

P3 CITY

TEENAGE GIRL GOES MISSING FROM HAWAL

A teenage girl has gone missing from Hawal area of Srinagar. Girl named Rehana lives in Mureedpora locality of Hawal. Sources said the girl has been missing since Saturday. The family has lodged a missing report with the police.

P5 THINK

RAMAZAN- A THERAPEUTIC PROCESS OF DE-ADDICTION

No one becomes addicted intentionally. Substance abuse and addiction is not a goal one sets out to accomplish. Many Psychological, social and biological factors play their role in substance abuse



P7 STATE

AMARNATH YATRA: NDRF, SDRF MEN TO JOIN MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAMS

With the Amarnath pilgrimage starting from June 30 after a break of two years, NDRF and SDRF personnel are getting specialised training to be



17 TH RAMZAN		
	Iftar TODAY	Sehri TOMMOROW
FIQAH HANAFIYA	7:07	4:30
FIQAH JAFARIYA	7:15	4:29

Quote!

One person alone is not a full person: we exist in relation to others

- Margaret Atwood

NEWS DIGEST

Five New Covid-19 Cases In J&K

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported five fresh Covid cases on Monday that took the infection tally to 4,53,946, officials said. Of the new cases, one was reported from the Jammu division, and the rest were from Kashmir division, they said. Seventeen of the 20 districts in the [More on P6](#)

Militant Arrested In Bandipora: Police

SRINAGAR: Police on Monday claimed to have arrested a newly recruited Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) militant from north Kashmir's Bandipora district. Amir Tariq Khan alias Waleed was arrested on Sunday during a search operation by a joint team of police, army's [More on P6](#)

3.4 Magnitude Earthquake Hits J&K

JAMMU: A low-intensity earthquake hit Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district on Monday, officials said, adding that there were no reports of any loss of life or damage to property. The earthquake of magnitude 3.4 had its epicentre in Kishtwar and occurred at 12.09 pm. There were [More on P6](#)

Ambulance Rolls Into Gorge, Driver Dead

SRINAGAR: An ambulance driver was killed on Monday in a road accident in the hilly Karnah area of north Kashmir's Kupwara district. 40-year-old Shakoor Ahmad Awaan was on his way to Karnah in his mini-ambulance (JK09A-8992) on Monday afternoon when he reportedly lost control over his vehicle before it rolled down into a gorge near Madh Modh [More on P6](#)

...Shootout In Pulwama

Railway Cop Killed, ASI Injured By Militants

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Unidentified militants on Monday shot dead a Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel and injured another in an audacious attack in south Kashmir's Pulwama district.

Around 6:00pm Monday, unknown militants opened gunfire upon two RPF personnel Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) Devraj Kumar and Head Constable Surinder Kumar outside the Kakpora railway station in the south Kashmir district, officials said.

In the surprise militant attack, both the RPF personnel sustained grievous injuries. They were removed to the nearby hospital for treatment. However, the Head Constable Surinder Kumar succumbed to his injuries, officials said.

According to the officials, the two RPF personnel had gone out to a tea stall when unknown militants fired indiscriminately upon them.

Soon after the incident, police and army reached the shootout spot and launched a search operation to nab the attackers.

Meanwhile, police has registered a case under relevant sections of law and initiated investigation.

"Officers continue to work to establish the full circumstances of the terror crime while the whole area has been cordoned off with the help of reinforcement and search in the area is going on," a police spokesperson said.

Kumar's killing comes two days after a soldier was killed in an encounter with militants in Watnara area of Kokernag in the neighbouring [More on P6](#)



File Photo

6 OFFICERS CONTINUE TO WORK TO ESTABLISH THE FULL CIRCUMSTANCES of the terror crime while the whole area has been cordoned off with the help of reinforcement and search in the area is going on."

Mehbooba Meets Sonia In New Delhi

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: PDP president and former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Mehbooba Mufti met Congress chief Sonia Gandhi at the latter's residence here on Monday.

Mufti spent some time with Gandhi and is learnt to have discussed the current political situation in the country with the Congress president.

The People's Democratic Party (PDP) leader has said it is the Congress that has kept the country safe so far, alleging that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) wants to create more Pakistans.

Mufti became the chief minister of Jammu [More on P6](#)

PM's Visit To J&K

Modi To List Out Achievements Post Art-370 Abrogation

Inaugurations, Announcements Also Expected During PM's First Visit Since Aug 2019

Zaid Bin Shabir

SRINAGAR: In his first ever visit to Jammu and Kashmir since August 2019; Prime Minister Narendra Modi will list out achievements made in the erstwhile state after its semi-autonomous status was revoked by New Delhi, much to the disappointment of people and J&K political parties.



The PM's visit to Palli in Jammu division on April 24 is also expected to witness some inaugurations and announcements of

developmental projects.

Pertinently, this will be Modi's first visit to Jammu and Kashmir since Article-370 was abrogated and the erstwhile state was bifurcated into two Union Territories.

A source privy to the matter told Kashmir Observer that the PM will reach Jammu on April 24 from where he's scheduled to visit Palli village in Samba district.

"PM will make his address at Palli Panchayat on April 24 as Palli Panchayat is being celebrated as India's first ever carbon-neutral [More on P6](#)

I&FC Dept Gears Up To Meet Possible Flood Threat

Auqib Javeed

SRINAGAR: The irrigation and flood control (I&FC) department has issued flood duty chart to its staff, besides acquiring over one lakh sand bags to plug weak spots along Jhelum river and its tributaries to prevent any imminent threat of floods in the Kashmir Valley.

Despite no looming threat of flood situation, the I&FC department has carried out a safety audit of Jhelum embankments and identified the weak spots, the officials said. The audit, they said, was conducted last month as part of the department's advanced planning in meeting any possible flood situation.

Executive Engineer I&FCD, Srinagar Ajaz Ahmad Keen told

Kashmir Observer that they will keep over one lakh sand bags ready at different weak spots to block the flood threat if any.

"We have started the tendering process for the sand bags and it will be completed within days," he said.

He further added that the department has issued the flood duty chart for the employees and they will be deployed to the specific areas.

"In this regard we had a meeting with Divisional Commissioner Kashmir and his orders will be implemented within the coming days," he added.

It may be noted, the Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Pandurang K Pole on April 9, chaired a meeting of officers of [More on P6](#)

Change-Makers Of Kashmir's Café Culture

Sheikh Mehvish

At noon when footfall grows inside a popular eatery in Srinagar, a young manager marshals her troops and ensures strict order in the house.

As a tough taskmaster, the female supervisor puts food on every table without letting her customer whine about the late delivery.

But despite this customer-friendly conduct, the woman administrator's presence itself turns eyeballs around.

While boys working in restaurants is a usual thing in Kashmir, the presence of girl staffers is still a surprising sight for many.

But Saika, 23, is challenging



as well as changing this notion with her resolve.

She's among the new-age change-makers working at restaurants as part-timers amid the

growing café culture in Kashmir.

Cognizant of her community's cultural sensitivities, Saika tries to deal with public perceptions with her amicable professional

conduct at Pizza Hut in Citywalk Shopping Mall, Srinagar.

"I always wanted to do something on my own and got the idea of doing a part-time job," Saika says. "That's how I ended up at Pizza Hut as a shift leader a year ago."

Her decision was supported by her parents and friends, boosting her to create a niche in the male-dominated line of work.

"I'm happy that I chose to work here," says Saika. "My colleagues, especially males, always try to make me feel comfortable and I never felt like I'm working in a male-oriented space."

Amid the café boom in Kashmir's recent past, Parsa's Food founded by [More on P6](#)

Electric Shocks Killed 113 PDD Workers In 12 Years

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Over 110 regularized as well as temporary employees of Power Development Department (PDD) have lost their lives due to electrocution in the past more than one decade in Kashmir, figures reveal.

According to the figures available with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), a total of 113 regularized as well as casual laborers, daily wagers and need-based workers have died due to electrocution while performing their duties in Kashmir.

These deaths due to electrocution have occurred since 2010 to April 18, 2022.

Of total 113, 53 among them were regularized while 60 others were casual [More on P6](#)

Lt Gen Pande Next Army Chief

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Lt Gen Manoj Pande will be the next Army chief succeeding Gen MM Naravane whose tenure ends by the end of this month, officials said on Monday.

At present, Lt Gen Pande is serving as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff.

Before taking charge as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff, he was heading the Eastern Army Command tasked with guarding the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh sectors.

Gen Naravane's tenure will come to an end on April 30.

Lt Gen Pande [More on P6](#)



J&K's Debt Pile Grows To Rs 83,536 Crore: CAG

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) has pulled up Jammu and Kashmir government for its debt situation, stating that the union territory's overall debt has gone up to Rs 83,536 crore by October 2019.

The CAG expressed concern over J-K government's action of using borrowed funds for meeting current consumption and repayment of interest on outstanding loans.

"Using borrowed funds for meeting current consumption and repayment of interest on outstanding loans is not sustainable," it said, stressing that borrowed funds should ideally

6 OUTSTANDING OVERALL DEBT AS ON 30 OCTOBER 2019 WAS RS 83,536 CRORE. The percentage of total debt repayment was 82.68 per cent of the total debt receipt during 1st April 2019, to 30th of October 2019, resulting in only 17.32 per cent total debt receipt available."

be used to fund capital creation and developmental activities. "Outstanding overall debt as on 30 October 2019 was Rs 83,536

crore. The percentage of total debt repayment was 82.68 per cent of the total debt receipt during 1st April 2019, to 30th of October 2019, resulting in only 17.32 per cent total debt receipt available," latest CAG report said.

The CAG pointed out that government has internal debt amounting to Rs 45,429 crores, which constitute 54.38 per cent of total debt, while loans from government of India amounts to 1,237 crores (1.48 per cent) and liabilities on public account amounts to Rs 36,870 crores (44.14 per cent).

As per the CAG report, the fiscal deficit during 1 April 2019 to 30 October 2019 was Rs 4,728 crore. It can be seen [More on P6](#)

Pak Militants With Aadhaar Cards Worry Security Agencies

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: With militants groups misusing Aadhaar card to camouflage the identity of their Pakistani cadres, the Jammu and Kashmir Police will request the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) to strengthen safety features of the biometric ID, officials have said.

The police force will also pitch for devising a mechanism for getting real-time information on an Aadhaar card being

misused by militants.

The misuse of the biometric ID came to light following the recent killing of two Pakistani militants in Bishembhar Nagar, adjacent to the Dal Lake, in Srinagar.

The militants, who had been involved in the killing of CRPF jawans earlier this month, were identified as Mohammed Bhai alias Abu Qasim, who had been active in Kashmir Valley since 2019, and Abu Arsalan alias Khalid, who was present since 2021.

However, the [More on P6](#)

MHA Declares Local JeM Commander 'Terrorist'

Ashiq Ahmed Nengroo, a commander of banned outfit Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), was designated as a "terrorist" by the Centre on Monday for his involvement in various militancy incidents in Jammu and Kashmir. Nengroo is the fifth individual to have [More on P6](#)



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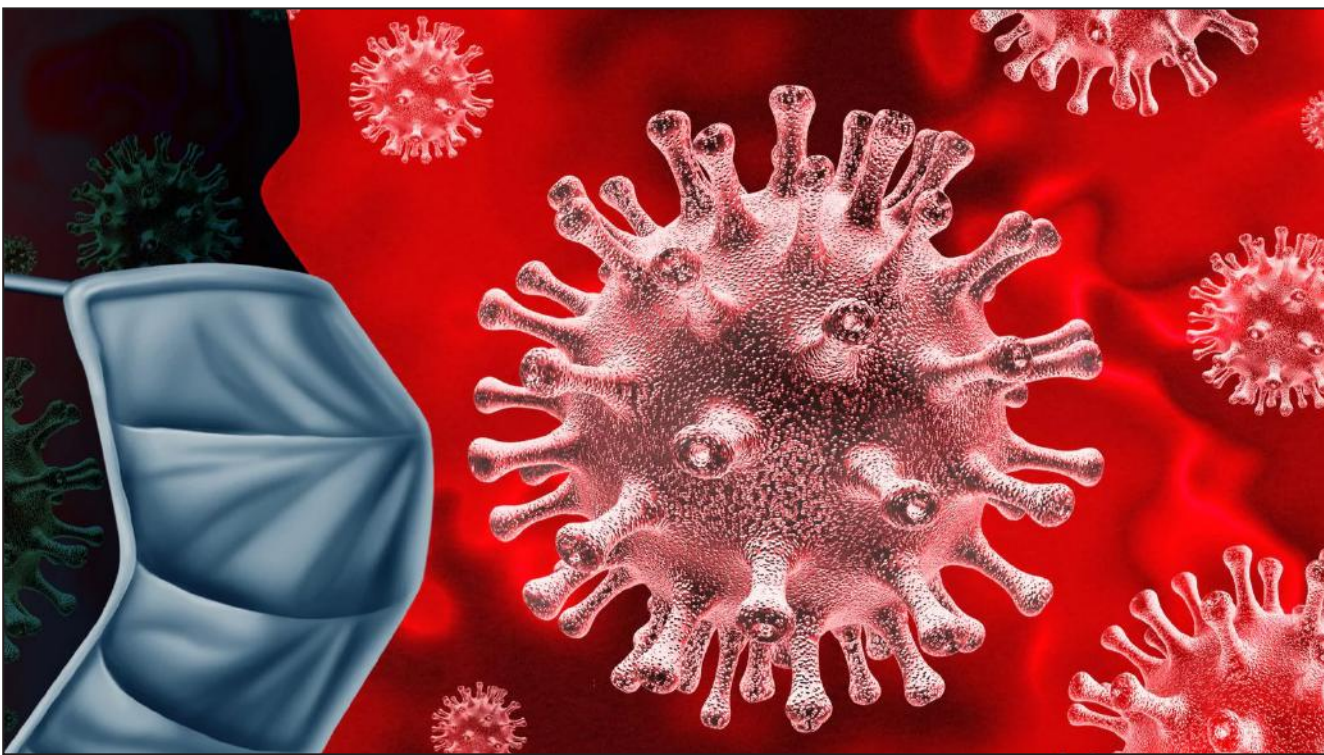
Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)

