

# KASHMIR OBSERVER™

Tuesday 10 May 2022 | 08 Shawwal | 1443 Hijri | Vol:25 | Issue: 105 | Pages:08 | Price: ₹ 3

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P3 CITY

## SHOPKEEPERS PROTEST MANDATORY INSTALLATION OF CCTV CAMERAS

As the Srinagar Administration had asked shopkeepers to install high-definition CCTV cameras outside their establishments in view of the rise in targeted attacks in the Valley, many small

THINK

## WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU STOP EATING SUGAR

There's a lot of debate regarding the tenets of a healthy diet. Vegans believe forgoing animal products is best, while keto enthusiasts just want to eat all the fat. But there's one food people of nearly every dietary preference aim to avoid: sugar.



P7 STATE

## MHA WANTS EFFECTIVE JAMMING SYSTEM IN J&K JAILS

In a bid to upgrade the security of prisons and streamline the prison administration in J&K and elsewhere in the country, the Union Ministry of Home



## Quote!

Start with what is right rather than what is acceptable

- Franz Kafka

## NEWS DIGEST

### J&K Logs Four New Corona Cases

SRINAGAR: At least four more people tested positive for Covid-19 in Jammu and Kashmir on Monday while no fresh fatality due to the virus was reported from the Union Territory during the last 24 hours. According to officials, three fresh cases of novel Coronavirus were reported from **More on P6**

### Hybrid 'Militant' Held In Baramulla

SRINAGAR: Police on Monday claimed to have arrested an alleged hybrid militant of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) from Baramulla district of North Kashmir. A joint team of police, Army's 52RR, CRPF 53Bn and SSB 2ndBn established a mobile vehicle check **More on P6**

### Militant Hideout Busted In Poonch

JAMMU: A militant hideout was busted during a search operation in a forest area of Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on Monday, officials said. The search operation was jointly carried out by police and other security forces in the forest area of Dera Ki Gali along the Mughal road connecting **More on P6**

### Mortar Shell Defused In Budgam

SRINAGAR: The bomb disposal squad (BDS) of police on Monday defused an old mortar shell in the picturesque Tosa Maidan meadow in Central Kashmir's Budgam district. The mortar shell was spotted by the locals in Tosa Maidan meadow on Monday morning and they instantly informed the police about it, reports said. **More on P6**

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**Irshad Ahmad: 7006276927**

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

## Pain, Penury: How Burning Houses Are Escalating Human Costs In Kashmir

Tabia Masoodi

Farooq Sofi gets uneasy every time he hears fire-trucks rumbling on the Nallamar Road in Srinagar. The alarming sound has become his worst nightmare—reminding him of his crippled condition created by the charred home he cherished after spending his lifetime savings in its construction. But the big blaze that emerged from his hometown—Kanimazar, Nawakadal—not only rendered him paralytic

but also pushed his family into penury.

Two years later as Kashmir is witnessing frequent fire incidents, this shy tailor in his mid-fifties still looks rattled. The flames reducing his neighbourhood to a scorched earth often return to haunt him these days.

"These ongoing fire incidents take me back to the night of Shab-e-Qadr of 2020 when the wild flames unleashed hell on my neighbourhood," Farooq says with a fretful face. "I become anxious



even when I'm no longer in the firing line."

As per the latest data, fire incidents have already

consumed property worth Rs. 560 crore in the last six years in Kashmir. In Srinagar district only, the data suggests a clear spike in the fire incidents since January 2022.

Last year as well, the summer capital witnessed the highest number of fire incidents among the 2000 plus fire episodes causing a whopping loss of over Rs. 70 crore to the people of Kashmir. "The city being congested is one of the main reasons that it witnessed the highest number of fire incidents," Bashir A. Shah, Deputy

Director, Fire and Emergency Services (Kashmir), told Kashmir Observer.

But what's alarming is the steady rise of human cost in these cases. Since 2018, 230 people lost their lives in different fire incidents in Kashmir. The survivors often end up battling the crippled condition for a lifetime.

At NawaKadal, the massive fire had erupted after the cordon and consequent clash sealed the fate of Hizb commander Junaid Sehrai among others. The **More on P6**

## Cloudburst, Gusty Winds Leave 4 Dead

3 UP Labourers Washed Away As Cloudburst Hits Brick Kiln In Budgam



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Gusty winds, hailstorm and a cloudburst on Monday left at least four people, including a mother and her two sons from Uttar Pradesh dead, besides causing large-scale destruction to apple orchards, crops and standing crops in Kashmir Valley.

45-year-old Boori Begum and her two sons, Mohammad Rayees and Kaiser Mansoori were killed on Monday afternoon after a cloudburst hit a brick kiln in Chandpora village of Budgam district, officials said. Hailing from Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh, the mother and her sons were working as labourers at the brick kiln.

Their bodies were taken to the district hospital Budgam for carrying out necessary medico-legal formalities.

In South Kashmir's Anantnag district, a woman identified as Meenu Jan was killed after she was hit by a tin sheet during heavy windstorm near a petrol pump in Batengo area along the Srinagar-Jammu highway, officials said.

In Ganderbal district, they said, a 25-year-old lady sustained injuries after a rooftop of a guard room at Ziyarat Shah Sadiq Qalandar Lar was damaged due to strong winds. The woman identified as Shakeela Bano was removed to the primary health centre (PHC) Lar for treatment. However, the doctors there referred her to SK Institute of medical sciences here for advanced treatment.

Meanwhile, the gusty winds accompanied by isolated showers and hailstorm caused damage to orchards, residential houses, **More on P6**

**IN SOUTH KASHMIR'S ANANTNAG DISTRICT**, a woman identified as Meenu Jan was killed after she was hit by a tin sheet during heavy windstorm near a petrol pump in Batengo area along the Srinagar-Jammu highway, officials said.

## 2 Civilians Injured In Ongoing Shopian Gunfight

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Two civilians were injured, one of them critically on Monday, in an ongoing encounter between militants and government forces in south Kashmir's Shopian district.

Acting on reports about the presence of militants, a joint team of police and army launched a search operation in Pandosha area of the district on Monday evening, officials said. When the joint team approached towards a suspected spot, he said, the hiding militants opened fire upon them in a bid to stop their advances.

They said that the search team returned the fire, setting off an encounter. Amid the exchange of gunfire, two civilians were injured.

#ShopianEncounterUpdate: During initial cordon & search operation, #terrorists fired upon civilians and tried to escape, in which two #civilians got #injured. **More on P6**

## 'Immortal Heroes' Of J&K To Be Part Of Edu Curriculum: LG

Says Contributions Of People Of J&K In The Freedom Struggle Needs To Immortalize



Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Monday reiterated his government's commitment to make the stories of

valour and sacrifice of all those "immortal heroes and saviours" of Jammu and Kashmir part of the educational curriculum.

"Many freedom fighters from **More on P6**

**WE MUST DRAW INSPIRATION FROM** our glorious past and resolve to build a prosperous Jammu Kashmir that will both be an economic powerhouse and a major contributor to AatmaNirbhar Bharat."

## Flags Off 12 J&K Students For Study Tour To US

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor on Monday flagged off a batch of 12 undergraduate students from Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agriculture Sciences and Technology (SKUAST)-Kashmir on a study tour to Kansas State University in the US. The 12 students are from the faculties of Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry. They will be visiting the US under the Student **More on P6**

## JKP To Be Armed With Corner Shot Weapon System

Press Trust Of India

Udhampur: The highly sophisticated 'Zen ShootEdge' corner shot pistol weapon system will be inducted by the Jammu and Kashmir Police for close combat and 100 of these will be delivered, according to company officials.

It facilitates shooting around corners and over the top of walls, without exposing the person using the pistol, they said.

Security officials said that this modern weapon will protect members of anti-militancy operation parties from coming in direct fire from militants in close combat, which mostly



takes place in congested and populated areas in Kashmir.

"Recently, we have received an order from the Jammu and Kashmir Police for (procurement of) 100 such systems," Senior Manager Sales, Zen Technologies,

Baljeet Singh, told PTI.

The weapon system had been put on display by Zen technologies at the two-day Northern Tech Symposium organised by the Indian Army in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur **More on P6**

## Troops To Get New Detection System To Man Borders

To counter infiltration into Jammu and Kashmir, Vihaan Networks Limited has developed a wireless intrusion detection system to help security forces maintain surveillance through real-time remote monitoring, according to the company. Attempts by militants from across the border to enter Jammu and Kashmir has always posed a challenge for security forces, ever since the eruption of "Pakistan-sponsored terrorism" over three decades ago. Keeping in mind the threat, Vihaan **More on P6**

## ASI Raps J&K Govt Over 'Pooja' At Martand Sun Temple

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The 'pooja', attended by Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha at the premises of the Archaeological Survey of India-protected Martand Sun temple in Anantnag, was in violation of rules and the issue has been raised with the UT administration, ASI officials said on Monday.

A day after Sinha took part in the 'Navgrah Ashtamangalam pooja' at the ancient temple premises for which priests were called from outside the Union Territory, ASI officials said no permission was sought from the conservation body for these prayers.

"We have raised our concerns with the district administration. They have been sent a message that it is a violation of our rules. No permission was sought from us for the prayers. The LG did not hold the prayers inside the temple, but outside it. However, even that is a violation," an official of the ASI said on condition of anonymity.

The ASI has conveyed its displeasure to the district administration of Anantnag in South Kashmir and raised concerns over the issue, the official said.

Rule 7(1) of the 1959 Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains, states that meetings, receptions, parties, entertainment or **More on P6**

## J&K's New Political Map: Parties Announce Joint Struggle Against Panel's Report

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Major opposition parties, including the Congress, NC and PDP, on Monday announced a joint struggle against the recently released final report of the delimitation commission on Jammu and Kashmir.

The announcement was made after a three-hour long meeting of the parties and several social organisations under the banner of All Parties United Morcha (APUM) here.

The delimitation panel on Jammu and Kashmir, formed in March 2020, on May 5 notified its final report giving six additional assembly seats to the Jammu region and one to the Kashmir



Valley and bringing areas of Rajouri and Poonch under the Anantnag parliamentary seat.

The Jammu division will now have 43 assembly seats and the Kashmir division 47 in the

90-member house.

The APUM comprising Congress, National Conference (NC), Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), CPI(M), CPI and IDP besides **More on P6**

## China Intends To Keep 'Alive' Boundary Issue: Army Chief

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande on Monday said China's intention has been to keep "alive" the boundary question with India though it remains the "basic" issue between the two countries even as he asserted that the Army's aim was to restore the status quo ante prior to April 2020 in eastern Ladakh.

Gen Pande also said that Indian troops are adequately deployed along the Line of Actual Control to deal with any situation and that guidance has been given to them to "remain firm and resolute" in their tasks.

While referring to the eastern

Ladakh border standoff, the Army chief said the Indian Army's aim is to re-establish the "trust and tranquillity" between the two sides but asserted that "it cannot be a one-way affair."

"The basic issue remains the resolution of the border. What we see is that China's intent has been to keep the boundary issue alive," he said about the overall boundary question between the two countries.

"What we need as a country is a 'whole of nation' approach and in the military domain, this is to prevent and counter any attempt to alter the status quo at the LAC," he told a select group of journalists.

The comments **More on P6**





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# Coral Reefs Provide Stunning Images Of A World Under Assault

Associated Press

Humans don't know what they're missing under the surface of a busy shipping channel in the cruise capital of the world. Just below the keels of massive ships, an underwater camera provides a live feed from another world, showing marine life that's trying its best to resist global warming. That camera in Miami's Government Cut is just one of the many ventures of a marine biologist and a musician who've been on a 15-year mission to raise awareness about dying coral reefs by combining science and art to bring undersea life into pop culture. Their company Coral Morphologic is surfacing stunning images, putting gorgeous closeups of underwater creatures on social media, setting time-lapsed video of swaying, glowing coral to music and projecting it onto buildings, even selling a coral-themed beachwear line. We aren't all art. We aren't all science. We aren't all tech. We are an alchemy, said Colin Foord, who defies the looks of a typical scientist, with blue hair so spiky that it seems electrically charged. He and his business partner JD McKay sat down with The Associated Press to show off their work. One of their most popular projects is the Coral City Camera, which recently passed 2 million views and usually has about 100 viewers online at any given time each day. We're going to actually be able to document one year of coral growth, which has never been done before in situ on a coral reef, and that's only possible because we have this technological connection right here at the port of Miami that allows us to have power and internet, Foord said. The livestream has already revealed that stag-



horn and other corals can adapt and thrive even in a highly urbanized undersea environment, along with 177 species of fish, dolphins, manatees and other sea life, Foord said. We have these very resilient corals growing here. The primary goal of us getting it underwater was to show people there is so much marine life right here in our city, Foord said. McKay, meanwhile, sounds like a Broadway producer as he describes how he also films the creatures in their Miami lab, growing coral in tanks to get them ready for closeups in glorious colour. We essentially create a set with one of these aquariums, and then obviously there's actors coral or shrimp or whatever and then we film it, and then I get a vibe, whatever might be happening in the scene, and then I soundtrack it with some ambient like

sounds, something very oceanic," McKay explained. Their latest production, Coral City Flouroutour, will be shown on the New World Center Wallscape this week as the Aspen Institute hosts a major climate conference in Miami Beach. Foord is speaking on a panel about how the ocean's natural systems can help humans learn to combat impacts of climate change. The talk's title? The Ocean is a Superhero. "I think when we can recognise that we're all this one family of life and everything is interconnected, that hopefully we can make meaningful changes now, so that future generations don't have to live in a world of wildfires and melted ice caps and dead oceans," Foord told the AP. Their mission is urgent: After 500 million years on Earth, these species are under assault from climate change. The warming

oceans prompt coral bleaching and raise the risk of infectious diseases that can cause mass die-offs in coral, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Stronger storms and changes in water chemistry can destroy reef structures, while altered currents sweep away food and larvae. Climate change is the greatest global threat to coral reef ecosystems, NOAA said in a recent report. That gets at the second part of Coral Morphologic's name. What does it mean to be morphologic? It really means having to adapt because the environment is always changing, Foord said. The staghorn, elkhorn and brain coral living in Government Cut provide a real-world example of how coral communities can adapt to such things as rising heat and polluted runoff, even in such an unlikely setting as the port of Miami. Their video has documented fluorescence in some of the coral, an unusual response in offshore waters that Foord said could be protecting them from solar rays. The port is a priceless place for coral research," Foord said. We have to be realistic. You won't be able to return the ecosystems to the way they were 200 years ago. The options we are left with are more radical. Beyond the science, there's the clothes. Coral Morphologic sells a line of surf and swimwear that takes designs from flower anemones and brain coral and uses environmentally sustainable materials such as a type of nylon recycled from old fishing nets. We see the power of tech connecting people with nature. We are lucky as artists, and corals are benefitting, Foord said.

