

# KASHMIR OBSERVER™

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P7 STATE

## CHIEF SECRETARY TAKES STOCK OF WINTER PREPAREDNESS

The Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta on Tuesday chaired a meeting to review the winter preparedness, supply, and stocking of essential commodities across the Kashmir

THINK

## P5 CONTEMPORARY LIFE AND THE POSSIBILITY OF MORAL EXISTENCE

Aristotle had declared that the state existed for the moral perfection of human beings; implying that humans were morally imperfect creatures. Human existence embarks upon different "states of being". A "state of being"



P8 SPORTS

## YSS DEPARTMENT STARTS 15-DAY SKIING TRAINING AT GULMARG

The annual training programme in Skiing organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports (YSS) J&K started at the picturesque Gulmarg here.



## 2 Militants Killed In Kulgam Encounter

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Police on Tuesday claimed to have killed two Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) militants in a firefight in south Kashmir's Kulgam district, taking the number of militants dead in separate encounters during the last 24 hours to four.

Amir Ahmad Wani of Alamgunj Shopian and Sameer Ahmad Khan of Tiken village in Pulwama were killed after a search operation launched by police, army's 9RR and the personnel of CRPF 18 battalion turned into an encounter in Okey village of Kulgam on Tuesday afternoon, a police spokesperson said.

Giving more details of the operation, he said, the joint search operation was launched on a specific input about the presence of militants in Okey village. The hiding militants, he said, fired indiscriminately upon the joint search party when they proceeded towards the suspected spot.

The police spokesperson said that the joint team retaliated to the fire, effectively leading to an encounter. In the exchange of gunfire, the two militants were killed and their bodies were retrieved from the site of the encounter.

As per police records, he said, Amir was a categorized militant linked with LeT, while Sameer had recently joined militancy. Both the killed militants, he said, were part of a group involved in several "terror" crime cases.

"Incriminating materials arms & ammunition including 01 AK-47, 01 pistol were recovered from their **More on P6**

# Alert Sounded After MeT Office Predicts Heavy Snowfall



**SRINAGAR WITNESSED THE SEASON'S FIRST SNOWFALL** on Tuesday even as the weather department has predicted more rain and snow till Jan 9. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The weatherman on Tuesday issued an 'orange alert' as Kashmir Valley, including this capital city, received fresh snowfall leading to closure of

highway and link roads besides disrupting air traffic at the Srinagar 'international' airport.

"As expected, weather is overcast in both J&K with wide-spread light rain/snow and moderate snow over higher

reaches," an official of the MeT office said.

"Present weather is likely to intensify as the day progresses. Expect Moderate Snow/Rain in plains and Heavy Snowfall over higher reaches **More on P6**

## Snowfall, Low Visibility Grounds 42 Flights

Augib Javed

**Srinagar:** As many as 42 flights were cancelled on Tuesday, the very first day of snowfall in Srinagar, leaving hundreds of fliers disappointed at the international airport.

"The flights which were scheduled to operate to and fro Srinagar international airport were cancelled due to poor visibility amid rains and snowfall," Kuldeep Singh, Director Srinagar International Airport told Kashmir Observer.

"The runway has been cleared and the flights are operating now," he added.

Singh further said there if the weather conditions permit, flight operations at the airport will be smooth tomorrow. He said all the passengers whose flights

were cancelled due to bad weather today, will be adjusted tomorrow and the day after.

He said that the Srinagar international airport had all the necessary facilities but due to certain limitations, flights had to be cancelled.

"After all this is an aircraft. Security is more important, rather than operational flight. If the visibility is poor, you can't land the flights," he added.

He further added, except for some days of bad weather, Kashmir witnessed good weather for the operation of flights.

"And for that we have enough facilities," he added.

Meanwhile, the airport management in a post on its official Twitter handle said "The **More on P6**

**6 THE PASSENGERS OF THE CANCELLED flights shall be rescheduled in the next available flight of the concerned airlines. There will be no extra charges for rescheduling. The passengers may also opt for full refund at their convenience."**

**Quote!**  
Widom!  
Leaders can let you fall and yet not let you be a failure  
Stanley McChrystal

## NEWS DIGEST

### Mentally Challenged Man Found Dead

**SRINAGAR:** A mentally challenged man was found dead on Tuesday in Langate area of north Kashmir's Kupwara district. Ghulam Nabi Bhat of Wadipora village of Handwara was found lying lifeless inside a paddy field by some locals on Tuesday morning, reports said. A police team **More on P6**

### Woman Arrested For Theft In Pulwama

**SRINAGAR:** Police on Tuesday claimed to have cracked a burglary case in south Kashmir's Pulwama district by arresting a thief and recovering stolen property worth lakhs from him. According to a police spokesperson, Manzoor Ahmad Dar of Bellow Dargund **More on P6**

### GOC Vishwasrao Meets J&K Bank MD

**SRINAGAR:** The General Officer Commanding (GOC) 31 Sub-Area Major General Sanjay Pratapsingh Vishwasrao on Tuesday met the J&K Bank MD & CEO Baldev Prakash during a courtesy visit to the Bank's Corporate **More on P6**

### Ladakh Reports 65 New Covid Cases

**LEH:** Ladakh has reported 65 new Covid cases, taking the infection tally to 22,289, while the active cases have increased to 249, officials said on Tuesday. The Union Territory has recorded 220 Covid-related deaths -- 162 in Leh and 58 in Kargil -- since the outbreak of the **More on P6**

## BSF Steps Up Vigil On IB Ahead Of Jan 26

Agencies

**NEW DELHI:** Ahead of January 26 celebrations, the Border Security Force (BSF) has intensified patrolling and surveillance in border areas.

A senior BSF officer said that ahead of Republic Day and in winters during thick fog, they strengthen vigil in border areas to prevent infiltration.

"These extensive security measures are in place before any prominent day like Independence Day, Republic Day, and during winters when intruders try to cross the border taking advantage of thick fog," he said.

He said that **More on P6**

## JKP To Get American Assault Rifles, Pistols To Fight Militants

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** Jammu and Kashmir Police personnel will soon get American Sig Sauer assault rifles and pistols to carry out anti-militancy operations, officials said.

The Army has already equipped its personnel guarding the Line of Control (LoC) with Pakistan and Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China with the state-of-the-art rifles.

The Jammu and Kashmir Police is probably the first in the country to get the modern weapons, they said, adding that the force will be procuring 500 Sig Sauer-716 rifles and 100 Sig



Sauer MPX 9mm pistols.

The special operation group (SoG) and personnel deployed for the security of protected people will be **More on P6**

### LG Gets Briefing On Kashmir Situation

**T**he officers of Jammu and Kashmir police on Tuesday apprised the Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha about the overall security scenario as well as strategies chalked out for the year 2022. Sinha on Tuesday had a "general interaction" with police officers at SKICC here, official **More on P6**

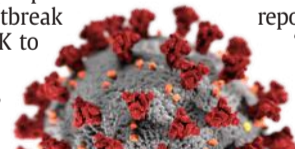
## J&K Logs 199 New Corona Cases

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Jammu and Kashmir continues to see a spike in daily coronavirus cases as nearly 200 people on Tuesday tested positive for the deadly infection while no fresh fatality was reported in the Union Territory during the last 24 hours.

According to the officials, 109 cases of novel coronavirus were reported from Kashmir Valley on Tuesday while the remaining 90 from various districts of Jammu division, taking the total number of people infected since the outbreak of pandemic in J&K to 342001.

In the Valley, officials said,



Srinagar reported the highest 62 new cases of virus, Budgam 14, Kupwara 8, Anantnag, Bandipora and Ganderbal 5 each, Pulwama 4, and three each in Baramulla and Kulgam. Shopian was the only district in the Valley where no fresh cases of virus were detected.

In the winter capital, officials said, Jammu registered a maximum of 58 fresh cases of coronavirus, Poonch 9, Kathua 7, Ramban 4 and three each in Udhampur, Rajouri and Doda, Samba 2 and Kishtwar 1 new case of Covid-19. No cases were reported from Reasi.

"Moreover, 156 Covid-19 patients recovered during **More on P6**



## INTERVIEW



**IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE AGAINST KASHMIRIS.** We want them to prosper. They should be looked after and given equality. Kashmir has its own identity. It's a beautiful place and people are beautiful, hospitable and respectful.'



**I THINK THE LEADERS OF KASHMIR** should also sit in Kashmir and talk about Kashmir only, rather than visiting Pir Panjal, and other parts of Jammu region"

# 'Jammu & Kashmir Should Be Split Into Two States'

"Kashmir Is Still Facing The Heat For The Exodus Of Kashmiri Pandits. We Don't Want An Exodus Of Jammu Muslims."

Augib Javed

**R**eiterating his demand for a separate statehood for each Jammu and Kashmir, former J&K minister Chaudhary Lal Singh advises Kashmiri leaders to talk about the Kashmir valley only, rather than visiting PirPanjal, and other parts of Jammu region.

"All the leaders of the region should think about their own region and focus on how to save its identity," Singh said in an exclusive interview with Kashmir Observer.

Singh's statement came weeks after Kashmir-based politicians wrapped up their Jammu political tour.

"They're eyeing 13 seats in Poonch, Baderwah and other Muslim belts of the Jammu districts because they fell short of the majority in Kashmir," Singh said. "They should be questioned about

their plan to save Kashmir, or Jammu for that matter."

Singh said that although he's fighting for separate Jammu, his party will never align with the people who talk about a particular religion. "They want to create a wedge between Hindus and Muslims for their own electoral benefits," he said.

"Kashmir is still facing the heat for the exodus of Kashmiri Pandits. We don't want an exodus of Jammu Muslims. I would never do it."

Following are the edited excerpts of the long interview with the former forest minister on the warpath to carve out separate Jammu from the already downgraded region.

**Some new political parties in Jammu are demanding a separate state for Jammu and are talking of**

**disempowering Kashmir. What is your take on it?**

See, whosoever is demanding a separate Jammu and a UT within UT in Kashmir is wrong.

I think both Kashmir and Jammu should be separated and the statehood of both regions should be restored.

I'm in that favour.

Why would Jammu get statehood only, why not Kashmir? If Ladakh is demanding statehood, we both should also demand statehood and make our identities and prosper.

I wouldn't endorse UT status for Kashmir.

**But why this demand suddenly? Why do you want to bifurcate the already downgraded region?**

See, there's a difference in our identity and as we are witnessing, our identities are fading. They [BJP] are diluting it.

And if they're diluting it, how can we save it? Well, we can tell people of Jammu to fight for their statehood and Kashmiris to fight for their statehood. And if anyone needs help, we can discuss.

Now if anyone is saying keep them a UT and disempower them, I'm against it. It should never happen.

**But why are some political parties from Jammu against Kashmiris?**

It's not like we're against Kashmiris. We want them to prosper. They should be looked after and given equality. Kashmir has its own identity. It's a beautiful place and people are beautiful, hospitable and respectful.

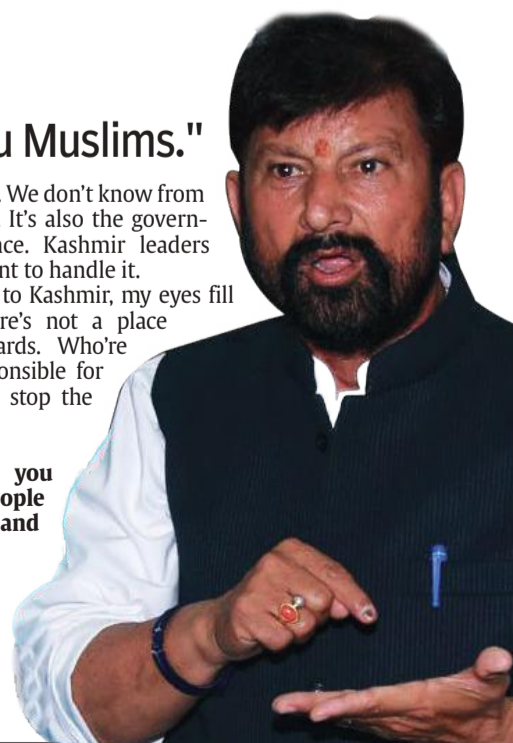
But yes, it's unfortunate that militancy

has grown there. We don't know from where and how. It's also the government's negligence. Kashmir leaders were incompetent to handle it.

When I come to Kashmir, my eyes fill with tears. There's not a place without graveyards. Who're the people responsible for it? It is time to stop the bloodshed.

**But aren't you dividing people of Kashmir and Jammu?**

See, whatever suits Kashmir, they should talk about it, **More on P6**



**GILKAR FAMILY BEREAVED**



With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of Ghulam Rasool Gilkar, R/o H. No: 17, Hamza Colony, Bemina, Opposite Women Polytechnic Bemina, Srinagar, J&K who left for heavenly abode on January 04, 2022 (1 Jumada II, 1443 AH). May Almighty Allah bless the departed soul with Jannah (Ameen).

