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8 Years Later, Flood-Ravaged Silk Factory Making A Fresh Comeback

Auqib Javeed

SRINAGAR: With Kashmir floods of 2014 turning eight this September, one of its structural casualties is now making a refurbished comeback and reviving an imperial address lost in the submerged waters of Jhelum.

The Jammu and Kashmir administration has infused a new lease of life to the centuries-old silk factory with many initiatives and work underway to promote Kashmir silk under the UT's overall brand. Over 23000 families are directly and indirectly connected with the factory.

Zameer Syed Illahi, manager of the Silk Weaving Factory,

Rajbagh said that soon after the 2014 floods, the World Bank-funded Jhelum Tawi Flood Recovery Project (JTFRP) pumped over Rs 12 crore to upgrade decades' old silk factory.

"The funds gave a major boost to the factory which was almost sinking. However, the government decided to push it," Illahi told Kashmir Observer.

It may be noted that the Sericulture industry has been one of the main pillars of the rural economy in Kashmir valley. However it witnessed many ups and downs especially during the inception of militants in early 1990's.

The silk weaving factory at



Rajbagh was established by Maharaja Hari Singh in the year 1937. It is believed to be

Kashmir's second oldest silk factory. At present the factory provides employment to over

6 THE FACTORY REMAINED CLOSED FOR MANY YEARS and when re-opened the employees were able to produce only six variants of silk, the quality and the quantity of our product decreased due to floods."

110 people in the valley.

According to officials, the factory would produce 38 variants of silk at that time with the help of 120 looms and a processing capacity of 20000 meters. Loom is a device used to weave cloth.

"However due to floods around 80 percent of machinery got dysfunctional, and over 100 looms became non-functional,"

Illahi said.

But the LG administration is now making a massive push to its infrastructural facilities.

Illahi said that they received over 25 machines in-order to revive the silk factory and a new building was constructed with the help of JTFRP.

The major component of the project, according **More on P6**

7 Killed As Two Cars Roll Into Doda Stream

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Seven people were killed after two cars veered off a mountain road and plunged into a stream in separate incidents in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district on Monday, police said.

One more person was injured in the two accidents that occurred on the Doda-Bhaderwah road within a span of six hours, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Doda, Abdul Qayoom said, adding that the victims included two married couples.

Around 6.30 am, a car plunged into the Neeru stream, near Galgandhar, after rolling down about 400 feet, resulting in the death of four people on the spot and critical injuries to another who died later, the officer said. **More on P6**

Crimes Against Elderly On Rise In J&K

Srinagar: The crime rates against senior citizens in Jammu and Kashmir are on rise as just a single case of crime against senior citizens was registered in the year 2019 but it has gone to 40 in year 2021.

The report states that one case of crime against senior citizens was registered in J&K in the year 2019, five in 2020 and 40 in 2022.

As per data, J&K has around 9 lakh population with age above 60 years and crime rate is around 4.4 percent and charge-sheet rate for year 2021 is 85.7 percent.

As per data 40 cases include two cases of murder, one case of attempt to murder, one case of simple hurt U/S 323 & 324 IPC, one case of grievous hurt U/S 325, 326, 326A and 326B.

The cases as **More on P6**

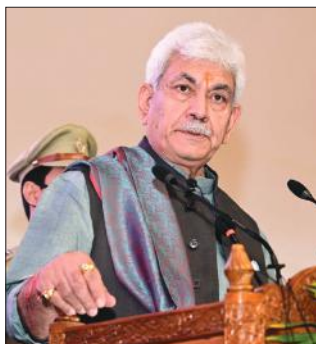
Too Much Blood Of Innocents Spilled In J&K: LG

'If We Can't Do Anything Else, We Can At Least Condemn It'

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Asserting that no religion allows targeting a person who leaves his family to educate children and to shape their future, the Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Monday called upon people to raise their voice against the killing of teachers.

