



**P3 CITY**

## LG LAYS FOUNDATION STONE OF VARIOUS PROJECTS UNDER SRINAGAR SMART CITY

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday laid the foundation stone of various projects under Srinagar Smart City. The projects included upgradation and redevelopment of Nishat-Sathu and

**THINK**

## NEW WORK PLACE RULES?

Everyone has their own experience of how the working week has changed. And there's plenty of research out there from companies trying to understand how things have got better – or worse. The New Rules of Work In the office, hybrid or remote, here's what is changing about where, when



**P7 STATE**

## SIT TO PROBE TEMPLE VANDALISM IN BHADERWAH, FIR LODGED

The police on Monday constituted a six-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the alleged vandalism at a temple in Doda district here



**Quote!**

Your friend is your needs answered

-Khalil Gibran

## NEWS DIGEST

### Man Kills Wife, Mother-In-Law In Rajouri

Jammu: A man allegedly bludgeoned his wife and mother-in-law to death with an iron rod over some domestic issue in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir on Monday, police said. Kashmir Singh (25) attacked his wife Priyanka (22) and her mother Shanto Devi at Daryoung village in Khawas area in the evening, a police official said. He said Priyanka died on the spot, while her mother died on the way to hospital. Devi had come to visit **More on P6**

### Man, His Son Drown In Kathua River

Jammu: A man and his son died after drowning in a river in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district on Monday, officials said. Ashok was taking a bath in the Naaz-Phinnu river in the Billawar area, when he slipped into deep waters, they said. His father Seva Rama jumped into the river to save him but both of them drowned, police said. After getting information, the police and locals rushed to spot and fished out their bodies, they said, adding that the man and his son were grazing the cattle in the area. The police have registered a case in this connection. **More on P6**

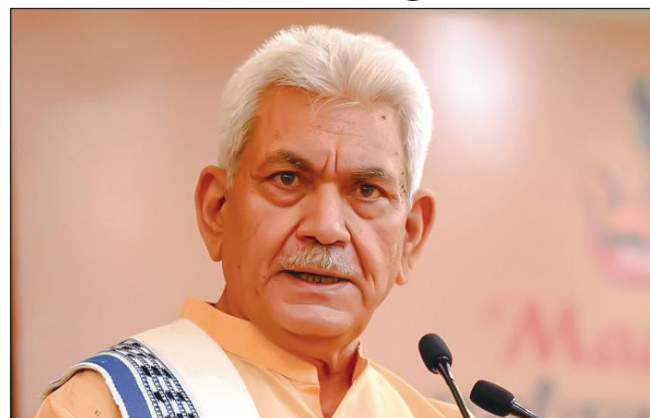
### J&K Closes Three New Covid Cases

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir on Monday recorded 03 fresh Covid cases, taking the number of infected persons to 454283 however, no fatality reported due to the virus in the last 24 hours, officials said. Of the new cases, 02 were from the Jammu division and 01 from the Kashmir division of the union territory, Officials said. There are 55 active cases in the union territory while the number of recoveries so far has been 449476, officials said. "Moreover, 06 more COVID-19 patients have **More on P6**

### Woman Among Two Drug Peddlers Held

Srinagar: Security forces arrested two drug peddlers, including a woman who is suspected to be involved in cross-Line of Control (LoC) smuggling, in Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir and recovered narcotics from their possession, police said on Monday. Acting on a specific information that a woman drug smuggler namely Razia Begum, and her associate Aftab Ahmad Shah -- both residents of Takiya Bahadurkote were on way in Cheterkote **More on P6**

# Militancy In Kashmir Nearing Its End, Says LG



File Photo

**Press Trust Of India**

**Srinagar:** Some elements across the border are constantly trying to disturb peace in Jammu and Kashmir, but militancy is in its last leg, lieutenant governor Manoj Sinha said here on Monday.

Speaking to reporters after inaugurating several projects under the smart city project, Sinha said the administration and the security forces were fully prepared and will not let those elements succeed.

People of Kashmir understand and many, including religious preachers, have openly condemned such acts

(of violence). When a lamp is about to go off, its flare flares more. It (militancy) is in its last leg, but they are trying for the return of those days (when militancy was at its peak). The administration and the security forces are preparing with their full might (to deal with it), Sinha said.

He said a huge change has taken place in the mindset of the people in J-K.

Some elements across are constantly trying to disturb peace... it does not favour them that there is a huge influx of tourists (into the valley) and the economy is growing. The people here have **More on P6**

## Militant Killed, 3 Others Escape In Sopore: Police

**Observer News Service**

**SRINAGAR:** A Pakistani militant of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) on Monday was killed in an encounter with government forces in Baramulla district of North Kashmir, police said.

According to officials, police, army's 22RR and the personnel of CRPF launched a cordon and search operation in Penipora forest area of Sopore on the basis of information about the presence of militants in the woods.

Officials said that the search operation turned into an encounter when the militants hiding in the forest opened fire upon the search team to prevent them from advancing.

They further said that additional reinforcements have reached the area to assist the forces to carry out the operation. **More on P6**

## Dr Farooq Terms Kashmir Situation Dangerous Pitches For Early Polls To End 'Miseries' Of People

**Press Trust Of India**

**Srinagar:** Assembly elections should be held in Jammu and Kashmir so that the people have an elected government which only can end their miseries, National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah said on Monday.

"Election should be held. This government is not the government of the people, it is bureaucracy. People's miseries will not go away until there is an elected government. For that, it is important that elections take place, people vote and their own government comes into power," Abdullah told reporters in Pulwama. In a question on the spike in militancy-related violence in the valley, the NC president said the situation was dangerous and a matter of concern.



File Photo

"They (the BJP) had said Article 370 was responsible for militancy. But, how has the militancy risen after its revocation on August 5, 2019 then? So, Article 370 was not responsible for it. The situation is dangerous and it is impacting the country as well. It is a matter

of concern," he said. Abdullah, the Lok Sabha MP from Srinagar, said the government should instill a sense of security among the minority community members in the aftermath of a spate of attacks on them. "We want them **More on P6**

## Dogra, KP Employees Continue Protest For Relocation

**Press Trust Of India**

**Jammu:** Dogras and Kashmiri Pandits on Monday continued their protests demanding that employees from the two communities posted in Kashmir be relocated here in the wake of the targeted killings of minorities in the Valley.

Dogra employees assembled under the banner of "All Jammu-based Reserved Categories Employees Association" at Panama Chowk here for the sixth day and staged a sit-in to press their demand for transfer from the Valley to their home districts in the Jammu region.

These employees returned to Jammu following the killing of their colleague Rajni Bala. A resident of Samba district, Bala was shot dead by militants at a school in south Kashmir's



File Photo

Kulgam district on May 31.

Separately, a group of migrant Kashmiri Pandit activists affiliated with the Prem Nath Bhat Memorial Trust held a protest demonstration at the Press Club here in support of the PM package employees who have

been on a strike in the Valley following the killing of their colleague Rahul Bhat on May 12. Bhat, a clerk, was shot dead inside the tehsildar's office in Chadoora tehsil of Budgam district. Chanting slogans and carrying placards, **More on P6**

**THE MAJORITY OF THE EMPLOYEES** have already returned from Kashmir and are reluctant to go back in view of the grim situation. The government has transferred over 10 per cent of the employees, who are close relatives of BJP leaders, to Jammu."

## J&K BANK LOAN FRAUD

# ED Attaches Flats, Villa In Goa & Delhi

**Press Trust Of India**

**NEW DELHI:** The Enforcement Directorate has attached flats and villas in Goa and Delhi and fixed deposits worth more than Rs 24 crore in a money laundering case linked to alleged bank loan default at the J&K Bank, the agency said on Monday.

A provisional order for attachment of the properties belonging to the Sanskar Group-- proprietorship concern of Manish Sharma, Navin Beri, his partnership firm M/s Lavanya Travels, and Arvind Chadha-- was issued under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

"The attached assets are in the form of villas and flats in Goa, flats and office space in Delhi and Faridabad, and fixed deposits," the Enforcement Directorate (ED) said in a statement.

The total value of the attached properties is Rs 20.39 crore, it said. The money laundering case stems from a

Goa Police FIR that was filed against the accused of allegedly "duplicating" investors to the tune of about Rs 10 crore by promising them villas in the 'Banjara Hills project' that was to be developed by the Sanskar Group in Anjuna, Goa, it said. "Manish Sharma entered into an 'agreement to sale' and 'sale deed', executed before civil cum sub-registrar, with the buyers promising to deliver them the villas within the stipulated time. "However, when the project was completed to about 60-70 percent, Manish Sharma and Navin Beri in connivance with the manager of Jammu and Kashmir Bank mortgaged the Banjara Hills project in Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd, Panaji, and availed a loan of Rs 20 crore by submitting false documents," the agency alleged.

Thereafter, the loan amount was further "diverted" to the bank accounts of Manish Sharma, Navin Beri, his partnership firm Lavanya Travels and Arvind **More on P6**

## MIGRANT LABOURER'S KILLING

# Brick Kiln Owner Arrested For 'Negligence'

**Observer News Service**

**Srinagar:** Days after a migrant labourer was shot dead by militants in Chadoora area of Central Kashmir's Budgam district, police on Monday arrested a brick kiln owner for 'negligence and non-compliance of government orders'.

In a statement, police said that Mohammed Yousuf Mir resident of Chattergam who's brick kiln is located at Magraypora Chadoora was arrested under FIR number 102/2022 at Police Station Chadoora.

Pertinent to mention that on June 2, militants fired upon labourers in brick kiln resulting in death of one of the labourers namely Dilkush Kumar son of Narayan Rishidev resident of Gaon Ladugarh, Purina and injuries to other.

Police has advised all the brick kiln owners and managers to strictly follow the guidelines issued by government/administration to ensure safety of the labourers working in their respective units.

In-case of non-compliance or any negligence, police said strict action is warranted under law.



## BOSE Seeks Enrolment Details Of Private School Students

**Agencies**

**SRINAGAR:** The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (BOSE) has sought details about enrolment of students in private schools of classes 6th to 8th in order to implement the curriculum and textbooks prescribed by the board.

According to reports, BOSE has said that the information of student enrolments of these classes was sought in order to implement the curriculum and textbooks prescribed by the board for Classes 6th to 8th by the private academic institutions of Kashmir division including district Kargil of UT of Ladakh.

"In pursuance and amplification of instructions of the Joint Secretary, Publications, of BOSE, it is hereby circulated for information of all the Heads of affiliated private educational institutions of high and higher secondary schools of Kashmir division including district Kargil to furnish the class-wise enrolment data of their students from **More on P6**

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# How To Become More Grateful, And Why That Will Make You Happier, Healthier And More Resilient

David G. Allan, CNN

If you really think about it, so many of us should be in a perpetual state of gratitude.

Which of these do you have going for you right now? Family. Friends. Love. Health. Freedom from war and natural disaster. Imagination. Community. A roof over our heads. Common decency. Hope. Opportunity. Memories. Financial stability. Favorite places. Days off work. Good weather. The golden age of television. Books. Music. Ice cream. Weekends. A friendly exchange. Something good that happened today. Something bad that didn't happen today. A good cup of coffee. You may not have everything you want (or even need) on my list or yours, but that probably still leaves buckets -- nay, container ships -- full of tangible and conceptual items for which to be grateful. Things can always be better, but they can always be worse. It often depends on how you look at that proverbial glass of water.

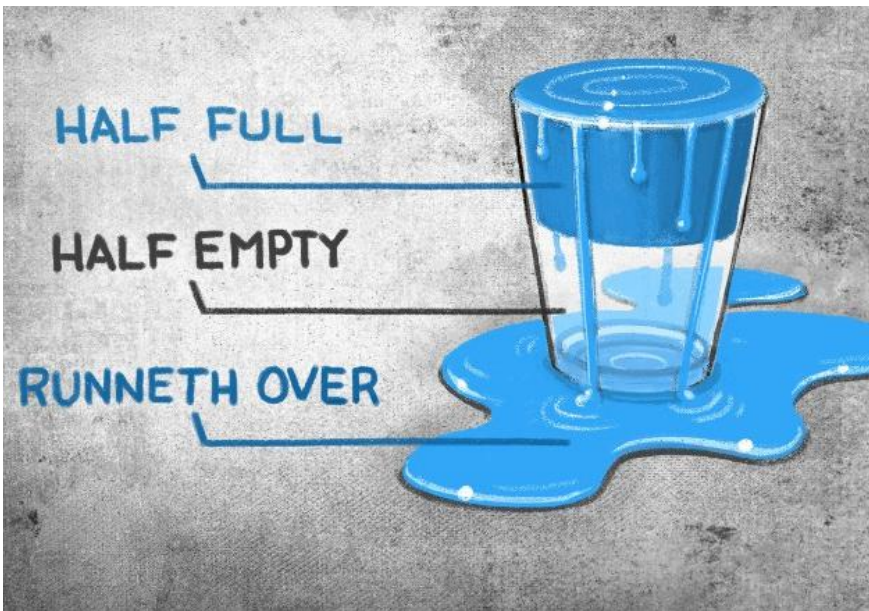
To get in better touch with gratefulness -- and get the health benefits of doing so -- the trick is to find easy ways to count blessings more often than, say, over an annual turkey dinner. Keep your thankfulness boiling on the front burner of your mind, and you will increase your general appreciation of life.

Try to be more grateful for the small, mundane things that give you joy and meaning, as well as the big ones. Acknowledging just a handful each day will benefit you, and there are ways to make that a habit. Grateful = healthful

Perhaps the most obvious benefit of displays of gratitude is that they are closely tied to increased feelings of happiness -- for both the givers and the receivers. In this week's episode of CNN podcast Chasing Life, host Dr. Sanjay Gupta interviewed Christina Costa, a teacher and doctoral student at the University of Michigan who has studied neuroscience and psychology. She explained how you can see gratefulness on brain scans. The feeling lights up the "feel-good" neurotransmitters of dopamine and serotonin, which Gupta pointed out also decrease hormones like cortisol, associated with stress.

"The neurotransmitter reactions are pretty immediate," Costa said. "It is hard to feel bad when you are focusing on someone that you are so grateful for, something that changed your life or something that is going really well today."