No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

Microsoft's New Edge Canary Feature To Auto Save Your Passwords

IANS

Tech giant Microsoft is reportedly rolling out a new "save passwords automatically" feature for Edge Canary for some users. It is optional and can be enabled within the password section of Edge's settings. Not everyone has this feature available to them, reports Windows Central. Those of you who are tired of manually typing in passwords or giving Edge permission over and over again to save them on your behalf can rest easy, as a helpful new feature may be on its way to standard Edge, the report said. It is a "save passwords automatically" feature that's recently snuck into Edge Canary. The feature was spotted by Leopeva64-2 over on Reddit, the report said. Edge is always testing new features, so there are no guarantee users will see this password-saving tool in the standard release anytime soon. And Microsoft does not only try out these sorts of things for Edge, it does it with all its products, including Windows 11 and search engine Bing



Novel Antiviral Coating Inactivates Covid Variants Even In Dark

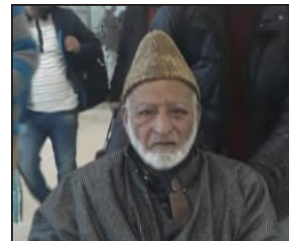
Press Trust Of India

Scientists in Japan have developed a new antiviral coating that inactivates various types of coronavirus variants under both indoor light and darkness. The coating developed by researchers at Nara Medical University, Kanagawa Institute of Industrial Science and Technology, and Tokyo Institute of Technology is made using a combination of titanium dioxide (TiO2) and copper oxide (CuO) compounds. They noted that the main transmission pathway of the SARS-CoV-2 virus is through droplets released by infected people into the air, adding these droplets exist on various surfaces as well. Viral infections mainly occur in indoor environments where many people gather, the researchers said. Antiviral chemicals, such as alcohol and hydrogen peroxide, are often used to decontaminate regularly touched surfaces, they

said. These chemicals essentially render the virus inactive by breaking down its proteins. However, they are volatile in nature, and therefore evaporate away. As a result, the disinfection process has to be carried out regularly. The study, published in the journal Scientific Reports, described a solid-state photocatalyst as an alternative defence against the virus. Unlike chemical disinfectants, solid-state coatings remain for a long time, and have the advantage of being non-toxic, abundant, and chemically and thermally stable, the researchers said. Many of these solid-state coatings use TiO2 photocatalysts, that when exposed to ultraviolet (UV) light, cause oxidation reaction that can destroy organic matter like the spike protein that helps the coronavirus to enter and infect human cells. However, these coatings are activated only when exposed to UV light, which is not present in typical indoor environments.

To get the coating to work under visible light as well dark conditions, the team developed a composite consisting of TiO2 and CuO nanoclusters. CuO nanoclusters are composed of a mixed oxide, in which Cu(I) and Cu(II) species are present. The Cu(II) species in CuO contributes to the visible-light-driven photocatalysis reaction, whereas the Cu(I) species plays a crucial role in denaturing virus proteins, thereby causing their inactivation under dark conditions. By coating the CuO/TiO2 powder on a glass, the researchers showed that it could inactivate even the highly virulent Delta variant of SARS-CoV-2. They also confirmed the inactivation of Alpha, Beta, and Gamma variants by CuO/TiO2 in addition to the wild type strain. The team's analysis strongly suggests that the Cu(I) species in CuO denaturalises spike proteins and also causes RNA fragmentation of SARS-CoV-2, even under dark conditions.

سانحہ ارتحال



اتانلہ وانا الیہ را جموں کل انقیس ذابقت ملوت۔
جانی غلام شی الدین شاہ ولد عبد کبیر شاہ ساکنہ شرافہ شریف بروز اتوار 15 ماہ رمضان 1443 ہجری بمطابق 17 اپریل 2022 عیسوی داعی اجل کو لبیک کر گئے۔
مرحوم کو شہید مزارگشن آباد میں سپرد خاک کیا گیا۔ مرحوم کا چہارم 18 ماہ رمضان بمطابق 20 اپریل بروز بدھوار آبائی وطن (اقبال آباد) گشن آباد چہار شریف میں انجام دیا جائے گا۔
اجتماعی فاتح خوانی مزار شہداء گشن آباد چہار شریف میں دن کے گیارہ بجے انجام دیا جائے گا۔ انشاء اللہ۔
سوگواران:- مشتاق احمد شاہ سابقہ انفارمیشن آفیسر و دیگر اہل خاندان۔
نوٹ:- تعزیت پرسی کے لیے آنے والے ہر مرد و خواہ تین سے پر و زگزارش ہے کہ وہ اپنے ساتھ کسی بھی قسم کا میوہ یا مشروبات نہ لائیں۔

inf

از عبارت انتہا ناگ با اعلیٰ انگریزیکلجسٹریٹ دیپال
مضمون درخواست مناسبت: طاہرہ بیوہ حراج احمد گورما لکھنؤ انتہا ناگ
بہر ضل: ذہن نشینی سرگٹ

معاملہ کی نسبت پٹاری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے۔ جنکی رو سے سالک کا شوہر حراج احمد گورما مورث 24/01/2022 کو فوت ہوا ہے۔ موتی کے ذہن نشینی میں ہے۔

نمبر شمار	نام و ولدیت	پیشہ	عمر	ماہورہ	کل آمدنی
01	طاہرہ بیوہ حراج احمد گورما	بیوہ	45 سال	2500/=	
02	زاد احمد گورما لکھنؤ احمد گورما	پسر	12 سال		

اسطور موتی کے صرف دو ہی ذہن نشینی موجود ہیں۔ ان کے علاوہ موتی کا کوئی ذہن نشینی موجود نہیں ہے۔ اسطور سالک ذہن نشینی سرگٹ حاصل کرنے کی خواہ کرتی ہے۔ سالک کی کسی کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ دھڑا دھڑا اس سات دن کے اندر اندر پیش کریں۔ بعد از معیار کرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
(خود اعلیٰ انگریزیکلجسٹریٹ دیپال) ma

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform that I have lost the FITNESS of the school van bearing registration No JK03D 9118. (PUBLIC MODEL SCHOOL.) Now the duplicate of the said certificate is required to be obtained from the transport department. Any person(s) having any objection can file his/her objection in the office of ARTO Anantnag within 7 days after which no objection will be entertained.
Manzoor Ahmad
Principal public model school Khanabal. ma

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my Driving License bearing DL No: 14594/MVD/ANG. Now I am applying 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 entertained.
FIDA HUSSAIN WANI
S/O QAMAR UD DIN
R/O NANIL ANANTNAG ma

The Jammu And Kashmir State Board Of School Education

BRANCH OFFICE SOPORE

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original Migration Certificate under Below mentioned particulars
Aiman Imtiyaz Kar
Father's name: Imtiyaz Ahamd Kar
Mother Name : Shaheena Begum
Roll No: 3168219 Year 2015 Session Annual Regykar Certificate No: 3382 Dated: 22-01-2020
Now the candidate has applied for Duplicate Marks Card. Anybody (if) having any objection may file the same before undersigned with (07) Seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides, the original marks card is treated as cancelled.
Sd/ Assistant Secretary
Sub Office Sopore
bmg



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Sannat Nagar Srinagar

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OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one.

Shri : Krishan Jit Singh S/o: Trilokh Singh R/o: Atina Beerwah Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04F 7232 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S State Bank of India B/U Baghat Barzulah.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport officer ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .
No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.210
Dated 18/04/2022

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

MCB



Brilliant Tutorials Sunjwan Jammu

9541209130

List of Faculty Members

S.No	Name of Teacher	Qualification	Experience
1	Gulzar Nabi	M.SC Mathematics	12 Years
2	Reyaz Ahmad Rah	M.A English /B.ED	12 Years
3	Sameer Aziz	M.A Urdu	05 Years
4	Asif Bashir	M.Phil History/B.ED	08 Years
5	Mir Muzamil	M.SC Zoology	02 Years
6	Akif Gul	BCA	06 Years
7	Faisal Khan	B. Tech	04 Years
8	Basit Abdullah	B.SC	02 Years
9	Sartaj Ahmad	M.A/ B.ED	06 Years

RNA

Sd/
Principal

Brilliant Tutorials Sunjwan Jammu

9541209130

Fee Structure for session 2020-2021

Subject	Amount
For Whole Syllabus	
English	5000
Math	5000
Urdu	5000
Science	5000
S.Science	5000

RNA

Sd/
Principal

Government of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION SHOPIAN

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (for Road work/bridges/Buildings) TWO COVER SYSTEM (above Rs. 2.50 Crores)

NIT No.:- 11/513-22/RnB/SPN/e-tender of 2022-23

Dated: 16-04-2022.

Executive Engineer PW(R&B) Division Shopian on behalf of Governor of UT of J&K State invites item rate bids/percentage rate bids (as the case may be) in electronic tendering system for the following works including their maintenance for five years from the eligible and approved contractors registered with J&K UT Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State Governments.

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

S. No	Name of Work	Tendered Cost including GST (Rs in lacs.)	Cost of Tender Documents (In Rs)	E/M (Rs in Lacs)	Time of completion	Tender Call	T&D of opening of tenders online (Technical Bid)	Class of contractor	AA-Status	TS-Status
1	Strengthening/ Upgradation of Outskirts of Shopian Town including Kanipora Gagren Interior roads at Chotipora Minipora Gund Hadow (Agg Length 12.00 Kms)	553.430	55.343	608.773	8500/-	12.17546	1.5 years	04-05-2022	06-05-2022	04-05-2022

M.H Account = NABARD RIDX XXVII Position of AAA /TS= Accorded/Sanctioned Position of funds = Approved

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	16-04-2022
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	17-04-2022 from 10.00 AM.
3	Date & time of Pre-bid meeting	18-04-2022 from 11.00 AM.
4	Bid submission Start Date	19-04-2022 from 10.00 AM.
5	Bid Submission End Date	04-05-2022 upto 4.00 PM.
6	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online) (Tech. Bids)	06-05-2022 11:00 AM in the office of Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle, Pulwama/Shopian HQ: Pulwama

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian (tender inviting authority) and Bid security in favour of Superintending Engineer R&B Circle Pul/SPN HQ: Pulwama in shape of CDR/FDR/BG

2. Within 3 days of receipt of LOA the first lowest successful bidder has to produce performance security @ 3% / or as shall be in vogue at the time of award of contract strictly as per Circular / instructions from Govt. from time to time in this regard, of the total quoted cost for the work as in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG, in order the contract fixation is initiated

3. The EMD (Bid Security) of 2% of the advertised cost of successful bidder shall be released after receipt of 3% Performance Security

4. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle, Pulwama/Shopian HQ: Pulwama (tender receiving authority).

5. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids

The earnest money shall be forfeited, If:-
a. Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.

b. Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.

6. Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

6.1. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

6.2. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.

6.3. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor.

6.4. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.

6.5. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.

6.6. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid.

6.7. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the technical bid.

6.8. All documents relating to the bid shall be in the English Language.

6.9. Bidder must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents and tender documents fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid. However, in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.

DIPK-638/22

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
R&B Division Shopian

No. 513-22

Dated: 16-04-2022



Teenage Girl Goes Missing From Hawal

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A teenage girl has gone missing from Hawal area of Srinagar. Girl named Rehana lives in Mureedpora locality of Hawal. Sources said the girl has been missing since Saturday. The family has lodged a missing report with the police.

Meanwhile, the family of the girl has appealed to the general public to help trace her.

Woman Critical After A Scuffle At Lasjan

Agencies

Srinagar: A woman was injured in a scuffle at Lasjan area of Srinagar on Monday.

Official sources said that a scuffle broke out between two groups in Lasjan. In the incident a lady identified as Fatima Bano was injured.

They said that she was rushed to PHC Chattergam for treatment, where she has been shifted to SMHS Hospital for advanced treatment. An official from SMHS said that the condition of the lady is said to be critical.

Meanwhile, Nowgam police have taken cognizance of the incident. (KNO)

D&FCO Seals 4 Bakery Shops

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Taking strong note of the video that went viral on social media showing a worker of bakery unit kneading dough with his feet, the Drugs and Food Control Organization (D&FCO) on Monday launched a drive to check the sanitary and hygienic requirements of Food Safety and Standards in district Srinagar.

During the drive four bakery units which were found violating sanitary and hygienic requirements of Food Safety and Standards Act were instantly sealed. Already the prohibition order stands issued against two such units.

