- 1960- The UN Security Council lay down rules which would allow UN forces to enter Congo
- 1990 - President Ghulam Ishaq Kahn dismisses Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto in Pakistan
- 1990 - UN Security Council votes 13-0 (2 abstentions Cuba and Yemen) to place economic sanctions against Iraq
- 1995 - Thousands gather in Hiroshima for the 50th anniversary of the atomic bombing of the city
- 1996 - NASA announces that life may have existed on Mars after examining meteorite ALH84001, thought to be from Mars
- 1996 - Korean Air Flight 801 crashes in the United States territory of Guam, killing 228 people
- 1997 - Sri Lanka slams world record 952 for 6 in the 1st cricket Test against India in Colombo; Sanath Jayasuriya 340, Roshan Mahanama 225 - record partnership 576
- 1997 - Microsoft announces it will invest \$150 million in Apple Computer Inc
- 2008 - A military junta led by Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz stages a coup d'etat in Mauritania, overthrowing president Sidi Ould Cheikh Abdallahi
- 2011 - A helicopter containing members of Navy SEAL 6 is shot down in Afghanistan killing 38
- 2013 18 people are killed and 55 are wounded by a car bomb explosion in Damascus, Syria
- 2013 - 25 people are killed and 60 are wounded by a series of car bombs in Baghdad, Iraq
- 2018 - South Sudan peace accord signed between South Sudanese President Salva Kiir and rebel leader Riek Machar in Sudan attempting to end 5 years of civil war

*From KO Archives*

## VVIP Wazwaan & a bridge too far

GHULAM MUHAMMAD

Sopore: Even as the long wait for completion of the Hathishah bridge here is over, its formal opening awaits a ministerial indulgence. For a good two months, no minister or VIP has been available to cut the ribbon to enable the people benefit from its erection. The inordinate delay & am generated resentment among the local people who have been inconvenienced due to its absence over the fears.

According to reports, the authorities had slated the formal inauguration of the bridge at least thrice so far. On every such occasion, the engineers had to arrange the customary feast, known as wazwan, for the august guests to partake. Obviously forces alleged, the charges on this account might have to be borne out of the funds provided for the main project.

Reports said the border Security force (BSF) personnel manning the security posts on filler side of the bridge were not allowing any vehicle to pass over the bridge on the plea that no minister had so far inaugurated it formally. However, they allowed some pedestrians selectively prohibiting the general public to walk over the bridge.

It may be recalled the speaker of the legislative assembly, Abdul Ahad Vakil, was the one to crack an occasional whip to get the work on the bridge, which had been going on at a snail's pace over the years, speeded up. He held several meetings with engineers and even promised its completion long ago. Now that the work is complete, no minister is available to Commission Bridge.

(Kashmir Observer, August 06, 2000)



## KASHMIR OBSERVER

Printed & Published by Sajjad Haider on behalf of the  
Kashmir Observer LLP  
Published from: # 5- Boulevard, Srinagar-190001  
Printed at: KT Press Pvt. Ltd, Rangreth Ind Area, Srinagar.  
RNI Registration No: 69503/98  
Postal Registration No-L/159/KO/SK/2014-16  
Editor-in-Chief : Sajjad Haider  
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### K O V I E W

## Rahul's meet

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's Tuesday breakfast meeting with the leaders from 15 opposition parties has set the ball rolling for the opposition unity. The meeting was followed by a surprise cycle rally to Parliament. Earlier, Rahul had attended two meetings of the Opposition where the parties agreed to coordinate their protests in Parliament over Pegasus and the farm laws.

Congress was quick to declare Rahul's meeting with the opposition as "a historic day", saying "this is the trailer for 2024". Rahul also tweeted a video of his engagement with the Opposition leaders. Speaking at the meeting, Rahul said, the opposition represents "60 per cent of the voice of this country."

The meeting came days after Mamata Banerjee's Delhi visit where she met the opposition leaders including Sonia Gandhi and NCP chief Sharad Pawar's meeting with a group of opposition leaders at his residence.

However, it would require the opposition parties to stay the course to forge unity ahead of 2024 which is still three years away. As of now, the BJP looks still the favourite to win the national polls, despite political setback of the second Covid-19 wave. Though opposition looks to have found its bearings, more so, after Mamata Banerjee swept Bengal polls, it has a long distance to go before it is counted as a competitor. One good thing is that Rahul has shown some promise to rise up to the challenge, even though his image makeover is still a project in works. Gandhi's speeches now carry more conviction. He has paid attention to his communication style: he now frames his arguments in a way that generate a bigger ideological contestation with the BJP—albeit, he has still way to go to match Modi's overarching ideological challenge.

But the truth is it wouldn't be sufficient to dislodge Modi from his position. That seems still very unlikely. The fact is that India's larger secular opposition is still in tatters and fighting over scraps. Gandhi may be a better challenger now, but there is no major pan-India leader in sight to take on the Modi.

The saffron party offers a deft blend of ideology and a development rhetoric. It has Modi as an overarching leader. If the opposition fails to get its act together, the BJP could even get a stronger majority than it did in 2019. And considering its electoral machinery it has become all-encompassing.

The opposition will have to make more substantive move to come together in the months to offer a more credible challenge to the BJP. The party under Modi would not only need the opposition unity but also an alternative ideological narrative which is so far missing. Here's hoping that the political narrative which is generated in the process is constructive and inclusive.

### O T H E R O P I N I O N

## A Covid Warning

In the past four days, the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has released a set of sobering figures on the Covid-19 pandemic. The decline in the country's caseload, after the second wave peaked on May 9, slowed down considerably in early July because the infection had not abated in Kerala and other pockets in the country. Data now shows that the virus is rearing its head again. On Tuesday, the health ministry reported that the R-value — the rate at which an infected person transmits the disease — has gone beyond the danger threshold of 1 in seven states and UTs other than Kerala: Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Mizoram, Karnataka, Jammu and Kashmir, Lakshadweep, and Puducherry. Though only 44 districts have a positivity rate above 10 per cent, the fact that the country's weekly caseload spiked by 7 per cent in the last week of July should warrant a rise in vigilance levels. The Centre has asked states to consider local-level containment strategies in districts witnessing a surge. Their prime objective should be to stop crowds from gathering at busy urban centres — the Delhi government's crackdown on markets that violated Covid protocols in late June could be a good example to follow.

The uptick in the country's Covid cases comes at a time when the US, Japan, Southeast Asia and parts of Europe are confronted with a fresh surge. Random changes in the contagion's genetic code are threatening to undo the progress made in containing the pandemic's spread. There is, however, enough evidence that the current crop of vaccines, globally in use, blunt the virulence of the new variants, limit the number of people falling gravely ill. Though India has done well to meet its July target of administering 13-crore shots, the country's Covid challenge demands a quickening of the pace of inoculation. A little more than 55 per cent of people over the age of 60 have received one shot — about 27 per cent have received both doses. This means that a significant number of people, most vulnerable to the lethal ways of the virus, are still unprotected against the pathogen.

*The Indian Express*



Kashmir Observer

# Incessant Loss in Education Sector

Abid Ahmad Shah

**“The Education department of the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory has played a key role in the whole process and teachers have rendered an exceptionally honest and dedicated service to serve the student community online for knowledge sharing and content creation and sharing. Besides, the heads of the institutions are playing their part by overseeing the whole process at a macro level**

Modernism has brought about globalisation of education, where newer tools, techniques and processes emerge to aid and assist the process of teaching and learning development. The yesteryear of 2020 was a watershed in the historical chronicles of education which brought the world to a standstill due to Covid-19 pandemic and hastened about a paradigm shift in the teaching and learning process.

Over the world, what followed afterwards was the adoption of online mode of teaching. The pedagogical transition from in person teaching-learning in the classrooms towards virtual mode of online teaching was a maiden historical event in the historical chronicles of educational imparting in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Thus, the online education has turned out to be a new renewed buzzword of the current times of the Corona crisis, rendering the world to a state of chaos and utter disorder.

