# KASHMR OF PUBLICATION OF PUBLICATION

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P3 CITY

**CYBER POLICE SAVES RS 18 LACS LOST IN CYBER SCAM** 

Cyber Police Kashmir on Wednesday said it saved Rs 18 lacs which was lost in a fake investment scam, a police spokesman said. "Cyber Police Station Kashmir Zone,



#### THAT CRAZY STARVING MUSLIM!

When my Lithuanian classmate who sat next to me asked whether I wanted to have lunch one day, I explained to her that I was fasting as it was the month of Ramazan. She gave me a sarcastic smile and said, Well, you crazy people can starve all you want! On my way



P7 STATE

**FOREIGN TOURIST ARRIVALS IN KASHMIR RECORD 95% DIP IN LAST 3 YRS** 

In the past three years the foreign tourist arrivals in Kashmir Valley have dipped by almost 95.22 percent. However, among the domestic tourist



# Iftar Sehri 6:58 4:45 HANAFIYA **JAFARIYA**

Quote!

Better to build a bridge than a wall

-Elton John

### NEWS DIGEST

### **Militant Hideout Busted In Reasi**

JAMMU: Security forces on Wednesday seized a cache of ammunition and a grenade from a militant hideout during a cordon-and-search operation in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district, officials said. The hideout was uncovered in the Kot Budhan More on P6

### **Schools Bus Mows Down Minor Boy**

SRINAGAR: A 5-year-old boy was killed after allegedly hit by a school bus in Dawoodpora Brah area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Wednesday, officials said. They said that a school bus of 'ST Lukes' was onway from Deethu More on P6

### **3 Butchers Booked For** Violating FS&S Act

SRINAGAR: The Food Safety Department Pulwama on Wednesday booked three butchers for violating sanitary and hygienic requirements of Food Safety and Standards Act. The action against the erring butchers was taken during a special drive More on P6

### **Fire Damages Walnut Factory In Samba**

JAMMU: A walnut processing plant was damaged in a massive fire in Samba district of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, officials said. The fire broke out at the factory in the Birpur industrial complex in Bari Brahmana around 2 am, they said. The officials said the factory suffered extensive damage in the fire, which was brought under control by More on P6

# 2 Militants Killed In **Tral Encounter**

'Both Were Involved In Sarpanch's Killing, Attack On CRPF Camp'



**Observer News Service** 

SRINAGAR: Two local militants involved in the killing of a Sarpanch besides attack on Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) camp, were killed in an encounter with government forces in Tral area of Pulwama district, police said on Wednesday.

Police carried out a raid in the Tral area of Awantipora on Wednesday on the basis of a specific input generated by Ganderbal police about the presence of militants, a police spokesperson said.

**'Four KPs Among** 

**Members Killed** 

**34 Minority** 

**Since 2019'** 

turned effectively by the raiding team leading to an encounter. In the ensuing encounter,

The search team of police, he said, came under heavy

fire from militants when the

former proceeded towards

The fire, he said, was re-

the suspected spot.

the spokesperson said one militant was neutralized and another was holed up. He said the operation was joined by the army's 42 RR and the personnel of CRPF 180 battalion.

The joint team, More on P6

our Kashmiri Pandits among 14 Hindus have been killed by militants

in Jammu and Kashmir since 2019. Union Minister of State for Home

Nityanand Rai said in Rajya Sabha on Wednesday. Rai also said that 34

people belonging to minority communities were killed by militants in Jammu

and Kashmir in the last five years., including 11 in 2021. Replying

### **Night Patrolling Starts In Vulnerable Areas: IGP**

mid a spurt in militant attacks on government forces and non-locals, the government forces have started night patrolling in remote villages of the Kashmir Valley to prevent militant attacks on soft targets, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar said Wednesday. According to a police spokesperson, More on P6

### 99 Security Men Killed Since Aug 2019: Gol

s many as 87 civilians and 99 security personnel have been killed in Jammu and Kashmir since the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5, 2019, as compared to 177 civilians and 406 security personnel in the previous five years, Union Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai informed the Rajya Sabha. The minister said the central government has a policy of More on P6

### **India Reports First Case Of New Omicron Variant**

**Press Trust Of India** 

MUMBAI: The first case of XE, a more transmissible COVID-19 variant, was detected in Mumbai on Wednesday, a civic health official said.

A woman who arrived from South Africa in February was found to have this Omicron sub-variant, officials of the Brihanmumbai Corporation (BMC) said, adding

recovered from the infection. Besides, a case of the Kappa



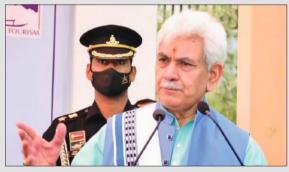
KO LENSMAN ABID BHAT captures a view of wild tulips grown in an open field in Pampore town of south Kashmir.

that she was asymptomatic and

variant of coronavirus was also detected during a sero survey, a BMC official said, More on P6

# 11000 Youth **Secured Govt Jobs** In Last 1 Year: LG

'Making Efforts To Ensure Every Person In Society Feels Connected To The Mainstream'



**Observer News Service** 

**JAMMU:** The Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said that 11000 youth, especially girls from

common, poor & marginalholds h ized house cured government jobs in the Union Territory, where the "new governance system believes in corruption-free, transparent, More on P6

### J&K Has Received Rs 51000 Cr **Investment Proposal: MHA**

Press Trust Of India

sserting that Jammu and Kashmir is on a development track, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityananda Rai said on Wednesday that the Union Territory has received an investment proposal of Rs 51,000 crore for industrial More on P

**PRIME MINISTER HAS ENDED** the decades-old practice of discrimination in J&K by establishing a citizen friendly, accountable and responsible governance system post August 2019. We are making relentless efforts to ensure every person in the society feels connected to the mainstream."

# **Businessmen In Many Districts Asked To Install CCTVs**

**Press Trust Of India** 

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir authorities have ordered business establishments, places of worship and markets in several districts to install CCTV cameras within 14 days, in a move aimed at deterring criminals and anti-social and anti-national elements.

The orders were issued on Tuesday by the district magistrates of Bandipora, Srinagar, Doda, Anantnag, Budgam and Jammu. The orders will remain in force for 60 days but can be modified earlier or extended beyond the two-month period.

Any contravention of the orders will attract legal action under section 188 of the India Penal Code, the officials warned, as they asked people



to inform the station house officers of their nearest police stations in case they notice any suspicious movement or activity in the CCTV system.

"There exist a number of banking and financial/busiestablishments like banks/ATMs, jewellery shops, petrol pumps, shopping malls, restaurants, hotels, cinema halls, wine and More on P6

### ...Hawala Case

### **Police Issues Look-Out Notice** For Ex Minister Babu Singh

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: A lookout notice has been issued against former Jammu and Kashmir minister Babu Singh who has gone underground after his name figured as a suspect in a hawala transaction case here, officials

said Wednesday. Singh's link to the case surfaced after the police Thursday arrested Mohmmad Shareef Shah (64) and seized Rs 7 lakh of alleged hawala money from him.

The seized cash was allegedly meant to support insurgency in

the Jammu district, the police said. 'We have issued a look-out notice for Babu Singh," a senior police officer told PTI, adding the notice was issued by the Jammu



The J&K Police has also informed airport authorities at various places so that Singh does not flee the country, they said, adding the police are focusing on various areas in different states to track Singh down On Friday, Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbagh Singh More on P6

# **HC Gives Six Weeks To Govt To Identify Illegal Immigrants**

**Press Trust Of India** 

**JAMMU:** The Jammu and Kashmir High Court has given six weeks to the government to identify immigrants from Myanmar and Bangladesh who are illegally staying in the Union Territory.

A bench comprising Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal and Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi passed the order on a public interest litigation (PIL) filed by advocate Hunar Gupta seeking deportation of such illegal immigrants.

"We direct the secretary home, UT of J&K to consider the matter and to evolve a mechanism for the identification of all illegal immigrants and to prepare a list after identifying them.

The said exercise may be carried out, most promptly, within a period of six weeks, the bench said in its order last week. According to government data,

over 13,700 foreigners, including Rohingya and Bangladeshi nationals, are settled in Jammu and Samba districts of Jammu and Kashmir, where their population has increased by over 6,000 between 2008 and 2016.

Over 200 Rohingyas, a Bengali-dialect speak-Muslim minority from Myanmar, are lodged in a holding centre at Kathua after they were found living illegally in Jammu city during a verification drive

in March last year. Earlier, senior counsel Sunil Sethi, appearing for the petitioner, said though it is very easy to identify such illegal migrants, the government should come up with a complete mechanism for identifying them and submit More on P6

# HAWAL ACID ATTACK

# Survivor Grapples With Darkness After 11 Surgeries

Auqib Javeed

**SRINAGAR:** The hope of regaining eyesight is gradually fading for a young acid attack survivor even after the doctors in Chennai carried out eleven eye procedures and surgeries.

The 24-year girl sustained severe burn injuries when a youth splashed acid on her face in Wantpora area of Hawal on February 1 this year. The incident sent shock waves among the people, especially the city residents, besides evoking sharp condemnations from people from all walks of the life.

Initially, the girl was admitted to the SMHS hospital for treatment. However, due to severe damage to her eyes, she was taken by her family to Chennai's Sankara Nethralaya eye hospital for advanced treatment.

Talking to Kashmir Observer, the victim's father said that



her left eye is more damaged and doctors are currently doing a procedure called "Stem cell/ buccal mucosal graft"-- a stem cell treatment to build

the pressure in her eyes. He said over three skin grafting procedures have been done to reconstruct her face.

"She has been kept under

observation. Nothing can be said at the moment," he said. He said that her daughter is still not able to see but she talks.

"She wants to see the world outside and keeps asking when she will be able to regain her eyesight," he said.

The father said that the Government didn't help them

further except monetary help of Rs. 1 lakh and four Air tickets when his daughter was shifted to Chennai from SMHS hospital.

He further said Apni Party President, Altaf Bukhari bears the cost of every surgery rest they have to bear the expenses including accommodation, travel and food.

"Junaid Azim Mattu also provided Rs 50000 initially," he said, adding that they have to spend over Rs 5000-6000 everyday on medicines and other expenses.

After the brutal attack, the police arrested three persons, including the main accused whose marriage proposal was apparently refused by the girl.

The accused Sajid Altaf Rather, Mohd Saleem Kumar are presently lodged in Central Jail, Srinagar, while the third accused-a juvenile has been lodged at the observation home in Harwan in the city outskirts.

### **Driver Injured In Blast Near Tulip Garden**



**Press Trust Of India** 

SRINAGAR: A tourist van driver was grievously injured in an unexplained explosion inside his vehicle at the parking lot of the Tulip Garden here

Wednesday, officials said. The explosion took place when the driver of the van, bearing a registration number of the Jammu district, opened the rear door of the vehicle near the parking area, they said. They said the driver, whose identity More on P6

Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm) No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

از نیابت رنبیر پوره با اجلاس غلام می الدین بٹ صاحب
در نواست منجانب شیم ، وسایق شیم و نائیده شیم و ختر ان شیم احمد خان ساکنان رنبیر پوره
تخصیل مثن بغرض حصول: \_RBA سر نشکیٹ
اشتہار بمراوآ گائی ہر خاص و عام \_
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائلان نے ایک درخواست سر فکلیٹ دفتر بذا میں پیش کیا
ہے جس کی فوارر پورٹ جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حاقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس

ف عیاں ہے ہے کہ سائلان پچھلے بندرہ سالوں سے دہ ہذامیں سکونت پذیر ہے۔ نمبرشار نام وولدیت بیشه آمدانی 1 شیم احمد خان ولدفضل احمد خان 50 سال ملازمت LPC نصرت بروین زوجشمیم احمدخان 48سال گریلوکام 2 نفرت پروین روجه بهمانمدهان ۱۵۵ سال هریده و مینانده اختر وختر همیم احمد خان 22 سال زیقایم 4 سالیه همیم وختر شیم احمد خان 17 سال زیقایم 5 انشاه شیم وختر شیم احمد خان 12 سال زیقایم 6 عافیه شیم وختر شیم احمد خان 18 سال زیقایم 7 زئیت شیم وختر شیم احمد خان 12 سال زیقایم 8 صهیب احمد ولد شیم ماحمد خان 10 سال زیقایم 8 صهیب احمد ولد شیم ماحمد خان 10 سال زیقایم 8 صهیب احمد ولد شیم ماحمد خان 10 سال زیقایم میناند از میناند میشود.

