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P3 CITY

ADMIN FINALIZES SITES FOR INSTALLATION OF NINE FOUNTAINS IN CITY

The Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad on Monday undertook a tour of several City areas to inspect the pace and progress of various ongoing major Developmental projects.

THINK

WILL MACHINES REPLACE WEATHERMEN?

A century ago, English mathematician Lewis Fry Richardson proposed a startling idea for that time: constructing a systematic process based on math for predicting the weather. In his 1922 book, "Weather Prediction By Numerical Process,"



P7 STATE

SEVERAL VEHICLES WASHED AWAY IN FLASH FLOODS IN JAMMU

Several vehicles were washed away after heavy rains triggered flash floods in Devika river in the Purmandal area on the outskirts of the city, officials said.



Quote!

It is difficult to free people from the chains they revere

- Voltaire

NEWS DIGEST

No New Corona Case In Kashmir

Srinagar: Kashmir Valley reported no cases of novel Coronavirus on Monday while the Jammu division detected six new cases of Covid-19, taking the total number of people infected by virus in the Union Territory to 45428. According to officials, all the six new cases were registered in Jammu district. During the same time, they said, nine Covid-19 patients also recovered—six from Jammu division and three from the Valley. Also, the officials said that the [More on P6](#)

Army Officer Injured In Landmine Blast

Jammu: An Army Major was injured in an "accidental" landmine blast along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on Monday, officials said. The incident took place when the officer was conducting routine patrolling along the LoC in Poonch sector, they said. The officer was evacuated to a military hospital for treatment, the officials said. It was not immediately known what triggered the blast. (PTI)

Labourer From UP Goes Missing In Ramban

Jammu: A 28-year-old construction worker from Uttar Pradesh went missing in Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district, prompting police to register a case in this regard on Monday, officials said. The man, identified as Siddharth Singh of Futela village in Sultanpur district of UP, was presently working as construction worker with AFCON company and had left Nachlana camp on Sunday, they said. But he did not return on Monday, the officials said. Taking cognizance of [More on P6](#)

Minor Boy Killed In Freak Accident

Ganderbal: An eight-year-old boy was killed while five persons including three minors were injured in a road accident along SSG road near Baltal Sonamarg here on Monday. An official said that a parked vehicle fell down from the road after a child mistakenly pulled its hand brake. "The vehicle fell down from the road and a few persons inside received injuries. They were shifted to PHC Sonamarg for treatment where doctors referred him to SKIMS Soura for advanced treatment," officials said. [More on P6](#)

Two Militants Killed In Pulwama Encounter

One Among Them Had Shot Dead A Constable On May 13: Police



KO Photo | Abid Bhat

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Two Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) militants, one among them involved in killing a policeman, were shot dead by government forces in an overnight encounter in South Kashmir's Pulwama district, police said Monday.

Around 5:45pm Sunday, police, army's 55RR and the personnel of CRPF launched a joint cordon and search operation in Gundipora village

of the district on the basis of specific input about the presence of militants, a police spokesperson said Monday.

He said when the search team started advances, the militants hiding inside the house of Nazir Ahmad Mir opened fire upon them. The joint team, he said, returned the fire setting off an encounter.

"To avoid any collateral damage due to darkness, the operation [More on P6](#)

Encounter Underway In Awantipora

An encounter broke out between militants and government forces in Rajpora area of Awantipora in South Kashmir's Pulwama district on Monday.

"#Encounter has started at Rajpora area of #Awantipora. Police and security forces are on the job. Further details shall follow," Kashmir Zone Police wrote on its official twitter handle.

PSA Slapped On Militant Recruiters: IGP

The Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar said on Monday that those who motivate and lure young boys towards militancy are being booked under the Public Safety Act (PSA) in Jammu and Kashmir. According to a police spokesperson, Kumar said that Police have succeeded to a large extent to prevent youth from taking up arms and are working on multi-dimensional fronts to prevent [More on P6](#)

6 IN THIS REGARD, A CASE UNDER RELEVANT sections of law has been registered and investigation has been initiated. People are requested to cooperate with Police till the area at encounter site is completely sanitized and cleared of all the explosive materials, if any."

None From Kashmir Cracks UPSC-2021 Exams

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Ten aspirants from Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh have made it to the civil service examination 2021, results of which were announced by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) on Monday.

As many as 685 candidates have qualified the prestigious examination. Among those from J&K, all eight are from Jammu division while two are from Ladakh-- Tenzin Chonzom and Anwar Hussain. However as per preliminary reports, none from Kashmir Valley has made it to the examination.

Those selected from Jammu include Parthva Gupta, Pankaj Yadav, Asrar Ahmad Kichloo (Kishtwar), Namneet Singh, Shivani Jerengal, Mohd Shabir (Poonch) and Anjeet Singh.

Of the total successful candidates, 244 are from general category, 73 from Economically Weaker Sections, 203 of Other Backward Classes, 105 Scheduled Caste and 60 from the Scheduled Tribes, the Commission said.

The civil [More on P6](#)

Tribals Faced Neglect, Discrimination For 70 Years: LG

'Never Before Have Tribal Community Prospects Been As Bright As They Are Today'

Observer News Service

PULWAMA: Accusing the successive governments of neglecting and discriminating the tribal community of Jammu and Kashmir for 70 years, the Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Monday that his administration has removed divisive, discriminatory policies and have made all sections of community effective partners in the process of development. Sinha made these remarks



while inaugurating 5 projects including Model Tribal Transit Residential School, Girl Hostel, and laid foundation stone for 18 other projects for the welfare of Tribal Community in the district here on Monday, an official spokesperson said.

He said that the tribal population of Pulwama witnessed inauguration of projects

worth Rs 11.47 Cr, and laying of foundation stones for new projects worth Rs 39.86 Cr aimed at development and welfare in tribal areas.

According to the spokesperson, the LG said that the projects worth more than Rs 51 crore are testimony to our commitment of Social Justice and Equality. Sinha, [More on P6](#)

6 UT ADMINISTRATION IS SETTING up 100 Van Dhan Kendras in Jammu and Kashmir so that the tribal community can get the right price for the valuable products sourced from the forests."

Militancy In J&K In Last Stage: MoS Jitendra Singh

Agencies

Srinagar: Senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh said on Monday that the militancy in Jammu and Kashmir was in its last stage and the same is evident in the heavy influx of the tourists in the Union Territory.

Singh made these comments while speaking to the media persons on the sidelines of an event in Central Kashmir's Budgam district on Monday.

Replying to a question about the recent civilian killings, Singh said that from the beginning Pakistan has been indulging in these mischievous acts but the decisive action is being taken against militancy.

"Militants are on run and selecting soft targets. A decisive action is being taken against them, the action which was not witnessed over the past few years, and overall this may be the last stage of militancy. That's the reason we are witnessing huge number of tourists visiting the valley," he said.

Responding to another question over the remarks made by National Conference that tourist arrivals should not be linked to declining militancy, Singh said that it is an era of evidence based argument and the numbers say it all.

"Get the previous figures of tourist arrivals in the valley and you can make an idea. Speak to the hoteliers, houseboat owners, [More on P6](#)

Youngsters In J&K Grappling With Hypertension: Survey

Zaid Bin Shabir

Srinagar: Decades of braving conflict, curfews, lockdowns, deaths and physical injuries have definitely cost Kashmir its health as the latest round of National Family Health Survey(NFHS) has revealed that J&K has 18.9 percent men and 20 percent women in the above 15 age group who are battling hypertension.

While 21.3% of women and 24% of men aged above 15 have hypertension in India, J&K has 20% women and 18.9% men in the same age group (above 15) who have hypertension.

In the pre-hypertensive category, while the prevalence is 39 percent women and 49 percent men aged above 15 in the country, J&K has 55.9 percent women and 60.3 percent men, in the same age



group, stated the latest report (NFHS-5) which was recently released by Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandavaya in Vadodara, Gujarat.

According to the report, in J&K, 0.8 percent of women who are aged above 15 have normal blood pressure, while in the

To Break Stalemate In Ties

India, Pak 'Back Channel Talks' On: Report



File Photo

Agencies

Islamabad/New Delhi: Pakistan and India have been engaged in "back channel" talks to break the stalemate in the relationship between the two nuclear-armed neighbours, a media report said, even as a Pakistani delegation is in New Delhi for talks under the Indus Water Commission.

Ties between the two nations took a nosedive after the Pulwama massacre of February 2019 and later following the scrapping of special status for Jammu and Kashmir in August the same year.

According to the Express Tribune, though diplomatic ties have been downgraded and bilateral trade suspended, there have been "quiet back channel" talks between the two sides, even before the government of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif took charge last month.

These contacts led to renewal of the ceasefire understanding in February 2021 and since then the truce is holding, with no

major incident of ceasefire violation. However, there has been no breakthrough in terms of resumption of dialogue between the two countries, the daily said.

Since the new government came to power in Islamabad, there has been a renewed push by the two sides to find some way out. "Call it back channels, Track-II or behind-the-scenes talks, I can only confirm that relevant people in both countries are in touch with each other," the daily quoted an official source as saying.

Chances of an immediate breakthrough are slim given the political uncertainty in Pakistan and tough preconditions attached by both sides for any resumption of dialogue.

On April 11, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had congratulated Sharif on becoming PM and said 'India desires peace and stability in a region free of terror, so that we can focus on our development challenges and ensure the well-being and prosperity of our people.' Shehbaz Sharif [More on P6](#)

NAS 2021 Report Card Puts J&K Schools Ahead Of National Average

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir has registered an impressive performance in the sample-based National Achievement Survey (NAS) conducted by the Ministry of Education for classes 3, 5, 8 and 10 on November 12 last year.

The survey, which took place in all 733 districts across the country, was a competency-based national-level large-scale assessment that aimed to provide information about students' learning achievement so that a system-level reflection on the effectiveness of school education in the country could be conducted.

Language, Mathematics, Science, and Social Science

were chosen as subjects for assessment in classes 3 and 5, while Environmental Studies was added for class 8 and Social Science and Modern Indian Language for class 10.

A total number of 79256 students and 16260 teachers in 3650 schools from all the 20 districts of J&K UT participated in the survey.

According to the NAS report card published recently, the percentage ratio of boys to girls for class 3 was 51 and 49 respectively while it was 78 and 22 for urban to rural.

The performance percentage for Language stood at 66 as against the national average of 62. Similarly, [More on P6](#)

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Srinagar | Tuesday | 31-05-2022

2



Scientists Identify New Liver And Kidney Disease

IANS

Scientists have identified a new disease in a groundbreaking discovery that could help patients with unexplained liver and kidney problems.

Researchers at Newcastle University in the UK have established the inherited condition, called TULP3-related ciliopathy that causes kidney and liver failure in children and adults.

There are numerous reasons for kidney and liver organ failure, which if left untreated is life-threatening, but often patients do not get a precise diagnosis which can make their best course of treatment unclear.

Research, published in the American Journal of Human Genetics, has revealed that a faulty gene is the catalyst for increased fibrosis in the liver and kidney, often resulting in the need for a transplant. "Our finding has a huge implication for better diagnosis and management of kidney and liver disease in some patients," said Professor John Sayer, Deputy Dean of Clinical Medicine at Newcastle.

What we are now able to do is give some patients a precise diagnosis, which allows their treatment to be tailored to their needs for the best possible outcome

"What we are now able to do is give some patients a precise diagnosis, which allows their treatment to be tailored to their needs for the best possible outcome," Sayer added.

In the study, experts reviewed clinical symptoms, took liver biopsies and genetic sequencing from scores of patients, where a total of 15 patients from eight families were identified as having this new disease.

Urine samples from these patients were used to grow cells in a laboratory and then investigated to determine the precise defect

causing TULP3-related ciliopathy. Over half the patients in the study had a liver or kidney transplant as their condition had deteriorated significantly.

In these patients, the original cause for their organ failure was unknown until the study.

"We were surprised at how many patients we were able to identify with TULP3-related ciliopathy and this would suggest that the condition is prevalent within those with liver and kidney failure," Professor Sayer said.

"We hope to provide a proper diagnosis for many more families in the future. This work is a reminder that it is always worth investigating the underlying reasons for kidney or liver failure to get to the bottom of the condition.

"Finding a genetic cause of liver or kidney failure has huge implications for other family members, especially if they are wishing to donate a kidney to the patient." The team will now work with cell lines taken from patients to study more in detail the disease process and to test potential treatments for TULP3-related ciliopathy.

اظہار تشکر

"موت لکھی ان ہود موت خود زندگی کی حفاظت کرتی ہے۔"

مورخہ 26 مئی بروز جمعرات 2022 ہمارے جواس سال والدنا می بیرزادہ

مسعود الحق ایڈمنیٹر وقت بورڈ آغا شریف ظہرت بل سری نگر اس دنیائے فانی سے رحلت کر گئے۔

یہ دکھ بھری خبر جنگل کے آگ کی طرح پھیل گئی جموں و کشمیر وقت بورڈ مختلف انجمنوں کی جانب سے کل ایک ہجرتی اجلاس مرحوم کے گھر بمنہ بلال کالونی میں منعقد ہوا جس میں مرحوم کو خراج عقیدت پیش کیا گیا ہم ان تمام لوگوں کا شکریہ ادا کرتے ہیں جنہوں نے ہمیں گھر آ کر فون، وٹسپ، فیس بک اور میسج کے ذریعے تعزیت کی ہم ان کا شکریہ ادا کرتے ہیں۔ جنہوں نے اس طبیعت کی گھڑی میں ہماری ڈھارس باندھی اللہ کو جزائے خیر عطا کرے۔

بذریعہ

فرزندان مسعود الحق و برادران محترم مشتاق احمد میر صاحب بلال کالونی بمنہ

محترم میر زادہ ظہور احمد کنڈی خاص

محترم شوکت احمد میر صاحب بلال کالونی بمنہ

ماجی رفیق احمد میر دوچورہ ہندوڑہ

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost the RC of my vehicle Bearing registration No. JK03L4513. Now I am applying for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the ARTO ANANTNAG within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

IRSHAD AHMAD BHAT
S/O :- GHULAM MOHAMMAD BHAT
R/O:- MAGRAYPORA MARHAMA BIJBEHARA ANANTNAG

BEFORE THE HON'BLE HIGH COURT OF JAMMU KASHMIR AND LADAKH AT SRINAGAR

In the case of:
M/s Bhat Stone Crusher Hastikhud, Zadoora, Pulwama through its proprietor Mohammad Aslam Bhat S/o Late Mohd Jabar R/o Baghat I Kanipora District Budgam

(Petitioner/Caveator)
V/s
Public at Large
(Respondent/Caveatee)

In the matter of: Caveat Application.
To
Registrar Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh
High Court at Srinagar

May it please your Honour,
The application is submitted as under:
1. That the caveator has established a stone crusher which is about to get operational within coming days under the name and style of M/S Bhat Stone Crusher at Hastikhud, Zadoora, Pulwama.
2. That the caveator is apprehensive that any person/s may either themselves or through their agents file a petition on fictitious grounds and may also succeed in getting an ex-parte order causing grave hardship and irreparable loss to the caveator.
3. That the copy of the caveat application has been published in local news daily, the copy of which is annexed herewith this application. In the premises it is therefore humbly prayed before this Hon'ble Court that the caveat application may be accepted and in case the caveatee's approach this Hon'ble Court with any petition against the caveator, no ex-parte order may be passed in the matter without notice to the caveator.

sf s Applicant through Counsel

Office Of The Executive Engineer PMGSY (JKRRPA) Division Baramulla.