Due to constant threat posed by the virus of the pandemic, last year, the schools were closed in Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory to prevent any massive outburst due to the Covid-19 virus. However, the Education Department started zoom classes in order to virtually connect the students and teachers, located at different places simultaneously which emerged as a success afterwards.

This year also due to resurgence of Covid-19 pandemic second wave again, the Government imposed lockdown again which necessitated the use of online platforms, viz: zoom, wise app, etc for online teaching-learning processes once again.

In order to bring more transparency and accountability in the online teaching process, the Directorate of School Educa-

tion (DSEK) a few months back launched an online platform called Learning Management System (LMS) in order to bring more accountability and transparency in the teaching-learning process, which is a welcome step. On LMS, the teacher's mark their attendance; upload content, assignments, etc on a real time basis.

Besides, the community classes are also marked at this digital platform. Unfortunately, due to excess trafficking of data on this virtual platform, sometimes, it

ondary or the Tertiary sector. Thus, the education sector is also one among these suffering sectors. Although education has been imparted in a virtual mode, the world over Covid-19 affected states of the globe, Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory is not an exception.

Besides, the Education department of the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory has played a key role in the whole process and teachers have rendered an exceptionally honest and dedi-

**“So the onus lies on the civil society at large and government in particular to financially assist these students because poor pupils are not able to buy and subsequently use smartphones due to financial constraints.**

gets technical glitches, wherein it becomes impossible to open and use this platform for the moment.

However, the biggest problem that surrounds the online education in Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory as of now is that few students, due to one or the other reason are not able to connect with the teachers online during online pedagogical processes because of lack of smart phones attributed to poverty or otherwise, phone in the custody of a toiling labourer father's pocket during daytime.

So the onus lies on the civil society at large and government in particular to financially assist these students because poor pupils are not able to buy and subsequently use smartphones due to financial constraints.

Covid-19 pandemic has brought ruins to every sector of the society, be it Primary, Sec-

ated service to serve the student community online for knowledge sharing and content creation and sharing. Besides, the heads of the institutions are playing their part by overseeing the whole process at a macro level.

The recent years have brought a new aspect to this pandemic hit century. Education as of now is in a state of flux. Virtual connectivity and revolution has added a novice dimension and colour to the whole process of education.

Thus the biggest challenge of the current and coming times is to be mentally prepared to face any challenges and digitally connect the students on a massive scale to disseminate knowledge and create the intellectual resources for the future of our country.

*The author is an alumnus of JMI and JNU, New Delhi*



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## Community Classes

After the 2nd wave of Covid 19 subsided, in June 2021, the government issued guidelines to resume community classes for school going students of the Union Territory. In particular, community classes are supposed to reach out to underprivileged students who do not have access to technology to be able to join online classes. To ensure the smooth working of community classes, the government

also released several procedures. For example, open-air classes with a two-meter distance between every individual are recommended. Unfortunately, these recommendations are rarely being followed in rural areas of Kashmir.

In rural areas, especially in district Kupwara, children who attend community classes can rarely be seen wearing face masks. Besides, students do not follow the two meter-distance rule and remain

in close contact with one another. They often share things, such as rubbers and pencils. It seems that they are unaffected by the fact that the world is gripped by a deadly virus. As such, students attending these classes may become potential carriers of the virus.

As the cases of Covid-19 have spiked again and the third wave is around the corner, it becomes important for relevant authorities to ensure that Covid-19 guidelines are

being followed at community classes. Besides, students must be encouraged to respect these guidelines. It is one thing to impart education and a different thing to teach the roles and responsibilities of a person living in a society. In present circumstances, tutors at community classes must focus on the latter one.

*Suhail Ahmad Khan  
skhan737662@gmail.com*



Mindful Fridays

Mental Health First Aid: Panic Attacks

Wasim Kakroo

Before assisting someone incase of panic attack, it is critical to assess for suicide or harm. Once you are sure the situation is not dangerous for them, try to have an empathetic listening to their trouble. Empathetic listening is one of the key components of mental health first aid. Listening without passing judgment demonstrates that you care about the person and will not pass judgment on their mental health issues

According to data released by MSF in 2015, over 1 million adults (26%) in the Kashmir Valley were showing indications of a possible anxiety-related disorder, and the number of cases may have increased since then due to ongoing political upheaval in addition to the distress caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic scenario. Anxiety disorders are diagnosable mental illnesses that create substantial disruptions in a person's daily life due to acute, recurrent symptoms. Anxiety patients may exhibit unpleasant physical, behavioural, and psychological symptoms such as irrational fear, fast heart rate, digestive issues, and distress in everyday situations.

In addition to its core symptoms, anxiety disorders can also lead to an intense spell of anxiety called panic attack. People with this condition may have difficulties in their socio-occupational functioning as a result. Depression, anxiety, and other mental health difficulties, as well as drug abuse disorders, may emerge as a result of these issues.

Mental health first aid can be used to help people who are having panic attacks to help them to keep calm and manage their symptoms until they are taken to a mental health professional. A person who provides mental health first aid can offer encouragement as well as referral information so that longer-term services can be established. A person who provides mental health first aid can offer encouragement as well as referral information so that longer-term services can be established.

What is a Panic Attack?

A panic attack is a brief period of extreme anxiety, fear, or discomfort that begins suddenly and usually ends within 10 minutes. Several of the following symptoms are present during the attack:

- Palpitations, pounding heart, or rapid heart rate
- Sweating
- Trembling and shaking
- Shortness of breath, sensations of choking or smothering
- Chest pain or discomfort
- Abdominal distress or nausea
- Dizziness, light-headedness, feeling faint or unsteady
- Feelings of unreality (derealisation), or being detached from oneself
- Fears of losing control or going crazy
- Fear of dying
- Numbness or tingling
- Chills or hot flushes

Causes of a Panic Attack

Numerous variables such as inheritance and genetics, severe life stressors, and sensitive emotional temperaments can all contribute to causing panic attacks in someone. While the onset of a panic attack may be surprising at first, it is generally caused by particular stimuli over time.

The following factors may increase your chances of having a panic attack:

- Family history of anxiety disorders, panic attacks, or panic disorder
- Death or illness in the family.
- Trauma such as accidents or assaults
- A history of physical or sexual abuse during childhood
- Significant life changes, such as relocating, getting divorced, or having a child
- Tobacco use or excessive caffeine consumption

What to do if someone is seemingly having a Panic attack?

If you feel someone is having a panic attack because they are experiencing the aforementioned symptoms, you should first ask them if they are aware of what is going on and if they have ever experienced a panic attack. If they indicate they've had panic attacks in the past and feel they're having one now, ask if they need any assistance and provide it. Introduce yourself if you are assisting someone you do not know.

How can one tell a panic attack from a heart attack?

Panic attacks might have symptoms that are



similar to those of a heart attack or other medical conditions. It's impossible to know for sure whether or not someone is having a panic attack. If it's something more serious, only a medical professional can tell. If the client has never experienced a panic attack and does not believe they are having one now, you should administer physical first aid.

Apply physical first aid principles if the victim loses consciousness. Check for breathing and pulse before calling an ambulance.

What to do if you are sure someone is having a Panic Attack?

Before assisting someone incase of panic attack, it is critical to assess for suicide or harm. Once you are sure the situation is not dangerous for them, try to have an empathetic listening to their trouble. Empathetic listening is one of the key components of mental health first aid. Listening without passing judgment demonstrates that you care about the person and will not pass judgment on their mental health issues. The capacity to listen to them without passing judgment will encourage them to talk openly and honestly about their situation. Inquire about the person's needs and allow them to tell you what would be most beneficial to them.

Educate the individual that they are having a panic attack. It is critical that you maintain your composure and do not panic yourself. Be patient when speaking to the person in a comforting yet strong manner. Use short, clear words while speaking clearly and gently.