"Some time back, some people have committed the heinous crime of killing innocent teachers. The security forces are doing their job but I think the time has come now for the society to stand against such crimes. Too much blood of innocents has been spilled in Jammu and Kashmir. If we can't do anything else, we can at least condemn it," the LG said, while addressing a Teachers' Day



function at SKICC here.

He was referring to the killing of two teachers, a Sikh and a Kashmiri Pandit woman, in a school in the Eidgah area of the city last year and another Hindu teacher, who was shot dead earlier this year in Kulgam district.

"No religion allows to target a person who leaves **More on P6**



A woman roams around her wooden hut on a cloudy day in Tosa Maidan meadow in central Kashmir's Budgam district. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

J&K CEO Says Actual Voter Figure Only After Revision

BJP, Oppn Leaders Spar At EC's All-Party Meet

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Heated arguments between the BJP and opposition leaders over the inclusion of "non-locals" in the voter list were witnessed during an all-party meeting chaired by Jammu and Kashmir chief electoral officer Hirdesh Kumar here over the special summary revision (SSR) of electoral rolls.

While some leaders said they are satisfied over the clarification given by Kumar to dispel their concerns about inclusion of 25 lakh voters, including outsiders, in the



voter list, the AAP boycotted the meet and staged a sit-in against the Election Commission, alleging that it has become a "mouthpiece" of the saffron party.

Kumar had in August said Jammu and Kashmir is likely to get around 25 lakh additional

voters, including outsiders, after the special summary revision of electoral rolls being held for the first time after the abrogation of Article 370.

Following an outcry, the Union territory administration later clarified that "this revision of electoral rolls will cover existing residents of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and the increase in numbers will be of the voters who have attained the age of 18 years as of October 1, 2022, or earlier".

Monday's meeting assumes significance as it came just days ahead of the scheduled "all-party meeting" convened by the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) here against the issue of giving voting rights to **More on P6**

MeT Forecasts 'Cloudy Weather' For A Week

Agencies

Srinagar: Weather department on Monday forecast fairly to partly cloudy weather with possibility of rain at isolated places in Jammu and Kashmir this week.

However, overall there's no forecast of any significant weather, a meteorological department official said.

He that in the last 24 hours till 0830 hours, Qazigund received rain-fall of 1.0mm, Pahalgam 1.7mm, Kupwara 8.7mm, Gulmarg 0.4mm, Jammu 30mm, Banihal 9.4mm, Batote 38.2mm, Katra 24.6mm and Bhaderwah 4.2mm.

Regarding minimum temperature, the official said that

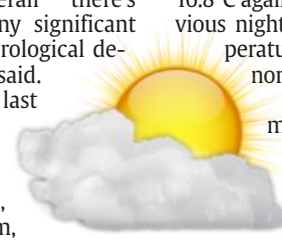
Srinagar recorded a low of 18.8°C against 18.4°C on the previous night. The temperature was 3.8°C above normal for the summer capital during this time of the year, he said.

Qazigund recorded a low of 16.8°C against 17.4°C on the previous night. However, the temperature was 3.6°C above normal there, he said.

In Pahalgam, the mercury settled at 13.8°C against 13.3°C on the previous night and it was 3.3°C above normal for the south Kashmir resort.

Kokernag recorded a low of 15.4°C against 15.9°C the previous night and it was 2.0°C above normal for the place, he said.

World famous **More on P6**



Calls NEP-2020 A Vision Document For Modernity

Farooq Shah

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, urged the teaching community on Monday to approach their profession with the highest responsibility in order to live up to the expectations that parents place in them when they entrust the future of their children to them. Sinha was **More on P6**

Attends Foundation Day Of Jammu University

The Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Monday attended the 53rd Foundation Day function of University of Jammu, an official spokesperson said. Sinha, he said, observed that the world is changing rapidly **More on P6**

6 IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, WE WILL START DEBATE AND ESSAY writing competitions in all schools and colleges. On Gandhi Jayanti, we will gather all awarded students and prominent Gandhians of the country so that the values of Bapu are not confined to books but reflect on our morals and character as well."