Resilience, including the ability to cope with stress and trauma, is also correlated with gratitude. Studies have shown that counting blessings was a factor in managing post-traumatic stress for Vietnam War veterans and an effective coping strategy for many after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Other research shows that the more grateful you are, the more you are likely to exhibit patience and self-control. It can even be good for marriages and relationships:



Couples good at exhibiting thankfulness tend to be "more committed and more likely to remain in their relationships over time." Our best selves, it seems, are our most grateful selves.

Studies have shown that gratitude can indirectly influence physical health, as well. "Gratitude strengthens your immune system and helps you experience less pain," Costa said in the Chasing Life podcast.

Those who have "dispositional gratitude" -- defined by one study as "part of a wider life orientation towards noticing and appreciating the positive in the world" -- are more likely to report good physical health, a propensity for healthy activities and willingness to seek help for health concerns.

In another study, New York teenagers who rated as the most grateful in their class -- defined by "having a disposition and moods that enabled them to respond positively to the good people and things in their lives" -- were less likely to abuse drugs and alcohol. The benefits of having more gratitude also correlated with benefits to the heart among patients who had experienced heart failure.

Being grateful can even get you a better night's sleep. According to one study involving college students who instituted various methods for increasing gratitude, such as a gratitude journal, they worried less at bedtime and slept longer and better. In another study, adults in the United Kingdom (40% of whom had sleep disorders), reported that thinking about what they are grateful for at night led to falling asleep faster and staying asleep longer.

Convinced? Let's get to the fun part. How to up your GQ (gratefulness quotient) I'm currently conducting two completely unscientific thankfulness-boosting experiments. For nearly two years, I've been keeping a gratitude journal. And for the last five years or so, my family has engaged in

a dinnertime ritual called "Roses, Thorns & Buds" that surfaces the same details. A lot has been written about these and other thankfulness experiments, and it should be noted that there are no rules or even standards that govern them. We're in very, very soft science territory here. But reliable research does show that whatever you do to increase gratitude pays off, so it's worth it to find what is easy, enjoyable and effective for you.

A gratitude journal need not be any more complicated than keeping a notebook by your bed and starting a nightly habit of jotting down who and what you were grateful for that day. Journaling was the standard method for some of the studies cited above, so this is a simple but effective option. I'm coming up on two years of trying this one, and I added a layer you may want to consider. After one year, I took the time to total up all the mentions. My wife and children were, predictably, at the top, reminding me not to take them for granted. But I was surprised to see that coworkers, neighbors and a city park all ranked highly. It was useful for me to review in that way, because when I see those people, I have this added layer of positive feeling about them at the forefront of my mind. It's hard to get annoyed by someone when you think, "I'm so often grateful for that person."

It was fun to play with the data, too. By category, "family" was the clear winner (1,011 instances) for me, followed by "places" (269 instances, with coffee shops being the biggest subcategory, "friends" (259), CNN "coworkers" (197) and "experiences" (133). Also, "Star Wars" (11) beat both beer (10) and books (8). It will be interesting to compare second-year totals against these. All of it is getting me closer to understanding and remembering what I'm most grateful for. Roses, Thorns & Buds (or RTB, among its devotees) has been part of so many fam-

ily dinners since my older daughter was 4 years old that I've forgotten where we first heard about it. It's quite simple: Everyone at the table takes turns sharing "roses," which are something positive and happy-making about their day; "thorns," which are the opposite of that; and "buds" for something we're looking forward to and we anticipate will be a rose. Sometimes, the family meal and sharing these things itself is a rose.

Granted, the "thorn" doesn't necessarily increase gratitude -- though it's still useful from a family discussion, empathy and problem-solving perspective. And if you can fix a problem, a rose may grow in that thorn's place.

Here are our unscientific findings: Each time, we find that we have many roses and buds and usually only one thorn to share. Friends have told us about effective variations on this technique, so one size doesn't fit all. If the metaphor is too flowery for you, pick another. Home runs, strikeouts and on deck? The important thing is to connect to the thankfulness in this way, whether you do it most evenings or on the occasional weekend. It's also an easy way for kids to get into a thankfulness habit themselves.

Happiness jars, a strategy popularized by "Eat, Pray, Love" author Elizabeth Gilbert, is something of a hybrid of gratitude journal and RTB. The idea is to write down on a slip of paper the happiest moment of the day and drop it in a jar. The advantage of doing it this way is that in moments of unhappiness, you can reach into the jar and be reminded of those moments, perhaps becoming grateful for them anew. Gilbert was struck by how many of her fans shared photos of their decorated happiness jars (see Pinterest if you need inspiration) and by how her happiest moments are "generally really common and quiet and unremarkable."

And there are other experiments to try. You could set alarms or reminders on your phone to pause and think of something you are grateful for at different times of the day: Mornings help set the tone of the day, and reflecting while at work can be particularly useful. You can then record them on a gratitude journaling app.

Or you could just focus on the simple act of saying thank you, and meaning it, more frequently. Writing letters of thanks (or emails if you want to be faster and more frequent) to those for whom you are grateful is worth doing with some regularity. You can also express gratitude with gifts, flowers and favors. Or simply make a list of all the things we take for granted but would be so unhappy to lose, such as job security, health, seeing loved ones. Review that list every week or so.

Whatever way you start infusing your life with more moments of gratitude, in the short and long term, you will be grateful that you did.

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Sd/- Chairman

**Fraudulent Rent Deed**  
I had given my shop on rent to Bilal Ahmad Ganie S/O Mohd Akbar Ganie R/O Najigund Uttersoo. The said person fraudulently made a Rent Deed and approached for Loan in JK Bank ASHUL-PORA, which was approved without my Signature on Rent Deed. As I came to know about it, I raised objections against it. Now I am appealing Authorities to take stern action the accused.  
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**R/o: SARUINSAR JAMMU at Present Gadvail Larnoo** ma

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**R/o: ADDER BIJBEHARA ANANTNAG** ma

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**BRANCH OFFICE MAGAM**  
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## New Self-Powering Smart Pillow To Help Track Sleep Quality

IANS

Chinese researchers have developed a self-powering smart pillow that tracks the position of the head and quality of sleep.

Studies have linked chronic lack of sleep to physical ailments, such as diabetes and heart disease, as well as mental health issues.

People who are interested in getting a better handle on what's happening to them at night have two primary options. They can take a sleep test conducted in a medical facility, or they can use an app through a smartphone or smart watch -- a much more convenient, but less accurate choice.

Recognising the need, many researchers have begun developing new sleep monitoring systems using triboelectric nanogenerators (TENGs).

These self-powering systems have taken the form of eye masks, belts, patches and even bed sheets. Researchers from Guangxi University and Chinese Academy of Sciences wanted to adapt this approach to create a less restrictive, more comfortable version that focuses on the movement of the head during sleep.

To construct this new smart pillow, the team formulated a flexible, porous polymer triboelectric layer.

Movement between the head and this layer changes the electric field around nearby electrodes, generating a current. They strung together several of these self-powering sensors to create a flexible and breathable TENG (FB-TENG) array that can be placed atop an ordinary pillow.

This system could generate voltage that corresponded to the amount of applied pressure, and it could track the movement of a finger tracing out letters. The FB-TENG also could capture the pressure distribution of a fake human head as it shifted position. This smart pillow could have uses beyond tracking sleep, the researchers wrote in the paper published in the journal ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces.

For example, the system could monitor patients with diseases that affect the movement of the head, such as the degenerative neck disorder cervical spondylosis. The smart pillow could also be adapted to offer an early warning system for those at risk of falling out of bed, they said.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

My Spouse name in passport bearing No; H9030506 has been wrongly written as Mohammad Ramzan Guroo While the correct name is Hajra Bano which needs immediate correction if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in Passport office Srinagar within .

**Abdul Ahad Guroo**  
**S/o Mohammad Ramzan Guroo**

laa

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR  
**Office of the Executive Engineer**  
**Quality Control & Procurement Division,**  
HMT, Srinagar  
Short term e-NIT

No.: PHE/QC&PD/ 05 of 2022-23/ e-Tender Dated: 04-06-2022

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir (UT), e-tenders in two cover system are invited from registered suppliers/firms for supply of Printable stationary items for JSD (PHE) QC& PD Zainakote Srinagar.

S. No	Name of the work	Tender document Fee (Rs)	Estimated cost	Time of Completion	Tender validity
1	Supply of Printable stationary items as per the specification laid in Annexure "C" and enclosed formats.	200/-	125000.00	05 days	90 days

The NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of Quantities (BOQ), set of [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per the schedule of dates given below:

**Schedule of Critical Dates/Information.**

1	Date of Inviting Tender	04-06-2022
2	Clarification Period	04-06-2022 (06.00PM) to 07-06-2022 (10.00AM)
4	Documents Downloading Period	04-06-2022 (06.00 PM) to 11-06-2022 (02.00PM)
6	On Line Document Submission Period.	05-06-2022 (10.00PM) to 11-06-2022 (04.00PM)
8	Date of opening of Cover 1st.	13-06-2022 (10.00AM)
9	Tender Document Receiving Authority	Executive Engineer PHE Jal Shakti QC&P Division Srinagar.
10	Tender Inviting Office	Executive Engineer PHE Jal Shakti QC&P Division Srinagar.
11	Document Fee	Rs200/-In the shape of treasury Challan (Head 0215 - Revenue & Miscellaneous)/ e-transfer to J&K Bank A/c No:00050101000051101FSC: JAKA0CHINAR.
12	Earnest Money	Rs2500/- In shape of CDR/FDR payable to Executive Engineer PHE QC&PD, Zainakote Srinagar.
13	Bid Opening Authority	Executive Engineer PHE Jal Shakti QC&P Division Srinagar.

The Cover-I shall contain:-

- Scanned copy of Tender Document fee in the shape of Treasury receipt / e-Challan / e-Receipt
- Scanned copies of the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in the shape of CDR/FDR.
- Scanned copy of GSTIN Registration Certificate along with Clearance Certificate/ GSTR-3B of the latest quarter as applicable.
- Proof of having executed same/similar nature of supply in Govt. / Semi-Govt. organizations during last three years.
- Scanned copy of PAN card.
- The tenderer/s shall have to submit in the shape of legal affidavit that the tenderer:-
- Has not been black listed by the Government or any other organization for failure to any dues.
- Has not been adjudged by any court of law of the land as insolvent or was/were not facing any/ under any arbitration proceedings in any court of law for any offence involving moral turpitude or any criminal activities etc.
- Was and is not detained under any provisions of preventive law of the land.
- The documents submitted by me are correct in all respects.
- Scanned copies of the Annexure "A", "B" duly accepted/signed.

A. Cover Second (2<sup>nd</sup>)

The cover-II shall contain Price bid, as per BOQ uploaded by this department. Financial bid will not be accepted in physical form.

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NO: PHE/QC&PD/363-66  
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## Prof Aneesa Shafi Is KU's New Dean Students Welfare

Agencies

**S**rinagar: Dr Aneesa Shafi, Professor and Head, Department of Sociology, has taken over as new Dean of Students Welfare of the University of Kashmir.

A noted academician, Prof Shafi has previously served the University in various capacities including Provost Girls Hostels and Director Centre for University Society Interface.

She also holds the distinction of having served as the member of Selection-cum-Oversight Committee, Integrated Child Protection Scheme of J&K Government and Managing Committee of the prestigious Indian Sociological Society.

Prof Shafi has made a significant contribution in the field of teaching and research.

Having published number of research papers in reputed international journals, three books and many books chapters, she has also successfully completed many research and consultancy projects funded by reputed national and international agencies

She has been awarded several international fellowships and has been to Paris as a fellow under Indo-French Social Scientist Exchange Programme, as Marie Curie fellow to Italy and to Poland under 7 Framework Programme, Marie Curie Actions, People, International Research Staff Exchange Scheme.

Her areas of research contributions include Gender Studies, Marginalization and Sociological Theory. (KNS)

## Gilsar Lake In Old City Turning Into Dumping Yard

Agencies

Srinagar: Gilsar Lake in old Srinagar city has been converted into a garbage dump as locals can be seen throwing garbage and waste in the lake.

"Gilsar Lake that once was known for its beauty, is now more like a dump yard. People lacking civic sense have been throwing all the household waste into this precious water-body", said a group of citizens voicing their concern.

"Despite repeated requests, nobody from the administration took note of the deteriorating condition of the lake," they said and requested the concerned authorities to look into the matter and take immediate action in this regard. (KNT)



## Lt Governor Lays Foundation Stone Of Various Projects Under Srinagar Smart City

“New projects aim to transform Srinagar from a crowded city into pedestrian and a cycle-friendly city”

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday laid the foundation stone of various projects under Srinagar Smart City.

The projects included upgradation and redevelopment of Nishat-Sathu and Nishat Bagh Precinct, Lake Front development along Northern Foreshore road of Dal Lake from Nishat and redevelopment and beautification of Shalimar Canal.

The Lt Governor said that the new projects are aimed to transform Srinagar from a crowded city into one of the most pedestrian and cycle-friendly cities in the country.

Underscoring the need for preserving the essence of the city as the foundation of any development work, the Lt Governor said that the Smart City projects will also restore values of art and cultural heritage.

"Shalimar Canal's innovation-driven redevelopment plan focuses on contemporary aspects of sustainable development while providing prominence to cultural and historical aspects to create a vibrant public space. This project will also connect the Shalimar Bagh with water transportation", LG Manoj Sinha said.

He said the cycling track and walkways for pedestrians on Nishat Road will help in restoring the beauty of Dal Lake and create better facilities for the visitors to experience the rich heritage, the Lt Governor added.

He also highlighted the efforts being made by the government to develop smart urban mobility, electric transport system, cycling tracks, special walkways for pedestrians, water transport for transforming Jammu and Srinagar into more sustainable cities.

The Lt Governor further called upon the people to adopt eco-friendly modes of transportation which are ideal for the urban environment.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor also flagged off a fleet of Litter Picker Machines.