No: PMGSY/BLA 610-13
Dated 26-05-2022

M/S Balote Constructions Prop Mohammad Ashraf Balote, R/O Garkote Uri Baramulla.

Subject: UP Gradation and Maintenance of Road from Chatoosa to Tangmulla Stage U Package NO. JK03-212.

Ref:- This office letter no. PMGSY/BLA 3533-36 dated 18-12-2021.
This office letter no. PMGSY/BLA 175-78 dated 13-04-2022.
This office letter no. PMGSY/BLA 2911-12 dated 23-10-2021.
AEEs Baramulla letter no. PMGSY SD III7-18 dated 13-04-2022.
AEEs Baramulla letter no. PMGSY SD II 416 dated 20-01-2022.
AEEs Baramulla letter no. PMGSY SD II 362-63 dated 06-12-2021.
AEEs Baramulla letter no. PMGSY SD II 277-78 dated 21-10-2021.
AEEs Baramulla letter no. PMGSY SD III36 dated 26-08-2021.

- Whereas the above cited scheme stands allotted to you vide Allotment no. SE/PMGSY/BLA/98-102 Dated 12-04-2017.
- Whereas the scheme stands physically closed on 02-01-2022.
- Where as you were supposed to maintain the road from 03-01-2020 as per agreement clauses. Whereas till date several notices from sub division Baramulla and this office as well have been issued were in it has been directed to maintain the road as per PMGSY guidelines (Letters under References).
- Whereas national quality monitor has raised several observations during his visit in the month of November 2021 (copy enclosed)
- Whereas Sate quality monitor has raised several observation during his visit in the month of April 2022 (copy enclosed).
- Whereas the general public is suffering a lot because of your lackadaisical approach towards the maintenance of road.

Now through the medium of this notice, you are directed to start the routine maintenance work of said road in all respects within week's time, failing which action against you will be initiated as per SBD Clause No.34 This may be treated as final notice.

DIPK-2942/22

Executive Engineer PMGSY
(JKRRPA) Division Baramulla

Got of Jammu and Kashmir UT Directorate of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Kashmir

Ph: 0194-2455019 Fax: 0194-2472577

Sub: Fixation Of Rates Of Pultry And Poultry Products

NOTIFICATION
Dated, Sriangar 28th of May, 2022

Consequent upon the decisions taken in the meeting and in suppression of all previous notifications issued on the subject and in exercise of the powers conferred upon me under Essential Commodities Act, 1955; I, r. Abdul Salam Mir, Director - Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department, Kashmir hereby revise and re-fix the maximum rate of poultry and poultry products as under.

1. Broiler (Live) per kg = Rs 150/- Rupees One Hundred & Fifty Only)
2. Parent (Live) per kg. Rs 120/- (Rupees one hundred & Twenty only)
3. Egg (per dozen) = Rs 50/- Rupees Fifty only)

This notification shall have immediate effect.

(Dr. Abdul Salam Mir), KAS
Director
Food, Civil Supplies & CA Deptt.
Kashmir Srinagar.

DIPK-2934/22

No: DFCS&CAK/S/Poultry/2022/2113-24 Dated 28-05-2022

مکملہ خوراک، شہری رسدات و عوامی تقسیم کاری کشمیر خزانہ برائے مرغ و مویشان

with effect from 28/05/2022

نمبر شمار	جنس	مقدار / وزن	قیمت
1	مرغ بایلر (زندہ)	فی کلو	Rs. 150/-
2	مرغ پیرنٹ	فی کلو	Rs. 120/-
3	انڈے	فی درجن	Rs. 50/-

ضروری ہدایت:-

تمام ہوک مرغ فروشان سے لازمی ہے کہ وہ ہرچون مرغ فروشان کو رقم کی ادائیگی کا رسید فراہم کرے۔۔

No. DFCS&CAK/S/Poultry/2022/2113-24 Dated:- 28-05-2022

مکملہ خوراک، شہری رسدات و عوامی تقسیم کاری کشمیر خزانہ برائے مرغ و مویشان

از نیابت رہبر پورہ با اجلاس واسک منظور صاحب
درخواست مخائب شہر وہ جان دختر عبدالرحمان شیرگویری ساکنہ رہبر پورہ تحصیل مشن
بغرض حصول SC سرٹیفیکٹ

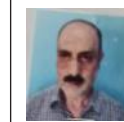
استہوار برادر آگاہی بر خاص وعام۔

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکنہ نے ایک درخواست سرٹیفیکٹ بغرض پڑا میں پیش کیا ہے جس کی
فوار پورٹ جو کہ روڈ کی روٹی ہے۔ پنداری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی۔ اور ساکنہ کا کنڈیشن شیرگویری
ذات سے تعلق رکھتا ہے۔ جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکنہ کی پچھلے پندرہ سالوں سے مذہبی سکونت پر
ہے۔ ساکنہ کے کنڈیشن کی تکمیل نہ مل سکی۔

نمبر شمار	نام و ولدیت	عمر	پیشہ	آمدنی
1	عبدالرحمان شیرگویری ولد غلام حسن	48 سال	دکانداری	5000/=
2	افروزہ زہیر عبدالرحمان شیرگویری	45 سال	گھریلو کام	
3	شہر وہ جان دختر عبدالرحمان شیرگویری	22 سال	زیر تعلیم	
4	اشفاق احمد ولد عبدالرحمان شیرگویری	20 سال	زیر تعلیم	
5	مظفر احمد ولد عبدالرحمان شیرگویری	18 سال	زیر تعلیم	

اسطورہ ساکنہ کا کنڈیشن 5 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ ساکنہ کے کنڈیشن کوئی سرکاری ملازم جو جو نہیں ہیں۔
ساکنہ کے کنڈیشن کے پاس دھڑا میں 3 کنال زمین موجود ہے اور ساکنہ کے کنڈیشن کی سالانہ آمدنی
تمام زراعی سے 750000/- روپیہ تک ہیں۔ اسطورہ ساکنہ SC سرٹیفیکٹ اجراء کرنے کی
خواہش رکھتا ہے۔ اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ بعد سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض
دختر پڑا میں پیش کریں۔ بعد کر رے معاذ کو کوئی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
تابع تحصیلدار۔ rna

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR NOTICE



Where as a joint application has been recieved from owner.
Shri : Farooq Ahmad Khan S/o:
Haji Quadir Khan
R/o: Peer Bagh Jawahar Nagar Srinagar as Transferor) & Shri. Umar



Fayaz S/o Fayaz Ahmad Yatoo R/o Ranger Budgam .as Transferee) for transfer of Maxi Cab Carriage route permit No.2029/ MC/ Budgam vehicle No. JK04 -3354.
Now it is therefore notified for general information that objections, if any to the proposed transfer of the said route permit/ vehicle shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper.
No. ARTO/ BUDGAM. 1007
Dated 30-05-2022

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir
mcb

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR NOTICE



Where a application for transfer of ownership has been recieved from one. Shri : Irfan Ahmad Ganale S/o: Habibullah Ganale R/o: Batapora Kanihama Budgam (Transferor) of M/Cycle.



Vehicle bearing registration number JK04E - 6852. Chasis number 48841 Engine no. 48739 Model 2018. in favour of Shri. Ghulam Hassan Mir S/o. Mohammad Subhan Mir R/o Dhoibwan Kunzar Baramulla (Tranferee)
Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed transfer of ownership shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.1008
Dated 30-05-2022

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir
mcb

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR NOTICE



Where a application for transfer of ownership has been recieved from one. Shri : Ghulam Mohammad Dar S/o: Ghulam Ahmad Dar R/o: Gund Arjun Budgam (Transferor) of LMV Alto 800. Vehicle bearing registration number JK04E - 1645. Chasis number 88859 Engine no. 45537 Model 2018. in favour of Shri. Roshan Lal S/o. Gian Chand R/o Sudhahadev Udhampur Jammu (Tranferee) as well as HPA cancellation with M/S J & K Bank B/U Budgam.



Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed transfer of ownership shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper.
No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.989
Dated 30-05-2022

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Cluster University Hosts Qawaal Jamil Rampuri At AS College

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Cluster University Srinagar on Monday hosted renowned Qawaal, Jamil Rampuri and his team for a spellbinding performance at Amar Singh College's Bukhari Hall.

The program was presided over by Vice-Chancellor, Cluster University Srinagar, Prof. Qayyum Husain.

Others present on the occasion included Dean Academic Affairs, Prof. Mushtaq Ahmad Lone; Principal, Amar Singh

ful and poetic musical manifestation of the Sufi religious tradition in South Asia.

The soulful 'qawwali' performance mesmerized the audience. The artists performed some of the most adored compositions of all time including 'Chhap Tilak' and 'Dama Dam Mast Qalandar', bringing the place alive and evoking resounding applause from the audience.

Thanking Jamil Rampuri and his team for their heart-warming gesture to perform for students despite a tight schedule, Vice-Chancel-



College, Prof. Bashir Ahmad Rather; Controller Examinations, Dr. Khurshid A. Mir; Dean Teacher Education and Principal GCW M.A. Road, Dr. Ruhi Jan Kanth; Sports Secretary, Dr. Tariq Ahmad Ashai; Dean Social Sciences, Dr. Mujahid; Dean Humanities & Liberal Arts, Dr. Deebea Sarmad; Dean Students Welfare, Dr. Shabnam Ara, Chief Proctor, Dr. Masood Malik and FA/CAO, Mr. Bilal Ahamd Bilal Jamil Rampuri is widely regarded as one of the best proponents of Qawaali, a power-

lor, Prof. (Dr.) Qayyum Husain said the Cluster University Srinagar will be hosting more such events in near future and invite artists from across India.

Pertinently, on Vice Chancellor's instructions, Cluster University Srinagar has constituted various committees and clubs to organize cultural activities in the constituent and affiliated colleges.

It will also explore possibilities of having cultural exchange events involving reputed universities and other institutes of India.

Police Arrests 2 Notorious Drug Peddlers

Agencies

Srinagar: Police in Srinagar arrested two drug notorious peddlers and recovered contraband substances from their possession.

The police acted on specific information regarding the movement of notorious drug peddlers boarding a vehicle bearing registration number JK13C-3415.

A checkpoint was established by PS Kralkhud at Barbarshah and two notorious drug peddlers were arrested. During the search, officers were able to recover 1kg of Charas like substance from their possession. They have been identified as Ghulam Hassan Bhat son of Ab Rahim Bhat resident of Mirgund

Kanelwan Bijbehara and Sartaj Ahmad Ganie son of Ghulam Mohammad Ganie resident of Kanelwan Bijbehara. They have been shifted to the police station where they remain in custody. Vehicle used in the commission of crime was also seized.

A case vide FIR No.20/2022 under relevant sections of law has been registered in Police Station Kralkhud and investigation has been taken up.

Police requested the community members to come forward with information regarding drug peddlers in their neighborhood.

"Persons found indulging in drug peddling will be dealt with as per law", Police said. (KNS)

Dilapidated Roads In Abu Bakar Colony, Bemina Irk Locals

Agencies

Srinagar: The roads in the interiors of Abu Bakar colony in Bemina area have left the local commuters anguished with the residents alleging it to be a reason of immense hardships.

Residents say roads are in shambles for the past several years and demanded immediate macadamisation of these roads.

Locals from the locality said that inner lanes of the colony are in shambles and completely dilapidated while the concerned

authorities have been turning a blind eye towards it and have not macadamized the roads since 2019, thus leaving the residents here to lurch at large.

During the rainy season, the potholes get submerged and it becomes difficult for the people to move out of their houses to reach the main road, the locals said.

They demanded concerned authorities to take immediate steps and ensure the roads are macadamized so that the people here could heave a sigh of relief. (KNO)



Admin Finalizes Sites for Installation Of Nine Fountains In City

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad on Monday undertook a tour of several City areas to inspect the pace and progress of various ongoing major Developmental projects. He also took stock of implementation of the directions of the Lieutenant Governor regarding resolving public grievances.

After field visits to different areas, DC finalised

the action plan for construction of fountains at nine locations under the National Clean Air Programme.

With regard to the measures undertaken for the beautification of Srinagar City, he visited SMHS Crossing Kak Sarie, Soura and Hawal areas of the district and inspected the locations identified for the construction of Water Fountains at SMHS Crossing Kak Sarie, main Chowk Soura and Mirza Kamil Chowk Hawal.

"Installation of fountains at important heavy traffic volume intersections shall be instrumental in dampening the environmental pollution" Aijaz Asad Said. It is pertinent to mention, the DC is the Chairman of the District Level Committee for NCAP.

He also directed the R&B department to complete the repair works on the road coming under the sewage project and ensure that the road is made fully operational for vehicular movement within five

days.

He also inspected the works undertaken for 60 MLD In-fall Pumping Station being carried out by NBCC under Comprehensive Sewerage in Zone 3rd of Greater Srinagar at Ali Jan Road. Officials were directed to ensure in-fall, outfall Pumping Stations are made fully operational before the set deadline.

The DC also visited Batamaloo area to inspect the cleanliness and sanitation measures undertaken by the Srinagar Municipal Corporation.