S H O R T T A K E S

Corona Cases Drop to 34 In J&K

Jammu and Kashmir registered on Monday 34 cases of novel Coronavirus, the lowest ever single-day count in recent months, while no fresh fatality due to the deadly infection was reported during the last 24 hours. According to officials, 25 fresh cases of Covid-19 were detected in Kashmir Valley and nine others from Jammu division, taking the total number of people infected since the onset of the pandemic in J&K to 478357. In the Valley, they said, Srinagar detected the highest 14 new cases of virus, Baramulla 5, **More on P6**

Bipul Pathak Takes Over As DG IMPARD

Bipul Pathak on Monday assumed the charge of Director General, J&K Institute of Management, Public Administration and Rural Development (IMPARD). He received charge of the post from Saurabh Bhagat, who had joined IMPARD in March last year. Pertinently, the outgoing Director General, Saurabh Bhagat, has been transferred few days back but was looking after IMPARD in addition to his new posting as Commissioner Secretary, Science and Technology Department. **More on P6**

SC Rejects PIL On Galwan Clash

The Supreme Court on Monday refused to entertain a PIL that sought a direction to the Centre to provide information on whether the nation lost any territory during the clash with the Chinese military in June 2020, saying these are the matters for the State and not for courts. A bench comprising Chief Justice Uday Umesh Lalit and Justice S Ravindra Bhat was hearing the PIL which alleged that the official stand was "misleading" the citizens post the clash at the Galwan Valley in June 2020. The bench dismissed the plea of one Abhijeet Saraf, **More on P6**

Migrant Worker Dies Of Liquor Overdose

A young migrant worker from Chattisgarh died of suspected alcohol overdose in Chadoora area of Central Kashmir's Budgam district, reports said Monday. Around 1:00 pm Monday, the body of 28-year-old Ajay Kevat of Kurba Chattisgarh was brought to Sub-District Hospital Chadoora, a local news agency GNS reported. Kevat, was working as a labourer at Brick Kiln-A-16 Kathergund in Chadoora. "The inquest proceedings have been started into the matter and the prima facie cause of death seems to be overdose of locally **More on P6**

Guns Fall Silent In Shopian

There was a lull after a gunfight in Shopian district of south Kashmir on Monday, officials said. They said that the gunfight started in the Baskuchan area of the district after a joint team of police and security forces launched a cordon-and-search-operation following inputs about the presence of the militants there. The joint team came under fire during the CASO which retaliated, leading to the gunfight, they said. However, they said, there was lull thereafter even as the joint party intensified searches in the area. There was no **More on P6**

Two Gamblers Held In Baramulla: Police

Police on Monday claimed to have arrested two gamblers in an input driven raid in Palhallan area of North Kashmir's Baramulla district. Gh Hassan Dar and Manzoor Ahmad Kharoo were arrested by a police team from an orchard in Ghat Gopallan village of Palhallan, a police spokesperson said Monday. Besides playing cards, he said, an amount of Rs 4000 was also recovered from the gamblers. The spokesperson said that the raid was carried out on specific information about gambling activities in the village. He said that a case **More on P6**



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New Smartphone App May Accurately Detect Covid-19 In People's Voices

Press Trust Of India

Scientists have developed a new smartphone app that may accurately detect Covid-19 infection in people's voices by using artificial intelligence (AI).

The AI model used in the research is more accurate than rapid antigen tests or lateral flow tests and is cheap, quick and easy to use, the researchers said. The method can be used in low-income countries where PCR tests are expensive and difficult to distribute, they said.

The finding was presented on Monday at the European Respiratory Society International Congress in Barcelona, Spain.

According to the researchers, the AI model is accurate 89 per cent of the time, whereas the accuracy of lateral flow tests varies widely depending on the brand.