اسطورسائلان کاکنیہ 8افراد پر ششتل ہیں۔اورسائلان کے کنیہ میں ایک سرکاری ملازم موجود میں ۔سائلان کے کنیہ کے پاس دھذا میں دو کنال آراضی موجود ہیں۔ سائلان ک نبدی سالانه آمدنی تمام زراعی سے آٹھ لا کھروپیے سے زیادہ ہیں۔ مگر سکلان local schooling پیش کرتے ہے،اسطورسائل RBA سرٹفکیٹ اجراءکرنے کی خواہیش رکھتا ہے ۔ اگر کسی شخص کوکوئی عنزاض ہوتو وہ بعدسات دن کے اندرا ندرآپناعذریا عنزاض د منتر ہذامیں پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے میعاد کو پی عذریا عنز اض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

از نیابت دیدگام بااجلاس نایب تخصیلدار دیدگام مضمون درخواست منجانب: عظمی رشید دختر عبدالرشید لون ساکنهٔ گنوره مخصیل وضلع انت ناگ بغرض حصول RBA سر تفکیٹ

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائلہ نے ایک درخواست 'بغرض حصول سبک وارڈ ار سرفکیٹ دفتر بذامیں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سےعیاں ہے کہ سائلہ کا کنبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

آمدنی	پیشه	عمر	نام وولديت	نمبرشار
LPC	سرکاری ملازم	52 سال	عبدالرشيد ولدخليل لون	01′
	گھر بلوکام	50سال	دلشاده زوجه عبدالرشيد	02
	زرتعليم	26سال	عظمی رشید دختر عبدالرشید	03
	زرتعليم	20سال	عيانه رشيد دختر عبدالرشيد	04
	زرتعليم	18 سال	بختيار شيد ولدعبدالرشيد	05

اس کےعلاوہ اور کوئی افراد کبینہ میں موجوز ہیں ہے سائلہ کے کنبہ کے پاس دھذامیں 3 کنال تحرير الصدونائب تحصيلدار

ازنیابت هرده شوره بااجلاس ارشاداحمه ملک عنوان:مضمون درخواست منجانب : دانشته بانو وفرقان احمد ﷺ والده محبوبه بیگم ساکنه ترکه بله پوره نسبت حصول RBA سرتفیکیٹ تحت

اشتهار بمرادآ گاہی ہرخاص وعام

عامله مندرجه عنوان الصدريمين درخوست سائل دفتر مذامين زبر كاروائي ہے اس نسبت بیٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ بشمول مطلوبہ نقو الات ریکارڈ طلب کے گئے جس سے عہاں ہوتا ہے کہ ساکل سائلہ تر کہ بھر پورہ
میں راہائش پذیر ہے سائل کی کئیمہ کی مہانہ آمدنی 17200
روپے ہے کمینہ بذیل افراد پر ششتل ہے
محبوبہ بیگم زوجہ عبدل فتح شخ

اسکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کمینہیں بتلایا گیا ہے سر تفکیک ز بریجث ا دا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کوکوئی عذریا اعتراض ہوتو وہ پناعذریااعتراض ساتھ یوم کے اندرپیش کریں۔میعادگزرنے کے بعد كوئى عذريااعتراض قابل قبول نهس ہوگاہ۔

### Office of the Assistant Regional Transport officer, Shopian

whereas an application has been received from one Shahid Hussain Kumar S/o Bashir Ahamd Kumar R/o Bakahider Trenz Shopian Owner of the vehicle No JK22A- 6456 for cancellation of Hire PUrchase Agreement

with M/S JK Bank Fruit Mandi Prichoo Pulwama Now it is therefore. Notified for general information that objectoins if any, to the proposed cancellatin of Hire Purchase Agreement shell be filled in writing in the office of Assistnat Regional Trasnport Officer Shopian within ap

period of seven (7) days fro the publication of this notice

No: ARTO/Spn/35 Dated 06-04-2022

in the daily Kashmir Observer

S/D Asst Regional **Transport Officer Shopian** 

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# **WHO Says 99% Of World's Population Breathes Poor-Quality Air** Associated Press

eneva- The UN health agency says nearly everybody in the world breathes air that doesn't meet its standards for air quality, calling for more action to reduce fossil-fuel use, which generates pollutants that cause respiratory and blood-flow problems and lead to millions of preventable deaths each year.

The World Health Organisation, about six months after tightening its guidelines on air quality, on Monday issued an update to its database on air quality that draws on information from a growing number of cities, towns, and villages across the globe now totaling over 6,000 municipalities.

WHO said 99 per cent of the global population breathes air that exceeds its air-quality limits and is often rife with particles that can penetrate deep into the lungs, enter the veins and arteries, and cause disease. Air quality is poorest in WHO's Eastern Mediterranean and Southeast Asia regions, followed by Africa, it said.

After surviving a pandemic, it is unacceptable to still have 7 million preventable deaths and countless preventable lost years of good health due to air pollution, said Dr Maria Neira, head of WHO's department of environment, climate change and health. Yet too many investments are still being sunk into a polluted environment rather than in clean, healthy air. The database, which has traditionally considered two types of particulate matter known



as PM2.5 and PM10, for the first time has included ground measurements of nitrogen dioxide. The last version of the database was issued in 2018.

Nitrogen dioxide originates mainly from human-generated burning of fuel, such as through automobile traffic, and is most common in urban areas. Exposure can bring respiratory disease like asthma and symptoms like coughing, wheezing and difficulty in breathing, and more hospital and emergency-room admissions, WHO said. The highest concentrations were found in the eastern Mediterranean region.

Particulate matter has many

sources, such as transportation. power plants, agriculture, the burning of waste and industry as well as from natural sources like desert dust. The developing world is particularly hard hit: India had high levels of PM10, while China showed high levels of PM2.5, the database showed.

Particulate matter, especially PM2.5, is capable of penetrating deep into the lungs and entering the bloodstream, causing cardio-vascular, cerebrovascular (stroke) and respiratory impacts, WHO said. There is emerging evidence that particulate matter impacts other organs and causes other diseases as well.

The findings highlight the sheer scale of the changes needed to combat air pollution, said Anumita Roychowdhury, an air pollution expert at Centre for Science and Environment, a research and advocacy organisation in New Delhi. India and the world need to brace for major changes to try to curb air pollution: electric vehicles; a shift away from fossil fuels; a massive scaling-up of green energy; and households separating their types of waste, she said.

The Council on Energy, Environ-ment and Water, a New Delhibased think tank, found in a study that more than 60% of India's PM2.5 loads are from households

Nitrogen dioxide originates mainly from humangenerated burning of fuel, such as through automobile traffic, and is most common in urban areas. Exposure can bring respiratory disease like asthma and symptoms like coughing, wheezing and difficulty in breathing, and more hospital and emergency-room admissions, WHO said. The highest concentrations were found in the eastern Mediterranean region.

and industries.

Tanushree Ganguly, who heads the council's program on air quality, called for action toward reducing emissions from industries, automobiles, biomass burning and domestic energy.

We need to prioritize clean energy access for households that need it the most, and take active measures to clean up our industrial sector, she said.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

### OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION PULPWAMA

**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER** 

NIT No: Fresh-01/EEP/RNB of 2022-23/46-56 Dated: 06/04/2022

For and on behalf of the President of India, e-tenders are being invited on an item rate basis/percentage age basis (as applicable) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with the J&K Government, CPWD, Railways, and other State/Central Governments for the following works:

S.	Name of Work	Adv. Cost		EMD in	Time of		Class of	
No		(Rs. In	T/Doc.	shape of		Account	Contractor	l
		Lacs)	(In	CDR/FDR/				AAA No:
1	2	3	Rupees ) 4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Amacadamization of Chakura to Naina road for 2.00 Kms and Macadamization of IR of Naina Batpora for 0.5 Kms.	48.55 Incl. C/o Bitumen	1100/-	2% of Adv cost	7 (Work- ing Days)		AAY with HMPO/	52/SE/PS of 2021-22 Dated: 09.03.2022
2.	Macadamization of Iqbal Coloney road at Tumlahal including Ziyarat Sharief link road for 0.7 Kms and Macadamization of Ziyarat Sharief road and Macadamization of Main road to Chandi- pora for 0.40 Kms	31.10 Incl. C/o Bitumen	1100/-	2% of Adv cost	7 (Work- ing Days)	C&T		52/SE/PS of 2021-22 Dated: 09.03.2022
3.	Macadamization of	29.20 Incl. C/o Bitumen	1100/-	2% of Adv cost	7 (Work- ing Days)	C&T		52/SE/PS of 2021-22 Dated: 09.03.2022
4.	Macadamization of interior roads of Chandgam for 0.80 Km and Macadamization of Wahipora Yadder road.		1100/-	2% of Adv cost	7 (Work- ing Davs)	C&T	HMPO/AAY Class Civil with	52/SE/PS of 2021-22 Dated: 09.03.2022
5.	Macadamization of Lassipora Achan Her- pora road via Panjran in stretches including fish farm link for 1.00 Km and Macadamization of Achan to Paniran road.		1100/-		7 (Work- ing Days)	C&T	HMPO/AAY Class Civil with	52/SE/PS of 2021-22 Dated: 09.03.2022
6.	Macadamization of Murran Sheikhpora via Jamia Masjid Road 0.7 Km including Dadoora Babhar link.	33.99 Incl. C/o Bitumen	1100/-	2% of Adv cost	7 (Work- ing Days)			52/SE/PS of 2021-22 Dated: 09.03.2022
7.	Macadamization of Rawatpora Niklora road.	24.32 Incl. C/o Bitumen	800/-	2% of Adv cost	7 (Work- ing Davs)			52/SE/PS of 2021-22 Dated: 09.03.2022

Position of AAA: Accorded Position of funds Available

DIPK-199/22

The bidding documents, which would include qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications/drawings, a bill of quantities (B.O.Q), a set of contract terms and conditions, and other details, can be

viewed/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in on the dates listed below: -					
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	06/04/2022			
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	06/04/2022 from 10.00 AM.			
3	Bid submission Start Date	06/04/2022 from 10.00 AM.			
4	Bid Submission End Date	18/04/2022 upto 4.00 PM.			
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	19/04/2022 at 11:00 AM in the office of Executive			
		Engineer R&B Division Pulwama			

Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between the bid submission start date and the Bid Submission End date) deposited in M.H. 0059 in the name of Executive Engineer R&B Division Pulwama (tender inviting authority) as the cost of the tender document.

3.At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Pulwama. The successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 3% at the time of contract award strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 3% of the total cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period. All other terms and conditions shall be available in website www.jktenders.gov.in

Technical Officer Executive Engineer, R&B Division Pulwama

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

I have lost the Number Plate of my Vehicle bearing Regd No: JKO3F 0003. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/ she may file his/her objection in the office of the ARTO Anantnag within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be enter-

Suhail Ahmad Mongkhal

R/o:-Igbalabad K.P Road Anantnag

rna

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



Where as a joint application has been recieved from owner. Shri: Aehtisham ud Din Wani S/o: Bashir Ahmad Wani R/o: New Airport Humhama Budgam as Transferor) & Shri. Owais Majeed S/o Abdul Majeed Bhat R/o Shahpora Wathoora Chadoora Budgam.as Transferee) for transfer of Xylo Maxi Cab Carriage route permit No.558/CC/ Budgam vehicle No. JK04B



Now it is therefore notified for general information that objections, if any to the proposed transfer of the said route permit/vehicle shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice in No. ARTO/BUDGAM. 51

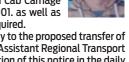
Dated 06/04/2022

Assistant Regional Transport officer **Budgam Kashmir** 

# OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR



NOTICE Where as a joint application has been recieved from owner. Shri: Marafat Ahmad Shah S/o: Mushtaq Ahmad Shah R/o: Khansahib Budgam as Transferor) & Shri. Mohammad Ashraf Kutay S/o Abdul Gaffar Kutay R/o Khansahib.as Transferee) for transfer of Sumo Maxi Cab Carriage route permit No.353/CC/ Budgam vehicle No. JK04A -7901. as well as



HPA cancellation with J&K Bank lt B/u Khansahib also required. Now it is therefore notified for general information that objections, if any to the proposed transfer of the said route permit/vehicle shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily No. ARTO/ BUDGAM. 78

Dated 06/04/2022

Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

# Office Of The Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (I&FC) Division Sopore

Tele-fax 01954222282

email: irrigationspr1@gmail.com

**Cancellation Notice** 

Cancellation Notice to e-NIT No: 29 of 2021-22 Dated: 28-03-2022

Due to some technical error the e-NIT No 29 of 2021-22 Dated: 28-03-2022 issued vide endorsement No: I&FC/ Sopore / NIT/7597-7623 Dated: 28-03-2022 is hereby cancelled.

However, the cost of Tender document(s) deposited by the participants (contractor) who have uploaded their bids shall be accepted by the Division for respective work(s) only if they intend to participate again.

I&FC/ Sopore / NIT/80-106. DATED: 05-04-2022.

Sd/-**Executive Engineer** Jal-Shakti (IFC) Division

**DIPK-161/22** 

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### **Steep Price Rise** Of Essential **Commodities** Hit Ramazan fervour: NC

Agencies

National rinagar: Conference Wednesday pressed dismay over the paucity of drinking water and electricity in Kashmir, saving the erratic supply of public utility services, and overcharging by shopkeepers and vendors is giving tough time to people during the on-going holy month of Ramzan

This was said by JKNC General Secretary Ali Muhammad Sagar in a press statement released from the party headquarters Nawa-e-Subha, Srinagar.

Expressing concern over the slack attitude of the administration in rendering its duties, Sagar said, "Administration has failed to take steps to ensure steady water and electricity supply to people. Concerned agencies have failed to address issues faced by people. Ideally all the line departments including PDD, PWD, FCSC and concerned corporations and municipalities should have been instructed to work in tandem. Contrarily, the administration has again failed to rise up to the occasion," he said.

Earlier, Sagar met scores of public delegations who had called on him here at the party headquarters Nawa-e-Subha from different parts of the valley. The visiting delegations gave a grim picture of public utility services provided to them. They said that the erratic water and electricity supply had dampened the festive spirit during the ongoing holy month. The visiting delegations also apprised the general secretary about the scarcity of ration particularly sugar, wheat, and rice at the FCSC stores.

The delegations specifically from Srinagar flagged the issue of unsatisfactory sanitation, unavailability of public transport, shortage of ration, and unsteady water and electricity supply with Sagar.

### **Police Conducts** Surprise Frisking At Lal Chowk

Agencies

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir Police along with the CRPF conducted frisking at the city-center Lal Chowk area of Srinagar on Wednesday.

Eyewitnesses said that police and the CRPF conducted surprise frisking in Lal Chowk as part of the stepped-up vigil in Srinagar city in the wake of the recent spate of militant attacks and the killing of a trooper in Maisuma market.

"Pedestrians were frisked while vehicles were also stopped and thoroughly checked. CRPF and police personnel were also seen checking the identity cards of pedestrians."

An official said that frisking operations have been intensified in Srinagar in the wake of militant presence.

نائب تحصيلدار كنز



Security Personnel examining the site after a cylinder blast took place in a tempo vehicle near Tulip garden on Wednesday. KO Photo Abid Bhat

### CYBER FRAUD

# **Police Recovers 18 Lakh**

Srinagar: Cyber Police Kashmir on Wednesday said it saved Rs 18 lacs which was lost in a fake investment scam, a police spokes-

"Cyber Police Station Kashmir Zone, Srinagar received a complaint from a resident of Bandipora stating therein that he had been duped, cheated for an amount of Rs 18lacs by the fraudsters in an online investment scam. The complainant received a link of a fake investment website on his cell number wherein

he was promised to get double monetary benefits," a statement

"The victim fell prey and accessed the website where he got himself registered on said website by opening an e-wallet. After registration, the victim was made to transfer the hefty amount of Rs 18lacs in the said wallet through various UPI transactions. The victim after depositing the said amount was unable to get benefits and was also not able to withdraw his own amount from the said wallet. The complainant tried hard

to reach out on available contact details of said company but all in vain.