Athar Aamir, CEO Srinagar Smart

City Limited and Commissioner SMC briefed the Lt Governor on the projects worth Rs 74 crores for which the foundation stones were laid on Monday.

Athar Amir said the Nishat-Sathu will be upgraded and redeveloped by way of Cycle Track, Walkway and Viewing and Fishing Decks, Nishat Bagh Precinct project includes Road works, Pathways, Plaza, Wooden Deck and Landscaping.

He also said the Lakefront along Northern Foreshore road of Dal Lake from Nishat will be developed by way of Pedestrian Walkway, Cycle track and Viewing decks.

Redevelopment and beautification of Shalimar Canal project includes Placemaking and improvement of Access to Shalimar garden.

Chief Secretary, Arun Kumar Mehra, Mayor Srinagar municipal Corporation, Junaid Azim Mattu, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Sh Pandurang K Pole, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohd Aijaz Asad and other officials were present on the occasion.

## J&K NEET Aspirants Stage Sit-In Against Pooling Of PG Seats In AIQ

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: The NEET aspirants on Monday staged a sit-in against the proposed idea of the government to pool 50 percent PG seats in All India Quota.

The NEET aspirants assembled at Government Medical College holding placards and urged the government to revisit the decision.

Aspirants say pooling PG seats in All India Quota at this juncture would not be of significant benefit to the aspiring PG candidates of J&K as it would drastically reduce the number of UT seats which is already meagre.

The UT administration is mulling to participate in the All India Quota for PG seats for 50 percent of its total seat capacity from 2022.

"UT of J&K currently has a very small pool of PG seats comprising a few hundred seats unlike other States of India which participate in All India Quota and have thousands of medical PG seats", said Dr Zuhaib Younus, one of the protesters.

"If the proposal is implemented in All India Quota, 50 percent seats from GMCs and 100 percent seats from SKIMS would be filled through the same, only 172 seats would be reserved for the domiciled aspirants of J&K rendering a loss of 350 seats out of the total 522 seats available". He said.

It is pertinent to mention, MBBS courses have been started at five newly constructed Government Medical Colleges i.e GMC Anantnag, GMC Baramulla, GMC Rajouri, GMC Doda and GMC Kathua but no PG seats have been allotted to



these colleges yet.

Experts say the increasing number of MBBS graduates from the UT, which has roughly grown by many times in recent years necessitates the availability of more PG seats to be made available to the UT exclusively for proportionate accommodation.

Pertinently, unlike other states of India, there are no bondage rules in existence for medical postgraduate programmes in the UT of J&K, PG scholars from other states would not contribute to the overall no. of specialists in the state.

"Doctors belonging to J&K, pursuing PG programmes in different state colleges of India would have to be substantiated by subscribing to a working bond of 4-6 years" said Dr Suhaib Malik, A NEET PG aspirant.

"This would consequently reduce the doctor-patient ratio in the region drastically which is already very grim" he added.

The protesting NEET aspirants urged the UT administration to delay the pooling of PG seats from UT of J&K in All India Quota until PG seats are allotted to new Medical Colleges so that J&K.

## Two Week Workshop On Yoga Begins At NIT

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Two-week-long workshop on Yoga began on Monday at National Institute of Technology and the inaugural session was attended by more than 150 participants from the college.

The 14-day-long workshop is being organized by Department of Physical Education and Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal is the Chief patron and Institute's Registrar Prof. Syed Kaiser Bukhari is the patron of the workshop.

In his message, In-Charge Director NIT Srinagar Prof. M A Ahanger said the workshop is aimed at raising awareness among participants about fitness and health.

He urged participants

to not make Yoga restricted to this workshop only but make it an important segment of their daily lives.

Registrar NIT Srinagar, Prof. Syed Kaiser Bukhari while declaring the workshop open emphasized on benefits of Yoga. He said regular yoga practice creates mental clarity and calmness; increases body awareness. It relieves chronic stress patterns; relaxes the mind; centers attention; and sharpens concentration," he said.

Prof. Bukhari said Yoga improves mental strength, balance, and flexibility. It does not require any expensive equipment and can be done anywhere. It has the power to bring about positive transformation in

our lives, he said.

On the occasion, Dr. Srinibash Mishra said the workshop is aimed to raise awareness about Yoga and its benefits.

"During the 14-day workshop, Yoga experts will hold several training sessions on various types of Yoga including Asana, Pranayama, Diyanas, and Shatkarma," he said.

Dr. Misra said yoga is something that should be performed in daily life to avail its benefits in one's life and urged participants to make yoga part of their daily life.

After attending the workshop, the participants shared their experiences and expressed the benefits of meditation and Sudarshan kriya such as focus and concentration.

## Office of the Project Manager Integrated Water Shed Management Program IWMP

Mini Secretariat Bandipore

No;PM/IWMP/Bpr/ 14-17

Dated 04-06-2022

Subject: Quotation for conducting of audit of IWMP accounts for Financial Year 2021-22

Ref : RD/IWMP21/A/2018/777/91, Dated 23-03-2022

### QUOTATION NOTICE

Seled quotation are invited from reputed chartered accountants having proven experience of conducting of audit, of IWMP Accounts for the financial year 2021-22 with the following terms and conditions

- The auditing and preparation of audit report has to be completed within 05 days from the date of allotment for the contract i.e. Audit.
- The comprehensive audit fee should be including T.A and other related expenditure.
- Sealed quotations should be addressed and accordingly submitted to the Project Manager IWMP, watershed cell Bandipore.
- Audit shall commence in office of the Project Manager IWMP.
- The work will be allotted to the lowest successful bidder after scrutiny of all the registrations/documents.
- Last date of receipt quotation will be 13<sup>th</sup> of June 2022 at 1:00 PM and sealed quotations will be opened on the same day in the office chamber of Project Manager IWMP/WCDC Bandipore.

DIPK-3439/22

Project Manager  
IWMP Bandipora

### DIAL-EMMA

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,2452222,2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
- Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200



### AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



### RAILWAYS

- SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259
- ANANTNAG: 01932-228243
- BARAMULLA: 0194-102029
- BIJBERA: 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**  
07- Zil- Qaddah  
1443

### PRAYERS

FAJR	3: 35
ZUHR	12:30
ASR	5:29
Magrib	7:43
ISHA	9: 24

## This Day In History

- 640 Arab Muslim army sent by Caliph Omar (RA) begins siege of Heliopolis, city succumbs mid to late July, paving way for Muslim conquest of Byzantine Egypt
- 1002- German King Henry II the Saint crowned
- 1513- Battle of Novara, the War of the League of Cambrai: the Swiss Confederacy defeat the French
- 1520- France and England sign treaty of Scotland
- 1523- Gustav Vasa is elected King of Sweden, marking the end of the Kalmar Union
- 1536- Mexico begins its inquisition
- 1665- Battle at Monte Carlo: English and Portuguese armies beat Spain
- 1673 -France and Brandenburg sign peace treaty
- 1801- Peace of Badajoz: Spain-Portugal
- 1809- Sweden declares independence, constitutional monarchy established with a new constitution empowering Riksdag after 20 years of absolute monarchy
- 1864- Battle of Lake Chicot, Arkansas (Dutch Bayou)
- 1875- Netherlands joins the gold standard
- 1882- Cyclone in Arabian Sea (Bombay, India) drowns 100,000 (disputed event)
- 1882- Electric iron patented by Henry W Seely, NYC
- 1912- The eruption of Novarupta in Alaska begins, the largest volcanic eruption of the 20th century
- 1916- The death of Yuan Shikai, ruler of much of China since 1912, causes the central government to virtually collapse in the face of warlords, including Sun Yat-sen
- 1918- Battle of Belleau Wood, 1st US victory of WW I
- 1919- Finland declares war on bolsheviks
- 1919- The Republic of Prekmurje ends
- 1923- Edgar Wallace becomes the first British radio sports journalist reporting on The Derby for the British Broadcasting Company (BBC)
- 1926- Egyptian government of Adly Pasha forms
- 1931- Belgian government of Henri Jaspar falls
- 1942- Japanese forces retreat, ending Battle of Midway
- 1944- World War II: All Major League Baseball games are cancelled in honor of the D-Day landings in northern France
- 1944- Operation Overlord: D-Day begins as the 156,000-strong Allied Expeditionary Force lands in Normandy, France, during World War II
- 1947- Treaty drawn up for establishment of International Patent Institute
- 1950- Turkey: The Adhan in Arabic is legalized.
- 1958- French Prime Minister Charles de Gaulle says Algeria will always be French
- 1966- NFL & AFL announce their merger

*From KO Archives*

## Advani Quits In Jinnah's Defence

**N**EW DELHI - Just two days after his remarks on Muhammad Ali Jinnah, L K Advani on Tuesday resigned as the president of the Bharatiya Janata Party.. His resignation came a day after the top RSS brass demanded that Advani withdraw his utterances. Returning home on Monday, Advani had brushed aside all criticism and described his visit as "an unforgettable week in my life". He said he welcomed a debate on the remarks about Jinnah.

Significantly, Advani wrote the resignation letter just before leaving Karachi on Monday.

RSS has been demanding that he withdraw his statements in Pakistan specially that Muhammad Ali Jinnah was secular.

Hours after the midnight demand of the Sangh Parivar founthead that he "review" the statements made in Pakistan during his weeklong visit.

Advani called Sanjay Joshi, RSS pointsman in- BJP to his residence this morning and handed over to him a letter announcing his resignation as party President.

The party made this disclosure in a press statement along with which it released a letter written by Advani to Joshi significantly "just before" leaving Karachi yesterday.

"I have decided to request the party to relieve me of Presidenship," the letter said.

(Kashmir Observer, 07 June, 2005)

## Cambridge Institution of Education Bindoo Kokernag

Fee Structure For the session 2021-2022

S.No	Class	Tuition	Remarks
1	8TH	650	Increment of Rs 50/=
2	7TH	650	
3	6TH	650	
4	5TH	550	
5	4TH	550	
6	3RD	550	Increment of Rs 40/=
7	2ND	550	
8	1st	550	
9	U.K.G	500	
10	L.K.G	500	
11	Pre- Nursery	500	
12	Nursery	500	

The increment was made after consent granted in PTA Meeting in October 2021.  
The School is seeking up gradation upto class 8th vide file no 18256 Dated 28/02/2019

rma

Sd/- Chairman



Printed & Published by Sajjad Haider on behalf of the  
Kashmir Observer LLP  
Published from: # 5- Boulevard, Srinagar-190001  
Printed at: KT Press Pvt. Ltd, Rangreth Budgam.  
RNI Registration No: 69503/98  
Postal Registration No-L/159/KO/SK/2014-16  
Editor-in-Chief : Sajjad Haider  
Legal Counsel: Tasaduq Khwaja  
Switchboard: (0194) 2106304  
Editorial: (0194) 2502327  
Email editorial: editor@kashmirobserver.net

K O V I E W

Minority Killings

The killings of the members of the minority community in Kashmir have become a national issue with several major parties issuing condemnations and like Aam Aadmi Party holding public rallies to call for action. In his ‘Jan Akrosh Rally’ at Jantar Mantar on Sunday, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal called on the centre to “get over with the meetings” and “take action on the ground” in Kashmir. He demanded an “action plan for Kashmir”. He called on the union government not to play politics in the name of Kashmiri Pandits.

Similarly, Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray has said that the state will stand firmly behind the Kashmiri pandits who are fleeing the Valley, and will do everything possible to help them. Earlier, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi slammed the government of India over the killing of a teacher in Kulgam district of south Kashmir, saying Kashmiri Pandits are protesting but ‘BJP is busy celebrating eight years of the Modi government’.

The civilian killings in Kashmir have become a big issue in Kashmir and across the country. In Kashmir, the successive killings have become a deep source of worry for the security forces who are already stretched. According to an estimate, there are around 8000 minority employees including Kashmiri Pandits who are posted in Kashmir, and it would be a security nightmare to protect all of them. Hence the serious concern expressed by the various political parties across the country is understandable.

The concern has further been aggravated by the fresh exodus of Pandit families from various parts of the Kashmir Valley. They have demanded that the government waive off the bond requiring them to remain permanently posted in Kashmir. And if the government gave in to their demand, it would defeat the very purpose of the Pandits’ employment in Kashmir: the purpose behind this was to somehow incentivize the return of Pandits to their homeland.

This is, thus, a very tricky situation and the government needs to do a tightrope walk to ensure both of its ends are served: killings stop altogether and Pandits also don’t leave. But the achievement of these twin goals will hardly be possible by an exclusively security-centric approach, something that many analysts across the country are also advocating. Loosening rather than further tightening the stranglehold is the answer. People should be freed of their sense of siege and be allowed to express their legitimate grievances and expectations without fear of being punished for this. This alone can enable Kashmir to be a normal place again where people participate and also help address the issues and challenges facing them. That killings of minorities is a renewed and recent phenomenon is proof enough that something, somewhere has gone seriously amiss and the government needs to wake up and respond to it.

O T H E R O P I N O N

Hate and Apology

The government, from Prime Minister Narendra Modi down, and the party, from J P Nadda down, prefer silence as the baying gets more loud and shrill, as so-called dharam sansads advocate no less than mass murder and men, in saffron, claiming to redeem Hinduism, peddle hate and misogyny. Result: Every such act that is allowed to go unpunished and uncensored emboldens the next.

If the party acted to suspend spokespersons Nupur Sharma and Naveen Jindal on Sunday, it was because the anger against their remarks was not something that could be dismissed as expressions of “sickularism” but is resonating throughout the Islamic world threatening to upend India’s most important relationships, alliances key to its strategic imperatives that Prime Minister Modi himself has nurtured. But the condemnation of hate speech for the sake of international optics is like sticking a band-aid on a festering wound. In the diplomatic embarrassment that Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu had to suffer while on an official visit to Qatar — the Indian envoy was summoned and lectured to — is the second lesson. Such conduct is no longer protected by silos, and has wider repercussions. Prime Minister Modi once claimed that the Congress was upset that he had good relations with the Islamic world. All it took was 30 seconds of unadulterated hate spewed by the party’s face on television to send that goodwill evaporating. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, whose erudition in Bratislava is being hailed as India’s coming-of-age speech, will have to provide a better explanation for the conduct of his colleagues than reasoning that they mark the rise of the “non-elites” and “India’s way” of “correcting historical wrongs”.