SKUAST Holds Digital Marketing Boot Camp

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir on Monday held a digital marketing boot camp for the student innovators and startups of the university.

The daylong intensive boot camp was held by the university's IDP Cell under the World Bank-ICAR funded National Agricultural Higher Education Project for the institutional development of SKUAST-K.

More than 50 student innovators and startup imitators of SKUAST-K

participated in the workshop, who were trained about various aspects of digital marketing across various online platforms.

The workshop was conducted by renowned entrepreneurship development and digital marketing expert Dr Vikas Rajput. He held hands-on training for the students and made them aware with practical examples about digital marketing using various social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Google.

He guided students with step-by-step procedures for online marketing, ad creation and content writing

for successful media campaigns for various products and services.

Dr Divya Rajput, an adjunct faculty at SKUAST-K and a startup and incubation expert working with government institutions and corporate houses across the country also held a session.

OSD to Vice Chancellor, Prof Azmat Alam Khan, who presided over the function, talked about various initiatives for creating a successful innovation and startup ecosystem at the university.

Dr Naveed Hamid Bhat of the IDP conducted the proceedings of the workshop.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

Sher-i-Kashmir International Convention Centre Srinagar

Notice Inviting E-Tenders

(4th Call)

Fresh e-NIT No.10 SKICC of 2022-23

Dated 28 /05/2022

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of U.T of J&K, invites e-tender/s (In single cover system) on PERCENTAGE BASIS from approved and eligible Contractors/Registered/Reputed Dealer/Supplier registered with J&K, UT Govt. CPWD, Railway and other State Central Government Departments on item rate basis registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railway and other State Central Governments for the below mentioned work/s.

S. No.	Name of work	Advt. Cost (Rs. In lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest money (In Rupees)	Time of completion (Calendar days)	Class of Contractor	Major head of Account
1.	Annual (Stage) for Laundry/Dry Cleaning for the year 2022-23	0.00	700/-	20000/-	360 days	Registered/ Approved Contractor/ Dealer/Firm/SSI Unit Holder & Experience Certificate	Non Plan

(AS AND WHEN REQUIRED)

Position of funds: - Committed

The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specification, drawings, bill of quantities (BOQ) set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below: -

1.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	28/05/2022
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	28/05/2022
3.	Bid submission start date (on line)	28/05/2022
4.	Bid submission End date (on line)	03/06/2022 (upto 4.00 P.M)
5.	Date & time of opening of bids (online)	04/06/2022 (at 11.30 A.M)

Note: (i) The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploaded softcopies. Any short fall found in the soft copy will render the Bid rejection.

(ii) Further details can be had from the office of Executive Engineer, SKICC at Cheshmashahi, Srinagar during office hours.

As per latest Circular/order/guidelines issued by Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

a. Furnishing of hard Copies of bids immediately after submission of e-tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the Bidder who declared 1st (L-1) after opening of financial bids.

b. The cost of tender document should be collected in the shape of Demand Draft (DD) pledged to Executive Engineer, SKICC and uploading a copy of DD.

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender documents in shape of demand draft (non-refundable) in favour of the Executive engineer SKICC, Srinagar (Tender inviting/Receiving Authority). The date of the DD should be between the date of start of bid and bid submission end date.

2. The date and time of opening of bids shall be notified on web site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of responsive bidders shall be opened on line on same web site by the Executive Engineer SKICC.

3. The bids for the works shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening bids.

4. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

a. 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.

b. 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.

c. The bidders have to submit their bids on line in electronic format with digital signature. No financial bids will be accepted in physical form.

d. Bids will be opened on line as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1

e. The rates quoted by the Contractor/Supplier shall involve all taxes prevailing including carriages & other charges.

DIPK-NB-1298/22

S/d

Executive Engineer

SKICC

No: SKICC/EE/22/89-94

Dated: 28 /05 /2022

DIAL-EMMA

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



AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS

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- ANANTNAG: 01932-228243
- BARAMULLA: 0194-102029
- BIJHERA: 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
29 Shawwal
1443

PRAYERS

FAJR	3: 39
ZUHR	12:28
ASR	5:26
Magrib	7:39
ISHA	9: 18

This Day In History

- 1223 - Mongol invasion of the Cumans: Battle of the Kalka River - Mongol armies of Genghis Khan lead by Subutai defeat Kievan Rus and Cumans.
- 1659 - Netherlands, England and France sign Treaty of The Hague
- 1923- China & USSR exchange diplomats
- 1924- China recognizes the USSR
- 1931 - 7.1 magnitude Earthquake destroys Quetta in modern-day Pakistan: 40,000 dead.
- 1935- 7.7 magnitude earthquake hits Quetta in Balochistan, British Raj (Pakistan) killing approx 50,000
- 1940- Premier Winston Churchill flies to Paris to meet with Marshal
- August Pétain who announces he is willing to make a separate peace with Germany
- 1944- Allied breakthrough in Italy
- 1951- Netherlands & South Africa sign cultural accord
- 1953 - Lebanese president Camille Shamun disbands government
- 1955 - Great Britain proclaims emergency crisis due to rail strike
- 1957 - Great Britain performs nuclear test at Christmas Island (atmospheric)
- 1970 - 7.75 Ancash earthquake off coast of Peru kills 66-70,000 and sets off world's deadliest avalanche
- 1974 - Israel and Syria sign an agreement concerning Golan Heights
- 1974 - USSR performs nuclear test at Eastern Kazakh/ Semipalitinsk USSR

From KO Archives

Faith moves mountains, stops rain in Kashmir

F Ahmad

Srinagar - Jabbar Mir 56, has walked barefoot with a pitcher full of water to the shrine of saint Sheikh Hamza Mukhdom in Srinagar. It's an age old custom that he is sure will pull his village out of a 'do or die situation'.

Mir, a resident of Ganderbal, 22 km from Srinagar, has climbed the Koh-e-Maran hillock in the middle of the city with hundreds of villagers, all travelling on foot and carrying water. Filled earthen pitchers from various parts of the Kashmir valley.

They are seeking saint Mukhdom's blessings so that the intermittent rains lashing the valley stop and the bright sunny days return.

"It's a do or die situation for us. Our paddy nurseries are turning yellow because of the cold and rain. Unless we have bright, warm sunshine there would be hardly any paddy saplings left to be transplanted into the rice fields." Mir said.

According to a local tradition, water collected from parts of the valley and brought here in earthen pitchers by barefooted devotees is poured into the large pond outside the saint's shrine so that saint Mukhdom is pleased and blesses the people.

However, the devotees must walk all the distance from their homes to the shrine.

"This is a practice that the people have resorted to whenever excessive rains, floods and other natural calamities have visited Kashmir."

Asked if it works, Ghulam Nabi. 48 gives a stare. "It is a heretic's question. The custom always works. It is my experience of over four decades that whenever Kashmiris visit the shrine, their prayers are answered," says Nabi, who has come from Anantnag district. 54 km away.

Nabi's 20-year-old son is an epileptic whose seizures have become frequent in recent days.

"I won't say a doctor is not needed to cure my son. But finally it is somewhere else that the outcome of our efforts is decided. Whether a doctor succeeds or not in curing my son would be decided at the sheikh's shrine." Nabi says.

Mukhdom who lived in the 15th century, is also revered as the saint who was instrumental in ending the 'tyrannical' rule of local king Yusuf Shah Chak.

Mukhdom is believed to have written to Mughal king Akbar about the oppression of the people under Chak. This led to the invasion of Kashmir by the Mughals and the end of Chak's reign.

Visiting shrines and seeking the blessings of dead saints is an old practice in Kashmir.

A little away from saint Mukhdom's shrine is the temple of Hindu deity Sharika Devi.

Before the migration of Kashmiri pandits following the insurgency in the valley, Muslims and Hindus could be seen buying flowers from the same vendors for their saints.

There are very few visitors to the temple these days, yet a semblance of the eclectic Kashmiri culture is recreated "when the lone priest at the temple rings the bells - the 'sound blends perfectly with the voice of the muezzin calling the faithful to prayer at Mukhdom's shrine."

(Kashmir Observer, 31 May, 2005)

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Legal Counsel: Tasaduq Khwaja
Switchboard: (0194) 2106304
Editorial: (0194) 2502327
Email editorial: editor@kashmirobsrver.net

K O V I E W

Aadhaar Conundrum

On Sunday, the central government withdrew with immediate effect its recent advisory that warned citizens not to share photocopies of their Aadhaar cards with any organization as they can be misused. The government, in a statement, said that the UIDAI issued Aadhaar card holders are only advised to exercise “normal prudence” in using and sharing their UIDAI Aadhaar numbers. “Aadhaar Identity Authentication ecosystem has provided adequate features for protecting and safeguarding the identity and privacy of the Aadhaar holder,” the statement added.

Earlier, the UIDAI had warned people not to share photocopies of Aadhaar with any organisations, saying that it could be misused. The authority had advised the use of masked Aadhaar which displays only the last 4 digits of your Aadhaar number and can be downloaded from UIDAI’s official website. A release issued by the UIDAI had also called for avoiding using a public computer at an internet cafe to download an e-Aadhaar. And if one did so, the authority had urged the deletion of all the downloaded copies of e-Aadhaar permanently from that computer.

There was more. Only those organizations that had obtained a User License from the UIDAI could use Aadhaar for establishing the identity of a person. Unlicensed private entities like hotels or film halls were not permitted to collect or keep copies of Aadhaar card. And if a private entity demanded to see the Aadhaar card or sought a photocopy of the Aadhaar card, one had to ask whether they had a valid User License from the UIDAI.

This made privacy activists feel vindicated. And rightly so. Aadhar has been a controversial identity card since the beginning. A large section of the population thought it compromised their privacy. This understandably generated civil society and political opposition but to no avail as the government stuck to its guns. But as the latest review of the sharing of the Aadhaar card underlines, the government is rethinking the issue.

However, Aadhaar is not the only point of concern for privacy advocates. The government’s alleged surveillance of computers and social media has long been a source of contention. The catch-all excuse for this action is the special security requirement for the state that is supposed to warrant the early neutering of the sources of trouble. Earlier also, the UPA government had sought to screen the “offensive” content on the social networking sites after having allegedly failed to get these websites to take it off themselves. But such moves have always been contested by the media and public quarters, which see the contemplated measures as a trojan horse attack on freedom of expression in the country, forcing the government to back off.

The issue here is not the objectionable stuff on the internet, of which there is plenty, and it is nobody’s case to defend it in the name of freedom of speech, but the government’s plan to play the judge. The problem is that this stuff comes in a variety of ways, so it is really a complex business to sift one part of it as offensive while justifying or overlooking another part. More so, when it is a government with its own interests which sits on judgment on this. So, the need is to get civil society on board before the laws impinging on privacy are enacted.

OTHER OPINION

Absolution: On need to compensate for unlawful arrests

A special investigation team from Delhi, which took over the case after allegations of extortion surfaced against Mr. Wankhede, has now cited lapses in the initial investigation and the lack of prosecutable evidence, and absolved Mr. Khan and five others and excluded them from the charge sheet filed recently. The lapses include failure to video-graph the search of the ship, not conducting a medical examination to prove consumption, and examining Mr. Khan’s phone and reading messages on it without any legal basis.

It is good that the agency made amends for the mischief done by the initial set of investigators by applying the standard of ‘proof beyond reasonable doubt’ while presenting its final report. At the same time, the NCB has to re-examine its priorities. It is an elite agency in the fight against international trafficking in narcotic and psychotropic substances. Its primary focus ought to be on trans-national smuggling networks, while the job of pursuing drug peddlers and raiding rave parties must be left to the local police. While strict disciplinary action is warranted if any officer is found involved in ‘fixing’ someone, it is also time that the Government came out with a legal framework for compensating those jailed without proof. The country does not have a law on the grant of compensation to those maliciously prosecuted. However, constitutional courts do exercise their vast powers sometimes to award monetary recompense; the remedy of a civil suit is also available in law, but it is time-consuming. The Law Commission of India has recommended enactment of a law to make compensation in such cases an enforceable right. Currently, Section 358 of the Cr.P.C. provides for a paltry fine to be imposed on a person on whose complaint a person is arrested without sufficient grounds. Such provisions should be expanded to cover just compensation by the state for unnecessary arrests. It is a sobering thought to note that even people with celebrity status and vast resources are not insulated from the misuse of police powers, even while recognising that it is still possible to vindicate one’s innocence and force the establishment to adopt a course correction.

The Hindu

Holding J&K’s Environment Impact Assessment Authority Accountable

Authorities are allowing illegal riverbed Mining in Shali Ganga. NGT now shoots a notice

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

The principal bench of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) recently shot a one month notice to the J&K Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) as Environmental Clearance (EC) granted by them for riverbed mining in Shali Ganga in Budgam was violating all the environmental laws and guidelines of SEIAA. While hearing an appeal against the EC granted by J&K SEIAA , a division bench of NGT headed by Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel (Chairperson NGT) and Professor A. Senthil Vel (Expert member) noted that the division bench has found it necessary to seek a response not only from the SEIAA but also from the project proponent (PP) M/S NKC Projects Pvt Ltd as well who are involved in large scale illegal mining in the area. This author was forced to move an appeal before the NGT as both State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority and Project Proponent failed to act over repeated requests to stop illegal mining in Shali Ganga which has been looted and plundered for last six months.

Case before NGT

The appeal was moved against the grant of Environmental Clearance (EC) for minor mineral block No. 4, Panzan bridge to Trumbi Bagh (Lalgam), downstream Shali Ganga nallah, village Lalgam, Tehsil Chadoora District Budgam, JK UT (resized area – 2.90 ha.), under proposal No. SIA/JK/MIN/255737/2022 & SIA/JK/MIN/233732/2021, vide order dated 19.04.2022 by J&K State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), in favor of M/s NKC Project Pvt. Ltd which is a Gurgaon based construction company having been allotted a contract of Srinagar Semi Ring Road in Kashmir. The company is illegally extracting minor minerals from Shali Ganga which as per Mineral Rules 2016 and SEIAA guidelines is completely prohibited. The SEIAA too seemed unbothered.

This author prayed before the NGT that environmental clearance (EC) granted by J&K SEIAA was in violation of Rule 4(iv) of Jammu and Kashmir Minor Mineral Concession which states that the Licensee of a unit/plant/crusher should maintain all records of the minor minerals procured, processed and supplied to further destinations and submit monthly returns.