از ثنابت کنزور  
مضمون درخواست : مسود احمد بابا دل عبدل احد بابا سا کز موضوع لعل پره  
بر ادعوا گئی DOB certificate بکن پسر محمد مصطفی بابا  
اشتهار بر ادعوا گئی ہر خاص و عام  
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں دفتر ہذا کو ایک درخواست بابت حصول  
تاریخ پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ موصول ہوئی ہیں۔ پولیس سٹیشن کنزور وچوکیدار  
علاقہ نے سائل کے پسر کی پیدائش انداز نہیں کی ہے سائل مسود احمد بابا  
دل عبدل احد بابا بیان کرتا ہے کہ اسکا پسر محمد مصطفی بابا کی تاریخ پیدائش  
08-09-2021 کو ہوئی ہے۔ اس نسبت ہر خاص و عام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے  
کہ اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کو کوئی نذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا نذر یا اعتراض ساتھ  
یوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی نذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول  
نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار کنزور az k

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The date of birth of my daughter Simran Ashiq has been wrongly written as 10-04-2006 while her correct DOB is 10-04-2009 which needs immediate correction. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Saidul Sada School Malaknag Anantnag. Within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Simran Ashiq  
D/o: Ashiq Hussain Sheikh  
R/o Shripura Payeen Anantnag

ma

## Office of The Regional Transport Officer Kashmir NOTICE



Whereas, a joint application has been received from Shri Mushtaq Ahmad Dar S/O Abdul Aziz Dar R/O Tankipora Sgr (Transferor) and Shri Fayaz Ahmad Mir S/o Abdul Hamid Mir R/o Gratal Nawakadal Sgr (Transferee) for transfer of Maxi Cab carriage route Permit No 562/MC Covering Vehicle No JK01AN-7851. Now, therefore, it is notified for general information that objections, if any to the proposed transfer of the said route permit / vehicle shall be filled in writing in the office of the Regional Transport Officer, Kashmir. Within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily News Paper Kashmir Observer. Seller and purchaser identified by the authorized representatives of M/S Manzoor TPT Namely Mohd Yousuf

NOJK-RTOK 1840 Sd/-  
Dated: 05/05/2022 Regional Transport Office,  
PKO Kashmir

## The Jammu and Kashmir State Board Of School Education

### BRANCH OFFICE MAGAM

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 10th under Below mentioned particulars  
Name :  
Javid Ahmad Malla  
S/O Ghulam Mohammad Malla  
R/O Hardu Malpora



Details of Marks Certificate lost  
Secondary School Examination (class 10th )  
Roll No 2411554 Session /Year Pvt. 2019-2020

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  
bmg Sub Office Magam

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to be informed to general public that I Mohammad Ismail Naqati has applied for new electrical connection at my new Residence at Haji Bagh Buchpora Srinagar. If anybody has any objection regarding the same, he or she may contact Sub-Division:-Hawal within a period of 07 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

Inf

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## ELECTRONICS

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Sannat Nagar Srinagar



Contact:-9149965005/ 9682370979

## PUBLIC NOTICE

My father's name has been wrongly spelled in my driving license bearing DL no: JK-0320120017118 as Mohd Yousuf Wani While his correct name is Mohd Yousuf Wani R/o Bidder Hayatpora which need to be corrected. 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.  
Sameer Ahmad Wani rna  
S/o Mohd Yousuf Wani R/o Bidder Hayatpora

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my spouse has been wrongly written in my passport bearing No: U9538248 as Shaziya Feroz while her correct and actual name is Shaziya Manzoor which needs to be rectified. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Passport Office Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Ghulam Qadir Malik ir d  
Spouse of: Shaziya Manzoor  
R/o New Colony Shah Mohalla Sonerkul  
Near Dental College MR Gunj Srinagar

## OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER KASHMIR



Whereas, an application for Transfer of Ownership has been received from Farooq Ahmad Pal S/o Habibullah Pal Resident of Narkara Budgam in respect of Maruti Car (ALTO) Bearing Regd No. JK01K-6797 Chassis No MA3EYD81500886622 Engine No. 3384199 Model 2007 in favour of Nadeem Ahmad Bhat S/o Habibullah Bhat R/o Adder (Transferee).

Now, therefore, it is notified for the information of the general public that representation/objection if any in connection with proposed Transfer will be received within seven days from the date of publication of this notice to the office of the undersigned. No any representation /objection shall be entertained after stipulated period.

No.JK/RTOK2509  
Dated: 09/05/2022  
Sd/-  
Authorized Signatory  
Regional Transport Officer  
Kashmir  
rna

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The date of birth of my daughter Aksa Javid has been wrongly written as 21-02-2006 while her correct DOB is 21-02-2009 which needs immediate correction. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Saidul Sada School Malaknag Anantnag. Within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.  
Aksa Javid  
D/o: Javid Ahmad Sheikh  
R/o Shripura Payeen Anantnag  
rna

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The date of birth of my daughter Suhana Ashiq has been wrongly written as 06-06-2012 while her correct DOB is 06-06-2015 which needs immediate correction. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Saidul Sada School Malaknag Anantnag. Within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.  
Suhana Ashiq  
D/o: Ashiq Hussain Sheikh  
R/o Shripura Payeen Anantnag  
rna

Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir

## OFFICE OF THE EXECUIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION SUMBAL

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

FRESH NIT No: - 19 of R&B Sumbal/2022-23 Dated:- 09-05-2022 (E-tendering)

For and on behalf of the President of India, e-tenders are invited on item rate basis/%age basis(as the case may be) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following work:-

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (Rs. In Lacs)	Earnest Money	Time of completion	M.H Of Account	Class of Contractor
1.	Construction of Marriage Hall at Hajin.	302.22	5500.00	604440.00	18-Months	FC-Grants	AAY Class Only

Position of AAA = Accorded  
Position of TS = 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 above schedule:

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	09-05-2022
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	09-05-2022 from 1.00 P.M.
3	Date & Time of Pre-bid meeting	There shall be no physical pre-bid meeting. However the perspective bidders shall seek any clarification if required through mail within two days from 10-05-2022 upto 4.00 P.M. The Superintending Engineers Office shall reply to the queries if required through mail.
4	Bid Submission Start Date	11/05/2022 from 10.00 A.M.
5	Bid Submission End Date	17/05/2022 upto 4.00 P.M.
6	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	18/05/2022 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle Ganderbal/Bandipora.

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt(Under MH- 0059 PWD) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal [Tender Inviting Authority] (Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt) (Refer Govt. order No. O.M No. A/24 (2017)-651 Dt 07-06-2018 (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) and EMD (2% of advertised cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle Ganderbal/Bandipora H.Q Ganderbal (Tender receiving Authority).
- All the Bidders have to submit Earnest Money/Bid Security (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG. Non submission of Earnest Money/Bid Security shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.
- The 1st lowest responsive (Successful) Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle Ganderbal/Bandipora H.Q Ganderbal (Tender receiving authority) within 15 Days after the date of receipt of letter of acceptance and shall be released after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work. The Bank Guarantee should be valid for 45 days beyond bid validity.
- The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG of the successful Bidder shall be released after receiving Performance security @3% of the allotted cost in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG and same shall be released after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work.
- The date and time of opening of Financial-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 Financial-bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online in the Office of Superintending Engineer (R&B) Circle Engineering complex Ganderbal/Bandipora HQ Ganderbal. The date for same shall be intimated separately.
- 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 specified time period issue of letter on intent.  
c) In case contractor fails to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- 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.
- 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 vendors.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-2.
- Scanned copy of Cost of tender document in the shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Sumbal (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) and EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Superintending Engineer (R&B) Circle Ganderbal/Bandipora HQ Ganderbal (Tender Receiving Authority) must be uploaded with the Technical bid documents for the work. After opening of financial bids, the lowest bidder shall submit the Performance Security in the form of CDR/BG/FDR within 15 Days in the Office of the Superintending Engineer R&B Circle Ganderbal/Bandipora H.Q Ganderbal. Failure to do so shall render the first lowest successful bidder nonresponsive. The Original Treasury Challan (Cost of Tender Document), EMD (earnest money) and other relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of the Contract.  
No. R&B/Sbl/22/529-38.  
Dated:-09-05-2022.

DIPK-1687/22

Sd.  
Executive Engineer  
R&B Division Sumbal



## Tourist From Maharashtra Dies Of Heart Attack

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A tourist from Maharashtra died in Srinagar of a heart attack.

Hospital sources revealed that a 54-year-old female tourist staying at a houseboat in Nehru Park was admitted at SMHS Hospital Srinagar after chest pain.

The lady died in the hospital. She has been identified as Sushma Girgankar wife of Mukand Girgankar of Maharashtra.

Police have taken cognizance of the incident. (KNT)

# Shopkeepers Protest Mandatory Installation Of CCTV Cameras

Agencies

Srinagar: As the Srinagar Administration had asked shopkeepers to install high-definition CCTV cameras outside their establishments in view of the rise in targeted attacks in the Valley, many small business owners have expressed their inability to comply with the orders citing the financial costs involved.

Shopkeepers at Nai Sadak Habba Kadal staged a protest seeking monetary help from the government. President Traders Association Habba Kadal, Abdul Rouf Malik said that shopkeepers are not in a position to install the surveillance systems in their business establish-



ments.

"The minimal cost for installing a CCTV camera setup ranges from Rs. 20,000 to 30,000 which we cannot afford" Malik said on the sidelines of the protest.

"Ninety percent of shopkeepers in our locality are those who hardly make their ends meet. We are not against the installation of CCTV cameras but want the government to evolve a mechanism and the administration itself should bore all the expenses," Malik said.

He said Kashmir Traders and Manufacturers Association will meet DC Srinagar and whatever the decision will be taken by the traders' body, they will accept it. (KNT)

## NIT Srinagar Gets Special Project Grant Under MS&T Project

Observer News Service

Srinagar :The National Institute Of Technology (Nit) Srinagar Has Been Listed Among The Three Premier Institutes Of India That Have Bagged Special Project Grants Under The Department Of Bio-Technology, Ministry Of Science And Technology, (Ms&T) Government Of India Under Himalayan Bioresource Mission.

As Per The Communiqué Issued By The Ministry Of S&T, A Project Entitled 'Value-Added Products From Invasive Plant Species For Improving Livelihoods Of Marginalized Communities In Indian Himalaya' Under Himalayan Bioresource For A Period Of Three Years And The Total Cost Of The Project Is Rupees 85, 66,800.

Among The Total Amount, Nit Srinagar Has Got A Grant Of Rupees 1764560 For The Period Of Three Years And The Principal Investigator For The Project Is Dr. Tanveer Rasool, Assistant Professor, Grade-I, Department Of Chemical Engineering.

**It Is A Proud Moment For The Entire Nit Srinagar Family. Such Projects Are Taking The Institute To New Heights In The Field Of Academics And Research**

Director Nit Srinagar (Dr.) Prof. Rakesh Sehgal Extended His Warm Greetings To Dr. Tanveer Rasool For Getting The Prestigious Project For The Institute. "It Is A Proud Moment For The Entire Nit Srinagar Family. Such Projects Are Taking The Institute To New Heights In The Field Of Academics And Research," He Said.

Prof. Sehgal Said Such Projects Facilitate Collaboration And Create New Opportunities For Research And Development.

"The Aim And Objective Of Any Technical Institution Is To Enhance The Quality Of Life Of A Common Man," He Said.

## Cleanliness Drive Launched To "Save Hokersar Wetland"

Observer News Service

Srinagar: As part of on-going campaign 'Save Hokersar-Save Srinagar' under the banner 'TAWAZUN' Wetlands Division Kashmir, Ifshan Dewan on Monday launched a cleanliness drive in and around Hokersar Wetland Conservation Reserve.

Safai karamcharis of Municipal Committees of Srinagar and Budgam districts, Range Officer, Lakes along with his field staff, Students of Women's College, Doon International School, Boys Higher Secondary School-Laweypora, different N.G.O's, volunteers, and representatives of different stake holding departments participated.

During the drive solid waste of about 3 to 4 trucks of load were collected from Ali Abad Gund-Hassi Bhat, Graveyard Laweypora, Soibugh near Police Station Daharmuna Diversion bund and were accordingly disposed, which involved mass efforts of



**During the drive solid waste of about 3 to 4 trucks of load were collected from Ali Abad Gund-Hassi Bhat, Graveyard Laweypora, Soibugh near Police Station Daharmuna Diversion bund and were accordingly disposed, which involved mass efforts of 250 persons.**

250 persons.