Also, lateral flow tests are considerably less accurate at detecting Covid-19 infection in people who show no symptoms, they said.

"These promising results suggest that simple voice recordings and fine-tuned AI algorithms can potentially achieve high precision in determining which patients have Covid-19 infection," said Wafaa Aljwabi, a researcher at the Maastricht University, The Netherlands.

"Such tests can be provided at no cost and are simple to interpret. Moreover, they enable remote, virtual testing and have a turnaround time of less than a minute," Aljwabi said.

The new test could be used, for example, at the entry points for large gatherings, enabling rapid screening of the population, the researchers said. Covid-19 infection usually affects the upper respiratory track and vocal cords, leading to changes in a person's voice.

Aljwabi and her supervisors used data from the University of Cambridge's crowd-sourcing Covid-19 Sounds App that contains 893 audio samples from 4,352 healthy and non-healthy participants, 308 of whom had tested positive for Covid-19.

The app is installed on the user's

phone. The participants report some basic information about demographics, medical history and smoking status, and then are asked to record some respiratory sounds. These include coughing three times, breathing deeply through their mouth three to five times, and reading a short sentence on the screen three times.

Long-Short Term Memory (LSTM) outperformed the other models. LSTM is based on neural networks, which mimic the way the human brain operates and recognises the underlying relationships in data.

Its overall accuracy was 89 per cent, its ability to correctly detect positive cases or "sensitivity" was 89 per cent, and



These promising results suggest that simple voice recordings and fine-tuned AI algorithms can potentially achieve high precision in determining which patients have Covid-19 infection

The researchers used a voice analysis technique called Mel-spectrogram analysis, which identifies different voice features such as loudness, power and variation over time.

"In this way we can decompose the many properties of the participants' voices," Aljwabi said.

"In order to distinguish the voice of Covid-19 patients from those who did not have the disease, we built different artificial intelligence models and evaluated which one worked best at classifying the Covid-19 cases," she added. They found that one model called

its ability to correctly identify negative cases, or specificity was 83 per cent, the researchers found.

In another study, Henry Glyde, a PhD student at the University of Bristol, showed that AI could be harnessed via an app called myCOPD to predict when patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) might suffer a flare-up of their disease. COPD exacerbations can be very serious and are associated with increased risk of hospitalisation.

Symptoms include shortness of breath, coughing and producing more mucus.

Birds Migrate Along Ancient Routes

The Conversation

Although it still feels like beach weather across much of North America, billions of birds have started taking wing for one of nature's great spectacles: fall migration.

Birds fly south from the northern U.S. and Canada to wintering grounds in the southern U.S., Caribbean and Latin America, sometimes covering thousands of miles. Other birds leave temperate Eurasia for Africa, tropical Asia or Australia.

Using observation records and data collected through bird banding, 20th-century ornithologists roughly mapped general migration routes and timing for most migratory species. Later, using radar at airports and weather stations, they discovered how weather and other factors affect when birds migrate and how high they fly.

Today, technological advances are providing new insights into bird migration and showing that it is more complex and wonderful than scientists ever imagined. These new and constantly improving technologies are key aids for protecting migratory birds in the face of habitat loss and other threats.

Birding across borders

The power of the internet has greatly aided migratory bird research. Using the popular eBird network, birders all over the world can upload sightings to a central database, creating a real-time record of the ebb and flow of migration. Ornithologists have also learned to use NEXRAD, a national network of Doppler weather radars, to visualize birds migrating down the North American continent.

Now, scientists are setting up a global network of receiver stations called the Motus Network, which currently has 1,500 receivers in 31 countries. Each receiver constantly records the presence of any birds or other animals within a nine-mile (15-kilometer) radius that scientists have fitted with small, lightweight radio transmitters, and shares the data online. The network will become increasingly useful

for understanding bird migration as more receiver stations become active along migration tracks.