Don't make assumptions about what the individual requires; instead ask them directly what they believe might help. Don't dismiss the person's experiences. Make them feel that you know that their anxiety and associated discomfort is genuine, but reassure them that, while terrifying, a panic attack is not life threatening. Help them deal with their fears by assuring them that they are safe and that the symptoms will eventually subside.

By doing the following, you may improve your empathetic listening skills:

- Maintaining strong eye contact
- Maintaining an open and relaxed body language
- To demonstrate understanding, reflect back what the other person has said and ask questions.
- Being calm and patient while the person is crying, silent, and is trying to discuss difficult issues
- Encourage the individual to seek out additional sources of support, such as family, friends, or any communities in which they participate.
- You may also encourage the person to practice self-care routines and techniques that will help them develop good coping skills,

such as:

- Participating in everyday physical activity
- Keeping a balanced diet
- Mindfulness practices, such as meditation, are beneficial.
- Practicing daily gratitude
- Using anxiety management techniques at home and at work
- Taking a mental health day when necessary as a form of self-care

What to say when the panic attack has subsided?

Ask the person if they know where they can acquire information on panic attacks when the panic episode has passed. If they don't know, give them some ideas.

Tell the person that if the panic attacks continue to bother them, they should seek help from a qualified mental health professional such as a clinical psychologist and/or psychiatrist. You should be aware about the help available in your area so that you are able to guide them to a mental health professional. Assure the sufferer that effective treatment in the form of medicines and therapies for panic attacks and panic disorder are available. Psychiatrists prescribe various medicines that have a calming effect, however their usage can occasionally result in undesirable side effects such as tolerance, dependency, and withdrawal.

Clinical Psychologists are considered one of the core mental health professionals who can help people with panic attacks. They try to understand the various causal factors behind somebody's panic attack by taking a detailed history, looking into childhood issues such as adverse childhood experiences, family dynamics, and various other psycho-social issues and then accordingly prepare their treatment plan using various therapeutic modalities such as CBT, ACT, DBT, psychodynamic approach etc. in order to make the person competent enough to deal with symptoms, and the underlying issues such as poor self esteem, low frustration tolerance problems in family dynamics, lack of assertiveness and issues with problem solving strategies.

Depending on the severity of the condition, the person may get benefitted either by taking help of a clinical psychologist alone or by seeking combined help from clinical psychologists as well as psychiatrists. Psychiatrists will help them to deal with symptoms while as clinical psychologists can help to deal with issues and thus the patient may eventually feel recovered and be competent enough to live a productive life and realize the potential endowed to them by God almighty.

The author is a clinical psychologist and works as a Child and adolescent mental health counselor at IMHANS-K and can be reached at wasimkakroo21@gmail.com

Take a Break to Re-calibrate Life

Shilpa Bhasin Mehra

I came to Delhi from Dubai in March this year. I was scheduled to fly back end of April when I could not due to the travel ban from April 24. Over the months I have heard this dialogue repeated ad nauseam, "oh no, poor you, been stuck here for so long". Did I say anything that warrants this comment, forget complain or crib? This comment would have been justified, if I was depressed about the situation and desperate to go back. I am not.

Fortunately, I am blessed with clarity of thought. I came here to see my father who I hadn't seen over 18 months, the longest time since I was born. Every time I meet him, I feel my trip here has been so fruitful. Mission accomplished and counting! So, what is there to crib?

Here is the paradox. I have noticed that the people who complain are the same ones who rattle at the drop of a hat, proverbs like "depends how you look at things, if the glass is half empty or half full". It is strange that they are the ones always looking at the half empty glass. These proverbs are said to feel and look good, but not actually meant and certainly not implemented. My take on this glass proverb is — I like my glass to be full, so if it looks even little empty, please top it up.

Life is certainly tough and we are living in unprecedented times. There are many reasons for us to become bona fide pessimist but let's cling on to even one reason to be an optimist. We need to remember that optimism creates opportunity and pessimism kills it. The word "optimism" actually derives from the Latin word "optima", meaning the best outcome or belief in the greatest good. We all get to wake up every day and choose whether we are going to be a glass half-full, or a glass half-empty person.

Life is certainly tough and we are living in unprecedented times. There are many reasons for us to become bona fide pessimists but let's cling on to even one reason to be an optimist. We need to remember that optimism creates opportunity and pessimism kills it

You can't solve your problems by complaining about them. To quote Einstein: "Problems cannot be solved at the same level of thinking at which they were created." Where pessimists see problems, optimists find opportunities. If you change the way you look at your problems, your problems change and transform into a rich array of opportunities to grow, learn and discover. Many times in life, we need to see it from a different angle and fresh per-

spectives. There may be many things that we cannot change, but there will also be a few things about which we can do something.

In these times, we need to preserve our energy and guard our positive energy protectively. So stay away from energy vampires who only crib and complain about everything in life and take you down their misery lane. We certainly don't need that. When I see such a person I promise myself that I will not be like that. If I cannot add to anyone's hap-

piness, who am I to subtract it?

We can certainly learn from Amy Cuddy how to carry ourselves like an optimist. Specific adjustments in your body language make you feel more powerful and confident. If you slump your shoulders and look down to the ground, optimism and opportunity will definitely elude you. But stand tall, chin up, smile and you will attract all sorts of positive people and opportunities into your life.

One medicine that is most prescribed, that is free of cost but still undervalued is laughter. It may be difficult to find humour in these tough times, but if can do so, we can certainly laugh some of our troubles away. I have great respect for comedians because they are masters at finding the humour in even the most unfunny situations. Humour is a highly effective antidote to almost every ailment, anxiety or adversity. Watching a funny movie or better still, spending time with a friend who makes you laugh is literally medicinal and these days priceless.

Stay close to people, physically or virtually, who love and care for you, who value you, encourage you and inspire you. Stay away from the pessimist and energy drainers. Covid has also sent us all on a kind of sabbatical, a forced break in some way or the other. So let's make the most of this break and re-calibrate our lives. While our life may have gone a bit off track, we can still appreciate all that we have. Complaining about life, won't get it back on track faster. An optimist is a person who can enjoy the scenery on a detour. Or as said in her characteristic style, "The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain." — Dolly Parton.

Khaleej Times





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# People are selfish with masses and generous to individuals

Agencies

The general public in recent years has steadily lost their confidence in economic authorities, financial institutions, and particularly corporate managers. They think that economic actors will go to any length for profits, which includes harming fellow human beings and large groups. Yet, modern behavioural economics and psychology tell a completely different story. Laboratory data has shown that people willingly share monetary gains with others, dislike inequality, and are very often generous. Recent evidence shows that dishonesty levels as measured in certain laboratory tasks are surprisingly low. The message is that people are prosocial and, if given the opportunity, cheat just a little. These findings have been published in the journal 'Nature Human Behaviour'. Opportunity to rob half of the gains from others

How can both observations be simultaneously true? Are high-level economic actors simply different? To find out, Carlos

Alos-Ferrer, NOMIS Professor for Decision and Neuroeconomic Theory at the University of Zurich and his team designed the Big Robber Game, an experimental setting with 640 participants in a standard student sample. Students were placed in groups of 32, where all subjects were engaged in some remunerated activity and earned the same amount of money. Half of the participants, the robbers, were given the opportunity to anonymously steal half the earnings of the other 16 members of their group (and one of the 16 robber's decisions was actually implemented), which corresponded to more or less 100 Euros. But they could also steal less, say one-third, or one-tenth or nothing at all. So, what did they do? Overwhelmingly ruthless in anonymous groups

More than half of all robbers went to the extreme and took the maximum possible, which was half of the earnings of all others. Over 80 per cent took one-third or more and almost nobody declined to rob. The students revealed an overwhelming willingness to inflict significant monetary

harm to a large group of others. Furthermore, the decision to take the maximum was taken on average more quickly than the decision to refrain from it, revealing a weaker moral struggle in the former case. However, the very same study participants displayed predominantly prosocial behaviour in standard bilateral games. When asked how they wanted to split 10 Euros with just one other participant, they voluntarily transferred some money, even when the other person was powerless to retaliate if no money came. In general, their actions revealed that they disliked inequality. "Thus, the very same people displayed selfishness in the large high-impact decisions affecting a large group and generosity in the small bilateral, low-stakes interactions", Alos-Ferrer resumes. "This behaviour arose spontaneously within our student population, with no significant differences due to gender or field of studies. Therefore, there is no need for arguments about high-level economic actors being different. The roots of corporate scandals seem to be in all of us." Tradeoff between personal gain and other-

regarding concerns

The finding that people behave selfishly toward a large group while being generous toward individuals suggests that harming many individuals might be easier than harming just one, in line with existing evidence that people are more willing to help one individual rather than many. According to the authors, the study also reflects the tradeoff between personal gain and other-regarding concerns: When facing an individual in a bilateral game, appropriating a given monetary amount can result in a large interpersonal difference. When appropriating income from a large group of people, the same personal gain involves a smaller percentual difference, and hence it is more likely to offset the inequality aversion. Alos-Ferrer: "In economically relevant situations, many human decision-makers might be willing to inflict significant harm on a relatively large number of people for personal gain, as long as that gain is of sufficient magnitude. Even more strikingly, in Western societies, 100 Euros might already be enough."