It is also informed that the mourning will be observed for three days only.

We request all to pray for eternal peace to the deceased and endurance to the family to bear this irreparable loss.

**Bereaved family**  
7006861331

X

**OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR NOTICE**

Where a application for transfer of ownership has been recieved from one. Shri : Bashir Ahmad Dar S/o: Haji Gh Ahmad Dar R/o: Nasrullapora Budgam (Transferor) of LMV Endeavour Vehicle bearing registration number JK04E - 0010. Chasis number 26669 Engine no. 26669 Model 2010. in favour of Shri.. Zeeshan Hussain Rather S/o. Ali Mohammad Rather R/o Dandosa Budgam (Transferee)

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed transfer of ownership shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport officer ARTO Budgam within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper.

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.5460  
Dated 04/01/2022

Assistant Regional Transport officer  
Budgam Kashmir

**OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR NOTICE**

Where a application for transfer of ownership has been recieved from one. Shri : Syed Idrees Amin Qadri S/o: Syed Mohammad Qadri R/o: Ompora Budgam (Transferor) of LMV Swift. Vehicle bearing registration number JK04B-7860. Chasis number 37944 Engine no. 235011 Model 2012. in favour of Shri.. Sajad Hussain Khan S/o. Mohammad Jaffar Khan R/o Dadina Budgam (Transferee) as well as HPA cancellation with M/S J & K Bank B/U Budgam.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed transfer of ownership shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport officer ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper.

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.5458  
Dated 04/01/2022

Assistant Regional Transport officer  
Budgam Kashmir

**Office of the Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Shopian**

**NOTICE**

Whereas joint application has been received by this office from Mr./Mrs Rafiq Ah Shah S/O Gulam Hassan Shah R/O Shaban Shah Mohalla (Party No 1st) as Transferor, (seller) owner of the vehicle Bearing Regd. No. JK22- 9245 (Commercial/ Non Commercial ) covering under R/P NO: ----- And Mr./ Mrs Mohd Iqbal Bhat S/O Ab Gani Bhat R/o Druss Pulwama (Parti No 2nd ) as Transferee (purchaser) requesting for transfer of R/C & R/P of the above noted vehicle from party No. 1st to 2nd and cancellation of hire purchase agreement with ...

Before the case is disposed off on its merits, any body having objection regarding the proposed transfer may file his objection within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice to the office of the undersigned

No any representation/ objection shall be entertained after stipulated period.

No : ARTO/Spn/1106  
Dated 01-01-2022

S/D Asst Regional  
Transport Officer Shopian

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# Study Examines Best Time To Make Your Investment Decisions

**Agencies**

A new study has found that if you are a night owl, making your investment decisions first thing in the morning might be a bad idea.

The research has been published in the 'Journal of Business Venturing'.

The study showed time-based factors, like time of day and whether you're a morning or evening person, can influence investment decisions and your ability to evaluate whether a startup will be successful.

"Early-stage investments -- when not a lot is typically known about a company and the time to make a decision is compressed -- can be risky with high failure rates," said Jeff Gish, assistant professor of management at UCF and a co-author of the story.

"Trying to pick a winner is difficult enough under those circumstances, but we've also learned that when you make those decisions can have a significant impact on whether they turn out to be successful," he added.

Individuals have an internal clock called circadian rhythm that regulates our alertness and awake-sleep cycles. In general, individuals tend to fall into three general types with respect to what time of day they are more awake and alert in a 24-hour cycle. Those with a circadian process shifted earlier in the day are known as larks, while owls are more alert later in the day. The third group of individuals is the intermediate.

"What we found was when individuals evaluated an investment opportunity at a time that conflicted with their body's natural internal clock -- for example, a morning person or lark making a decision late in the day or evening -- they tended to make poor



**Trying to pick a winner is difficult enough under those circumstances, but we've also learned that when you make those decisions can have a significant impact on whether they turn out to be**

choices," said Cristiano Guarana, assistant professor of management and entrepreneurship at the IU Kelley School of Business and a co-author.

"This tension may not be recognized by those making the investment decision and over time could result in substantial losses for people who, on average, possess much less investment knowledge than angel investors and venture capitalists," Guarana added.

Gish and Guarana each have studied how lack of sleep affects cognitive skills needed to be successful in evaluating ideas and making business decisions. Gish has founded multiple businesses and now invests in others' entrepreneurial ventures.

The three-part study looked at early-stage investment decisions via equity crowdfunding where non-professional investors can invest a relatively small amount for an ownership stake in a startup. Study participants

were recruited from social media accounts for active followers of several leading equity crowdfunding platforms in the U.S. -- such as Wefunder, Fundable, and EquityNet -- and surveyed about whether they were a morning versus an evening person, their investment experience and time zone information.

Participants were then asked to complete a decision-making task at an assigned time; for example, if they had had \$1,000 to invest, how much would they allocate to certain companies? The companies being evaluated were based on actual investment opportunities, including several desirable opportunities that had performed well and several undesirable opportunities that had performed poorly. Participants also were asked to report their sleep quantity and crowdfunding experience.

The study showed that owl investors invested more than lark investors in an unsuccessful venture in the morning, while lark investors invested more than owl investors in an unsuccessful venture in the evening. The same types of errors occur, in the opposite direction, with successful ventures.

With sites StartEngine, Microventures and others making it easier than ever for amateur investors to jump into equity crowdfunding with the click of a button, determining when you are best equipped to make those decisions could impact your wallet.

"Prospective equity crowdfunding investors, who may be making decisions before or after their normal daily work schedule, should be cognizant of the time they select to make investment choices. These investors would do well to match their lark or owl tendencies with the timing of their investment decisions," Gish said.

## Public Notice

I have applied for fertilizer license .If anybody having any objection in this regard He/She May contact office of the Chief Agriculture officer Anantnag within the period of 7 days .After that no objection will be entertained.

**NAME :- Mohd Lateef Itoo**

**S/o: Gh. Mohd Itoo**

**rna**

**R/o: Sandoo Achabal Anantnag**

**انتقال پر ملال**

محکمہ اطلاعات و رابطہ عامہ  
محکمہ زمین تینا تینا تینا تینا تینا  
افسر علی محمد خٹ (ریٹائرڈ) ولد محمد اسماعیل  
خٹ ات دہائے قلم سے طویل حالت  
کے بعد برکاتی 3 جنوری بروز سوموار  
انقلاب کوکے (انقلابی انقلابی) میں  
گھر ان باؤت نمبر 232 در بڑھ پورہ سرنگر میں تین دن تک تفریت  
پرک جات رہے ت اور کوٹ چدم تیت ہوگا  
سوگوار -  
فوت نمبر: 7006319038

از نیابت وند یوگام با اجلاس سعید فیاض احمد نایب تحصیلدار وند یوگام درخواست منجانب:۔ نذیر احمد گوجر سردان ولد عبد الرشید ساکنہ د یوگام بغرض حصول:۔ ST سر فقیٹ۔

اشترا برادر آگاہی بر خاص و  
عام۔  
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول ST سر فقیٹ دفتر بذمیں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹاری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکن کا کنبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

نمبر شمار	نام و ولدیت
1	نذیر احمد ولد عبد الرشید مزدوری
2	سکندر زید نذیر احمد گھریلو کام
3	محمد عمر ولد نذیر احمد زیتیم
4	محمد عثمان ولد نذیر احمد زیتیم
5	عکس جان دختر نذیر احمد شیر خور

اس طور پر ساکن کا کنبہ 05 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ لہذا سر فقیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہوگا وہ اپنا اعتراض ایک ہفتہ کے اندر دوران دفتری اوقات میں اپنا اعتراض پیش کرے۔ معیا وگرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

RNA نایب تحصیلدار۔

از نیابت وند یوگام با اجلاس سعید فیاض احمد نایب تحصیلدار وند یوگام درخواست منجانب:۔ عذیر احمد و آرا اولان فیاض احمد اخون ساکنہ د یوگام بغرض حصول بیک واراڈ RBAN سر فقیٹ۔

اشترا برادر آگاہی بر خاص و عام۔  
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول بیک واراڈ ریا سر فقیٹ دفتر بذمیں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹاری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکن کا کنبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

نمبر شمار	نام و ولدیت
۱۔	فیاض احمد ولد عبد الحمید اخون مزدوری
۲۔	سلیمہ زید فیاض احمد اخون گھریلو کام
۳۔	آرا دختر فیاض احمد اخون زیتیم
۴۔	عذیر احمد ولد فیاض احمد اخون زیتیم

ساکنان کا کنبہ 04 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ لہذا سر فقیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہوگا وہ اپنا اعتراض ایک ہفتہ کے اندر دوران دفتری اوقات میں اپنا اعتراض پیش کرے۔ معیا وگرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

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از نیابت وند یوگام با اجلاس سعید فیاض احمد نایب تحصیلدار وند یوگام درخواست منجانب:۔ عبد الرشید گوجر سردان ولد حسن گوجر سردان وند زید عبد الرشید سردان ساکنہ د یوگام بغرض حصول:۔ ST سر فقیٹ۔

اشترا برادر آگاہی بر خاص و عام۔  
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول ST سر فقیٹ دفتر بذمیں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹاری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکن کا کنبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

نمبر شمار	نام و ولدیت
1	عبد الرشید ولد حسن سردان مزدوری
2	ریشہ زید عبد الرشید گھریلو کام
3	نصرت جان دختر عبد الرشید گوجر سردان گھریلو کام
4	رقیہ جان دختر عبد الرشید گوجر سردان گھریلو کام

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RNA نایب تحصیلدار۔

از نیابت وند یوگام با اجلاس ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ وند یوگام ساکنہ د یوگام درخواست منجانب:۔ مدثر احمد گوجر کھٹانہ ولد عبد الحمید گوجر کھٹانہ ساکنہ د یوگام بغرض حصول ST سر فقیٹ۔

اشترا برادر آگاہی بر خاص و عام۔  
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول ST سر فقیٹ دفتر بذمیں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹاری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکن کا کنبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

نمبر شمار	نام و ولدیت	عمر	پیشہ	آمدنی
1	عبد الحمید ولد عبد الرحیم گوجر	49 سال	مزدوری	=/3000
2	نصیرہ زید عبد الحمید	45 سال	گھریلو کام	
3	مدثر احمد ولد عبد الحمید	32 سال	مزدوری	=/2000
4	شازیدہ زید مدثر احمد	30 سال	گھریلو کام	
5	پرویز احمد ولد عبد الحمید	28 سال	مزدوری	=/2000
6	سمیرہ زید پرویز احمد	26 سال	گھریلو کام	
7	عماد ولد پرویز احمد	01 سال	شیر خور	

اس طور پر ساکن کا کنبہ 07 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ لہذا سر فقیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہوگا وہ اپنا اعتراض ایک ہفتہ کے اندر دوران دفتری اوقات میں اپنا اعتراض پیش کرے۔ معیا وگرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

RNA نایب تحصیلدار۔

از نیابت وند یوگام با اجلاس سعید فیاض احمد نایب تحصیلدار وند یوگام درخواست منجانب:۔ مشتاق احمد گوجر کھٹانہ ولد حبیب ساکنہ د یوگام بغرض حصول:۔ ST سر فقیٹ۔

اشترا برادر آگاہی بر خاص و عام۔  
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول ST سر فقیٹ دفتر بذمیں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹاری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکن کا کنبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

نمبر شمار	نام و ولدیت	رشتہ برادر	پیشہ	عمر
01	شیرادہ اختر	بیوہ چاچا	دھندہ	54 سال
02	عادل احمد	شاہ ولد چاچا	پسر	26 سال
03	خوشبو جان دختر	چاچا	دختر	25 سال

اسکے علاوہ 04 کوئی افراد کنبہ میں موجود ہیں۔ لہذا سر فقیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی کو کوئی اعتراض ہوگا وہ ایک ہفتہ کے اندر دوران دفتری اوقات میں اپنا اعتراض پیش کرے۔ معیا وگرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

RNA (تحرا الصدر ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ وند یوگام)

از نیابت وند یوگام با اجلاس ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ وند یوگام ساکنہ د یوگام درخواست منجانب:۔ محمد اختر کاس ولد میاں کاس ساکنہ د یوگام (شانارڈ) بغرض حصول ST سر فقیٹ۔

اشترا برادر آگاہی بر خاص و عام۔  
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول ST سر فقیٹ دفتر بذمیں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹاری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکن کا کنبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

نمبر شمار	نام و ولدیت	عمر	پیشہ	آمدنی
1	محمد اختر	کاس ولد میاں کاس	مزدوری	=/6000
2	نبی بی بی پرویزہ	محمد اختر	35 سال	گھریلو کام
3	رفعت جان دختر	محمد اختر	05 سال	زیتیم
4	عمران ولد	محمد اختر کاس	01 سال	زیتیم

اس طور پر ساکن کا کنبہ 04 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ لہذا سر فقیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہوگا وہ اپنا اعتراض ایک ہفتہ کے اندر دوران دفتری اوقات میں اپنا اعتراض پیش کرے۔ معیا وگرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

RNA نایب تحصیلدار۔



## “Admin should keep men, machinery ready to tackle with snowfall”

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference has asked the administration to remain wide-awake following the meteorological department's forecast for snowfall in coming days.