"The drive shall continue in the coming days and it shall be ensured that the bakery and confectionary items available to the consumers are processed under hygienic conditions", the statement issued by the department said.



World Heritage Day

Govt Says Committed To Restore The Architectural Heritage Of J&K

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: The Department of Archives, Archaeology and Heritage celebrated World Heritage Day on Monday.

The day is celebrated on 18th April every year at the International level in order to preserve the heritage and history of past generations.

To commemorate the day, the department had organized one day exhibitions at the Art Museum at Old Secretariat and Sri Pratap Singh Museums in Srinagar.

Rare manuscripts in Arabic, Persian and paintings of historic significance were put to display at the museums.

Mushtaq Ahmad Beigh Assistant Director

Archives and Museums said that the day is celebrated every year to celebrate our history and legacy.

He further said the department organizes the event year which attracts a large number of people including students.

"Hundreds of students visited the museums and got a glimpse of our past history" he said.

"The government will initiate the restoration of the Architectural Heritage scheme for the restoration of architectural heritage sites in J&K", he added.

He said in the first phase, 35 architectural buildings including shrines, temples, churches and Gurudwaras will be restored so that they

can be conserved.

"Funds have been allocated for it by the government of India and very soon work will start here," he added.

"Last year, we established an art museum here and we have displayed modern paintings in it and 200 year old paintings were also displayed in it so that visitors can easily differentiate old and new art known as modern art."

Beigh said that they have kept available for local artists as well who can easily exhibit art for a week or two weeks. "We have kept recent finds in the SPS museum which includes the excavated findings besides that some were received from Police stations," he said. "My message will be to all that

aware all about our rich heritage so that our students will know about past as J&K has rich heritage and if we will compare it with states, J&K has best collection of monuments."

He requested heads of all schools to take their students at heritage sites besides museums so that it can work as a "stress releaser for students after Covid-19 is about to wean off."

He said that Public has to play a part in preserving the heritage. "Heritage tourism has great potential in J&K and if locals wherever monuments are existing, will preserve them as it will provide them employment opportunities once tourists will visit there," he said. (With KNO Inputs)

DIAL-EMMA



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

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS

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



HIGHWAY STATUS



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



HIJRI
CALENDAR
17 Ramazan
1443

PRAYERS

FAJR	4: 28
ZUHR	12:32
ASR	5:12
Magrib	7:08
ISHA	8: 33

This Day In History

- 607 - Comet IP/607 HI (Halley) approaches within 0.0898 AUs of Earth
- 1012 - Martyrdom of Alphege in Greenwich, London.
- 1451 - Alam Shah of Delhi resigns throne
- 1524 - Pope Clements VII fires Neth inquisitor-general French Van de Holly
- 1529 - 2nd Parliament of Spiers bans Lutheranism
- 1539 - Charles, protestant German monarch, signs Treaty of Frankfurt
- 1591 - Chartres surrenders to king Henry IV in France
- 1713 - Emperor Karel VI ends Pragmatic Sanctions
- 1770 - Amsterdam buys Van Aerssens family 1/3 part of Suriname
- 1770 - British explorer Captain James Cook first sights Australia
- 1775 Minutemen Capt John Parker orders not to fire unless fired upon
- 1775 - American Revolution begins - Lexington Common, shot "heard round the world"
- 1775 - New England militiamen begin the siege of Boston, hemming in the British army garrison
- 1775 - Paul Revere, William Dawes and Samuel Prescott are captured by British troops riding from Lexington to Concord, Prescott escapes to warn Concord
- 1782 - John Adams secures Dutch Republic's recognition of the United States as an independent government and house he purchased in The Hague, Netherlands became first American embassy.
- 1810 - Venezuela achieves home rule: Vicente Emparan, Governor of the Captaincy General is removed by the people of Caracas and a Junta is installed.
- 1836 Nikolai Gogol's "Revisor" premieres in St Petersburg
- 1837 Cheyney University forms as the Institute for Colored Youth
- 1839 - Treaty of London constitutes Belgium an independent kingdom & Luxembourg a Grand Duchy
- 1861 - Lincoln orders blockade of Confederate ports (Civil War)
- 1863 - Union troops/fleet occupy For Huger, Virginia
- 1901 - In the Philippines, recently captured insurgent leader Emilio Aguinaldo issues a proclamation advising his countrymen to end their rebellion and use of peaceful means to work with the US toward independence.
- 1909 - A convention with Turkey recognizes Bulgarian independence
- 1910 - Halley's comet seen by naked eye 1st time this trip (Curacao)
- 1911 - George Bernard Shaw's "Fanny's First Play" premieres in London
- 1916 - Italians troops conquer Col di Lana at Merano
- 1923 - New Egyptian law allows suffrage for men, except soldiers

From KO Archives

'Onus Both On India, Pak For Safe Bus Travel'

Observer News service

NEW DELHI - Prime Minister Manmohan Singh today said that it is the joint responsibility of India and Pakistan as also the local authorities on both sides of the Line of Control (LoC) to ensure full security cover to passengers of the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad bus service.

"Notwithstanding the recent dastardly attempt to disturb the bus service between Srinagar and Muzaffarabad by terrorists, the people of Jammu and Kashmir came out on the streets as one to welcome this gesture of reconciliation," he said addressing the Chief Ministers' Conference on Internal Security here.

"I hope the terrorists and extremists in the region have grasped the mood of the people and will not try to disturb this bus service again," he said.

Singh said it was the joint responsibility of the governments of India and Pakistan and the local authorities on both sides of the LoC to work together in providing full security to passengers.

(Kashmir Observer, 19 April, 2005)

VsOI condole with Mushtaq Shah of Chrari Sharief

The veterans of Information Department (VsOID), a group of retired officers/officials of DIPR, have express grief and sorrow over the demise of the father of Mushtaq Ahmad Shah, one of their colleague from Chrari Sharief. Expressing their solidarity with Mushtaq Ahmad Shah and bereaved family they prayed for eternal peace to departed soul and courage to bereaved family to bear this loss. They said " We equally share this grief".

inf

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR NOTICE

Whereas an application has been received from one. Shri : Dr. Ali Mohd Najar S/o: Gh. Ahmad Najar R/o: Housing colony Ompora owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04C 2702 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S State Bank of India B/U RASMECC Srinagar.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement 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.217
Dated 18/04/2022

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR NOTICE



Where a application for transfer of ownership has been recieved from one. Shri : Jagjit Singh S/o: Babu Singh R/o: Dharam shala Singhan Chadoora Budgam (Transferor) of Alto 800 (LMV).

Vehicle bearing registration number JK04D - 7310. Chasis number 67164 Engine no. 25067 Model 2017. in favour of Shri.. Farooz Ahmad Wani S/o. Mohammad Jamal Wani R/o Seer Bagh Lasjan (Transferee)
Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed transfer of ownership shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper Kashmir Observer.
No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.213
Dated 18/04/2022

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

Government of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B CONSTRUCTION DIVISION NO.II, SGR.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

NIT No.07/CDII/848-58 of 2022-23

DATED: 16-04-2022.

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No.	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	E/M / Bid Security (In Rupees)	Time of completion	M.H of Account	Class of Contractor
1.	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Fencing of 02-Kanals of Land belonging to Rural Livelihood Mission Kashmir at Boulevard Sub Division Srinagar.	8.52	600	17040/-	30 Days	8443-Deposit contribution	"CEE/DEE"
2.	Repairs of roof top of Auditorium including development of the Auditorium Hall at Lal-Ded Hospital Srinagar. (Part B)	3.80	200/-	7600/-	20 Days	4210-Medical.	"DEE"
3.	Construction of Lecture/Examination Block at Islamia College of Science and Commerce Srinagar. (Additional Works b.w.o P/F MS Grill Work, MS Collapsible door and other allied works.)	7.49	300/-	14980/-	30 Days	4202-Higher Education.	"DEE/CEE"

Position of Work. Accorded

Position of funds. Available

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	17.04.2022 from 10.00 AM
3	Bid submission Start Date	18.04.2022 from 10.00 AM
4	Bid Submission End Date	23.04.2022 upto 4.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	25.04.2022 at 11:00 AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Construction Division No.2 nd , Srinagar

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan under M.H-0059 in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Construction Division No.2nd, Srinagar (tender inviting authority) (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date) pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Construction Division No.2nd, Srinagar (tender receiving authority).

2. All the Bidders shall upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the shape of CDR/FDR at the time of tendering pledged to tender receiving authority i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Construction Division 2nd, Srinagar. Besides the successful bidder shall have to provide Performance Security @ 3% at the time of award of contract. The earnest money/Bid security of 2% shall be released to the successful bidder only after submitting of Performance Security @ 3% of allotted cost which shall be released after successful completion of DLP.

3. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Construction Division No.2nd, Srinagar (tender receiving authority).

4. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids

5.1. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

5.2. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.

5.3. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendor.

5.4. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.

5.5. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.

5.6. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the technical bid.

5.7. Note:- Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.

5.8. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.

5.9. Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Construction Division No.2nd, Srinagar (The date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date) pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Construction Division No.2nd, Srinagar must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The original Treasury Challan (cost of tender document), and other relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of contract.

5.10. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually.

5.11. Bidders should note that if the documents uploaded/submitted on the basis of which the contract has been awarded are found fake/not genuine at any time, the contract shall be cancelled and the contractor/bidder shall be blacklisted for participation in this division for a period of five years besides the performance security deposited for the said work shall be forfeited.

5.12. Any item/items of work found necessary during execution of work though not in the BOQ shall have to be got executed and shall be paid At Par the %age quoted by the bidder.

5.13. Any addendum issued shall be the part of NIT.

5.14. Price escalation and Taxes:- The %age quoted by the bidder shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.

5.15. Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.

5.16. In case of CRP and any other specified project, the relevant guidelines / standard bidding document shall be followed.

5.17. Instructions to Bidder (ITB)

5.18. All bidders shall upload the following information and documents along with qualification criteria / qualification information with their bids:-

a. All bidders shall upload Copies of original documents defining constitution/ legal status, place of registration and principal place of Business with Cell No. and Correspondence address.

b. Registration Card duly renewed/valid for the year 2021-22

c. All bidders shall upload Verification Certificate duly issued by the card issuing authority or an affidavit duly certified by 1st class Judicial Magistrate to the effect of genuineness of the registration.

d. All bidders shall upload Treasury Challan/Earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR.

e. All bidders shall upload Valid GSTIN Registration & PAN Card

f. All bidders shall upload Scanned Copy of GSTIN Registration and latest clearance certificate FORM GSTR-3B of last quarter i.e. October-December-2021 or preceding month i.e. february-2022.

g. The bidder at his own responsibility and risk should visit and examine the site of work and its surroundings before submission of bid.

h. All documents relating to the bid shall be in the English Language.

i. Bidder must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including tender documents fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid. No document (s) which has /have not been uploaded shall be entertained in the form of hard copy. However, in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises

No. 848-58

Dated:16-04-2022.

DIPK-639/22

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
R&B Construction Division IInd
Srinagar

KASHMIR
OBSERVER

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K O V I E W

Two Months Of War

The Russian invasion of Ukraine is almost two months old and it is showing signs of getting worse by the day. In one of the biggest blows to Russia last week, the country lost its flagship warship Moskva in a missile attack by Ukrainian forces. Moskva had the capacity to carry 16 long-range cruise missiles, reducing Russia's firepower. In response, Russia has intensified its attacks on Ukraine, particularly its capital Kyiv. It has claimed to have "liberated" Ilyich steel and iron plant in Mariupol, Ukraine's second-largest steel maker. Russia's effort so far has been to take over the key port city of Mariupol in the east of Ukraine.

The CIA has warned of Russia resorting to using tactical or low-yield nuclear weapons in Ukraine in view of the military setbacks faced by the country. Meanwhile, European countries are trying to replace Russian energy with imports of gas from other countries, particularly those in the Gulf like Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the UAE. Russian President Vladimir Putin has warned that he will redirect his energy supplies eastwards if European countries stop buying its oil and gas.

The past two months have witnessed a complete break-up in the relationship between the West and Russia. The west which until before the war had differences about how to tackle the then brewing Ukraine crisis has united against Russia. NATO has put its all might behind Ukraine which, as a result, has so far been able to slow down the Russian assault, if not stall it.

The coming few weeks would be crucial. It needs to be seen whether Russia makes more advances or suffers reverses from the territory it has captured so far and this would determine how each side would calibrate its response. Though Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky has repeatedly called for talks with Russia, the latter is in no mood for such a meeting. West has also been cautious not to join the war directly, so as not to expand the conflict which could culminate in a nuclear exchange, a frightening scenario that could bring about doomsday for the world. This makes it urgent for the world powers to climb down from their hubris and work together to find a way out of the ongoing war. But going by the tough postures adopted both by the US and Russia, such an outcome looks unlikely in near future. And considering both sides see an existential crisis in the defeat, the war is likely to drag on.

O T H E R O P I N O N

Take two: On dual degree programme

The UGC has done well to mandate that open/distance learning and online mode courses should be pursued only in higher education institutions recognised by statutory bodies. This would also eliminate dubious players in the online education segment.