**از نیابت نائب تحصیلدار ماگام**  
مضمون کاغذات درخواست مخائب تبسم جان وفرحت رشیداولا دان عبدالرشیدولون ساکنہ پڑھ مکمل حال ماگام بمراوعطا یگی بیکوارڈامیرا سرٹفکیٹ تحت 294 SRO

**اشتہار بمراو آگاہی ہرخاص وعام**  
معاذ منجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست مکمل دفتر پڑا میں زیر کارونی ہے اس سلسلے میں پڑا میں حلقہ سے اپرٹ بشور پکارڈ طلب کیا گیا ہے جس سے میاں ہے کہ مکمل متبع پڑھ مکمل حال ماگام میں رہائش پڑا ہے اور کہہ پڑا میں فرطشلتی ہے

شیخ زہیر محمد	ممبر زہرہ	80 سال
عبدالرشید ولد صدیق لون	مزدوری	45 سال
رفیق بیگم زہیر محمد رشید	گھریلو کام	40 سال
تبسم جان دختر عبدالرشید	زیر تعلیم	20 سال
مصور دختر عبدالرشید زہیر محمد	زیر تعلیم	18 سال
فرہت رشید عبدالرشید	زیر تعلیم	17 سال
ناہد دختر	زیر تعلیم	15 سال
مادیہ دختر	زیر تعلیم	13 سال
مدیحہ دختر	زیر تعلیم	11 سال

اس کے علاوہ کوئی افراد نہ کہتیں ہے مکمل کی ماہوار آمدنی 750 ہے سرٹفکیٹ اجرا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہم اندر دفتر پڑا میں پیش کرے معیار کرنے بعد کوئی بھی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا

نائب تحصیلدار suit

**از نیابت نائب تحصیلدار ماگام**  
مضمون کاغذات درخواست مخائب محمد رفیق وار ولد محمد مریم لطیف وار ساکنہ ماگام بمراوعطا یگی لیگل ہیرا سرٹفکیٹ تحت 294 SRO

**اشتہار بمراو آگاہی ہرخاص وعام**  
معاذ منجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست مکمل دفتر رفیق وار ولد محمد لطیف وار کا دفتر پڑا میں زیر کارونی ہے اس سلسلے میں پڑا میں حلقہ سے اپرٹ بشور پکارڈ طلب کیا گیا ہے جس سے میاں ہے کہ مکمل متبع پڑھ مکمل حال ماگام میں رہائش پڑا ہے اور کہہ پڑا میں فرطشلتی ہے

مشتاق احمد ولد غلام محمد وانی	ممبر زہرہ	80 سال
وار مشتاق ولد مشتاق احمد	مزدوری	45 سال
محمد رفیق پسر محمد مریم لطیف	گھریلو کام	40 سال
نسرین لطیف دختر محمد لطیف	زیر تعلیم	20 سال

اس کے علاوہ کوئی افراد نہ کہتیں ہے سرٹفکیٹ اجرا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہم اندر دفتر پڑا میں پیش کرے معیار کرنے بعد کوئی بھی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا

نائب تحصیلدار suit

## Office Of The Executive Engineer Mechanical Irrigation Division Baramulla

Short Term e-Tender  
NIT No: E-22 of 2021-22

For and on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, sealed e-tenders In two covers are invited from experienced, reputed and registered firms/ genuine manufacturers/authorized distributors/dealers/workshop holders / SSI Unit holders for the following work:

S. No.	Name of work	Cost of tender document (Rate in Rs)	Estimated Cost (Rs in Lacs)	Earnest money	Validity of offer	Time of completion	Pro-gramme Head	Whether Ac-corded/ Position of Funds	Tender ID no.
1	Electrical repair works at Jaggerpora-B LIS of MISD Handwara.	Rs. 50.00	Rs. 0.38		120 days	07 days	M&R 2702		2021_IFC_133065_1
2	Supply, Installation, Testing, And Commissioning of 630 Ampere MCCB at Vodhpura LIS.	Rs. 50.00	Rs. 0.36						2021_IFC_133065_2
3	Urgent repairs to 400 mm dia rising main at lift irrigation scheme Hanjiwera Bala of sub-division Pattan.	Rs. 50.00	Rs. 0.19						2021_IFC_133065_3
4	Repairs to damaged CGI shed at lift irrigation scheme Chainabal.	Rs. 50.00	Rs. 0.42						2021_IFC_133065_4
5	Providing and fitting of 200 Ampere MCCB at lift irrigation scheme Hanjiwera Payeen.	Rs. 50.00	Rs. 0.18						2021_IFC_133065_5
6	Execution of Mechanical works at various Lift Irrigation cum dewatering Schemes of Sub-Division Pattan.	Rs. 50.00	Rs. 0.16						2021_IFC_133065_6
7	Mechanical Repair Works at various Lift Irrigation schemes of MISD Sopore.	Rs. 50.00	Rs. 0.70						2021_IFC_133065_7
8	HT/LT Electrical and Mechanical repair works at various Lift Irrigation schemes of MISD Sopore	Rs. 50.00	Rs. 0.60						2021_IFC_133065_8
9	Designing, providing, supply, installation, commissioning & testing of 100 KVA capacity copper wound voltage stabilizer at LIS Dangiwach.	Rs. 100.00	Rs. 1.60						2021_IFC_133065_9
10	Designing, providing, supply, installation, commissioning and testing of 200 KVA capacity copper wound voltage stabilizer at LIS Sheeri 2nd.	Rs. 100.00	Rs. 2.51						2021_IFC_133065_10
11	Providing, laying and fitting of 19/064 copper cable for internal connections at LIS Dangiwach.	Rs. 50.00	Rs. 0.54						2021_IFC_133065_11
12	Construction of CGI shed at LIS Dangi Wacha	Rs. 100.00	Rs. 3.28						2021_IFC_133065_12
13	Providing of pump shed, transformer and stabilizer with electric poles and wire at Nathipora S. No. 01 of Accorded estimate Viz. Design, Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of 100 KVA manually operated voltage Stabilizer for Nathipora LIS of MISD Sopore.	Rs. 100.00	Rs. 1.60						2021_IFC_133065_13
14	Providing of pump shed, transformer and stabilizer with electric poles and wire at Nathipora S. No. 02 of Accorded estimate Viz. Design, supply, installation, testing and commissioning of 100Hp manually operated oil immersed double contact star delta starter and 320A TPN MCCB for Nathipora LIS of MISD Sopore	Rs. 50.00	Rs. 0.70						2021_IFC_133065_14

Updated "Bid Security Declaration" duly notarized

Sd/- Executive Engineer  
Mechanical Irrigation Division  
Baramulla

DIPK-5922/21

## PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost the RC of my vehicle bearing Regd No: JK05J- 1423 from Kantbagh To Pattan. Now I have applied for the duplicat of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of ARTO Sopore within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

**Ishfaq Ahamd Waza S/O Gh Mohd Waza R/O Utikoo Kunzar**

**BMG**

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

## Directorate of Tourism, Kashmir

e-mail: [ddtreg123@gmail.com](mailto:ddtreg123@gmail.com)

**Subject: - Re-Registration of Travel unit namely M/s Mughal Tour & Travels situated at 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Mughal Darbar Road, Residency Road, Srinagar.**

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, Mr. Sajad Hussain Mughal proprietor of the Travel Agency namely "M/s Mughal Tour & Travels" situated at 3rd floor, Mughal Darbar Road, Residency Road, Srinagar has approached this office for Re-registration of her Travel unit under the J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12.