Tracking individual birds via satellite

Three new technologies are rapidly expanding what we know about bird migration. The first is satellite telemetry of bird movement. Researchers fit birds with small solar-powered transmitters, which send data on the birds' locations to a satellite and then on to a scientist's office computer. The scientist can learn where a bird is, the route it took to get there and how fast it travels.

For example, the bar-tailed godwit, a pigeon-sized shorebird, breeds in Alaska and then migrates to New Zealand. Satellite transmitters show that godwits often fly nonstop from Alaska to New Zealand. Recently, a godwit set the record for the longest nonstop flight by a land bird: 8,100 miles (13,000 kilometers) in 10 days, from Alaska to Australia.

Satellite telemetry studies show how much individual birds, even those from the same breeding location, vary in their migratory behavior. Individual differences in migratory behavior are probably due to differences in physical condition, learning, experience and personal preferences.

Another shorebird, the whimbrel, also makes a phenomenally long journey over the ocean. Satellite telemetry has shown that some whimbrels travel from northwest Canada, across the North American continent to Canada's east coast, then set off over the Atlantic Ocean on a 3,400-mile (5,400-kilometer), six-day nonstop flight to the coast of Brazil. In total, they may travel 6,800 miles (11,000 kilometers). Sadly, hunters kill some of these birds when they land to rest on islands in the Lesser Antilles. The unfortunate fate of two satellite-tracked whimbrels has catalyzed a campaign to tighten regulations on shorebird hunting in the Caribbean.

Geotagging small birds

Many birds are too small to carry a

satellite transmitter. Given the energetic effort required for migration, a device must weigh less than 5% of a bird's body weight, and many migratory songbirds weigh under 0.7 ounces (20 grams).

An ingenious solution for small birds is a geolocator tag, or geolocator a tiny device that simply records time, location and presence or absence of sunlight. Scientists know the timing of sunrise and sunset on a given date, so they can calculate a bird's location on that date to within about 125 miles (200 kilometers).

Birds carrying geolocators must be recaptured to download the data. That means the bird must survive a migration round trip and return to the same place where it was first captured and tagged. Amazingly, many geolocator-tagged small birds do.

Geolocators have shown that Blackpoll warblers small songbirds that breed in the boreal forests of North America fly long distances over the Atlantic in fall, heading to the Amazon basin. Birds breeding in eastern North America head out over the Atlantic in maritime Canada or the northeastern U.S. and make a 60-hour, nonstop, 1,500-mile (2,500-kilometer) flight to the Greater Antilles. There they rest and recuperate, then continue across the Caribbean to South America. Blackpolls breeding in Alaska fly across the North American continent before leaving shore on the Atlantic coast and flying to South America. In total, they journey 6,600 miles (10,700 kilometers) over 60 days.

Even more amazing, geolocators show that another small songbird, the northern wheatear, migrates from North America to sub-Saharan Africa. Wheat-eaters that breed in Alaska fly 9,100 miles (14,600 kilometers) across Asia to East Africa, taking three months to do so. Those breeding in eastern Canada journey 4,600 miles (7,400 kilometers) across the Atlantic to Europe and then on to West Africa including a 2,100-mile (3,400-kilometer), four-day nonstop overwater flight.

The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd.
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On-Line Request for Proposal (e-RFP)
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Empanelment of Vendor(s) for Comprehensive AMC of UPS Systems installed at various Branches / ATM's / Offices of the Bank in Zone A (UT of Ladakh & Kashmir Division) and Zone B (Jammu Division)

RFP Notice along with Complete RFP document outlining the minimum requirements can be downloaded from and Bids can be submitted on the Banks' e-Tendering Portal <https://jkbank.abcpocure.com> w.e.f. **September 05, 2022, 16.00 Hrs.** Tender Document can also be downloaded from Bank's Official Website www.jkbank.com. Last date for submission of Bids is **September 26, 2022, 17.00 Hrs.**