Granting students the liberty to enhance their skills and scope of employability through an additional degree is welcome. But the guidelines call for critical evaluation given the nature of competition, accessibility and academic-cum-physical infrastructure issues in colleges and universities. The UGC has said a student can also pursue two full-time programmes in physical mode. This is problematic as it might prompt students, who are academically proficient or with the economic wherewithal, to corner seats in two in-demand courses. Such a situation is best avoided in the context of the country's poor college density — colleges per lakh population (in the 18-23 age group). In the All India Survey on Higher Education Report 2019-20, the national average college density stands at 30. The UGC's Furqan Qamar Committee, which a decade ago recommended dual programmes with a second degree in open/distance mode, had ruled out offering simultaneous degree courses under regular mode "as it may create logistic, administrative and academic problems". Against this backdrop, the UGC may reconsider its guidelines for the physical mode option, while implementing the other two choices, strengthening and streamlining the open/distance learning courses in parallel. Alternatively, it may look at its 2004 document for initiation of double/multiple degree programme in engineering disciplines, where it had proposed a "gap" before an engineering degree holder could enrol for an additional or add-on degree course. That approach is pragmatic as it also sought to reduce the duration of the add-on degree by eliminating about 33% to 38% (52 to 60 course credits) of the "common curriculum" of the BE/B.Tech course (a total of 160 credits). This logic could be applied to allied courses in arts and science and reduce the duration of the second degree for students who desire pursuing dual programmes in physical mode. The more practical a policy, the better its results.

The Hindu

Emperor's New Clothes
Public Information
Officers or Post Offices?

Raja Muzaffar Bhat

A sum of Rs 1.05 crores made the news recently when it was revealed that the sum was collected by the Government in Srinagar from fines imposed for flouting Covid norms.

In the midst of the emergency created by Covid-19, this uncanny penalty exercise was carried out by cops in Kashmir. It was observed that cops on duty were imposing fines but were handing out Red Cross receipts in return.

The details of this exercise came to fore when this author filed an RTI last month. However, the effort has only yielded incomplete results on account of a lackadaisical postponement from the end of the authorities.

The RTI was forwarded from the Divisional Commissioner Kashmir's office to all DC offices. However, barring DC office Srinagar, no other office has divulged data on the matter.

In Pulwama, the RTI application couldn't find home as it was forwarded to all the Tehsildars of Pulwama district by invoking section 6 (3) of RTI Act 2005. The Additional DC (ADC) who is also PIO under RTI Act 2005 had forwarded the application according to a letter correspondence to the applicant.

While this process seems to be all in form related to norms, it is hardly so. The PIOs, in this case, the Additional DC had acted as a "post office" without following duties in spirit. The comment is hardly random and is infact from Delhi High Court's statement in the Rakesh Kumar Gupta vs Central Information Commission case (2021) in which it said that Public Information Officers (PIOs) cannot "function merely as post offices".

The court observed that Central/state PIOs cannot withhold information without a reasonable cause and evade disclosure of information. The order reads :

"Every effort should be made to locate information, and the fear of disciplinary action would work as a deterrent against the suppression of information for vested interests," the HC said while stressing the PIOs "cannot function merely as post offices", but ensure information is provided to the applicant"

The PIO has to "apply his/her mind, analyse the material" and then direct disclosure or give reasons for non-disclosure of information, the court added.

While the case in point is recent, the misuse of Section 6 (3) is not new.

Last year, in November, an application under RTI Act 2005 in Raj Bhavan filed by this author also faced a similar ordeal. The designated public information officer (PIO) in Raj Bhavan under section 6 (3) forwarded my RTI application to the Civil Secretariat Tribal Affairs Department. The officer was under the notion that the Tribal Affairs Department was the nodal agency for implementation of FRA in J&K, which isn't the case here.

Then, the PIO in Tribal Affairs Department Civil Secretariat, on 2.12.2021 forwarded the RTI application to all Deputy Commissioners and Divisional Forest Officers (DFOs) and asked them to provide the information about individual and community forest rights claims decided in their respective areas. Only the Deputy Commissioner Office Kishtwar and some DFOs provided the information satisfactorily.

The PIOs in DC offices Udhampur and Ganderbal further forwarded my RTI applications to their Tehsildars by invoking section 6 (3) of RTI Act 2005. Ironically, Tehsildars have nothing to do with the Forest Rights Act.

One wonders at the reason behind the PIO's decision to send the said RTI application to the Tehsildar's in the case of Ganderbal and Udhampur?

The consequential inference points at the possibility of evading the responsibility to provide information and the subsequent unavailability and lack of transparency related to FRA information.

Invoking Section 6 (3) Loophole

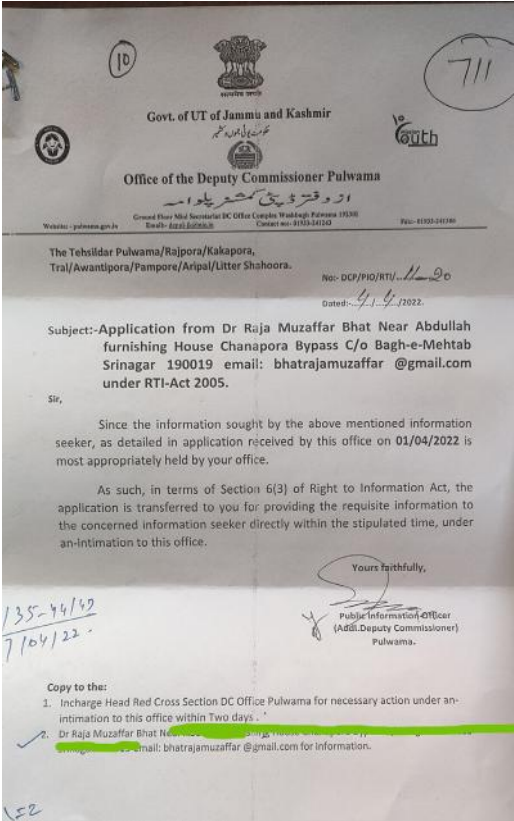
In spirit, Section 6 (3) of the RTI act has a noble intention, in keeping with the RTI Act 2005 which allows every citizen of India an access to information from public authorities.

Section 6 allows a citizen "to obtain any information under this Act" by requesting in writing or through electronic means accompanied by such fees as may be prescribed.

Subsection 3 of Section 6 shares the same intention and for the sake of saving the applicant's effort and time it holds that if the information



“This ‘loophole’ in the Act is being increasingly used by government departments to deny information to RTI applicants by passing the buck. Even if the PIO possesses the information, the application is forwarded to other public authorities mostly subordinate to the officer



sought from a public authority is with another department, then, the Central/state public information officer (CPIO/PIO) must transfer the application to the authority possessing the required information within five days of receiving it and inform the applicant accordingly.

However, this 'loophole' in the Act is being increasingly used by government departments to deny information to RTI applicants by passing the buck. Even if the PIO possesses the information, the application is forwarded to other public authorities mostly subordinate to the officer.

Need Responsible and Responsive RTI PIOs

The expectations of professionally satisfactory dispersal of duties isn't too much to ask for. Infact, Section 5(3) and (4) of RTI Act 2005 make it mandatory for a PIO to deal with requests of citizens seeking information and render reasonable assistance to them while taking the assistance of any other officer, if considered necessary by him or her, for the proper discharge of duties.

PIOs have to render "all reasonable assistance" where requests for information cannot be made in writing to the applicant making the request orally to reduce the same in writing.

Infact, Delhi High Court in its 2014 judgement in Ministry of Railways through Secretary & others vs Girish Mittal observed that Section 6(3) doesn't mean that a Central PIO's responsibility is only limited to forwarding applications to departments/offices.

"Forwarding an application by a public authority to another public authority is not the same as a public information officer of a public authority arranging or sourcing information from within its own organisation," the court observed.

The case relates to an RTI application filed by one Girish Mittal, who had sought information on the Garib Rath trains in all the zones from the ministry of Railways but didn't get a reply within the stipulated 30 days. The Railways CPIO had forwarded his application to the Research Designs and Standards Organisation. Subsequently, he filed a complaint with the Central Information Commission (CIC), which directed the CPIO to furnish the information and imposed a fine of Rs 25,000 on him. The CPIO challenged the CIC order in the court.

Emphasising that he cannot escape his responsibility by merely forwarding the application to other officials under Section 6 (3), Justice Vibhu Bakhru dismissed the CPIO's petition. Maintaining that the information would be available with the Railway Board, the court directed the CPIO to furnish the information sought by Mittal.

These reflections on legislation make one question the responses one gets to RTI applications time and again. It raises genuine concerns over digressions such as those done in the case of DC office Pulwama's decision to misdirect the RTI application to Tehsildars and mess the ordeal to one's Right to Information.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer
Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat is a Srinagar based activist and columnist. He is an Anant Fellow for Climate Action

OBSERVER
MAIL

All letters intended for publication must include the writer's name and address, even if a pseudonym is used. Letters are edited as clarity, space and accuracy of expression require. Our publishing a letter does not mean we agree with everything or even anything in it. -EDITOR

MAIL YOUR LETTERS

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Curb Domestic Violence

THE National Crime Record Bureau data have pointed out that the number of cases registered under section 498A of IPC for 'cruelty by husband or his relatives' recorded an increase of 21.3 per cent in 2019 compared with 2018. Moreover, the number of

cases registered under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence (PWDV) Act reflected a decline of 4.5 per cent in 2019 over 2018. The reasons for the under-reporting of cases were personnel, societal, and institutional. The Parliamentary Committee on Home Affairs has recommended that the Home Ministry

advise states and union territories to conduct sensitization and briefings of ground-level officials dealing with the PWDV Act so that women facing domestic violence could be better equipped to access justice. The awareness programs at the grass-

root level, fast-track courts, and rehabilitation facilities can be helpful in curbing domestic violence.

Amit Singh Kushwaha
amitsk68@gmail.com

9 Ridiculous Myths about Ramadan

Sana Khan

The blessed month of Ramadan is around the corner and so are the myths surrounding it. This article is intended to shed some light on a few very important concepts that are generally misunderstood by people.

1. One likely to lose weight during Ramadan :

Gaining weight? Ahh! No worries, Ramadan is coming, you'll surely lose some kgs, that's what you get to hear right? Well, let me tell you a fact – Most of the people actually GAIN weight instead of losing it, odd isn't it? Since you believed that Ramadan is a month of fasting and not eating. The amount of food prepared an hour before Iftar is mind blowing, be it keeme ke samose, pakodas, ruafza or the very tasty fruit chaat! At Iftars, it actually seems like everyone out there is trying to make up for the meals they missed!

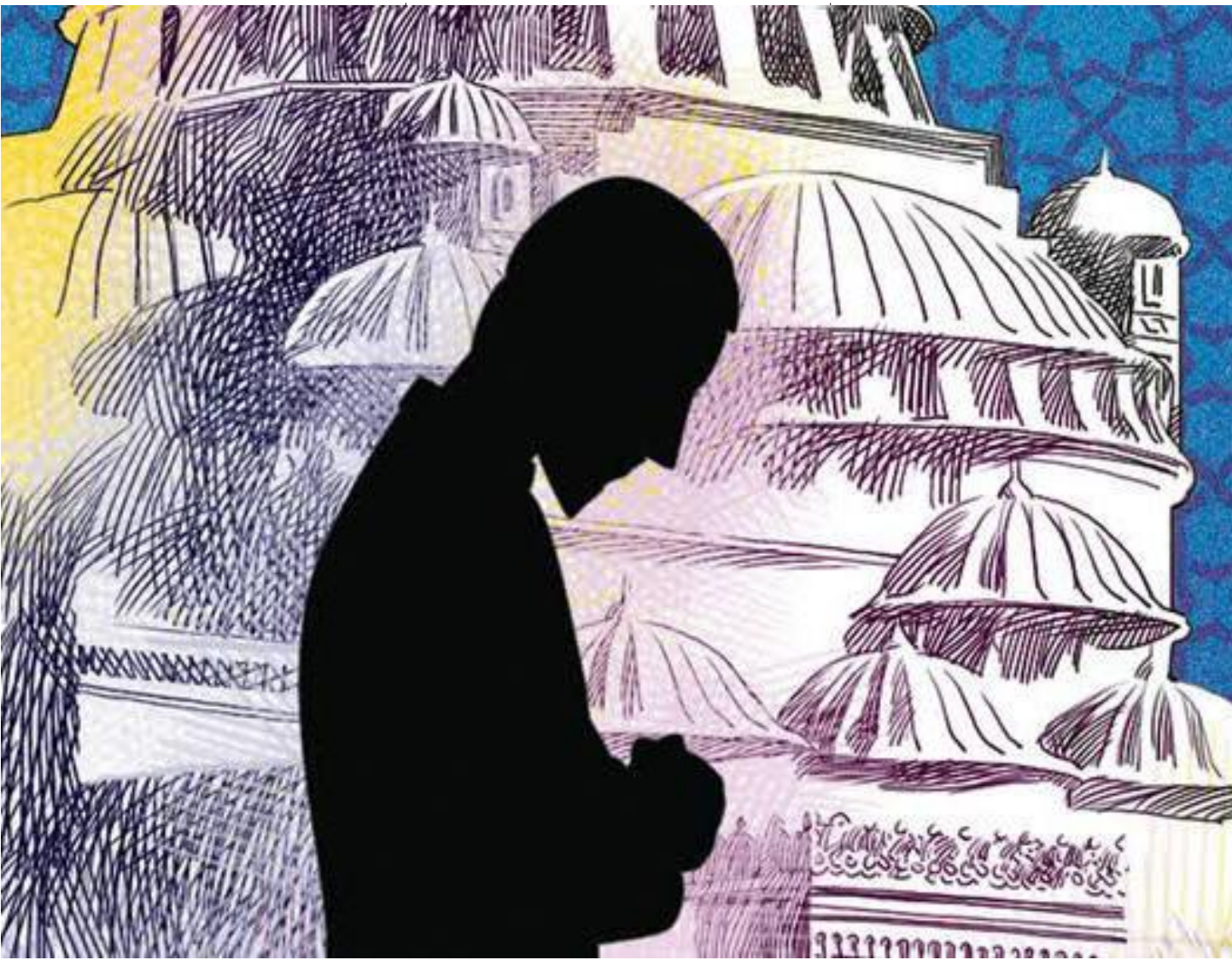
2. Ramadan is all about staying away from food and water:

Wait! You're wrong there. Ramadan is not merely about fasting, there is more to Ramadan. Apart from fasting, one is supposed to offer extra namaz, recite the Qu-ran, pay Zakat, be kind to others and taraweeh, yes!! In this blessed month, our good deeds are doubled and the opportunities to draw close to Allah are magnified.