India has the second largest Muslim population in the world, and irrespective of the fact that the BJP does not need their votes, as a party in office, it needs to show by word and deed that it is a government of all communities. On social media, the “trads” — hardline Hindutva trolls — are tearing up the BJP for caving in to international pressure. They are invoking the liberal posters of Salman Rushdie and Charlie Hebdo and the principles of free speech. The Government will be mistaken if it thinks two sound-bites are the problem and two suspensions the solution. Hate speech is unacceptable in itself, from the mouths of ruling party members targeting a minority it mainstreams bigotry, causes dangerous divisions, and is against the national interest. It is time this message went out from the very top. This doesn’t — and shouldn’t — need a prod from an ally in the Gulf.

Indian Express

Operationalising  
Biodiversity Committees

Create model BMCs at Village and District level so that Biodiversity Act 2002 is implemented in toto

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

In response to official communication by Chairperson J&K Biodiversity Council under letter No: JKUT/BC/BMC/2021-22/521-23 Dated: 7.12.2021, the Chairpersons of District Development Councils in J&K were asked to nominate a seven member team in every district for District Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC). Among these 7 members there has to be one Chairperson, two women members and one member from SC or ST community. A Secretary is also chosen from these members. In most of the districts these committees were constituted on the advice of DDC Chairpersons early this year but formal training has not been given to the members.

As weeklong activities in relation to World Environment Day are going on, it is the duty of Government particularly J&K Biodiversity Council to create model Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) at village panchayats, municipalities and district level so that Biodiversity Act 2002 is implemented in letter and spirit in these local bodies.

Members of BMCs are unaware of their role as of now. Consequently, the Biodiversity Act 2002 is not being operationalised on ground even after 20 years of its enactment.

The Biological Diversity Act, 2002 also called Biodiversity Act came into existence after India adhered to the objectives enshrined in the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) 1992. The CBD recognizes the sovereign rights of states to use their own biological resources.

Biodiversity Act, 2002

The Biodiversity Act was enacted in 2002. It aims at the conservation of biological resources, managing its sustainable use and enabling fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use and knowledge of biological resources with the local communities. The Act prohibits the following activities without the prior approval from the National Biodiversity Authority:

- 1) Any person or organisation (either based in India or not) obtaining any biological resource occurring in India for its research or commercial utilisation
- 2) The transfer of the results of any research relating to any biological resources occurring in, or obtained from, India.
- 3) The claim of any intellectual property rights on any invention based on the research made on the biological resources obtained from India.

The act envisaged a three-tier structure to regulate the access to biological resources:

- The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)
- The State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) or Biodiversity Council in case of Union Territories
- The Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) at village, municipalities (towns, cities) or district level

Biodiversity Management Committees

Under Section 41(1) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, every local body in the State shall constitute a Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) within its area of jurisdiction for the purpose of promoting conservation, sustainable use and documentation of biological diversity including preservation of habitats, conservation of land races, folk varieties & cultivars, domesticated stocks and breeds of animals and microorganisms and chronicling of knowledge relating to biological diversity.

The Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) is to be constituted under section 41(1), shall consist of a Secretary and not more than six persons nominated by the local body, of whom not less than one third should be women and not less than 18% should belong to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes. Provided that the members of the committee shall be the proven resident of the local body and their names should be included in the electoral roll of the concerned local body.

The Chairperson of the BMC shall be elected from amongst 06 nominated members of the committee in a meeting to be chaired by the Chairperson of the local body. The Chairperson of the local body shall have the casting votes in case of a tie.

The Secretary of the BMC shall be the Gram Sachiv (Panchayat Secretary) in Gram Panchayat or any person nominated by the Pan-



Photo for representational purposed only

Members of BMCs are unaware of their role as of now. Consequently, the Biodiversity Act 2002 is not being operationalised on ground even after 20 years of its enactment

chayat Department for Block and District BMCs.

The local Member of State Legislative Assembly and Member of Parliament would be special invitees to the meetings of the Committee.

The tenure of the BMC shall be maximum of 05 years and shall be co-terminus with the tenure of the local body, however, the existing BMC shall continue to function, until a new committee is constituted.

The BMCs shall hold a minimum of 4 meetings in a year and meet at least once in every 3 months. The meetings shall be chaired by the Chairperson of the BMC, and in his/her absence, by any other member elected by the members present. The quorum at every meeting shall be 03 including the Chairperson and excluding official Member (Secretary).

Peoples Biodiversity Register

The main function of the BMC is to prepare the People’s Biodiversity Register (PBR) in consultation with local people. The Register shall contain comprehensive information on availability and knowledge of local biological resources, their medicinal or any other use or any other traditional knowledge associated with them. The BMC shall be responsible for ensuring the protection of the knowledge recorded in PBR, especially to regulate its access to outside persons and agencies. In addition to preparation of the People’s Biodiversity Register (PBR), the BMCs in their respective jurisdiction shall also be responsible for the following :-

- A) Conservation, sustainable use and access and benefit sharing of biological resources and eco-restoration of the local biodiversity.
- B) Feedback/information to the Board and the National Biodiversity.
- C) Authority in the matter of Intellectual Property Right (IPR), Traditional Knowledge and local Biodiversity issues. Management of

Biodiversity Heritage Sites including Heritage Trees, Animals/ Micro organisms etc and Sacred Groves and Sacred Water bodies.

D) Regulation of access to the biological resources and/ or associated Traditional Knowledge, for commercial and research purposes. Conservation of traditional varieties/breeds of economically important plants/animals.

E) Biodiversity Education and Awareness building. Documentation, enable procedure to develop bio cultural protocols.

F) To advise on any matter referred to by the State Biodiversity Board for granting approval, maintain data about the local voids and practitioners using the biological resources.

Collection of Fees

The Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) may levy charges by way of collection fees from any person for accessing or collecting any biological resource for commercial purposes from areas falling within its territorial jurisdiction. The Board shall provide guidance to the BMCs for the said purpose. As per sub section (1) of sec. 43 of the act, there shall be constituted a fund to be called “Local Biodiversity Fund” at the level of local body, which shall be maintained and used for conservation and promotion of biodiversity as advised by the Board in the areas falling within the jurisdiction of the concerned local body and for the benefit of the local community, in so far as such use is consistent with conservation of biodiversity. All funds of the BMC shall be operated jointly by the Chairperson and the Secretary of the BMC. The Board shall lay down the guidelines for operation of the fund including ways to make its functioning transparent and accountable.

District level BMCs

Formal training of the committees constituted must start soon so that the members of district level BMC implement the Biodiversity Act in letter and spirit. Infact, Biodiversity Council should also train the village and municipal level BMCs as well so that these institutions are operational as well. As on date, majority of these institutions are not aware of their role and responsibilities under Biodiversity Act 2002.

The members who get fully trained in these local bodies can go on to become master trainers who can then create more trainers in other villages, towns and districts. With the active support of Chairperson J&K Biodiversity Council, Jammu & Kashmir will become model Union Territory vis a vis adhering to the provisions of this law.

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

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat is an Acumen Fellow. He is Founder / Chairman J&K RTI Movement and Anant Fellow for Climate Action. He has been nominated as Chairperson District Biodiversity Management Committee Budgam



OBSERVER  
MAIL

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

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P.O.Box # 337, GPO, Srinagar-190 001  
email: editpage.ko@gmail.com

Do More for ASHA Workers

It is a matter of pride and self-esteem that women of India’s one million Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) have been recognized with WHO’s Global Health Leaders Award at the 75th World Health Assembly held in Geneva recently. ASHA workers are a vital bridge between the public health system and communities.

They have been instrumental in not just improving crucial maternal and child health indicators, but also in collecting important data that underpins the healthcare system.

In times of unprecedented pandemic, these women have proven to be indispensable. It is imperative that ASHA workers, who are essential to se-

curing the lives of millions in India, are brought within the social and legal protection guaranteed to healthcare workers. This apart, these women volunteers are reportedly paid very low for their services. And what is even more painful is that these insufficient payments are often delayed, leaving the already vulnerable workers scrambling

to make ends meet. It naturally echoes the pain and pang when an ASHA worker in Maharashtra asked naively: “Will this award help us to put food on the table for our families?”

Ranganathan Sivakumar  
siva19kumar@gmail.com



# How Many or Too Many?

How many bots are on Twitter? The question is difficult to answer and misses the point

Kai-Cheng Yang

Filippo Menczer

Twitter reports that fewer than 5% of accounts are fakes or spammers, commonly referred to as “bots.” Since his offer to buy Twitter was accepted, Elon Musk has repeatedly questioned these estimates, even dismissing Chief Executive Officer Parag Agrawal’s public response.

Later, Musk put the deal on hold and demanded more proof.

So why are people arguing about the percentage of bot accounts on Twitter?

As the creators of Botometer, a widely used bot detection tool, our group at the Indiana University Observatory on Social Media has been studying inauthentic accounts and manipulation on social media for over a decade. We brought the concept of the “social bot” to the foreground and first estimated their prevalence on Twitter in 2017.

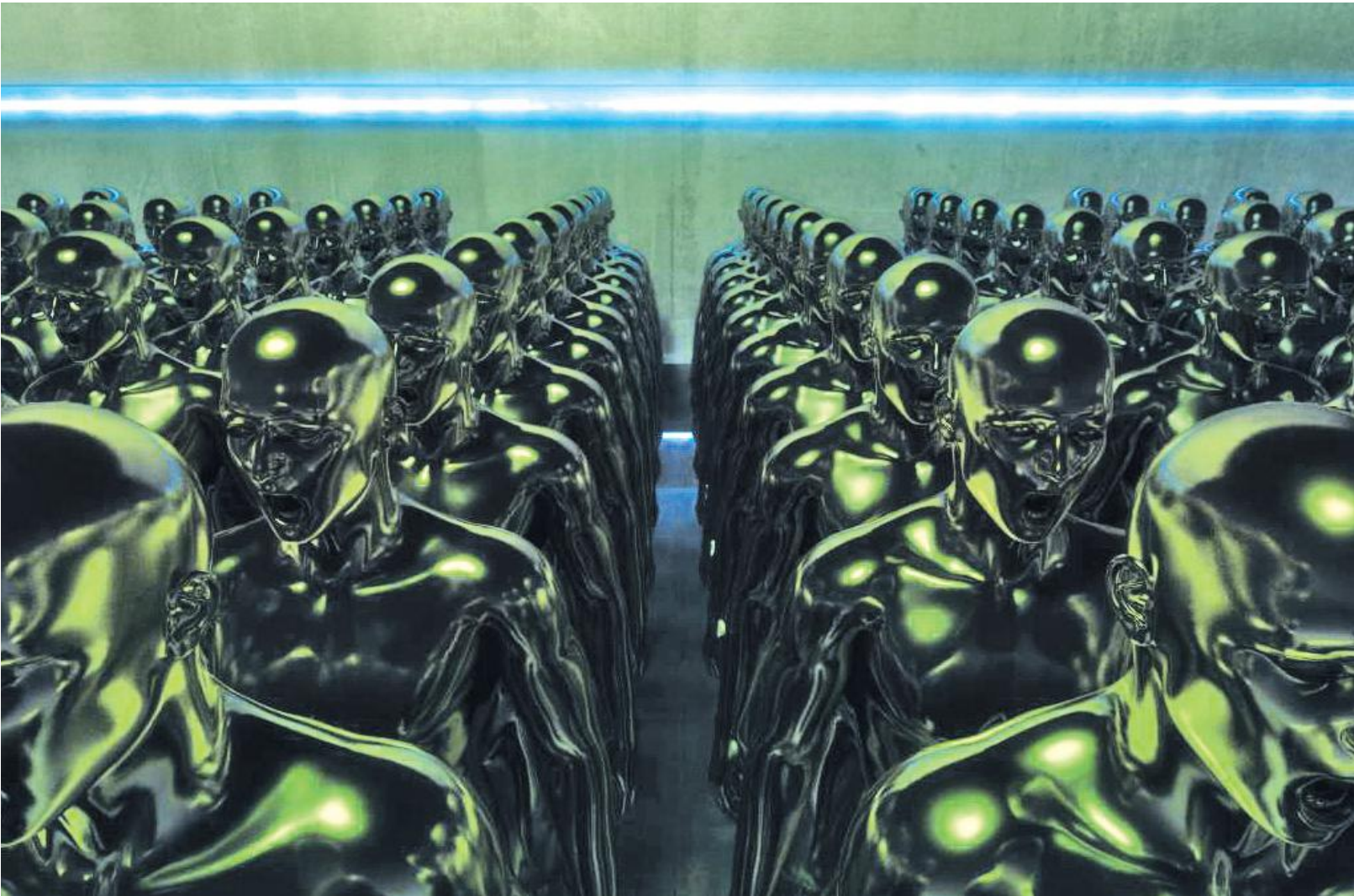
Based on our knowledge and experience, we believe that estimating the percentage of bots on Twitter has become a very difficult task, and debating the accuracy of the estimate might be missing the point. Here is why.

## WHAT, EXACTLY, IS A BOT?

To measure the prevalence of problematic accounts on Twitter, a clear definition of the targets is necessary. Common terms such as “fake accounts,” “spam accounts” and “bots” are used interchangeably, but they have different meanings. Fake or false accounts are those that impersonate people. Accounts that mass-produce unsolicited promotional content are defined as spammers. Bots, on the other hand, are accounts controlled in part by software; they may post content or carry out simple interactions, like retweeting, automatically.

These types of accounts often overlap. For instance, you can create a bot that impersonates a human to post spam automatically. Such an account is simultaneously a bot, a spammer and a fake. But not every fake account is a bot or a spammer, and vice versa. Coming up with an estimate without a clear definition only yields misleading results.

Defining and distinguishing account types can also inform proper interventions. Fake and spam accounts degrade the online environment and violate platform policy. Malicious bots are used to spread misinformation, inflate popularity, exacerbate conflict through negative and inflammatory content, manipulate opinions, influence elections, conduct financial fraud and disrupt communication. However, some bots can be harmless or even useful, for example by helping disseminate news, delivering disaster alerts and conducting research.