Whereas, the unit was registered with this Department under the Registration of Tourist Trade Act/Rules under Registration No-Reg/231/2575-III/DT/40/L-06dated 03-12-2003and was renewed upto 31-03-2011. The Travel unit has been De-registered by this office vide Order No. Reg/T/1427/684/DTK dated 06-02-2017.

Whereas, the applicant along with his application has submitted the requisite documents as mention below:-

**Original Registration Certificate.**  
**Bank statement**  
**Character certificate.**  
**Rent Deed and Affidavit.**  
**Newspaper cutting.**

Now therefore, in exercise of powers conferred on me under section 10 of Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011/12, before the request for Re-Registration of Registration certificate/Travel unit is considered in favour of M/s Mughal Tour & Travels, the matter hereby notified for information of general Public/Financial Institutions/Bank/Organization, etc for objection if any. The same should reach this office within a period of 7 days from the publication of this notice in the local newspaper. No objections beyond period of 7 days will be entertained and changes in the Registration records shall be made under rules.

No: Reg/556/1231/DTK  
Dated: 02.08.2021

Sd/-  
Deputy Director Tourism,  
Registration (Kashmir)

**DIPK-5924/21**

## Office of the Executive Engineer, Electric Division- Ist, Srinagar.

### Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited

Email: [xen.ed1st@gmail.com](mailto:xen.ed1st@gmail.com) Tel No. 0194-2452079 Fax No.0194-2452079

e-TENDER ABBREVIATED NOTICE  
e-NIT No. 30/EDI, dt:04-08-2021

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Executive Engineer, Electric Division-1<sup>st</sup>, Srinagar invites online e-bids from registered A-Class Contractors/firms for as under:

S.No	Particulars	Estimated Cost (In Lacs)
1	Shifting of Load from Receiving Station TRC to Receiving Station Nedous under Languishing Projects.	24.20

The complete tender document is available at website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidder/tenderers may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below. Bidding Documents contain Qualifying Criteria for Bidders, Specifications, Bill of Quantities, Terms and Conditions of Contract and other details.

i)	Date and Time of downloading/ Sale (Start) of Tender Document	04.08.2021; 16:00 Hrs
ii)	Date & Time of Download/ Sale (End) of Tender Document	25.08.2021; 16:00 Hrs
iii)	Date & Time of Bid Uploading (Start/End)	04.08.2021; 16:00 Hrs to 25.08.2021; 16:00 Hrs
iv)	Commercial/Technical Bid Opening Date & Time	26.08.2021 at 13:00 Hrs
v)	Financial Bid Opening	Shall be declared later on for the technically qualified bidders
vi)	Venue of Commercial/ Technical Bid Opening	Electronically on J&K Government e-Procurement System website <a href="http://jktenders.gov.in">http://jktenders.gov.in</a>
vii)	Cost of e-Bid document	Rs. 1000.00 (Rupees One Thousand and Only) (Non-refundable) [Demand Draft Only]
viii)	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	Self Declaration by the Executing Agency/Firm regarding EMD as per Govt order

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Electric Division 1<sup>st</sup>, Srinagar

**DIPK-NB-2302/21**



## DDC Pulwama For Self-reliant, Sustainable Agriculture, Horticulture Sectors

Observer News Service

PULWAMA: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Pulwama, Baseer Ul Haq Chowdhary Thursday impressed upon the bankers to put in added efforts to increase the CD ratio by focusing on potential areas and stressed on better coordination between banks and government departments for bringing improvement in CD ratio. He directed for ensuring balanced lending in all key sectors to promote equitable growth.

Chowdhary emphasised upon the heads of the financial institutions to spread awareness with regard to the welfare schemes sponsored by them among masses so that people can avail benefit for their socio-economic development. He hailed the role of agriculture and horticulture sectors in creating self-reliant and sustainable employment in the district.

The DDC further added that a coordinated effort between the financial institutions and sponsoring agencies may pave a path towards ease of doing business and would further spirit inclusive development. He emphasised on the priority sector lending with a special focus on education, women development and agriculture allied sectors.

He directed concerned officials to organise the financial literacy camps in every block of the district and stressed upon the bankers and concerned officers to adopt a public friendly approach and work in coordination so that good results are achieved at the

grass roots level.

The DDC directed the tehsildars to organise special camps for title verification of land so that the KCC loans are sanctioned without impediments.

He convened a meeting of District Level Review Committee meeting of District Pulwama at Meeting Hall, DC office complex.

During the meeting, detailed discussions were held on CD ratios of the banks, identification of beneficiaries, flow of credit, assistance under Government sponsored schemes, performances of banks under District Credit Plan (DCP), achievements made under the above said Quarter, monitoring initiatives, Credit Plus activities, and many alike.

Giving details about the performance of Banks, District lead bank Manager informed the participants that total credit deployed by all banks operating in the district ending 31.03.2021 stands at Rs. 3505.50 cr, while as total deposits mobilized by the banks in the district as on ending 31.03.2021 has been recorded Rs.3980.48cr

It was given out that under the Agriculture sector, banks have disbursed an amount of Rs. 882.23cr to 38438 beneficiaries against the target of Rs. 1621.58cr to 81319 beneficiaries.

Under Medium Small and Micro Enterprises banks have recorded deployment of Rs. 324.20 cr to 10020 beneficiaries, whereas in education sector Rs.2.64 cr were disbursed in favour of 183 beneficiaries against the annual target of Rs. 13.69 cr to 338 beneficiaries.

## Progress On Hot Mix Plant Reviewed In Gurez



Observer News Service

BANDIPORA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad Thursday discussed various issues that hinder the establishment of Hot Mix plant in the Gurez valley where developmental works are affected owing to the absence of Hot Mix plant and stone crushers. He convened a meeting to discuss various issues in connection with the establishment of stone crushers/ Hot Mix plant at Gurez.

The meeting discussed all the Action Areas taken up by different departments of the district including clarification of observations raised by the Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment and Pollution Control Board.

Nine cases were discussed in the meeting and concerned officers were directed to expedite the cases so that formal permissions are given.

Dr Owais reviewed the status of tasks including identification

of dredge spots for quarrying raw material, identification of state land for installation of stone crusher and hot mix plant, approval of NOC for macadam plant and stone crusher at Gurez, installation of hot mix plant at Badwan Wanpora, NOC for establishment of hot mix plant at Gurez, NOC for operation of stone crusher at Dawar, Neeru, Baduaab, Chawalli, Kabulgali road and at Tragbal, establishment of stone crusher at Gujran Tulail and subsequent identification of state land, NOC to establish stone crusher unit on private land at Baduaab Tulail.

He urged the officers to expedite the paperwork regarding the establishment of stone crushers and hot mix plants including getting NOC and other related formalities before the establishment of these plants. He said in absence of these plants in Gurez the developmental work has been greatly affected as the material is to be supplied to far off places from Bandipora.

# HC Stays Interim Order Stopping Appointment Of Law Officers

Observer News Service

JAMMU: A double bench of High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh has stayed the effect and operation of interim order of Single bench issued in response to a petition stopping fresh appointment of Law Officers except that of Advocate General, even as it accepted to treat the petitioned matter as Public Interest Litigation.