Accordingly, the complainant approached Cyber Police Kashmir Zone Srinagar for redressal of his grievance. Subsequently, the matter was taken up with bank authorities to ascertain the details of UPI transactions. During analysis of transactions, it came to fore that the said amount has been transferred through payment gateways into their PayTm Nodal Accounts. The strenuous and timely intervention

by the team of Cyber Police Kashmir Zone Srinagar, the payment of Rs 18lacs was put on hold and later on refunded the whole amount into the complainant's bank account, spokesman said.

Pertinently, it is a new trend for online influencers to convince gullible citizens about "double money return" schemes and make people feel bad about missing the "opportunity" of investing in instruments like crypto-currency, binary trading, crypto mining, online betting and gaming.

# **BPA Of LCMA Approves 35 Cases**

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: The J&K Lake Conservation & Management Authority on Wednesday convened 119th meeting of the ity (BPA) under the chairmanship of Vice Chairman LC&MA, Dr. Bashir Ahmad Bhat who is also the Chairman of BOCA at Miskeen Bagh.

During the meeting, the BPA decided 38 cases out of which 35 cases were approved, one case was deferred and two cases were rejected.

Building Permission Author-

ity including Chief Town Planner of Kashmir, Joint Commissioner (P) SMC, Secretary LCMA, Collector LCMA, Executive Engineer Lake Division 1st, 2nd LCMA, Tehsildar North ment Officers LCMA and representatives of Nazool, UEED Tehsildar Khanyar, PHE and Law officer LCMA were pres-

Other members of the

ent in the meeting. In the meantime the Vice

Chairman J&K LCMA asked the people residing in the local jurisdiction of LCMA to apply for proper building permission through an online portal before starting any construction

# NOTICE

It is hereby informed to general public that I Yasir Ali Joo. Father of Mahir Hussain Joo. wants to correct the parentage of my son in the school records from Yasir Ahmad joo to Yasir Ali Joo.In this regard if anyone has any objection he or she approach to principal crescent public school Naseem Bagh, Srinagar with in seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Objection will not be entertained after the stipulated time.

Yasijoor Ali F/o: Mahir Hussain R/o: Arampora Lal Baza Government of Jammu and Kashmir

### Office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (I&FC) Division Sopore

Tele-fax 01954222282

email: irrigationspr1@gmail.com

Cancellation Notice Cancellation Notice to e-NIT No: 30 of 2021-22 Dated: 30-03-2022

Due to some technical error the e-NIT No 30 of 2021-22 Dated: 30-03-2022 issued vide endorsement No: I&FC/Sopore / NIT/7656-82 Dated: 30-03-2022 is hereby cancelled.

However, the cost of Tender document(s) deposited by the participants (contractor) who have uploaded their bids shall be accepted by the Division for respective work(s) only if they intend to participate again.

NO: I&FC/ Sopore / NIT/120-46. DATED: 05-04-2022.

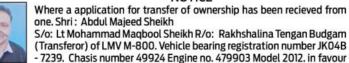
**Executive Engineer** Jal-Shakti (IFC) Division Sopore

DIPK-162/22

### OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR

NOTICE

Where a application for transfer of ownership has been recieved from



of Shri.. Mohammad Muzamil Khan S/o. Lal Mohammad Khan R/o Nundreshi Colony Srinagar (Tranferee) as well as HPA cancellation with M/S J & K Bank B/U Lasjan

is also required. 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 office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in

the daily newspaper No. ARTO/BUDGAM.66 Dated 06/04/2022

> Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

### تضمون درخواست: طارق احمدوانی ولدغلام نبی وانی ساکنه تعلیو ره بمراد در تنگی اندراج نام نسبت DOB سرٹفییٹ بحق پسر منتظراحمدوانی طارق احیدوانی ولدغلام نبی وانی ساکن<sup>ل</sup>علپورہ بمراد درشگی اندراج نام نسبت DOB تجق پسر منتظراحمه وانی

معامله مندرجه عنوان الصدريين دفتر بنه اكوايك درخواست بايت درستگی اندراج نام نبست DOB موصول جوئی ہے۔۔ پوليس شيشن كنزروچ كيدارعلاقد نے ساكل کے پسر کی پیدائش اندراج کی ہے۔۔ابسائل اپنے پسر کا نام گلزاراحمدوانی سے تبدیل کر کے منتظراحمدوانی رکھنے کاخواہاں ہے۔۔اس صمن میں بل ازیں DOB شِهْكِيتْ زِيرِنْبِرِيPSK/15B/5540202020 كورنيPOB جرا کی گئی ہے۔۔جس میں سائن ل کے پسر کی تاریخ پیدائش 1.4.202 درج ہے۔۔۔البنة سامل متمنی ہے کہ میرے پسر کا نام جواندراج ہواہے اس کی جگه نتظراحمد وانی رکھا جائے۔ . اس نسبت ہرخاص وعام کومطلع کیا جا تا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص یااشخاص کوکوئی عذریا محتراض ہوتو وہ اپناعذریا اعتراض ساتھ ہوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذریااعتراض قابل قبول نہں ہوگاہ۔

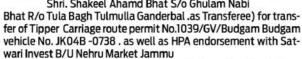
### OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR

mcb





Where as a joint application has been recieved from owner. Shri: Haji Abdul Rashid Karnai S/o Abdul Khaliq Karnai R/o Barthana Qamarwari Srinagar as (Transferor) & Shri. Shakeel Ahamd Bhat S/o Ghulam Nabi



Now it is therefore notified for general information that objections, if any to the proposed transfer of the said route permit/vehicle shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper. No. ARTO/BUDGAM. 62

Dated 06/04/2022

fko

Assistant Regional Transport officer **Budgam Kashmir** 

### Office of The Regional Transport Officer Kashmir

### Notice



Whereas, a joint application has been received from Shri Bilal Ahamd Najar S/o Mehraj ud din Najar R/o Lasjan Sgr (Transferor) and Shri Showkat Ahmad Alie S/o Gulzar Ahamd Alie

R/o Abban Shah Shala Teng Ghat Zainakote (Transferee) for transfer of Maxi Cab carriage route Permit No 6139/MC Covering Vehicle No JK01P-5052.

Now, therefore, it is notified for general information that objections, if any to the proposed transfer of the said route permit / vehicle shall be filled in writing in the office of the Regional Transport Officer, Kashmir,

Within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily News Paper Kashmir Observer. Seller and purchaser identified by the authorized representatives of M/S STW Co Namely Bagh Hussain

NO: JK/RTOK /310 Dated: 06/04/2022

fko

Sd/-Regional Transport Office, Kashmir

### **DIAL-EMMA**

TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686 PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883

PDD: 0194-2450213

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES: 2479488,2452222,2452155 CAPD: 18001807011

SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081 Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

# **AIRPORTS**

### SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



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

### **HIGHWAY STATUS**



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



### **PRAYERS FAJR** 4: 45 **ZUHR** 12:34 **ASR** 5:07 6:58 Magrib **ISHA** 8:22

# **This Day In History**

1946 - Syria's independence from France is officially recognised

1953 - 1st west-to-east jet transatlantic nonstop flight 1954 - US President Dwight D. Eisenhower in news conference is first to

voice fear of a "domino-effect" of communism in Indo-China 1956 - Spain relinquishes her protectorate in Morocco 1964 - IBM announces the System/360.

1967 - Israeli Syrian border fights

1969 - Supreme Court strikes down laws prohibiting private possession of obscene material

1978 - US President Jimmy Carter defers production of neutron bomb 1982 - Iran minister of Foreign affairs Ghotbzadeh arrested

1983 - Oldest human skeleton, aged 80,000 years, discovered in Egypt 1983 - STS-6 specialist Story Musgrave & Don Peterson 1st STS space-

walk 1988 - Russia announces it will withdraw its troops from Afghanistan 1996 - Sri Lanka's Sanath Jayasuriya hits fastest ODI fifty off 17 balls v

1996 - Pakistan beat Sri Lanka to win Singer Cup in Singapore 1999 - The World Trade Organisation rules in favor of the United States in its long-running trade dispute with the European Union over

2001 - Mars Odyssey is launched 2009 - Former Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori is sentenced to 25

years in prison for ordering killings and kidnappings by security forces 2012 - 130 Pakistani Army soldiers are buried in an avalanche near the Si®achen Glacier.

· 2013 - 15 people, including 9 children, are killed by an air strike on Aleppo by the Syrian Air Force.

2016 - Longest-ever captured python found on Penang in Malaysia

2017 - Truck driven into a department store in Stockholm, killing 4 in

· 2017 - US President Donald Trump orders missile strike on Svrian airfield after chemical weapons attack on Khan Sheikhoun

# From KO Archives

# Blazing Start To Historic Bus

Militants Storm 'Passengers' Sanctuary, Tourist Reception Centre In Flames

**Observer News Service** 

RINAGAR - With barely hours left for the Muzaffarabad bag to roll and despite unprecedented security measures, militants attacked the Tourist Reception Centre (TRC), where the passengers have been lodged under heavy armed guard.

The front building of the complex was on fire within minutes of the initial shots ringing out at around 3:45 this

A union of four militant groups that have issued threats against the bus service has claimed responsibility for the attack, which took place hardly 200 yards away from the venue the prime minister will flag off the bus service from.

An officer of the security forces said that militants had entered the building with guns blazing and later set it on fire. Seven employees, including a woman, were injured in the

heavy firing while the building which houses several government offices was being evacuated. Security officers said that Muzaffarabad-bound passengers were safe as they had been lodged in a different wing of the

complex. They put the number of attackers at two and said the one of them was killed soon after the attack and the other in the subsequent action by security forces. Evacuation of the civilians from the building was carried out swiftly by the police as fire tenders went into action to control the blaze that spread from the attic

to the lower floor within no time. Reports said that the militants attacked from the main gate opening indiscriminate fire as they stormed into the complex. The state police, BSF and CRPF immediately surrounded

the site and launched the operation against the militants. Among the injured were Roushan Ara of Hyderpora, Vakil Ahmad Pandith of Tangmarg, Basheer Ahmad of Wanabal.

Records or nearly score of government offices housed in the building have been lost in the fire. The losses in terms of property are expected to run into crores. Even though the fire tenders and firemen desperately

fought the flames, the building mainly constructed of timber was reduced to a burning hulk. The building also housed an office of the State Road Transport Corporation, which has to operate the Indian sector of the

Srinagar-Muzaffarabad bus service. The other offices that were located in the building, include the branches of Jammu and Kashmir Bank and the Stale Bank or India: an office of Tourism Development Corporation, Indian Airlines, post office, offices of fisheries and wild life depart-

ments, and the tourist police office. (Kashmir Observer, 07 April, 2005)

# **OBSERVER**

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#### KO VIEW

# **India's Ukraine Policy**

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Wednesday said that India supports conducting an independent investigation with respect to the killings that took place in Bucha. Speaking on the situation in Ukraine in the parliament, Jaishankar said the conflict in Ukraine has had significant consequences for the global economy and for India's economy. "Like all countries, we too are assessing the implications and deciding what is best for our national interest," he further said. The foreign minister added that India has chosen the side of peace and it is for "an immediate end to violence." No solution, he said, can be arrived at by shedding blood and at the cost of innocent lives.

This is the first time that India has clearly articulated its policy on Ukraine. Jaishankar said that "in this day and age, dialogue and diplomacy are the right answers to any dispute." On Tuesday, foreign minister spoke to United States Secretary of State Antony Blinken ahead of next week's India-US '2+2' dialogue. It was the second telephonic conversation between the two in a week and much of it was focussed on the ongoing war in Ukraine. The West is concerned about India's intention to buy more discounted crude oil from Russia.

Last week, the visiting US Deputy National Security Adviser for International Economics Daleep Singh.had cautioned that there will be consequences for countries actively attempting to "circumvent or backfill" American sanctions against Moscow. He also warned Indian leadership that Washington would not like to see a "rapid" acceleration in India's import of energy and other commodities from Russia.

Similarly, US President Joe Biden has also expressed his displeasure at India's position on the crisis in Ukraine, saying the world had launched a united front across Europe and the Pacific on the Russian attack on Ukraine with the "possible exception of India". He also described India's response to the Russian invasion as "somewhat shaky". Now the Ukraine crisis is likely to come up in the '2+2' dialogue between India and the U.S., slated to be held in Washington on April 11.

This is likely to pile up more pressure on India and force it to take a position against Russian invasion of Ukraine. And the foreign minister's speech in the parliament makes it clear that there is an attempt to make India's policy on Ukraine appear less ambivalent. Going forward, India and the nations across the world may readjust their policies depending on the likely outcome of the war. That said, India is within its rights to pursue an independent foreign policy which is in the best interest of the people of the country.

### OTHER OPINON

# In the middle: On India's role in Russia-Ukraine crisis

orty days into the war in Ukraine, India's role appears to be more relevant than other countries may have expected, evident from the stream of dignitaries from overseas over the past two weeks. Most were from countries that are a part of the U.S. and EU-led sanctions regime against Russia. Their messages were three-pronged: asking India to change its vote at the UN, where it has abstained from all resolutions critical of Russia's invasion; to request that India not "accelerate" its purchases of Russian oil being offered at discount; and to discourage India from using the rupee-rouble national currency-based payment mechanisms that could subvert "backfilling sanctions". The messages go sharper and more public as it became clear that New Delhi would also host Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, and officials from the West hoped to turn India's position to their side. However, the red carpet welcome he received, including a cordial meeting with the Prime Minister, appeared to make it clear that New Delhi is not amenable to the pressure. The External Affairs Minister, S. Jaishankar, and the Finance Minister also reinforced the position of the Indian "national interest", given that European countries have yet to curtail oil intakes from Russia. It is likely that the U.S. will make another attempt to veer the Government off its chosen course when Mr. Jaishankar and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh visit Washington for the "2+2" meetings, where a possible waiver of CAATSA sanctions against India for the purchase of the Russian S-400 systems will also be discussed. The U.S. is also keen to squeeze Russia on the multilateral stage, with proposals to exclude it from the G-20 summit this year, and suspend it from the Human Rights Council.