**To measure the prevalence of problematic accounts on Twitter, a clear definition of the targets is necessary. Common terms such as “fake accounts,” “spam accounts” and “bots” are used interchangeably, but they have different meanings. Fake or false accounts are those that impersonate people. Accounts that mass-produce unsolicited promotional content are defined as spammers. Bots, on the other hand, are accounts controlled in part by software; they may post content or carry out simple interactions, like retweeting, automatically**

Simply banning all bots is not in the best interest of social media users. For simplicity, researchers use the

term “inauthentic accounts” to refer to the collection of fake accounts, spammers and malicious bots. This is also the definition Twitter appears to be using. However, it is unclear what Musk has in mind.

## HARD TO COUNT

Even when a consensus is reached on a definition, there are still technical challenges to estimating prevalence.

External researchers do not have access to the same data as Twitter,

such as IP addresses and phone numbers. This hinders the public’s ability to identify inauthentic accounts. But even Twitter acknowledges that the actual number of inauthentic accounts could be higher than it has estimated, because detection is challenging.

Inauthentic accounts evolve and develop new tactics to evade detection. For example, some fake accounts use AI-generated faces as their profiles. These faces can be indistinguishable from real ones, even to

humans. Identifying such accounts is hard and requires new technologies.

Another difficulty is posed by coordinated accounts that appear to be normal individually but act so similarly to each other that they are almost certainly controlled by a single entity. Yet they are like needles in the haystack of hundreds of millions of daily tweets.

Finally, inauthentic accounts can evade detection by techniques like swapping handles or automatically posting and deleting large volumes of

content.

The distinction between inauthentic and genuine accounts gets more and more blurry. Accounts can be hacked, bought or rented, and some users “donate” their credentials to organizations who post on their behalf. As a result, so-called “cyborg” accounts are controlled by both algorithms and humans. Similarly, spammers sometimes post legitimate content to obscure their activity.

We have observed a broad spectrum of behaviors mixing the characteristics of bots and people. Estimating the prevalence of inauthentic accounts requires applying a simplistic binary classification: authentic or inauthentic account. No matter where the line is drawn, mistakes are inevitable.

## MISSING THE BIG PICTURE

The focus of the recent debate on estimating the number of Twitter bots oversimplifies the issue and misses the point of quantifying the harm of online abuse and manipulation by inauthentic accounts.

Through BotAmp, a new tool from the Botometer family that anyone with a Twitter account can use, we have found that the presence of automated activity is not evenly distributed. For instance, the discussion about cryptocurrencies tends to show more bot activity than the discussion about cats. Therefore, whether the overall prevalence is 5% or 20% makes little difference to individual users; their experiences with these accounts depend on whom they follow and the topics they care about.

Recent evidence suggests that inauthentic accounts might not be the only culprits responsible for the spread of misinformation, hate speech, polarization and radicalization. These issues typically involve many human users. For instance, our analysis shows that misinformation about COVID-19 was disseminated overtly on both Twitter and Facebook by verified, high-profile accounts.

Even if it were possible to precisely estimate the prevalence of inauthentic accounts, this would do little to solve these problems. A meaningful first step would be to acknowledge the complex nature of these issues. This will help social media platforms and policymakers develop meaningful responses.

*By Arrangements with The Conversation*

# New Work Place Rules?

“Excessive notifications are destroying employees’ ability to concentrate by constantly vying for their attention, putting them in a state of near-constant multitasking while also filling up their days with menial micro-tasks and admin work”

Everyone has their own experience of how the working week has changed.

And there’s plenty of research out there from companies trying to understand how things have got better – or worse.

A little while back it was Microsoft bringing us the good news that we’ve created a third peak to the working day during the past two years – one at 10am, one at 3pm, and...one at 10pm.

That’s the result of the switch to remote working that has allowed us to spread our duties across the working day, which is good in some respects (it makes you more flexible during the day) and bad in others (you’re still working at 10pm).

And now separate research from Asana has revealed another unexpected feature of the new world of work – one that is actually making it much harder to get stuff done.

Instead of doing the work they were employed to do, it claims that workers find themselves spending half their time doing ‘work about work’, which means chasing updates or switching between apps.

And for managers, it’s even worse. They hardly ever get any work done, apparently.

“Excessive notifications are destroying employees’ ability to concentrate by constantly vying for their attention, putting them in a state of near-constant multitasking while also filling up their days with menial micro-tasks and admin work,” my colleague Owen Hughes notes in his story about the research from Asana.

For me the big issue is that while the tools we’ve introduced have fixed some of the problems that distributed teams create, they’ve introduced plenty of new ones, too.

We’re still trying to work out the right set of behaviours for the new



world of work and we’re making some mistakes along the way.

After all, it’s relatively easy to see if someone is working while they are sitting next to you in an office. It’s a lot harder if you are working miles apart. That means now, working remotely, we’re all keen to jump on any notification that arrives to prove we’re actually at our desks and paying attention.

Hence the blizzard of alerts that keep distracting us.

Part of the problem is that the teamwork software we use is often inspired by social media.

That makes sense – social me-

dia has shown itself (for better and for worse) to be very effective at building communities out of people who might rarely or never meet in the real world.

But social media companies have also worked really hard to design websites that make us want to keep scrolling and liking – and spending as much time on there as possible.

That’s great if you’ve got the time to look through pictures of your cousin’s pets. It’s less great if you are trying to find some information in a corporate team-working tool.

Especially if you then find yourself agonising over whether to ‘like’ an update on somebody else’s project, or figuring out which emoji to employ to indicate your approval of the sales forecast.

This, in short, is how you can spend half of your time doing ‘work about work’ rather than getting on with your actual job.

And in some cases, this might be the most rational response.

The danger is that, for some, the murky world of real-world office politics is being replaced by on-line office politics and your position in the team (and your chance

for promotion) is going to be defined by who can do the funniest status update or dig out the right GIF to respond to the boss.

In that scenario, pouring more effort into your workplace digital identity might be more important than the actual work you do. Smarter teams and managers will be able to see beyond the frenzy of alerts and updates to see the real work you are doing, of course. But it might be wise to update your emoji skills, just in case.

*The article was originally published by ZD Net*



## Parmar Reviews Implementation Of Jal Jeevan Mission In UT of J&K

“Directs DM’s And CE’s For Immediate Finalization Of District Action Plans, Tendering And Allotment Of Remaining Works”



**SRINAGAR:** Principal Secretary Jal Shakti Department, Ashok Kumar Parmar today stressed on expeditious, optimal mobilization of resources to realize dream of piped water in every household of J&K in stipulated time frame.

He made these remarks during a meeting of Deputy Commissioners and the officials of Jal Shakti Department here at Civil Secretariat.

The meeting was attended by Mission Director Jal Jeevan Mission Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, Managing Director KPDCL Dr. Basharat Qayoom, All Deputy Commissioners of J&K, Chief Engineer Jal Shakti Kashmir, Er. Basharat Jeelani Kawoosa, Chief Engineer Jal Shakti Jammu Er. Manish Kumar Bhat, Chief Engineer I&FC Jammu, Chief Engineer I&FC Kashmir, Superintending Engineers besides representatives of Project Management Consultants (PMC), TPIA'S and Media Agency.

Principal Secretary directed for expediting the finalization of tenders/ allotment and immediate execution of civil/ electro-mechanical works like Bore-wells/ tube-wells, Over Head Tanks, Filtration Plants, Laying of pipe network etc. for their completion before onset of the winter season.

“There should be optimal coordination between Deputy Commissioners, SE's and public representatives in finalization of District Action Plans (DAPs) within 15 days' time”, he directed the officers.

The Chief Engineers and Superintending Engineers were directed to ensure that

all the DPRs are accorded the Administrative Approval and Technical Sanctions as per the delegation of Financial powers.

He asked the Deputy Commissioners to facilitate the Jal Shakti department in obtaining timely clearances from Forest and other line departments for smooth implementation of works. For setting up of electric sub stations for lift schemes, he stressed for co-ordinated efforts of District Administration and the officials of PDD & Jal Shakti Department.

The meeting also discussed the creation of buffer stock of pumps/ motors to address the problem of machinery breakdown in various districts especially in far flung areas of the UT.

Regarding old and incomplete water supply schemes under different programmes, the Principal Secretary sought details from both the Chief Engineers so that further course of action is taken to complete all such schemes for the benefit of general public.

He highlighted the role of Public representatives and directed the Deputy Commissioners and the Engineers to involve them and other stakeholders in planning, implementing and monitoring of the Jal Jeevan Mission at grassroot level.

The meeting was also informed about the meetings of Gram Panchayats/ Pani Samitis with the involvement of ASHA's in creation of awareness among local communities in water quality, health & hygiene, water conservation, rainwater harvesting and ground water recharge.

## Advocate General Reviews Progress On Cases Pending Before High Court, Tribunals

**SRINAGAR:** Advocate General, J&K, D.C Raina today chaired an interactive session cum meeting to review progress on litigation cases pending before the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh besides Tribunals at Assembly Secretariat, Srinagar.

Secretary Law, Justice, Parliamentary Affairs, Achal Sethi, Director Litigation Kashmir, Special/Additional Secretaries of Administrative Departments and Government Counsels were present in the meeting.

Advocate General took stock of measures being initiated to further streamline the monitoring of litigations in the back-drop of Jammu and Kashmir Litigation Policy-2011 and the directives of Administrative Secretary of Union Law Ministry, the orders passed by the Administrative Council of

Union Territory of J&K and also in light of valuable observations of Chief Justice with regard to ensuring better system of contesting the pending court cases.

He instructed the officers to meet their roles and responsibilities in true perspective as fixed and notified by the Law Department in respect of government. He asked the Counsels, Departmental Law Officers and other concerned to bring added efficiency and requisite reforms in litigation process. Besides, he emphasized the need of implementing the government policies and various directives issued in this regard in letter and spirit so as to minimize the litigations.

Advocate General exhorted upon the Law Officers, Government Counsels and officers to put in coordinated efforts to ensure timely filing of replies

to avoid personal appearance of government officers and filing of contempt petitions by timely implementation of orders/rules on the subject matter. He also asked the concerned to ensure necessary assistance shall be provided to the Courts and no case should go in unattended.

Secretary, Achal Sethi, briefed about the steps being taken up by the government in ensuring proper coordination among various stake holders for optimum results. He also highlighted various reforms recently undertaken to reduce the litigations and overcome the difficulties for filing timely responses before the courts and implementation of the court directives.

After threadbare discussion on the subject, the meeting also received suggestions from the Government Counsels and Law Officers.

## BJP Forced To Act Against Party Functionaries Due To Pressure From Other Countries: Left Parties

**Agenceis**

New Delhi: Stepping up pressure for legal action against Nupur Sharma and Naveen Kumar Jindal, opposition parties on Monday demanded that they be arrested for their controversial remarks on Prophet Mohammad and accused the BJP of denting the image of the country.

While the ruling party faced more criticism at home, the diplomatic fallout of the row continued as Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Indonesia, Jordan, UAE and Afghanistan joined several Muslim nations in condemning the alleged derogatory remarks. The BJP had on Monday suspended its spokesperson Nupur Sharma and expelled Naveen Kumar Jindal, its Delhi media head, in a fire-fighting exercise, but the opposition parties like the Congress, AAP, BSP, SP and the Left dismissed it as mere "drama" and "sham" and demanded strict legal action against the two.

While Sharma is facing cases in various cities over her remarks, the Delhi Police has now registered an FIR on her complaint that she is receiving death threats. Delhi Police officials said the FIR has been registered under various IPC sections like 153 A (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence), 506 (criminal intimidation), and 509 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman) against the unidentified people. Sharma will be summoned by the Mumbai police to record her statement in connection with an FIR against her on a complaint by Muslim outfit Raza Academy over her remarks, according to Mumbai police Commissioner Sanjay Panday.

The Congress hit out at the BJP, demanding the immediate arrest of those who have defamed India at the international level instead of enacting a drama of action.

Asking why those responsible for putting out offensive comments had not been arrested yet, the Congress said it was unacceptable for the nation to apologise for such mistakes. "Divided internally, India becomes weak externally. BJP's shameful bigotry has not only isolated us but also damaged India's standing globally," Rahul Gandhi said on Twitter.

Congress chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala alleged the BJP leadership is pushing the country into the dark age of communal polarisation to serve its narrow political interests and asked. The AIMIM also demanded the immediate arrest of the BJP functionaries and said the country's image has been dented internationally due to the "wrong policies" of the BJP.

The Aam Aadmi Party alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's patronage of "hate politics" has brought disgrace to the country. Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia alleged the BJP

has led the country to such a situation that even "small countries are now challenging the great nation of India". He claimed that every Indian is pained by it and "the sorrow is endless".

The opposition parties targeted the prime minister after the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) slammed India for comments by the two Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) functionaries. Countries like Qatar, Iran and Kuwait had summoned Indian ambassadors and handed over protest notes on Sunday. The BJP's action against its two functionaries for their controversial remarks cap a series of statements from its top brass and also RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat that sought to distance their organisations from the shrill and combative religious rhetoric.

The party's action, however, has also drawn angry reactions from a section of BJP's faithful cheerleaders on social media, more so for Sharma, reflecting the dissonance between the

## PwC India Foundation Partners with SECMOL To Save Ladakh's Eco system



**Leh:** To commemorate World Environment Day 2022, the PwC India Foundation, in partnership with the Students' Educational and Cultural Movement of Ladakh (SECMOL), organized a plantation drive in Leh, Ladakh.

PwC India Foundation partnered with SECMOL in 2019 and started the ice stupa project, and has undertaken several other concerted efforts to restore the valley's fragile ecosystem.

Jaivir Singh, Vice Chairman, PwC India Foundation says, 'At the PwC India Foundation, we believe that building the capacities of the communities

most vulnerable to climate-induced challenges helps them bounce back better from the face of adversity. We hope that through our collaborative efforts with NGO partners, local community members and relevant stakeholders in Ladakh and other climate-vulnerable regions of the country, we will continue to build sustainable and innovative solutions to empower those most in need'.