The Double Bench comprising Chief Justice JK&L High Court Justice Pankaj Mithal and Justice Puneet Gupta stayed the interim order but subject to any order that may be passed in the above referred Public Interest Litigation.

The Double Bench was hearing the Letters Patent Appeal (LPA) directed against the order dated 29.06.2021 of the learned Single Judge passed in Writ Petition (C) No. 1087/2020 'Sushil Chandel Vs. Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and others' with the following observations.

The learned Single Judge in the said order after making certain observations on the merits of the petition vis-a-vis that "I am, therefore, of the considered view that the Policy of the engagement of Government Lawyers at all levels deserves fresh look and it is imperative that these engagements are merit based and do not fall foul of Article 14 of the Constitution of India" directs the petition to be treated as Public Interest Litigation (PIL) and as such observed to place it before the Chief Justice for listing before the appropriate Bench in terms of Rule 24 (8) of the Writ Proceeding Rules, 1997, but in doing so the single bench has further provided that till the matter is con-

sidered by the Bench dealing with the PIL, no fresh appointments shall be made of the Law Officers except the Advocate General.

In other words, while refusing to hear the writ petition and directing it to be treated as a Public Interest Petition and laid before the appropriate Bench dealing with the PIL, the Single Judge proceeded to comment on the merits and passing interim order stopping all appointments of Law Officers in the Union Territory except the Advocate General.

The submission of Sh. D. C. Raina, learned Advocate General is that the interim order passed by the Single Judge is patently without jurisdiction which could not have been passed once the Single Bench has declined to hear the writ petition and has directed it to be treated as a Public Interest Litigation.

RD Singh Bandral, appearing for the respondent vehemently contends that the appointments of the Law Officers should be transparent and that the criteria laid down under the impugned advertisement is faulty and does not bear any nexus with the object sought to be achieved. Therefore, the advertisement has to be quashed and declared ultra vires to SRO 98 of 2016 with direction for framing fair and reasonable rules in terms of the prevalent law.

It may be pertinent to mention here that the Deputy Legal Remembrancer, Department of Law Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, issued an advertisement inviting applications for engagement of Standing Counsel which inter alia provide that an Advocate may apply in the prescribed form against the forty (40) vacancies for the districts of Jammu and Srinagar and two each for other districts meaning thereby

that the proposed appointments of Standing Counsel are in context with the districts courts and not the High Court. In addition to above, it lays down the eligibility criteria and provides for 30 marks for the Experience, 10 marks for Higher Qualification than the Degree of Law, 50 marks on the basis of legal work done in courts such as instituting suits/filing of defence and 10 marks for the professional achievements, awards etc.

SRO 98 of 2016 issued in exercise of powers under Section 124 of the erstwhile Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir read with Section 492 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Cr.P.C.) Svt. 1989 (1933 A.D.), the Government notified the Rules known as Jammu and Kashmir Law Officers (Appointment and Conditions of Service) Rules 2016.

In the writ petition, it was contended that the criteria laid down in the aforesaid advertisement has no relevance, are illegal and ultra vires to the above Rules.

The learned Single Judge in passing the impugned order accepted that the petitioner had neither himself applied nor does he seek his appointment and engagement as Law Officer, either at the district level or in the High Court. Single Judge further observes that the advertisement prima facie is not bad yet conditions therein would pose practical difficulties in its application and, therefore, 4 LPA No. 82 of 2021 requires reconsideration. There is no rationale for allocation of marks for the qualification higher than the Degree of Law when the Chief Justice of India and the Judges of Supreme Court and the High Courts can be appointed with the simple qualification of LLB only. | More on P2

## Adv Farooq Urges Religious Leaders To Ensure Muharram Celebration As Per Govt Guidelines



Observer News Service

JAMMU: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Farooq Khan, Thursday reviewed arrangements being put in place for Muharram in districts of Jammu division here at a meeting held at Divisional Commissioner's office.

Advisor took stock of all arrangements being put in place for the Muharram and was informed that administrations had several meetings with representatives from the Shia community and concerned departments. He was apprised that all the concerned departments have already been directed for smooth conduct of all the remembrance functions and procession related to Muharram.

The representatives from Shia

federation put forth their requirements before the Advisor and also apprised him of the programmes scheduled for Muharram.

Advisor directed the concerned departments to ensure uninterrupted power and drinking water supply besides conducting regular sanitation drives during the Muharram days. He directed JMC to ensure cleanliness around the Imambaras besides replacing damaged street lights. He also directed all Deputy Commissioners to hold review meetings in their respective districts regarding the event.

Advisor urged upon the religious organisations and leaders to follow Covid Appropriate Behaviour and restrict the gatherings according to the guidelines issued by the government.

## 6.3 MVA, 33/11 KV Sub-station E-Inaugurated At Rajouri

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Baseer Ahmad Khan, Thursday e-inaugurated 6.3 MVA, 33/11 KV sub-station at Noniyal, Nowshera in Rajouri district.

The power distribution project completed under Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS) came up at a total cost of Rs. 2.89 crore and will benefit approximately 1000 to 1200 domestic and commercial consumers.

Advisor appreciated the officers for putting in their efforts towards speedy completion of the project

saying that it is firm commitment of present dispensation that the people of the UT get 24x7 quality electricity. He said that the government is aiming to achieve larger goal of self-sufficiency in power sector and stressed on putting concerted efforts towards achieving target of providing reliable power supply to consumers.

Advisor said that 6 power projects are in different stages of completion in Jammu division which are expected to be completed by the end of November this year. He said that Lieutenant Governor has set timelines for each project that need to be followed in letter and spirit.

## 16 Cases Under Mumkin Scheme Approved In Anantnag



Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: The District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) Anantnag, under the Chairmanship of District Development Commissioner (DDC), Dr. Piyush Singla Thursday approved 16 more cases for disbursement of loan under Mumkin Scheme.

In this regard, the DDC took a detailed review of the implementation of the self-employment scheme for the youth, during a meeting with concerned officers.

Cases of beneficiaries hailing from different areas of the district

have been approved.

On the occasion, thorough discussions were held for ensuring hassle-free and time bound disbursement of loans and the subsequent allotment of vehicles to the beneficiaries.

The DDC impressed upon AD Employment to generate requisite awareness among the eligible and progressive youth of the district so as to bring them under the ambit of the scheme. He also stressed for conducting regular interaction and counselling sessions for them on Mumkin and other self-employment schemes.

## GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR UNION TERRITORY Town Planning Organisation, Kashmir

### 'REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST' FOR

### "Vetting of Draft Base maps and Attribute data collection for AMRUT Cities-Srinagar and Anantnag, Jammu & Kashmir UT"

For and on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir UT, the Chief Town Planner, Town Planning Organisation, Kashmir invites **Expression of Interest (EOI)** from eligible **Consultancy firms/Surveying firms** for providing services for the **"Vetting of Draft Base maps and Spatial Attribute Data Collection for AMRUT Cities –Srinagar and Anantnag, J&K UT"**

The scope of the work would be the **Vetting of Base maps and Spatial Attribute Data Collection for AMRUT cities – Srinagar (Area – 1100 Sq Km) and Anantnag (400 Sq. Km)** for field data collection as per the Design & Standards document of Sub Scheme on Formulation of GIS based Master Plan for AMRUT Cities.

TPO Kashmir invites eligible **Consultancy Firms/Surveying Firms** to express their interest in providing the services for the aforesaid assignment. The details of the assignment and format for the submission of the Expression of the Interest are available on [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in)

Chief Town Planner  
Town Planning Organisation  
Kashmir

**Address:**  
Office of the Chief Town Planner,  
Town Planning Organisation, Kashmir  
Habitat Centre, NH Bypass, Bemina Srinagar-190018  
Ph. no. 0194-2490840  
E-mail: [ctp.kashmir@gmail.com](mailto:ctp.kashmir@gmail.com)  
NIT: 01/CTPK of 2021

DIPK-5942/21

Dated: 26-07-2021



## MISSION DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION, J&K

**Jammu Office:** Regional Institute of Health & Family Welfare, Nagrota, Jammu.  
Fax: 0191-2674114; Telephone: 2674244. Pin: 181221

**Kashmir Office:** A Block, Ground Floor, Old Secretariat, Srinagar. Pin: 190001  
Fax: 0194-2477337; Telephone: 2477309; e-mail: [mdnhmj@gnail.com](mailto:mdnhmj@gnail.com)

**NHM Help Line for Jammu Division: 18001800104; Kashmir Division: 18001800102**

### Notice Inviting Expression of Interest for Hiring of Premises for the Office of State Health Society, National Health Mission, Jammu & Kashmir in Srinagar.