Ifshan Dewan thanked the participants and appealed to all the stakeholders especially senior citizens, Youth, students of schools and to those who are directly or indirectly connected with Wetlands to join hands with the department of Wildlife Protection for

maintaining cleanliness of the Hokersar Wetland Conservation Reserve.

The initiative is a joint collaboration of Department of Wildlife Protection J&K Government, Wetlands Division Kashmir with stake holding departments, civil society groups, N.G.O's and Educational institutions.

## Traffic Police Initiates Drive Against Wrong Parking At Lal Chowk

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Traffic Police on Monday acted tough on violators as a part of its drive against wrong parking in the City Centre Lal Chowk.

Several wrongly parked vehicles were fined on spot and were towed away to pave the way for the smooth and hassle-free movement of the traffic on the congest-

ed roads in Srinagar.

The drive was supervised by the DySP Traffic West Imtiyaz Ahmed, who appealed to the common masses as well as the owners of the business establishments in Lal Chowk to adhere to the rules and regulations and cooperate in decongesting the roads in City Centre.

He said that strict action under law will be tak-

en against the violators.

"In order to save money, people do not park their vehicles in parking lots", DySP said.

He appealed to them to desist from wrong parking.

He also said that action against those will be initiated as well against the drivers whose vehicles don't carry High Security Registration Plate Numbers.

## High Court Of Jammu & Kashmir And Ladakh (Office Of The Registrar Judicial, Srinagar)

WP( C ) No.654/2022 CM.No.1605/2022

Villagers of Khanpora Khag District, Vs UT of J&K and Others  
Budgam & Ors.

NOTICE UNDER ORDER 1 of CPC

Whereas,one Haji Ali Mohammad Khan S/o Kazim Khan R/o Village Khanpora Khag, District Budgam alongwith other two persons through their Counsel Mr. Sheikh Manoor, Advocate have filed the above titled writ petition on behalf of villagers of Khanpora Khag, District Budgam in a representative capacity on the grounds Inter alia that they and all the Villagers of Khanpora Khag, District Budgam, have common interest in the subject matter of the writ petition; that they are aggrieved of eviction notices dated 08-03-2022 and 18-03-2022 issued by the Tehsildar Khag under and in terms, of which Shri Ghulam Mohammad Khan S/o Ahmad Khan & Ali Khan S/o Qasim Khan R/o Khanpora have been directed to remove the alleged encroachment over the chunk of land falling, under Khasra No 429 min situated at Village Khanpora Tehsil Khag in violation of Section 133 of land Revenue Act; that the aforesaid notices are operating harsh against their rights as their worship places have been constructed over the said piece of land ; that some reasons for extraneous reasons with malafide designs are trying to disturb the peace and tranquility in two Shia communities by raising construction of bridge/culver near disputed imam Bargah situated over the aforesaid land and that they have made several representations before the concerned authorities for redressal of their grievances, however same yielded no outcome constraining them to file the above titled writ petition.

The petitioners have sought the following reliefs:-

1. Writ of certiorari:- seeking quashment of impugned notice issued by Tehsildar concerned dated 08.03.2022 and 18.03.2022 together with proceedings initiated by Tehsildar concerned against the petitioners.
  2. Writ of mandamus: commanding upon the respondent Deputy Commissioner, Budgam to take all possible measures, so as to avert any kind of law and order situation which may result in breach of peace between two Shia communities of Khanpora Khag budgam vis-avis subject matter of the writ petition.
  3. Writ of mandamus:- commanding upon the respondent Executive Engineer(Irrigation) Division Ompora Budgam to take appropriate steps for preservation of irrigation canals passing through Khanpora Khag Budgam and ensure that no damage is caused to the said canals which may result damage to the irrigation fields of the petitioners and other villagers.
  4. Writ of mandamus:- commanding upon the respondents to observe the orders dated 22.10.2021 passed by Ld Sub-Judge Budgam and the order dated 28.12.2021 passed by this Hon'ble Court in letter and spirit and not to proceed with the construction of road through land under survey no.429 till final decision taken by Id Sub-Judge Budgam.
  5. Any other writ, order or direction:- which this Hon'ble court may deem fit in the facts and circumstances of the case, be also passed in favour of the petitioners and against the respondents.
- Whereas, Hon'ble Court,upon hearing the above titled matter on 05-04-2022, has been pleased to direct for issuance of notice under Order 1 Rule 8 CPC, to be got published in the two daily news papers having wide circulation in the concerned area. Now, therefore, in compliance to the Hon'ble Court Order(Supra), this publication notice under Order 1 Rule 8 CPC is hereby issued calling upon Villagers of Khanpora Khag, District Budgam or any of them, to file their /his/her objections, if any, in the above titled matter.
- Note that the matter is listed before the Hon'ble Court on 08-07-2022.

No: 6365 Dat 05-04-22

Sd/-  
Registrar Judicial, Srinagar

Writ petition under article 226 of the Constitution of India)  
(Subject matter pertains to District Budgam)

In the case of Villagers Khanpora Khag, District Budgam through:

1. Haji Ali Mohammad Khan (aged 60) S/o Kazim Khan
2. Ghulam Mohammad Khan (Aged 50) S/o Ghulam Ahmad Khan
3. Shabir Ahmad Khan (Aged 50) S/o Mohammad Qasim Khan

All residents of Village Khanpora Khag, Distt Budgam.

Petitioners

VERSUS

1. Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Through Commissioner secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Civil Secretariat Jammu/Srinagar.
2. Divisional Commissioner, Kahsmir.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Budga.
4. Executive Engineer, Irrigation Divison Ompora Budgam.
5. Assistant Executive Engineer Sub Division Beerwah Budgam
6. Sub Divisional Magistrate Beerwah Budgam.
7. Tehsildar Khag Budgam
8. Block Development Officer, Khag Budgam.
9. Station House Officer (SHO) P/S Khag Budgam

Petitioners

**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: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

**HELP**

**AIRPORTS**

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

**RAILWAYS**

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

**HIGHWAY STATUS**

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

**HIJRI CALENDAR**

08 Shawwal  
1443

**PRAYERS**

FAJR	4: 00
ZUHR	12:27
ASR	5:19
Magrib	7:19
ISHA	8: 57

## This Day In History

- 1797 - 1st US Navy ship, the "United States," is launched
- 1801 - First Barbary War: The Barbary pirates of Tripoli declare war on the United States of America (1st US foreign war)
- 1804 - British Prime Minister Henry Addington resigns, replaced by William Pitt the Younger
- 1857 - Indian Mutiny against rule by the British East India Company begins with the revolt of the Sepoy soldiers in Meerut
- 1862 - Battle of Plum Run Bend, Tennessee
- 1864 - Battles at Spotsylvania Court House, Virginia
- 1865 - Confederate President Jefferson Davis captured by Union troops at Irwinsville Georgia (US Civil War)
- 1871 - Peace of Frankfurt-am-Main concluded between France & Germany ends Franco-Prussian war
- 1872 - Victoria Woodhull becomes 1st woman nominated for US presidency by Equal Rights Party at Apollo Hall, NYC
- 1910 - Halley's Comet closest approach to Earth in 1910 pass
- 1915 - Canadian physician Cluny MacPherson first presents his gas mask invention to the British War Office
- 1917 - Atlantic ships get destroyer escorts to stop German attacks
- 1918 - HMS Vindictive sunk to block entrance of Ostend Harbor
- 1925 - To control demonstrations against foreigners, British troops in Shanghai fire into a crowd, leading to a boycott against British goods
- 1933- Nazis stage public book burnings in Germany
- 1933- Paraguay declares war on Bolivia
- 1940- French troops arrive in Zealand/Brabant Netherlands
- 1940- Nazi armies attack Netherlands, Belgium & Luxembourg
- 1940- Winston Churchill succeeds Neville Chamberlain as British PM
- 1940- World War II: The first German bombs of the war fall on England at Chilham and Petham, in Kent.
- 1942-World War II: The Thai Phayap Army invades the Shan States during the Burma Campaign.
- 1944- Chinese offensive in West-Yunnan
- 1945- Allies capture Rangoon from the Japanese
- 1945- Russian troops occupied Prague
- 1948- 1st attack by Egyptian irregular forces at Kfar Darom Israel
- 1956- French government sends 50,000 reservists to Algeria
- 1959- Soviet forces arrive in Afghanistan
- 1967- Stockholm Vietnam Tribunal declares US aggression in Vietnam/Cambodia
- 1968- Vietnam peace talks began in Paris between the US & North Vietnam
- 1969- Apollo 10 transmit 1st color pictures of Earth from space

From KO Archives

## Clashes in CRPF's Cheshma Shahi Bash

Observer News Service

Srinagar- Local youth in Cheshma Shahi clashed with CRPF personnel during a function in the Botanical Gardens on Sunday, prompting the police to detain four persons for disorderly behavior.

According to reports, a cultural programme was held at the Botanical Gardens with the collaboration of the CRPF, with the organizers having included a dance item in the highlights.

As soon as the dance came on, some local youth present on the occasion rose up in protest and began shouting slogans.

The protestors came to blows with the CRPF personnel and pelted stones on them, reports said.

Enraged youth stormed the spectators enclosure, knocking down and breaking chairs. But the police and the CRPF charged at them with canes and chased them away from the venue.

Four youth, identified as Muhammad Idrees Sheikh of Rainawari, Sajjad Ahmad Misgar of Bohri Kadal, Aabid Yousuf Bhat and Owais Ahmad Khan of Buchwara Dalgate were arrested during the clashes, with the police registering a case against them.

(Kashmir Observer, 10 May, 2007)

**Office of The Regional Transport Officer Kashmir**

**NOTICE**

Where as an application for transfer of ownership has been received from Farooq Ah Pal S/o Habibullah Pal R/o Narkara Budgam (Transferor) of Alto bearing registration No. DC011C 6797 chasis No: MA3EYD81500886622 Engine No: 3384199 Model 2007 in favour of Nadeem Ah Bhat S/o Habibullah Bhat R/o Adder (Transferee).

Now, therefore, it is notified for the information of the general, public that representation/ Objection, if any in connection with proposed transfer will be received within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper Kashmir Observer to the address of undersigned.

No, representation/ objection shall be considered unless it is made writing it is made in the aforesaid period.

NOJK-RTOK 2509  
Dated: 09-05-2022  
rma

Sd/-  
Regional Transport Office,  
Kashmir

T: 0194-2311312 (S) | F: 0194-2311420 (S) | T/F: 0191-2476079 (J)  
E:jkhpmmc@gmail.com | W:jkhpmmc.jk.gov.in/

**Jammu & Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing & Processing Corporation (JKHPMC) Ltd**  
Horticulture Department, Jammu & Kashmir Government  
Opposite Presentation Convent School, Rajbagh, Srinagar-190008, J&K

No: JKHPMC/e-NIT No.89 of 2022  
Dt: 07-05-2022  
Subject: Date Extension Corrigendum-3 w.r.t Notice 89 of 2022, dated 22-03-2022.

In view of several requests received from the prospective bidders in respect of the "Tender" for "Empanelment of Agencies (for a period of one year) for the Finalization of Annual Rate Contracts for supply of Agricultural Machinery Equipment and other allied branded items with ISI/BIS marking", Last Date of Online Bid Submission is extended by Eight (08) days' time and as such the Last Date of Online Bid Submission would be up to 14-05-2022. Subsequently the Bid Opening Date would be 16-05-2022.

Other Terms and Conditions will remain the same unless notified otherwise.

Sd/-  
Managing Director  
JKHPMC Ltd

DIPK-NB-735/22



KASHMIR  
OBSERVER

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

Time For Polls

With Delimitation Commission finalizing its report on the reconfiguration of assembly and parliamentary constituencies of J&K, the discourse is likely to shift to holding Assembly elections this year. The Commission has largely stayed true to its draft recommendations. The demand from some major political parties in the UT that the Commission should tweak its recommendations to allow what they wanted a fairer political representation of Kashmir Valley and Jammu division has generally been ignored. Earlier in April, the Commission had held separate public sittings in Jammu and Srinagar and heard objections and suggestions from delegations of people, political parties and civil society members to its draft proposals. Following this, the Commission had indicated that it would include some of the suggestions in its final report. But the final report hardly reflects any modification. Headed by Justice (retired) Ranjana Prakash Desai, the Commission was set up on March 6, 2020 with one year term. However, in the wake of COVID pandemic, its term was extended on March 6, 2021 for another one year. Throughout its term, the Commission has been dogged by controversy after it proposed an increase of seven assembly segments, six in Jammu and one in Kashmir division. It also recommended reserving sixteen constituencies, out of 90 assembly segments: 43 in the Jammu division and 47 in the Kashmir division. Political parties and civil society groups in Kashmir have voiced concern over what they see as a reduced political; representation of the Valley.

The number of Parliamentary constituencies, which was earlier three for Kashmir and two for Jammu, however, hasn't been changed- although their boundaries have been altered and in the case of one constituency, South Kashmir, much more drastically: it now straddles Kashmir and Jammu divisions, extending right from Anantnag in Kashmir to Rajouri in Jammu.

The submission of the Commission's report has cleared the decks for Assembly elections in the Union Territory. There is a possibility that J&K could see elections later this year. The political parties are already getting into an election mode. Last month, National Conference Working President Omar Abdullah has made a case for the PAGD jointly contesting the polls to keep away, what he said, "the BJP and its B and C teams." The PDP led by Mehbooba Mufti also appears to be favourable to this proposal.