✉ RFP Ref. No. - JKB/CHO/FM&A/CAMC-UPS/2022-395
Dated : 03-09-2022

DIPK-NB-3665/22

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform general Public that the particulars of my son in school records have been mistakenly written as "Mohammad Mursaleen S/o Mohammad Haneef Gujree instead of "Mohammad Mursaleen S/o Abdul Hanieef Gojri which needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he /she may file his/her objection in the office of the NEW R.P School Zakura Crossing, Naseem Bagh Sgr within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Abdul Hanieef Gojri
F/o Mohammad Mursaleen
Cell: 7889727600

in

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PHE DIVISION BIJBEHARA

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS
(e-mail: phebijbehara230@gmail.com)

E-NIT No: 38/PHED/Bijbehara/ of 2022-23 NO/PHB/ 8338-58 Dated 03.09.2022

For & on behalf of the lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of J&K, e-tenders in single cover system are invited on (Percentage basis) The earnest money in the Shape of CDR /FDR/BG pledged to under-signed, from eligible contractors Registered with J&K UT., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No	Name of work	Advt Cost (Lacs)	Cost of tender Doc (Rs)	Time for Compl (Days)	Major Head of Account	Class of	Earnest Money	AAA No& date	T.S No & Date
1	Shifting of pipes under upgradation of road from Kdipora Gopalpora Via Faithaghar University (South Campus) up to Tailwani Shangus under CRF	26.18	700	30	Under CRF Deposit Contribution Roads	AAY/BEE	52360	TW/12037/34 /2003 /J&K/NH of 03/2018	CE/R&B-K484 of 2021-22
	Laying / fitting of new pipes from Bindoo to Mirpora involved under construction of new road by R&B department.	3.77	200	15	Under Deposit Contribution Roads	DEE	7540	CRF-J&K No: 265 of 2107-18	CE/R&B/K-II/259 of 2021-22 Dt: 16.07.21

Position of AA: Accorded
Head of Account: Deposit Contribution under Road widening Programme
Position of TS: Available
Position of Funds Available

1. The NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, Bill of Quantities (BOQ), terms & condition of contract can be seen/downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in as per the dates shown below:-

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	03.09.2022
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 03.09.2022 4.00 PM
3.	Bid submission Start Date	From 03.09.2022 4.00 PM
5.	Bid Submission End Date	12.09.2022 up-to 4.00 PM
6.	Date & Time of opening of Bids (Online)	13.09.2022 upto 11.00 AM in the Office of the Executive Engineer, PHE Division Bijbehara

Tenders from the eligible Contractors only having the following pre-qualifications will be considered:

- Latest GST Clearance Certificate Latest with GST Registration.
- Enlistment Card with latest renewal.
- Bidders address format
- Tender document fee in the shape of Treasury Challan.
- Card verification
- CDR @2% of Advertised Cost in the first instance.

2. The Successful bidder (L1) is bound to submit Additional 01 % Security deposit of / Advertised cost in the shape of CDR/FDR /BG before the issuance of L.I.O.

3. The bids shall deposited in electronic format on website www.jktenders.gov.in & shall be opened on above mentioned date by the Executive Engineer, PHE Division Bijbehara in presence of the bidders who may wish to be present. In case of holiday / office happens to be closed on the scheduled date of opening, the bids will be opened on next working day or any other working day to be decided by the Executive Engineer, PHE Division Bijbehara at the scheduled time and venue.

4. The complete bidding process will be online.

5. Clarification if any shall be sought from the office of the Executive Engineer, PHE Division Bijbehara.

6. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies (minimum of 150 dpi) of all necessary documents like Cost of Tender document in the form of Treasury Challan / GST & Return / Bidders Address Format / Registration card duly renewed. The hard copies of bidding documents are not necessary to deposit in the Divisional office as per standing Govt. instructions. After opening of tenders online, the 1st lowest bidder has to deposit the uploaded documents & cost of tender document in the form of Treasury challan in physical form.