While the Government cannot be faulted for its refusal to bow to external pressure, it must consider the importance of remaining flexible on what its stand both at the UN and in bilateral conversations is going to be, given the ground situation in Ukraine. Reports of gross human rights violations blamed on the Russian army could change the complexion of the war, and India's call for an independent inquiry into the allegations is an important intervention. In addition, the U.S. and the EU are likely to tighten economic sanctions, as the current restrictions have not made Russia reconsider its course. With Russia unlikely to relinquish areas of Eastern Ukraine, and its western rivals not likely to let up their counter-measures, New Delhi must realise that its value to the two sides will last while it remains uncommitted to either side. This will require having a keen eve on rapid developments in the theatre of war, an ear on what partners on both sides plan next, and the ability to keep its mind open on where India's responsibilities, as a global democracy, and a truly non-aligned

The Hindu

# Forest Rights Act & Biodiversity Act

# **Wise Link**

FRA and BDA should work in tandem to trengthen forest governance in Jammu & Kashmir

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

here are several legislations in India enacted to strengthen forest governance. Some are very old dating back to British India and some have been enacted during the recent past.

Forest Department, Wildlife Department, Wildlife activists, Environmentalists or Tribal Rights activists have differing perceptions about forests and its conservation. The laws like Forest Conservation Act (FCA), Indian Forest Act 1927(IFA), the Wildlife Protection Act (WLPA), Biodiversity Act (BDA) and Scheduled Tribes and Other Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Rights) Act also called Forest Rights Act -FRA 2006 takes care of various aspects of forest governance. The Forest Rights Act (FRA) was enacted to rectify the historical injustices done with tribals & forest dwellers. FRA is a very progressive legislation which has a potential to change the lives of millions of tribals and forest dwellers living in remote corners of forests in India.

As I have explained in my previous articles, the FRA vests a number of rights over forest lands with forest dependent Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (OTFDs). The rights include the individual rights over forest lands (Individual Forest Rights-IFR), Community Forest Rights-CFR and the rights to protect and manage Community Forest Resources within traditional or customary boundaries of the village

### Misconception about FRA

The officials of the Forest Department are under a misconception that the Forest Rights Act FRA will let people take control of forest land. This is the reason forest officers are directing their staff on the ground to ensure that there is no "encroachment" of forest land. The Forest Department is trying to fence every inch of forest land in Jammu & Kashmir thinking forest dwellers might claim their right over the forest land and the forest department will lose the authority over it.

I don't question the intentions of the forest officials but their actions have a negative impact on the ground. Last summer, this author had interaction with many tribals and forest dwellers at Yusmarg (Darwan Basti) who were not even allowed to grow vegetables around their huts (Kothas). The people living in Darwan Basti, Yusmarg told me that they feel more harassed after FRA rollout as the forest officials were harassing them. I had recorded videos of several old men and women in Darwan Basti meadow and uploaded them on social media. The officers of forest department on the other hand denied that they were harassing these forest dwellers. Some officers told me that under the garb of growing vegetables the migratory population changed the nature of forest land which is not allowed at all under Forest Conservation Act or Indian Forest Act 1927.

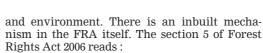
The forest dwellers in Darwan Basti told me they had better rights before the FRA rollout in J&K post article 370. The Darwan Basti at Yusmarg is inhabited by around 400 households who undertake seasonal migration during summer months from villages like Darwan, Choontinad, Chalyan and Nowgam villages. This has been their tradition for hundreds of years, they told me.

### Forest conservation & FRA

The Forest Rights Act (FRA), if implemented with better intention can be used for forest conservation. What I have observed in the last 2 years is that forest officials are unaware of this provision in the FRA. Section 5 of the FRA 2006 empowers the gram sabha (village council) to protect the wildlife, forest, and biodiversity of the village and ensure that adjoining catchment areas, water sources, and other ecologically sensitive areas are adequately protected. But there is no awareness about this.

My colleagues and I are trying our bit in this direction by writing about FRA and using social media platforms to highlight the issue but that isn't enough.

However, the Govt has to play its role through the Forest Department, Tribal Affairs Department and involving universities and NGOs to create awareness about the Forest Rights Act. NGOs, research institutions, Forest Department, Tribal Affairs Department need to link FRA with conservation and protection of local biodiversity



Duties of holders of forest rights. The holders of any forest right, Gram Sabha and village level institutions in areas where there are holders of any forest right under this Act are empowered to-

- a) Protect the wildlife, forest and biodiversity.
- Ensure that adjoining catchments area, water sources and other ecological sensitive areas are adequately protected.
- c) Ensure that the habitat of forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes
   and other traditional forest dwellers are preserved
- and other traditional forest dwellers are preserved from any form of destructive practices affecting their cultural and natural heritage.
- d) Ensure that the decisions taken in the Gram Sabha to regulate access to community forest resources and stop any activity which adversely affects the wild animals, forest and the biodiversity are complied with.

### FRA & BDA Need to be Linked

Last year, on April 10th 2021, five village panchayats in Sopore area of Baramulla district adopted a joint resolution by invoking section 5 of the Forest Rights Act 2006 (FRA) for protection of the biodiversity of their respective villages. The village panchayats namely Tarzoo A, BC, Darnambal and Rakhe Haigam passed a joint resolution for protection and conservation of a huge chunk of forest land ( around 170 acres). This land was being used to dump municipal solid waste by Municipal Council Sopore with the support of district administration Sopore.

I had been personally in touch with these village panchayats for a long time and had been trying to guide and assist them in conservation of local biodiversity. After consulting some experts, we thought of using Section 5 of Forest Rights Act 2006 and invoking Biodiversity Act 2002 as well.

Through a joint resolution, the village panchayats of Tarzoo A,B & C and Dharnambal impressed upon the Government especially Deputy Commissioner Baramulla and Pollution Control Committee and Municipal Council, Sopore to stop unscientific garbage disposal in Ninglee Tarzoo area which was a severe threat to the environment and biodiversity in their area. The Member Secretary J&K Pollution Control Committee (PCC) acted swiftly and directed the Regional Director PCC Kashmir to initiate action.

The illegal garbage dumping site was not only causing a threat to the environment and wildlife but the land being encroached actually belonged to the forest department for which Municipal Council Sopore had not obtained any written permission. The forest officers were not acting as district administration was supporting the municipal council.

What the forest officers could not do for many years, the resolution under section 5 of FRA did in days.

The resolution adopted by gram sabba (deb

The resolution adopted by gram sabha (deh majlis) had an impact and the forest department also came into action. The forest range Ninglee with the help of local people not only prevented Municipal Council (MC) Sopore from dumping its waste in the forest land, but they even

removed the encroachment by closing the approach road to the land. The Municipal Council Sopore then started using a small patch of state land which belongs to Panchayat. The locals are fighting to get that site also cleared and the district administration has sought some time until they find a suitable place to create a scientific landfill site for Sopore town. The fight is on but the locals have resolved that they would invoke FRA & BDA to get the area cleared of unscientific waste dumping. Infact the National Green Tribunal (NGT) had taken cognizance of my article published in a local daily few years back on this issue and then High Court Division Bench also intervened. The Tarzoo Ninglee residents also invoked the Biodiversity Act, 2002 to get the forest land cleared of municipal solid waste (MSW). The three biodiversity management committees of Tarzoo area jointly send a memorandum to several places and that also had an impact.

### Community Control of Forests

The best practices about linking up of Forest Rights Act (FRA) and Biodiversity Act (BDA) can be best seen in Nayagrah district of Odisha. I had a chance to visit Ranpur block of Nayagrah district last year in November. The Forest Rights Committees (FRCs) constituted under FRA are so serious about forest and environment conservation that people can't even cut a tree in the forest village. The local communities have more control over forests than the forest department. The people around Ranpur forest area have already been working for conservation and protection of their forests and forest resources including the wildlife for last 24 years under the banner of Maa Maninag Jangal Suraksha Parishad (MMJSP) which is a confederation of around 132 community based forest protection groups in 132 villages. Arkito Sahu the Secretary of the Maa Maninag Jangal Suraksha Parishad has been putting his sincere and tireless efforts to organize the people in 132 villages for protection and conservation of forests. Vasundhara, a noted NGO based in Bhubaneshwar has also been working around Ranpur area from 1995. This NGO has helped MMJSP with institutional support like the documentation of their work and to involve women in forest committees which has been a very tedious task.

It is very important to link up all the Forest Rights Act & Biodiversity Act to ensure sustainable environmental conservation practices which will in turn strengthen the forest governance in J&K. In this regard I had a detailed meeting with Principal Chief Conservator of Forests J&K (PCCF) Mr Mohit Gera recently. Mr Gera who is also the Head of Forest Force in J&K, assured me that sensitization workshops would be held on FRA & Biodiversity Act and the committees constituted at village or district level would be given proper training about these legislations.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer

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# Sri Lanka's Crisis

rom shortage of food, fuel and medicine to long daily power cuts, to cancellation of exams due to lack of ink and paper, the problems affecting Sri Lanka are myriad. Huge piles of foreign debt, soaring inflation and depleting foreign currency reserves - the island nation is a textbook example of a country that could ever go wrong and get into all sorts of trouble for not diversifying its economy.

Sri Lanka's economy is funda-

try that has been spending far greater than what it actually earns. Its economy doesn't produce much wealth, but has the consumerist stomach of a rich and fertile nation. When the 2019 Easter bomb-blasts and two rounds of the pandemic literally dried up Sri Lanka's tourism, the country had no cash. On the top of it, the government's flawed policy of organic farming cropped its meagre agriculture too. When you borrow in such cease-

mentally flawed. It is a kind of a coun-

less instability, there is certainly a huge risk of you defaulting and running up more debts because you will have to borrow more to pay off previous debts. It is a vicious cycle

ous debts. It is a vicious cycle.

And what has made the situation worse is the indiscriminate borrowing for vanity projects since 2009 when the Rajapaksas came to power on the back of war-triumphalism. In simple terms, Sri Lanka's present situation is a mounting crisis of balance payments that is similar to

what India would have landed itself in 1991. But thanks to the former and late Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, who along with the then Finance Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, recouped the country's economy from the brink of a major collapse.

Ranganathan Sivakumar siva19kumar@gmail.com

# **That Crazy Starving Muslim!**

**Raudah Mohd Yunus** 

hen my Lithuanian classmate who sat next to me asked whether I wanted to have lunch one day, I explained to her that I was fasting as it was the month of Ramazan. She gave me a sarcastic smile and said, 'Well, you crazy people can starve all you want!'

On my way back home, I started thinking of how crazy or weird fasting could seem to some people, especially those whose lifestyle and culture are not familiar with this practice.

While trying to scrutinise my knowledge and trying to understand this further, I came to a painful realisation: I was not at all prepared to face a world that harbours so much ignorance about fasting.

Why had I been fasting all this while anyway? I had no solid an-

So I studied, read, pondered and I began confronting the truth.

Many Muslims do not really un-derstand why they fast. If you pick any random Muslim on the street and ask, you might get one of the following answers:

- That's What I've Been Told,
- From A Very Young Age. People Around (Other Muslims) Fast, So Why Wouldn't I? Hello, It's One Of The Five Pil-
- Its Ramazan, That's Why! Without Fasting, There's No
- Eid. Bummer! Just Fast And Stop Asking. If I Don't Fast, Everyone Will Call Me A Bad Muslim.

### **REASON NUMBER 1**

Unfortunately, none of the above is true. These distorted ideas have been long propagated by some ignorant Muslim societies as a short cut to easily deal with those who question and avoid real discussions. Delving deeper into the subject, I discovered that God had answered my question 1400 years ago in Chapter 2 verse

So the purposes of fasting were piety (God-consciousness) and righteousness. In simpler words, the objectives of fasting are first, to draw our hearts closer to God and second,

So the purposes of fasting were piety (Godconsciousness) and righteousness. In simpler words, the objectives of fasting are first, to draw our hearts closer to God and second, to instil virtue. goodness and morality in us

to instil virtue, goodness and moral-

How can fasting make us closer to God, or teach goodness? Can't we be religious and good without fasting? People who don't fast aren't necessarily bad, are they?

The real definition and practice of fasting extends beyond simply abstaining from food and drinks. Fasting also means self-restraint, from everything and anything that may displease God or go against the principles of decency. When we fast, we don't eat or drink except at the right time, we don't speak except for good words, we don't perform except for beneficial deeds and we do not allow our hearts to be occupied by anything except for God, righteousness and all that is constructive.

Physically, fasting makes us hungry. Hunger makes one weak and vulnerable. Being in this condition reminds us that as humans, we are never self-sufficient and without



continuous nourishment, we cannot

Therefore, we are taught two things: that we are dependent on the constant need for a greater power, and how little gratitude we have shown all this while in the midst of enjoying the abundance of food. We eat and drink in abundance, but rarely thank the Provider. Often we waste, carelessly spend and spoil ourselves without any sense of guilt or responsibility, despite being aware that millions out there suffer from unimaginable hunger and poverty.

### **FASTING AND SCIENCE**

Fasting has other advantages as well. Scientists have long promoted this practice as a way of keeping the body healthy and young. In fact, many doctors say that the less you eat, the longer you live, and that occasional fasting has immense health benefits. It is also a known fact that numerous chronic diseases are caused by over-eating and unhealthy dietary patterns.

But hey, I am not interested in science as a way of proving the importance of fasting. My previous encounters with similar issues have taught me a good lesson the Quran is a book of signs, not science. Living in a world ruled by scientific advancements does not make us obliged to always validate God's rulings with science. If God's commands are compatible with some scientific theories, would rather take that as a sign of His infinite wisdom, and that the laws of nature surely have no choice but to be subservient to their Creator.

However, if they seem incompatible with each other, be mindful that science and all its theories are never absolute. They change from time to time. Scientists may declare today that a certain drug is the most effective treatment for a certain disease, only to find out 10 years later that it actually causes the body more harm than good. Similarly, who can guarantee that all the quantum physics theories will remain as they are 50 vears from now?

### **WORLD HUNGER AND POVERTY**

When we fast, we are able to grasp the reality of hunger through firsthand experience. We feel the discomfort of a growling stomach and desperate craving for something delicious to pacify our tummies. We start

imagining all kinds of delicious foods as sunset approaches. Does that remind us of someone, or something? I Flipped Through A Few Maga-

zines And Discovered Some Shock-Roughly, 925 Million People

- Are Afflicted By Hunger, Every
- The World Produces Enough Food For Seven Billion Of Its Inhabitants, But Hunger Is Still Widespread.
- In 2010, It Was Estimated That 7.6 Million Children '20,000 A Day' Died From Hunger.
- Poverty Is The Principal Cause Of Hunger.
- The Number Of Hungry Grew In Africa Over The Period, From 175 Million To 239 Million, With Nearly 20 Million Added In The Last Few Years.
- Developed Regions Also Saw The Number Of Hungry Rise, From 13 Million In 2004-2006 To 16 Million In 2010-2012.