Elections, in turn, will shift the discourse towards the grant of statehood. However, the centre has already made it clear that statehood would be granted only after an elected government is formed, staying short of giving a timeframe. So, this could take a longer time than expected. For now, however, the people would be happy if elections are held at the earliest. An elected government would be in a better position to understand and address the local grievances and issues. Here's looking forward to Assembly polls.

O T H E R   O P I N O N

No Picture Postcard

Not surprisingly, it has led to the conclusion that had population alone been the criterion as in the rest of India, Kashmir, with its higher population (according to the 2011 census, which the Commission used) would have got more than just one additional seat, and Jammu less than its six additional seats. But even going by the unique parameters, it is not clear why, for instance, Poonch and Rajouri districts, earlier part of the Jammu parliamentary constituency, have been joined with Anantnag parliamentary seat in Kashmir. They are separated not just by language, but a mountain range, and the road connecting them is inaccessible in winter due to snowfall. Indeed, the final report ends up giving credence to fears of gerrymandering along political and communal lines.

Political parties, including the National Conference which was represented in the Commission, had flagged these and other concerns to the panel, chaired by retired Supreme Court justice Ranjana Prakash Desai. By not addressing them, it has done itself a disservice. Its assertion that it has treated Jammu & Kashmir as one unit is unpersuasive. It is no secret that the two have long been polarised along religious lines. And that as the last Assembly elections in 2014 showed, the BJP's best chance of coming to power is in alliance with a Valley-based regional party, with Jammu's seats crucial to deciding which partner gets to play the lead role. However, it is also true that the Hindus of Jammu are not a monolithic voting bloc.

Now, Jammu and Kashmir await the next step in restoring the political process. J&K has not had elected representatives since 2018. Governed by unaccountable bureaucrats, police and security forces, the real J&K is a far cry from the picture postcards of tourists at Dal Lake. Targeted killings, a jump in militancy in the first four months of this year over the same period in 2021, with more foreign militants now, have been ringing alarm bells for over a year. With the region simmering since the Taliban takeover in Afghanistan last year, and Pakistan politically unstable, only an elected government in J&K can effectively address the challenges while reaching out to the people.

Indian Express



In Picture: Shali Ganga after mining. Picture Credits: Raja Muzaffar Bhat for KO

Mining Mafia?  
Streamline Riverbed Mining

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

“  
The lack of CCTV based surveillance and the bypassing of technological checks are done to give a leeway for dubious dealings. This is done to ensure there is no transparency at all

From Kathua to Kupwara, Kishtwar to Kangana and Poonch to Pahalgam; riverbed mining that is taking place is completely illegal. It not only violates the Jammu and Kashmir Minor Mineral Concession, Storage and Transportation of Minerals and Prevention of Illegal Mining Rules 2016 also known as J&K Mineral Rules 2016 but also goes against Environmental Clearance (EC) guidelines of the Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEFCC) which are supervised in every state and UT through State Environmental Impact Assessment Authorities (SEIAAs).

Project Proponents (contractors) are violating specific conditions on which Environmental Clearance (EC) is granted to them by J&K State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (JKSEIAA).

Selling RBM on a 50% Discount

As per specific guideline No. 5 of the minutes of meeting for Environmental Clearance given by J&K State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority, river bed mining material (RBM) like Bajri, Boulders, Muck and Gravel is to be sold on a 50% discount to local population within 2 kms radius of mining blocks. However, this is not being done within or outside of the 2 Km radius in J&K.

Local populations living near Doodh Ganga and Shali Ganga streams in Budgam district are forced to get this material at exorbitant rates. The Department of Geology and Mining is also heedless of it and is giving a deaf ear to these issues of people. This has been facilitating a mining mafia in the region.

The sand, gravel or a boulder truck load was sold at an average rate of Rs 4000 to 5000 few years back and as per EC norms, the same should have been available @ Rs 2000 to 4000 in the areas (50 % discount) where river bed mining is done such as Doodh Ganga or Shali Ganga areas of Chadoora. Instead, this material is being sold at the rates of Rs 8000 to 12,000 per truck (tipper). Additionally, the material which is to be sold locally is transported to Pulwama, Srinagar and other areas from Doodh Ganga and Shali Ganga mining sites of Chadoora and Panzan areas of Budgam district.

The Project Proponents (PPs) who have been allotted mining contracts in J&K are selling river bed materials (RBM) to stone crushing units at very high rates. All this is of course illegal.

Use of Technology

The specific condition No. 30 of Environmental Clearance guidelines calls upon the Geology and Mining Department to use technology like Bar Coding, Information and Communication Technology and web-based services, SMS applications to account for weight of minerals being taken out of the mining block and the number of trucks moving out with the mineral. This condition is also violated as there are no technological arrangements/communications on ground.

The Geology & Mining Department has failed to install CCTVs around Mining areas. Local residents based around Doodh Ganga and Shali Ganga rivers told Kashmir Observ-

er that in a mining block, where 20 trucks of RBM are to be lifted in a day, the Geology & Mining Department officials allow lifting of more than 200 trucks.

The lack of CCTV based surveillance and the bypassing of technological checks are done to give a leeway for dubious dealings. This is done to ensure there is no transparency at all.

Mining Prohibited in Night Hours

Specific Condition No. 38 stresses upon the Project Proponents not to carry out any mining activity before 9 am and after 6pm.

On the other hand, here, illegal mining starts during night hours only. Huge JCBs are seen excavating RBM until midnight and trucks can be seen moving around the surrounding villages near river mining area for the whole night. This is a routine yet no Government authority flags and stops this loot and plunder.

The Irrigation and Fisheries Departments pass on the buck to the Geology and Mining Department, who further blame the District Administration or the Police. They further pass on the buck to other Govt organisations. This way the plunder carries on unabated.

Use of Cranes, Machines Not Allowed

Specific Condition No. 53 stresses on manual mining and giving jobs to local labourers. The said guideline says JCBs, Hydraulic excavators, L&T excavators cannot be used in river bed mining (RBM) at all. The guideline reads:

“Mining shall be done manually minimally supported by semi-mechanized methods. Heavy machinery like JCBs, Excavators, L&T hydraulic excavators etc should not be allowed. Emphasis should be given to locally available labour force to address socio economic condition of locals”

There is not even a single riverbed mining block across J&K where minerals are extracted manually by labourers. In every river and stream one can see huge hydraulic cranes and JCBs being used for this work. The excavation is done in broad daylight and the Geology and Mining Department, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) have been unable to put an end to this illegal practice.

These practices have been reported several times but have been ignored.

It has to be understood that these guidelines have actually been proposed by the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEFCC) Govt of India. The Supreme Court of India & National Green Tribunal (NGT) as well have given several orders in this regard. Infact, guideline No.71 says that mineral blocks cannot be sublet to third parties without written approval from JKEIAA but in a majority of the cases the Project Proponents have already sublet the work to 3rd parties. JKSEIAA is well aware of all this but is not acting at all.

Section 15 of the EP Act – 1986

Mining of sand without obtaining necessary consent from the State Pollution Control Board/Environment Clearance from MoEFCC/SEIAA is

an offence under Environmental Protection Act 1986 (EP Act 1986). The penalty is imprisonment which may extend to five years or fine which may extend to one lakh rupees. If contravention continues the penalty may extend to five thousand rupees per day. The section further provides for imprisonment for seven years if contravention continues beyond a year, after the date of conviction.

Section 4 and 21 of Mines and Minerals Development and Regulation Act 1957 -MMDR Act says that mining of sand without the necessary permit/ mining lease constitutes illegal mining under the MMDR Act. The penalty is imprisonment which may extend to five years or fine which may extend to five lakh rupees per hectare of the area. It further provides for seizure of the mined material, tools, equipment or vehicle used in the process and recovery of the price of the illegal mined material if the same has already been disposed off by the accused.

State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) is the nodal authority in the State for dealing with cases related to pollution or environment management coming under the purview of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environment Protection Act 1986. In case of J&K the local PCB also called Pollution Control Committee (PCC) have given NoC's for river bed mining but all grounds on which these NoCs are granted are violated openly. Same is the case with Environmental Clearance (EC) granted by J&K State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (JKSEIAA).

There are dozens of requirements on which Environmental Clearance EC is granted to Project Proponents for River Bed Mining (RBM). Majority of these requirements / conditions are openly violated, some of which have been explained above. Ironically, there is nobody to check these gross violations on the ground (Mining Blocks). All the officers operate from their offices and nobody is seen on the ground. Even the use of technology to check illegal mining is bypassed deliberately which is otherwise a requirement under specific condition number 30 explained above. It seems all the Government organisations have turned hostile towards the environment. This includes J&K Pollution Control Committee, Geology and Mining, Fisheries Irrigation & Flood Control, DC offices, Police stations etc. Irony is that institutions like J&K State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) is also a mute spectator to all this which operates directly under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC). It seems all the doors of justice are shut down for the citizens. Judicial intervention is the only way out but how many people have access to High Courts and Tribunals?

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



# What Happens When You Stop Eating Sugar

“It’s common for people to cut out sugar and high-glycemic foods to lose weight for short periods of time. However, doctors still aren’t sure whether this is healthy long-term



MELISSA MATTHEWS

There’s a lot of debate regarding the tenets of a healthy diet. Vegans believe forgoing animal products is best, while keto enthusiasts just want to eat all the fat. But there’s one food people of nearly every dietary preference aim to avoid: sugar. Giving up the sweet stuff is challenging since it’s found in unsuspecting places, like veggie burgers, tomato sauce, and crackers. But if you do nix added sugars from your diet, your body will benefit almost immediately, according to Dr. Eric Pham, M.D. at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Orange, California. Within a week you can expect lower blood pressure as well as healthier levels of fat and

insulin levels in the bloodstream, he says. Of course, how your body reacts to the absence of sugar depends on how much of the white stuff you eat in the first place—and whether you’re eating carbs. Your body breaks down complex carbohydrates, like oatmeal and fruit, into simple sugars to use as energy. But what if you cut out all high glycemic foods, as keto enthusiasts and no-carb, no sugar dieters attempt? This content is imported from {embed-name}. You may be able to find the same content in another format, or you may be able to find more information, at their web site. Dessert aficionados, beware: “You’re going to have a tough three days,” says Dr. Brian

Quebbemann, M.D., a bariatric surgeon based in California. First, you’ll probably day dream about donuts, if you’re the type of person who regularly grabs a muffin in the morning and ends dinner with dessert. He explains this occurs because you don’t have sugar to help stimulate your brain. You may feel, well, rough, but there’s a lot of good stuff going on inside your body. Insulin, a hormone that regulates glucose, drops to become more stable. You won’t go through the cycle of sugar highs and crashes, Quebbemann explains. Initially, you’ll feel tired and lethargic, but that will pass within a few days. Adrenaline will increase and help break down glycogen, or sugar, stored in your body. This will be released

into your bloodstream pretty quickly, says Quebbemann. “You’ll go through that in less than 24 hours,” he says. Within three to five days, your liver will make ketones from fat since there’s no more glucose, your body’s main source of energy. That’s when your body enters ketosis, aka fat burning mode. As a result, you could experience muscle cramps since you’re losing a lot of water when you’re in ketosis after cutting out sugar. Some people experience keto flu, associated with headaches, fatigue and cramps, which lasts about a week. But once that passes, you’ll feel more energetic, focused, and calm, says Quebbemann. It’s common for people to cut out sugar

and high-glycemic foods to lose weight for short periods of time. However, doctors still aren’t sure whether this is healthy long-term, explains Quebbemann. That’s why many doctors recommend eating healthy complex carbohydrates. Although they are broken down into sugar, this is an entirely normal and healthy process, says Quebbemann. In fact, omitting added sugars while eating complex carbs keeps your insulin levels healthy. “You don’t get the headaches. You don’t get the crashes. You get a consistent level of energy,” he says.