DIPK-9349/22

Executive Engineer
PHE Division Bijbehara

(GOVERNMENT OF INDIA)
(UNION TERRITORY OF J&K & KASHMIR)

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER CITY ROADS (SMC) DIVISION SRINAGAR.

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

NIT No:- E-NIT/26/CRD/SMC/SGR/2022-23 DATED: 03-09-2022.

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of J&K, e-tenders (in Single cover System) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments.

S.No	Name of Work	Advt. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rs.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor
List of Works as Annexure (A) enclosed.					

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

Scheduled Dates& Time of Online Tenders.			
1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice Online	05-09-2022	
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	FROM	05-09-2022 10:00 A.M
3.	Bid submission Start Date	05-09-2022	FROM 10:00 A.M
4.	Bid Submission End Date	09-09-2022	UPTO 4:00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	10-09-2022 at 10:00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer City Roads (SMC) Division Srinagar.	

Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of introducing Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer City Roads (SMC) Division Srinagar (tender receiving authority) by simply uploading a copy of necessary Treasury Challan Receipt and bid security Declaration as per format attached.

1. Bids must be accompanied with Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) @2% of the advertised cost in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer City Roads (SMC) Division Srinagar immediately after the opening of financial bids, but prior to fixation of contract. The validity period of the FDR/ BG for requisite amount shall be upto DLP. Any FDR/ BG having less validity period shall not be entertained. The CDR/ FDR/ BG shall be released after successful completion of the Defect Liability Period (DLP).

2. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address.

3. The Financial bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer City Roads (SMC) Division Srinagar, (Tender receiving authority).

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

5. As per the circular issued by the Govt. of Union Territory of J&K Finance Department vide No.FD-Codes/2331-02-27 dated 10.02.2022 duly endorsed by Chief Engineer PW (R&B) Department Kashmir vide No.CE/RBK/WS/37104-36 dated 15.02.2022.

6. All the bidders have to submit bid security declaration which shall be duly signed by the bidder with full residential address, Card registration details & active Phone / Cell Nos. Form of bid security declaration attached as Annexure-A.

7. The lowest bidder (L1) shall also submit the successful Bidder has to produce a performance security amount equal to 3% (Three percent) of the contract value in the shape of CDR/ FDR/ BG immediately after the opening of financial bids, but prior to fixation of contract. The validity period of the FDR/ BG for requisite amount shall be upto DLP. Any FDR/ BG having less validity period shall not be entertained. The CDR/ FDR/ BG shall be released after successful completion of the Defect Liability Period (DLP).

8. In case of abnormally low bids, the tender inviting Authority reserves the right to ask from the bidder for additional performance security with the approval of the next Higher Authority which shall be binding upon the bidder in such case.

9. If any bidder / tenderer withdraws / modified his bid during the period of validity etc, the Department is at liberty to suspend the bidder for one year or as shall be deemed suitable by the tender inviting Authority. Same shall hold good if the bidder fails to produce performance security within the specified time.

10. The successful bidder (L1) shall have to furnish hard copy of the uploaded documents viz Registration card duly renewed, Valid GST Registration, PAN Card, GSTR-3B etc. along with Treasury Challan Receipt, and Bid security declaration form (Annexure-A) in original.

11. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

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

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

14. Bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.

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

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

17. Bidders must ensure to upload the clear scanned copies of all necessary documents with the bid.

DOC-1	DOC-2	DOC-3	DOC-4
CLEAR SCAN COPY OF CONTRACT REGISTRATION CARD DULY RENEWED. (2022-2023)	CLEAR SCAN COPY OF TREASURY CHALLAN / Earnest Money Deposit. Note: The Date of Treasury Challan Earnest Money Deposit should be between the bid submission dates of NIT/ Fresh NIT, any Treasury Challan/ EMD which is before the bid submission date of published NIT shall summarily be rejected.	Scanned Copy of:- 1. PAN Card 2. Copy of GSTIN Registration 3. GSTR-3B Return of previous quarter to the issued date of NIT i.e, JUNE 2022 (a) above	CLEAR SCAN COPY OF BID SECURITY DECLARATION FORM (ANNEXURE -A) duly signed (Refer para 5(a) above)

Note: The bidder should upload all the necessary documents details given above in One "OT" No. PDF file.