Party General Secretary Ali Muhammad Sagar in a statement released from the party headquarters Nawa-e-Subh, asked the divisional administration of both the provinces to ensure that people do not suffer due to blockade of major or minor arterials post snow accumulation.

“Last winter the administration was caught napping following heavy snowfall. I hope the concerned departments have learnt lessons from the previous year. Now that we are expecting a snow spell, it is expected that the clearing departments/agencies viz Roads and Buildings, PMGSY, MED, BRO, NHA will keep their men and machinery ready to face emergencies,” he added.

He said that the concerned agencies invested with duty of Sanitation in Srinagar city, towns and district headquarters across Kashmir, and Jammu province, should also explore the possibility of employing manual laborers to undertake massive snow clearance of inner lanes as well.

## Death Of Newborn At LD Hospital

# Take Strict Measures To Stop Such Incidents: Govt To Officials

Observer news service

SRINAGAR :- On the directions of the Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad, the Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Dr. Syed Hanief Balkhi today visited Lal Ded Maternity Hospital to have first hand appraisal of the incident that took place at Lal Ded Memorial Hospital in which a newborn baby died due to the delay in the treatment caused by the private security personnel posted at the hospital's labour room,



Terming the incident a shameful one, the Additional Deputy Commissioner ex-

pressed his condolence with the bereaved family of the deceased newborn.

While interacting with the Hospital authorities, the ADC stressed on taking strict measures to ensure such shameful incidents do not happen in future at the hospital. He emphasized on providing better patient care facilities in the hospital so that patients and their attendants as well do not face any such kind of illegal practice.

The ADC also interacted with the security personnel on duty and asked them to refrain from such practises otherwise be ready to face action as warranted under law.

## Inclement Weather

# SMC Reviews Snow Preparedness Arrangement

Observer News Service

Srinagar:- An extensive snow clearance review meeting was conducted on Tuesday under the Chairmanship of Commissioner SMC Athar Amir Khan here at Central Office SMC, Karan Nagar.

According to a statement, the SMC Commissioner held meetings with various senior Officers of the Corporation to review preparedness for snow clearance and dewatering exercise in the city in view of fresh snowfall. He at the outset of the meeting passed on clear cut directions that there should be no impediment in the snow clearance program in the city .

“A strategic plan was made for deploying snow clearance vehicles/ tractors in all the wards during the course of the meeting,” the statement reads.

SMC Commissioner further said all these vehicles / tractors including other snow clearance machines should be in a complete state of readiness with its deployment at earliest in all the 74 electoral wards.

He directed the concern that there has to be quick and swift removal of snow from the main stretches from all the areas and roads leading to vital destinations including Hospitals, Ration Depots, Institutions and offices without any delay and not to wait for snow to accumulate.

During the meeting Athar passed on directions that the snow monitoring committee/ Snow clearance help line shall be active 24x 7 to ensure snow clearance from all the city lanes , worship places , Hospitals , Roads , important institutions etc by putting men and machinery on job so that no resident faces any inconvenience due to snow accumulation.

They shall be fully responsive to the public calls , grievances and complaints for quick redressal of the same.

He said the immediate priority is to ensure all roads leading to hospitals and religious places, including shrines and gurdwaras, have to be cleared for hassle free movement of public and traffic in case of snow fall.

While taking review of dewatering exercise in the city he gave clear cut directions to the concerned to make fully functional 85 Permanent dewatering stations besides the services of all the mobile pumps shall be utilised / deputed to cater to water logging issues in different areas in the city.

## Police establish emergency helpline service

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In view of the inclement weather, Srinagar police on Tuesday established an emergency helpline service to facilitate the general public.

According to a statement, Srinagar Police established an emergency helpline Service to facilitate the general public to seek help during an emergency arising due to inclement weather, rain or snowfall.

It reads that in case of any emergency the general public can contact on below mentioned numbers 24x7.

1. SSP Srinagar 9596770502, 2. SP (HQ) 9596770503, 3. DySP (HQ) 9596770518, 4. DySP DAR 9596770534

\*ZONE:CITY SOUTH\*

5. SP South 9596770504, 6. SDPO Sadder 9596770511, 7. SDPO Shaheed Gunj 9596770510, 8. SHO PS Batamalo 9596770526, 9. SHO PS Shergari 9596770525, 10. SHO PS Rajbagh 9596770524, 11. SHO PS Sadder 9596770523, 12. SHO PS Shaheed Gunj 9596770746, 13. SHO PS Karanagar 9596770527, 14. Incharge PP Chanapora 9596770529, 15. Incharge PP Rangreth 9596770536

\*ZONE:CITY EAST\*

16. SP East 9596770507, 17. SDPO Nehru Park 9596770513, 18. SDPO Kothibagh 9596770514, 19. SHO PS Kothibagh 9596770623, 20. SHO PS Maisuma 9596770628, 21. SHO PS Kralkhud 9596770627, 22. SHO PS RM Bagh 9596770624, 23. SHO PS Nishat 9596770625, 24. SHO PS Harwan 9596770626, 25. Incharge PP Nehrupark 9596770629

\*ZONE:CITY WEST\*

26. SP West 9596770505, 27. SDPO West 9596770512, 28. SDPO Panthachowk 9596770734, 29. SHO PS Nowgam 9596770559, 30. SHO PS Parimpora 9596770558, 31. SHO PS Panthachowk 9596770560, 32. Incharge PP Bemina 9596770561, 33. Incharge PP Qamarwari 9596770562

## Ecological Club of NIT Organises Poetry Recitation Competition

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Ecological Club (EcoCult.) of National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar Tuesday organized a virtual poetry competition titled 'Poetry Slam', in which various issues related to the environment were discussed and highlighted by the participants

The theme of the event was “Environmental issues faced in the modern era” highlighting global warming, which is the greatest environmental threat that people have ever faced.

Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal said the only way to preserve the environment and its beauty is by reducing consumption, re-using materialistic goods, and recycling our unwanted goods.

“Climate change can be solved by switching to renewable energy generation, promoting the development of eco-friendly things, and upgrading infrastructure,” he said.

Prof Sehgal also appreciated the organizers for conducting such events. Such initiatives are aimed to provide a stress-free atmosphere on the campus, he said.

Prof. Sehgal also shared some of his life experiences and narrated his deep interest in poetry.

In his message, Registrar NIT, Prof. Kaiser Bukhari appreciated the organizers of the daylong event. He said the primary aim event was to aware students about prevailing environmental challenges and their possible solutions.

On the occasion, Prof. (Dr.) Mushtaq Ahmad Rather, who is the Chairman of EcoCult, the Ecological Club of the National Institute of Technology. He appreciated the students and stated that such events will be conducted in the future also.

The participants were judged by noted writer, star-gazer, and poet Ms. Shilpa, who was the Chief Guest of the event. She also shared her

journey and how she became a writer.

Ms. Shilpa also mentioned about her debut book “Love, Feel, Pain, Heal”. She said that a poem or any kind of write-up will always help the person to feed his/her soul.

From several entries for the competition, the top 5 poems were selected for the event. Qazi Adnan bagged the first position and won the competition. Kamran Elyas became the first runner-up, and Nadeem Hamid became the second runner-up.

The event was hosted by Reet Patel and Gopika Mahajan and was coordinated by Ishika Gupta and Naqshab Agnihotri, and the committee members of EcoCult.

On the occasion, Prof. (Dr.) MA Rather congratulated the winners and all the participants. He said Eco Cult. has been conducting such events and for the past several years. We will continue holding such events in the future also, he said.

## Know your Kashmir Hand-knotted Carpet Authentication Geographical indication (GI) Label



### ➤ Covert Information

- 100% genuine (To be visible under UV Light)
- GI Certified (To be visible under UV Light)
- Nano Particles (To be visible under IR)
- Alphanumeric code for verification of details of Carpet on [www.iictsrinagarcarpets-gi.org](http://www.iictsrinagarcarpets-gi.org)

### ➤ Overt Information

- Kashmiri Handknotted Carpet
- Registered under Geographical Indication of Goods Act,1999
- 100% Handmade
- Certified Genuine

### ➤ QR Code Information

(Can be viewed after scanning of QR Code)

1. Authorized GI User
2. Name of the Weaver
3. Area/District
4. Size of Carpet
5. Knots per Square Inch
6. Type of Yarn
7. Pile Height
8. No. of Colors Used
9. Rubbing fastness to Dry/wet
10. Overall Quality of Carpet

### Note:

OnlyGI Authorized Users can use above label after testing of their carpet at **Indian Institute of Carpet Technology (IICT) , Srinagar, J&K.**

- ❖ All Carpet Weavers, Manufacturers and Exporters may immediately apply for Registration as Authorized Users in the office of Geographical Indication Registry, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, through **Meeras Carpet Weavers Industrial Cooperative Limited**(Registered Proprietor of GI), to be contacted on [9906568548](http://9906568548) / [meerascarpetgi@gmail.com](mailto:meerascarpetgi@gmail.com).

DIPK-NB-6307/21

## NOTICE

I have lost my Registration certificate (RC) Fitness and Permit of vehicle Tipper under Registration No JK01AH - 1970

Now I have applied for duplicate Registration Certificate (RC) Permit and Fitness If anybody having any objection may file the RTO Srinagar within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

After 7 days no any objection have been accepted. Besides the original RC , Permit and Fitness be treated as cancelled.

**Muzaffar Ahmad Khan S/O :- Abdul Hamid Khan**  
**R/O :- Naibasti Anantnag A/P :- Natipora Srinagar**  
**Contact :- 9018888009**

pko

## OBITUARY



With great sorrow, it is informed that Jenab Peer Qamar-ud-din Shah of Keeri Shahabad, District Anantnag passed away peacefully on December 29, 2021. The deceased was buried in his ancestral graveyard at Lasba Pora, Keeri Shahabad.

**Bereaved**  
**Shah Family**  
**Khawaja Family**  
**Paddar Family**

mfs

### از نیابت کنزور

مضمون درخواست گوار احمد ولد عبدالرحمان ملہ ساکنہ ملگام برادر عطا گنجی

DOB certificate

استشہار برادر آگاہی ہر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں دفتر ہذا کو ایک درخواست بابت حصول تاریخ پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ موصول ہوئی ہیں۔ پولیس سٹیشن کنزور پوچیدار علاقہ نے سائل کے دفتر کی پیدائش اندراج نہیں کی ہے سائل گوار احمد ولد عبدالرحمان ملہ بیان کرتا ہے کہ اس کی دفتر افسی گوار کی تاریخ پیدائش 29-09-202 کو ہوئی ہے۔ اس نسبت ہر خاص و عام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہی ہم کے اندر پیش کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار کنزور

az k r

### DIAL-EMMA

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,245222,2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
- Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

### AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



### RAILWAYS

- SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259
- ANANTNAG: 01932-228243
- BARAMULLA: 0194-102029
- BUBHERA: 01932-228243
- PAMPORE: 01933-294132
- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

### HIGHWAY STATUS

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



**HIJRI**  
**CALENDAR**  
01 Jumada al-Sani  
1443

## PRAYERS

FAJR	6: 08
ZUHR	12:35
ASR	3:57
Magrib	5:39
ISHA	7: 04

## This Day In History

- 1477 - Battle of Nancy, Burgundy vs Switzerland, 7000 + killed including their leader Charles Duke of Burgundy
- 1809 - Treaty of Dardanelles concluded between Britain & France1892 1st successful auroral photograph made
- 1861 - Alabama troops seize Forts Morgan & Gaines at Mobile Bay1909 - Colombia recognizes Panama's independence
- 1941 - British Australian troops conquer Bardia, Libya
- 1943 - Teams agrees to start season later due to WW II
- 1944 - The Daily Mail becomes the first transoceanic newspaper.
- 1949 - General Spoor orders cease-fire on Sumatra.
- 1952 - British Prime Minister Winston Churchill makes an official visit to the US.
- 1957 - US President Eisenhower asks Congress to send troops to the Mid East.
- 1964 - Pope Paul VI visits Jordan & Israel.
- 1969 - USSR Venera 5 launched for 1st successful planet landing (Venus).
- 1971 - 1st one-day international, Australia v England at the MCG.
- 1972 - President of Bangladesh Sheikh Mujibur Rahman freed by the newly elected President of Pakistan Zulfikar Ali Bhutto
- Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.
- 1973 - Mali & Niger break diplomatic relations with Israel
- 1975 - Salyut 4 with crew of 2 is launched for 30 days.
- 1976 - In retaliation for the Reavey and O'Dowd killings, the South Armagh Republican Action Force shoot dead 10 Protestant civilians after stopping their minibus in County Armagh.
- 1978 - Bülent Ecevit becomes Prime Minister of Turkey for the 3rd time.
- 1985 - Discovery moves to launch pad for STS 51-C mission.
- 1985 - Thousands of Jewish refugees are airlifted from Sudan to Israel.
- 1989 - 2 French TV newsmen arrested for trying to plant fake bombs on 3 airlines at JFK airport in security test.
- 1995 - Lockheed C-140 Jetstar crashes at Isfahan, Iran, killing 18.
- 1996 - Hamas operative Yahya Ayyash is killed by an Israeli-planted booby-trapped cell phone.
- 2001 A report reveals that former General Practionier Harold Shipman has potentially killed hundreds of patients
- 2005 - Eris, the largest known dwarf planet in the solar system, is discovered by the team of Michael E. Brown, Chad Trujillo, and David L. Rabinowitz using images originally taken on October 21, 2003, at the Palomar Observatory.
- 2016 - First batsman to ever score 1000 runs in a single innings in cricket - 15 year-old Mumbai schoolboy Pranav Dhanawade is 1009 not out.