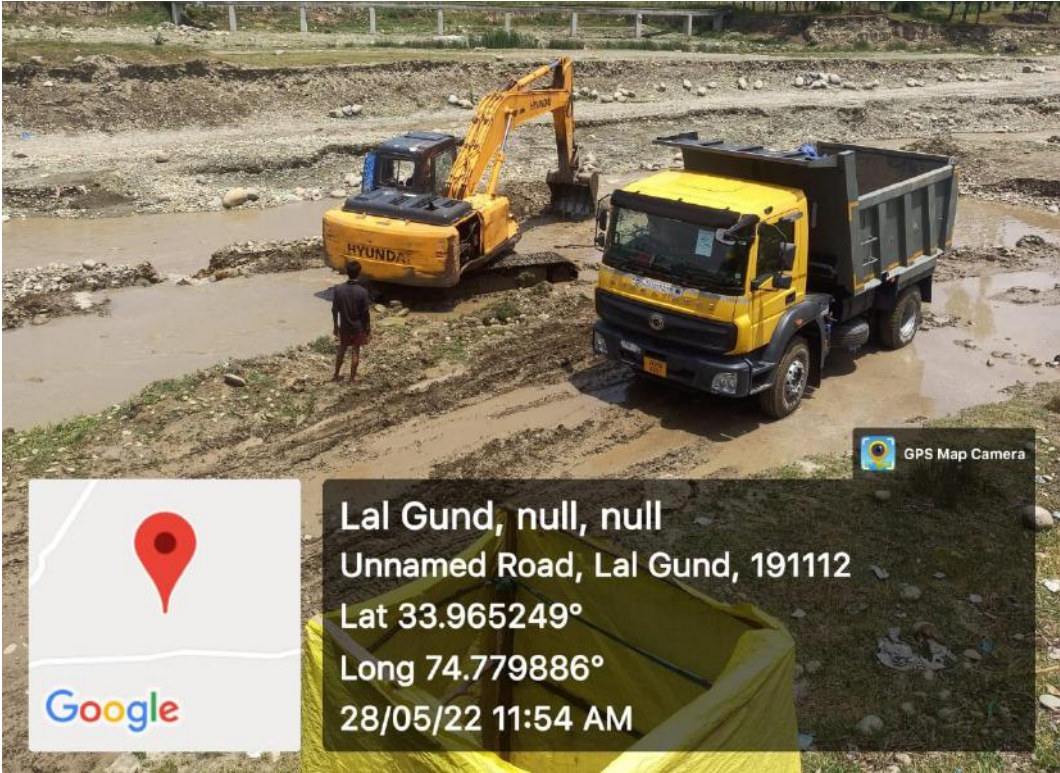
Besides, it was also a violation of Rule 4 of Mining Rules, 2016 which prohibits mining within 25 meters from the embankment. The width of the Shali Ganga is no more than 40 meters on an average and allowing mining in it is illegal as the river has to be at least 100 meters wide i.e 50 meters to maintain distance from banks and 50 meters to use the area for mining. The riverbed is already over-exploited and not fit for being a mining zone. It will result in disruption of flow and will subsequently impact Hokersar wetland.

No District Survey Report has been prepared, as per the Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016. The NKC Projects Pvt Ltd & other project proponents as well are using JCBs, L&Ts for mining despite clear instructions for not using a JCB in these riverbeds. Above all, no replenishment study has been conducted as per Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020. The entire tendering process is flawed in fact. How can NKC Projects Pvt Ltd extract sand , muck and bajri (gravel) and use the same for its Ring Road project while Mining Rules and other guidelines say that a material extracted has to be sold locally on 50 % discount in a radius of 2 kms?

EAC gives Green Signal?

The project proponent NKC Project Pvt Ltd had submitted the first set of proposals for extraction of river bed minor mineral from three blocks which were considered together in 81st meeting of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC). The proposals were rejected on the grounds that the area is already over-exploited and is depleted to a large extent due to heavy illegal mining as Shali Ganga nallah is a feeding channel to Hokersar wetland and the mining activity may be detrimental to natural flow and quality of the water flowing into Hokersar wetland and that irrigation kuhls are present within the mining site.

Thereafter, the project proponent submitted fresh proposals for the grant of environmental clearances for the three blocks and the proposals were placed before the Expert Appraisal Committee



Is it necessary that people have to seek judicial intervention or file petitions of appeals before the National Green Tribunal (NGT) when it comes to protecting our rivers and waterbodies? How many people can do that? What are our Govt officials doing?

tee (EAC) for appraisal together in its 87th meeting held on 02.03.2022. The EAC without considering 1 the environmental issues recommended them for grant of Environmental Clearances (EC’s) . The Jammu & Kashmir Environment Impact Assessment Authority (EIAA) , on the recommendation of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) granted Environmental Clearances (ECs) to the projects on 19.04.2022.

Reasons for challenging ECs

This author challenged the three Environmental Clearances (ECs) granted by J&K Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (JKEIAA) dated 19.04.2022 before the National Green Tribunal (NGT) for the following reasons:

A) The Environmental Clearances are in violation of Rule 4(iv) of Jammu and Kashmir Minor Mineral Concession, Storage, Transportation of Minerals, and Prevention of Illegal Mining Rules, 2016 which prohibits any minor mineral concession being granted within a distance of 25 metres of any embankment

B) The Environmental Clearances were granted without taking into account the grounds on which the previous proposals of the project proponent were rejected and despite no change in the ground level situation, the EC was granted.

C) The Environmental Clearances have been granted despite the District Survey Report not being prepared in line with the Guidelines, as noted by the Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) .Violations of Conditions of the Environmental Clearance dated 19.04.2022 by the project proponent who undertook activities strictly prohibited under the Environmental Clearance.

D) The EAC while granting Environmental Clearances in its 87th meeting failed to consider the grounds on which it had earlier rejected the first set of proposals of the project proponent in the 81st meeting. The EAC failed to note its own observation made in the 81st meeting that the area is “already depleted to a large extent due to heavy illegal mining and hardly any material is available for exploitation without endangering the environmental setting of the nalla.

E) The J&K UT level EAC in its 87th meeting dated 02.03.2022 recommended the projects for grant of two Environmental Clearances without considering that only a short span of time has elapsed since the last meeting was held, in which it was concluded that the area is heavily exploited and not fit for mining. How is it possible for an area to be restored and replenished within a short period of two months and make it fit for mining?

Irrigation canals under threat

The Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) also recommended the projects for grant of Environmental Clearances even when it has been noted by it in the 87th meeting that there are “feature indicative of Irrigation offtake point” in the site area. At the same time, it also notes that NOC from Irrigation Division Budgam has clarified that there are no Khul or canal present in the mining block. The Environmental Clearances have been erroneously granted by J&K UT level EAC on the basis of the NOC granted by the Irrigation Department even when irrigation points were visible inside the site area. The J&K UT level EAC also failed to note the fact that Shali Ganga Nallah serves as a feeding channel for the Hokersar wetland and the project proponent was only directed to submit an undertaking to the Wildlife Protection Department duly attested by the Judicial Magistrate first class to the effect that in case of any damage to the existing water course in terms of ecological and hydrological factors, the costs of rehabilitation of the same will be decided by the Wildlife Protection Department and will be borne by the project proponent. Hokersar wetland, a Ramsar site in India is also known as the “Queen wetland of Kashmir” and serves as a breeding ground for migratory birds in Kashmir. Mining on the banks of its feeding channel and thereby disrupting the flow of water into the wetland will directly impact the ecology of the area, livelihood of the people living around the wetland and the breeding ground for migratory birds.

Conclusion

Is it necessary that people have to seek judicial intervention or file petitions of appeals before the National Green Tribunal (NGT) when it comes to protecting our rivers and waterbodies? How many people can do that? What are our Govt officials doing? Don’t they read rules and regulations that govern riverbed mining in J&K? The NOCs granted by Irrigation, Flood Control, Pollution Control Board, Fisheries department and other authorities are totally flawed. Shali Ganga like Doodh Ganga is not fit for riverbed mining and in fact the entire tendering process is illegal. Those who have approved it will also be taken to task and I would be filing a formal complaint against them as well before the NGT.

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



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

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Green Spaces to Promote Urban Sustainability

Human mental health has long been linked to nature’s influence. Separation from nature is harmful to human growth, health, and happiness, according to several studies, and regular interaction with nature is necessary for optimal mental health. The presence of greenery or green spaces, according to the majority of research studies, increases physical and mental health, as well as well-being and socioeconomic outcomes. Green space refers to property that is partially or completely covered in grass, trees, shrubs, or other vegetation and includes parks, community

gardens, and cemeteries. The World Health Organization (WHO) wants to emphasise the value of green space in personal well-being and public health. Green areas have recently gained broad recognition for their urban sustainability benefits, and SDG Target 11.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals specifically mentions them. Green spaces in cities provide tremendous chances for positive change and the long-term growth of our communities. Women, elderly individuals, and children can benefit from public green spaces that allow them to walk, cycle, play, and engage in other outdoor activities

while remaining safe. Ensuring that everyone has access to parks and outdoor activities are vital to increasing these positive benefits to our community’s health and quality of life. Recent studies indicate that living near more green spaces may support mental and general health. Reduced obesity risks in youngsters, improved cardiovascular health, and lower depression rates in adults are just a few of the benefits. Green spaces also have an indirect impact on human health by increasing air quality and reducing urban temperatures, which helps to mitigate the effects of heatwaves. Furthermore, urban

greenery helps to prevent climate change by storing carbon and reducing the chance of flooding by storing excess rainwater. According to ongoing studies, green spaces filter the air while also calming our moods, stress levels, and blood pressure. Therefore, developing green spaces in cities not only provides more opportunities for good transformation but also serves as a crucial resource for ensuring long-term urban health.

DR.Krishna Kumar Vepakomma
Principal (Retd.)

Will Machines Replace Weathermen?

“As in many other scientific fields, the proliferation of tools like artificial intelligence and machine learning holds great promise for weather prediction. We have seen some of what's possible in our research on applying machine learning to forecasts of high-impact weather. But we also believe that while these tools open up new possibilities for better forecasts, many parts of the job are handled more skillfully by experienced people



Russ Schumacher
Aaron Hill

A century ago, English mathematician Lewis Fry Richardson proposed a startling idea for that time: constructing a systematic process based on math for predicting the weather. In his 1922 book, “Weather Prediction By Numerical Process,” Richardson tried to write an equation that he could use to solve the dynamics of the atmosphere based on hand calculations. It didn’t work because not enough was known about the science of the atmosphere at that time. “Perhaps some day in the dim future it will be possible to advance the computations faster than the weather advances and at a cost less than the saving to mankind due to the information gained. But that is a dream,” Richardson concluded. A century later, modern weather forecasts are based on the kind of complex computations that Richardson imagined – and they’ve become more accurate than anything he envisioned. Especially in recent decades, steady progress in research, data and computing has

enabled a “quiet revolution of numerical weather prediction.” For example, a forecast of heavy rainfall two days in advance is now as good as a same-day forecast was in the mid-1990s. Errors in the predicted tracks of hurricanes have been cut in half in the last 30 years. There still are major challenges. Thunderstorms that produce tornadoes, large hail or heavy rain remain difficult to predict. And then there’s chaos, often described as the “butterfly effect” – the fact that small changes in complex processes make weather less predictable. Chaos limits our ability to make precise forecasts beyond about 10 days. As in many other scientific fields, the proliferation of tools like artificial intelligence and machine learning holds great promise for weather prediction. We have seen some of what’s possible in our research on applying machine learning to forecasts of high-impact weather. But we also believe that while these tools open up new possibilities for better forecasts, many parts of the job are handled more skillfully by experienced people.

PREDICTIONS BASED ON STORM HISTORY
Today, weather forecasters’ primary tools are numerical weather prediction models. These models use observations of the current state of the atmosphere from sources such as weather stations, weather balloons and satellites, and solve equations that govern the motion of air. These models are outstanding at predicting most weather systems, but the smaller a weather event is, the more difficult it is to predict. As an example, think of a thunderstorm that dumps heavy rain on one side of town and nothing on the other side. Furthermore, experienced forecasters are remarkably good at synthesizing the huge amounts of weather information they have to consider each day, but their memories and bandwidth are not infinite. Artificial intelligence and machine learning can help with some of these challenges. Forecasters are using these tools in several ways now, including making predictions of high-impact weather that the models can’t provide.

In a project that started in 2017 and was reported in a 2021 paper, we focused on heavy rainfall. Of course, part of the problem is defining “heavy”: Two inches of rain in New Orleans may mean something very different than in Phoenix. We accounted for this by using observations of unusually large rain accumulations for each location across the country, along with a history of forecasts from a numerical weather prediction model. We plugged that information into a machine learning method known as “random forests,” which uses many decision trees to split a mass of data and predict the likelihood of different outcomes. The result is a tool that forecasts the probability that rains heavy enough to generate flash flooding will occur. We have since applied similar methods to forecasting of tornadoes, large hail and severe thunderstorm winds. Other research groups are developing similar tools. National Weather Service forecasters are using some of these tools to better assess the likelihood of hazardous weather on a given day. Researchers also are embedding machine learning within numerical weather prediction models to speed up tasks that can be intensive to compute, such as predicting how water vapor gets converted to rain, snow or hail. It’s possible that machine learning models could eventually replace traditional numerical weather prediction models altogether. Instead of solving a set of complex physical equations as the models do, these systems instead would process thousands of past weather maps to learn how weather systems tend to behave. Then, using current weather data, they would make weather predictions based on what they’ve learned from the past. Some studies have shown that machine learning-based forecast systems can predict general weather patterns as well as numerical weather prediction models while using only a fraction of the computing power the models require. These new tools don’t yet forecast

the details of local weather that people care about, but with many researchers carefully testing them and inventing new methods, there is promise for the future.