State Health Society, working under the auspices of Health & medical Education Deptt., J&K, for implementation of different Programmes/ Schemes under the ambit of National Health Mission, a flagship Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India, having office(s) at Regional Institute of Health & Family Welfare, Near Sainik School, Kandoli Nagrota, Jammu in Jammu Division and Block 'A', Old Secretariat, Srinagar in Kashmir Division, is desirous of hiring space of 8,000 sq feet approximately, with clear & unambiguous title, for its Kashmir Division Office in Srinagar. Detailed EoI in this regard is uploaded on our website [www.jknhm.com](http://www.jknhm.com).

Expression of Interest (EOI), complete in all respect, duly signed by the Legal Owner(s), or by the person having duly signed authority of the Legal Owner(s), shall have to be submitted, in a properly sealed envelope super-scribed as "EOI for Office Space for Kashmir Office of State Health Society, NHM, J&K" in the existing Divisional office – Kashmir of State Health Society, NHM, J&K at Block 'A', Old Secretariat, Srinagar **on or before 14<sup>th</sup> August 2021 upto 04.00 PM.**

-s/d-

Mission Director  
NHM, J&K

DIPK-NB-2330/21



## Misbah To Stay As Coach, New Zealand's Tour To Pakistan Confirmed



Press Trust of India

**KARACHI:** Misbah-ul-Haq's tenure as head coach of the national cricket team is likely to continue through the upcoming T20 World Cup after Pakistan emerged victorious in the rain-hit T20I series against West Indies.

Pakistan claimed the four-match T20 series 1-0 after the fourth and final game ended in no result on Tuesday following rain.

"Basically everyone was keen to see how Misbah managed the team in the T20 series in West Indies as calls grew for the PCB to review his position as head coach in white ball formats," one reliable source told PTI.

He said that the board had started to look for other options as the cricket community was upset after Pakistan lost the three-match one-day series to a second string England side and than the T20 series with some key players missing from the home side.

"The feeling developed that perhaps Misbah was not the right man or didn't have the coaching experience to take Pakistan into the T20 World Cup," the source said.

Misbah has a three-year con-

tract with the PCB and will complete two years of the contract in the T20 World Cup.

But the source confirmed that the cricket committee will be meeting with Misbah, bowling coach Waqar Younis and captain Babar Azam to get feedback. The committee is headed by former Test cricketer, Saleem Yousaf and includes former great, Wasim Akram and ex-test players, Umar Gul and Ali Naqvi.

### New Zealand To Tour Pakistan To Play Limited Over Cricket

New Zealand will play three ODIs and five Twenty20 Internationals on their first tour to Pakistan in 18 years, the country's cricket board said on Thursday.

The Pakistan Cricket Board announced that the three ODIs, which is part of the ICC World Cup Super League, will be held at the Rawalpindi cricket stadium, while the T20Is will be staged at the Gaddafi stadium in Lahore.

New Zealand will tour Pakistan from September 15 to October 3.

Australia is also scheduled to undertake a full tour in February/March 2022.

# India Win Olympic Silver In Wrestling & Bronze In Men's Hockey

Agencies

**TOKYO:** India on Thursday bagged two Olympic medals at Tokyo Games 2020 with Ravi Kumar Dahiya clinching the silver medal in 57kg freestyle while India men's hockey team won bronze by defeating Germany.

With these victories India's medals tally at the Games swelled to 5, which includes 2 silver and 3 bronze medals.

Dahiya became only the second Indian wrestler to win a silver medal at the Olympic Games. There were huge expectations from Dahiya for a gold medal after his phenomenal semifinal victory but the reigning world champion Zaur Uguev of Russian Olympic Committee dashed those hopes with a comfortable 7-4 win the men's freestyle 57kg title clash.

Dahiya had lost to Uguev at the 2019 World Championship also.

Meanwhile, the Indian men's hockey team rewrote history as it claimed an Olympic medal after 41 years, defeating a plucky Germany 5-4 to win the bronze in an edge-of-the-seat play-off match.

Simranjeet Singh (17th, 34th minutes) scored a brace, while Hardik Singh (27th), Harmanpreet Singh (29th) and Rupinder Pal Singh (31st) were the other goal getters for world no.3 India.

Determined to clinch a medal, the Indians made one of the most memorable comebacks in the history of the game, fighting back from a two-goal deficit to turn the match in their favour.

There were tears and hugs on the field



as the Indians led by Manpreet Singh and coached by Australian Graham Reid savoured the historic moment.

It is India's third hockey bronze medal in the history of the Olympics. The other two came in 1968 Mexico City and the 1972 Munich Games.

### LG, PM Modi Hail Hockey Team

Prime Minister Modi led India in congratulating the Olympic medalists.

"Historic! A day that will be etched in the memory of every Indian. Congratulations to

our Men's Hockey Team for bringing home the Bronze," tweeted Modi.

"With this feat, they have captured the imagination of the entire nation, especially our youth. India is proud of our Hockey team."

J&K's Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha also congratulated the Indian hockey saying the whole country was proud of them.

"Congratulations to the Indian Men's Hockey team on winning the bronze medal at Tokyo Olympics. This tremendous achievement will inspire generation of sportspersons. The whole country is proud of you!" the LG said on his official Twitter handle.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE INDIAN MEN'S HOCKEY TEAM** on winning the bronze medal at Tokyo Olympics. This tremendous achievement will inspire generation of sportspersons. The whole country is proud of you!"

## Wildlife Deptt Organises Trekking Event

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Department of Wildlife Protection on Thursday organised a trekking event titled "In Nature's lap, let us Trek" on trekking route from Brane, Nishat to Zawoora, Srinagar.

Around 40 participants including scholars from NIT Srinagar, SKUAST Kashmir, NGOs, volunteers and tourism related organizations from Kashmir Valley took part in the event.

Dr. Mohit Gera, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, who flagged off the trekkers, said that the department is actively working on larger participation of people in understanding nature and environmental issues and trekking events can be an invaluable tool in this regard.

He said that the department wants to bring people closer to Environment, Forests and Wildlife, so that interdependence and co-existence



can be understood and appreciated. He congratulated the department for their unique initiatives.

Suresh K Gupta, Chief Wildlife Warden, while addressing the participants, said this is first of its kind initiative by the department which will be conducted on regular basis. He said that this is just the beginning of a process, wherein

department will allow people to come face to face with the deeper beauty and priceless resources of nature. He thanked the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, under whose leadership department has been re-energized to take such innovative initiatives and continue to involve people at various levels.

Participants enthusiastically

completed the trekking and expressed desire to be the part of such initiatives often in future.

Tanveer Gulzar on behalf of participants thanked and congratulated the Department of Wildlife Protection.

Rashid Yahya Naqash, Regional Wildlife Warden, Kashmir, Altaf Hussain, Wildlife Warden Central division along with their staff attended the event.

## Bandipora Athlete Thanks LG Sinha For Considering His Suggestions

**SRINAGAR:** Sheikh Adnan Fayaz, a Taekwondo athlete from Bandipora, thanked Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha for taking his considerations regarding sports infrastructure in Kashmir Valley into account.

Recently in his fourth episode of monthly radio talk 'Awaam Ki Awaaz', the LG had lauded Fayaz for winning gold medal for the country in Taekwondo, saying that the entire country is proud of his achievement.