## From KO Archives

## Cops produce youth in court after his Fateha Khawani

Srinagar - A Kupwara youth 'missing' in police custody for the past two years and presumed dead by his family, was produced in the court last month by personnel of Soura police station after persistent efforts by the valley-based civil rights body, Human Rights Front (HRF) and the intervention of the National Human Rights Commission. All this while police had been denying they had the youth in their custody and the family had performed the Fateha Khawani as well as observed his death anniversary.

Muhammad Jamal Sheikh, of Panjar, Trihgama had been picked up during a Joint raid by Soura and the 100th battalion BSF from Batmaloo stand where he earned a living as a cart-puller.

HRF chairman Mohammad Ahsan Untoo had brought the custodial disappearance to the notice of the State Human Rights Commission, but both had drawn a blank with the police who continued to deny holding him.

It was only after Untoo took the matter to the NHRC and the commission issued a notice to the state police chief and the union defence ministry, that con from Soura police station produced Jamal in a Srinagar court on December 24, with a charge, reported fictitious, under the Indian Arms Act slapped against him.

Five day later, he was sent to Jail for a further 1d months under the Public Safety Act.

After his arrest two years ago, he had reportedly been subjected to severe physical and mental torture by a team of 'interrogators' led by the then SHO of the Soura police station, Abdul Rasheed Khan. It is pertinent to mention here that the SHO Rashid Khan wanted in a triple murder case is absconding for over an year now. Reportedly, at-tempts had also been made to liquidate Jamal in custody. (NAFA)

(KASHMIR OBSERVER, 05 January, 2001)

KASHMIR  
OBSERVER

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K O V I E W

Beware Of Omicron Wave

India on Monday recorded a sharp surge in its daily Covid-19 cases. A total of 33,750 fresh reported were reported, among them 175 fresh Omicron cases taking their caseload to 1,700. Also, India's daily positivity rate has jumped to 3.84 percent. According to the data by the Union ministry of health, India's cumulative Covid-19 caseload has jumped to 34,922,882 so far.

The rising cases has caused some alarm, especially in poll-bound states. The Election Commission of India has written to the chief secretaries of five poll-bound states, asking them to accelerate the pace of Covid-19 vaccination. Elections are scheduled to be held in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Goa and Manipur this year. There is already some feeble talk of deferring polls, at least in a populous state like Uttar Pradesh if the growing infections lead to a third wave.

However, it is not only India where the advent of Omicron has forced the government to take urgent pre-emptive measures. Ever since the detection of the virus in South Africa, the virus strain has triggered a worldwide alarm. First to be spooked were the global markets which went into a tailspin - albeit, they have since recovered after there was some reassuring news that the impact of the new variant is still under control. But the preliminary findings about the virus have revealed that it is highly transmissible and could cause havoc if no Standard Operating Procedures are followed. England is the first country that acknowledged the enormity of the challenge. In a televised statement, the British prime minister Boris Johnson warned that his country could be staring at 75,000 deaths by April with 'tidal wave' of Omicron. Britain has launched an ambitious Covid booster shot program to stop the virus' spread. Britain is also the first country to officially announce death from the virus mutation. Omicron has accounted for about 40 percent of the cases in London, and hospital admissions are rising.

On the other hand, according to World Health Organization the Omicron coronavirus variant is more transmissible than the Delta strain and reduces vaccine efficacy. The WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus has warned of a "Tsunami of cases." The mutant, however, is said to cause less severe symptoms according to early data. The WHO has also warned that Omicron is now present in 63 countries and can become dominant in Europe soon. However, all is still not known about the virus. The understanding about it is still evolving. On a positive note, hospitalizations have been less. Here's hoping that the challenge from the new virus mutant blows over soon.

OTHER OPINION

Fair And Safe?

All indications are that elections to five State Assemblies — Goa, Manipur, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Punjab — will be held on time, regardless of the rising new wave of COVID-19. The three-member Election Commission of India (ECI) has visited four States over the past weeks to assess the preparedness, which is usually one of the last steps before the announcement of the poll schedule. Its visit to Manipur is expected soon. Conducting an election in normal times is one thing, but doing so in the midst of a pandemic is quite another. On the ECI's visit to U.P. last week, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sushil Chandra said that all parties wanted the polls to be on schedule. He said the ECI would look into the enforcement of COVID-appropriate behaviour in campaigning and voting after the schedule is announced. Once the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) is in force, the ECI's COVID-related restrictions, first drawn up in August 2020 ahead of the Bihar Assembly elections, will also be in play. The rules include mandatory wearing of masks during the whole election process, from campaigning to casting of votes, holding rallies in identified grounds with social distancing measures in place, and reducing the number of people allowed in roadshows. In the wake of the second wave of the pandemic in April 2021, the ECI put in place more measures such as a longer silence period before polling, reducing the time for campaigning.

Going by the spree of inaugurations and groundbreaking ceremonies for government projects by the Prime Minister, Chief Ministers and Ministers, the election season has already begun. On January 2, the Prime Minister laid the foundation for the Major Dhyani Chand Sports University in Meerut, with a large, mostly mask-less crowd in attendance. Huge gatherings organised by all parties are taking place in the poll-bound States. Official events are being turned into campaign opportunities by those in power, raising a different question of propriety. The MCC imposes special restrictions on the party in power, which, it says, "shall ensure that no cause is given for any complaint that it has used its official position for the purposes of its election campaign". Till the announcement of polls, however, it is only a question of decency and propriety of those in power. The lines between a political party's rally and a government function continue to blur, to the advantage of the BJP in most cases. Once the poll schedule is announced, the burden will be on the ECI to be fair, and seen to be fair. In the last round of elections, its conduct was questioned on various valid grounds. The ECI must take political parties into confidence and ensure an environment conducive to a fair election process that also limits public health risks.

The Hindu

# What 2022 Could Hold For India

Expect Credit Growth To Improve Even As Inflation Normalises At A Balanced Level



WE EXPECT CREDIT GROWTH to inch into double digits next year and remain in that range for the near future.

Rashesh Shah

THE KIND OF KNEE-JERK inflationary trends we saw in 2021, especially in some global commodities, should rationalise, though they are not completely going away any time soon. Global inflation is expected to be in the 2-3% range, unlike the historical levels of sub-2%. The same would reflect in India as well

What would make for a truly happy 2022 for India is the onset of some new long-term trends and the sunset of some existing ones. We hope that this near year brings for us the end of the pandemic, normalisation of inflation after a volatile 2021, soft landing on liquidity easing without any hiccups, return of credit growth, and geo-political de-risking and easing of hostilities. Clearly, the biggest worry in 2022 relates to Omicron. However, there are two factors which make us optimistic of what this holds for the future.

One, Omicron has been found to be much less severe than earlier variants, evident from the much lower hospitalisation and death counts. Two, being more transmissible, Omicron is quickly becoming the dominant variant, leading to milder overall effects of Covid. Therefore, while it is difficult to predict the whens and hows, it looks likely that this could be the last strain of concern.

We are hopeful that the new year will also be the last time we are faced with so much uncertainty and suffering. The transition of Covid to a regular, seasonal issue with mild symptoms could be a major turning point. In the meanwhile, the government continues to be proactive in managing the impact with the vaccine availability for children as well as introduction of booster shots for vulnerable sections.

We must undertake all necessary precautions to minimise spread. Next is the issue of inflation. There has been widespread debate on whether it is transient or will sustain; 2022 would provide a clear answer: Another year of sustained inflationary trends can't be termed merely transitory. It is quite likely that inflation is here to stay. However, it is also likely that these inflationary trends would be more muted in FY22 compared to FY21.

The kind of knee-jerk inflationary trends we saw in 2021, especially in some global commodities, should rationalise, though they are not completely going away any time soon. Global inflation is expected to be in the 2-3% range, unlike the historical levels of sub-2%.

A DIRECT CONSEQUENCE OF THIS higher inflation would be a reversal of easy liquidity we have seen since the onset of the pandemic. We are already seeing some hawkishness in the central bank's commentary. As inflation becomes even more pronounced, we can expect to see a turnaround in the low-interest -rate scenario, with rate hikes across key economies. India is better placed for such a scenario than many other economies.

The same would reflect in India as well, with inflation higher than the long-term target of 4%. Hence, while inflation might continue, we should see the trends stabilise at a balanced level.

A direct consequence of this higher inflation would be a reversal of easy liquidity we have seen since the onset of the pandemic. We are already seeing some hawkishness in the central bank's commentary. As inflation becomes even more pronounced, we can expect to see a turnaround in the low-interest -rate scenario, with rate hikes across key economies. India is better placed for such a scenario than many other economies.

While there will be short-term reactions, the very fact that our response to the pandemic was well thought-out and not predicated on unleashing a torrent of liquidity through government borrowing means a rise in global rates will see a comparatively milder long-term impact on our economic success. A soft landing following liquidity withdrawal would be a key transition point to continue on our recent growth trajectory.

Another key trend to watch would be credit growth. Credit growth, over the last couple of years, has been languishing in the mid-single digits. This has been due to multiple factors: overall sluggishness in the economy, pandemic-induced weakness, legacy asset quality issues, amongst others. However, as growth picks up and legacy issues like ILFS and other asset-quality challenges are behind us, it is imperative that credit growth also starts picking up. While government support and the overall global liquidity comfort has driven growth in the last 12 months, a sustained economic upcycle can only be on the back of a healthy credit regime.

We believe that next year will see credit growth across segments, both retail as well as corporate. Both banks and NBFCs are today well-placed to scale up their existing credit portfolios. We expect credit growth to inch into double digits next year and remain in that range for the near future. The last couple of years, especially with the emergence of Covid and the regime change in the biggest economy in the world, have indicated less than cordial relations between the two largest economies in the world.

As China emerges as a global force competing with the US, the American government will be wary of its rising influence as also of the pronouncements of the demise of the dollar as a global currency. In some ways, this could be beneficial for India as developed economies look for alternatives to China, though realising this will take a lot of work from our corporates as well as the government. However, any geo-political conflict could be detrimental to a world emerging from a long-drawn pandemic and we hope that that the hostilities gradually ease out. By all counts, 2022 will bring with it some key changes that will be positive for India. Both global and domestic overlays seem to be going in the right direction for us and we anticipate the trends mentioned above to also move in a similar way.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. The article was originally published by Financial Express

The author is the Chairman, Edelweiss Financial Services

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## Put On A Meter

The Union Government is distributing the LPG gas cylinders to the domestic and commercial consumers all over India. But we don't know whether the gas cylinder is full or not. Because most of the time we see that gas cylinders have emptied within a

month or sometimes it takes one and half months to become empty. Actually we don't know how much gas is available in the cylinder. There is a need to improve the new technology and it will be better to attach a new meter on every cylinder to show how much gas is available in the cylinder. When we see

the same technique in the welding gas cylinders they used the meter on the cylinders. I request the Ministry of Gas and Petroleum to look into the issue and provide a new cylinder to the domestic consumers by attaching a new meter for the benefit of consumers so it assures how much gas consumption by the cylinder users. Hope Union Government will take necessary steps in this regard and use new technology by putting a new meter on every gas cylinder and give a sigh of relief.

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# Contemporary Life And The Possibility Of Moral Existence

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Aristotle had declared that the state existed for the moral perfection of human beings; implying that humans were morally imperfect creatures. Human existence embarks upon different “states of being”. A “state of being” entails two concepts: one is state of “being as” (something) and second is a state of “doing” or a state of activity. Morality pervades both these spheres; “being” as well as “doing”. This means morality is a constituent of character/personality – which realizes some form of presence (or present-ness), and also activity of negotiating with life; we can be morally good as well as do morally good.