Sonam Wangchuk, Founder and Advisor, SECMOL says, 'the climate of Ladakh is drastically changing. Under the current world scenario, our

## CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

### Militancy In Kashmir

to understand this, and I feel our strategy will succeed, the LG said.

### More Muslim Nations

welcomed the decision of the BJP to suspend the party's spokeswoman, stressing "the need to denounce any reprehensible insults against the Prophet Muhammad PBUH, as a provocation to Muslims' feelings and incitement to religious hatred."

The ministry in a statement stressed "the importance of respecting all religious beliefs, symbols, and personalities, and the concerted efforts of the international community to spread the values of moderation, tolerance, and dialogue between religions and civilizations, and to confront extremist ideas that feed sedition and religious, sectarian, or racial hatred."

The interim Afghan government, led by the Taliban, strongly condemned the derogatory remarks against Prophet Mohammad, Pajhwok News, Afghanistan's largest independent news agency, said.

"The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan strongly condemns the use of derogatory words against the Prophet of Islam (Peace be upon him) by an official of the ruling party in India," the agency quoted government Spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid as saying in a tweet.

"We urge the Indian government not to allow such fanatics to insult the holy religion of Islam and provoke the feelings of Muslims," he said.

The Secretary General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Nayef Falah M Al Hajraf, also condemned, rejected and denounced the statements made by the spokesperson of the BJP against the Prophet.

The Secretary-General affirmed his categorical rejection of prejudicing all the prophets and apostles as well as personalities and religious symbols, stressing the position that rejects provocation, targeting or underestimating beliefs and religions, the Council said in a brief statement.

The GCC is a regional, intergovernmental, political, and economic union that consists of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates. Millions of Indians work in GCC countries.

The 57-member Organisation of Islamic Cooperation strongly condemned and denounced the recent denigration of the Prophet by the BJP leader. It also urged the UN to take necessary measures to ensure that the rights of Muslims are protected in India.

Qatar, Iran and Kuwait on Sunday summoned India's Ambassadors and the key Gulf nations expressed their strong protest and condemnation of the controversial remarks of a BJP leader against Prophet Mohammad.

Pakistan said on Monday that it has summoned the Indian charg d'affaires to convey its categorical rejection and condemnation of the

controversial remarks.

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday also condemned the "hurtful" remarks against the prophet of Islam.

"Pakistan Armed Forces strongly condemn blasphemous remarks by Indian officials. The outrageous act is deeply hurtful and clearly indicates extreme level of hate against Muslims and other religions in India," the Spokesperson Pakistan Armed Forces tweeted.

Seeking to defuse a diplomatic row, spokespersons of the Indian Embassy in Qatar and Kuwait said on Sunday that the Ambassadors "conveyed that the tweets do not, in any manner, reflect the views of the Government of India. These are the views of fringe elements."

The controversial remarks also sparked a Twitter trend in the Arab world calling for a boycott of Indian products.

### Mumbai Police

Addressing a press conference at the Mumbai Police headquarters, Pandey said, An FIR was already registered against Nupur Sharma in Pydhonie police station. We will call her to record her statement as per law and the legal procedure will be followed.

The Mumbai Police registered a case against the then BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma on May 28 for allegedly making objectionable remarks against Prophet Muhammad during a television news debate based on a complaint lodged by Irfan Sheikh, joint secretary of Raza Academy, a Muslim outfit.

Sharma was charged under Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections 295A (deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs), 153A (promoting enmity between groups) and 505(2) (statements conducive to public mischief), police had said.

Sharma was suspended from BJP on June 5 over the allegedly insulting remarks against the Prophet that drew condemnation from several Islamic nations.

Meanwhile, Pandey said illegal dance bars will not be allowed to operate in Mumbai and those violating norms will invite stringent action.

We will not allow illegal dance bars to function in the city. We have already taken action not only on operators of such bars but also against certain officials of the police department," he said.

Pandey said that police officers have been directed to deal strictly against illegal dance bars if they are found violating rules.

"However, if somewhere such dance bars are operating and we don't know about them.. so I can't say anything in this regard," he said replying to a query.

Pandey said that Mumbai Police will implement the rule wherein two-wheeler pillion riders will also have to wear a helmet.

"This rule will be enforced strictly and

action will be taken against violators as per law", he added.

### India Rejects

Pakistan after its Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif reacted sharply on Twitter to condemn remarks by Nupur Sharma and Naveen Kumar Jindal, saying the "absurdity of a serial violator of minority rights" commenting on the treatment of minorities in another nation is not lost on anyone.

Reacting strongly to remarks by the Organisation of Islamic Countries (OIC), External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said India accords "highest respect" to all religions and that the statement by the 57-member grouping exposed its "divisive agenda" which is being pursued at the behest of "vested interests."

The OIC also urged the UN to take necessary measures to ensure that the rights of Muslims are protected in India.

"We have seen the statement on India from the General Secretariat of the OIC.

The government of India categorically rejects the OIC Secretariat's unwarranted and narrow-minded comments. The government of India accords the highest respect to all religions," Bagchi said.

"The offensive tweets and comments denigrating a religious personality were made by certain individuals. They do not, in any manner, reflect the views of the government of India," he said.

Bagchi said strong action has already been taken against these individuals by relevant bodies.

"It is regrettable that the OIC Secretariat has yet again chosen to make motivated, misleading and mischievous comments. This only exposes its divisive agenda being pursued at the behest of vested interests," he said.

"We would urge the OIC Secretariat to stop pursuing its communal approach and show due respect to all faiths and religions," he said.

Referring to criticism by Sharif and the Pakistan Foreign Ministry, Bagchi said the "absurdity of a serial violator of minority rights commenting on the treatment of minorities in another nation is not lost on anyone."

"The world has been witness to the systemic persecution of minorities including Hindus, Sikhs, Christians and Ahmadiyyas by Pakistan. The world has been witness to the systemic persecution of minorities including Hindus, Sikhs, Christians and Ahmadiyyas by Pakistan," he said.

Bagchi said the government "accords the highest respect to all religions. This is quite unlike Pakistan where fanatics are eulogized and monuments built in their honour."

In a tweet on Sunday, Sharif condemned the controversial comments and alleged that India is "trampling religious freedoms and persecuting Muslims."

The Pakistan foreign ministry also criticised New Delhi over the remarks.

Also on Monday, Pakistan said it has summoned the Indian charg d'affaires to convey its categorical rejection and that the remarks are totally unacceptable and have not only deeply hurt the sentiments of the people of Pakistan but of Muslims across the world.

The comments by Sharma and Jindal triggered widespread anger in the Arab world as Qatar, Kuwait and Iran on Sunday summoned the Indian ambassadors. Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Afghanistan also joined these nations on Monday to condemn the controversial remarks, stressing the importance of respecting all religious beliefs.

### Militant Killed,

Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir zone, Vijay Kumar said one Pakistani militant was killed in the encounter.

"01 #Pakistani #terrorist affiliated with proscribed #terror outfit LeT killed. #Incriminating materials including arms & ammunition recovered. 2 FTs and one local terrorist escaped from cordon. Search going on. Further details shall follow," the IGP said on Twitter.

Earlier, Kashmir Police announced the outbreak of the encounter in a post on its official Twitter handle.

"#Encounter has started at Panipora forest of #Zaloora area in #Sopore. Sopore Police & Army on job. Further details shall follow," the Tweet read.

### Dr Farooq Terms

to stay. It is up to them and up to the government to provide them a sense of security so that they live here with their hearts and not because of force. Unless they feel that they are safe here, they will leave," he said.

### Dogra, KP Employees

the protesters said the government should accede to the demands of the protesting PM package employees and temporarily transfer them to Jammu till the security situation in the Valley improves.

"The majority of the employees have already returned from Kashmir and are reluctant to go back in view of the grim situation. The government has transferred over 10 per cent of the employees, who are close relatives of BJP leaders, to Jammu," a protester claimed.

He said the spate of targeted killings in Kashmir has created fear and uncertainty among the minorities serving in the Valley.

Acting chairman of Prem Nath Bhat Memorial Trust B L Zair also backed the demand of Kashmiri Pandit employees and said the government needs to take stern action against those indulging in militancy and anti-national activities.

The spate of targeted killings in Kashmir started in May this year.

Scores of Kashmiri Pandits, who were employed under the prime minister's package in 2012, have been staging protests threatening mass exodus since the killing of Rahul Bhat.

Bhat's killing sparked demonstrations by around 6,000 Kashmiri Pandit employees at various places. They demanded they be relocated outside the Valley.

However, the Jammu and Kashmir administration on Friday made it clear the employees would not be moved out of the Valley but transferred to safer locations.

### ED Attaches Flats

Chaddha. "This money was further utilized and consumed by them for their use. The bank declared the said loan account as NPA (nonperforming asset)," the ED said.

### BOSE Seeks Enrolment

Class 5th upto Class 7th for the current academic session (2021-2022) by or before 5th June 2022," reads the communiqué issued by the board.

The BOSE also said that all the concerned heads shall accordingly furnish the requisite enrolment data of their Schools to the concerned sub or branch offices of their respective districts or Tehsils and the board office in case of district Srinagar—(KNO)

### Man Kills Wife,

her daughter. Both the victims had suffered head injuries in the attack, the official said, adding police have arrested the accused and booked him for double murder.

The bodies were shifted to a hospital for post-mortem, the official said.

### J&K Clocks Three

recovered and been discharged from various hospitals including 01 from Kashmir division and 05 from Jammu division," they added.

### Woman Among Two

area to sell narcotics among youth of Karnah, a joint naka was established by police, including lady Police officials, and Army, a police spokesman said.

During the naka checking, the duo was apprehended and heroin-like substances weighing 35 grams and 43 grams respectively were recovered from their possession, he said.

A case was registered and further investigation is in progress.

The husband of the woman drug smuggler and her two brothers are already lodged in jail for their involvement in cross border narcotics smuggling, the spokesman said.

The arrest of the woman is a big breakthrough for the police as she is suspected to be deeply involved in cross -LoC smuggling of the narcotics in Karnah area of the north Kashmir district, he said.



## Statements Made To Pander To Local Audience Have Damaged Country's Interests: Omar

Press Trust Of India

**SRINAGAR:** National Conference (NC) vice president Omar Abdullah on Monday said BJP spokespersons need to learn that the era of "local consumption" was a thing of the past and the statements made to pander to a local audience have damaged Indian interests in a part of the world that is crucial to the country.

Taking to Twitter, Omar said when he first started out in politics, he would occasionally hear colleagues make speeches in which they would say things that would be unpalatable to a wider audience in Jammu and Kashmir.

"When asked how they get away with this they would reply 'it's LC'. LC = for local consumption. It was a time before social media & before everyone in the audience had access to a video camera. Media coverage of the function would depend upon what the party media office chose to include in the press release sent out that evening," he said in a series of Tweets.

Omar said the local consumption parts of the speech would never find any mention in any press release issued by the party and "the wider population of J-K was none the wiser about



some of the points made in the speeches".

However, he said, over the last few years, he and his colleagues have learnt that there is no such thing as "local consumption" any longer.

"What we say in one corner of some mountain top in J-K can make news in a distant part of South India in a matter of minutes," he added.

Omar said it would seem that spokespersons of the ruling BJP need to learn that the "era of the local consumption is well & truly a thing of the past".

"Statements made to pander to a local audience have damaged Indian interests in a part of the world that is crucial to the country," he said.

"Indian diplomats will use up valuable diplomatic capital to assuage the anger that has, right-

fully, been felt in countries that matter deeply to our country. And all because the BJP thought it can be explain away hurtful statements as LC," he said.

## Environmental Week Celebrations Begin At SKUAST-K

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir's Faculty of Forestry, Benihama campus kick-started Environmental Week on the eve of World Environmental Day.

The programme is aimed at wider participation of students and local residents representatives from nearby areas.

Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai in his message desired to have mass awareness of changing climate regime due to human interventions and negligence.

Dean Faculty of Forestry, Prof SA Gangoo, gave a brief account of this historical day celebrated with the theme "Only One Earth" for the year 2022. He further talked about the importance of small steps that could result in a comprehensive reduction in pollution of the environment. Dr. Irfan Khurshed, Assistant Professor, Amar Singh College in his lead lecture deliberated upon the risk of environmental programs from a historical perspective. He further talked about transformative action that can be taken to tackle climate change.

A painting competition was conducted in the afternoon session.

## IASOWA Celebrates World Environment Day

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** IAS Officers Wives Association (IASOWA) Sunday celebrated the World Environment Day in collaboration with the Forest Department here at Chashmashahi.

On the occasion besides the President IASOWA, Amita Mehta and its members, the Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta; Commissioner Secretary Forest, Sanjeev Verma; Commissioner Secretary RDD, Mandeep Kaur; Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Mohit Gera; Director

Ecology, Environment & Remote Sensing, Neelu Gera; Executive Director, National Mission for Empowerment of Women, Rashmi Singh; Manu Bhatnagar (W/o Rajiv Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lieutenant Governor) and many other invitees by the association.

On the occasion while planting the tree saplings the Chief Secretary highlighted the significance of conserving the environment. He emphasised that each of us needs to be sensitive towards our environment and do our bit in safeguarding it.

## LG Inaugurates First Maternal & Child Health Conclave

**SRINAGAR:** Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Monday that Jammu and Kashmir has registered significant decline in the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) during last one year and his administration envisions to further decrease the Maternal & Child mortality to establish the Union Territory at the forefront of providing quality healthcare.

Sinha made these remarks on the inauguration of J&K's first Maternal and Child Health Conclave at SKICC, an official spokesperson. The LG, he said, also dedicated Paediatric wards, ICUs, Maternal ICUs to the public on this occasion.

In his inaugural address, the LG, as per the spokesperson said that the conclave will provide a unique platform to deliberate upon challenges, opportunities and newer initiatives in Maternal and Child healthcare.

Sinha, he said, maintained that UT of J&K has registered significant decline in the Infant Mortality Rate during the last one year and the administration envisions to further decrease the Maternal and Child mortality to establish UT at the forefront of providing quality healthcare.