3. The misconception regarding one's own saliva :

It is generally believed that swallowing one's own saliva nullifies the fast. No, swallowing one's own saliva does not invalidate the fast as the saliva is produced through the natural process of one's body. However, swallowing large amount of saliva intentionally for nourishment breaks the fast.

4. Muslim couples are not allowed to indulge in sexual intercourse for the entire



month :

Sexual intercourse is HARAM during the day while fasting, but it is allowed in the night. Kissing, hugging or embracing each other does not invalidate the fast as long as there is

no ejaculation because of these actions.

5. Muslims are not allowed to brush during the fast and this makes their breathe bad :

One is not allowed to use toothpaste dur-

ing the fast, as one is likely to swallow it. However, it is advisable to use Siwaak, infact Siwaak is Sunaah and also helps the person do away with the bad breathe! Also, one is allowed to gargle, and use the

toothbrush (without the toothpaste) if he/she feels uncomfortable.

6. Muslims are required to fast regardless of their physical condition :

Not true. Islam is quite a liberal religion (Allhumdullaih) As I have already mentioned in my previous article, fast is not obligatory on a person whose body cannot tolerate fasting, either due to old age or because of severe illness. Fasting is also not obligatory on the mensurating women (infact it is unlawful for them to fast). A pregnant women is allowed to escape fasts if she fears that it would harm her or her baby. The one who is travelling a distance of two or more walking days is allowed not to fast. The child is not obligated to fast (until he/she is 7 years). Fasting is also not obligatory on the insane person.

7. Fasts during Ramadan are the toughest kinds of fast :

Fasting is not a cakewalk, but it isn't that difficult either. And it is really stupid of people to think the that month long Ramadan fasts are toughest of all. We're allowed to break our fast after sunset and allowed to eat anything till suhur. Ever came across Jain's fasts? Jains take fasting to a whole new level. They fast continuously for 3 days and sometimes even for a week, without even a piece of food or a glass of water. Infact, the Karvachauth fast is more tough than Ramadan fasts! RESPECT to all the Jains and ladies who undertake Karvachauths out there!

8. Medical treatment breaks the fast :

No, eye drops, ear drops, nose sprays, drilling of teeth, gargling, injections (with the exception of those used for nourishment), involuntary vomiting and even sleeping does not invalidates the fast as long as one avoids swallowing any material that may reach the throat.

9. One is allowed to smoke, chew gum or drink plain water during the fast :

A big NO!!!!!! Any of these activities shall nullify the fast.

- TOP COUNT

Science of Authenticity

Matthew Baldwin

After following a white rabbit down a hole in the ground and changing sizes several times, Alice finds herself wondering "Who in the world am I?"

This scene, from Lewis Carroll's "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland," might resonate with you: In a world that's constantly changing, it can be challenging to find your authentic self.

I am a social psychologist, and over the past few years my colleagues and I have been conducting research to better understand what it means to be authentic. Our findings provide some valuable insights that not only shed light on what is meant by authenticity – a somewhat vague term whose definition has been debated – but can also offer some tips for how to tap into your true self.

WHAT IS AUTHENTICITY?

In "Sincerity and Authenticity," literary critic and professor Lionel Trilling described how society in past centuries was held together by the commitment of people to fulfilling their stations in life, whether they were blacksmiths or barons.

Trilling argued that people in modern societies are much less willing to give up their individuality, and instead value authenticity.

But what, exactly, did he mean by authenticity?

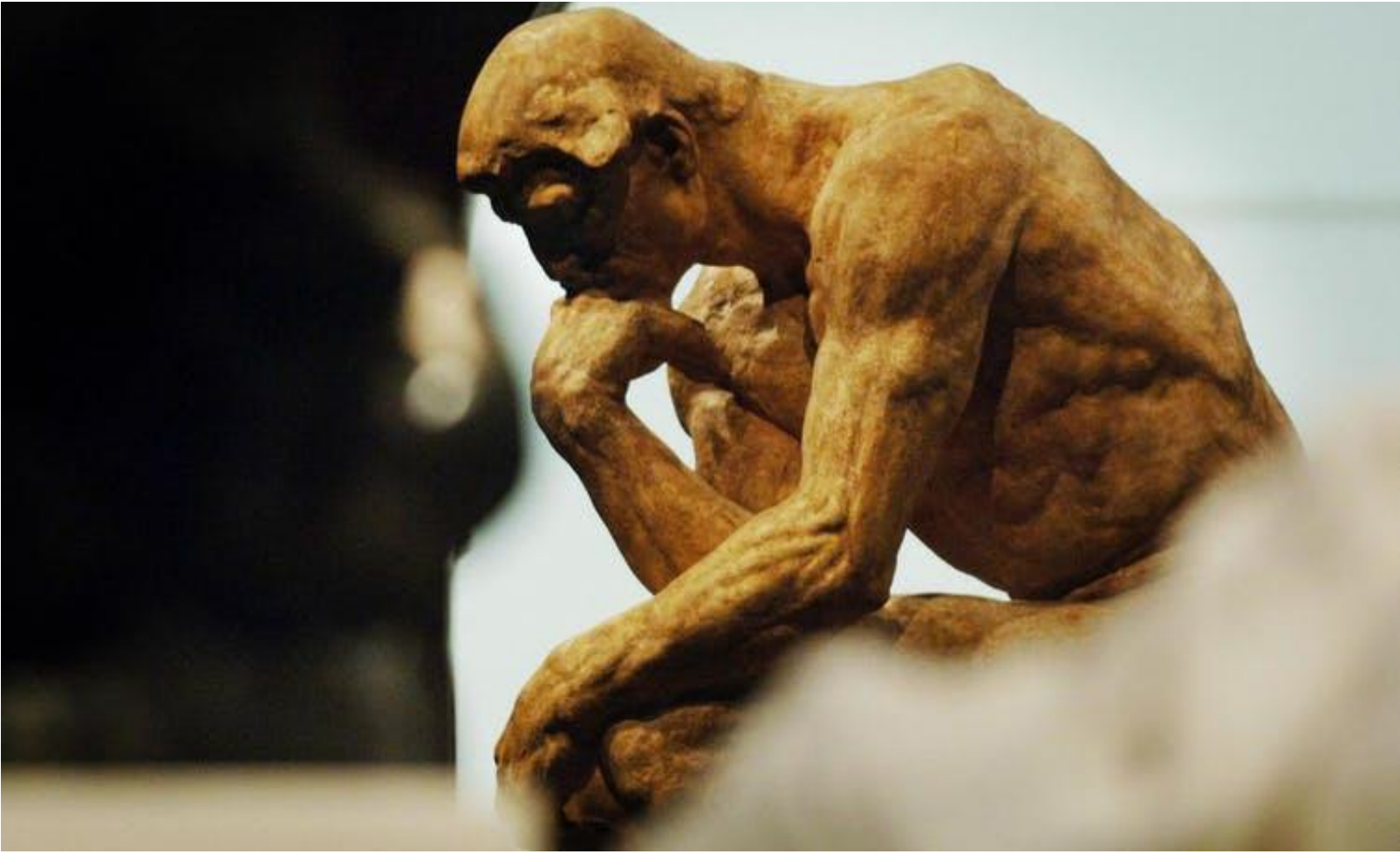
Like Trilling, many modern philosophers also understood authenticity as a kind of individuality. For example, Søren Kierkegaard believed that being authentic meant breaking from cultural and social constraints and living a self-determined life. The German philosopher Martin Heidegger equated authenticity to accepting who you are today and living up to all the potential you have in the future. Writing many decades after Heidegger, the French existentialist Jean-Paul Sartre had a similar idea: People have the freedom to interpret themselves, and their experiences, however they like. So being true to oneself means living as the person you think yourself to be.

Common among these different perspectives is the notion that there is something about a person that represents who they really are. If we could only find the true self hidden behind the false self, we could live a perfectly authentic life.

This is how contemporary psychologists understood authenticity as well – at least at first.

THE AUTHENTIC PERSONALITY

In an attempt to define authenticity, psychologists in the early 21st century started to characterize what an authentic person looks like.



They settled on some criteria: An authentic person is supposed to be self-aware and willing to learn what makes them who they really are. Once an authentic person gains insight into their true self, they will aim to be unbiased about it – choosing not to delude themselves and distort the reality of who they are. After deciding what defines the true self, the authentic person will then behave in a way that is true to those characteristics, and avoid being "false" or "fake" merely to please others.

Some researchers have used this framework to create measurement scales that can test how authentic a person is. In this view, authenticity is a psychological trait – a part of someone's personality.

But my colleagues and I felt there was more to the experience of authenticity – something that goes beyond a list of characteristics or certain ways of living. In our most recent work, we explain why this traditional definition of authenticity might be falling short.

THINKING IS HARD

Have you ever found yourself trying to analyze your own thoughts or feelings about something, only to make yourself more confused?

The poet Theodore Roethke once wrote that "self-contemplation is a curse, that makes an old confusion worse."

And there's a growing body of psychological research supporting this idea. Thinking, on its own, is surprisingly effortful and even a little bit boring, and people will do almost anything to avoid it. One study found they'll even shock

do, our reflection and introspection abilities are rather poor.

Fortunately, our research gets around this problem by defining authenticity not as something about a person, but as a feeling.

WHEN SOMETHING FEELS 'RIGHT'

We propose that authenticity is a feeling that people interpret as a sign that what they are doing in the mo-

“This is a problem for a definition of authenticity that requires people to think about who they are and then act on that knowledge in an unbiased way. We don't find thinking very enjoyable, and even when we do, our reflection and introspection abilities are rather poor

themselves to avoid having to sit with their own thoughts.

This is a problem for a definition of authenticity that requires people to think about who they are and then act on that knowledge in an unbiased way. We don't find thinking very enjoyable, and even when we

ment aligns with their true self.

Importantly, this view does not require people to know what their true self is, nor do they need to have a true self at all. According to this view, an authentic person can look many different ways; and as long as something feels authentic, it is. Although

we are not the first to take this view, our research aims to describe exactly what this feeling is like.

This is where we depart a bit from tradition. We propose that the feeling of authenticity is actually an experience of fluency.

Have you ever been playing a sport, reading a book, or having a conversation, and had the feeling that it was just right?

This is what some psychologists call fluency, or the subjective experience of ease associated with an experience. Fluency usually happens outside of our immediate awareness – in what psychologist William James called fringe consciousness.

According to our research, this feeling of fluency might contribute to feelings of authenticity.

In one study, we asked U.S. adults to recall the last activity they did and to rate how fluent it felt. We found that, regardless of the activity – whether it was work, leisure or something else – people felt more authentic the more fluent the activity was.

GETTING IN THE WAY OF FLUENCY

We were also able to show that when an activity becomes less fluent, people feel less authentic.

To do this, we asked participants to list some attributes that describe who they really are. However, sometimes we asked them to try to remember complicated strings of numbers at the same time, which increased their cognitive load. At the end, participants answered some questions about how authentic they felt while completing the task.

As we predicted, the participants felt less authentic when they had to think about their attributes under cognitive load, because being forced to do the memory task at the same time created a distraction that impeded fluency.

At the same time, this doesn't necessarily mean you're not being authentic if you take on challenging tasks.

While some people may interpret feelings of unease as a hint that they aren't being true to themselves, in some cases difficulty might be interpreted as importance.

Research by a team of psychologists led by Daphna Oyserman has shown that people have different personal theories about ease and difficulty when carrying out tasks. Sometimes when something is too easy it feels "not worth our time." Conversely, when something gets difficult – or when life gives us lemons – we might see it as especially important and worth doing.

We choose to make lemonade instead of giving up.

This might mean that there are times when we feel particularly true to ourselves when the going gets tough – as long as we interpret that difficulty as important to who we are.

TRUST YOUR GUT

As romantic as it sounds to have a true self that's merely hiding behind a false one, it probably isn't that simple. But that doesn't mean authenticity shouldn't be an something to strive for.

Seeking fluency – and avoiding internal conflict – is probably a pretty good way to stay on the path to being true to yourself, pursuing what is morally good and knowing when you're "in the right place."