An essential question with which humans have been constantly grappling concerns the nature of moral life. In other words, what does it mean to live a moral life? Different philosophies, religions, ideologies from times immemorial have dealt with this question and provided some generalized opinions, yet it remains unresolved and pertinent to the mystery of life. There is a tendency among people to be indolent and apathetic to such questions, still, we cannot escape them altogether. Our ignorance or indifference would not cease the existence of moral dilemmas, for example, which we all face at some point in our life. Thus in an attempt to live, it becomes a necessity to try and negotiate with morality, consciously or unconsciously, perhaps on an everyday basis.

As far as the reality of existence is concerned, it is an undisputed claim that human beings do not live in an empty space; rather we are grounded or embedded in a context governed by some social, moral, and political idea. Moral issues come forth in a contestation of individual moral beliefs with the already present ‘ethos’ of a society. Developing from Theodore Adorno, Judith Butler in her work Giving an Account of Oneself argues that the questions about moral philosophy not only emerge in the context of social relations but also the form these questions take changes according to the context. What it means is that the occurrence of moral dilemmas, for example, is not only inevitable, it also keeps on upgrading itself. In



**IT'S IMPORTANT BECAUSE OUR EXPERIENCE OF THE 'MODERN'** somewhere develops a tension with the 'traditional' or, the authentic mode of life. This authentic has an inherent meaning and purpose, an authentic life in other words is a life with a purpose which supplies it with a meaning. It is a life where ideals still sustain and constantly try to inform how to deal with our moral dilemmas, while on the other hand the 'modern' is where these ideals have lost their credibility and are no longer sustained because of an increased tendency towards a market oriented life

other words, moral questions relevant to a certain context change their form only to be ever-present in a changed context. Imagine the question of abortion; it may be a moral catastrophe for some or freedom for others but the issue around its moral character still surfaces in public debates about abortion. Moral questions around abortion may have changed their form (as today we argue about the point at which life begins in such debates) but the importance and urgency of such questions don't fade away.

When it comes to our contemporary life, a pertinent question one needs to ask is: what is the status of our collective moral existence? Where does morality stand in our everyday life? If we suspend much clichéd Existential or Postmodern critique (which has its own complexities and counter critiques) for a while, we will find

that this question forms an immense relevance for a “fluidly modern” society like ours. It's important because our experience of the 'modern' somewhere develops a tension with the 'traditional' or, the authentic mode of life. This authentic has an inherent meaning and purpose, an authentic life in other words is a life with a purpose which supplies it with a meaning. It is a life where ideals still sustain and constantly try to inform how to deal with our moral dilemmas, while on the other hand the 'modern' is where these ideals have lost their credibility and are no longer sustained because of an increased tendency towards a market oriented life. For the sake of argument let's understand friendship. In its ideal understanding friendship is perhaps an association wherein two or more people are emotionally related to one another by

sharing some commonality of, maybe, interests or vulnerabilities. It has its sanctity in the virtue of being exclusive, closed, and trustworthy. But how does the 'modern' experience corrode the ideals of friendship? A website namely RentAFriend.com allows its users to rent a local friend if they find themselves lonely in some foreign place, in other words you can buy a friend for some bucks to do away with your loneliness. The question remains, if we buy a friend even if she is loyal will this association be called a friendship? The point is when we add money to rent a friend for some time it loses its meaning. Michel Sandel highlights many other such cases in his book What Money Can't Buy: The Moral Limits of Markets. It then means that modern market forces can intervene with the meaning of otherwise abstract and morally intelligible

ideals. Slavoj Zizek, in one of his interviews, makes a similar comment about the nature of love. He argues that the act of 'falling in love' which otherwise involved bearing the risks and vulnerabilities of its spontaneity, has now disappeared. We tend to look for someone to love as an arrangement of preferences and choices that involves conscious decision-making and remaking of it. This proclivity towards having a mechanistic consciousness of the world and things within it however abstract they are has a bearing on our moral existence. It makes cost-benefit analysis or sometimes even hedonistic calculus as the only metric of our ethics – a benchmark of making ethical judgements in the acts we do or the choices we make or even the ideals we hold.

This phenomenon is reductionist and minimalistic with respect to the complex human existence as it doesn't allow an inherently vibrant human nature to express itself. Some important aspects of being human like simplicity, subsistence, altruistic care... are lost in a mad race for frivolous pleasures. For instance, consider the case of Burj Al Arab hotel in Dubai, which was recently thrown public for common people to visit. The hotel is jeweled with kingly luxury where even toilets are plated with 24 karat gold. There is no utility of such a luxury other than creating a fetish around commodities and standardizing the cost of living in such places. The benchmark it creates leaves a variety of other human tendencies unentertained. We find people desire to visit such places and witness the luxury because the benchmark somehow even sets the sense of aesthetics for us.

This is precisely where the tension between the 'modern' and the authentic becomes apparent, which creates crises in our moral existence and makes us oscillate between being sensitive to the gravity of the situation and being apathetic to it altogether. The problem is; however insensitive we remain, these questions would resurface to us. The need of the hour is to have a deeper engagement with the question of moral and philosophical importance, and not shy away from the complexity of their nature. This is where a case for doing philosophy becomes almost inevitable.

*Author is a postgraduate in Political Science with primary interests in Philosophy and Ethics*

## The Messy Modern Calendar

Matthew S. Champion



**THE CALENDAR WAS A** victory of reason, if reason is aligned with simplicity, clarity and the number of our fingers. But, as we have seen, in astronomical terms nature is stubbornly unreasonable. The system was short-lived

For something that's meant to lend order to our lives, the modern Western calendar has a messy history. The mess, in part, comes about because of the difficulty of co-ordinating the orbits of celestial bodies with the cycles of day and night, and the passage of the seasons.

The year measured by the earth's orbit around the sun is roughly an unruly 365.2422 days. The moon is likewise not a fan of whole numbers. In the space of a year, there are around 12.3683 lunar months. Societies have traditionally tried to make sure that the same seasons lined up with the same months.

Ancient calendars from Mesopotamia, for example, co-ordinated months and seasons by adding extra months every now and then, a process called intercalation. In some lunar systems, though, the months can wander through the seasons – this is the case for the Islamic Hijri calendar.

The solar calendar of ancient Rome gives rise to our modern Western calendar. The Julian calendar, named after Julius Caesar's reforms of 46/45 BCE, approximated the solar year to 365.25 days and inserted an extra day each four years. That left a rather annoying 11 and a bit minutes unaccounted for. More on those minutes later.

The Julian calendar also left us a legacy of months in strange positions. Our eleventh month, November, derives from the Latin for the number nine, a result of moving the start of the year from March to January.

New months and names were juggled and rejigged to match the mechanisms of power. August, for example, is named for the Emperor Augustus. As the great Australian historian Christopher Clark has put it: “as gravity bends light, so power bends time”.

**Christian time keeping**

As the Roman empire shifted into the world we now call the middle ages, the power that bent time most successfully was that of the church. But just as in the present, the church was a multiplicity of intersecting powers with local and regional differences, and with a variety of internal identities and struggles. The start of the year, for example,

could vary widely across medieval societies.

Sometimes it was March 25, the day commemorating the appearance of the angel Gabriel to Mary. Other times it was December 25, the day agreed as Jesus' birthday (the perfect 9-month gestation period). Sometimes, it was confusingly the moveable date of Easter, making years of changing length.

It was during this period that the problematic 11 and a bit minutes had their revenge. The seasons began to shift, little by little, and this had important implications for Christian time-keeping.

The date of Easter Sunday (another point of contention) was timed to follow the Northern Spring equinox, a natural symbol of light conquering darkness. But as that equinox began to slip back in time, a distinction started to emerge between a “legal” Easter – that decreed by the calendar – and a “natural” equinox, ie the equinox that could be observed.

As the gap widened, scientists and theologians (often the same people) fought it out over proposals to reform the calendar. Should a number of days be omitted from the year, just once, to realign legal and observable time? If so, how many? And who should be in charge of the change?

The question became particularly intense in the 15th century with a number of calendar reform proposals failing the test of pragmatics or political backing from rulers across Europe. One such proposal was discovered recently hidden inside a printed book at the University Library in Cambridge.

It was written in 1488 by a theologian from the University of Louvain named Peter de Rivo and suggested 10 days be removed from the calendar. Peter thought that a celebration known as the jubilee, where crowds of pilgrims travelled from all over Europe to Rome would be the perfect time for making the reform known to the world. The proposal was not the first or last to sink like a stone.

But eventually those 10 days did disappear, when Pope Gregory reformed the calendar in 1582. This new calendar, the Gregorian calendar, jumped from 4 October 1582 to 15 October 1582. It also made a better approximation of the natural length of the year by manipulating leap years over a 400-year cycle.

The 1582 reform landed in a world rent by religious divisions, some old, some new. Protestant England did not adopt the changes till the 18th century. Many Orthodox Christian communities continued to follow the Julian calendar – with later revisions to that calendar proving contentious and provoking further schisms.

**Unreasonable nature**

It's easy to feel lost in time. The calendar helps to give us a map to the shifting revolutions of the seasons, the shape of our lives, and the larger arcs of history. But while we are placed in the matrix of calendar time, we also make it: could we do better than the Gregorian calendar?

That question was asked with particular vehemence in the 18th century by so-called enlightened thinkers, and was brought to a head in the French Revolution. In 1793, the revolutionary government regularised the month to a standard 30 days (each with three weeks of ten days), leaving a messy five to six unallocated days a year, and giving workers only three days off each month. The start of the year was shifted to the autumn equinox, because an égalité (equality) of light and dark was a symbol of the new republic's ideals.

The calendar was a victory of reason, if reason is aligned with simplicity, clarity and the number of our fingers. But, as we have seen, in astronomical terms nature is stubbornly unreasonable. The system was short-lived.

Part of the problem with calendar reform is that calendars have to do with our lived experiences of time, our habits, our rhythms, our memories. To make radical changes requires particular fervour (or megalomania).

But the history of calendars can also make us ask if we might modify our ordering of time in more gentle ways. This may not mean altering the calendar at a global or national level. But what about us here in our different regions of Australia? What if we finally acknowledged that we don't live with a four-season year, adopting the far more interesting and attentive seasonal calendars developed by Indigenous cultures?

*By Arrangements with The Conversation*

# Ex-BJP MLA Escapes Maoist Attack, Red Rebels Slit Throats Of 2 Cops

Press Trust of India

**CHAIBASA:** Former BJP MLA from Manoharpur, Gurucharan Nayak, on Tuesday narrowly escaped a Maoist attack in Jharkhand's West Singhbhum district but the red rebels slit the throats of his two policemen bodyguards and snatched three AK-47 rifles before escaping from the spot, a senior officer said.

Opposition BJP alleged that "jungle raj" (lawlessness) prevails in Jharkhand and said that it will stage demonstrations in various parts of the state on Wednesday against the attack.

Chakradharpur Sub-divisional Police Officer Dilip Khalkho said that the attack by members of the banned CPI (Maoist) outfit took place in Jheelruwa village in Goikera police station area after a football match in which Nayak was the chief guest.

"Soon after the local football match was over, the Maoists, who were in the crowd of football-watchers, suddenly attacked Nayak. He somehow managed to escape with the help of his policemen bodyguards.

"The Maoists, however, slit the throats of his two policemen bodyguards and snatched their AK-47 rifles. They also snatched a similar rifle from another



security personnel and fled the spot," the officer said.

The two slain policemen have been identified as Shankar Nayak and Thakur Hembrom, while the third one who managed to escape is Ramkumar Tudu and he is injured, he said.

More security forces have been sent to the spot which is in a forested area and further details are awaited, he said.

"A total of 15-20 Maoists suddenly attacked me with country-made firearms, machetes, axes and other sharp weapons. I managed to escape by merging into the crowd, which was around 2,000-3,000 strong, and straight-away went to nearby Sonua police station for safety," Nayak said. Nayak had a similar narrow

escape when he was attacked by Maoists in Anandpur police station area in the district in 2012.

Alleging that "jungle raj" prevails in Jharkhand, BJP state president Deepak Prakash said that the party will hold demonstrations in various parts of the state against the incident, while BJP legislature party leader Babulal Marandi will visit the spot on Wednesday.

"The law and order situation in the state has deteriorated and it needs immediate attention. The government has turned insensitive towards peoples' plight," Union minister Arjun Munda said.

BJP national vice president Raghuraj Das demanded compensation and jobs to the dependents of the slain policemen.

# CBI Says It Has Registered 51 Cases In Connection With Post-Poll Violence In West Bengal

Agenceis

**New Delhi:** The CBI has registered 51 cases so far in connection with post-poll violence in West Bengal and has charge-sheeted 100 people in 20 cases within four months of the probe, the agency said in a statement on Tuesday.

The Calcutta High Court had ordered the agency to probe cases of rape, attempt to rape and murder reported from West Bengal during the poll process.

"The CBI has registered the cases meeting only these criteria which are under progress. As on January 1, 2022, CBI has registered 51 cases, has filed charge sheets in 20 cases, in about four months. Over 100 persons have been charge-sheeted," CBI Spokesperson RC Joshi said.