The article was originally published by Pocket Worthy

# Critical Thinking Is About Asking Better Questions

John Coleman

“While we don’t need to ask a litany of “whys” to get to the heart of critical thinking, we should ask thoughtful, even hard, follow-ups questions. It requires energy to listen hard and formulate those follow-ups, and that’s often the only way to deepen your critical understanding of a topic

Are you tackling a new and difficult problem at work? Recently promoted and trying to both understand your new role and bring a fresh perspective? Or are you new to the workforce and seeking ways to meaningfully contribute alongside your more experienced colleagues? If so, critical thinking — the ability to analyze and effectively break down an issue in order to make a decision or find a solution — will be core to your success. And at the heart of critical thinking is the ability to formulate deep, different, and effective questions. Consider this: Clayton M. Christensen was perhaps the greatest management thinker of the last 30 years. His “How Will You Measure Your Life” is a Harvard Business Review bestseller and one of the five best articles on personal development I’ve read, and his theories on innovation and disruption changed business. But my most memorable encounter with Christensen was a talk at Harvard Business School where he discussed his own approach to his time as an MBA student decades before. He said HBS was where he learned to ask great questions. Impressed with his classmates, he would carry a notebook to class and write down the most insightful questions other students asked. He’d then go home and reflect on how and why the students had formulated them. Ever curious, Christensen laid the foundation for his future insights by first studying the process by which people formulated their best queries. You can approach curiosity just as rigorously — and use that process to get a better view of a new situation or solve some of your toughest problems. Here are a few ways to enhance your ability to interrogate even the most difficult topics: **HOLD YOUR HYPOTHESES LOOSELY.** As a former analyst at McKinsey & Company, one of the first things I learned was “hypothesis-driven thinking.” Based on the scientific method, this process is what allows McKinsey teams to work through problems quickly and efficiently. It involves formulating an early answer to a problem and then digging into the data to seek

to improve and refine it. Core to this approach, however, is holding your hypothesis loosely. If you are too attached to your initial answer, you may refuse to let it go, no matter where the data leads. But if you treat your own answer as a strawman, holding your assumptions loosely, you’ll be willing to totally abandon it if the situation calls for it. In critical thinking exercises we often fall rapidly into an intuitive and jointly held “answer” or hypothesis — particularly in groups — and we ask questions that seek to prove rather than disprove our thoughts. Critical questions, however, may force us to fundamentally reconsider our initial conclusions, and we have to be willing to do so freely without defensiveness. **LISTEN MORE THAN YOU TALK.** This sounds simple, but the key to great questions is active listening. Active listening is the process of understanding what another person is saying — both explicitly and implicitly — while showing then you are engaged and interested. Successful active listening allows you to fully grasp an argument, making it easier to question its logic. Active listening also helps to override your brain’s “prediction engine” to ask better questions. Our brains are wired to generate efficient, intuitive answers, but that can limit your point of view. Deep listening is a way of overruling that function and opening ourselves to a wider array of answers. It also allows you to demonstrate to your counterpart that you care about what they are saying and take their perspective seriously, which keeps them engaged in the conversation and more open to your perspective. **LEAVE YOUR QUERIES OPEN-ENDED.**

When you begin your inquiry, avoid asking yes-or-no questions. Instead, pose queries that force the respondent to open up and pontificate at length. Rather than asking, “Is this business stable?” ask, “If this business were unstable, how or why would that be?” Rather than asking someone, “Are you happy in your job?” ask, “What do you love about your job and what could be better?” or “Talk to me about a time you found joy in your work and a time you felt unmotivated.” Then follow the dialogue that emerges with more questions. Open-ended questions encourage critical thinking in a group, offer an individual to expand on their viewpoints, and leave people the space to actively problem-solve. **CONSIDER THE COUNTERINTUITIVE.** When problem-solving, we often quickly fall into groupthink:

The group converges on a path too rapidly, and rather than periodically assuring they are headed in the right direction, they continue further and further — even if it’s the wrong way. Be the person who poses the counterintuitive question, the one that challenges the group’s conventional thinking and reconsiders first principles. There’s a chance your question may be off-base and that the group is on the right track. And, yes, there’s a chance your col-leagues who are interested in moving quickly will be annoyed. But every group has an obligation to consider the counter-intuitive and needs someone unafraid to pose it, in case you need change course. **STEW IN A PROBLEM.** In today’s rapid-fire world we try to make decisions too quickly. But the best questions are often formulated after consideration and a good night’s rest. Sleep can actually help your brain assimilate a problem and see it more clearly. And a

deliberate process often leads to better conclusions. Research also shows that when we rush decision, we often regret them even if they end up being correct. What I love about Christensen’s approach to learning from his classmates’ questions is that rather than diagnosing them in the moment, he’d take them home and carefully turn them over in his mind. I had a boss who referred to this as “stewing” in a problem. Just as a good stew takes time to simmer, a thoughtful conclusion or question may need space. Resist unnecessary urgency. Map a process that will allow you to solve a problem over several days or longer. Dig into it initially then reflect on what you learned and what you should have asked. The questions you formulate in quiet reflection may be more powerful than those posed in the moment. **ASK THE HARD FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS.** It can be easy to put our brains on cruise control, to accept easy answers, or to yield to social pressures that push us to avoid interrogating others. But the kinds of deep questions that enable critical thinking are often delivered in chains of deeper and deeper follow-up inquiry. Every parent is familiar with the way children (nature’s most curious people) will ask “why” dozens of times when given an answer. And we parents often find ourselves stuck or reconsidering our own answers at the end of this train of questioning. While we don’t need to ask a litany of “whys” to get to the heart of critical thinking, we should ask thoughtful, even hard, follow-ups questions. It requires energy to listen hard and formulate those follow-ups, and that’s often the only way to deepen your critical understanding of a topic. Critical thinking is at the heart of solving complex problems in new and exciting ways. Building this key skill will help you as you navigate new roles, establish yourself in your organization, or simply face a conundrum. Learn to formulate and ask questions, rather than simply answering them. The article was originally published by Harvard Business Review





# HDFC Bank Launches Industry-First 30-Minute ‘Xpress Car Loan’

Srinagar: HDFC Bank has launched ‘Xpress Car Loans’ – an end-to-end digital new car loan journey for existing customers as well as non-customers. The Bank has integrated its lending application with automobile dealers across the country. This industry-first facility is expected to revolutionize the way car financing is done in the country.

HDFC Bank has created a comprehensive, faster, more convenient, and inclusive digital journey for car buyers. This will help simplify the car purchase



process and drive car sales across the country including in the semi-urban and rural areas.

“HDFC Bank has been a pioneer in Digital

innovations,” said Arvind Kapil – Country Head, Retail Assets, HDFC Bank. “Now we are stepping up by launching an end-to-end digital car loan

solution for existing as well as new customers. Xpress Car Loans by HDFC Bank will be an industry-defining automotive lending journey. It will be available across all our branches, dealerships, and eventually on third-party aggregator platforms.”

To begin with, HDFC Bank envisages 20 percent to 30 percent of customers (for loans up to 20 Lakh) to avail of this facility. This facility is at present being offered for four-wheelers and will be gradually rolled out to two-wheeler loans.

Guard (NSG) has procured it,” he added.

The ‘ShootEdge’ system helps fire accurately in darkness and low light conditions and also facilitates firing from standing, kneeling, hip as well as lying positions, officials of the company said.

It can be fitted with a pistol such as a Glock 17, Glock 19 or 9mm Browning for close combat or covert operations, they added.

The system is mounted with high-resolution low light infrared camera, an infrared illumination, a red dot laser and tactical torch for all environments during the close combat.

With ‘ShootEdge’, the pistol can be shoulder fired and can instantaneously swivelled left or right by 56 degrees while allowing the shooter to remain behind cover while observing the camera feed of the militant hiding in any position.

“An ergonomic extension in the ShootEdge fires the pistol,” Singh said, adding that “camera is zeroed with the pistol and the display monitor provides aiming for quick and accurate engagement”.

The integrated camera gives a clear engagement range in excess of 50 metres and clear viewing range of 200 metres by day and 30 metres by night, the officials said.

Since 1993, Zen technologies Limited designs develops and manufacturers state of art realistic combat training and counter-drone solutions for defence and security forces world wide.

## Troops To Get

Networks Limited (VNL), India’s primary and only company to design and manufacture its own portfolio of end-to-end GSM, LTE and broadband network solutions for commercial purposes, has come out with a wireless border intrusion detection solution, the company said.

This includes an integrated and omnipresent system called the perimeter intrusion detection system (PIDS), it said.

PIDS is a wireless system and has a host of intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance solutions that enable authorities with real-time remote monitoring and control over critical locations.

“This integrated real-time intrusion detection and surveillance solution aids forces in effectively monitoring a designated area without endangering human lives to provide all-weather surveillance,” the company said on Monday as it showcased its solutions for tactical missions at the two-day North Tech Symposium held at the army’s northern command headquarters in Jammu and Kashmir’s Udhampur last week.

The event was aimed at enhancing technological knowledge base of the participants through joint army-industry participation and it also facilitated engagement with the industry to identify unique solutions to meet operational requirements by providing a platform to the original equipment manufacturer or vendors to showcase their products as well as provided a forum for exchange of ideas with end users.

Systems found suitable at the symposium will be taken up for procurement through the Army Commander’s Special Financial Powers (ACSPF), thus promoting ‘atmanirbharta’ (self-reliance) in defence production and technology proliferation.

VNL presented its field proven solutions under three verticals for the armed forces - secure mobile broadband solutions, signal intelligence and ISR (intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance).

“We are extremely delighted to have showcased our solutions at the North Tech Symposium 2022. VNL’s team strives to develop innovative solutions to assist security forces in efficiently mitigating threats and emergencies,” founder and chairman, Shyam VNL, Rajiv Mehrotra, said.

Having worked closely with the security agencies, he said, “our solutions are designed and customised to sustain extreme weather conditions and challenging topography.”

“We would be happy to serve as force multipliers for the troops to ensure security breach is never a cause for alarm,” Mehrotra said.

He said VNL’s secure and reliable emCell 4g LTE backpack solutions acts as force multiplier providing on-the-move connectivity to dismounted or small groups of soldiers through voice, video and data network sharing enabling access to real-time field situational-awareness.

“The company’s emCell backpack unit is available in two versions, a mini backpack (less than 9kgs) and standard backpack for extended use, for the security forces,” Mehrotra said.

## Lt Gen Aujla Takes

militancy is on an decline with assessed residual militant numbers reduced to an all-time low, the spokesman.

A dynamic deployment along the LoC integrated with technical intelligence and robust anti-infiltration grid ensured drastically reduced infiltration, the spokesman said, adding the opportunity afforded by the Ceasefire Violation agreement resulted in renewed attempts to bring succour to

the local population residing along the LoC.

In the hinterland, all elements of security forces were synergised to break the cycle of violence.

Relentless operations, in tandem with Jammu and Kashmir Police and other CAPFs, based on hard intelligence were carried out to neutralise militants, with minimum collateral damage and zero civilian fatalities, the spokesman said.

The approach also included outreach to families, including those of active militants to minimise recruitment and induce surrenders amongst local militants. Various programmes were incorporated to stymie radicalisation and incitement being carried out by ‘White Collar militants’ to misguide and force the youth of Kashmir onto the path of violence.

The conflict entrepreneurs were targeted, while simultaneously engaging youth through various initiatives, extending myriad platforms to showcase their talent, ranging from sports to cultural arenas. The efforts have borne fruits, with the militants’ number dwindling to an all-time low of 150, the spokesman said.

Lt Gen Pandey’s contribution to peace and stability in Kashmir were recognised by the Uttam Yudh Seva Medal’ (UYSM) award by President Ram Nath Kovind on Republic Day this year.

In his farewell message, Lt Gen Pandey complimented all ranks of Chinार Corps for their dedication and hard work. He appreciated JKP, CAPFs, civil administration and community members for their relentless support in the joint effort towards peace and prosperity in J&K.

## ASI Raps J&K Govt

conferences cannot be held at a protected monument without permission in writing from the Central government.

Rule 7(2) says this should not apply to any event held “in pursuance of a recognised religious usage or custom”.

According to the rules, if a site was a functional place of worship when it came under the jurisdiction of the conservation body, then it would continue to be a place of worship, officials said.

However, the Martand Sun Temple was not such a site, so permission had to be sought, the officials said. Such protected sites that were functioning places of worship when the ASI took charge of them include Jampur Mosque, Srinagar, and the Fatehpur Sikri mosque.

The eighth-century Martand Temple is one of the oldest sun temples in India and a symbol of invaluable ancient spiritual heritage.

There was no immediate reaction from the Lt Governor’s office on this issue.

On Sunday, Sinha took part in the pooja, which was held in the presence of seers, members of the Kashmiri Pandit community and local residents. The Lt Governor termed the event a truly divine experience.

On the occasion, Sinha reiterated the government’s commitment to protect and develop ancient sites of cultural and spiritual significance.

Later, Sinha reviewed various facilities at the temple. A discussion was also held on tapping the tourism potential of the region.

## J&K’s New Political

several social organisations like Mission Statehood and Desh Bhagat Yadgar Committee have already rejected the delimitation report as highly objectionable, biased and politically motivated.

The meeting decided to jointly launch a struggle and a sustained campaign to oppose the (delimitation) report and awaken the general public, starting from a joint sit-in this week in front of the election commission (office) here, read a statement issued after the meeting.

Senior Congress leader and former MLC Ravinder Sharma presided over the meeting which among others was attended by NC provincial president (Jammu) Rattan Lal Gupta, former MP Sheikh Abdul Rehman, former MLC Ved Mahajan, PDP spokesperson Virinder Singh Sonu and CPI(M) leader Kishore Kumar.

The meeting reiterated its demand for early restoration of full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir before holding of assembly elections.

The participants also deliberated on the report and said it was against geographical realities, norms of uniform population, compactness, contiguity, connectivity and public convenience and prepared at the behest of the ruling BJP.

Criticising the final report, the leaders said the commission has totally ignored the ground realities and neglected the convenience and aspirations of the people of different areas and widened the gap of population from 37,000 to 1.90 lakh in different constituencies.

The meeting also expressed concern over attempts being made to create communal polarisation and strongly condemned such actions of the communal forces encouraged by the BJP government, the statement said.

It was decided to defeat the nefarious designs of such forces and

maintain communal harmony, it added.

## China Intends

by Gen Pande, who took charge as the Army chief on April 30, came as the lingering border standoff in eastern Ladakh completed two years on May 4.

“We have a robust posture and adequate forces available to deal with any situation,” he said while listing the Army’s decision to “rebalance” and “reorient” along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the last two years.

“Our troops continue to hold important positions along the LAC...As far as the situation is concerned, guidance given to the troops is to remain firm and resolute in the task they are undertaking and prevent attempts to change the status quo,” Gen Pande said.

He also referred to military and diplomatic talks between India and China to resolve the eastern Ladakh standoff.

Gen Pande said the diplomatic and military talks between the two sides resulted in the disengagement of troops in the north and south banks of Pangong Tso, Gogra and Patrolling Point 14 (Galwan), adding, “we hope to find resolution through dialogue in remaining areas.”

“Our aim is to restore status quo ante prior to April 2020,” he said. The eastern Ladakh faceoff began on May 4-5 in 2020. India has been insisting on the restoration of the status quo ante prior to the standoff.

“We are engaging the adversary through military and diplomatic dialogue. Talks have led to disengagement in some areas. We will continue to engage China in talks for resolving the remaining areas,” the Army chief said.