I closed my eyes and thought of all the innocent children who remain hungry day after day, having nothing left but their imagination of a possibly bright future, the gullible babies

who are born underweight because the mothers have been undernourished, the toddlers who do not have enough to eat and succumb to simple, preventable diseases, men who starve in order to feed their wives and children and women who starve to make sure their babies are fed.

### **REASON NUMBER 2**

Had I not fasted, I would not have understood the difficulty and pain of hunger. People may know some facts and feel sorry for the needy, but genuine solidarity with the less fortunate can only be realised through experiencing the same harsh conditions that they grapple with on a daily basis.

One will not truly understand what it means to be a Palestinian living under siege in Gaza, until he stays there and sees for himself the daily oppression taking place.

One cannot grasp the fear and horror of Syrian children living in trapped districts where bombshells are dropped every few hours, until he goes through similar events.

The same applies to hunger and poverty. Unless we carry part of the burden on our shoulders, we will never understand the grief and torment of starvation and we will not fully digest the meaning of empathy.

Therefore, that is how morality and virtue is instilled through fasting. From now on, the sight of a beggar will not annoy me, for the month of Ramazan has given me professional training on what hunger is all about, and how to treat the needy. This holy month has infused the spirit of compassion and empathy in my soul. I now see the have-nots as my beloved equals, not a financial or societal burden as taught in many textbooks.

Upon understanding this beautiful ritual of fasting and the reason it is prescribed, I feel at ease. It is true that knowledge and understanding gives you the confidence and eloquence to face the world, no matter how ruthless or sceptical it might be towards Ramazan and the concept of fasting. The next time someone labels me crazy for showing unity with the needy and hungry, I am more than ready with an answer. But before that, I will proudly say,

'Yes, I'm that crazy starving Muslim!'

# **COVID Fatigue**

how fatigued they are during a COVID infection.

Fatigue is more than being worn out or sleepy. It's an excessive tiredness that persists despite resting or good sleep. It's likely a result of our body's strong immune response to the virus.

But in some people the fatigue makes no difference.

COVID fatigue, and what can help.

### THE DIFFERENCE?

Others describe a generalised exhaustion, whether they are moving or not. People can experience physi-

The difference between tiredness and fatigue is this: tiredness can get better with enough rest, while fatigue persists even if someone is sleeping and resting more than ever.

### **HOW BIG A PROBLEM IS THIS?**

Because there is no agreed definition of post-COVID fatigue, it is im-

Estimates vary considerably worldwide. One review of 21 studies found 13-33% of people were fatigued 16-20 weeks after their symptoms started. This is a worryingly widespread

fatigue. Even before the pandemic, fatigue was one of the most common reasons to see a GP.

Most serious causes can be ruled out when your GP asks about your symptoms and examines you. Sometimes your GP will investigate further, perhaps by ordering blood tests.

drags on even when the infection is gone. This can be debilitating and frustrating. Simply resting more Here's what we know about post-

### **FATIGUE OR TIREDNESS? WHAT'S**

The term fatigue can mean different things to different people. Some people mean their muscles are easily weakened. Walking to the mailbox feels like they have run a marathon. cal, mental or emotional fatigue, or any combination of these.

possible to give exact numbers of how many people experience it.

### WHEN SHOULD I SEE MY GP?

There are many potential causes of

Symptoms that should raise particular concern include fevers, unex-



Early in the pandemic, we realised some patients had a cluster of debilitating symptoms that dragged on for months, which we now call long COVID.

Some 85% of long COVID patients experience fatigue, making it one of the most common long COVID symptoms

plained weight loss, unusual bleeding or bruising, pain (anywhere) that wakes you from sleep, or drenching night sweats.

If your fatigue is getting worse rather than better, or you cannot care for yourself properly, you really should seek medical care.

### IS IT LIKE LONG COVID?

Early in the pandemic, we realised some patients had a cluster of debilitating symptoms that dragged on for months, which we now call long COVID.

Some 85% of long COVID patients experience fatigue, making it one of the most common long COVID symptoms.

However, people with long COVID have a range of other symptoms, such as "brain fog", headaches and muscle aches. Patients with long COVID therefore experience more than fatigue, and sometimes don't have fatigue at all.

#### IS THIS LIKE CHRONIC FATIGUE SYNDROME?

We knew about chronic fatigue

syndrome, otherwise known as myalgic encephalomyelitis, well before

This often develops after a viral infection (for instance after infection with Epstein-Barr virus). So, understandably, there has been concern around the coronavirus potentially triggering chronic fatigue syndrome.

There are striking similarities between chronic fatigue syndrome and long COVID. Both involve debilitating fatigue, brain fog and/or muscle

But at this stage, researchers are still untangling any link between post-COVID fatigue, long COVID and chronic fatigue syndrome.

For now, we know many people will have post-COVID fatigue but thankfully do not go on to develop long COVID or chronic fatigue syn-

### WHAT HELPS ME MANAGE MY

Expect you or a loved one may develop post-COVID fatigue, regardless of how unwell you or they were dur-

ing the actual infection. Vaccines help reduce the risk of post-COVID fatigue by lowering the chance of catching COVID in the first place. Vaccinated people who do catch COVID are less likely to report fatigue and are less likely to develop

long COVID. However, vaccination is not 100% protective and there are plenty of fully vaccinated people who go on to develop longer term fatigue.

recover from post-COVID fatigue is in its infancy. However, a few things do

- **PACE YOURSELF:** adjust the return to normal activities to your energy levels. Choose your priorities and focus on what you can do rather than what you can't
- RETURN TO EXERCISE GRADU-**ALLY:** a gradual return to exercise may help your recovery, but you may need some support about how to manage or avoid fatigue afterwards. Some therapists occupational therapists, physiotherapists and exercise physiologists - specialise in this. So ask
- your GP for a recommendation **PRIORITISE SLEEP:** rather than feeling guilty about sleeping so much, remind yourself that while you sleep, your body conserves energy and heals. Disrupted sleep patterns are an unfortunate COVÎD symptom. Having a strict bedtime, while also resting when you feel tired during the day, is important
- **EAT A RANGE OF NUTRITIOUS** FOODS: loss of smell, taste and appetite from COVID can make this tricky. However, try to view food as a way of fuelling your body with both energy and the micronutrients it needs to heal. Be careful not to spend a fortune on unproven "remedies" that often look good in small studies, but more robust research finds make little difference
- **MONITOR YOUR FATIGUE:** keep a diary to monitor your fatigue, and look for a gradual improvement. You will have good days and bad days, but overall there should be a slow trajectory towards recovery. If you are going backwards, get input from a health professional, such as your

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### **BUDGET 2022-23:**

# Transforming J&K From Aspirational To Industrialized **Territory While Unlocking Its Potential Through Convergence**

**Observer NewsService** 

IAMMU: The industrial landscape of the J&K is dominated by MSME and it plays a crucial role in propelling industrial growth and economy in UT as they contribute around 8% to the GSDP and employ the largest number of people in the manufacturing and services sectors.

Approximately MSMEs that are operational in the UT contribute almost 60% of the total investment and 90% of total employment in industrial sector in the UT. It is thus imperative that MSME sector be further supported through policy interventions.

For Industries and Commerce Sector, an allocation of about Rs 555.80 crore has been made under Capital Expenditure for the year 2022-23 which is Rs.139.84 crore more than the previous year's budget allocation.

The Government of Jammu

& Kashmir is providing an enabling environment for investors to start their ventures in the Union Territory.

The focus of the Jammu & Kashmir Industrial Policy 2021-30 is to attract new investment, creation of employment opportunities for youth, development of backward regions and nurturing of existing industrial units.

Adequate provision has been kept for providing of incentives to prospective entrepreneurs as per Jammu & Kashmir Industrial Policy 2021-30. The financial outlay of the proposed scheme is Rs 28,400 crores for the scheme period 2020-21 to 2036-37. Scheme while encouraging new investment, also nurtures the existing industries in J&K by providing them working capital support at the rate of 5% for 5 years.

The J&K Government is set to hold its first I&K Global Investors Summit with an objective to bring together investors,

decision-makers, senior government officials and local business community for a dialogue on concrete investment opportunities in the state. It will be replete with Strategic Sectoral sessions, Round Table Deliberations, one-to-one Business to Business (B2B) and Business to Government (B2G) meetings. The main objective behind the summit is to increase the employment opportunities by accelerating the industrial growth

in the newly carved UT. Under the new budget, Rs.150 crore have been provisioned for development of New Industrial Estates during 2022-23.

Also, a sum of Rs.42.60 crore have been earmarked for development of new Industrial Estates at Budhi Kathua, Mearth Ghatti, Rakh Rara Swankha Morh Samba & Katli Dhaini (Samba) in Jammu division and Khonmoh, Sempora, Chandgam Tahab, Hardoo Dahruna Dooru and Hassan Noor in Kashmir division.

Rs.3.91 crore have been

provisional for construction of 7 Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) in the existing Industrial Estates. Common effluent treatment plants (CETPs) are treatment systems specifically designed for collective treatment of effluent generated from small-scale industrial facilities in an industrial cluster. The main objective of CETP is to reduce the treatment cost for individual units while protecting the environment. 1,354 units under Jammu &

Kashmir Rural Employment Generation Programme (J&K REGP) will be established in 2022-23 involving margin money of Rs.25 crore with employment to 8124 persons. REGP is implemented through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) to help eligible entrepreneurs to set up village industry units and thus create employment opportunities in villages including small towns with population upto 20,000.

2,000 Cooperatives/Self Help Groups will be covered under Credit Card Scheme benefiting directly/indirectly 20,000 persons. 7% interest subvention is available for availing loan upto Rs.2 lakh by artisans under Artisan Credit Card (ACC) Scheme. It is a card designed exclusively for artisans, to meet their day to day working capital needs.

The vision for industrialization of Jammu & Kashmir is to transform Jammu & Kashmir from an aspirational to an Industrialized territory and unlocking its potential through Convergence (UT and Central) and Collaboration (Industry and Government). The industry policy framework will be driven by the slogan Jammu & Kashmir Tradition, Growth and Transformation. The policy intends to provide a regulatory environment within a supportive framework of Ease of Doing Business.

### **Amnesty International India** chief Aakar Patel stopped from flying abroad over FCRA case

Agenceis

**NEW DELHI/BENGALURU:** Amnesty International India chief Aakar Patel was on Wednesday stopped from leaving the country at the Bengaluru international airport in the wake of a CBI look out circular (LOC) issued on December 31 last year in an FCRA case, after which he moved a special court in Delhi challenging it.

The court has sought a response from the CBI by Thursday when it will again hear the plea by Patel who claimed that the action was taken despite an order by a Gujarat court permitting him to travel to the US. According to agency sources,

the LOC was issued on the basis of a charge sheet filed by the CBI in a special CBI court in Delhi on December 31, 2021 for the alleged violation of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010. Earlier in the day, Patel said

that when he went to the Kempegowda International

Airport, Bengaluru on Wednesday morning to catch a flight to Boston, Immigration officials stopped him citing a lookout circular by the CBI.

He claimed that he was not aware why the circular had been issued against him and said that he wanted to fly to the US to deliver lectures in three universities. CBI sources said the look out circular was issued against him on the basis of its charge sheet with a request to port authorities to "prevent him from leaving the country".

The charge sheet was filed by the agency in the special CBI court at Rouse Avenue against Patel and Amnesty International under Section 11 read with Sections 35 and 39 of the Act after a two-year probe into alleged violations, they said.

"I don't know why I am on the lookout circular. I did not know about it that I could not fly. I missed my flight and now I am back home. They (Immigration officials) did not let me go," Patel told PTI.

### CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

### 2 Militants Killed

the spokesperson said, later neutralized the second holed up militant and the bodies were retrieved from the site of encounter.

The police identified the duo as Umar Nabi Teli @Talha of Ladoo Khrew and Shafat Muzaffar Sofi @Muavia of

As per police records, the spokesperson said, both the killed militants were categorized and linked with AuGH and LeT outfits.

The killed militants, he said, were involved in several "terror crime cases including attacks on Police/SF and civilian atrocities".

Before shifting to Tral, the spokesperson said, both the killed militants were involved in several "terror crimes" in Srinagar city including recent killing of Sarpanch Sameer Ahmad in Khanmoh

Besides, he said, Sofi was also involved in grenade throwing on CRPF Camp on 19/03/2022 and case FIR No. 09/2021 of PS Tral regarding recovery of IED material.

Moreover, the spokesperson said, both the killed militants were attempting to revive the militant folds by being instrumental in motivating gullible youth to join "terror folds".

"Incriminating materials, arms & ammunition were recovered from the site of the encounter. All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation," he

"In this regard, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered and investigation has been initiated. People are requested to cooperate with Police till the area at the encounter site is completely sanitized and cleared of all the explosive materials, if any," he added.

### **Night Patrolling**

the IGP said that in view of soft target attacks by militants, the night patrolling has been enhanced and joint patrolling of police and security forces is being carried with security forces in vulnerable areas.

Responding to questions about militants resorting to soft target attacks on civilians including CRPF men in Maisuma in which one Head Constable was killed and another injured. Kumar said that 66 militants of JeM & LeT have been neutralized this winter season from December 21 to March 22.

Kumar said the heavy casualties have frustrated militants and that's the reason they are now attacking the soft

Regarding recent attacks in Pulwama, the IGP said poor labourers from outside who had come here to earn their livelihood were attacked.

"We have identified the involved terrorist and very soon he will be neutralized. Similarly, police has got some leads regarding targeting of a Kashmiri Pandit in a remote village of Shopian and the involved terrorist shall also be neutralized soon," he said.

To a question if Pakistani militants are using local militants, the IGP Kashmir said, "You have seen that several foreign terrorists were killed. However the foreign terrorists use local terrorists as a shield, as recently in Shopian where one local terrorist was killed while a Pakistani terrorist escaped from the encounter site and put local terrorist at the forefront."