THE ROLE OF HUMAN EXPERTISE
There are also reasons for caution. Unlike numerical weather prediction models, forecast systems that use machine learning are not constrained by the physical laws that govern the atmosphere. So it’s possible that they could produce unrealistic results – for example, forecasting temperature extremes beyond the bounds of nature. And it is unclear how they will perform during highly unusual or unprecedented weather phenomena. And relying on AI tools can raise ethical concerns. For instance, locations with relatively few weather observations with which to train a machine learning system may not benefit from forecast improvements that are seen in other areas. Another central question is how best to incorporate these new advances into forecasting. Finding the right balance between automated tools and the knowledge of expert human forecasters has long been a challenge in meteorology. Rapid technological advances will only make it more complicated. Ideally, AI and machine learning will allow human forecasters to do their jobs more efficiently, spending less time on generating routine forecasts and more on communicating forecasts’ implications and impacts to the public – or, for private forecasters, to their clients. We believe that careful collaboration between scientists, forecasters and forecast users is the best way to achieve these goals and build trust in machine-generated weather forecasts.

The authors are Associate Professor of Atmospheric Science and Colorado State Climatologist, Colorado State University and Research Scientist, Colorado State University respectively. The article was originally published by The Conversation

Clear The Cobwebs Of Mind

As stress and Covid-induced negativity engulf our routine, it is critical we get rid of the baggage that has been accumulating in our minds – and making us live on the edge

Simran Sodhi

Every spring break, I get into this routine where I collect old clothes, old shoes, and gadgets that I am no longer using and send them off to a place which salvages what it can – and then the recycled stuff gets donated. It makes me happy that I am contributing my two-bit to the larger good. With the pandemic and various stress points of life creeping in more often than one would want, a friend suggested I repeat the routine mentally. Initially, I was a bit sceptical, but, nevertheless, gave it a shot. I processed feelings, emotions, regrets and expectations. Many of them, I realised, had lived longer in my head than needed and deserved a quiet burial. Some emotions were harder to pack away but, with time, it’s a routine I have created. Thoughts – bitter ones sometimes – that would buzz in my head needed to be chopped off and sent away packing. Expectations were toned down and I reminded myself of what Louisa May Alcott once wrote: “Into each life some rain must fall, some days must be dark and sad and dreary.” But I was also curious how others dealt with these mental dragons. Mj Maria Uy Lami-in, a Filipina expat, has been living in the UAE for 15 years now; she works as a socio-civic HR consultant, among other jobs. When asked about how she usually de-stresses, she says, “Stress is usually any outside factor that we let in to affect and get to us – that is if we let it in, and to what degree. I might not have the conventional answer most would want to hear but I keep busy outside of what’s ‘affecting’ me. I keep my mind and body active with something more pressing, preferably not my current issues.” Some will say it’s avoidance, but, for her, it’s a temporary re-routing and regrouping of her mental and physical energies until she gets the strength and mental capacity to face and deal with her actual stressor. “It might not be very practical as per some professionals, but it works for me. A good blow dry helps. Look good, feel good still stands true. It’s not being fake. It’s a step towards self-care. You already feel horrible inside, why wallow in it on the outside?”

A CHANGING SOCIAL MINDSET

An upside of current times is that we are discussing mental health issues more often – and more candidly – these days. Mj Maria points out that the issue of mental health and ‘being’ in that place has always been present. “What has changed is the shift of what is now openly acceptable in our social mindset. It is now more accepted and acceptable, we are even expected to talk about mental health and one’s own mental wellbeing, much like all the other currently ‘socially relevant issues’ of the last decade or so.” On how to keep regrets and expectations in check, she points out, “Hope for the best, expect the worst. I know that sounds fatalistic but with recent global events, we’ve come to a point wherein our priorities and mindsets have shifted. And mine certainly has. I have come to that age and maturity where I am more appreciative and immensely grateful everyday of what I have been given in life and survived and manifesting graces.” Yes, it’s great to expect and dream of great things but we also need to have that practical and realistic balance of life realities so we don’t get dismayed and disappointed over false expectations.” When asked that one size never fits all so how is an individual expected to deal with these pressures on their own, Mj Maria says, “There is no right or wrong answer I guess, even though some would push more for what they believe in. Depending on who is vocal, more visible and gets it out there. There was a time in my life I was easily rattled; on career, relationships, finances and people’s opinions. I felt so alone and very scared. But I kept it all inside because of generational social expectations and pressure. I guess I might be of one of the last generation wherein we were conditioned to keep ‘our mess, our perceived weaknesses in’. To keep a brave and strong face for everyone else except ourselves because that is how it was done. I was even afraid to ask for help or open up. We were conditioned to be that way.” Leonardo DiCaprio, one of the biggest success stories to have come out of Hollywood, while speaking to Rolling Stone, said that his anxiety comes from the small things, the “really stupid stuff, things that shouldn’t make you anxious whatsoever. It’s crazy how your mind will become this database to make you



“Stress cannot be avoided completely, so we must try and find coping mechanisms, and zero in on proper solutions on how to deal with them in a healthy and productive way. “We need to be easier on ourselves too. Fortunately, now there are many professionals who can help us seek positive life changes with tools suited to us. Sometimes we are our own worst critic. We have to learn to be kinder to ourselves and accept challenges in life as a learning process,” is how he sums up his life lessons

worry about things that are so arbitrary. I have a well-organized life, and I’ve put a lot of thought into the things that I do, and then, you know, my stomach will be... I’ll just be sitting there, totally anxious about something ridiculous. You have to stop yourself during the day and say, ‘It’s just not worth it.’”

A SELF-CARE KIT TO BEAT STRESS
In London, Priya Chandan has developed her own way of dealing with dark thoughts and seeking a bright, safe place in the sun. Born and brought up in Mumbai, India, today she calls London – where she has now lived for 16 years with her husband, three kids and their pet dog – her home. After Priya had her third child, she decided to take up something that would allow her to find a purpose in her life. “I came across a foundation course in counselling and here I am, four years later, doing my Level 4 diploma in integrative counselling.” She calls herself a self-love and self-care advocate, and truly believes in

taking care of herself first because “you can’t pour from an empty cup”. “My first priority in life is my family and if I struggle and burn myself out, I will not be able to give my family the love and the affection that I so very much would love to shower them with.” Mental health has recently become the hot topic perhaps because of the realisation now that mental health is not just about mental wellbeing but it also includes physical wellbeing, emotional well-being, social wellbeing – basically, your overall wellbeing. “Ever since the pandemic struck, with lockdowns and isolations, losing our loved ones to the virus and so much more, everyone was forced to slow down the pace of their lives, to reflect and take that reality check which was long overdue,” she feels. “People were forced to re-evaluate their pre-pandemic life,” Priya adds. “Somewhere, I believe it eventually dawned on people that it was actually a burnout from the hustle and bustle of life. It gave us a fresh perspective of

how we can ‘live’ the gift of life rather than just existing. In my opinion, it has given people a fresh lease to build a life of conscious choices. Choices that add value to this new life and for this very reason, it’s important that one nurtures and replenishes their own cup of self-care.” In order to walk the talk, Priya has built her own customised, go-to self-care tool kit whenever she feels overwhelmed. “I am aware one size never fits all. Everyone has their own way of dealing with things but you can make your own kit with anything that you truly enjoy doing when you are feeling stressed or burnt out.” So, what’s in her self-care tool kit? “Long walks that help me regulate my emotions. Nature is therapeutic, it is soul healing. Sometimes driving helps me too. Music and podcasts distract me from over-thinking. Speaking to family and friends helps me calm my mind. Journaling is one of the best tools of my survival kit: pouring out my thoughts and feelings on a note pad has been a game changer. You do

not need to save these if you are worried someone might read them: you can write your thoughts on paper, and then shred it or even burn it. Anything that’s bothering you – let it out of your system, on to the paper and let it go. Crying is one of the best self-soothing mechanisms that helps uplift my mood. Crying is not a sign that you are too sensitive or weak. Crying releases toxins and stress hormones which help restore our emotional balance and soothe the soul.” Priya also suggests keeping one hour of the day – or even just 20 minutes – to spend time with just yourself, sit with your feelings and acquaint yourself with the new you.

UNLEASHING THE POWER OF POSITIVITY
Ahmed Mohammed Younis, a quality engineer in the UAE, has his own unique way of coping with stress. “Stress can cause severe mental pressure in many ways. When it comes to me, I try my best to address and overcome this by identifying what stressed me out exactly and find answers as to why this is affecting me. This helps me in finding positive actions of what to do next to de-stress. Moreover, I do things that help me: getting busy with my friends and talking about positive things that can motivate me, going to the gym and working out... also, [looking for] food online plays a big role in overcoming stress for me!” Ahmed says. Stress cannot be avoided completely, so we must try and find coping mechanisms, and zero in on proper solutions on how to deal with them in a healthy and productive way. “We need to be easier on ourselves too. Fortunately, now there are many professionals who can help us seek positive life changes with tools suited to us. Sometimes we are our own worst critic. We have to learn to be kinder to ourselves and accept challenges in life as a learning process,” is how he sums up his life lessons. Stress is here to stay, and as we manage our careers and relationships – with their attendant good, bad and ugly sides – our main survival tool has to be accepting that stress and demons do live in our mind spaces. But it’s more important to talk about them and, at times, seek a helping hand so we can declutter our minds and hearts of negativity.

Jamiat Ulama-e-Hind Opposes UCC, Passes Resolution On Gyanvapi, Mathura Cases

Agenceis

Deoband (UP): Jamiat Ulama-e-Hind chief Maulana Mahmood Madani Sunday said those who ask Muslims to leave the country should leave themselves.

According to a statement issued by the organisation, Madani objected to the plans of some states to implement Uniform Civil Code.

"People of the community need not fear this, he said, asking Muslims to remain faithful to the religion and show firmness.

The former Rajya Sabha member was addressing the annual two-day session of the Jamiat's management committee.

He urged people to take along those who care for nation-building.

"We have to defeat the merchants of hate with wisdom, courage and a long-term strategy," he said. "We will not leave this country, those who want to send us out should themselves leave."

According to the statement, Jamiat Ulema-e-Hind's Assam unit president and Lok Sabha member Maulana Badruddin Ajmal criticised the government over various issues and said the "silence of Muslims should not be taken as weakness".

The organisation also passed



resolutions on the Gyanvapi Masjid case of Varanasi, the Shahi Idgah mosque dispute of Mathura and Uniform Civil Code, urging all Muslims to shun fear and despair, and work for the betterment of their future.

In the resolution on the Gyanvapi Masjid and Mathura Idgah cases, the organisation expressed its "deep anguish at the attitude of the political parties who support the forces disturbing the peace and tranquility of the country by repeatedly raising disputes over ancient shrines", the statement said.

"The country will not benefit from running campaigns to keep old controversies alive and in the name correcting the alleged excesses and mistakes of history."

"At present, such campaigns

are going on against the Gyanvapi Masjid in Varanasi, and the historic Idgah of Mathura and other mosques, which have damaged the peace, dignity and integrity of the country," the resolution said.

It alleged, "By raising these controversies, opportunities are being created for communal clashes and negative politics of majority domination."

The resolution also referred to the Place of Worship (Special Provisions) Act 1991 and the Supreme Court's decision on the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid dispute.

On Uniform Civil Code, it said, "Any change in (personal laws) or prohibiting anyone from following them is interference in the religion of in Islam and the guarantees given under Article 25 of the Constitution of India."

Two Dead, Trees Uprooted, Buildings Damaged As Heavy Rains, Winds Batter Delhi

Agenceis

New Delhi: Two persons were killed and several injured as heavy rains accompanied by strong winds battered the national capital on Monday evening, uprooting hundreds of trees, disrupting road and air traffic and damaging vehicles and buildings, including the iconic Jama Masjid.

Waterlogging and power outages were also reported in some areas. Police and fire brigade personnel responded to scores of rescue calls as trees fell on vehicles and passersby and incidents of wall collapse occurred, while civic bodies were busy clearing roads.

Delhi recorded 17.8 mm of rainfall till 5.30 PM, according to the weather department.

A 50-year-old man died in the Jama Masjid area in central Delhi after a portion of a balcony of a neighbouring house fell on him during the strong winds when he was standing outside his residence.

The victim, identified as Kailash, was declared brought dead at Sanjeevan hospital in Daryaganj, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Central) Shweta Chauhan said.

In the Angoori Bagh area of North Delhi, a 65-year-old homeless man identified as Basir Bada died after a Peepal tree fell on him, the police said.

In another instance, three members of a family including a one-year-old child were rescued after a Neem tree fell on a Creta car near Kabootar Market in Chandni Chowk.

The historic Jama Masjid also suffered damage as the finial of its middle dome broke. Its Shahi Imam Syed Ahmed Bukhari said two people were injured as loose stones fell from one of the minarets and other parts of the mosque.

According to police, 294 calls about fallen trees were received till 8 pm on Monday.

Eight calls of house collapse were reported by Delhi Fire Police. Commuters had a difficult time as traffic snarls were reported near ITO, AIIMS flyover, and DND. At least five flights were also diverted and 70 were delayed at the Delhi airport due to the thunderstorm, officials said.

The delayed flights included at least 40 departures, they said.

Delhi Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena visited some of the affected places.

"Distressed by the sight of uprooted trees, fallen branches and waterlogging at places after the early evening storm... Instructed officials to take immediate steps to remove debris and clear the roads immediately so as to mitigate the inconvenience to people," he tweeted.

Residents posted videos of cars shaking in the gusty winds and of fallen trees. In many places, vehicles were damaged after the trees fell on them owing to strong winds and rain.

West Delhi BJP MP Parvesh Sahib Singh Verma's car was also damaged after the branches of a tree fell on the vehicle parked at his official residence at Windsor Place.

"Till 7.15 PM, a total of 101 complaints were received about uprooted trees and broken branches. Work is on to clear the areas where such incidents have been witnessed. Several areas, including Bhagwan Das Road, Connaught Place, SP Marg, have already been cleared," a senior NDMC official said.

A red Volkswagen car was damaged after a piece of metal pierced its windshield while another car was reported trapped under an uprooted tree at Connaught Place.

Several trees were also uprooted inside the Jamia Millia Islamia where the walls of a building were also damaged, officials said.

According to varsity officials, many solar panels installed in the administrative block were blown away by the winds.

The walls of Zakir Husain Memorial suffered damage due to the heavy downpour.

Almost 200-300 trees would have suffered damage across the campus. The road outside the varsity campus witnessed traffic snarls.

The heavy rains and wind also damaged flags installed by the Delhi government at various locations.

Trees were also uprooted on the Bhai Vir Singh Marg in the Gole Market area near the Nepal Embassy and also near the Parliament Street police station leading to obstruction in traffic.