The Army chief said his focus has been to increase the use of technology for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance in border areas besides ensuring adequate infrastructure and logistics.

India and China have held 15 rounds of military talks so far to resolve the eastern Ladakh row. As a result of the 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.

India has been consistently maintaining that peace and tranquillity along the LAC were key for the overall development of the bilateral ties.

The eastern Ladakh border standoff between the Indian and Chinese militaries erupted on May 5, 2020, following a violent clash in the Pangong lake areas.

Both sides gradually enhanced their deployments by rushing in tens of thousands of soldiers as well as heavy weaponry.

Each side currently has around 50,000 to 60,000 troops along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the sensitive sector.

## J&K Logs Four

Jammu division and one from Srinagar in the Kashmir Valley, taking the total number of people infected since the outbreak of pandemic in J&K to 454113.

During the same time, officials said, four more people infected by the deadly diseases recovered in the UT.

The officials further said that the death toll in the pandemic remained unchanged at 4751 in J&K—2328 in Jammu and 2423 in Kashmir Valley, as no fresh fatality was reported during the last 24 hours.

## Hybrid ‘Militant’

post (MVCP) near Juhama crossing in the district and intercepted a suspicious person, who tried to flee from the spot, a police spokesperson said Monday.

He said that the suspected person identified as Tawheed Ahmad Haroon of Delina Ghat was tactfully apprehended by the joint alert party.

“During the search, incriminating materials, arms and ammunition including 1 Pistol, 1 Pistol Magazine, 9 live Pistol rounds were recovered from his possession,” he said.

During preliminary investigation, the spokesperson said, it has been revealed that the arrested militant had obtained these illegal arms & ammunition with the intention to carry out “terrorist activities” in Baramulla and its adjacent areas.

“Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law stands registered in Police Station Baramulla and investigation has been taken up,” he added.

## Militant Hideout

the border districts of Poonch and Rajouri in the Jammu region with south Kashmir’s Shopian district, the officials added.

They said the search parties moved from both the Poonch and Rajouri sides following information about suspicious movement in the area.

A militant hideout was busted, which led to the recovery of 100 assorted rounds of ammunition, some eatables, shoes, socks and a torch, the officials said. (PTI)

## Mortar Shell

Acting swiftly, a police team rushed to the spot and secured the area.

Later, Bomb Disposal Squad reached the spot and defused the mortar shell without any damage to life or property.

## CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

### Pain, Penury

conflagration reduced around 25 houses to charred structures. Among them was Farooq’s “beautiful” home.

A tailor by profession, Farooq had constructed his home two years before the incident. His lifetime savings and bank finance had gone into its construction. “But that fire reduced everything to ashes,” says his elder daughter lamenting over the gutted memories and moments. “Nothing was recovered except for some certificates.”

It wasn’t, however, the only tragedy that befell on the tailor’s family in that year of pandemic. It was the beginning of the worst.

Days later, as the smouldering site ceased to emanate bitter smoke and witnessed a rebuilding wave driven by the massive public support, Farooq went to reconstruct his home. However, the rebuilding process soon proved to be a paralytic phase in his life.

The trauma of homelessness shot up his blood pressure and rendered his right hand movement weak. “He wasn’t hypertensive before, so we confused his condition with exertion and stress,” the daughter details her distressed father’s disturbed state.

But when his health complaint remained constant, the family sought a medical advice. Doctors suggested an MRI scan and even before the reports came in, Farooq’s right side of the body became crippled.

Days later, the reports made it certain that Farooq was in need of an emergency spinal surgery which had to happen within the next 20 days. In case of delay, he was warned of complete body paralysis.

Sensing the gravity of his sickness, Farooq’s family referred their headman to SKIMS, Soura.

“We couldn’t believe what we heard,” continues Farooq’s daughter. “It was shocking for us. He was a healthy person who suddenly needed a spinal surgery.”

The family consulted more medics to avert the surgery. But it never helped as the tailor had to eventually pass through the surgical blade.

The family had to borrow money for the operation. They also spent the rebuilding relief they got from a local masjid spearheading the fundraising campaign for the fire victims.

Once exhausting all means, Farooq’s children had to step in his shoes to prevent the sinking ship situation. The eldest daughter had to strike a balance between work and studies, while the only son quit education to support the family in challenging times.

“Our lives had completely changed because of our family head’s crippled condition,” says Farooq’s eldest daughter. “We struggled to make ends meet.”

But along with Farooq’s treatment, the family had to end their homelessness. And for that, they took another loan. It only burdened them.

Two years later, Farooq’s health has improved a bit, but he’s far from being normal. Doctors have warned him of grave consequences if he resumes work.

“Since his right side of the body was paralysed, doctors said he can’t put much pressure on his hand,” his daughter says. “Life isn’t the same for him now.”

What’s adding insult to his injury is the ongoing fire situation in Kashmir.

Every time the siren-wailing fire-brigade haunts the city, the night of the torment flashes before Farooq’s eyes and makes him restless

### 2 Civilians Injured

Both the injured shifted to hospital. One of them is critical. Cordon strengthened, details shall follow,” police posted on its official Twitter handle.

In another Tweet, the police informed that both the injured civilians have been airlifted to a hospital in Srinagar for advanced treatment.

According to reports, two unidentified militants are believed to be trapped in the area, where additional reinforcements have been rushed and the cordon further tightened to ensure militants

don’t escape.

Earlier in the day, government forces launched a cordon and search operation in the Heff Shirmal area of the district.

The search operation by police and army, according to reports, was launched on the basis of information suggesting the presence of militants in the area..

### ‘Immortal Heroes’

Jammu Kashmir, who played a significant role in country’s struggle for Independence, have disappeared from history books. It is a collective responsibility of the society to recognize their supreme sacrifice and restore the honour of our forefathers,” Sinha said.

He made these remarks while addressing the National Seminar on the theme –

“Independent India & Jammu Kashmir” under the ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’, organised by Central University, Jammu and Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), through virtual mode, an official spokesperson said Monday.

In his address, he said, the LG underlined that ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’ is a golden opportunity for retrospection, paying tributes to towering patriots of ideas and ideals and the resolve to build India of their dreams.

According to the spokesperson, the LG highlighted the need to awaken the new generation and make them aware of the rich saga of Freedom Struggle and reiterated the government’s commitment to make the stories of valour and sacrifice of all those immortal heroes and saviours of Jammu Kashmir part of the educational curriculum.

The LG, he said, observed that the contributions of the people of J&K in the freedom struggle need to immortalize.

Sinha, he said, called upon the intelligentsia, historians to engage in research work on the life and struggle of the great freedom fighters who made invaluable contributions for Independence.

“The imprints of the sacrifices and contributions of great personalities like Sarvanand Kaul Premi, Giridhari Lal Dogra, Maqbool Sherwani, Brig. Rajendra Singh, Prem Nath Dogra, Kanta Wazir, Ghulam Nabi Mir, Hakim Abdul Rashid, Prithvinath Kaul is a great motivation for the present and the future generations to work on new ideas for a self-reliant India, self-reliant J&K and strengthen the resolve of ‘Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat,’” Sinha said.

“We must draw inspiration from our glorious past and resolve to build a prosperous Jammu Kashmir that will both be an economic powerhouse and a major contributor to AatmaNirbhar Bharat,” he added.

According to the spokesperson, the LG also stressed for conducting research about the great women leaders of Jammu Kashmir who made their invaluable contribution during the country’s freedom struggle.

“Stories of Nari-Shakti, a voice of morality and patriotism will encourage and inspire the new generation,” the LG said.

The LG, according to the spokesperson, expressed gratitude towards Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for making “Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav” a Jan Andolan by celebrating 75 years of Independence under the Five Pillars- Freedom Struggle, Ideas at 75, Achievements at 75, Actions at 75 and Resolve at 75.

He said that the LG highlighted the unprecedented reforms being introduced in J&K during the last 2-3 years and said that under the guidance of Prime Minister, the UT of J&K is witnessing a historic transformation.

“Apart from implementing the three-tier system of Panchayati Raj; Valmiki, Gurdha and other marginalized communities, refugees from West Pakistan have been integrated into the mainstream,” Sinha said.

The spokesperson further said that the LG congratulated the Vice-Chancellor of Central University of Jammu and all the associated members for organizing the National Seminar and hoped that the deliberations

would help in highlighting self-less sacrifice of unsung heroes.

Various other speakers while speaking on the occasion explained the historical perspective of the role of J&K and its people in the freedom struggle and cultural significance of the region.

Dr Sanjeev Jain, Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Jammu; Prof. Rajneesh Kumar Shukla, Vice-Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi VishwaVidyalaya, Wardha; besides other dignitaries, faculty members and Research Scholars of CUJ attended the Seminar.

### Flags Off 12 J&K

Overseas Fellowship Programme of National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) funded by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the World Bank, an official spokesman said.

The spokesman said the two-month long capacity-building fellowship will expose the undergraduate students to global learning ecosystem, farmer communities and industry establishment.

Under the programme, the students will spend minimum two months in the US, primarily in ‘Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab’.

The students based on their areas of interest will be attached to relevant faculty and student groups to expose them to the global learning ecosystem and to imbibe new ideas, educational and research system of the United States, and explore opportunities for higher studies in the US.

On the occasion, Sinha said India’s collaboration with the US in agriculture and technology goes back to several decades.

“As the world moves towards a knowledge economy, students from SKUAST will benefit from experience of Kansas University in agriculture extension, farm-to-market linkages, weather & crop forecasting,” he said.

The Lt Governor stressed upon students and faculties to focus on necessary experimental skills and familiarity with the requirement of modern agriculture and allied sectors.

Dr Parvez Sofi, Associate Professor, will accompany the students on the study tour as a faculty facilitator. The batch comprises 10 female and two male students, including two from the UT of Ladakh.

Kansas State University is the first ‘Land Grant University’ in Agriculture Education, Research and Extension with globally acclaimed academic and research programme.

During the programme, the students, in addition to Kansas State University, will also visit various other US varsities including Oklahoma State University, Iowa University and Nebraska University, according to the spokesman.

### Cloudburst, Gusty

vehicles and uprooted trees in various parts of the Valley.

Reports said that dozens of residential houses got damaged while trees were uprooted due to strong winds in several areas of Bandipora, Sopore, Anantnag, Shopian and Srinagar parts. Reports of widespread damage to orchards and crops have also been received.

In Watapora area of Bandipora, the gusty winds damaged rooftop of a residential house. Similarly, In Sangrama, Sopore, and in some Srinagar areas, the roofs were blown off and trees uprooted due to heavy windstorm.

Moreover, In Pattan area of Baramulla, two vehicles (JK04E 5070 Swift) and (JK014 7635 Alto) got damaged after a tree fell on them. (With agency inputs)

### JKP To Be Armed

district to identify cutting-edge technologies it needs for solving operational challenges. The symposium ended on Sunday.

Singh said that it is under manufacturing and will be delivered to the police force in the next two to three months period. “The National Security



## Tourism Sector Of J&K Witnessing Exponential Growth: LG



### Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Monday that the tourism sector of Jammu & Kashmir is witnessing exponential growth in terms of influx of tourists.

He made these remarks during his interaction with G M Shaheen, President, J&K Janta Dal United (JDU) at Raj Bhavan here on Monday, an official spokesperson said.

Shaheen discussed with the Lt Governor various issues of public importance pertaining to Power development, promotion of tourism and development of road infrastructure in rural regions of the UT.

Shaheen expressed gratitude to the Lt Governor for the ongoing development and growth journey which the Union Territory of Jammu Kashmir is witnessing.

While interacting with Shaheen, the Lt Governor observed

that the UT government is giving dedicated focus on the growth of every sector while ensuring prosperity for all. He said that unprecedented initiatives have been taken to overhaul the power sector of Jammu Kashmir.

The Lt Governor reiterated the government's commitment to promoting tourism by developing untapped tourism potential areas, and augmenting the facilities for tourists, besides supporting the tourism-related service providers. He said the Tourism sector of Jammu & Kashmir is witnessing exponential growth in terms of influx of tourists, adding that the numbers of flights to and fro Srinagar have seen significant growth in the last few months.

The Lt Governor assured Shaheen of due consideration of the genuine issues projected during the interaction, and urged him to continue his endeavors for promoting public welfare on all fronts

## Two Arrested Over Budgam Youth's Murder

### Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Police on Monday arrested two persons for allegedly beating a 25-year-old youth to death at Kachwari area of Central Kashmir's Budgam district.

The police action comes hours after the youth identified as Fayaz Ahmed Najar son of Abdul Rashid Najar of Gurwaith Khansab was attacked. He was subsequently shifted to SKIMS here in critical condition and succumbed to injuries, officials said.

"Two persons namely Tahir Bashir Khan son of Bashir Ahmed Khan and Hilal Ahmed

Lone son of Abdul Ganie Lone, both residents of Kachwari Khansab, have been arrested in connection with the death of Najar," a police spokesperson said in a statement.

"The deceased was hit on his head by the two accused persons at Kachwari," he said, adding, "Accordingly he was taken to SKIMS in a critical condition where he succumbed to his injuries."

He said a case (FIR 60/2022) was registered at Police Station Khansahib under section 302 IPC and investigation set into motion.

However police have so far

## Two Fall Unconscious While Cleaning Well In Kupwara

### Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** Two persons fell unconscious inside a well while cleaning it in Potashi area of north Kashmir's Kupwara district on Monday.

News agency GNS quoting sources reported that the incident took place around noon when the duo, Abdul Qayoom Sofi (37) and Rafeeq Ahmad Wangoo (40), both locals, were

cleaning the well and fell unconscious apparently consuming some gas.