Regarding the Tral encounter, he said both local militants were operating in Srinagar and after civilian and soft target killing, they shifted to Tral area and

#### were tracked & neutralized. 99 Security Men

zero tolerance against militancy and there has been a substantial decline in militant attacks from 417 in 2018 to 255 in 2019, 244 in 2020 and 229 in

As many as 177 civilians and 406 security personnel were killed from May 2014 to August 4, 2019 in Jammu and Kashmir, while 87 civilians and 99 security personnel were killed from August 5, 2019 to November 2021, he said in a written reply to a question.

"A robust security and intelligence grid is in place to prevent any terrorist attack. In addition, day and night area domination, round the clock checking at Nakas, patrolling and proactive operations against terrorists are being carried out," he said.

Replying to another question, the minister said the Jammu and Kashmir government has reported having received proposals for investments worth approximately Rs 51,000 crore since the abrogation of Article 370.

He said the union government has notified the new central sector scheme for industrial development of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir announced on February 19, 2021 to attract capital investment, with a financial outlay of Rs 28,400 crore (upto the

The scheme provides for four types of incentives namely (i) capital investment incentive, (ii) capital interest subvention, (iii) goods and services tax linked incentive and (iv) working capital interest subvention, he said.

Moreover, Rai said, in order to boost industrial development in the Union Territory, the government of Jammu and Kashmir has also notified the J&K Industrial Policy, J&K Private Industrial Estate Development Policy and J&K Industrial Land Allotment Policy. (PTI)

### **'Four KPs Among**

to questions in the upper house, the minister said that after the repeal of Article 370 of the Constitution, 2105 migrants have returned to Kashmir valley for taking up jobs provided under the Prime Minister's Development

"Four Kashmiri Pandits were killed by terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir since 2019 while 10 other Hindus were also killed by the militants during this period," he said in a written reply.

Article 370, which gave special status to Jammu and Kashmir, was abrogated on August 5, 2019 and the erstwhile state was bifurcated into two Union Territories - Jammu and Kashmir, and

The minister said the government has taken several measures to ensure the safety of minorities in the valley. These include robust security and intelligence grid, group security in the form of static guards and day and night area domination.

There is also round-the-clock checking at Nakas and patrolling in the areas where the minorities reside besides proactive operations against militants.

Replying to another question, he said as many as 502 infiltrations have taken place in Jammu and Kashmir since

Referring to the Prime Minister's Development Package, 2015, the minister said under the scheme, 3,000 state government jobs for Kashmiri migrants have been created.

The selection process for the appointment of 2,828 migrants has been completed, out of which 1,913 migrants have been appointed and the verification of documents of the remaining

915 migrants has been taken up. Rai said the construction of transit accommodations under the PMRP 2008 has been done, while work on accommodations approved under PMDP-

2015 is being completed. "Construction of 1025 units has been completed or substantially completed, 1488 units are at different stages of completion and work on remaining units has been taken up," he said.

The minister said the central government reimburses monthly cash relief to the Kashmiri migrants, which was

last enhanced in June 2018 from Rs 10,000 to Rs 13,000 per family.

The enhancement of cash relief to Kashmiri migrants is considered from time to time on the recommendation of the government of Jammu and Kashmir keeping in view the inflation trend, he said.

### **India Reports First Case**

adding the results came in genome sequencing of 376 samples, the 11th batch of testing in the local genome sequencing lab.

Kappa cases have been found in the city earlier too, she added.

As per the sero survey, Omicron was found in 228 out of 230 samples (99.13 per cent) collected from Mumbai. One case was of XE, and another of Kappa.

The genome sequencing of 376 samples was conducted at the municipal Kasturba Hospital's Genome Sequencing Lab.

The condition of the patients found infected with the new strains of the virus was not serious, the official said. Mumbai on Tuesday reported 56

COVID-19 cases, a three-fold rise from

a day earlier, which took the infection count in the country's financial capital to 10,58,185. The death toll remained unchanged at 19,559 as no new fatality was recorded, while the recovery count rose

by 36 to touch 10,38,356, leaving the metropolis with 270 active cases. A BMC official said the XE variant appears to be 10 per cent more transmissible than the BA.2 sub-variant of Omicron So far BA 2 was deemed to be the most contagious of all the

COVID-19 variants. The XE variant is a mutation of the BA.1 and BA.2 Omicron strains, referred to as a "recombinant.

As per the initial studies, the XE variant has a growth rate of 9.8 percent over that of BA.2, also known as the stealth variant because of its ability to evade detection.

The World Health Organization has said the latest mutant may be more transmissible than the previous ones. Mangala Gomare, executive health officer of the BMC, told PTI that the woman who was found to have contacted the XE variant had arrived from South Africa and tested positive for coronavirus infection three weeks after arriving. "She was asymptomatic and tested negative the next day," Gomare

The woman, who is a costume designer, was a member of a film shooting crew. She arrived from South Africa

on February 10, 2022. "She did not have any travel history prior to that. She had been vaccinated with both doses of the COMIRNATY vaccine." the official said, adding that she suffered from no co-morbidities.

On arrival in India she tested negative for COVID-19, but on March 2, she tested positive during routine testing. In the subsequent test, she tested negative.

She had been quarantined in a hotel room during this period.

As to whether it was the first case of the XE variant detected in India, BMC officials said they could not confirm

### 11000 Youth Secured

and inclusive growth".

The LG made these remarks after inaugurating Golf Training Academy for students of government schools at Iammu Tawi Golf Course, an official spokesperson said Wednesday.

'Prime Minister has ended the decades-old practice of discrimination in J&K by establishing a citizen friendly, accountable and responsible gover-nance system post August 2019. We are making relentless efforts to ensure every person in the society feels connected to the mainstream", Sinha said. The LG, according to the spokesperson said that in the last one year, appointments to 11,000 government posts have been made where youth, especially girls from common poor & marginalized households have secured government jobs on the basis of merit.

"He said that the new governance system believes in corruption-free, transparent, and inclusive growth," he added. The LG, the spokesperson said, also

observed that J&K is a powerhouse of sporting talent and the UT administration is committed to provide both opportunities and resources to advance coaching.

"International level golf courses have been built all over Jammu and Kashmir. It is our endeavor that UT emerges as one of the top golfing destinations of the country in the coming days," the "Developing sports infrastructure,

organizing sports events in every nook and corner of UT, arranging the best coaches, continuously monitoring and fully utilizing the existing assets are the broad strategies that the UT administration has been working on for the last one and a half years to completely transform the sporting ecosystem in the J&K," he added.

According to the spokesperson, the LG further said that this year, 221 playfields will be constructed in all 20 districts, besides construction/upgradation of 157 sports courts will be

### **J&K Has Received**

development which will help create employment opportunities for 4.50

The Minister was responding to a supplementary query during the Question Hour in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday. The construction of about 13 roads

has provided better reach in the state.

Prior to 2019, the speed of construction was at 6.54 km per day, which has increased to 20.68 km per day now. A village housing over 1,000 people is connected with roads. By 2023, a

hamlet with 500 people will also get the road connection, he added. The Minister further said that there is a 24 hours electricity supply due to

excess power production. Even IIT and IIM have been set up. Responding to another supplementary on growing unemployment, the Minister said the employment and

confidence in people has increased in the state. About 26,303 posts have been identified in the state from 2019 and till date. The process of hiring is underway, he said, and an employment portal has been set up, counselling sections and career centres have been put in place

in the state.

Rai said that the Modi government is capable and making efforts to restore assets to Kashmiri migrants and so far properties of 610 applicants have been returned.

Responding to queries in the Upper House, the Minister said the District Magistrate has been designated as the custodian of the migrants' properties. The state government has also started a portal to resolve the complaints of migrants.

The Modi government and Home Minister is capable of returning the assets to migrant Kashmiris. Constant efforts are being made," he said.

If the complaint of migrants is genuine and correct, their assets will be returned. So far, the assets of 610 applicants have been returned, he added. On jobs promised for migrant Kashmiri, the minister said the state

government has given jobs to 841 in

2020-21 and 1,264 in 2021-22. The government is ready to give jobs to migrant Kashmiris who wish to settle back in their home state, he added.

On the status of a development package announced in 2015 for the state, the minister said Rs 58,466 crore was approved as part of the package.

"The projects are being implemented in a speedy manner. Many projects have been implemented. The ones which are completed are inspected and gaps, if any, are addressed," he said and added, "soon all projects will be implemented."

### **Police Issues**

had said that the politician is absconding and will be traced soon.

"After his questioning, a complete picture will emerge in the case which is linked to Pakistan and separatism," he had said, adding that some people have already been arrested and the money trail clearly indicates that the fund was meant for subversive and anti-national activities.

Shareef Shah, a resident of south Kashmir, was arrested with the Hawala money on March 31 in the Gandhi Nagar area of Jammu on Thursday.

Shah had disclosed that he was tasked by Jatinder Singh aka Babu Singh, chairman of the Nature-Mankind Friendly Global Party and a former minister in the PDP-Congress coalition government in Jammu & Kashmir, to collect money from a person named Omer in Srinagar.

Shah had come to Jammu after receiving the money from Omer. He revealed the names of his local and overseas associates — Javed and Khatib from Pakistan controlled Kashmir and Faroog Khan from Toronto

Shareef Shah is also the admin of a secret WhatsApp group having members from various nations, including Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

Three persons — S Gurdev Singh from Jammu, Sidhant Sharma from Kathua and Shrief Sartai from Jammu were detained for questioning. A case has been registered and an investigation is in progress.

Babu had initially launched the International Democratic Party and then contested and won the 2002 assembly elections from Kathua. Subsequently, he was inducted as a minister in the Congress-PDP coalition government.

### **Businessmen In**

beer shops, eating joints, readymade garment shops, showrooms, small markets, educational institutions, places of worship, bus stands, railway stations, airports hospitals and offices, where transactions are held in cash or a place frequented by large number of people with a likelihood of gathering of 50 people or more at a time, where CCTV cameras are not installed to cover the outer areas of such establishments," the order issued by Srinagar Deputy Commissioner Aijaz Asad read.

"In order to deter criminals, antisocial and anti-national elements from committing crimes, the installation of CCTV outside such establishments would work as a force multiplier, which would inspire further confidence in general public/customers visiting these establishments," it added.

The orders also laid down specifications like minimum resolution and feed storage capacity of 30 days for the camera systems to be installed.

The order issued by District Magistrate Vikas Sharma in Doda said the cameras should be installed in such a way that they cover the approach areas of the establishments and also the entry and exit points of parking lots up to a distance of 40 metres.

"In view of the prevailing persistent threat, relating to recent increased incidents of selective targeting of innocent citizens by the anti-nationals and subversive elements, which requires several measures, including the use of appropriate technologies, to safeguard life and property," the order read.

A CRPF jawan was killed and six people, including four migrant labourers and a Kashmiri Pandit, were injured in separate attacks by militants in Srinagar, Pulwama and Shopian districts on Sunday and Monday.

### **HC Gives Six Weeks**

a list of all such immigrants to the court.

The court noted that one of the orders dated May 24, 2017 passed in the PIL indicates that at that time the government had constituted a group of ministers to examine the various issues relating to illegal migrants from

Myanmar and Bangladesh. The group of ministers was supposed to take up the matter, examine t and furnish a report thereof. But till date, nothing has come on record. In the meantime, the state of Jammu and Kashmir was bifurcated and the UT of

J&K has been created, the order said. Advocate General D C Raina and Additional Advocate General Raman Sharma appeared for the UT and the

case was listed for hearing on July 15. In his PIL, Gupta has demanded the deportation of illegal immigrants and also prayed for the withdrawal of all benefits given to them from the state exchequer and from the scheme and benefits meant for the residents of J&K.

The PIL claimed that the actual figures of these illegal immigrants are much more than the official figures.

### **Driver Injured**

was being ascertained has suffered grievous injuries in the blast and has been moved to a hospital for treatment. The exact cause of the blast is being

### probed, they added. Militant Hideout

forests of Mahore during a joint operation by the police and the Army, they said.

A live grenade, four AK-47 rounds, a AK-47 cartridge, two damaged syringes, a lighter, Rs 1,400 cash, a pair of scissors, six utensils, a torch, two blankets and some clothes were found at the hideout, the officials said.

A case has been registered and an investigation started, they added. (PTI)

### **Schools Bus Mows**

area towards Anantnag when it allegedly hit the boy identified as Tameem Bilal (5) son of Bilal Ahmad Bhat of Khul Chohar while he was crossing the road. The student died on the spot, they said.

A police official told a local news agency GNS that a team of uniformed men reached the spot and further proceedings as warranted under law are being taken.

### 3 Butchers Booked

conducted on the directions of Commissioner Food and Drugs Administration to check the quality of food items during the month of Ramazan, an official spokesperson

The inspection of butcher shops was conducted by the joint team of Food Safety Officer and Veterinary Assistant Surgeon Pulwama.

### Fire Damages

the fire and emergency services after a 12-hour-long operation.

Over a dozen fire tenders were pressed into service to put off the blaze, they said, adding that no one was injured. The cause of the fire was not known immediately.

In another fire incident, the officials said, a cloth showroom was gutted on the Residency Road in the heart of Jammu late Tuesday evening.

The fire was caused by an electrical short circuit and was put off by the fire and emergency services timely, averting a major loss, they said.

**KOKERNAG SINKHOLE MYSTERY** 

# **NDMA Holds Deliberations** With Multiple Stakeholders

**Observer News Service** 

The Nation-Disaster day held a detailed meeting on the Kokernag Sinkhole event.

The meeting held through virtual mode, was attended by representatives from NDMA, Central Water Commission, Geological Survey of India, National Centre for Earth Sciences, Central Water and Power Research Stations, National Institute of Hydrology, Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Indian Institute of Remote Sensing, Relief Commissioner, J&K SDMA and District Administration Anantnag, Irrigation and Flood Control.

At the beginning, SDM Kokernag through a presentation put forth the background of the event. He said that the district administration has filled the sinkhole with naturally graded material and crates.

He said that a multi departmental team including representatives University, NIT Srinagar, Geology Department, Fisheries, Jal Shakti and Revenue department conducted a detailed study. Based on the preliminary study and tracer studies conducted through NIT Srinagar, it was inferred that the phenomenon occurred due to underlying karst was taken after due deliberation topography.

He further said that 90 percent of the water going into the sinkhole has an outlet in Management Achabal which is 16 kms from Authority(NDMA) on Wednes- the sinkhole. The report of the committee was shared with the participants.