He asserted that no case meeting the criteria laid down by the High Court of Calcutta and referred by NHRC has been closed.

"In so far as 29 complaints of sexual offences referred by NHRC, CBI has registered seven regular cases and rest have been/and are being legally processed," Joshi said.

He said two cases referred by the NHRC were sent by the agency to the State Special Investigation Team constituted by the Calcutta High Court, the



agency said.

"It may be stated that Calcutta High Court had ordered the CBI on August 19, 2021 to investigate the incidents involving offences of murder, rape and attempt to rape. As such, CBI has registered

the cases meeting only these criteria which are under progress," CBI Spokesperson RC Joshi said.

"It is clarified that CBI had received 29 number of complaints of sexual offences from NHRC till December 22,

2021. Out of these, two cases have been decided by the CBI for handing over to State SIT on the grounds of nature of offences, in line with the mandate given in the orders of the Calcutta High Court," Joshi said.

Joshi said the state police had also referred 64 incidents to CBI in furtherance of the high court order.

"Out of it, 39 number of offences were taken over by CBI by registering regular cases, four references are under process while 21 number of references were returned to State Police/SIT on the ground of nature of offence, as CBI has been mandated in the order of the Calcutta High Court dated August 19, 2021 to investigate post-poll violence cases of murder, rape and attempt to rape," he said.

Joshi said at the time of submission of the Status Report before the high court on December 22, 2021, the CBI had registered 50 regular cases and one Preliminary Enquiry into the incidents of post-poll violence.

"By the time of submission of Status Report, CBI had submitted charge sheet in 10 cases while remaining cases are under progress," he said.

## CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

### Alert Sounded

with main activity later tonight and tomorrow in both Jammu and Kashmir.

The weatherman has issued 'amber/orange' warning for "isolated heavy snowfall".

There are four types of colour codes signifying the level of caution: green which means no action, yellow—situation to be watched), amber—government agencies need to be prepared for severe weather and red—action needed by the agencies.

The weather office has urged people not to venture out on avalanche and landslide prone areas, unless extremely necessary. "Keep power/light back-up( in case of power failure)," the Met office said, adding, "Drive very slowly and in low gear while driving on snow bound area."

Two successive western disturbances are affecting Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and adjoining areas till 9th January (forenoon).

Under the influence of these weather systems, the weatherman said that widespread moderate rain and snow was expected in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh regions. "Light rain/snow would commence at a few places of Kashmir from 3rd January evening and thereafter increase in intensity & distribution," reads the advisory, adding, "Main activity of this system will be the occurrence of moderate to heavy rain/snow, most likely during 5th and 8th January and gradual decrease thereafter."

The system is likely to cause heavy rain and snow mainly in Pirpanjal Range of Jammu Division (from Bhadrachal to Banihal), upper reaches of Kashmir (Gulmarg, Sonamarg, Baramulla and Kupwara), and Drass subdivision in Ladakh.

Regarding probable impacts, the weather advisory says that there may be disruption of surface and air transport including Jammu-Srinagar Highway, Srinagar-Leh Highway (Zojila Pass), Leh-Manali, Mughal Road, and Sadhna pass.

"(there are) chances of snow avalanches and landslides in vulnerable areas besides disruption of power supply in hilly areas."

There may be water logging in low lying areas besides further dip in day temperatures, it said.

"People in snow bound areas are to avoid venturing into sloppy areas during heavy snow," the advisory reads, adding, "People are also advised to maintain proper ventilation."

Meanwhile, the official said that Srinagar, recorded rain and snowfall of 7.1mm from overnight till 0830 hours today.

The summer capital of J&K, he said, recorded a low of 0.6°C against previous night's 3.0°C. It was 2.7°C above normal for this time of the year, he said, as per news agency GNS.

Kashmir is presently under the grip of 40-day long harshest period of winter, known locally as 'Chillai Kalan', which started from December 21. It is followed by a 20-day long 'Chillai Khurd' and a 10-day-long 'Chilla Bachha'.

Gulmarg recorded 8.4 inches (21cm) of fresh snowfall during the time and the mercury settled at minus 5.0°C against minus 5.8°C on the previous night at the world famous resort, he

said.

Qazigund had 4.0mm of rain and snow during the time while it recorded a low of 0.6°C against 1.4°C on the previous night, he said.

Pahalgam, the famous resort in south Kashmir, had 13.5 cms of snowfall and recorded a low of minus 1.2°C against minus 3.0°C on previous night, he said.

Kokernag, also in south Kashmir, had 1mm of rain or snow even as it recorded a low of minus 0.4°C against 0.6°C on previous night, the official said.

Kupwara town in north Kashmir, had 5cms of snowfall and recorded a minimum of 0.2°C against 0.2°C on the previous night, the official said.

Reports said that Bandipora-Gurez road was closed due to fresh and continuing snowfall. 5 inches of snow had already accumulated at Gurez, 9 inches at Razdan top, 5 inches at Tulail and 4 inches at Dawar, they said.

Reports said that there were 6 inches of snowfall recorded at Sonamarg to Bajri Nallaj in Ganderbal.

Also Machil, Karna and Keran roads have been closed as higher reaches of Kupwara received 1.5 ft of snow amid continuing snowfall.

Jammu recorded a low of 11.8°C, up by 4.5°C from the previous night and normal of 7.3°C for the J&K's winter capital during this time of the year, he said.

Ladakh's Leh recorded a low of minus 7.2°C against last night's minus 9.1°C while Kargil automatic station recorded a minimum of minus 9.0°C and Drass recorded a low of 7.5°C, the official added.

Reports said while strategic Srinagar-Jammu highway was open hitherto amid continuous snowfall, several flights to and fro Srinagar airport have been delayed, officials and reports said.

### Snowfall, Low

passengers of the cancelled flights shall be rescheduled in the next available flight of the concerned airlines. There will be no extra charges for rescheduling. The passengers may also opt for full refund at their convenience," it said.

"All the passengers of the cancelled flights shall be rescheduled in the next available flight of the concerned airlines," it said, adding, "There will be no extra charges for rescheduling. The passengers may also opt for full refund at their convenience."

Among those cancelled include all Indigo flights (13), Spicejet (6) and Vistara(3).

### 2 Militants Killed

possession. All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation," the police spokesperson said

Police, he said, have registered a case under relevant sections of law and investigation has been initiated.

"People are requested to cooperate with Police till the area at encounter site is completely sanitized and cleared of all the explosive materials, if any," he added.

Pertinently, the killing of two militants in Kulgam comes a day after police claimed to have killed most wanted Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) militant Saleem Parray of Hajin and a foreign

national Hafiz alias Hamza of Pakistan in two back to back encounters near Shalimar Bagh, here in this capital city on Monday.

### Health Officials

any emergency situation that may arise due to heavy snowfall in Kashmir Division, all the Chief Medical Officers / Medical Superintendents / Block Medical Officers are hereby directed not to leave their station without seeking prior permission from this office, so as to make sure that health care facilities don't get hampered due to snowfall," reads an order by Dr Mushtaq Ahmad Rather, Director Health Services Kashmir.

In addition, all the hospital administrators have been asked to put in place adequate heating arrangements in their respective hospitals and make sure that snow on the roads leading to the hospitals is cleared and ambulances are fitted with snow chains.

### Police Set Up

Control Room Kashmir. People are requested to contact their respective district/police station helplines set up by Kashmir Police, in case of any emergency or exigency."

Meanwhile, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir Vijay Kumar has directed all the District Police Chiefs to keep these helpline numbers functional round the clock and render all the required assistance and help to the needy.

### BSF Steps Up

they have sounded alert in borders and intensified Zero Line patrolling.

"Under the high alert, we patrol ahead of fence between International Border (IB) and fence. Senior commanders frequently visit border outposts and sometimes will be present during patrolling," he added.

Apart from patrolling, all counter-drone measures are in place. In winters during thick fog, the situation is challenging for the security personnel to keep round-the-clock vigil in the area to prevent infiltration.

"We have deployed well-trained sniffer dogs at borders to keep a watch on intruders and smugglers into India who take advantage of low-visibility at borders," he said.

Dogs can smell, hear and see much better than a human being. In such conditions during patrolling, trained dogs accompany the patrolling team and help in guarding the borders.

On Monday, BSF recovered a huge cache of arms, ammunition, and heroin near the IB during Zero Line Patrolling in the Jammu sector.

### JKP To Get

equipped with the weapons, they said.

According to officials, the Jammu and Kashmir Police had recently floated global bids on the government buying portal GeM (Government e-Market) for purchasing the assault weapons.

The Sig Sauer-716 assault rifle has a more powerful 7.62x51mm cartridge as compared to the 5.56x45mm intermediate cartridge of the INSAS (Indian Small Arms System) rifles used by police, officials said.

The rifle, which weighs 3.82

kilograms without magazine, fires at a cyclic rate of 650-850 rounds per minute and can prove to be an effective weapon in anti-militancy operations due to its 500 metres range, they said.

Moreover, the rifles are compact, robust, modern and simple to maintain in field conditions, they added.

Similarly, the SIG MPX 9mm pistol, which weighs 2.94 kilograms without magazine, fires at a cyclic rate of 850 rounds per minute, they said.

Both weapons are gas-operated, they added. The induction of these assault rifles will help the police operate more effectively in engagements with the militants, they said.

In 2019, India had signed a contract with Sig Sauer for 72,400 assault rifles at a cost of around Rs 700 crore.

In October, 2017, the Army began the process to acquire around 7 lakh rifles, 44,000 light machine guns and nearly 44,600 carbines.

### LG Gets Briefing

sources said.

A police official told a local news agency GNS that Sinha interacted via video conference with police officers starting from SHO, SDPO, ASP, SSP, DIG, IGP Kashmir, ADG Armed, SDG Crime, SDG CID while Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary Home and DGP was present.

"It was a normal interaction," the officer said.

During the interaction, the LG asked the field officers to redress genuine grievances of the people on priority and have frequent interactions with the people.

During the interaction, the officer said, a general review of the prevailing security scenario was also taken.

They said senior police officers apprised Lieutenant Governor about the overall security scenario as well as strategies chalked out for 2022. The officers also put forth their problems during the interaction.

### J&K Logs 199

the time, 38 from Jammu Division and 118 from Kashmir," officials said.

Also, they said that the death toll due to the pandemic remains 4530 in J&K—2199 in Jammu and 2331 in Kashmir, as no coronavirus related fatality was reported from J&K during the last 24 hours.

### 'Jammu & Kashmir

while Jammu should do the same. And at the moment Jammu wants a separate statehood. That's it. I'm not separating them. I'm saving everyone's identity. Kashmir has its own identity, so has Jammu and Ladakh. What's wrong in saying that? So everyone should fight to save their own identity. Do you mean to say Kashmiri leaders were not able to handle the erstwhile state?

Yes! Tell me something, why did Ladakh separate? Why did Jammu give two seats to BJP? What is the reason? Because the Kashmiri leaders were not able to handle the erstwhile state.

They discriminated with both Jammu and Ladakh. As a result both are out of their hands now.

See, as a father I've to look after my family without discrimination. If I don't do that, what will happen? Naturally, my family will start falling apart. The same happened with the

erstwhile state, which was like three brothers.

Who created differences between them? Who divided them?

So you want to divide now?

Yes, Jammu and Kashmir should've been divided into two states so that equitable development could have taken place.

Why was it made a Union Territory from a state? We would've three states. What was their (BJP's) problem? They divided Assam into five states. Telangana was separated from Andhra Pradesh. Our state with such a huge area has been made a Union Territory. We need to think about this.

So are you blaming Kashmiri leaders for the bifurcation of the state?

The Kashmir leaders started the war from the beginning when the Dogra rule ended. They further divided the regions till they were enjoying power. They had to treat everyone equally.

In a democratic setup if you don't give equal rights to everyone, this was to happen. Kashmiri leaders kept adding more people from their side. They always thought about Kashmir. This is what BJP picked-up.

But you were also part of the same government?

See, I'm Chowdhary Lal Singh. I've my own style. When I was the health minister, I used to treat everyone with respect. When I was the forest minister, four lakh Deodar trees were planted in Srinagar so that Kashmir looks only green throughout the year. I didn't discriminate on the basis of religion and region.

But let me tell you the Kashmir leaders were spreading hatred by discriminating between Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. The result is in front of you now. What're they beating their chest for now?

These leaders even failed to convince people of the valley to vote. In Kashmir, hardly 8-10% people cast their vote. Did anyone ask them why they didn't, when on the other side all the people in Jammu and Ladakh exercise their rights. They couldn't unite Kashmir. They failed to convince them to vote.

What do you expect from the leaders of Kashmir? What is the option for all regions?

See, I think the leaders of Kashmir should also sit in Kashmir and talk about Kashmir only, rather than visiting Pir Panjal, and other parts of Jammu region. All the leaders of the region should think about their own region and focus on how to save its identity. That is it.