The spokesperson said that the LG stressed that Medical Institutions must provide a full canvas to our researchers and doctors who are talented and capable to produce path-breaking inventions in the healthcare.

"I hope that our talent pool will be responsive to such opportunities and take full advantage of it for larger public interest," Sinha said.

On the occasion, he said, the LG urged the premier Medical Colleges, Super Specialty Hospitals and other health institutions to encourage research and new innovations at the grassroots level to further strengthen the Health Safety Net in the UT.

"We have taken decisive steps



to address healthcare challenges and enhancing access to health facilities in remote areas. Grateful to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for providing best health infrastructure to UT of J&K. It has given a new hope and confidence to healthcare sector," the LG said.

According to the spokesperson, the LG Highlighted the major strides in the healthcare ecosystem of the UT and said that J&K has the unique distinction of being the first UT of the country with two AIIMS and two Cancer Institutes, besides seven new medical colleges have been established in the UT in just eight years.

"Apart from this, Prime Minister also launched the Ayushman Bharat-Sehat Scheme in December 2020, extending health insurance of Rs 5 lakh per family to every citizen without any discrimination," the LG said.

The spokesperson further said that it was also informed that in a span of just two years, 2209 health and wellness centers have been established which are providing health facilities to the people even in far flung areas, besides 211 Ambulances are providing 24X7 facilities in Jammu and Kashmir Divisions in addition to 286 general ambulances which are serving the people. 64 Advanced Life Support Ambulances were also inducted into the fleet to fill all the existing gaps in healthcare in saving precious lives.

"Dialysis facilities which were limited to only a few districts are available in all 20 districts of UT

and 27,129 dialysis sessions have been given to the patients in just one year," he said.

Pertinently, as per National Family Health Survey, the UT of J&K has registered tremendous improvement in various healthcare parameters during the last couple of years, catapulting J&K into the coveted top ranking in the hierarchy.

"Medicity projects are being started in both Jammu and Kashmir divisions with an investment of about Rs 4,575 crore, which will create 1000 MBBS seats, provide employment opportunities to thousands of medical professionals and would add thousands of additional beds for patients in health facilities, it was informed," he added.

On the occasion, the spokesperson said that the LG handed over LaQshya Certification to Health facilities and released a Report on "Situation Analysis of Maternal Health in J&K".

Videos on Maternal and Child health care services that are being extended in the UT and a feature on sanction of MCH Hospital at Lamberi, Rajouri were also showcased on the occasion.

Others who spoke on the occasion included LG's Advisor Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Chief Secretary Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Principal Secretary, Health & Medical Education Manoj Dwivedi, Director NHM-II, Union MoHFW Dr Neha Garg, MD NHM, J&K Choudhary Mohammad Yasin and Executive Director, National Health Systems Resource Centre Maj Gen Atul Kotwal.

## SIT To Probe Temple Vandalism In Bhaderwah, FIR Lodged

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** The police on Monday constituted a six-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the alleged vandalism at a temple in Doda district here that sparked protests in some parts of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

The police have already registered a case after pictures of the alleged vandalism at Lord Vasuki Nag temple, situated at 17,400 feet snow-bound Kailash Kund, surfaced on social media, they said.

"A six-member team headed by Superintendent of Police (operations), Raj Kumar, has been constituted to probe the alleged vandalism at the temple and asked to submit its report within the shortest possible time," SSP, Doda, Abdul Qayoom told PTI.

Appealing to the people to maintain peace and law and order, he said one of the police teams has reached the site and found all the main idols at the temple intact.

Another police officer said an FIR has been registered at the Bhaderwah police station for a thorough probe. He said additional deployment has been made in sensitive areas as a precautionary measure in view of the protests in parts of the district, including Bhaderwah and Gandoh.

"There is some damage to the main door and an attempt was also made to break the donation box,

while the robes of one of the deities was found on ground," the officer said, asking not to be named.

Shopkeepers observed a complete shutdown earlier in the day in response to a strike call given by Virendra Razdan, president of Shri Sanatan Dharam Sabha in Bhaderwah.

Razdan also led a protest to demand the identification of culprits and stern action against them.

On the assurance of Deputy Commissioner, Doda, Vikas Sharma and SSP Qayoom, the protesters at Bhadarwah who had blocked roads at several places including Domail, Sarol Bagh, Bhalra, Serf Bazar, Gupt Ganga and Bhalra, suspended the stir after which shops opened and traffic started plying normally.

The residents of Bhaderwah who condemned the act said the "heinous crime is aimed at vitiating the otherwise peaceful atmosphere and communal harmony in the district."

Sajid Mir, Sarpanch Kursari Panchayat said, "We support the demand for a thorough probe to identify the culprits who have hurt the sentiments of a community and tried to trigger communal divide."

"They should be brought to book as we would not let anyone vitiate the peaceful atmosphere and communal harmony we are maintaining since ages,"

J&K president of Shri Sanatan Dharam Sabha, Purushottam

Dadhichi also led a protest in Jammu against the incident and demanded action against the culprits.

"We have gathered here to protest the vandalism at the revered Vasuki Nag temple in Bhaderwah. This is the handiwork of mischievous elements who wanted to create a rift in the society," he said.

Senior Congress leader and former chief minister Ghulam Nabi Azad, who also hails from Bhaderwah town, strongly condemned the "mischievous act" of some "miscreant elements" and urged the local administration that the culprits should be brought to book immediately.

Azad also appealed to the people of Doda and Bhaderwah in particular to maintain peace and harmony and let the administration deal sternly with such elements who try to divide people and disturb peace and harmony in the region.

Jammu and Kashmir's Congress unit also expressed serious concern over the "mischievous act" done with a view to hurt religious sentiments and create hatred and trouble in the society.

"The government should identify the culprits and give them stern punishment," the party said in a statement. The party cautioned people to be aware of the designs of "enemies of peace" and maintain harmony.

AMARNATH YATRA

## Teams To Be Positioned Along Jammu-Srinagar NH To Help Pilgrims

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** Rescue teams will be deployed along the Jammu-Srinagar national highway to provide help to pilgrims during the upcoming Amarnath yatra, police said on Monday.

The decision to deploy the rescue teams on the highway, especially in slide-prone areas, was taken at a security review meeting chaired by Superintendent of Police, Ramban, Mohita Sharma, a police spokesman said.

It was also decided that sufficient manpower will be deployed in advance so that the base camps and routes of the yatra are secured and checked at the earliest.

The 43-day-long Amarnath yatra is scheduled to start on

June 30 from the twin routes - traditional 48-km Nunwan in south Kashmir's Pahalgam and 14-km shorter Baltal in central Kashmir's Ganderbal -- after a hiatus of two years owing to the coronavirus pandemic.

Addressing the meeting, the SP Ramban called for an effective mechanism and planning for smooth and peaceful conduct of the yatra.

Sharma asked officers to focus on sensitive locations and base camps while putting in place security arrangements.

"The coordination mechanisms and communication systems must be established among counterparts of all stakeholders of the Army, Central Armed Police Forces, police and civil administration, the SP added.

## Summer Vacation In Jammu Colleges From June 10

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** The Jammu and Kashmir government on Monday ordered a 21-day summer holiday for college students in Jammu region starting from June 10, officials here said.

"It is hereby ordered that the government degree colleges of union territory of J&K falling under summer zone

(Jammu division) shall observe summer vacation with effect from June 10 to 30, both days inclusive," Rohit Kansal, Principal Secretary to the government, higher education department, said in an order Monday.

Jammu is reeling under a heat wave since the past week, with the temperature touching 46 degrees Celsius on Monday.

## Govt's Developmental Initiatives And Pro-People Policies Need To Be Highlighted: ADG, PIB

IMPCC Meeting Calls For Further Strengthening Coordination Between Media Units

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Government's developmental initiatives and pro-people policies need to be highlighted by utilizing different media and social media tools to ensure relevant information dissemination for the welfare of the people. This was stated by Additional Director General PIB Chandigarh/Srinagar Shri Rajinder Chaudhry during an Inter-Media Publicity Coordination Committee (IMPCC) Meeting organised by Press Information Bureau, (PIB) Srinagar at Meeting Hall, Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR), Pololvew Srinagar. The meeting is convened to provide a platform to IMPCC members to highlight their activities and initiatives.

The meeting was conducted in offline mode for the media units stationed in Kashmir region after two years since the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic. Participants from Jammu and Ladakh joined the meeting via virtual mode.

The meeting highlighted that there is an essential need for strengthening inter-media relations between different units of Information and Broadcasting Ministry and Central Government departments in Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh.

During the meeting emphasis was put on chalking out a robust media plan and efficient coverage for the first ever upcoming National Film Festival of Jammu & Kashmir and also to have special focus on

Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

The meeting called upon the media units to focus on better synergy, cooperation and improvement in quality content with respect to highlighting the initiatives and welfare programs of the Central Government. The meeting chalked out a strategy to highlight 'Seva, Sushasan and Garib Kalyan' program being organised to mark the completion of eight years of the government.

The participating representatives were apprised about the need to present content in line with the challenges posed by the rapid changes in the media scenario at national and international levels.

Chairing the meeting, Shri Chaudhry said that all media units of the government need to ensure that the content of news and other government related communications should cater to the needs of the target audience.

Urging all participants to maintain coordination Shri Chaudhry stated that the purpose of holding IMPCC meeting is not limited to maintaining the Inter Media Group relations but also to understand functional difficulties of different media organizations and finding a solution to the problems confronting them.

He informed the meeting that several schemes and initiatives launched by the central government in the recent past have shown very positive and encouraging response and there is a need to bring forward positive stories.

## Jal Shakti Dept Working Tirelessly To Ensure Piped Water In Every Rural Household Of J&K: Govt

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Despite adverse weather conditions and challenges of transportation in many areas in difficult terrain, J&K Jal Shakti Department is ensuring piped water to every household in rural areas to accomplish its target of Har Ghar Jal, an official spokesperson said Monday.

He said that the department has provided tap water connection to every household of more than 1000 villages in Jammu and Kashmir under governments flagship programme Jal Jeevan Mission. Besides, 100 percent FHTCs have been provided in Ganderbal and Srinagar in the first phase which included 11 blocks, 383 panchayats and 925 villages.

The department, he said, aims to provide tap water connections in the entire UT by the end of 2022, two year before the target.

"Under this ambitious project of Jal Jeevan Mission, Palli village of Samba, from where Prime Minister addressed the nation

on National Panchayat Raj Day, has been fully saturated with 448 FHTCs at a cost of Rs. 143.40 lakh. The Palli village water supply project also included a tube well of 6000 gallons of discharge capacity per hour," he added.

Randhir Sharma, Sarpanch of Palli Panchayat expressed gratitude to PM Narendra Modi for providing piped water connection to every household in his village.

"We are very happy that we got running water taps for the first time after independence. Earlier, it was a hard task to get water from hand pumps which were a source of various water-borne diseases," Sharma said.

Similarly, Farooq Sofi, resident of Dooniwari Budgam, is grateful to present government for starting work on OHT under JIM which will provide regular tap water supply in their homes.

Assistant Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Department, Tabish Qureshi, says active participation, support of people and PRIs of Fakir Gujri helped in realisation of Har Ghar

Jal in this hilly hamlet. Fakir Gujri hamlet is part of Srinagar district which has been fully covered under the Mission.

To ensure quality water supply, Jal Shakti Department under the aegis of Jal Jeevan Mission has also setup 97 water testing laboratories across J&K.


Jal Jeevan Mission not only ensures regular tap water supply but also stresses on water quality. Water testing is important for monitoring the operation of water supply, verification of the safety of drinking water, investigation of disease outbreaks, validation process and preventive measures.

Under JIM, water quality testing tools would be used for measuring the purity of drinking water, at the source, within a piped distribution system or at the end of the supply. Drinking water quality monitoring and water quality surveillance are distinct yet, closely related activities. The drinking water quality will be monitored by the supplier/ agency responsible for water quality whereas the surveillance of water quality at

the grassroots will be the responsibility of the GPs/ rural community.

Besides, upto 2% of total fund allocation is to be used on water quality monitoring and surveillance activities which primarily comprise water quality monitoring by the department through laboratory testing and water quality surveillance by the community through testing local water sources using Field Test Kits (FTKs). All drinking water sources are to be tested once a year for chemical contamination and twice a year for bacteriological parameters.

To empower the local community on water quality surveillance in J&K, Jal Shakti Department has embarked on a mission to identify and train 5 persons especially women in each village from the local community including ASHA workers, health workers, VWSC/ Pani Samiti members, teachers and SHG members to conduct water quality tests using FTKs/ bacteriological vials at the village level, schools and Anganwadi centres.



**J&K Bank**  
Serving To Empower

**The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd**  
BU: Qazigund  
Email: qaziqd@jkbmail.com

### Possession Notice

**Notice under Section 13 (4) of the SARFAESI ACT, 2002 read with Rule 8 (1) of the Security (Enforcement) Interest Rules, 2002**

Whereas Mrs. Shaista Manzoor, as the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notice dated 31 March 2022 thereby interalia calling upon the Borrower namely, **Mr. Mubashir Rasool Shah** to repay an amount of **Rs.34,96,762.13 (Rupees Thirty Four Lac Ninety Six Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty Two And Paise Thirteen)** being the balance outstanding as on 19-03-2022 in the accounts of the Borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon. The said borrower having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower in particular and the public in general that the undersigned being authorized officer of the J & K Bank Ltd. has taken possession of the mortgage property described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on me under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on this the **3<sup>rd</sup> day of month June of the year 2022.**

The said borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the J&K Bank Limited for the amount in aggregating to amount of **Rs.14,64,529.20/- (Rupees Fourteen Lac Sixty Four Thousand Five Hundred Twenty Nine And Paise Twenty Only)** together with future interest thereon from 20-03-2022 and other charges incurred or to be incurred.