When you go searching for the self in a sea of change, you might find yourself feeling like Alice in Wonderland.

But the new science of authenticity suggests that if you let feelings of fluency be your guide, you might find what you've been looking for all along.

The author is Assistant Professor of Psychology, University of Florida. The article is being reproduced by arrangements with the Conversation

Top Army Commanders Begin Deliberations On National Security Challenges

Agenceis

New Delhi: Top commanders of the Army on Monday began deliberating on India's national security challenges along the borders with China and Pakistan as well as the implications of the Russia-Ukraine war for regional security at a five-day conclave.

Army Chief Gen MM Naravane is chairing the conclave in the national capital. It will conclude on April 22.

The Army Commanders' Conference is an apex level biannual event that is held in April and October every year. The conference is an institutional platform for conceptual level deliberations, culminating in making important policy decisions for the Indian Army.

Officials said detailed deliberations have been planned to assess the possible implications of the war in Ukraine for regional security as well as various military aspects of the conflict.

The commanders are also carrying out a comprehensive review of India's military preparedness along the



3,400-km-long Line of Actual Control (LAC) in view of the lingering military standoff with China in certain friction points in eastern Ladakh, they said.

The anti-terror operation in Jammu and Kashmir as well as the overall situation in the

Union Territory are also being reviewed extensively at the conference, the officials said.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is expected to interact with the senior Army commanders and address the conference on April 21.

"During the conference, the senior leadership of the Indian Army will review the operational situation along the active borders, assess threats in the entire spectrum of conflict and undertake analysis of capability voids to further focus on capability

development and operational preparedness plans," the Army said on Sunday.

The officials said the commanders also delved into infrastructure development along the LAC.

India has been ramping up infrastructure development in the border regions in view of China building new bridges, roads and related structures in key sectors along the frontier.

India and China have been holding high-level military talks to resolve the face-off in the remaining friction points in eastern Ladakh.

On March 11, India and China held the 15th round of high-level military dialogue to resolve the pending issues in the region.

As a result of a series of military and diplomatic talks, the two sides completed the disengagement process last year on the north and south banks of the Pangong lake and in the Gogra area.

Each side currently has around 50,000 to 60,000 troops along the LAC in the sensitive sector.

MHA Mulls To Re-Designate 'Second-In-Command' Rank In CAPFs

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The Ministry of Home Affairs has sought comments from central security forces on a proposal received from the CRPF to re-name the officer rank of 'second-in-command' as 'additional commandant' and end the "embarrassment" these personnel suffer in explaining their designation, officials said.

A second-in-command rank officer of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and the Assam Rifles is an analogous post to the superintendent rank in the regular police establishment.

Officers are inducted in CAPFs like CRPF, BSF, ITBP, SSB and CISF in the entry rank of Assistant Commandant and with the first promotion, they are designated as second-in-command (2IC in short) and subsequently as commandant which is equal to senior SP rank of the police.

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), country's largest paramilitary with about 3.25 lakh personnel on its rolls, has recently written to the home ministry, stating officers of this rank

find it "difficult to explain their rank and profile in civil society".

"Even in various government organisations, the rank of second-in-command is difficult to be explained. It goes without saying that a CAPF officer should take pride in his rank, but the rank of 2IC fails to add to the pride of the officers and rather becomes a matter of embarrassment," the CRPF proposal accessed by PTI said.

The paramilitary force has sought re-designating the 2IC rank as additional commandant, following which the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has written to the other four CAPFs and the Assam Rifles to furnish their comments.

A home ministry officer said the issue was not that "tricky" and the ministry may issue a notification once the comments are received from all the forces and a decision is made.

A second-in-command rank officer, as the name goes, is the deputy of the commanding officer of a CAPF unit or battalion. So, it will be appropriate if this designation is given a proper name, a senior CAPF officer said.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Railway Cop

Anantnag district on April 16.

A day earlier on April 15, unidentified militants shot dead Manzoor Ahmad Bangroo, an independent Sarpanch in an orchard in his native Goshbug village of Pattan in Baramulla district.

Plane Stopped

off since then.

Police are investigating the matter, Kumar said, adding that airport operations are going on smoothly.

Lt Gen Pande

was commissioned into the Bombay Sappers in December 1982.

In his distinguished career, he has held several prestigious command and staff assignments in conventional as well as counter-insurgency operations in all types of terrain.

He commanded an engineer regiment along the Line of Control during the Operation Parakram in Jammu and Kashmir, an engineer brigade in the western sector, an infantry brigade along the LoC and a mountain division in high-altitude areas of western Ladakh and a corps in the Northeast.

He has served as chief engineer in the UN mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea. He was the Commander-in-Chief Andaman and Nicobar Command (CINCAN) from June 2020 to May 2021.

For his illustrious service, he has been conferred Param Vishisht Seva Medal, Ati Vishisht Seva Medal, Vishisht Seva Medal, the Chief of Army Staff Commendation and the GOC-in-C Commendation.

J&K's Debt Pile

that the market borrowings and excess of receipt over payments under small saving provident fund is major contributor in meeting J-K's Fiscal deficit.

The report further pointed out that during the period first of April 2019 to 30 October 2019, the net debt available was Rs 1,089 crore. "This was 5.79 per cent of public debt receipt of Rs 18,819 crore during the period", it said.

During this period, the debt repayment to debt receipts was 83.25 per cent resulting in only 16.75 per cent of debt receipts being available with the government, it added.

The rate of growth of outstanding debt is reflected from statistics as outstanding public debt at the beginning of the year 2019-20 was Rs 43,513 crore, which increased to Rs 46,666 crore at the end of 30 October 2019 showing increase of 7.25 per cent, it said.

The percentage of interest payment to revenue receipt show that during 2019-20, the percentage of interest payment to revenue receipt was 6.87 per cent, it said.

The report said that debt management is the process of establishing and executing a strategy for managing the Government's debt in order to raise the required amount of funding, achieve its risk and cost objectives, and to meet any other sovereign debt management goals that the government may have set through enactment or any other annual budget announcements.

It said that the total debt of the State Government typically constitutes of Internal debt of the State -- market loans, ways and means advances from RBI, special securities issued to national small savings fund and loans from financial institutions, etc., loans and advances from the central government, and Public Account Liabilities.

Mehbooba Meets

and Kashmir in 2016 with the support of the BJP, but the two fell apart and the coalition government could

not complete its tenure.

Modi To List Out

rural body," a senior BJP leader told Kashmir Observer.

It is pertinent to mention here that April 24 marks the Panchayati Raj Diwas.

Besides this, sources from BJP noted that PM is expected to inaugurate a mega power project at the village that will help in providing a hassle free power supply to more than 300 households of the village.

The sources further said that PM Modi will also inaugurate a tunnel virtually through the Panchayat and more than 1 lakh people are expected at the inaugural address. During his visit, PM is also expected to lay the foundation of 850 MW Ratle and 540 MW Kwar hydel power projects virtually from the village.

As per the sources, the PM will also address more than 20,000 members of rural local bodies across the country during his first-ever political visit to the erstwhile state since the abrogation of Article 370.

The sources further noted that Modi will also talk about DDC elections and DDC members in an attempt to showcase the strong grassroots of democracy in Jammu and Kashmir.

"PM will highlight the importance of abrogation of Article 370 and reasons behind bifurcation of J&K into two Union Territories," the source said.

"He's likely to mention how abrogation [Article-370] had led to a downfall of militancy in Kashmir, subsided corruption and ended the dynastic rule in J&K. He'll probably mention how earlier governments in J&K had pushed J&K into a black hole of distress and violence."

In his first visit since the abrogation of the article, Modi is scheduled to lay the foundation of several industrial and development projects.

"He may announce industrial investments, packages for Tourism, investments on Agriculture, besides interacting with stakeholders of the farming community," the BJP source noted.

If sources are to be believed, then PM may formally introduce over 50,000 crore industrial investments for J&K.

They further said that Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha will receive the PM and stay with him till the end of his visit. Besides LG, Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, BJP leaders Ashok Kaul, Devender Singh Rana and Ravindra Raina are expected to accompany the PM.

Besides the BJP leaders, government officials from various departments of the civil administration working in parts of Jammu are likely to attend PM's one day programmes.

"All the Panches and Sarpanches along with thousands of BJP members will travel from Kashmir to attend PM Modi's address in Jammu," BJP leader Altaf Thakur told Kashmir Observer.

Pak Militants With

recoveries from the encounter site included two Aadhaar cards bearing an address in Jammu.

Subsequently, the police carried out a thorough search and found that the Aadhaar numbers were genuine but the cards had their passport-sized pictures superimposed on them, an official said.

A genuine Aadhaar card contains a picture clicked on a webcam, he added.

Such camouflaging attempts by the Pakistan-based militant groups and their masters in the ISI are aimed at painting the militancy in Kashmir Valley as an indigenous movement, the officials said.

Alarmed by the blatant misuse

of Aadhaar cards, the Jammu and Kashmir Police has decided to write to UIDAI requesting it to include more safety features, the officials said.

Privacy guidelines of Aadhaar are very stringent, thereby preventing the law enforcement agencies from verifying any particular card. A basic check can only provide the age bracket of the card holder without revealing the exact identity, the officials said.

The police will also cite the case of Mohammed Ismal Alvi alias Lambu, one of the masterminds of the 2019 attack on the CRPF convoy that left 40 personnel dead. A forged Aadhaar card was recovered from the site of the encounter in which he was killed.

Several forged Aadhaar cards have also been found from various hideouts of militant groups in the past few months, the officials said.

MHA Declares Local

been designated as a "terrorist" by the Centre in the last fortnight.

In a notification, the Union home ministry said Nengroo has been involved in the infiltration of militants into Jammu and Kashmir and has also been responsible for perpetrating various "terror incidents" in the Union Territory.

Nengroo (34) is running a terror syndicate in Kashmir and is now "engaged in a perilous campaign to orchestrate terror in Jammu and Kashmir", remote controlled from Pakistan, the ministry said.

In view of the danger that Nengroo poses to the security of India and in order to deter him from perpetrating "terror acts", he has been designated as a terrorist under the provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (37 of 1967), the ministry said.

Nengroo, who was born on November 20, 1987, hails from Pulwama in Jammu and Kashmir.

His brother Abbass Ahmed Nengroo was an active militant of the JeM and was killed in 2013. In February 2020, after the National Investigation Agency (NIA) summoned Nengroo, he along with his family went missing.

Nengroo was involved in cases related to the killings of a police personnel in Pulwama in 2013 and a civilian in 2020. He has allegedly been funding militancy acts and illegal supplies of weapons to militants.

The Centre believes that Ashiq Ahmed Nengroo alias Nengroo is involved in militancy and is to be notified as a terrorist under the UAPA, the notification said.

With the declaration of Nengroo as a "terrorist", the law-enforcement agencies can now attach his properties, besides booking any person associated with him.

Nengroo is the 36th individual to have been declared as a "designated terrorist" by the Centre.

"Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 35 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, the central government hereby makes the following amendment in the Fourth Schedule to the said Act, namely:- In the Fourth Schedule to the said Act, after serial number 35 and entries relating thereto, the following serial number and entries shall be inserted, namely:- '36. Ashiq Ahmed Nengroo @Nengroo @Ashaq Hussain Nengroo @Ashaq Moulvi,'" the notification said.

Nengroo was also instrumental in helping JeM chief Moulana Masood Azhar's nephew Idrees infiltrate into Jammu and Kashmir via the Samba border. His activities clearly point towards his proximity with the JeM chief.

His effort to take his family along

with him manifests that he has no plans of returning and his aim is to continue inflicting violence on the hapless civilians of Jammu and Kashmir to keep the terror-running factory up and running, an official said.

On April 8, the government had designated Hafiz Talha Saeed, a key leader of the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and the son of 26/11 Mumbai attacks mastermind Hafiz Saeed, as a terrorist.

Three days later, on April 11, Pakistani national Mohiuddin Aurangzeb Alamgir, who was involved in an attack on a Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) bus in Pulwama in 2019, was designated as a terrorist.

On April 12, Ali Kashif Jan, the Pakistani handler of the militants involved in the 2016 attack on the Pathankot airbase, was designated as a terrorist by the Centre.

On April 13, Mushtaq Ahmed Zargar, who was involved in a series of attacks in Jammu and Kashmir and was one of the released militants in the hijacking of Indian Airlines flight IC-814 in 1999, was declared as a designated terrorist.

The JeM has been responsible for a series of deadly attacks in India, mostly in Jammu and Kashmir, in which scores of civilians and security personnel have been killed over the years.

JeM founder Azhar, who was released by India in exchange for the release of the passengers of a hijacked Indian Airlines flight from Afghanistan's Kandahar in 1999, is one of the most wanted terrorists in India, along with LeT founder Hafiz Saeed and the LeT's "operational commander", Zakir Rehman Lakhvi.

India has been consistently seeking Azhar's custody, but Pakistan has refused to comply.

The JeM is listed as a terrorist organisation under the First Schedule of the UAPA.

The UAPA has been enacted to provide for more effective prevention of certain unlawful activities of associations and individuals, dealing with terrorist activities and matters connected therewith.

The Act empowers the Centre to notify the name of an individual in its Fourth Schedule if it believes that he is involved in terrorism.