The Kasturba Gandhi Marg was completely closed for vehicular movement. There were also reports of poles damaging vehicles in the South Extension market while a Delhi Traffic Police booth at Vijay Chowk was damaged owing to strong winds.

Social media users tagged Delhi Traffic Police by sharing photos of various locations where trees had been uprooted.

The Delhi Police also assured people that their issues were being taken care of.

The wind was so strong that an air conditioner fell off a building on the Parliament Street, causing damage to cars and auto-rickshaws.

Commuters had a difficult time as traffic snarls were reported near ITO, AIIMS flyover, and DND.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Two Militants

was suspended during the night hours and in the wee hours the operation was resumed," the spokesperson said.

In the ensuing encounter, he said, two Jaish militants identified as Abid Hussain Shah of Monghama Pulwama and Saqib Azad Sofi of Amshipora Shopian were killed.

"Their bodies were retrieved along with the incriminating materials including 02 AK rifles from the site of encounter. All the recovered materials from the site of encounter have been taken into case records for further investigation," he added.

As per police records, the spokesperson said both the killed militants were categorized and were part of groups involved in several cases including attacks on Police/SF and "civilian atrocities".

Shah, he said, was involved in the killing of unarmed policeman Constable Reyaz Ahmad at his residential house at Gadoora area of Pulwama on May 13.

The spokesperson quoted IGP Kashmir, Vijay Kumar congratulating the joint forces for carrying out the operation in professional manner without any collateral damage.

Kumar, he said, also appreciated the joint team for tracking & neutralizing the militants involved in the recent killing of policeman in Pulwama.

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

PSA Slapped On

local militant recruitment.

"Those who motivate and lure young boys towards terrorism are being booked under PSA," he said.

Kumar, as per the spokesperson also said that police was also tracking new recruits through technical surveillance and bringing them back.

India, Pak 'Back

in reply, raised the Kashmir question and said that "peaceful settlement of outstanding disputes including Jammu & Kashmir is indispensable".

Meanwhile, a five-member Pakistani delegation crossed over to India via the Attari-Wagah border on Sunday to hold talks under the Indus Water Commission.

The delegation is led by Indus Water Commissioner Syed Maher Ali Shah.

The two sides also held the meetings under the Permanent Indus Commission, with the last one held in New Delhi in March last year.

This is the second Pakistani delegation to visit India in the last few weeks. Earlier this month a Pakistani delegation visited Delhi for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) regional anti-terror structure (RATS) meet.

On April 28, the Ministry of External Affairs had stated that there is no change in its stance towards Pakistan of desiring an atmosphere free of terrorism in order for talks to happen.

MEA spokesperson Arindam Bagchi, in a media briefing, said India's demand for an atmosphere free of terrorism for talks to happen is a legitimate right.

"Our stand is very simple, there should be an atmosphere free of terrorism, only in such an atmosphere can talks happen."

"Both PMs have exchanged courtesy letters, but our main issue has been that such an atmosphere be created where there is no terrorism. This is a legitimate right, without which there can be no talks," he said.

"There is no change in our stand," he said to a question whether India has changed its stance since the election of the new Pakistan PM earlier this month.

PM Modi, in a letter congratulating Shehbaz Sharif, had asked him to build "normal

neighbourly relations" between the two countries which would be for "the benefit of the region".

The letter sent on April 12 called for "constructive engagement" and reminded the Pakistani side that "India remains committed to advancing peace, security and prosperity in the region".

Sharif in response expressed his desire for peaceful ties with India and resolution of "all the outstanding issues, including Kashmir."

Jammu Police

Pakistan with a payload of arms and ammunition in the Jammu sector since June 2020.

Tribals Faced

he said, underscored that sustained attention is being paid to ensure that quality education is brought within the reach of people who were long deprived of their rights.

"New hostels, smart classes and record number of scholarships for tribal students will open the doors of economic prosperity and all-round development," the LG said.

"Between 1976-2020, only 26 hostels were established for tribal students, while 37 new hostels will be added by 2023. In the last 21 months, steps have been taken to ensure empowerment of all marginalized & weaker groups," he added.

Noting that the Tribal Community in J&K was neglected and discriminated against since independence, the LG, as per the spokesperson said that never before have tribal community prospects been as bright as they are today.

"Forest Rights Act, PM Van Dhan Yojna, SHGs, Healthcare, Transport Facility, Hostels, Tourist Village, Skill Development, and every initiative has been aimed at ensuring progress of J&K in an equitable, fair and just manner," Sinha said, adding that his government is making all efforts to enhance the sources of livelihood for the tribal population.

"UT administration is setting up 100 Van Dhan Kendras in Jammu and Kashmir so that the tribal community can get the right price for the valuable products sourced from the forests," he said.

According to the spokesperson, the LG also announced the creation of 1500 Van Dhan Self Help Groups in the UT to make women of the tribal community financially independent. He said an amount of Rs 15 crores has also been made available.

On ensuring access to quality and affordable education for the children of tribal community, the LG, as per the spokesperson said that the UT administration has reviewed the scholarships of the students at various levels and hiked the same across the board in line with the contemporary realities.

He said that for students associated with the seasonal schools, children up to middle school were still being given an annual scholarship of Rs 450 to 675. A committee was formed to examine this, and now this scholarship is being increased to Rs 2400 annually, which will directly benefit about 34,000 students.

Similarly, he said, the review of scholarship in higher education had not been done from 2012 onwards, and technical courses and post-graduate students also got only 30 thousand rupees annual scholarship.

"This is also being increased to Rs 60 to 80 thousand annually, which will benefit 12,000 youths of the tribal community," he added.

The spokesperson further said that the LG recalled his pledge to set up 100 smart schools in tribal areas in November last year and said that in March this year, the task of converting all 100 schools into smart schools has been completed, which include six such schools in Pulwama that now possess same state-of-the-art facilities as available in the schools of big cities.

"The Tribal Affairs Department in association with the District Administration is also developing a Cluster Tribal Model Village in

Pulwama at a cost of Rs 10 crore," Sinha said.

As per the spokesperson, the LG appreciated the efforts of Tribal Affairs Department for completing the construction of this Transit Residential School in Goripora at a cost of Rs.6.68 crores in record time.

Sinha, he said, also stated that another such residential school is being built in Shopian and apart from education facilities, both these residential schools will also have medical facilities, sports facility, library, food and other facilities.

"In order to provide equal rights to girls in the field of education, the government has also established 100-bedded hostels for the girls of tribal community at a cost of Rs.3.06 crores," the LG added.

According to the spokesperson, the LG observed that the UT administration will give new energy and momentum to the process of social development in Jammu and Kashmir by connecting the neglected Tribal Community with the mainstream.

Sinha, he said, expressed gratitude to Prime Minister and said that it was only because of his efforts that nine seats of the UT assembly have been reserved for the tribal community, which in true sense reflects a step taken towards empowering them politically.

"The rights of weaker sections enshrined in constitution were denied for 70 long years; benefits of development were not allowed to reach the last man in the queue. By removing divisive, discriminatory policies, we have made all sections of the community effective partners in the process of development," the LG added.

None From Kashmir

services examination is conducted annually by the UPSC in three stages preliminary, main and interview to select officers of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Foreign Service (IFS) and the Indian Police Service (IPS) among others.

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha extended his best wishes to the successful candidates.

"A hearty congratulation to all aspirants from J&K who made it to the final list of CSE 2021. Your success will motivate many more young talents of J&K to qualify civil services. My best wishes to all selected candidates. A bright & challenging career in public service awaits you," the office of LG J&K Tweeted on Monday, (With GNS inputs)

NAS 2021 Report

for Mathematics the percentage stood at 59 in comparison to 57 while as for EVS, it was 59 as against 57.

The management participation ratio with respect to schools run by the state government, private recognized and central government was at 46, 47 and 7 per cent respectively.

However, there was no significant improvement over the NAS 2017 results, with the exception of Mathematics, which showed a modest improvement. The performance of boys and girls did not differ significantly, despite the fact that girls scored marginally higher at all levels—basic, competent, and advanced.

Pulwama topped the results with 73.4% followed by Srinagar at 71.6 and Anantnag at 70.1 as against the national average of 59%. Jammu stood at 66.4.

The quality of the teaching staff and sports facilities were praised by the head teachers who also emphasized the need to increase audio-visual and library facilities. The Covid-19 epidemic did cause issues, with 40% of pupils reporting difficulties studying at home.

The percentage ratio of boys to girls in class 5 was 50.9 and 49.1, respectively, while the urban-rural participation ratio was 76 and 24. In schools run by the state government, private recognized institutions, and the central government, the management participation ratio was 43%, 49%, and 7%, respectively.

Language had a performance percentage

of 61, which was higher than the national average of 55. Similarly, the percentage for Mathematics was 48, compared to 44, and for EVS, it was 54, compared to 48.

In comparison to the NAS 2017 results, there was a significant improvement in Mathematics and EVS, though Language scored 13 points lower.

Even while girls scored somewhat higher at all levels—basic, proficient, and advanced—the performance of boys and girls did not differ significantly.

Anantnag came out on top with 64.8 percent, followed by Pulwama with 62.7 percent and Srinagar with 62.6 percent, compared to a national average of 49 percent. Jammu had a score of 59.0.

In class 8, the percentage ratio of boys to girls was 49.3 and 50.7, respectively, while the percentage ratio of urban to rural participation was 77 and 23.

In schools run by the state government, private recognized schools, and the central government, the management participation ratio was 52%, 43%, and 5%, respectively.

Language had a performance percentage of 59, which was higher than the national average of 53. Similarly, the percentage for Mathematics was 39 versus 36, for EVS, 45 versus 39, and for Social Science, 43 versus 39.

In comparison to the national average of 41.9 percent, Srinagar led the rankings with 55.7 percent, followed by Anantnag at 53.2 and Jammu at 52.7.

Head teachers were pleased with the teaching staff and sports facilities, but they emphasized the need to increase audio-visual and library resources. The Covid epidemic did cause issues, with 98 percent of pupils reporting some type of difficulty when studying at home.

For class 10, the percentage ratio of boys to girls was 48.9 and 51.1, respectively, while the urban-rural participation ratio was 71 and 29.

In schools run by the state government, private recognized institutions, and the central government, the management participation ratio was 51, 45, and 4%, respectively.

Mathematics had a performance % of 31 compared to the national average of 32, Science had a performance percentage of 38 to 35, Social Science had a performance percentage of 39 to 37, and English had a performance percentage of 50 to 43. It was 36 to 41 for Modern Indian Languages (MIL).

Compared to NAS 2017, Mathematics and Science had a little improvement, while Social Science, English, and MIL took a dip.

In comparison to the national average of 37.8%, Jammu topped the rankings with 46.3 percent, followed by Srinagar with 44.5 percent and Anantnag with 43.3 percent.

Director State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), Prof Veena Pandita, while congratulating the School Education Department and commenting on the report card said the efforts of everyone involved in the education system helped significantly in putting J&K ahead of the national average in the recently declared NAS results.

"I'd like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Principal Secretary B K Singh, Director School Education Jammu, Director School Education Kashmir, Project Director Samagra Shiksha, Chief Education Officers and the NAS team from SCERT for their efforts to make this survey a success," Prof Pandita said.

"All this would have been not possible without the ever sincere and dedicated efforts of our coordinators at the district level, representatives from the CBSE, Principals of the DIETs (District Nodal Officers), field investigators and observers," she added.

SCERT had taken a slew of measures, particularly in light of the NAS-17 results, which were not encouraging.

Prior to the NAS survey, the SCERT performed a UT-level assessment of classes 3, 5, and 8 on September 30, 2021, with the goal

of discovering learning gaps created by the Covid-19 epidemic.

"The survey, which was performed throughout all of J&K UT's districts, served as a dress rehearsal for the NAS," stated G H Reshi, Academic Officer.

"Because the survey was conducted along the same lines as the NAS, the task ahead of us became relatively easy," he added.

The SCERT gave unused survey question sheets to students from time to time to familiarize them with the evaluation methodology, he said.

Director Pandita said the results would help us to comprehend effectively the students' performance as per the different learning outcomes vis-à-vis the contextual variables. She urged the teachers to work harder in future to improve the performance and quality further.

Militancy In J&K

who struggled over the last few years," he added.(KNS)

Youngsters In J&K

cause health problems, such as heart disease. Overall, the report has found that non-communicable diseases (NCDs) account for 65% of all deaths in India. The major metabolic risk factors for NCDs are obesity, high blood pressure and high blood glucose in the blood.

Based on blood pressure measurement during the survey, the report noted, 21.3% of women aged above 15 have hypertension, including 12.4% with mildly elevated blood pressure, 3.6% with moderately elevated blood pressure, and 1.6% with severely elevated blood pressure in India.

Besides, hypertension NFHS has also revealed the patterns of high blood glucose by background characteristics which are quite similar to those of hypertension. For both men and women, the report noted, the prevalence of high and very high blood glucose increases sharply with age.

Among the states, the prevalence of combined high and very high blood glucose among women aged above 15 ranges from 6 percent in Ladakh to 21 percent in Kerala. For men, the prevalence ranges from 7 percent each in Ladakh and Jammu & Kashmir to 24 percent in Kerala.

According to the survey, in J&K, 92.7 percent of women and 93 percent of men have normal blood glucose (sugar) levels. However, 4.2 percent and 3.1 percent of women have high and very high sugar levels respectively, while for men, high and very high blood glucose levels range from 4.3 percent and 2.7 percent, respectively.

Last year, Kashmir Observer reported that Hypertension has assumed an epidemic proportion in J&K as 19 percent of the population above 15 years were suffering from high blood pressure and taking medicines to control it.

No New Corona

death toll in the pandemic remained unchanged at 4752 in J&K, as no fresh fatality was reported during the last 24 hours.

Labourer From

the incident, a missing report was filed at the Khari police post, they said, adding that a search operation has started. (PTI)

Minor Boy Killed

However, one of the minor identified as eight-year-old Muhammad Ali, son of Muhammad Javed of Jaipur, Rajasthan, succumbed to his injuries.