**The borrowers attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of the time available, to redeem the secured assets.**

**Description of the Immovable Property**

Land measuring 08 marlas along with residential house situated at Panzath ,Wanpora Qazigund falling under Khasra no. 1274/778,Khata no. 1422 and Khawat no.411 standing in the name of **Mr. Mubashir Rasool Shah S/o Gulam Rasool Shah R/o Panzath Wanpora.**

Dated: 03.06.2022  
Place : Panzath Wanpora, Qazigund

**DIPK-NB-1456/22**

Authorized Officer



## Secretary Sports Council Takes Stock Of Ongoing Activities



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** A meeting of all district managers, coaches instructors and other employees of J&K Sports Council was held under the chairmanship of Nuzhat Gull, Secretary J&K Sports Council, at Recreational Hall of the newly setup Srinagar Sports Club at Sher-i-Kashmir Indoor Sports Complex, here.

Meeting was held on Monday to take stock of the progress of various sports activities including daily coaching and training classes and the ongoing competitions besides finalising the dates for second phase of 'My Youth My Pride' across J&K.

The Secretary, while addressing the attendees of the meeting applauded all concerned for put-

ting up a decent show in the recently concluded cycle rally organised by the Sports Council to commemorate the International Bicycle Day. She also asked all the Managers, Incharges, Coaches and Mentors of Kashmir based Sports Council to gear up for various sports activities to be held in the Kashmir Province.

Secretary Sports Council also briefed the team about the arrangements put in place with regard to the inauguration of renovated Sher-i-Kashmir Indoor Sports Complex and also apprised them about the advanced facilities added in the renovated premises.

Among others present in the meeting included Nuzhat Farooq and Nusrat Gazalla Divisional Sports Officers Kashmir and Central.

## Cluster University Srinagar Organises Annual Inter-College Road Race



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Cluster University Srinagar on Monday organised Annual Inter-College Road Race 2022 for Boys and Girls.

Around 110 students (60 Boys & 50 Girls) took part in the event with great zeal and enthusiasm. The students exhibited a lot of excitement and zeal as the staff on duty encouraged them enroute.

The races were flagged-off by Prof. Tariq Ashai (Secretary Sports CUS) and Prof. Khurshid Ahmad Registrar CUS. The Boys race started from SKICC Gate at 6:15 am and the girls from Nishat Garden Gate at 6:30 am and culminated at Duck Park.

Majid Ali of IASE College won the Annual college Road Race (Boys) for the year 2022 by covering the entire distance of 11.4 kilometers in 34:34:01 minutes to finish first. Adil Fayaz and Niyaz Ahmad of Amar Sing College claimed the second and third place with the timings of 35:28:08 and 36:12:04 respectively. Gazanfer of AAAM Degree College Bemina and Yuraj Singh of AS college got 4th and 5th position respectively.

Azhar Fatima and Benazir Fatima of Women's College M.A Road were adjudged as 1st and 2nd position holders by covering the distance of 4.8 kms in 22:01:02

and 22:24:05 respectively. Asima Tariq of GCET Safapora claimed 3rd position with a timing of 22:26:03 minutes. Seerat Jan of IASE College and Shaista Noor of AAAM Degree College got 4th and 5th positions.

Vice Chancellor Prof. Qayyum Husain chaired the prize distribution ceremony as chief guest of the event, which was held immediately after the culmination of the race at Duck Park, Fore-shore Road Srinagar in which trophies and medals were given away to the first three position holders in both the categories. The consolation prizes were given up to 10 positions in both the categories.

The dignitaries present on the occasion were Prof. Mushtaq Ahmad Lone, Dean Academic Affairs CUS, Prof. Khurshid Ahmad, Registrar CUS, Deans of various schools, Principals and Physical Directors of Constituent and affiliated colleges.

Earlier, Prof. Tariq Ashai, Secretary Sports CUS formally welcomed the guests and presented a detailed report of the sports activities going on in the cluster university Srinagar. Prof. Mushtaq Ahmad Lone, Dean Academic Affairs CUS, Prof. Khurshid Ahmad, Registrar CUS and Principal AS College Prof. Bashir Ahmad also spoke on the occasion.

## Arshdeep Looks Better Than Umran At Nets: Report

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** Umran Malik got an extended spell during India's first training session, but it was his colleague Arshdeep Singh who looked way more impressive at the nets, which included honing of his yorker skills.

However, both the juniors might have to wait for their turn with Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Harshal Patel, Avesh Khan ahead in the pack.

If push comes to shove, Arshdeep looks a better bet than Umran.

The Indian team's evening session under Rahul Dravid and Paras Mhambrey was as intense as it could get.

While Umran, the toast of the nation for his express pace, bowled as quick as he can, Rishabh Pant didn't leave any opportunity to smash him with equal ferocity.

The faster he unleashed his thunderbolts, the more ferocious was Pant's intent with the willow.



Young Arshdeep first bowled a short spell and then had a session under bowling coach Mhambrey, when he was seen practicing the blockhole deliveries.

Mhambrey kept a baseball mitt (gloves) on the front crease, exactly on middle stump line for the yorker on middle stump and an energy drink bottle around tramline for the wide yorker.

Arshdeep was supposed to hit the two 'props' as part of match simulation.

"Theek hai? (alright)," he would ask Mhambrey who would tell him to focus more on line than length.

So who was the better bowler of the two? Arshdeep certainly looked to possess multi-dimensional skill sets compared to the Jammu speedster.

Another aspect indicating that the Punjab player could be slightly ahead of Umran is the training time.

Normally, fast bowlers in extreme conditions don't go all out in training sessions and just try to bowl enough to hit the rhythm.

Bhuvneshwar Kumar, who will lead the pack, bowled for hardly 15 minutes.

Similarly, Harshal Patel, who is also a certainty was rested on the day along with two sure-shot first XI candidates, Yuzvendra Chahal and Hardik Pandya.

Before the match, the ones who bowl more at the nets are the ones who are likely to be benched.

## UAE T20 League: Reliance, KKR, GMR, Adani Own 4 Out Of 6 Teams

Press Trust of India

**DUBAI:** The Emirates Cricket Board will conduct the inaugural International League T20 from January 6 to February 12, 2023, with three IPL franchises owning outfits in the six-team league.

Out of the six franchises, five are Indian companies, including Reliance Industries which owns Mumbai Indians, Shah Rukh Khan's Knight Riders Group, Delhi Capitals co-owners GMR, Adani Sportslines and Capri Global apart from Lancer Capitals, a company belonging to Manchester United owners



Glazer family.

Emirates Cricket Board chairman Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan said: "Emirates Cricket Board is delighted to welcome Reliance Industries,

Kolkata Knight Riders, Capri Global, GMR, Lancer Capital, Adani Sportslines, broadcaster ZEE and all other stakeholders to the newly established T20 League of UAE.

"Such illustrious, experienced names and entities as partners bodes well for the UAE T20 League. Through the commitment of these partners they have demonstrated confidence in the Emirates Cricket Board as we take the game into the future," the ECB chairman added.

The tournament will also provide a valuable platform for Emirates Cricket to take their local talent to a higher level.

## FIDE Rated Kashmir International Chess Tournament Invites Entries



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Kashmir Chess Club, affiliated with all J&K Chess Association, is scheduled to hold the first-ever Kashmir International FIDE Rated Chess Tournament 2022 from July 2 to July 7, 2022 at Indoor Sports Stadium Polo View, Srinagar.

Held in collaboration with All J&K Chess Association and under the aegis of J&K State Sports Council this tournament is approved by the All India Chess Federation/World Chess Federation under the event code 285016 /J&K/2022. The details and descriptions of the event is available on <https://aicf.in> and <https://www.fide.com>.

It is expected as per the queries and entries made by the players/Coaches/Officials and

parents from all over the world about 1000 players/Coaches/Officials and Parents will witness this great event.

Each colleges, universities or schools may enter limited number of players in each of the age groups: U7, U9, U11, U13, U15, U25 and in open category.

The winners will be awarded with trophies and special diplomas. The players will get a chance to play with international chess players and gain international chess rating points (in case players win against a rated opponent).

"We are expecting many Grandmasters, International Master and many rated players from all over the world. J&K Players are warmly welcomed as we are hosting this first time," the KCC said in a statement.

## Blatter, Platini Finally Going To Court In FIFA Fraud Trial

Agencies

**GENEVA:** Sepp Blatter and Michel Platini's 11-day trial on charges of defrauding FIFA starts Wednesday — finally bringing the epic downfall of soccer's former world leaders into criminal court. The fallout from the case ousted Blatter ahead of schedule as president of FIFA and ended Platini's campaign to succeed his former mentor. It also removed Platini as president of UEFA, the governing body of European soccer.

In 2015, federal prosecutors in Switzerland revealed their investigation into a \$2 million payment from FIFA to Platini from four years earlier. The pair will go on trial in Bellinzona. The subsidiary charges include forgery of the invoice in 2011 that allowed Blatter to authorise FIFA to pay the 2 million Swiss francs (about \$2 million) Platini had asked for. The claim was for the former France soccer great to be paid extra money for being an adviser — without having a contract for it — in Blatter's first presidential term from 1998-2002.

## Inter School Zonal Level Badminton C'ship: DPS Srinagar Wins 18 Medals



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Delhi Public School Srinagar has won a rich haul of 18 medals including 17 gold and one silver in the recently concluded Inter School Zonal level badminton championship organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports, Zone Amira Kadal.

The school's contingent participated in the Under-14, Under-17, and Under-19 levels.

The gold medal winners include Khansa, Falak, Ishreen Kour, Syed Farees, Azla Ashraf, Salman Khurshid, Mujtaba Ashiq, Issa Farooq, Khalid Khurshid, Aman Mir and Abhay Singh, while the sole silver medal was won by Aman Mir.

Congratulating the medallists, the Principal Sha-faq Afshan said, "It is a great delight to see that the students are earning accolades for the school, and establishing a legacy of sporting excellence for others to come. Congratulations to the winners."

DPS Chairman, Vijay Dhar also congratulated the winners, and said, "DPS Srinagar is a name to reckon today in annals of sporting excellence due to its untiring support to talent, and its single-minded aim to promote the potential of youth. The success of the badminton contingent proves our efforts are reaping fruit."

## DC Kupwara Reviews Adventure Tourism, Trekking Facilities In District

Observer News Service

**KUPWARA:** Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Khalid Jahangir on Monday said that District Administration Kupwara has contemplated a plan to boost the adventure tourism in the district for which local youth shall be given necessary training of trekking within this week.

The DC said this during a meeting convened to review the possibilities of adventure tourism and trekking facilities in Kupwara district.

The meeting held threadbare discussion to exploit various modalities to boost the tourism sector in the district; for which the DC received feedback and suggestions from the concerned officers.

The DC said that nature has bestowed Kupwara with scenic beauty, lush green forests and crystal clear wa-



ters which provide an enormous potential for tourism related activities and tourism development.

Khalid Jahangir appealed to all stakeholders including the public especially youth to provide their bit in building Kupwara district as tourist destination for trekkers, adventurers, border tourists and nature lovers.

He also asked officers to work with synergy and convergence and bring a plan within three days for development of facilities to meet the requirements for trekking activities in the district. He said to begin with, the officers need to choose moderate and short pas-

sages so that the local youth could be encouraged.

The DC said participation of local youth is a basic requirement for sustainability of tourism activities in the district which will provide livelihood to the unemployed educated youth and also provide scope for building tourism destinations in the district.

It was informed that a one day training programme has been scheduled for June 9 at TRC Kupwara to impart necessary training regarding trekking and tourist guiding to the local youth. It was also informed that various trekking routes have already been identified in the district which are safest and tourist friendly.

The DC directed concerned officers to install signages and construct rain shelters and other basic infrastructure to facilitate the trekkers. He asked them to take advantage of this summer season and build all required facilities so that in the next season Kupwara should bloom as a trekking destination for national and international trekkers besides local youth.

The DC said that there is a need to encourage locals for upgrading their houses to promote homestays in hitherto unexplored areas in border areas including Teetwal, Keran, Machil, Mawar for homestay so that the tourists who visit these areas can have proper facilities to stay there.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Ghulam Nabi Bhat who is also CEO LBDDA; DFOs, Executive Engineer R&B and concerned officers attended the meeting.



## ALL INDIA JAMMU & KASHMIR BANK OFFICERS' FEDERATION

(AFFILIATED TO AIBOA)  
**M. A. LINK ROAD SRINAGAR**

Email: [aijkbof@gmail.com](mailto:aijkbof@gmail.com)

Ref. No: AIJBKF/2022-23/21

June 4, 2022

### INVITATION

All India Jammu and Kashmir Bank Officers' Federation extends warm welcome to office bearers of All India Bank Officers' Association (AIBOA), apex body representing officers' fraternity of Indian Banks across the country.

As per the programme, the office bearers of the of AIBOA will reach Srinagar, Kashmir on 6th of June, 2022 where after the historic and first ever meeting of AIBOA leadership in Kashmir is slated for 7th and 8th of June, 2022 besides the address of Chairman, President and General Secretary of AIBOA to bank officers of J&K Bank and other affiliates of AIBOA from Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh.

**The complete schedule of events is given hereunder:**

1. Arrival of office bearers of AIBOA on 6th of June, 2022, Monday at SKUAST-K Campus, Shalimar Srinagar from 1.00 P.M onwards.
2. Meeting of Office Bearers of AIBOA on 7th (Tuesday) and 8th (Wednesday) of June, 2022, inaugural speech to be delivered by Vice-Chancellor of SKUAST-K.
3. Address of Chairman (Com.Aloke Khare), President (Com.A.N.Suresh) and General Secretary (Com.S.Nagarajan) of AIBOA to bank officers of various affiliate of AIBOA from Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh in the Auditorium of SKUAST-K Campus, Shalimar Srinagar at 6.00 P.M on 7th (Tuesday) June, 2022.
4. Departure of office bearers from SKUAST-K Campus, Shalimar Srinagar on 9th of June, 2022, Thursday.

All India Jammu and Kashmir Bank Officers' Federation cordially invites its membership across pan India and officers membership of other affiliates of AIBOA from Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh in the event. The event of address by Chairman, President and General Secretary of AIBOA will commence in the Auditorium of SKUAST-K Campus, Shalimar Srinagar at 6.00 P.M (Tuesday) on 7th June, 2022.

**N.B: Dinner will be served to all the participants at the venue.**

**ALL INDIA JAMMU & KASHMIR BANK OFFICERS' FEDERATION**