But why can't they visit Jammu? What is wrong with it?

See, they're eyeing 13 seats in Poonch, Baderwah and other Muslim belts of the Jammu districts. Because they fell short of the majority in Kashmir. They should be questioned about their plan to save Kashmir, or Jammu for that matter.

So can we see a possible alliance for upcoming elections with other parties who are demanding a separate state for Jammu and a UT within a UT in Kashmir?

Not at all, we will never align with the people who talk about a particular religion. They want to create a wedge between Hindus and Muslims for their own electoral benefits. I would never do it. They are the agents of BJP. This

will not work with me. We want to carry everyone along.

Kashmir is still facing the heat for the exodus of Kashmiri Pandits. We don't want an exodus of Jammu Muslims. Let me be very clear about this.

---Syed Burhan contributed to this interview.

### Mentally Challenged

reached the spot and took the body into custody after being informed by the locals.

A police official said that the body was taken to sub-district hospital (SDH) Langate where the identity of the deceased was revealed.

The person was mentally challenged, the official said.

### Woman Arrested

filed a written complaint with police on Monday claiming that unknown persons have stolen golden ornaments from his residential house. Accordingly, he said, a case vide FIR No. 02/2022 under relevant sections of law was registered in Police Station Rajpora and investigation was initiated.

During the course of investigation, the police spokesperson said that the officers taking assistance of modern techniques arrested the accused who was working at the tailoring shop of the complainant located near his residential house.

"Subsequently, she has been shifted to Women Police Station where she remains in custody," he said.

On her disclosure, the police spokesperson said that the investigating team were able to recover stolen gold items which includes one chain with pendulum, one bangles, one earrings, two jhumkas, two rings, one badge.

"Further investigation is in progress," he added.

### GOC Vishwasrao

Headquarters.

While congratulating the MD & CEO for assuming the leadership role in the Bank, GOC Major General SPS Vishwasrao underscored the importance of J&K Bank as the premiere financial institution of Jammu and Kashmir, an official spokesperson said.

"He said that the army shared intrinsic organisational values of the Bank like that of serving the people with commitment and dedication," he said

Thanking the visiting dignitary for his courtesy visit, Bank's MD & CEO Baldev Prakash, the official spokesperson said, expressed confidence that the Bank will continue to uphold its institutional values while making all efforts to live up to the expectations of its various stakeholders.

### Ladakh Reports

pandemic last year, they said.

Twelve patients were cured and discharged from hospitals in Ladakh. The total number of cured patients is 20,820, they said.

Of the new cases, 58 were reported from Leh and seven from Kargil district, they said, adding that the active cases include 198 from Leh and 51 from Kargil districts.

A total of 774 sample reports in Ladakh were found negative, they said.

## Driver Dead, 20 UP Tourists Injured As Bus Overturns

Press Trust Of India

**BANIHAL:** A mini-bus carrying tourists turned turtle inside the Banihal-Qazigund tunnel on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway on Tuesday, leaving the 18-year-old driver dead and 20 travellers injured, officials said.

The tourists from Uttar Pradesh were returning from the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine and were on their way to Srinagar to enjoy snowfall when the driver lost control inside the west tube of the four-lane tunnel around 4.30 pm due to over-

speeding, the officials said.

They said driver Tariq Ahmed, a resident of Udhampur, died on the spot, while 20 tourists were injured and rushed to the nearby Banihal and Qazigund hospitals.

They said 11 of the injured were later discharged after treatment while three are in "serious" condition, the officials said.

They said the tourists had visited the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine atop Trikuta hills and offered their prayers before deciding to go to Kashmir to witness snowfall.

## Info Dept Employees Grieved Over Ali Mohammad Khan's Demise

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The employees of Information Department in the Kashmir division on Tuesday expressed deep grief and sorrow over the demise of Ali Mohammad Khan, former Officer of the department, who died yesterday at his Buchpora residence in Srinagar district.

Extending their sympathies with bereaved family, they prayed Allah for granting eternal peace to departed soul and courage to bereaved ones to bear this loss. "We all equally share this grief" they said.

Mr K B Jandial, S.Narinder Singh, Ali Mohammad Bhat, Sheikh Nazir Ahmad, Ab. Gani Rather, SP Sharma, Thakur Singh, Mohamad Shafi Qazi, Zareef Ahmad Zareef, Jan Mohammad Azad are among others, who console the demise of Ali Mohammad Khan and expressed their solidarity with bereaved family.

Meanwhile, the Veterans of Information Department (VsOID),

a group of officers and officials of Information Department (Retd), have expressed deep grief and sorrow over the demise of Ali Mohammad Khan, former Officer of the department, who died yesterday at his Buchpora residence in Srinagar district.

Extending their sympathies with bereaved family, they prayed Allah for granting eternal peace to departed soul and courage to bereaved ones to bear this loss. "We all equally share this grief" they said.

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## Unknown Persons Steal Railway Wiring In Pampore

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** Unknown persons have allegedly stolen overhead (OHE) wiring of track operating between Pampore and Srinagar railway stations' on intervening night of January 3 and 4 at Pampore.

Official sources said that the wiring was found cut and missing this morning by the authorities.

"It couldn't be however immediately ascertained by the authorities as how much of the wiring has been stolen", sources said.

"Though repeated incidents of such nature have been taking place over the time, hardly has been anyone arrested so far", they said.

When contacted a railway department official told GNS that they are working on it.

## Former MLC Zafar Manhas Calls On LG

**JAMMU:** Former MLC, Zaffar Manhas on Tuesday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, and put forth the general issues of District Shopian, at Raj Bhavan here.

Manhas apprised the Lt Governor of various public demands pertaining to augmentation of the road network, power and water supply in Kandi belt of Shopian, besides better facilities and staff strength at DH Shopian and Keller Hospital.

The Lt Governor while listening to the issues presented by the former MLC assured him that the UT government is continuously working for the holistic and equitable development of all areas of the UT.

The Lt Governor said that the issues and demands brought by the former MLC would be looked into meticulously for their early redressal on merit. He urged him to continue his efforts of welfare of the people.

### WEATHER VAGARIES

## Chief Secretary Takes Stock Of Winter Preparedness

Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** The Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta on Tuesday chaired a meeting to review the winter preparedness, supply, and stocking of essential commodities across the Kashmir Division and snowbound districts of Jammu province including Kishtwar, Doda, Poonch, and Rajouri.

Administrative Secretaries of departments of Finance, Power Development, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation & Reconstruction, Divisional Commissioners of Jammu and Kashmir, Inspectors General of Police, Jammu and Kashmir, Managing Directors of DISCOMs, Deputy Commissioners (DCs) and District SPs of all districts, and officers from concerned departments participated in the meeting.

It was informed that the divisional and district administrations have taken all precautionary measures and preparedness for the winter season with a special focus on inclement weather situations in all snow-bound areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

It was further informed that during today's precipitation only 2 out of 1020 electricity feeders and 10 out of 705 water supply networks in the Kashmir Valley experienced minor glitches which too will be restored within a few hours, besides, all roads were cleared for vehicular traffic and no prolonged disruption was reported.

The Chief Secretary directed the Departments of Public Works(R&B), Power Development, Jal Shakti, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, and Disaster Management to be well prepared to ensure delivery of



essential services throughout the winter season and cater to any untoward eventuality.

It was informed that this year the National Highway-44 will remain open for vehicular traffic throughout the year and as such the PWD was asked to augment the snow/slippage clearance machinery all along the vulnerable spots. The district administration, Ramban was asked to activate the vehicle holding areas for heavy vehicles during weather vagaries at the Jawahar tunnel; and regulate the traffic movement for smooth passage of light motor vehicles.

The divisional and district administrations were asked to lay special focus on slippage and avalanche-prone areas and monitor vehicular traffic, especially during heavy precipitation, besides ensuring minimal response time to reported emergencies.

Regarding snow clearance and maintenance of road connectivity during the harsh winter months, the Chief Secretary directed the Public Works Department to emphasize minimal damage to the road surfaces during the exercise by following appropriate guidelines and using suitable technology/practice.

The Power Development De-

partment was asked to actively monitor the reported failures of power distribution & transmission channels and undertake timely repairs and replacement of the damaged equipment to ensure uninterrupted and reliable power supply during the harsh winter months.

The Food, Civil Supplies, and Consumer Affairs Department was asked to ensure sufficient stockpiling of winter fuel and food grains across all winter-affected areas.

Further, the Chief Secretary directed the concerned to establish winter control rooms to monitor and resolve grievances regarding power, water, essential supplies, health services, road connectivity, and emergency evacuation/rescue. They were advised to widely promote the helpline numbers among the public and ensure providing the latest information and appropriate services to grievances and issues raised through the emergency numbers including likely time for addressing issues.

Reviewing the preparedness to mitigate natural disasters, the Chief Secretary impressed upon the concerned to issue timely weather advisories to alert the public of the extreme weather conditions.

### DELIMITATION EXERCISE

## NPP Alleges New Assembly Seats Decided In BJP Office

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** National Panthers Party (NPP) chairman Harsh Dev Singh on Tuesday alleged that the new assembly seats proposed by the Jammu and Kashmir Delimitation Commission were decided in the BJP office and the panel acted as a mere rubber stamp.

Addressing a public meeting in Udhampur district, Singh said suggestions of opposition parties and civil society groups seemed to have been rejected by the commission and it "surrendered before the present authoritarian regime".

The Delimitation Commission, set up to redraw the assembly seats of the union territory, is learnt to have proposed

six additional seats for Jammu region and one for Kashmir in its 'Paper 1' discussed with its five associate members -- three MPs of National Conference and two of BJP from J&K -- in Delhi on December 20.

The proposals evoked angry reactions from political parties, which said such steps will only "incentivise and facilitate" violent agitations.

Singh said, "It was the political expediency of the BJP which was the primordial consideration rather than the convenience of the public in the process of delimiting assembly seats in J&K."

"The new constituencies have been drawn up in the BJP office with the delimitation commission merely acting as a rubber

stamp and assisting the former in achieving its political designs," he alleged.

He also claimed that the suggestions of opposition parties, social organisations and civil society groups seemed to have been summarily rejected and the commission "surrendered before the present authoritarian regime like many other so-called autonomous bodies".

Singh claimed the move was an attempt by the BJP to counter the NPP's growing popularity in Udhampur.

"The BJP is scared of the rising graph of the NPP, particularly in Udhampur, and it is using its influence to recreate assembly seats in the district in the manner which suits its political interests," he said.

## Modi Govt Systematically Destroying Democratic Institutions: Mir

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** The BJP-led Central government has been systematically destroying democratic institutions of the country, spreading hatred and harming pluralistic harmony, Jammu and Kashmir Congress Committee president G A Mir said Tuesday.

Addressing a party meeting here, he asked people to oppose the BJP for its "wrong policies" and force the government through democratic means to shun its "anti-people anti-poor and anti-youth" policies.

"The present BJP government led by (Prime Minister) Narendra Modi has been systematically destroying democratic institutions and the culture in the country and spreading hatred, besides destroying economy and harming the pluralistic harmony," he said.

"The Congress party has decided to wake the Modi government up from its slumber and decided to launch from January

9 a public awareness campaign, Jan Jagran Abhiyan, against rising inflation," he said.

Speaking on the occasion, party leader Rman Bhalla said the people of country are suffering due to the policies of the government.

"Over the last two years, we have witnessed a terrible price rise of petrol, diesel and edible oil. The economy has hit the lowest, while lakhs of people became jobless," he said. "The BJP government has been running a public harassment campaign for so long."

Bhalla said the prices of mustard and other edible oils have doubled in the last one year, while seasonal vegetable prices have increased by 40-50 per cent in a month.

"The cost of subsidised LPG cylinder has gone up by 50 per cent to Rs 900-1,000 in the last one year. Similarly, petrol and diesel prices have gone up by Rs 34.38 and 24.38 to Rs 103.97 and Rs 86.67 per litre respectively in the last 18 months," he added.

## IUST & GIAN India Hold Meeting With Industry-Innovators



Observer News Service

**AWANTIPORA:** Furthering its mandate of creating and supporting a highly successful entrepreneurial culture in the JKUT, Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development of Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) Awantipora and Grassroots Innovations Augmentation Network (GIAN) team Tuesday organised a roundtable discussion on entrepreneurship and innovation and a joint meeting with Industry-Innovators.

The program was attended by various young innovators from different parts of the valley who demonstrated their innovations and interacted with experts from IUST, GIAN India and prominent industrialists of the valley.

Founder of GIAN-India and Padma Shri Awardee Prof Anil K Gupta, who was the chief guest, followed the presentations by innovators and assured them of complete support from GIAN. Prof Gupta also appreciated IUST's initiatives in the area of innovation and entrepreneurship and congratulated the budding innovators for their contribution towards the development of science and technology in J&K. "There is a lot of potential in Jammu and Kashmir in innovation. It is important to attend to every aspect and we should work together to achieve greater heights in innovation," Gupta said.