The other injured persons including three minors were identified as Muhammad Ibraheem (9), Zainab (15); Sania (30), Nazia (32) and Maira (2)—all hailing from Jaipur Rajasthan. He said that Sonamarg police has taken cognizance of the incident and started investigation in this regard—(KNO)

Azad Not In RS Contestants List: Loyalists Happy With Cong Decision

Agencies

SRINAGAR: As the senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad didn't figure in the list of party's Rajya Sabha contestants, his loyalists on Monday said that the party has accepted their suggestions and that the former chief minister will be contesting in Lok Sabha elections from Rajouri-Poonch-Anantnag constituency in the next parliamentary polls.

"Everybody is happy with the decisions as it was our plan to see our leader contesting LS polls from J&K. We had approached the party high commands in this regard and they have accepted our suggestions," Choudhary Akram former MLA Surankote said.

He said that the people of J&K want Azad to contest LS polls. "Azad is a top level leader and people from noth Jammu as well as Kashmir love him. The people will be supporting Azad Sahab in LS polls," he said, adding that the party high command has re-

spected their suggestions.

Former MLA Kishtwar, G M Saroori said that Azad has personally rejected to participate in RS polls as he has decided to focus on Jammu and Kashmir only.

"Azad Sahab want to strengthen the party at the grass roots level. He has been given several assignments and wants to serve the people in J&K, who have been deprived of even the basic facilities here from last several years," he said.

"The party had already decided not to figure Azad Sahab in the list of RS contestants. With this decisions, the party leaders as well as the people of Jammu and Kashmir are happy, who witnessed golden period under Azad's rule in J&K," Saroori said.

Pertinently, Congress on Sunday announced 10 candidates for the June 10 RS polls. Nonetheless, G-23 leaders including Ghulam Nabi Azad and Anand Sharma, who were speculated to be in the list could not make the cut—(KNO)

Peace In J&K Not Possible Without Winning Hearts Of People: Dr Farooq

Observer News Service

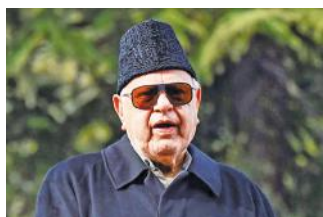
NEW DELHI: National Conference (NC) President and Member of Parliament from Srinagar Dr. Farooq Abdullah on Monday underscored the importance of National unity and integration in encouraging national development.

While speaking in the Muslim Intellectuals' meet at the Aiwan-e-Ghalib auditorium in Delhi, he said that the key to India's success is its diversity.

"Our diversity is the core that makes us so unique and it's that unity in diversity that adds up to our national strength," he said.

NC leader and MP Anantnag Hasnain Masoodi was also present at the function.

"India's Muslims are an Increasingly Marginalized Population. Muslims in India are today seen with suspicion despite the fact that Muslims took part in the national struggle for independence and gave their lives for the country's honour. Sher e Kashmir also belonged to that tribe of selfless heroes, who endured incarcerations, and difficulties for their cherished dream of freeing the country from the yolk of imperialism, feudalism and despotism. Many people believe Muslims didn't contribute to India's Indepen-



dence from British rule," he said

"To make it worse, there are not many sources available that disclose Muslims' contribution to India's Independence. The generations brought up over this narrative believe that either the Indian Muslims were aloof from the freedom struggle. In this age of social media, we find people questioning the patriotism of the Indian Muslims based on this false understanding of the freedom struggle. The reality however is that Muslims took an active part in the country's freedom struggle and even post-independence era, it is needless to say how actively Muslims participated in nation building," he added.

On the situation in Kashmir he said, "The law and order situation is deteriorating with every passing day. There cannot be peace in J&K till you win the hearts of the people. The incumbent government needs to understand that."

MoS Jitendra Singh Inaugurates School In Budgam

Observer News Service

BUDGAM: Union Minister of State (IC) Ministry of Science and Technology; Minister of State (IC) Ministry of Earth Science; MoS in Prime Minister's Office and Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh on Monday inaugurated recently completed upgraded Boys High School building having smart class facility with digitilised system at Ompora Budgam.

The 10-room double story school building for smart class rooms also comprises of facilities including library and common hall.

During interaction with staff and students, the Minister assured that the school building shall be highly equipped with latest facilities including smart classrooms and solar facility on priority.

During his visit to Budgam district the Minister also interacted with covid affected children at Conference Hall Budgam.

Commemorating 8 years of the

Modi Govt, he distributed cheques of Rs. 10 k, School Bags, Ayushman Bharat (Golden cards), scholarships under Saksham scheme among the beneficiaries who have been adversely hit during the pandemic.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister said that on the completion of 8 years of Prime Minister Narendra Modi led government, the Centre has launched PM Care for children, an initiative to reach out to children.

He said that the aim of the initiative is to send a message across the country that the affected children who have lost their parents should not feel orphans.

"They are our own children, and we as a society have collective responsibility to take care of them," Minister said.

He further said that the Union government is committed to good governance, and assured all possible support to these children and all other destitute through various schemes and initiatives launched by the central government.

Several Vehicles Washed Away In Flash Floods In Jammu



Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Several vehicles were washed away after heavy rains triggered flash floods in Devika river in the Purmandal area on the outskirts of the city, officials said.

Hundreds of people had thronged Purmandal, called as Chota Kashi, to pay obeisance at Lord Shiva temple complex on

Soma Amavasya and a makeshift market was set up on dry Devika river bed, they said.

Devika river, which is also known as Gupta Ganga, runs as dry river bed through Purmandal-Utterbani belt and devotees dug dry sand beds to take a bath, the officials said.

Due to heavy rains in adjoining hilly areas, there was a gush of water, they said.

Six to seven vehicles parked on dry river beds were washed away in the flash floods, the officials said. There was no loss of life, they said

In Kathua district, several vehicles were trapped after heaving rains triggered flash-floods on a highway at Hatli Morh, the officials said.

Students stuck inside a bus were rescued, they said

MeT Predicts More Rainfall In J&K

SRINAGAR: Weatherman on Monday forecast scattered to fairly widespread light rain and thunderstorm over Jammu and Kashmir in next 48 hours.

A meteorological department official here also said Srinagar recorded a low of 14.3°C against 13.7°C on the previous night. The temperature, he said, was above normal by 2.3°C during this time of the year for the summer capital.

Qazigund recorded a low of 13.4°C against 11.2°C on the previous night. The temperature was 2.7°C above normal for the gateway town of Kashmir, he said.

Pahalgam recorded a minimum of 9.6°C against 6.7°C on the previous night. The temperature was 3.5°C above normal for the famous resort in south Kashmir during this time of the season, he said.

Kokernag recorded a low of 11.9°C against 11.1°C on the previous night. It was 1.3°C above normal during this time of the season for the place in south Kashmir, the official said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 5.0°C against 4.5°C on the previous night, the official said. While 7.1°C is normal for the world famous skiing resort during this time of the season, the official said that the

temperature was 2.1°C below normal for the place in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

Kupwara town in north Kashmir recorded a low of 11.2°C against 11.7°C on the previous night. The temperature was 0.6°C above normal for the district, the official said.

Jammu recorded a low of 25.4°C against 23.6°C on the previous night, the official said. The temperature was 0.5°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said. Banihal recorded a low of 14.8°C, Batote recorded a low of 14.6°C while Bhadarwah recorded a minimum of 13.1°C, the official said. (GNS)

AMARNATH YATRA

Mehta Orders Swift Passage Of Pilgrims At Checkpoints

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Monday held a high level meeting of civil and police administration to take stock of arrangements made for the upcoming Shri Amarnathji Yatra, 2022.

Dr Mehta enjoined upon the officers that the experience of yatris on pilgrimage to holy cave should be a pleasant one and all of them should turn as the ambassadors for promoting J&K as a better tourism destination. He stressed on them to ensure that all pilgrims have a swift passage at the checkpoints and no yatri should have to wait for more than 30 minutes while going into the base camps.

The meeting was attended by the Administrative Secretaries of Home, Finance, PWD, RDD, Health, Forest, Culture, Tourism, Divisional Commissioners, ADGPs, Municipal Commissioners, CEO Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board besides the concerned Deputy Commissioners from both the divisions.

Jammu based officers participated in the meeting through video conferencing.

Dr Mehta stressed on the officers to speed up the process of starting online registration for helicopter services. He directed the Shrine Board to work for offering this facility to prospective yatris from 1st of June itself. He also asked them to notify the rates of this service provided to yatris soon.



The Chief Secretary took first hand appraisal from all the Deputy Commissioners of the civil works related to the smooth conduct of the yatra. He enquired from them the kind of arrangements and back up plans for providing reliable accommodation, water, electricity facilities made by each of them in their districts.

He directed them to ensure that appropriate number of washrooms, dustbins, sanitation workers are in place at each designated location. He also advised them to look into the provision for availability of a mobile STP to be used for better upkeep of the yatra holding areas. He stressed on making all the base camps and other sites comfortable, clean and hygienic using modern techniques and technology.

Dr Mehta asked the Deputy Commissioners of Anantnag and Ganderbal to examine both the routes up to holy cave themselves and see that all critical, protective works have been carried out satisfactorily. He said that in coming days he would himself travel on Jammu-Srinagar highway to take

stock of arrangements himself.

The Chief Secretary impressed upon the Culture Department, Deputy Commissioners and Municipal Commissioners to brace up their areas for the delightful welcome of the pilgrims by conducting the cultural programmes etc. He asked them to ensure proper cleanliness and illumination of all the routes and areas so that the aura looks festive and felicitous.

He asked them to rope in SHGs for this purpose so that they also had an opportunity to showcase their products. He took note of all the preparations made till date by departments like Health, Jal Shakti, PDD, PWD, RDD, H&UDD, BRO, Shrine Board, and the divisional and district administration. He directed them that there should be high end arrangements from each quarter without any scope of lacuna or laxity.

The Chief Secretary asked them to have close liaison with each other so that the yatra is conducted in an amicable atmosphere as the same is carried out after two years break of covid pandemic.

Communication Firm 'Dupes' Anantnag Man Of Rs 3 Crore

HC Dismisses Petition Seeking Action Against Office Bearers

Basit Amin Makhdoomi

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir High Court on Monday dismissed a petition seeking criminal proceedings against officer bearers of a company for allegedly duping a man from South Kashmir's Anantnag district worth Rs 3 crore.

A single Judge Bench of Justice Sanjay Dhar quashed a complaint and cheating proceedings initiated against office bearers of a firm 'Aizen Communication Pvt. Ltd.' for allegedly duping Nisar Ahmad Dar of Rs 3 crores.

The complaint against company's officer bearers comprising chief managing director, managing director, manager and clerk was filed before the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Anantnag, alleging that they had entered into a criminal conspiracy by forming the company 'Aizen Communications Pvt. Ltd.' to cheat the complainant.

The court ruled that criminal proceedings cannot be initiated against office bearers of a company for acts done by the company, unless there are specific allegations against the office bearers and the company is arraigned as an accused.

The complaint had alleged that he was introduced by Managing Director of the company to other accused who were on tour to Kashmir valley to promote the business of the company. Subsequently, a meeting was held by the petitioners with the respondent/complainant at Anantnag and the respondent was invited to invest money in the company and the company,

in return, assured to pay double the amount within a span of three years with bonus.

The complainant's case was that he was duped of Rs 3 crores after he believed in the scheme of the company. The complainant further alleged that the petitioners, after collecting huge wealth, stopped communication and fled from the valley thereby committing the offence of cheating.

After hearing the counsel for the petitioners, the High Court said that there can be no quarrel with the proposition that vicarious liability of managing director, director or any other office bearer of a body corporate would arise only if there exists any provision regarding the same in the statute.

It is also a settled law that even where vicarious liability is fastened under certain statutes, without impleading company as a party, no proceedings can be initiated against its director/officer bearers, the Court said.

"It is clear that Penal Code does not contain any provision for attaching vicarious liability on the office bearers of a company. Unless there are specific allegations against the office bearer of the company and the company is made an accused, the criminal proceedings against its office bearers cannot be initiated," the Court said.

The High Court further stated that the Magistrate before issuing process against the petitioners who were residing beyond the limits of his territorial jurisdiction, did not conduct enquiry/investigation in the case, which is mandatory in terms of Section 202 of the CrPc.

Therefore, the order passed by the Magistrate issuing process deserves to be quashed, the Court ordered.

South Asia Women's Conference At KIIT Discusses The Path To Inclusive Development

Observer News Service

BHUBANESWAR: KIIT and KISS Universities of the Temple City, the flag bearer global institutions practicing and propagating gender equality, zero-tolerance against gender-based violence, an entrepreneurship programme for tribal women and girls, capacity building of women in tribal districts, education for all and empowerment through sports, held the opening day sessions of South Asia Women's Conference (SAWC) 2022.

The two-day event, in association with the United States Consulate General Hyderabad, held in association with multiple UN bodies, has started discussing sustainable networking for the development of women and girls in South Asia. The SAWC 2022 theme this year is "To-

wards an Equitable, Inclusive and Sustainable World." Seventy delegates are participating in the meet.

Welcoming the delegates Vice-Chancellor of KIIT University and Chairman of the inaugural session, Prof Sasmita Samanta said "Women are the epitome of knowledge and we have to connect to the globe to assert the power that we possess with humility."

She also observed that women of South Asia have the unique culture of safeguarding the well-being of all around them with their noble qualities like tolerance, peace, and patience, but neglecting their own selves. This conference will try to zero in on the reasons behind such neglect so that the well-being of women folks would be taken care of, in the future.

Bidhuri Takes Stock Of Arrangements At Hajj House Srinagar

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Commissioner Secretary, Revenue, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri on Monday visited Hajj House here and took stock of the arrangements put in place by the Government for smooth departure of Hajj pilgrims selected this year.

The Commissioner Secretary was accompanied by CEO, Hajj Committee, J&K, Abdul Salam Mir; Special Secretary, Revenue, K.K Sidha; Director Health Services, Kashmir, Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Rather; Under Secretary Revenue Mushtaq Ahmad Bhat and other senior officers of the allied departments.

During the visit, the Commissioner Secretary went round the Hajj complex and directed the CEO to ensure comfortable stay and departure of the Hajj pilgrims. He asked the authorities to take all steps for maintenance as well as cleanliness in and around the Hajj house.

During the visit, CEO HAJ Committee briefed the Commissioner Secretary about the facilities available in the Hajj house for the convenience of Hajj pilgrims. Pertinently, this year 5902 persons are going for holy pilgrimage which include 5700 from J&K UT and 202 from Ladakh UT.