While the team has taken immediate preventive steps, a thorough discussion on the future course of action was held. All the participants in the meeting agreed that the response so far has been scientifically based and has been instrumental in preserving the site for future studies.

NDMA desired that proposal for centrally funded studies be sent to ensure that detailed geomorphology of the underlying karst topography can be understood and future interventions designed accordingly.

It is in place to mention that after the occurrence of the event, District Administration under the vigil of Deputy Commissioner Anantnag had taken immediate steps to prevent any tragedy at the spot including issuing of detailed news briefs to from Kashmir quell rumour mongering, imposing Section 144 to prevent any mishap and creating diversionary canals to safeguard the interests of agriculturists.

Preliminary studies including Proton Precession Magnetometer studies were conducted and the decision to fill the sinkhole with all stakeholders.

# **Man Killed Over Land** Dispute In Pattan

**Agencies** 

**SRINAGAR:** One person was killed and a woman was injured after two families clashed with each other on Wednesday over a land dispute at Gund-Ibrahim area of Pattan.

Officials said that a clash broke out between two families in Gund-Ibrahim area which took a violent turn, reported news agency KNO.

The people from both the groups allegedly attacked each other with axe during which one person, identified as Sanaullah Dar (56), suffered serious injuries.

The officials said that he was immediately rushed to a hospital for medical treatment but was declared dead by the doctors.

They said that the woman was also injured in the incident which led to a tense situation in

### Former Minister Calls On Lt Governor

JAMMU: Er Abdul Ghani nomads to high-altitude regions ant Governor Manoj Sinha, at lakote, and other demands. Raj Bhavan.

panied by representatives of that the UT Government is taknomadic tribes discussed with ing dedicated initiatives for the the Lt Governor various matters pertaining to the welfare of no- ple of J&K. madic people. They put forth the demands of facilities like trans- that the issues and demands raised portation and offline permission by them would be looked into for options for smooth migration of their early redressal on merit.

Kohli, former Minister, J&K on of the UT, besides establishing Wednesday called on Lieuten- an Eklavya Model School at Ka-

The Lt Governor while inter-The former Minister accom- acting with the delegation said holistic welfare of all tribal peo-

The Lt Governor assured them

# J&K Logs 11 New Covid Cases, No Death

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** Jammu and Kashmir reported 11 fresh Covid-19 cases to the virus-2327 in Jammu and while there was no death due to the virus in the last 24 hours, officials said on Wednesday.

They said that there was no fresh case from Iammu while all 11 were from Kashmir Valley, take the overall tally to 453839—166273 in Jammu and 287566 in Kashmir.

Giving district wise details, the officials said that Srinagar reported 9 cases, Baramulla 0, Budgam cosis (black fungus) reported to-1, Pulwama 0, Kupwara 1, Anantnag 0, Bandipora 0, Ganderbal 0, have been confirmed in J&K, the Kulgam 0, Shopian 0, Jammu 0, officials said. They also informed Udhampur 0, Rajouri 0, Doda 0, Kathua 0, Samba 0, Kishtwar 0, cine were administered during Poonch 0, Ramban 0 and Reasi 0. the time in J&K. (GNS)

There was no death reported in the last 24 hours, they said. So far 4750 persons have succumbed 2423 in Kashmir.

Besides, they said, three Covid-19 patients recovered during the time and none was from Jammu and all were from the Valley. So far 448921 people have recovered, leaving the active case tally at 167—15 in Jammu and 152 in Kashmir.

The officials said there was no new confirmed case of mucormyday. So far 51 black fungus cases that 15513 doses of covid-19 vac-

# **Foreign Tourist Arrivals** In Kashmir Record 95% Dip In Last 3 Yrs



SRINAGAR: In the past three years the foreign tourist arrivals in Kashmir Valley have dipped by almost 95.22 percent.

However, among the domesentrance has increased nearly by 20 percent.

According to the official figures, in the past three years, the highest number of foreign tourist arrivals in Kashmir valley was recorded in the year 2019. In the year 2019, at least 33,779 foreign tourists and 53.175,3 domestic tourists had

visited Kashmir valley. In the following year 2020, there had a drastic fall among here upto February end. both foreign and domestic

**Press Trust Of India** 

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kash-

special scholarship policy for

over 34,000 students enrolled

in seasonal educational centres

which operate in highland pas-

tures during the annual migra-

tion for six months, an official

The panel will be headed by

fairs, Mohammad Harun Ma-

lik, the spokesman said. He

co-opt expert members in

Secretary, Tribal Af-

spokesman said.

respectively.

The official figures reveal that in this fiscal, a total of 3897 foreign and 37,370 domestic tourists had visited the valley.

Likewise, in the previous fistic tourist arrivals, the visitor cal 2021, the arrival of foreign tourist arrivals in the Valley had dipped almost by 95.22 percent, however, the domestic tourist arrivals had increased by nearly 20 percent.

In this year only 1615 foreign and 6,641,99 domestic tourists had arrived in Kashmir.

The figures further reveal that in the ongoing fiscal, a total of 1,614,93 domestic and 484 foreign tourists had arrived

This information was re-

**Scholarship Policy For Migratory Students** 

2021, a population of 6.12 lakh

The department has initiated

the process for formulating a

special scholarship scheme fo-

cused on seasonal centres in

view of low enrolment at prima-

ry level and to promote primary

arship rates has been pending

for more than a decade and

there is a need to have a special

the panel and submit a report simultaneously working on rewithin one week. simultaneously working on revision of scholarship slabs for tional centres and enhance-

According to Shahid Iqbal other pre-matric classes as well. ment in other classes as well,

He said the department is

He said the revision of schol-

education, Choudhary said.

As per a survey conducted in ment had provided highest ever 021, a population of 6.12 lakh scholarship of Rs 31.12 crore for

covered.

matric students.

undertakes biannual migration financial year 2021-22 ending

The tribal affairs depart- educational centres, he said.

**Govt Constitutes Panel To Form** 

mir administration has con- to highland pastures as well as

said the committee will also scheme for migratory students.

Affairs Department, over 34,000 in primary schools receive a

students have been enrolled in meagre annual scholarship of Rs

nearly 1,200 seasonal educa- 450 and Rs 675, respectively.

stituted a panel to formulate a other UTs and states.

89 percent and 93 percent of tourism and planning department in a reply to Right to Information (RTI) application filed by the activists M M Shuja

Earlier, in 2019, the then Deputy Director of tourism and planning in a RTI had said that in the year 2016, at least 12,745,96 had arrived in Kashmir and in 2017 only 11,960,67 domestic visitors had arrived here.

In the year 2016, a total of 24,516 foreign tourist arrivals in the State was recorded; in 2017 the arrival of foreign tourists increased by 29 percent recording 31,697 tourist arrivals.

Similarly, in the year 2018 at least 78,517,3 domestic arrivals were recorded by the department.

Likewise, the number of foreign tourist arrival in the year tourist arrivals by more than vealed by the Deputy Director 2018 was 31,413 visitors—(KNO)

March 2022 wherein maximum

number of tribal students were

The pre-matric budget of Rs

13.50 crore covered students

of classes 1 to 8 while Rs 2.22

crore was awarded to classes 9

and 10 students and Rs 15.40

crore to graduate and post-

The scholarship budget has

now been enhanced to a re-

cord Rs 45 crore to accom-

modate a special scholarship

scheme for students enrolled

Besides, steps are also being

taken up this year to provide

better facilities in the seasonal

# **In-Charge MS Of District** Hospital Kulgam, Medical Officers Attached

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** attached Incharge Wednesday Medical Superintendent District Hospital Kulgam and in-charge medical officer (BMO) Pampore besides suspended two medical officers for alleged dereliction of duties.

As per separate orders, Dr. Muzaffar Ahmed Zargar, Incharge Medical Superintendent District Hospital Kulgam, has been attached with Director Health Services Jammu over alleged dereliction of duties.

"In view of dereliction of du-1/C Medical Superintendent, District Hospital, Kulgam is hereby attached to the office of the Director, Health Services, Jammu with immediate effect," reads an order by Vivek Bharadwaj (IAS) Additional Chief Secretary Health & Medical Education Department. "Consequent upon his attachment, the Director, Health Services, Kashmir shall assign the charge of the post of Medical Superintendent, District Hospital, Kulgam to senior most/eligible doctor immediately," the order adds.

Similarly, Dr. Asima Nazir, I/C Block Medical Officer, Pampore has been attached to the office of the Director, Health Services, Jammu with immediate effect. Jammu," a separate order reads, 'Consequent upon her attachment, Director, Health Services, Kashmir shall assign the charge of the post of Block Medical Officer, Pampore to senior most/ eligible doctor immediately."

Bajar, Medical officer looking after the charge of Medical Super-Government on intendent, Government Medical College, Rajouri placed under suspension with immediate effect "in view of dereliction of duties and pending enquiry into his conduct."

He has been suspended in terms of Rule 31 of Jammu & Kashmir Civil Services, (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956. "During the period of suspension, the doctor shall remain attached in the office of the Director, Health Services, Jammu," a separate order by ties, Dr. Muzaffar Ahmed Zargar, the Additional Chief Secretary reads. "The Director, Health Services, Jammu shall assign the charge of the post of Medical Superintendent, Government Medical College, Rajouri to the senior most/eligible doctor immediately."

Meanwhile, Dr. Mushtaq Hussain Shah, Medical Officer looking after the charge of Medical Superintendent, District Hospital, Poonch has been placed under suspension with immediate effect in terms of Rule 31 of Jammu & Kashmir Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956. "During the period of suspension, the doctor shall remain attached with the Directorate of Health Services, adding, "Consequent upon his suspension, the Director, Health Services, Jammu shall assign the charge of the post of Medical Superintendent, District Hospital, Poonch to senior most/eli-Also, Dr. Mehmood Hussain gible doctor immediately." (GNS)

### **LG Reviews Developmental Schemes** In Border Village Kalyanpur

**Observer News Service** 

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoi Sinha on Wednesday visited the border village Kalyanpur of Marh area and reviewed the implementation of the developmental schemes during Block Diwas.

Terming Border village development as the main pillar of the Nation's development, the Lt Governor said, under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji, J&K UT is determined to remove the developmental imbalances and truly realize the limitless convergence mode. potential and possibilities of bor-

duced to bridge the Rural-Urban the last one and a half years. gap, the Lt Governor said that an unprecedented Rs 600 Crore has to strengthen border infrastructure, creation of modern agriculture and agro-based small-scale and village industries.

goal of providing a better quality of life to the citizens living in far-flung areas by ensuring access to modern health care, education, roads, clean drinking water, skill training, selfemployment opportunity for complete spatial and socio-economic transformation of border villages, making them vibrant centers of rural prosperity.

Our focus is on saturation of development schemes benefit. financial inclusion of women and holistic development of each village for inclusive growth, the Lt Governor added.

actively participate in the formulation of the District Plans as per the needs of the local population. For participatory development

PRIs, the district plans are being added the Lt Governor.

finalized by representatives from all three-tiers of grass-root democracy, he said.

The Lt Governor said apart from various new projects, the long-pending works under Border Area Development Programme (BADP) have been completed. In the district capex, 1158 projects were completed in border villages, he added.

The Lt Governor called for adopting best practices and getting desired results on ground by implementing schemes through

On the occasion, the Lt Governor also highlighted the impact of the Highlighting the reforms intro- governance reforms introduced in

The completion of more than 50,000 projects in the previous fi been allocated in this financial year an nancial year as compared to around 9,200 projects in 2018-19 speaks volume about good governance in

J&K, observed the Lt Governor. On average, more than Rs One The Lt Governor reiterated the crore has been given to each pangovernment's commitment to the chavat for developmental works. Under Aapki Zameen Aap Ki Nigrani in Jammu district, the land records of almost all the villages have been digitized and passbooks have also been issued in three lan-

guages, in most of the tehsils. In Jammu district, 16.810 new eligible beneficiaries have been added in March this year for pension schemes of the Social Welfare Department. Apart from this, beneficiaries have been linked with other schemes by organizing special panchayat level camps. Mission Youth and Jammu District Administration are facilitating vouths in their bor-The Lt Governor urged the PRIs to der belts through Centre for District Youth Training & Empowerment where facilities are being provided to young boys and girls preparing for army, paramilitary forces and and effective empowerment of other competitive examinations,

Dated:-06.04.2022

### **GOVT IOB OR COMPENSATION**

### **Land Donors Lock 14 Schools In Ganderbal**

Choudhary, Secretary in Tribal Presently, boy and girl students the spokesman said.

SRINAGAR: Land Donors Association locked over a dozen government schools on Wednesday in Hariganiwan Zone of Central Kashmir's Kangan town.

People who have donated land to the Education Department for the construction of school buildings are part of the Land Donors Association.

The Association alleged that despite donating land at different places, the donors were neither provided a job as promised nor were compensated.

Zonal Educational Officer, Hariganiwan Zone. Kangan, Muhammad Maqbool told a lovery unfortunate and will hit we staged a protest at Press En- said an elderly man.

the students. "I am in touch with concerned people and hope the issue will be resolved amicably.

President Land Donors As-Imtiyaz Ahmed sociation, said that they have locked 14 Schools in Hariganiwan Zone. These include 10 Primary and 4 Middle Schools.

The locked schools are located in Syed Basti, Tangpathri, Rezupati, Mudpora Rayil, Branward Thune, Baba Mohalla Kulan, Giteh Kohd, Kachpathri, Kalaspati, Rayil Khor, Chek Basti, Herpora Surfraw, Chopan Mohalla Hariganiwan and Nallah Pati Surfraw.

Imtiyaz Ahmed said that they had been repeatedly asking the department to address the griev-

then of a positive outcome, but nothing changed. Today we were compelled to lock down the schools. We don't need government jobs now," he said.

Earlier, land donors had locked two schools at Rezan and Ramwari in Kangan. The doners had later thrown the gates open for the students after being promised a job in the department.

Local sources said that after the schools were locked, teachers were forced to take classes in the open.

"Covid-19 has already hit the education sector, and now this new 'drama' is bound to affect cal news agency KNT that it is ances of land doners. "Last time, the studies of poor children,"

### Panchayati Raj System 'Scripting' Democratic **Decentralization Of Governance In J&K**

**Observer News Service** 

SRINAGAR: The resolve of the Central Government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to return power to the people of J&K is reciprocated by the people of the UT to turn to democratic decentralisation to achieve better governance and development, an official spokesperson said Wednesday.