Fayaz had sought the involvement of local players and organizers to have a better picture of sports infrastructure at block, sub-district and district levels and to rejuvenate the sports sector in far-flung areas.

On his suggestions to encourage sports among the youth, the Lt Governor had informed that the Government has already decided to take various sports to the Panchayat level and the Sports Council is doing this work with full dedication.

"J&K is going to hold 17 national competitions in various sports in which about 12,000 players from all States and UTs will participate," he added. His another suggestion was that during the current COVID pandemic athletes should be given online trainings and seminars by J&K Sports Council and Sports Authority of India.

"I express my sincere gratitude to his LG Manoj Sinha who has recently mentioned my name in his Radio programme. I believe the programme is an excellent platform where common people can put forth their suggestions and issues before the highest office of the UT for resolution," Fayaz said.

He said it was a privilege that his suggestions were mentioned in the programme which showed the commitment of LG administration to listen to people and their issues for early resolution.

## 8th District Volleyball Championship Begins At Bandipora

Observer News Service

**BANDIPORA:** The Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bandipora, Zahoor Ahmed Mir inaugurated 8th District Volleyball championship 2021 at Govt. Boys Higher Secondary School, Nadihal. Eight teams in senior category and 10 teams in junior category for Boys and 4 junior teams in Girls category participated in the tournament.

Joint Secretary J&K Volleyball association Mohammed Tariq, District Information Officer Bandipora Jahangir Akhoun, District Officer Youth Services and Sports, Gh Qadir Bhat, and Principal HSS Nadihal were Guests of Honor on the occasion. The championship was organized to commemorate the 75th anniversary of India's Independence Day.

ADC Bandipora while appreciating the Volleyball sports talent of budding players they exhibited in the tournament, he encouraged them to accord focused attention on their game and work hard towards bringing laurels for J&K.

"Discipline, Devotion and Commitment are the hallmark of a true sportsperson which can take them towards the highest echelons of sports world", he said and congratulated organizers for conducting such events in district he assured that district administration is always ready for any kind of support to conduct sports activities in the district.

## District Administration Anantnag Organises Cricket Match

Observer News Service

**ANANTNAG:** District Administration, Anantnag in collaboration with District Police and Municipal Council, Anantnag on Thursday organised a cricket match at Sports Stadium, Anantnag.

Local budding cricketers participated in the game while a number of cricket lovers watched it.

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, Dr. Piyush Singla graced the occasion as Chief Guest, while as SSP, Intiyaz Hussain, Chairman MCA, Hilal Ahmad Shah, ADC (S), Tehsildar Anantnag and other officers also attended the event.

Interacting with the players, the DC said that sports and games play an important role in overall development of the youth, adding that all possible facilities will be made available for the development of the sports culture in the district. Besides, sports activities for women will also be promoted and they will be duly encouraged to realise their sporting potential, he added.

At the end of the match, the winners



and the Man of the Match were felicitated with trophies and mementos.

Pertinent to mention, a series of activities like sports activities, safai

abhiyans, etc are being conducted in the run up to India's 75th Independence Day celebrations across the district.

## DDC Pulwama Inaugurates U19 Football Tournament



Observer News Service

**PULWAMA:** District Development Commissioner (DDC) Pulwama, Baseer Ul Haq Choudhary on Thursday inaugurated a U19 football tournament organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS).

On the occasion, the DDC said that sports add value to life besides making it lively.

While appreciating the efforts of the Department of Youth Services and Sports, he said that such events shall lead to a healthy lifestyle and would be pivotal in delaying the early onset of lifestyle diseases. He added that sports imbibe leadership qualities besides adding the value to life by inculcating team spirit and tolerance.

The tournament is being held under the supervision of DYSS Officer, Pulwama and teams from all the zones of the district are participating in this tournament.

## Sandeep 23rd, Irfan & Rahul 47th, 51st In 20km Race Walk Event

**SAPPORO:** National record holder Sandeep Kumar was going strong at second position till near the halfway mark but he faded later on to finish 23rd with a below-par timing in the men's 20km race walk event in the Olympics here on Thursday. The 35-year-old Kumar crossed the finish line in 1 hour 25 minute and 7 seconds, well outside his national record time of 1:20:16 which he had clocked in February to qualify for the Olympics during the National Open Race Walk Championships in Ranchi.

His two other compatriots, Rahul Rohilla (1:32:06) and K T Irfan (1:34:41) brought up the rear at 47th and 51st with disappointing performances under hot and humid conditions.

## Golfer Aditi Ashok Advances After Blemish-Free Second Round

**TOKYO:** Indian golfer Aditi Ashok was in contention for a historic Olympic medal after carding a flawless five-under 66 in the second round of the women's competition at the ongoing Games here on Thursday.

The 23-year-old rolled in five birdies, which included three in her last four holes, on yet another steamy day at Kasumigaseki Country Club to lie tied second on nine-under 133 with Danish duo, Nanna Koerstz Madsen (64) and Emily Kristine Pedersen (63).

Aditi, playing her second Olympics with her mother, Maheshwari, as her caddy, trails leader — world no.1 Nelly Korda of USA — by four shots.

## Heartbreak For India Wrestlers Deepak Punia & Vinesh Phogat

**TOKYO:** In men's freestyle 86kg category, Deepak Punia came agonisingly close to winning a bronze medal on his Olympic debut but conceded a take-down in last 10 seconds of the play-off against San Marino's Myles Nazem Amine to miss out on achieving the feat.

Top seeded Vinesh Phogat had no answer to the supreme defence of Vanesa, who got her revenge from the Indian at the biggest stage after suffering a similar embarrassing defeat 'by fall' earlier this year in Ukraine.

Later, Vanesa lost her semi-final to China's Qinyu Pang on criteria after scores were tied 2-2, a result that brought curtains on Vinesh's campaign at the Tokyo Games.

## Belgium Wins Shootout To Take Men's Hockey Gold

**TOKYO:** Belgium, a 2016 Olympic runner-up, defeated Australia in a shootout to win gold in men's field hockey. The score was tied 1-all at the end of regulation before Belgium won the shoot-out 3-2. Alexander Hendrickx scored the penalty stroke that put Belgium ahead in the shootout and Vincent Vanasch got the clinching save.

India won bronze earlier in the day with a 5-4 victory over Germany. It was India's first field hockey medal since 1980.

## America Win Wrestling Gold, Iran Take Silver

**TOKYO:** American David Taylor scored a double-leg takedown with 17 seconds remaining to beat Iran's Hassan Yazdani 4-3 and claim wrestling gold in the men's freestyle 86-kilogram class. Yazdani, the No. 1 seed, won the 74kg class at the 2016 Olympics.

San Marino's Myles Amine defeated India's Deepak Punia 4-2 for bronze. It was the first-ever Olympic wrestling medal for the country with about 34,000 people.

In the other bronze medal match, the Russian Olympic Committee's Artur Naifonov defeated Uzbekistan's Javrail Shapiey 2-0.

## Sandra Sánchez Of Spain Wins First Olympic Gold In Karate

**TOKYO:** Spain's Sandra Sánchez defeated Japan's Kiyuu Shimizu in the final matchup in women's kata to claim first ever gold medal in karate. The 39-year-old Sánchez scored a 28.06 in the final bout while Shimizu's score was 27.88.

Sánchez has dominated her discipline in Europe for the past seven years, making her a fitting first champion in the Olympic debut of karate. The martial art is in the Olympic program on a temporary basis in Japan after a half-century of attempts to gain Olympic recognition.

Grace Lau of Hong Kong, China, and Viviana Bottaro of Italy won bronze.

## Chinese Teenagers Sweep Women's 10-Meter Platform Diving

**TOKYO:** Chinese teenagers Quan Hongchan and Chen Yuxi have swept the top two spots in women's 10-meter platform diving.

The 14-year-old Quan took gold with 466.20 points and the 15-year-old Chen grabbed silver with 425.40 as China completed a golden sweep of the women's diving events.

Melissa Wu of Australia claimed the bronze medal with 371.40 points.