In A First, J&K Govt Facilitates Nomads' Journey To High Land Pastures

Transit Accommodations Coming Up At 8 Places At A Cost Of Rs 28 Cr

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Come summer in Kashmir, nomadic population of Jammu and Kashmir start moving towards the valley for onward trekking to high pastures. Kashmir offers best and stimulant grazing for the livestock, which keeps roaming whatever the weather conditions prevail on higher reaches.

Thus far, the movement of shepherds and cattle breeders used to be

a common phenomenon in Jammu areas up to Khanabal via nearly 290 km national highway. However, the UT administration of Jammu and Kashmir, for the first time, put a halt to laborious exercise of moving over vehicularly congested roads and deployed 40 Road Transport Corporation trucks for onward journey of cattle and cattle breeders up to the high pastures.

Every year by ending March, thousands of nomads begin their annual seasonal journey with lakhs of sheep and goats from Jammu region to reach the Kashmir valley. These families embark on their journey towards the alpine pastures



for grazing during the summer before returning to warmer districts of Jammu region in October as the temperature goes down.

The hard journey from Jammu on foot to greener pastures of Kashmir used to consume lot of

precious time for nomads leading to financial loss and physical strain. The hardships of these nomads further aggravated over the years due to dwindling number of primary source of transportation, horses. Transportation of their

household goods and cattle to the upper reaches through tricks and load carriers was a long pending demand of these nomads before the administration.

On the directions of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, the department initiated a special project envisaging a transhumant support system including transit accommodations and transport facilities for the migratory population.

In line with the announcement made by Lieutenant Governor to minimize hardship being faced by the tribals during seasonal migration, the Tribal Affairs Department procured a fleet of 40 trucks for

transporting around 30,000 families from Jammu to Kashmir via Mughal road and National Highway-44 connecting Jammu with Srinagar. These trucks were procured by the department through J&K Road Transport Corporation.

This initiative has been taken on the direction of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha who has announced various steps for welfare of tribals of J&K", Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, Secretary, Tribal Affairs Department said during the flagging of trucks.

He said that this initiative will minimize the hardships being faced by nomads during seasonal migration

tion adding that this is for the first time in the history of J&K that livestock of tribals is being transported to highland pastures in trucks.

Pertinently, Jammu and Kashmir government had earlier announced provision of transport/freight services for the migratory tribal population during the annual migration to highland pastures. There was persistent demand from the migratory tribal community that they face a lot of hardships during migration due to traffic jams and other hindrances and to make their journey smoother they should be provided some transportation mode.

AIFF D Licence Certificate Course Concludes



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A six-day long AIFF D Licence Certificate Course, organised by J&K Football Association (JKFA) concluded on Monday at Gundun Ground, Rajbagh here.

"The certificate course was held in collaboration with J&K Sports Council (JKSC) and with the help of Real Kashmir FC and was successfully completed on 29th May 2022 under the supervision of AFC Instructor Mangesh Deasi," a JKFA statement said.

"The course is a part of Coach Education Programme of AIFF which is designed to produce coaches for the country. Twenty four candidates across the J&K UT which included some prominent and professional footballers of the J&K attended the course,"

the statement added.

JKFA officials and Mush-taq Ahmad, Manager Gundun Ground Rajbagh, Srinagar were also present on the occasion.

Prof. B.A Shah, while addressing the participants passed on his good wishes to the candidates and assured all possible support for the development of football in J&K. He stressed for the coaches to implement the information gained during the course to the progeny on the ground so that the budding footballers are benefited by their expertise.

"J&K Football Association express sincere thanks to Nuzhat Gul, Secretary JKSC for providing logistic support for the course and Sandeep Chattoo, Chairman Real Kashmir FC his contribution to make the programme a success," the statement concluded.

ISDL Table Tennis Tournament For U-19 Boys Held At Shopian



Observer News Service

SHOPIAN: Department of Youth Services and Sports District Shopian on Monday organised an Inter School District level competition in the discipline of Table Tennis for U-19 Boys at Mini Secretariat, here.

The competition was inaugurated by District Youth Service and Sports Officer Gurmukh Singh

On the occasion, Dutta in-

teracted with the students and gave a brief description about the benefits of Table Tennis. He said like most sports, table tennis offers great mind-body stimulation, aerobic exercise and social interaction.

Unlike many sports, however, the overall risk for injury with table tennis is quite low. Due to the fast-paced, short-distance nature of the sport, both gross and fine muscle movements are improved, he added.

French Open: Nadal To Face Djokovic After 5-Set Victory



Agencies

PARIS: By the end of only the third five-setter Rafael Nadal has played in 112 career matches at Roland Garros, as the sun and temperature descended and the chants of "Ra-fa! Ra-fa!" filled the evening air, the man known as the King of Clay showed precisely what this meant to him.

With every sprint-slide-and-stretch to reach a seemingly unreachable shot off the yellow racket of his opponent, Felix Auger-Aliassime; with every right-to-a-corner winner; with every well-struck volley, Nadal would hop or throw an uppercut or scream "Vamos!" — and, often, all of the above.

Nadal got through his first serious test of this French Open by edging No. 9 seed Auger-Aliassime 3-6, 6-3, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3

across nearly 4 1/2 hours of even, entertaining tennis in the fourth round Sunday at Court Philippe Chatrier.

"Being honest, every match that I play here, I don't know if it's going to be my last match here in Roland Garros. ... That's my situation now," said Nadal, who turns 36 on Friday. "That's why I am just trying to enjoy as much as possible."

And the reward for coming through this one? A tantalizing matchup against rival Novak Djokovic in Tuesday's quarterfinals.

The significance of the rivalry: Tuesday's meeting will be their 59th, more than any other two men have played each other in the sport's professional era. Djokovic leads 30-28, although Nadal has a 7-2 advantage at the French Open.

After IPL, Hardik Pandya Wants To Win T20 World Cup For India



Reuters

NEW DELHI: After leading Gujarat Titans to the Indian Premier League (IPL) title in their first season, winning the Twenty20 World Cup for India is next on Hardik Pandya's bucket list.

Pandya led by example in Sunday's final against 2008 champions Rajasthan Royals as Gujarat triumphed by seven wickets in front of more than one lakh fans at their home ground in Ahmedabad.

Pandya claimed three crucial wickets, including that of the tournament's leading scorer Jos Buttler, to restrict Rajasthan to a total which Gujarat chased down with 11 balls to

spare.

It also proved Pandya has fully recovered from a back injury which had forced him to play purely as a batter over the last two seasons.

Asked what would be his next goal, the 28-year-old said: "Absolutely to win the World Cup for India no matter what happens."

"I am going to give it everything I have. Always been that kind of guy to put the team first. For me the goal will be simple: to make sure my team gets it the most."

"It has always been a pleasure for me to represent the country ... Long term, short term. I want to win the World Cup no matter what happens."

Former players including ex-India captain Sunil Gavaskar have praised Pandya's composed and deft leadership which, they believe, was crucial to Gujarat's victory.

"Obviously this will be a little special because I have won it as a captain," said Pandya, who had won four IPL titles with Mumbai Indians before taking up the leadership role at Gujarat.

"I consider myself very lucky that I have played five finals, and have lifted the trophy five times."

"Obviously this will leave a legacy because we are a new franchise, playing for the first time, and we are champions in the first season."

BCCI Announces Rs 1.25 Crore Reward For Curators & Groundsmen

Press Trust of India

AHMEDABAD: Calling them 'unsung heroes', the BCCI on Monday announced a prize money of Rs 1.25 crore for the curators and groundsmen, who worked during the just-concluded Indian Premier League.

New entrants Gujarat Titans lifted the winners' trophy after thrashing Rajasthan Royals by seven wickets in the summit clash on Sunday night.

"I'm pleased to announce a prize money of INR 1.25 crores for the men who gave us the best games in #TATAIPL 2022. The unsung heroes — our curators and groundsmen across 6 IPL venues this season," Jay Shah said in a tweet.

"We've witnessed some high octane games and I would like (to) thank each one of them for their hardwork. 25 lacs each



for CCI, Wankhede, DY Patil and MCA, Pune, 12.5 lacs each for Eden and Narendra Modi stadium."

For the first time, the BCCI is giving hefty incentives to groundsmen.

The 70 league matches of the cash-rich league were played at four venues in Maharashtra

— Wankhede stadium and Brabourne stadium in Mumbai, the DY Patil stadium in Navi Mumbai and the Maharashtra Cricket Association stadium at Gahunje in Pune.

The play-offs were played at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata and the Narendra Modi stadium in Ahmedabad.

Robert Lewandowski Says Time At Bayern Munich Is 'Over'

Agencies

POLAND: Robert Lewandowski's time at Bayern Munich appears to be over.

The Poland striker, who has been linked with a move to Barcelona, said at a news conference ahead of his national team's training camp on Monday that a transfer would be the best outcome for all sides.

"As of today one thing is certain, that my story with Bayern Munich is over and after everything that took place in recent months I cannot imagine further good cooperation ... I am aware that the transfer will be the best solution for both parties," said Lewandowski, whose contract with the Bavarian club runs for another season. "I believe that Bayern will not stop me (forcibly) just because it has the opportunity."

Lewandowski was speaking in Warsaw ahead of Poland's Nations League match against Wales on Wednesday.

Sitting next to him, Poland coach Czeslaw Michniewicz said: "It looks today that Bayern will use this year of contract and Robert will have to stay. The sooner it is sorted out the better for Robert because he



will have his head clear and will focus on the work.

"I am sure that a new impulse in the form of a change of league and surroundings will have only good effects on Robert and he will be able to pursue his dreams."

The 33-year-old forward previously told Polish broadcaster Eleven Sports it would be "hard to know if I'll still be playing for Bayern next season."

Lewandowski's agent, Pini Zahavi, and Barcelona have reportedly verbally agreed on a three-year deal but Bayern has been firm in its stance that the player is not for sale.

Lewandowski's latest com-

ments — his strongest yet — are unlikely to be well received in Munich, where Bayern sporting director Hasan Salihamidzic and chief executive Oliver Kahn have both said he will fulfil his contract.

He has scored 312 goals in 384 Bundesliga games for Bayern and former club Borussia Dortmund.

Lewandowski hit 35 goals in 34 appearances last season to become the Bundesliga's leading scorer for the fifth season in a row, and the seventh time overall.

He broke the old record for Bundesliga goals in a season with 41 last year.

Australia To Tour India For White-Ball Series Ahead Of T20 WC



Indo-Asian News Service

MELBOURNE: World T20 champions Australia will play a white-ball series in India this September ahead of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup, the dates for which are yet to be announced.

Cricket Australia (CA) on Monday announced an action-packed summer schedule, with the T20 World Cup on home soil between October 16 and November 13 the standout. They will also play home series against the West Indies and England ahead of the showpiece event.

CA announced that Australia will play two matches against the West Indies on the Gold Coast and three matches against England in Brisbane and Canberra in the run-up to the 20-over showcase.

Australia will also host England in a three-match ODI series after the T20 World Cup, before back-to-back Test series against

the West Indies and South Africa starting at the end of November.

CA chose to depart from tradition and award Optus Stadium in Perth the first Test of the home summer, with Adelaide Oval then hosting the second and final Test against the West Indies that will be part of the World Test Championship.

The Gabba (Brisbane) will then host the opening Test against the Proteas prior to Christmas, before the traditional Boxing Day Test at the MCG and New Year's Test at the SCG, according to ICC.

The dates for the upcoming women's series were also announced, with Australia hosting Pakistan in ODI and T20I series in January prior to the Women's ICC T20 World Cup in South Africa in February.

Meg Lanning's side will also take part in the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham this year, before embarking on a tour of India during December.

Abramovich Completes Sale Of Chelsea To Boehly-Led Consortium



Reuters

LONDON: Roman Abramovich has completed the sale of Chelsea and related companies to an investment group led by Todd Boehly and Clearlake Capital, the Premier League club said on Monday.

The consortium, which won the bid to acquire the London side earlier this month, received approval from the Premier League and the British government last week for the sale to go ahead. A final agreement was reached on Saturday.

Russian owner Abramovich put the club up for sale in early March following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which Moscow calls a "special military operation". Sanctions on the Russian had also complicated the sale process.

"In selling the club, Mr. Abramovich stipulated that the new owner must be a good steward of the club, the net proceeds of the sale must be donated to charity, and that he

would not seek the repayment of loans made to affiliates of the club," Chelsea said in a statement.

In a separate statement, the club said Boehly and Clearlake would share joint control and equal governance of the club. Boehly, who is part-owner of the Los Angeles Dodgers, will serve as chairman of the holding company.

"We are honoured to become the new custodians of Chelsea Football Club. We're all in — 100% — every minute of every match," Boehly said.

"Our vision as owners is clear: we want to make the fans proud. Along with our commitment to developing the youth squad and acquiring the best talent, our plan of action is to invest in the club for the long-term and build on Chelsea's remarkable history of success."

"I personally want to thank ministers and officials in the British government, and the Premier League, for all their work in making this happen."

France Blames Ticket Fraud For Champions League Final Chaos



Agencies

PARIS: French authorities defended police on Monday for indiscriminately firing tear gas and pepper spray at Liverpool supporters at the Champions League final, while blaming industrial levels of fraud that saw 30,000 to 40,000 people try to enter the Stade de France with fake tickets or none at all.

After a meeting into Saturday's chaos, the ministers of the sport and the interior shifted responsibility onto the Liverpool fans while not providing details on how they were sure so many fake tickets were in circulation. People with legitimate tickets through Liverpool and UEFA reported struggling to access the stadium.

"There was massive fraud at an industrial level and an organization

of fake tickets because of the pre-filtering by the Stade de France and the French Football Federation, 70% of the tickets were fake tickets coming into the Stade de France," Interior minister Gerald Darmanin said. "Fifteen percent of fake tickets also were after the first filtering ... more than 2,600 tickets were confirmed by UEFA as non-validated tickets even though they'd gone through the first filtering."

"A massive presence of these fake tickets of course was the issue why there were delays, three times the beginning of the match was delayed."

The final, which Liverpool lost 1-0 to Real Madrid, kicked off 37 minutes late. Tear gas and pepper spray was targeted at Liverpool fans, impacting children — a tactic defended by Darmanin to prevent deaths.