To strengthen the grassroots democracy, he said, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) amended the J&K Panchayati Rai Act. 1989 for the first time in October 2020 and paved the way for the creation of District Development Councils (DDC).

"27 functions were transferred as per 73rd amendment. In 14th Finance Commission Rs 1727.50 cr devolved under MN-REGA, Mid-Day meal scheme and ICDS. Panchayats were empowered to generate resources," a senior official said.

DDC is a directly-elected local government body in each district with jurisdiction over the entire district excluding areas designated as a municipality or municipal corporation.

The newly created DDC along with Halqa Panchayats and Block Development Councils (BDCs) are ensuring a three-tier Panchavati Rai system for the first time in the region. The elected third tier of the Panchayati Raj institution marks the implementation of the entire 73rd Amendment Act in J&K, which was never made effective by previous govern-

The District Development Council (DDC) elections in Jammu and Kashmir provided self-rule and autonomy, and empowered leaders from the grassroots to take their own decisions as committed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to empower the people at the grassroots.

DDC Elections in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir were a part of a 3-tier system to strengthen democracy at the grassroots level which J&K has never witnessed in the past 70 years

The Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), through which the self-government of villages is realized, have been entrusted with the task of "economic development, strengthening social justice and implementation of Central and State Government Schemes at the grassroots level The democratic exercise of

free, fair and peaceful panchavat elections were held in the UT which led to the constitution of vibrant Panchavati Raj institutions. In a significant achievement, these panchayat elections recorded a substantial 74.1 per cent voter turnout. A total of 3650 sarpanches and 23660 panchs were elected to lay the foundation for the 3-tier Panchayati Raj system for the first time across J&K.

### Government of Jammu & Kashmir STATE PROCUREMENT & SUPPLIER AGENCY (SPSA)

Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj. Head Office: House No. 21 Sector No.01, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu. | Sub-Office: House No: 56, Santosh Villa, RajBagh, Srinagar. E-mail: ceomdspsa@gmail.com

No:-SPSA/RDD/Adv/01/2022/1369

### **ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE**

Applications are invited in online mode from eligible persons for the post of Ombudsperson under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA for engagement in districts of UT J&K as per below mentioned details:-

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S.no	Name of the Port	No. of Posts	Main eligibility	Remuneration			
1	Ombudsperson	13	10 years of experience in Public Adminis- tration, Law, Academics, Social Work or Management. Experience of working with	The Ombudsperson shall be allowed compensation, in form of fee of Rs. 1000/-(Rupees One Thousand Only) per sitting with maximum upper limit of Rs. 20000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand Only) per month.			

The on-line application form, other details and the eligibility criteria under MGNREGA can be downloaded from our website www.jkpanchayat.in under advertised notice for Ombudsperson. The applications shall be accepted through on-line mode only from 11.04.2022 to 26.04.2022

Chief Executive Officer /MD DIPK-208/22 SPSA, RDD, J&K, Jammu.

# **IOA President Narinder Batra Under CBI Scanner For 'Misuse'** Of Hockey India Funds



**Press Trust of India** 

NEW DELHI: The CBI has registered a preliminary enquiry against Indian Olympic Association (IOA) president Narinder Batra for alleged misuse of Rs 35 lakh of Hockey India funds, officials said on Wednesday.

The central probe agency had received a complaint against Batra following which it started a preliminary enquiry, which is the first step to establish prima facie criminality, they said.

It was alleged in the complaint that Rs 35 lakh of Hockey India funds was used for personal benefits of Batra, the officials said.

A turf war between Batra and Hockey India surfaced recently af-

to the sports federation, questioning the performance of the men's hockey team in tournaments.

After Batra's missive, Olympian and member of the 1975 World Cup-winning team Aslam Sher Khan questioned Batra over his in-terest in matters of Hockey India.

Khan said being the FIH (International Hockey Federation) chief, Batra's interference in Hockey India's operations is a clear case of 'conflict of interest'.

"Definitely, it is conflict of interest by Batra. He is the FIH president and being in that post, he can in no way interfere in the affairs of a national federation," said Khan, who has challenged in the Delhi High Court some irregular appointments in HI, including

# **Indian Women's Football Team Beats Egypt 1-0**



**Press Trust of India** 

ZARQA (Jordan): Priyangka Devi scored the solitary goal as the Indian women's football team registered a 1-0 win over lowerranked Egypt in the first friendly midfielder found the back of the at the Prince Mohammed Stadium here on Wednesday.

It was Priyangka's first-ever goal for the Blue Tigresses against 95th-ranked Egypt.

The first half began with the Indian side pressing hard to seize the initiative. Captain Ashalata Devi tried to earn an early lead in the 18th minute via her shot from distance but Anju, who latched on to the ball, missed the chance.

Couple of minutes later, Manisha almost scored the first for the night through Dalima's pass from the right but was collected by the Egyptian custodian.

Before the opposition could settle into the game, a sudden strike by Priyangka in the 30th minute gave India the early lead, victory in Jordan.

and remained the only goal of the match.

Dalima managed to pass the ball to Priyangka after Manisha essayed a brilliant cross from the left and eventually, the young net. The half time score therefore read 1-0 in favour of India.

The second half was played out on similar lines with India creating more chances, as head coach Thomas Dennerby made his first change at the restart, replacing forward Renu with Pyari

The prolific captain Engy Ahmed Sayed tried her luck from close range before the hour-mark, but Sowmiya stood tall to deny her confidently.

Hayam Abdellatif had the final effort for Egypt in the dying minutes of the game but her effort landed safely into Sowmiya's gloves.

The match soon came to an end as India earned their first



**RASIKH SALAM** was on Wednesday picked in the playing XI by Kolkata Knight Riders in the ongoing IPL 2022. The Kashmir Valley cricketer was seen being congratulated by his KKR teammates before making his debut. The 21-year-old right arm pacer made an impressive showing during his first spell, bowling 3 overs and giving away a meagre 18 runs, without taking a wicket.

# **Efforts On To Make J&K Top Golfing Destination: LG**

221 playfields to be constructed in all 20 districts this year Construction/upgradation of 157 sports courts to be completed

**Press Trust of India** 

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday inaugurated Golf Training Academy for students here and said his endeavour is to make the union territory one of the top golfing destinations of the country in coming days.

The administration has already established a Golf Academy at Kashmir Golf Course, Srinagar, to popularize golf among youth and students.

"And, now within a year, the first batch of 100 children is starting their basic training at Jammu Tawi Golf Course and after 15 days, Phase-2 of this training will commence. More students from government established schools in different districts would be provided golf training, the Lt Governor said.

The newly inaugurated Golf Academy at Jammu Tawi Golf Course aims to train the students and youth and to support them to turn into professional in the professional domain an official spokesman said.

He said the academy will run a program of continuous education for the general public including kids, adults, and amateur golfers, besides certifying the individuals participating in the program.

It will also be a training centre for the national and statelevel players, the spokesman

been built all over Jammu and to the mainstream, the Lt Gov- sports courts will be completed.



Kashmir and it is our endeavour ernor said. that UT emerges as one of the top golfing destinations of the country in the coming days.

Sinha said J&K is a powerhouse of sporting talent and the UT administration is committed to provide both opportunities and resources to advance

coaching. He said the Golf Academy started at Jammu Tawi Golf golfers so that the youth of J&K Course is a symbol of that spirit. growth. is able to showcase their talent "The UT administration is making efforts to make this game inclusive and accessible to common masses.

Course will also be revamped, he said.

Prime Minister has ended the decades-old practice of discrimination in J&K by establishing a citizen friendly, accountable and responsible governance system post August 2019. We are making relentless fields will be constructed in all The Lt Governor said inter- efforts to ensure every person 20 districts, besides construcnational level golf courses have in the society feels connected

He said in the last one year, appointments to 11.000 government posts have been made where youth, especially girls from common poor and marginalized households have secured government jobs on the basis of merit.

He said the new governance system believes in corruptionfree, transparent, and inclusive

Developing sports infrastrucin every nook and corner of UT, arranging the best coaches, con-Further, the Sanasar Golf tinuously monitoring and fully utilizing the existing assets are the broad strategies that the UT administration has been working on for the last one and a half years to completely transform the sporting ecosystem in the J&K, Sinha said.

This year, he said 221 playtion and upgradation of 157

# **Nathan Coulter-Nile Ruled Out Of IPL Due To Side Strain**



**Press Trust of India** 

**NEW DELHI:** In a big blow to Rajasthan Royals, Australian pace bowling all-rounder Nathan Coulter-Nile was on Wednesday ruled out of the ongoing IPL, owing to a side strain he suffered during the team's first game against Sunrisers Hyderabad.

The 34-year-old has returned home for rehabilitation.

'Unfortunately, I have the hard task of wishing him farewell," RR's head physio John Gloster said in a video posted by the franchise on Twitter.

"It's always hard to lose crore in the IPL mega auction.

someone, particularly when it's through injury. And you know we were really looking forward to spending a lot of time with you (Coulter-Nile) throughout this tournament.

"Unfortunately, that's not going to be. But you are a big part of us. Anything you need from us, we are always here. We look forward to having you back with us, whenever that might be."

It was in the final over of the SRH innings when Coulter-Nile began to struggle in his follow-through and walked off the field on March 29. He was picked up by RR for Rs 2

# **Tiger Woods Intends To Compete In Masters 2022**



**Agencies** 

in the 2022 Masters tournament. "As of right now, I feel like I am Woods. going to play," the 46-year-old

noted at a press conference at juries to his right leg in a car acthe Augusta National Golf Club in Georgia, US on Wednesday

Woods, a five-time Masters champion and 15-time major tation, "I do!" The 86th Masters winner, arrived in Augusta on Sunday for preparation and prac- On Tuesday, the tournament tice, tweeting that it's a "game- also announced players' firsttime decision" on whether he

"I will be heading up to Augusta today (April 3) to continue has said that he intends to play It will be a game-time decision on whether I compete," tweeted

Woods suffered traumatic incident 14 months ago. But when asked at the press conference if he believed he could win this week, Woods said without hesiwill be held from April 7 to 10. day groupings. Woods was aswould compete, Xinhua reports. signed to Group 14. (IANS)

# Diego Maradona's 'Hand Of God' Shirt **Likely To Fetch USD 5.2 Million**

**LONDON:** It was the best of Argentine great's moments - or the worst of first goal was ruled moments - in soccer history, a header, but the and now sports fans with ball had bounced deep pockets can own a piece off Maradona's fist,

The shirt worn by Diego referee. Maradona when he scored the controversial 'Hand of God' goal against England in the 1986 World Cup is for sale for the first time. Auctioneer Sotheby's said

Wednesday that the jersey of God. could fetch more than 4 million pounds (USD 5.2 million) in an online auction that opens April 20.

Brahm Wachter, Sotheby's head of streetwear and modern collectibles, said the shirt century" in a FIFA poll. is "on a small list of the most important sports memorabilia items in the world."

"I'll never get to handle Maradona's character. anything this good again," Wachter said.

"The moment is iconic in the history of sports."

Maradona scored two goals in Mexico City on June 22, 1986, just four years after Britain and Argentina had fought 2-1 and went on to win the too heavy for the Mexico City 4 bidding period. (AP)

a war over the Falk-land Islands. The out of sight of the

Maradona afterward that it had been scored "a little with the head of Maradona, and a little with the hand Maradona's sec-

ond goal saw him dribble the World Cup. Maradona, con- and the people of England." English team before beating goalkeeper Peter Shilton. In 2002, it was voted "goal of the

Wachter said the two goals "balance each other brilliantly" and reveal two facets of

The first "was really cunning and did involve an element of luck," he said. "But then he scored a second goal, which was one of the most during the quarter-final game unbelievable - almost angelic

- goals ever.' Argentina won the match



ball past almost the entire sidered by many to be the greatest player of all time, struggled with cocaine abuse and other excesses and died in November 2020 at age 60.

After the game Maradona swapped shirts with England midfielder Steve Hodge, who never sold it, until now. For the past 20 years, it has been on loan to England's National Football Museum in Manchester.

The blue shirt with stripes of lighter blue was a one-off, hastily assembled because the tops Argentina's team planned to wear were judged room during the April 20-May

The Argentinian

heat.

Football Association patches were sewn on, and sparkly numbers, including Maradona's 10, were ironed onto the back shortly before the match Hodge said he had been a "proud owner" of a shirt

that "has deep cultural meaning to the football world, the people of Argentina, According to Wachter, Hodge had decided "that the

time is just right" to sell. Prices for sports memorabilia have soared in recent years.

The shirt could beat a record for a piece of sportswear, held by a Babe Ruth New York Yankees jersey that sold for USD 5.64 million in 2019. A buyer paid USD 8.8 million for the manifesto that launched the modern Olympic movement, a record for a sports item.

The shirt will be on display in Sotheby's London show-

# **MATCHDAY:** Europa League, **Conference League Into Last Eight**



**Agencies** 

look at what's happening in Eu-Tropean soccer on Thursday:

**EUROPA LEAGUE** 

Barcelona resumes its bid to win the one European trophy missing from its collection with precursor, the UEFA Cup, reaching ta and Rangers visits Braga.

the semifinals on four occasions **EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE** but not getting to a final. Rebuilding under recently hired coach Xavi Hernandez, Barcelona has relied on big away performances to get to the last eight, beating Napoli and Galatasaray on the road after first-leg draws at the Camp Nou. West Ham reached the quara trip to Eintracht Frankfurt in terfinals of a European competithe first leg of the Europa League tion for the first time since 1981 quarterfinals. The Spanish club is after eliminating six-time champlaying for the first time in the pion Sevilla, and hosts Lyon. Also, Europa League and never won its Leipzig is at home against Atalan-

### Roma is looking for revenge. The

Italian team was drawn against Bodø Glimt, the Norwegian club that routed Roma 6-1 in the group stage for Jose Mourinho's biggest loss as a coach. Bodø/Glimt also earned a draw in the return match in Italy, and has eliminated Celtic and AZ Alkmaar in the knockout stage. Two Dutch teams -Feyenoord and PSV Eindhoven — have advanced to the last eight and they play Slavia Prague and Leicester, respectively. The other game sees Marseille host PAOK Thessaloniki.