I&FC Dept Gears

various departments to review the preparation by respective departments to tackle flood situations and mitigate its effect.

The officials told Kashmir Observer that the Div Com directed I&FC and Indian Meteorological Department to issue forecasts of rainfall and flood alerts on a timely basis for dissemination to responding departments, officers from civil administration and police, and public through electronic, print and digital media.

"The Div Com stressed that flood warning should be provided well in advance so the hazard shall be mitigated," the official said.

He also said that the department is compiling a database of maps of Jhelum, its tributaries and catchment areas for monitoring water level and rescue & evacuation process as directed by the Div Com.

The official said that on the directions of Div Com, the department is marking the 2014 flood level on bridges and government buildings so people would remain alert every time they respond to a flood situation.

Deputy Director MeT department, Mukhtar Ahmad told Kashmir Observer that they have already updated the database on their website which can predict flood threat in advance.

The Valley has been witnessing continuous rainfall and thunderstorms

since last week raising level in water bodies.

Ahmad said that the light to moderate rain with thunder scattered to fairly widespread places over Kashmir Division is expected during 19th evening to 21st April forenoon.

It may be noted that after the 2014 deluge, the government had announced that dredging of river Jhelum would be completed by December 2016 to prevent floods in future. However, the dredging is yet to be completed.

The dredging of Jhelum was to be carried in two phases to increase its carrying capacity. However, the concerned company missed several deadlines for the phase I as a result phase II is yet to be started, sources told Kashmir Observer.

"We were also awaiting release for funds from the central government for phase II and the same was approved. We are in the process of tendering and it will be completed soon," the official said.

Keen told Kashmir Observer that the Srinagar city, which was the worst hit in 2014 deluge, doesn't need the dredging as of now.

"The department will conduct the dredging in lower areas like Hokersar wetland, Baramulla, Sopore and Bandipora in Phase II," Keen said, adding that "when the water flow will go towards lower areas then we will carry the dredging in the city."

He said the carrying capacity of the water in the Jhelum was 3300 Cusecs and with the completion of Phase I it has been enhanced to 41000 Cusecs.

"When phase II will be completed, the carrying capacity will be 60000 Cusecs," he added.

Change-Makers

Javed Parsa was the first restaurant that came up with the idea of recruiting girls back in 2018.

Basically, Javid says, it was a small effort to create work opportunities for young women sitting idle and having no support system.

"Since most of these women don't come out for work," he says, "so I thought to play my small role. But then it wasn't easy."

There were people, Javid says, who would come to his restaurant and tell her female worker that it's not the right place to work for her.

"But I do believe that things will fall in place sooner or later," he hopes. "Acceptance comes in the society as long as your initiative or idea is not damaging anyone."

To be harbingers of that change, Javid says, more people need to create spaces for women in their ventures, "so that unmarried and underprivileged girls should also get opportunities to support their families".

Working at Parsa's Sahara City Centre since August 2021, Iqra Nazir, 22, wants to follow her employer's shoes.

"The moment I learned about girls working at Parsa's, I didn't think twice and applied," Iqra says.

"At the end of the day, he has been my inspiration. And I remember how he shared his struggling days with me, where people would laugh at him for 'selling biryani' in the name of opening a chain of restaurants."

Javid even suggested Iqra to shrug off naysayers.

"And he had a point," she says. "Had he himself listened to them, he wouldn't have been here today. So, yes, these small encouraging talks boosted my morale for doing this with more resolve."

Iqra is quite assertive about how her workplace is filled with comfort in contrast to the generally hyped apprehensions society tries to install in young girls like her.

"Out of 10 people I meet in a restaurant, only one person might question my profession," she says.

"But largely, one can see people and their point of view is changing which is a good thing for us as a society. Having said that, I was always assured that I hadn't done anything wrong by choosing this field. People treat me with respect wherever I go and that motivates me to work hard every day."

Today, as Saika's and Iqra's tribe is growing, the duo believes that women should aspire for new goals and fields in life with the support of their families and friends.

"We should never let people dictate our choices," Saika says.

"What matters is your happiness you derive from doing the right thing with resilience and resolve."

Electric Shocks

laborers, daily wagers and need-based workers.

The figures available further revealed that a total of 63 employees including regularized as well as casual laborers, daily wagers and need-based workers have sustained injuries while performing their duties in the last 12 years.

Chief Engineer, Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL), Javid Yousuf Dar, while confirming the figure said that the casual laborers, need base workers and daily wagers, who lose their lives while performing their duties, are being provided with Rs 10 lakh besides an insurance scheme covering Rs 20 lakh.

According to him, the government from 1994 to 2011 was providing Rs one lakh to deceased temporary employees while from 2011 to 2019, the amount got increased to Rs three lakh.

Since 2019 Rs 10 lakh is being provided to the deceased employee and in 2021 an insurance covering Rs 20 lakh has been incorporated further, he said—(KNO)

Five New Covid-19

Union Territory did not report any fresh case.

There are 67 active cases, while the overall recoveries has reached 4,49,128, officials said.

The COVID-19 death toll stands at 4,751. No Covid-related fatality was reported in the last 24 hours, officials said.

There were 51 confirmed cases of mucormycosis (black fungus), they added.

Militant Arrested

14 RR and the personnel of CRPF3rd battalion from an orchard in Lawaypora area of the district, a police spokesperson said Monday.

Khan, whose picture announcing joining the LeT went viral on social media on Wednesday last, was arrested on Sunday after Bandipora police received a specific input about his presence in the orchard.

In this regard, the spokesperson said, cognizance has been taken in police station Bandipora under relevant section of Law and further investigation taken up.

3.4 Magnitude

no reports of any loss of life or damage to property, the officials said.

Ambulance Rolls

Teethwal, officials said. Awaan, the ambulance driver, they said, was killed on the spot. The officials said that Awaan was alone in the ill-fated ambulance that met with an accident.

Confirming the incident, a police official told a local news agency GNS that a case has been registered in this regard for further investigations.

NCM Chairperson Meets Religious Heads In Srinagar



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Syed Shahezadi, Officiating Chairperson of National Commission for Minorities met with prominent spiritual leaders of minority communities at a function held at Srinagar on Monday and urged all to work for the betterment of the humanity.

The meeting was held with the religious heads to discuss the problems and issues faced by the minority communities.

While speaking on the occasion, she said that we all must strive together to work for humanity and said that the spiritual leaders have a prominent role to play in this regard.

She said that government is committed to the empowerment of minorities and in extending identical opportunities to all groups. She also stressed on strengthening communal harmony and brotherhood for inclusive growth and development of J&K.

Syed Shahezadi also mentioned that the government has introduced many welfare schemes for the upliftment of minority communities and urged them to take advantage

of such welfare schemes meant for them.

She further said that all the issues projected by the spiritual heads will be brought to the notice of the relevant authorities and appropriate action will be taken accordingly.

Earlier, Gurdwara Prabandhak Committees from various districts raised their various issues and said that their issues should be addressed on immediate basis.

A delegation of Holy Catholic Church also raised their several issues and thanked the government for various schemes for the minorities.

Imams of various mosques also raised their several issues regarding the functioning of Muslim Waqf Board including the hike in their salaries and said that they will extend their full cooperation to the government.

Director General Social Welfare Department, Shabnam Kamili briefed the Syed Shahezadi about the various schemes for the upliftment of the minority communities and said that government of J&K is working actively for creating an enabling environment for their collective progress to maximise the development potential.

Experts, Agencies To Undertake Reconnaissance Of Mughal Road

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A team of experts and different agencies is scheduled to undertake reconnaissance of historic Mughal road in the coming days.

Colonel M S Sharma of NHID-CL said they have scheduled reconnaissance of the road. "We are getting an avalanche protection team from Chandigarh as well," he said, adding that the team comprises professionals involved in construction of the road.

He said the purpose of the visit is to study the entire stretch and workout feasibility of the road. "We have to see which alignment has to be taken and how avalanches can be avoided," he said.

The NHIDCL official said two DPRs have to be executed for the road. "One DPR has to be executed for road and another for tunnel," he said,

adding that work is going on for preparation of both the DPRs.

It is worthwhile to mention that before downgrading of J&K to a Union Territory status, successive elected regimes of the erstwhile state have vigorously pursued the proposal of construction of a tunnel on Mughal road with the Government of India.

In 2013, then chief minister Omar Abdullah wrote to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, seeking his personal intervention in construction of the tunnel.

When the PDP and BJP joined hands for power-sharing in the state in 2015, the construction of the tunnel was in its "common minimum programme".

After the formation of the government, the Roads & Building ministry repeatedly took up the matter with the Centre—(KNO)

Rohit Gupta Transferred To ACB J&K

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir government on Monday transferred and posted Special Prosecutor, Anti-Corruption Court, Doda, Rohit Gupta in Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) J&K.

In an order under number 10-JK-GAD (Vig) of 2022, dated

18-04-2022, Deputy Secretary to the Government, Mohammad Usman Khan said, "In the interest of administration, Rohit Gupta, Chief Prosecuting Officer, presently posted as Special Public Prosecutor, Anti Corruption Court, Doda is transferred and posted in the Anti Corruption Bureau, J&K, with immediate effect."—(KNO)

Health & Medical Education Gets Rs 1484.72 Crore In New Budget

Observer News Service

JAMMU: In the recent budget, Central Government has sanctioned an amount of Rs 1,484.72 crore for Health and Medical Education sector to be expended under Capital Expenditure for 2022-23.

Continuing the wheel of unprecedented development in health infrastructure, the Center government has allocated a whopping budget for health sector which reflects commitment and concern of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, towards growth and welfare of people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Some of the worth mentioning health infrastructure proj-

ects included two new AIIMS with a project cost of Rs 4000 crore one each at Jammu and Kashmir divisions, seven new Government Medical Colleges being established with a total outlay of Rs 1595 crore, ten new Nursing Colleges being set up with an approximate cost of Rs. 60 crore besides two State Cancer institutes worth Rs 240 crore, coming up one each at Jammu and Kashmir division.

Under AB PMJAY SEHAT scheme, universal health coverage scheme in convergence with Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) to provide free of cost insurance cover up to Rs 5 lakh per household per year is progressing smoothly.

Nearly, 55.56 lakh beneficiaries have already been registered under the scheme while 1,592 medical packages, as approved under AB-PMJAY, are accessible to the beneficiaries of Jammu and Kashmir SEHAT scheme.

It is expected that the pace of coverage will further be accelerated during 2022-23 to achieve the set target with the objective to cover all the residents of Jammu and Kashmir under this insurance cover.

An action plan has been framed to bring down the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) to a single digit for which necessary provision has been earmarked under the National Health Mission (NHM) budget.



A MAN FIXES HIS GAZE at the 19th century guns put on display at the SPS Museum in Srinagar on the occasion of World Heritage Day.

KO Photo, Abid Bhat

AMARNATH YATRA

NDRF, SDRF Men To Join Mountain Rescue Teams

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: With the Amarnath pilgrimage starting from June 30 after a break of two years, NDRF and SDRF personnel are getting specialised training to be part of the Mountain Rescue Teams (MRTs) of the Jammu and Kashmir Police to ensure the safety and convenience of devotees, officials said on Monday.

The MRTs comprising personnel of the Jammu and Kashmir Police, State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) will be deployed at nearly a dozen identified critical spots on the twin routes to the 3,880-metre-high holy cave shrine, they said.

The 43-day yatra is scheduled to start from the traditional twin routes 48-km trek from Nunwan to the cave shrine from Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag and 14-km shorter but steep Baltal route in Ganderbal district of central Kashmir.

The administration is preparing to welcome about eight lakh pilgrims during the yatra this year.

The officials said NDRF and SDRF personnel are presently undergoing the specialised mountain rescue training at the Jammu and Kashmir Police facility at Nud in Samba district and some of the NDRF personnel deployed in the Union Territory will be part of the MRTs.

We are presently imparting

training to a joint NDRF and SDRF batch consisting of 70 personnel. The training course is of 15 days to help them serve in high-altitude areas and natural disaster-hit regions, Inspector Ram Singh, who is functioning as in-charge of the MRT, told PTI.

Singh, who created history by becoming the first person from Jammu and Kashmir Police to scale Mount Everest, the world's highest peak, on May 22, 2008, said they are training six batches of 40 members each of the NDRF and only those who are deployed in Jammu and Kashmir will be part of the MRT deployment on yatra routes.

He said this is for the first time that they are training NDRF personnel at the facility which has the latest gadgets and equipment of international standards.

A total of 13 highly professional instructors, including two more Everesters' -- selection grade constables Nazir Ahmad and Falil Singh -- are involved in the training of the selected batches. The training centre remains open for six months from November-December, Singh said.

Ahmad and Singh were part of the 11-member All India Police Sports Control Board team that scaled Mount Everest in May 2019.

The training included climbing a mountain, and rescue and search operation along with live demonstration -- rescuing people

trapped in avalanches or in any other disaster, the officer said.

Singh said police first deployed the MRTs during the yatra in 2008 and since then, each year MRTs are deployed along with teams from NDRF, SDRF and CRPF.

As many 1,200 jawans of J&K Police are trained in mountain rescue operations in rocky and snow-bound terrain, while training was imparted to 90 CRPF personnel and 200 SDRF personnel, while it is in progress for 240 NDRF personnel, Singh said.