One person namely Tariq Ahmad Mir, also a local, saw them falling unconscious and immediately entered the well and with the help of others rescued them, they said.

The duo was immediately shifted to Sub District hospital Kupwara and are under treatment, they added.

## Boy Dies After Consuming Poisonous Herb In Ramban

### Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** A 12-year-old boy died while three girls were hospitalised after consuming some poisonous herb in Ramban district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said on Monday.

The children were playing in a forest area near Rakhjaroh village in Batote area on Sunday when they consumed the unknown wild herb, a police offi-

cial said.

He said they fell unconscious after vomiting and were rushed to the Community Health Centre, Batote, where one of them identified as Mohammad Basit died.

Basit's sister Shabnam (10) and neighbours Sania Bano (10) and Razia Bano (8) were referred to Government Medical College Hospital Jammu for specialised treatment.

## Gang Involved In ATM Card Swap Scam Busted In Samba, Six Held

### Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** The Jammu and Kashmir Police on Monday claimed to have busted a gang involved in ATM card swapping in Samba district with the arrest of six people, all residents of Punjab.

The action followed a complaint lodged at Vijaypur police station about incidents of swapping of cards at ATM kiosks and fraudulent withdrawal of money, a police spokesman said.

He identified the arrested ac-

cused as Rahul Kumar, Krishna Yadav, Suresh Kumar, Sahib Saini, Dharminder Saini and Khalil Mia all residents of Kapurthala in Punjab.

A total of 62 ATM cards of different banks, Rs 10,000, a sharp-edged weapon (Khukri) and a vehicle were seized from those arrested, the spokesman said, adding a case under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code and Arms Act was registered against the six and further investigation is on.



**KO PHOTOJOURNALIST ABID BHAT** captures a villager picking up strawberries from his field in Srinagar outskirts on Monday.

### CELL PHONE USE BY INMATES

## MHA Wants Effective Jamming System In J&K Jails

### Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** In a bid to upgrade the security of prisons and streamline the prison administration in J&K and elsewhere in the country, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs have announced a slew of measures that entails putting in place effective jamming system to prevent use of mobile phones by inmates.

The MHA also plans to segregate first time offenders from criminals to prevent mix-up and stresses on steps to be taken for ensuring prisons doesn't become "breeding ground for anti-national activities."

A letter issued by the MHA has been forwarded to the Principal Secretary Home (J&K), other states/UTs, and DG prisons of J&K and other UTs, which reads that as part of the continuous process of sharing guidance with the States and UTs, for strengthening the prison administration and ensuring the security of prisons etc., the following suggestions are to be implemented.

"Medical facilities in jail hospitals/dispensary may be strengthened and improved in such a manner that reduces the requirement of referral of inmates outside the prison complex," the letter reads, adding that "Psychological assessment of inmates by competent medical professionals may be encouraged to reduce depression in prison inmates and



provide them with a positive outlook in life."

The letter further reads that the assessment of inmates by Psychologists and Correctional Experts may be done wherever necessary for studying the stress and behavioural issues of inmates and appropriate programs may be prescribed for them.

"Prison staff may be encouraged to make use of innovative methods for better prison administration and may also be provided appropriate upskilling in this regard. Non-habitual criminals among the prisoners should be trained to impart training to other prisoners," the letter reads. "State Governments and Prison authorities should take effective steps to prevent prisons from becoming breeding ground for anti-national activities, for which regular inspection of prisons may be conducted. The inmates may also be motivated to leave the life of

crime and become responsible citizens of the nation."

To discourage complacency and corrupt practices in Prisons, the letter states that Prison staff may be rotated on a regular basis. Inter-jail (and not Intra-jail) transfer of staff every two years is considered desirable.

"Unnecessary movement of jail staff in and out of the jail should be restricted and controlled effectively, for which proper entry and exit registers of jail staff may be maintained. The jail structure and periphery wall of all Jails may be inspected, and to the extent possible, it may be ensured that the distance between the outer wall and wall of the jail ward/complex are designed in such a manner that incidents of throwing contraband items from outside the jail is not possible."

The letter stress that effective jamming solutions with the use of modern day advances in technology may be ensured to "restrict illegal access/use of mobile phones by inmates."

"First time offenders and repeat offenders may be segregated and should be housed in separate wards/prison complex with a view to ensure that habitual offenders are not able to negatively influence the first time offenders," the letter states, adding that the role of NGOs dealing with prisons may be verified periodically—(KNO)

## Hope SC Restores J&K's Special Status: Mehbooba

### Press Trust Of India

**SRINAGAR:** PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Monday said she was disappointed that the Supreme Court did not hear the petitions challenging the revocation of Article 370 for the last three years, but expressed hope that the apex court will do justice with Jammu and Kashmir and restore its special status.

"We are very disappointed that it has taken Supreme Court three years. This matter is sensitive. The lives and dignity of the people depend on it," Mufti told reporters in Kupwara district of north Kashmir.

The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister also said there were apprehensions in the hearts and minds of the people after the Supreme Court did not act upon the contempt of its ruling in Jahangirpuri area of Delhi.

"Our experience in Delhi, in Jahangirpuri, where despite the orders of the Supreme Court, demolition continued, I think there was contempt of court,

but we have not seen any action by the Supreme Court over it, which it should have (taken). It should have acted against those officials who were involved in the contempt of the court and refused the court orders. So, we have many apprehensions," she said.

Mufti, however, expressed hope that "the Supreme Court will do justice" and that there will be a forward movement in "restoring the special status" of Jammu and Kashmir.

"The BJP used its brute majority and took away our right, our (special) position in an unconstitutional manner. I hope the Supreme Court restores it (Jammu and Kashmir's special position which was revoked by the Centre on August 5, 2019)," she said.

Asked about the delimitation process, Mufti said it was a part of the process which started on



August 5, 2019 to change the Muslim majority status of Jammu and Kashmir.

"This is another piece of that process. They created a political platform for politically changing the demography (of Jammu and Kashmir). They want to change the status of Muslims in Jammu and Kashmir from a majority to a minority," she said, adding, the BJP has made all out efforts to "disempower" the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

To a question about assembly elections, the PDP chief said holding polls would not solve the problems in Jammu and Kashmir. "We cannot say when they (polls) will be held. I think only election is not the cure for the destruction going on here or the problems of the people.

The cure lies in many things which the Central government has to do, but it is not doing," she said.

## Govt Transfers Nine More JKAS Officers

### Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Jammu and Kashmir ordered transfer of nine JKAS officers in the interest of administration with immediate effect.

According to a government order, Farooq Ahmad, JKAS, Private Secretary in the J&K Public Service Commission, has been transferred and posted as General Manager, J&K Road Transport Corporation, Srinagar, against an available vacancy.

Shakeel Hussain, JKAS, Private Secretary in the Planning, Development and Monitoring Department, has been transferred and posted as Deputy District Election Officer, Srinagar, against an available vacancy.

Mushtaq Ahmad Wani, JKAS, Private Secretary in the Agriculture Production Department, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Director, District Employment and Counselling Centre, Budgam against an available vacancy.

Rakesh Sharma, JKAS, Private Secretary in the office of Chief Secretary, has been posted as Deputy Secretary in the office of Chief Secretary.

Triloki Nath Koul, JKAS, Private Secretary in the Agricul-

ture Production Department, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Chief Electoral Officer, Jammu, against an available vacancy.

Shakeel Ahmad Sheshtar, JKAS, Private Secretary in the J&K Water Resources Regulatory Authority, has been transferred and posted as Deputy District Election Officer, Budgam, against an available vacancy.

Sham Lal Abrol, JKAS, Private Secretary in the Agriculture Production Department, has been transferred and posted as General Manager, JKTDC, Jammu, vice Ms Sukriti Sharma, JKAS, who, according to the order, has been asked to await further orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department.

Tarun Sharma, JKAS, Private Secretary in the Directorate of Handlooms and Handicrafts, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Development Officer, Handicrafts (Non-Textiles), Jammu, against an available vacancy.

Abdul Rehman Bhat, JKAS, Administrative Officer, Directorate of Forest, Protection Force, J&K, has been transferred and posted as Deputy District Election Officer, Baramulla, against an available vacancy.

### Haji-2022

## Schedule Announced For Orientation Programme Of Selected Pilgrims

### Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The State Haj Committee has announced dates and venues for the compulsory Haj orientation cum training programme for selected pilgrims hailing from different districts of Kashmir division.

As per an official handout all the selected pilgrims of district Anantnag, Baramulla, Budgam, Bandipora, Ganderbal, Kupwara, Pulwama, Kulgam and Shopian are hereby informed that a Training Programme about Mansik-e-Haj and other logistics will be conducted in their respective districts as per schedule given below.

The orientation for pilgrims from Tehsil Anantnag, Sallar, Kokernag, and Larnoo will be held at Govt. Degree College Women Auditorium, Anantnag on 12th May, 2022 from 10:30 AM.

Similarly, for pilgrims from Tehsil Shangus, Dooru, Qazigund, Shahabad Bala, the training shall be provided on 14th May, 2022 at Govt. Degree College Women Auditorium, Anantnag from 10:30 AM

Also, for pilgrims from Tehsil Mattan, Pahalgal, Bijbehara, Srigufwara, the training shall be provided on 17th May, 2022 at Govt. Degree College Women Auditorium, Anantnag from 10:30 AM

For pilgrims from Tehsil Baramulla, Uri, Boniyar, Dangi-wacha, Rohama, Sopore, Watrgam, Zanigeer and Dangerpora, the training shall be provided on 12th May, 2022 at Masjid-i-Baitul Mukarramah, Baramulla from 10:00 AM.

Similarly, for pilgrims from Tehsil Pattan, Khoi, Wagoora Kreeri, Singpora, Tangmarg, Kunzer and Karhama, the training shall be provided on 14th May, 2022 at Town Hall, Kunzer from 10:00 AM.

For pilgrims from Tehsil Budgam, Khansahib, Narabal, Magam, Khag and Beerwah, the training shall be provided on 12th May, 2022 at Jamia Masjid Sharief, Ompora from 10:00 AM.

Also, for pilgrims from Tehsil

Chadoora, Kanipora, Chararisharif, and BK Pora, the training shall be provided on 14th May, 2022 at Hanfiya Jamiya Mas-



jid, Raheema, Chadoora from 10:00AM

For pilgrims from Bandipora district, the training shall be provided on 11th May, 2022 at Peer Masjid, Bandipora from 10:00 AM.

Also, for pilgrims from Ganderbal district, the training shall be provided on 14th May, 2022 at Markazia Hanfia Jamia Masjid, Behama and Ganderbal from 10:00 AM.

For pilgrims from Tehsil Kupwara, Dragmulla, Trahgama, Kralpora, Keran, Machil, Sogam, Lalpora and Tangdar, the training shall be provided on 14th May, 2022 at Jamia Masjid, Kupwara from 10:00 AM.

Also, for pilgrims from Tehsil Handwara, Langate, Kralgund, Qaziabad, Bilgam, Zachaldara and Kalamabad, the training shall be provided on 16th May, 2022 at Town Hall, Handwara from 10:00 AM.

For pilgrims from Tehsil Handwara, Langate, Kralgund, Qaziabad, Bilgam, Zachaldara and Kalamabad, the training shall be provided on 16th May, 2022 at Town Hall, Handwara from 10:00 AM.

For pilgrims from Tehsil Handwara, Langate, Kralgund, Qaziabad, Bilgam, Zachaldara and Kalamabad, the training shall be provided on 16th May, 2022 at Town Hall, Handwara from 10:00 AM.

For pilgrims from Shopian district, the training shall be provided on 12th May, 2022 at Hazrat Mir Saheb Jamia Masjid Sharief, Washbugh, SBI, Pulwama from 10:00 AM.

For pilgrims from Kulgam district, the training shall be provided on 11th May, 2022 at Jamia Masjid, Kulgam from 10:00 AM.

For pilgrims from Shopian district, the training shall be provided on 12th May, 2022 at Jamia Masjid Sharief, Shopian from 10:00 AM.

Besides, the handout further read that the Training Schedule in respect of the rest of the districts shall be published soon.

## Accountable, Transparent System For Recruitments Established In J&K: Govt

### Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has established an accountable and transparent system for the recruitment of various posts in different departments, an official spokesperson said Monday.

Article 16 of the Constitution of India lays down that, "There shall be equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters of employment under the State". It enshrines the principle of

fairness and equality in public employment. However, the allegations of nepotism and patronage present a serious challenge to this hallowed provision of our constitution.

In keeping with the spirit of the Constitution, the spokesperson said that the UT of J&K has embarked on a journey of ensuring transparency and accountability while appointing candidates to various public posts. He said that apart from record number of posts being advertised by JKSSB, JKPC and other recruiting agencies,

the prime focus has been on ensuring that meritorious candidates are selected without any undue favour.

"The interview stage has been done away with for non-gazetted posts as a measure of reform. More than 20000 posts were advertised in the current year and 10831 selections have been made till now. The remaining posts are under process for fast-track recruitment and will be completed soon. The recent appointment of candidates to around 8500 Class-IV posts is a welcome sign of the reforms carried out

by the UT of J&K," he said.

Apart from these posts, the spokesperson said that the recruitment process for filling up 1850 posts (350 Probationary Officers & 1500 Banking Associates) was completed in a highly transparent manner by engaging IBPS to conduct the examination followed by an interview conducted by the experts.

"Gone are the days of favouritism and nepotism while making appointment to these posts," he added.

Owais Bashir resident of Dalwan

village in Pakherpora, Budgam is among the successful candidates who have been selected as part of the mega recruitment drive in J&K post abrogation of Article 370.