Vice-Chancellor, IUST, Prof. Shakil. A. Romshoo, who inaugu-

rated the round table discussion spoke about the rapid growth of IUST in the areas of entrepreneurship, Innovation and research sector and called these as IUST's signature strengths as has been witnessed through major achievements in the recent past including university's position in the Band 'Performer' in the recently released Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA).

While deliberating on IUST's policy on innovation, Prof. Romshoo exhorted upon the members to identify these as thrust areas for contributing towards society's overall development and for expansion of their emancipated network.

"People have already started taking note of IUST as we have been targeting community-centric initiatives in the innovation and entrepreneurship development for social wellbeing, and we need to effectively create an awareness among the youth regarding the new innovative technologies to motivate them to plan their own start-ups," he said.

During the meeting with innovators, Dean Academic Affairs Prof. A.H Moon highlighted IUST's objective behind establishing CIED and assured the budding innovators of university's support and hand-holding in future. He also remarked about CIED's intention to intervene in the market by discovering and developing various products and playing a role in increasing the productivity in the valley."

## UMEED - Hope For Financial Independence, Empowerment Of Rural Women

Observer News Service

**PULWAMA:** Amid the rising demand of sustainable livelihood, a large number of Women in rural areas are taking the path of UMEED, to become successful entrepreneurs.

In Pulwama district, UMEED has been a wheel of transformation for women to become progressive and self employed women entrepreneurs.

The efforts of the district administration through UMEED has been effectively transforming the traditional understandings of professional success as women in the district are willingly taking up multiple tasks by establishing their own units of entrepreneurship and other sources of income generation.

One of the districts in south Kashmir, Pulwama were 85.65% of the population live in Rural areas is famous all over the world for saffron cultivation. A centrally sponsored scheme "UMEED" implemented under JK Rural Livelihood Mission has the potential to give wings to the aspirations of rural women who dream of becoming economically independent."

District Programme Manager (IB & CB) Pulwama, Mr Mohammad Nadeem Bhat says that the UMEED Programme in District Pulwama is being carried in zeal & Zest since its inception and has strategized the identified Poor Women Populace in an optimistic network and are now envisaging development at all folds vis a vis social, economic and physical strata. Further the focus is being laid on maximization of establishing livelihoods at individual level with



their own efforts and in convergence with other line departments.

"So far 17287 poor women have been brought within the fold of SHGs while 1986 SHGs have been formed and uploaded on MIS", said Programme Manager, NRLM, Arsheed Ahmad Bhat. While sharing details he said, the members have contributed Rs. 2.99 crores as their own internal savings besides bank accounts have been opened for all the SHGs under PMJJBY, PMSBY have also been done.

"These new initiatives of Digi-Pay, Krishi, and Pashu Sakhi, besides several other programs of women empowerment such as Hausla, Tejaswini, UMEED, Rise Together etc will further accelerate efforts of J&K government in Empowering Women and making them key partner in UT's development journey", said an officer working for implementation of UMEED at Pulwama.

To increase participation of women in awareness and training programmes, UMEED in collaboration with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) facilitated meeting formalities and installed basic infrastructure for setting up the

ventures in the district.

Among many other women who established their units and achieved dreams of financial independence, Zamrooda Bano, who owns 4 acres of land, 7 Cows and a baby calf has become a dairy farmer. Exhibiting her fondness for the profession she said, "I like feeding the cattle. I feel happy when a calf is born extending my little dairy farm". She said it gives her joy when she receives payment from the AMCs installed by NRLM (UMEED).

The milk from Zamrooda's dairy farm is quite hygienic & pure which attracts many buyers and fetches her higher prices. While talking about the reason behind it, she said that the cattle in her farm belong to a good quality breed besides she also practices hygienic methods.

While showering praise on UMEED Zamrooda, who now earns a regular profit of Rs 24000.00 per month, said, "I am very thankful to JKRLM (UMEED) which showed me path towards empowerment as well as development". She says that starting with just a small initial investment of Rs20000 from her own pocket, she was provided with an additional investment of Rs 25000

from the concerned village Organization and Rs 625000 from Umeed & Animal Husbandry.

Similarly, Haseena and Parveeza of Khan Basti Lassipora area in south Kashmir's district Pulwama, has been SHG members for a long time now, said "We didn't just create a livelihood opportunity for ourselves but to families too by engaging them in it". They said "UMEED provided us with an appropriate platform for overcoming our financial difficulties we were facing for quite a long time."

Moreover, they said that with the financial help and bank linkage, they were able to establish a full-fledged workshop and a retail hardware and bakery shop in their vicinity.

"These shops proved successful ventures for both of them as Haseena earns more than Rs 50, 000 while Parveeza earns Rs 30,000 profit per month".

While being motivated by the financial stability and profits, they intend to further expand the activity so that they could generate employment for other needy women of the locality besides earning more profit.

These stories give a brief

glimpse of the UMEED which empowers women, while there exist thousands of SHGs members in the district who availed maximum benefits of various central and UT schemes to become independent and progressive women.

District Programme Manager says with their own thrift, the SHGs members have become credit worthy and

have accessed Rs 13.00 crores from different financial institutions and 7.08 crores from JKRLM as capital for investment in their own livelihoods. He said women's entrepreneurial initiatives, skills, characteristics, attributes, motives and leadership styles, documenting strategies for success and barriers confronted, indicates that not much has changed

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

## OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PULWAMA PUBLIC NOTICE

In the interest of General Public, the revised information regarding meetings of individual / public / Delegations shall be held on every Tuesday & Thursday from 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM.

This notice shall be displayed inter-alia, at Main Gate of the District Administrative Complex Pulwama for information of General Public.

No:- DCP/PA/22/01  
Dated:- 03-01-2022

Deputy Commissioner  
Pulwama/1

DIPK-16156/21

# J&K Sqay Team Emerges 3rd In 22nd NSC At Goa

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The J&K Sqay team lifted 3rd in overall medal tally in 22nd National Sqay Championship (NSC) concluded at Indoor Stadium Margao, Goa.

Besides, Saniya Manzoor from Srinagar, Riyan Rouf from Pulwama, while Faizan Ayoub from Shopian lifted Champion of Champions title in sub junior Boys, junior Girls, and senior Men.

The UT team was selected by the selection committee of J&K Sqay under the observation of JK Sports Council.

Sqay is a Kashmiri martial arts form originating in Kashmir Valley. "Armed sqay makes use of a curved single-edge sword paired with a shield, or one sword in each hand. Unarmed techniques incorporate kicks, punches, locks and chops."



## YSS Department Starts 15-Day Skiing Training At Gulmarg

Best possible arrangements for boarding, lodging of the trainees: Gazanfar Ali



Observer News Service

**BARAMULLA:** The annual training programme in Skiing organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports (YSS) J&K started at the picturesque Gulmarg here.

The first batch of 100 student skiers have started their training in the snow covered valley of Gulmarg under the supervision of Principle Secretary to Government Youth Services and Sports Department J&K Alok Kumar and Director of the Department Gazanfar Ali.

Director YSS while expressing happiness over the conduct of the training programme has said that the Department has deputed trained officials and skiing instructors of the department for the successful conduct of the camp.

"The trainers are working under the technical guidance of Olympian Gul Mustafa Dev and the de-

partment has made best possible arrangements for boarding and lodging of the trainees at the scenic health resort," he added.

Director sports further said that 100 students selected from 10 districts of the UT of J&K are receiving basic training in Skiing. These districts include Udhampur, Reasi, Rajouri, Ramban, Samba, Kupwara, Kulgam, Shopian, Srinagar, and Pulwama.

Pertinently Such courses are being organised for other districts of UT also and besides boys, girl students would also receive this training on the skiing slopes of world famous Gulmarg.

Hundreds of boys and girls are being imparted basic Ski training this season by the Youth Services & Sports Department. The Indian Institute of Skiing & Mountaineering has also started various Ski training courses at Gulmarg.

## Ebadot Puts Bangladesh On Top In 1st Test Vs New Zealand

Agencies

**MOUNT MAUNGANUI:** Ebadot Hossain bowled Bangladesh to the brink of a famous victory over World Test Champion New Zealand in a fiery spell Tuesday on the fourth day of the first cricket test.

On a pitch on which Bangladesh and New Zealand collectively amassed 786 runs in their first innings — with the tourists taking a 130-run lead — Ebadot reduced New Zealand to 147-5 at stumps, a lead of only 17 runs.

After dismissing first innings century-maker Devon Conway for 13, Ebadot removed Will Young (69), Henry Nicholls (0) and Tom Blundell (0) in the space of six balls to fortify the strong position the Bangladesh batters had created.

"The first thing to know about Ebadot as a person is that he only came to cricket about five years ago," Bangladesh's West Indies-born bowling coach Ottis Gibson said. "He won a fast-bowling competition somewhere and two years later he was playing international cricket."

"He's a joy to work with because he's enthusiastic and he wants to learn so much. When his confidence is high he can bowl spells like this."

New Zealand was just hanging on at stumps in the



face of Ebadot's aggressive swing bowling. Veteran Ross Taylor, in his penultimate test match before retirement, was 37 and allrounder Rachin Ravindra was 6.

Bangladesh hasn't won any of its previous 43 matches in New Zealand across all three formats and wasn't expected to test New Zealand in this match in the absence of veteran players such as Shakib Al Hasan, Tamim Iqbal and Mahmudullah.

But the tourists have steadily got on top of New Zealand, and Ebadot rammed home their advantage on Tuesday, finishing the day with figures of 4-39.

Bangladesh first dismissed New Zealand for 328, claiming the last five wickets for 70 runs to leave it short of a par score on a docile pitch at the Bay Oval. Bangladesh replied with 458, lifted by the contributions of captain Mominul Haque (88), Liton Das (86), Mahmudul Hasan Joy (78) and Najmul Hossain Shanto (64).

## I Have A Role To Play In SA Cricket & RCB: AB de Villiers

Press Trust of India

**JOHANNESBURG:** He isn't sure what future holds in store for him but former South Africa captain AB de Villiers is confident that he will have a role to play in national team and his IPL franchise RCB's future set-up.

One of contemporary cricket's greatest batters, De Villiers had retired from all forms of the game in November last year, putting an end to his glorious 17-year career in top-flight.

"I still believe that I have a role to play in SA cricket and also over there in the IPL with the Royal Challengers Banga-

lore (RCB)," he was quoted as saying by "Times LIVE".

Besides a staggering 20,017 international runs across all formats under his belt, De Villiers also holds the record for fastest 50, 100 and 150 in ODIs. He has also played 156 matches for RCB and scored 4,491 runs. "I have no idea

what will come next but I will take it one day at a time and see," he added.

The 37-year-old De Villiers, who has played 114 Tests, 228 ODIs and 78 T20s for South Africa, said he has been "looking after and mentoring some youngsters with potential and ability for the last few years."



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## Thakur Takes 7 As India Bowl Out S. Africa For 229 On Day 2



Press Trust of India

**JOHANNESBURG:** Shardul Thakur picked up a maiden five-wicket haul as India bowled out South Africa for 229 in their first innings on the second day of the second Test here on Tuesday.

Thakur ran through the hosts' batting line-up with figures of 7 for 61 after Keegan Petersen struck a fine half-century before lunch.

Resuming at the over-night score of 35 for one, South Africa added 53 runs before losing skipper Dean Elgar for 28 but Petersen held the other end, scoring 62 off 118 balls.

The visitors were all out for 202 in their first innings. South Africa took a first innings lead of 27 runs over India.

When reports last came in, India were 65/2 after 17 overs. Taking a lead of 38 runs while losing KL Rahul and M. Agarwal.

**Brief Scores:**

India 1st innings: 202 all out in 63.1 overs. (Mayank Agarwal 26, KL Rahul 50; Duanne Olivier 3/64, Marco Jansen 4/31, Kagiso Rabada 3/64).

South Africa 1st innings: 229 all out in 79.4 overs (Keegan Petersen 62; Shardul Thakur 7/61).

## SA Team Meet Match Officials Over Dussen Dismissal

Press Trust of India

**JOHANNESBURG:** South Africa skipper Dean Elgar and team manager Khomotso Masubelele met match officials during the lunch break on day two of the second Test to discuss a questionable caught behind dismissal of Rassie van der Dussen.

ESPNcricinfo reported that Elgar and Masubelele wanted to discuss the dismissal with on field umpires Marais Erasmus and Allahudien Palekar, third

umpire Adrian Holdstock and match referee Andy Pycroft. What was discussed between them remains unclear.

Van der Dussen was adjudged caught behind by the on-field umpire at the stroke of lunch off Shardul Thakur but there were questions on the legality of the catch taken by wicket-keeper Rishabh Pant.

However, there was no conclusive evidence that the ball bounced before going into Pant's gloves.

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