The officer, who is leading the MRTs during the upcoming yatra, said over 1,600 pilgrims were rescued by them in 2019 with the personnel braving life-threatening challenges in the snow-bound and high-altitude tracks.

He said each MRT team is deployed in such a way that it covers the entire yatra track from both sides, including Sheshnag, Mahagunus Top, Poshpatri, Dardkote, Sangam Top, Branimarg and Railpathri.

"Each member of the team is well-equipped having individual kit with gaiters, overmitts and mountain rescue equipment like carabiners, jumars, descending rappels, avalanche rods, helmets, oxygen cylinder and first-aid kit besides latest communication facility," Singh said.

The refresher course for the MRTs also covers Basic Life Support Systems (BLS), Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and other first-aid techniques about 10 days before the commencement of the yatra, he said.

3918 Candidates Appear In JKCE Mains In J&K

Observer News Service

JAMMU: As many as 3918 candidates appeared in Jammu and Kashmir Combined Competitive Examination (JKCE) Mains, 2021 which culminated both in Jammu and Srinagar on Monday, officials said.

As per the official communication of JKPC, a total of 4454 candidates were shortlisted for JKCE Mains, out of which 3918 candidates appeared in the examination in full and the total percentage of attendance stood at 87.96 (approx.) in all the 13 Centres established at Jammu and Srinagar.

The Combined Competitive Examination, 2021 has been designed as three stage process and this Examination was second stage to be followed by the Viva voce/Interview in which the candidates shortlisted after the Mains will be called.

The Jammu and Kashmir

Public Service Commission had made elaborate four tier arrangements for security/frisking for the smooth conduct of the Examinations with due observance to Covid-19 protocols.

The Chairman, JKPC thanked the UT Administration and Police Authorities for their cooperation and also complimented the Observers, Principals of Colleges and Schools, Supervisors, invigilating and support staff involved with the smooth and successful conduct of examination.

Pertinently, 6020 candidates out of 9273 eligible candidates had appeared in full in J&K Combined Competitive (Mains) Examination, 2016 which works at 64.91%, similarly, 1279 candidates out of 1750 eligible candidates had appeared in full in J&K Combined Competitive (Mains) Examination, 2018 which works at 73.08%, thus making the percentage of ap-

pearing candidates in the JKCE Mains 2021 examination the highest ever.

DC Kulgam Meets Slain Rajput Driver's Family

Observer News Service

KULGAM: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, accompanied by SSP Kulgam Dr G V Sandeep on Monday paid a visit to the family of Satish Singh who was killed in a recent militant attack in Kulgam district.

On the occasion, the DC expressed deep sorrow over the loss of precious life and extended condolence to the bereaved family and prayed for eternal peace to the deceased.

He assured the family members of all support from the District administration.

Later, Dr. Bilal interacted with members of the community at Ladgoo Rambhama village and listened to their grievances.

He assured them the timely redressal of grievances and also assured of all necessary support.

Meanwhile, one lakh ex-gratia relief has already been paid to the NoKs of the deceased.

The DC was also accompanied by ACR, Tehsildar and other officers and officials.

Suraj Singh Appointed Govt Advocate In HC's Jammu Wing

Observer News Service

JAMMU: In a significant move towards ensuring equal opportunities of growth and development to specially abled who are integral to societal progress and prosperity, the government has appointed Suraj Singh, a visually im-

paired Advocate, as Government Advocate for defending government cases before the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir at Jammu.

There has been, since long, a persistent demand of specially abled persons to give them due representation in government assignments.

Abdullahs Pay Tributes To Sadiq Ali On His 11th Death Anniversary

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Party President and Member of Parliament from Srinagar Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Vice President Omar Abdullah today paid glowing tributes to the party stalwart, noted poet, writer, an active environmentalist and the longest serving treasurer of JKNC Sadiq Ali on his 11th death anniversary.

While paying tributes to the late leader, Dr. Farooq said, "A notable example of a real representative of the people, grown from the people, with extraordinary capacity, ability and devotion to his task, Sadiq Ali Sahib also championed the environmental

causes. On his 11th death anniversary, I pay rich tributes to him, praying to almighty to alleviate his stations in Jannat."

Omar Abdullah, while paying tributes to Sadiq Ali Said, "Late Sadiq sahib undoubtedly inspired a tremendous amount of awe and respect among the party rank and file. His leadership capabilities were in tune with the 21st century. His willingness to reach out to people, his literary acumen, his profound concern for the environment and his insight into politics and development issues made him a standout from the rest of the politicians. On his 11th death anniversary, I pay my earnest tributes to him. May Almighty exalt his stations in Jannat," he said.

Bus Conductor Dies In Kupwara Accident

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A young conductor of an A.G. school bus died following an accident near Taratpora village of north Kashmir's Kupwara district on Monday.

Reports said that the conductor identified as Azim Ahmad Shiekh (24) resident of Sontipora Alooas Kralpora allegedly fell off from the mov-

ing vehicle near Taratpora Ramhall area, resulting in his on the spot death. However police said that the cause of the death, if due to falling off from the bus or due to collision etc, was being investigated.

A police officer told a local news agency GNS that a case has been registered in this regard and further investigations taken up.

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INFO

JKSC's MYMP Expands Base
As More Areas Included



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: As events related to 'My Youth My Pride' concluded successfully almost in all districts of Jammu, the J&K Sports Council conceded to the demands of Ramban youth as they pitched for more events in the district and events in the discipline of Taekwondo were conducted in the district.

Javid Ahmad Shan Sarpanch of Gool graced the occasion to encourage the participants.

Guest of honour Roshan Din, Sarpanch also appreciated the gesture and assured his support for the promotion of sports and games in the area. Mohammad Rafi, Principal GHHS Gool attended the function as a special guest. The matches were officiated by Satwinder Sathi, who also declared the results in the end.

Meanwhile, in the Kashmir division events in the disciplines of Badminton, Thang-Ta, Pencak Silat, Taekwondo, Cricket, and Football were conducted in Nilandrusu Bijbehara, Nanil, and Srinagar.

The indoor hall of Nilandrusu witnessed a large gathering of sports lovers, students, and local youth who enjoyed the Badminton, Thang-Ta, Pencak Silat and Taekwondo the events to the hilt. More than 400 participants took an active part in the event which included both Boys and Girls.

Shah Umar, SDPO Bijbehara presided over the function as chief guest.

Meanwhile, the first game of the final round between Baramulla FA and J&K Bank Academy ended in a 1-1 draw at TRC Synthetic Turf Football Stadium, Srinagar.

The second match of the final round between SCFA Srinagar and SCFA Bandipora was still in progress when reports last came in.

Spring Shield T-20 Cricket Tournament being played in Nanil is in the final stages. The match between Super Star Mattan and Matipora Sports played yesterday evening was won by the team from Mattan.

1st match of the fixture slated for Monday was played between JCC Nanil and Seer XI. JCC Nanil after winning the toss scored 135 for the loss of 7 wickets in their allotted 20 overs. Shakir top-scored for the team with 46 runs while Mudasir was the pick of the bowlers for his team gabbing 3 scalps. In reply Seer XI scaled the target and won the match by 2 wickets.

The second match of today's fixture between Pahalgam Blues and Super Star Mattan was in progress when the report was being filed.

All the events are part of the "My Youth My Pride" sports initiative to reach out to athletes at their doorsteps, tap the talent and groom them in academies.

With 7 T20Is In June, Umran Malik Will Be In Selection Committee's Radar

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Pace bowling sensation Umran Malik could be fast-tracked into the Indian team as early as June when it will play seven T20 Internationals against South Africa and Ireland respectively.

India will play South Africa in a five-match T20 International series at home (June 9, 12, 14, 17, 20) and two matches in Ireland's Malahide (June 26, 28) where a second-string team comprising white-ball specialists will be plying their trade as the big guns prepare for the series-deciding fifth Test against England, starting early July.

Umran was a net bowler during India's last World T20 campaign in the UAE.

The BCCI is keen on having a bigger pool of fast bowlers going into the upcoming World T20 in Australia and Umran, with his scorching pace, has a high probability of making it to the squad if all goes well and he remains fit over the next two months.

The pool of premier bowlers whose workload management will be paramount are Jasprit Bumrah, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Avesh Khan, Harshal Patel, Mohammed Siraj, Deepak Chahar (if fit), Mohammed Shami and Umesh Yadav.

The three bowlers from the fringe pack, who might get a go in some of the 20 plus T20I matches in the run-up to the World Cup are Umran and left-armers T Natarajan and Arshdeep Singh, all of whom have been impressive in the IPL.

Sunrisers Hyderabad bowling coach and fast bowling legend Dale Steyn has termed the Jammu man a "genius".

"My job with Umran is to ensure he runs fast and make players play differently. My job is to try and make him forward-thinking as to what the batters are planning on doing.

"It's exciting for us to sit back and watch what a genius he is. I don't want to turn him into what I was, all I want is his genius to come out," Steyn said



on 'Star Sports' 'Cricket Live' programme.

It is understood that chairman of selectors Chetan Sharma and his committee will be keeping a close eye on Umran, who is now India's fastest bowler by a distance, regularly clocking 152 plus (approx 95 miles/hr).

He has nine wickets from six games for SRH this season and the manner in which he intimidated an established international batter like KKR's Shreyas Iyer was an exhilarating sight.

Sunil Gavaskar, commenting for the IPL broadcasters, said that Malik will become more lethal once he is able to stop spraying deliveries on leg-stump and wide off it.

"A lot of guys who bowl at that speed tend to spray the ball around but Umran bowls very few wide deliveries. If he can control the wides down the leg side, he will be a tremendous bowler because that will mean he'll be attacking the stumps all the time, and with his pace, it's not easy to hit straight.

"If he bowls wicket-to-wicket, he's going to be pretty much an unplayable bowler. He's going to play for India," Gavaskar said.

Former opener WV Raman, one of the most respected voices in Indian cricket, feels that time is ripe for Umran to be drafted into the Team India set-up straightaway.

"He is a special talent. He has pace and now he is slowly picking up the ropes of fast bowling. When a young bowler has pace, don't wait for three seasons before you blood him.

"If he is young and as quick as Umran is, you should seriously look at him," Raman, who has been a former NCA batting coach, apart from working with KKR and the Indian women's team, told PTI.

"When Umran is bowling, you could hear that the ball is hitting the bat. But also when you have a bowler like that bowling at 150 consistently, then you also need good slip catchers as the ball will travel at quite a speed," Raman added.

Former selector Devang Gandhi feels that raw pace can be counter-productive as batters at international level can score quick runs.

"I believe that India will bank on experience going into the World Cup considering that Australian pitches for the ICC tourney will be great for batting.

"But having said that, in the run-up to the World T20 you can check out on various options and there is no harm if they decide to try out Umran and see what he can bring to the table," Gandhi, a member of the last selection committee, said.

Seeking Big Win, Real Kashmir Face TRAU Challenge

Press Trust of India

KALYANI: Seeking to end their campaign on a positive note, Real Kashmir FC will look to give it their best shot when they face TRAU FC in the I-League here on Tuesday.

The Snow Leopards are arriving in the match after suffering a comprehensive defeat at the hands of Mohammedan Sporting while TRAU enter the game following a narrow defeat against RoundGlass Punjab FC.

The game will take place at the Kalyani Municipal Stadium.

Real Kashmir FC head coach David Robertson wants to finish the campaign by performing in the best way possible.

"It has been a disappointing season. We had to face lots of things to contend with throughout. We haven't been able to field the same team twice due to obvious reasons. However, we have to keep going and finish the best way possible," Robertson mentioned.

Robertson understands the challenges that await them but wants to focus on his players.

On the other hand, TRAU FC head coach L. Nandakumar Singh wants to be more clinical in the attacking third for the remainder of the season.



Goalkeeper Amrit Gope also feels the same as he hopes to finish the initial phase with a win and a clean sheet.

Talking about the opponents, Nandakumar Singh is wary of the threats that Real Kashmir could pose.

"They are a good team but are struggling in the last few matches. It is a crucial game for us. They have quality players with proper finishers. We have to be careful. I have analysed them. We have to restrict them from having chances," he concluded.

Director YSS Issues Transfer Orders Of Field Staffers

1192 employees transferred in a months time: Gazanfar Ali

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Director Youth Services and Sports Gazanfar Ali on Monday issued the transfer orders of 443 employees of the Department which include 386 PET's (Physical Education Teachers), 37 PEM's (Physical Education Masters) and 20 PEL's (Physical Education Lecturers).

The transfer orders have been issued in favour of 110 PET's from District Baramulla, 114 from District Kupwara, 95 from Doda and 37 PET's from District Kishtawar. Simultaneously 32 PEM's have been transferred in District Doda and 05 in District Kishtawar. In addition 15 physical Education Lecturers have been transferred

in District Doda, 03 in Kishtawar and 02 in district Jammu.

While speaking about these transfers, Gazanfar Ali said, "The Department of Youth Services and Sports has a huge work force and steps are being taken to utilize their services and capabilities in the best possible way."

While stating about the transfers that have been made, he added, "I have issued transfer orders of 1192 employees in a months time and many other transfers of YSS employees are taking place in near future."

Pertinently just two weeks before 294 PET's of District Ganderbal, Bandipora, Shopian, Kulgam and Pulwama were transferred.

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