Yogyata Se Rozgaar, initiated by J&K government, celebrates the spirit of "Merit" in public employment. To mark the successful conduct of examination for these posts and the appointment based on merit, Yogyata Se Rozgaar was celebrated at Panchayat Level and Block Level across the UT of J&K.



## TTFI Name Sixteen Probables For CWG

Final squad to be picked after national camp from May 23

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** Reigning national champions Sharath Kamal and Sreeja Akula were on Monday named in the 16-member probables list for the Birmingham Commonwealth Games, scheduled to be held in July-August.

SD Mudgil, member of the Delhi High Court-appointed Committee of Administrators running the suspended Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI), told PTI that the final squad will be announced after completion of the training camp from May 23 to May 30.

In a first, the training camp will be held at Padukone-Dravid Centre for Sports Excellence in Bengaluru.

"After their meetings on April 25, May 1 and May 2, the selectors shortlisted the probables for the upcoming Commonwealth Games.

"The list was finalised after watching the players at the national championships in Shillong, detailed deliberations and discussions on past performance and medal prospects," said Mudgil, who is a former athlete himself.

The CoA, headed by retired Justice Gita Mittal, had taken charge in February after the existing set of office-bearers was suspended by the Delhi High Court for running a "sorry state of affairs".

"We want to take the game to every nook and corner of the



country. Our focus is also on making the administration transparent. Justice Gita Mittal has been very proactive on that front. "The performance of our athletes have also been encouraging of late. They give us a lot of hope going into the CWG and Asian Games (now postponed) and Olympics 2024," said Mudgil.

Earlier this month, Indian players including star woman paddler Manika Batra made massive gains in the ITTF world rankings after the sport's governing body approved changes to the points system.

Manika attained a career-high singles ranking of 38 with a jump of 10 spots while G Sathiyar was the best placed Indian male at 34.

Veteran Sharath, who won his 10th national title in Shillong, also gained a place to be world no 37 while Sreeja Akula, who won her maiden national title, gained as many as 39 places to be ranked 68th.

The Indian team also doesn't have a foreign coach since the 2018 Asian Games.

"We are working on that as well and hope to finalise soon," added Mudgil.

## FIFA Says Brazil & Argentina Must Play WC Qualifier

Agencies

**ZURICH:** Brazil and Argentina lost their appeals to FIFA on Monday and will have to play the World Cup qualifying game that was abandoned last year in Sao Paulo amid chaos on the field caused by pandemic rule breaches.

In one of the most bizarre scenes during the qualifying program for the World Cup, Brazilian health officials came onto the field minutes after kickoff last September to dispute the quarantine status of some Argentina players.

Both countries easily qualified for the World Cup as the top two teams in the 10-nation South American group without needing to play the abandoned game. They took part in the draw last month for the final tournament, which is scheduled to be played from Nov. 21-Dec. 18 in Qatar.

However, the latest FIFA ruling means Brazil and Argentina seem sure to have to play their essentially meaningless 18th qualifying game, possibly in September.

It might be the second time the rivals meet ahead of going to Qatar.

Since the original FIFA disciplinary ruling in February — which imposed fines, player suspensions and an order to replay the qualifier — the football federations of Brazil and Argentina agreed to play a friendly game in Australia.

That "Superclasico" is scheduled for June 11 in Melbourne.

The two federations could challenge FIFA again in an appeal to the Court of Arbitration



for Sport to overturn the replay order.

FIFA did cut the amount the two federations were fined. Brazil now has been ordered to pay 250,000 Swiss francs (\$251,000) for "infringements related to order and security" at the game. Argentina has now been fined 100,000 Swiss francs (\$100,500) for "obligations in relation to the preparation of and its participation in the match."

Both will also pay 50,000 Swiss francs (\$50,250) for the game being abandoned.

Four Argentina players with Premier League clubs were accused of falsifying coronavirus declarations to enter Brazil by failing to state they had been in red-listed Britain in the previous 14 days.

Emiliano Buendia, Emiliano Martinez, Giovanni Lo Celso and Cristian Romero got two-match bans from FIFA-organized games.

Argentina will face Mexico, Poland and Saudi Arabia at the World Cup. Brazil will play Switzerland, Serbia and Cameroon.

## GT & LSG Look To Seal IPL Play-Off Berth Against Each Other

Press Trust of India

**PUNE:** On a slippery slope after back-to-back losses, Gujarat Titans will need their batters to fire when they take on high-flying Lucknow Super Giants as both teams look to seal IPL play-offs berth here on Tuesday.

The two new entrants are having a dream run in their maiden season.

While Gujarat led the points table for most part of the league, Lucknow moved ahead of them to take the top spot. The Hardik Pandya-led Gujarat side's winning streak came to an end with back-to-back losses against Punjab Kings and Mumbai Indians last week.

Both teams have 16 points each from 11 outings and a win for either of them will confirm the passage to the next stage.

LSG, who have won their last four games, would be brimming with confidence as they head to the fixture with a morale-boosting 75-run win over Kol-

kata Knight Riders.

KL Rahul has led from the front and the opener is the second highest run scorer in the tournament, collecting 451 runs from 11 games with two



hundreds and as many fifties.

Their bowling unit has been right on mark. While LSG were able to defend 153 against Punjab Kings, they polished off KKR for just 101, with pacers Avesh Khan and Jason Holder proving to be too hot to handle for the former champions.

Gujarat's stellar run in the IPL can be attributed to their ability

to come back from tough situations. They had different players winning games for them but that was not the case against MI when they failed to get nine runs off the last over in what should have been an easy run chase.

The batting department needs to be more consistent. The top order batters have failed to take their innings deep.

Shubman Gill has endured a hot and cold season, while Wriddhiman Saha has shown good intent.

Gujarat have a lethal bowling attack, studded with world-class bowlers like Mohammed Shami, Lockie Ferguson and Rashid Khan.

But Shami hasn't been able to live up to expectations recently. The senior India pacer has given away 124 runs while taking only two wickets in the last three games.

Rashid continues to remain economical but the star Afghan spinner will be eager for more wickets.

## MI's Suryakumar Yadav Ruled Out Of IPL

Press Trust of India

**MUMBAI:** Star Mumbai Indians batter Suryakumar Yadav was on Monday ruled out of the Indian Premier League due to a left forearm muscle injury.

The India batter played eight matches this season for the five-time champions and scored 303 runs at an average of 43.29, which included three half-centuries.

"Yadav sustained the injury during the team's fixture against Gujarat Titans on May 6," the IPL stated in a media release.

Mumbai Indians in a separate statement added, "Suryakumar Yadav has sustained a muscle



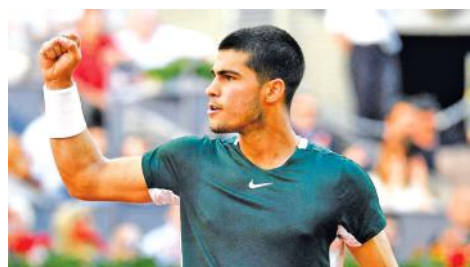
strain on the left forearm and has been ruled out of the season. He has been advised rest in consultation with the BCCI medical team."

Surya had also missed the first two matches for Mumbai

Indians in this season as he was undergoing rehab at the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru after suffering a hairline fracture while fielding in the third and final T20I against the West Indies in Kolkata in February.

## After Madrid Title, Alcaraz Withdraws From Italian Open

Teenage sensation defeated Nadal and Djokovic back-to-back



Agencies

**MADRID:** Fresh off his victory at the Madrid Open, Carlos Alcaraz withdrew from the Italian Open on Monday because of a right ankle injury.

The Spanish teen beat Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic back-to-back in Madrid then defeated Alexander Zverev in Sunday's final for his tour-leading fourth title of the year.

Alcaraz hurt his ankle during the quarterfinal win over Nadal.

Rome organizers said Alcaraz's place in the Rome draw would be taken by Finnish player Emil Ruusuvuori, who will open against Cristian Garin in the second round. Alcaraz, who was seeded seventh at the Foro Italico, had a first-round bye.

Alcaraz will be chasing his first Grand Slam title at the French Open, which starts in less than two weeks.

## Fan Group Pressures UEFA Ahead Of Champions League Talks

Agencies

**GENEVA:** A European football fan group urged UEFA and club leaders on Monday to overturn some of the changes to the Champions League due in 2024, and described other ideas as "juvenile daydreams."

The UEFA-recognized Football Supporters Europe group stepped up its opposition ahead of upcoming meetings involving the European Club Association and UEFA.

Proposals were agreed to last year to use clubs' historical record in European competitions to award two Champions League entries in 2024 when it would expand

to 36 teams playing 10 games each instead of six.

But UEFA reached that deal with



leaders of clubs as they were plotting to launch the Super League project which quickly failed, and the details were open to be revisited.

The FSE fan group now wants those details — the historical "coefficient" entries and 10 guaranteed games — to be overturned Tuesday after the UEFA club competitions committee and executive committee meet in Vienna, Austria.

"In the end, your decision will shape the game for a generation impacting every league, club, player and fan in Europe," the FSE said in a statement targeting UEFA and ECA officials.

The 250-member ECA, whose board

meets Monday in Madrid, and UEFA have not officially commented on talks that could lead to decisions on Tuesday.

## Alyssa Healy, Keshav Maharaj Win ICC 'POTM' Award



Press Trust of India

**DUBAI:** Australian women's team star keeper-batter Alyssa Healy and South African men's side spinner Keshav Maharaj were on Monday voted the ICC's 'Player of the Month' for April in their respective categories.

Healy was selected the stand-out female player in April following her match-winning innings of 170 in the Women's Cricket World Cup final in Christchurch, setting a record for the highest-ever score in the summit clash of any ICC global event.

"I am very humbled to win this month's award ahead of two outstanding players. It was great to see Janet Mbabazi's name in the mix after a stellar tri-series for Uganda," Healy was quoted as saying in a release issued by the ICC.

Proteas spinner Maharaj got the

award for his prolific performance with the ball during their recent ICC World Test Championship series victory over Bangladesh on home soil.

The spinner proved a constant threat to the tourists, taking 16 wickets at an average of 12.12, celebrating two seven-wicket hauls in the second innings of both Tests.

His wickets were significant catalysts for his side's 2-0 series triumph, winning comfortably on both occasions — by 220 runs in Durban and 332 runs in Gqeberha.

Acknowledging his award, Maharaj said: "I'm honoured and privileged to receive the ICC Player of the Month award for April and I want to thank my teammates for helping me win this award."

"I am really happy with how the team has performed this past season and I hope we can build on this to reach greater heights as a unit."

## Verstappen Wins Inaugural Miami Grand Prix

Agencies

**MIAMI GARDENS:** His first day racing around the new Formula One circuit in Miami was absolutely horrible. Then he made a mistake in qualifying that cost him a spot on the front row.

By the time race day rolled around, Max Verstappen had knocked it all out of his system.

Verstappen was explosive at the start Sunday and used a pair of aggressive passes to get past Ferrari and current championship leader Charles Leclerc.

Once out front, the reigning world champion controlled the inaugural Miami Grand Prix for his third win in five races to start the

season. "We still have a few issues to solve," Verstappen said.

"I mean, we are quick, but my Friday was terrible, which is not great. But there's a lot of potentials." The 23rd win of the Dutchman's career sliced knocked eight points off Leclerc's lead in the standings.

Verstappen now trails him by 19 points headed into the Spanish Grand Prix in two weeks.

Verstappen started third Sunday after Ferrari locked out the front row with Leclerc and Carlos Sainz Jr. in qualifying. But in the end, Red Bull got the best of its new rival for a second consecutive race.



# CANCER SOCIETY OF KASHMIR

## کینسر سوسائٹی آف کشمیر

4-Bagh-i-Islam Colony Lal Nagar, Chanapora Srinagar-190015 TELEFAX 0194-3500478-79 / 2441899

Website: www.cancersocietykashmir.org E-mail: cancersocietyofkashmir@gmail.com

Ref. No. CSK/83/2022-23/1334

Dated: - 06-May-2022

### Subject :-

### Notice inviting Tenders for ACC Blocks with Masonray work & other allied items.

For & on behalf of Chairman Cancer Society of Kashmir Tenders are invited from registered contractors for Supply & masonary work of Air ACC Blocks of reputed companies/brands along with other allied items in newly constructed building of Cancer Society Building at Lalnagar Chanapora Srinagar.

- The tenders shall be accompanied with CDR for an amount equal to 02% of the value of the work pledged to cancer society of Kashmir without which tenders shall not be accepted.
- The last date of tenders is fixed as 21-May-2022 upto 04:00Pm & after the fixed date & time no tender shall be accepted. The details of items (Approximately) is enclosed as Annexure "A" to this notice.
- Cement shall be provided by the society.

The guidelines prescribed by manufacturing companies of Air ACC Blocks shall have to be followed strictly in ACC Blocks masonry.

### Note Below:-

The interested parties can contact office for copy of NIT along with enclosures on any working day during office hours.

### Annexure "A" Detailed Estimate of Quantities

Item No.	Description of Item	Unit	Quantity	Rate	Amount	Remarks
1	Air ACC Blocks in cement mortar. 1:6 mix					
A	8" thick (625x250x200)mm	cft	10600 cfts			
B	4" thick (625x250x100)mm including wire mesh & channel grout, beam & column	cft	160 cfts			
2	Rcc lintel Including shuttering , bending & binding of steel including binding wire etc.	cft	280 cfts			
3	RCC Bond Beam/ Coping beam including shuttering, bending of steel including binding wire etc.	cft	150 cfts			

Sd/-  
(SYED MANZOOR AHMAD)  
Chairman Finance,  
Cancer Society of Kashmir.