8. All the bids online shall be open in light of Finance Department communication O.M No: A/24 (2017)-651 Dated: 07-06-2018 No.FD-Codes/2331-02-27 dated 10.02.2022.

9. Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.

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

11. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the item rate / (%) percentage rate inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains.

12. Price escalation and Taxes:- The unit rates and prices shall be quoted by the bidder (item rate basis or %age rate basis whatever the case may be) entirely in Indian Rupees and the rates quoted shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work unless otherwise, specified. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.

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

14. All bidders shall upload the information and documents with their bids such as Copies of original documents defining constitution / legal status, place of registration and Principal place of business, GST Registration and PAN Card.

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

16. A pre-bid meeting will be held to clarify any issues and to answer questions on any matter that may be raised at that stage by the bidders. However participation in the pre-bid meeting shall not be binding on bidders.

17. All documents relating to the bid shall be in the English language.

18. The bidders shall have to quote the rate percentage in the prescribed rate percentage column in case of percentage based BOQ and in case of item rate based BOQ if the bidder does not quote rate for any item or items of the BOQ, cost of such item / items shall be deemed to be part of overall / total contract value and no rate shall be allowed for such item / items in the allotment of contract.

NIT/26/CRD /SMC/SGR/2022-23/e-tendering/
DATED:- 03-09-2022.

DIPK-9302/22

Executive Engineer,
City Roads (SMC) Division Srinagar.

ANNEXURE (A)						
S.No	Name of Work	Advt. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit @2% of Adv. cost	Time of completion	Class of Contractor
1	Improvement/Upgradation of road at Fazil Haq Colony Bhat Lane and allied links (balance portion) by way of providing and laying of 75mm thick compacted WMM, 50mm thick compacted BMD and 25mm thick compacted SD with premixed seal coat.	23.00	800/-	460000/-	10 Days	AAY Class Civil With HMPO/ BEE/ CEE Class Civil "refer Condition 18 (Y)
M.H OF A/C	4217-Srinagar Municipality					



Aim 'Wealth Of Values' Over 'Race For Marks': LG To Students

Urges Teachers To Allow 'Independent' Thinking; Says NEP Envisages 'Holistic Education', Will Provide Equal Opportunities To Teachers, Students

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday honored the finest teachers from across J&K with Union Territory Awards at SKICC to mark the Teachers' day celebrations.

Extending his greetings on the occasion of Teachers' Day, the Lt Governor urged the teachers to allow independent thinking, creativity, inquisitiveness, knowledge for quality education by involving students and ensuring individual growth for appropriate learning experience.

"A teacher is a bright lamp which has the capability of lighting hundreds of unlit lamps and imparts courage to innovate and invent. Holistic education as suggested by National Education Policy will provide equal opportunities to teachers and students to use knowledge to transform", said the Lt Governor.

Achieving wealth of values in life should be the new aim of the younger generation rather than the race for marks. Innovation, flexibility, creativity, value-based education, developing scientific temper, skill sets and independent ideas should be given priority in the education system, the Lt Governor added.

Great educationist and former President of India, Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan always believed that education means wisdom, love, curiosity and creativity. Dr Radhakrishnan had a very clear message – "Teachers are not those who give knowledge to the students, but in the true sense, teachers are those who prepare the students for the future challenges", observed the Lt Governor.

With the same spirit, the National Education Policy is the biggest revolution of the last 75 years with the potential to kindle the curiosity, creativity and scientific thinking through quality learning among the students, he added.

Asserting that the last two years have been a period of transformation for education sector in Jammu & Kashmir, the Lt Governor said that new reforms, policies and schemes in line with National Education Policy have redefined the entire education system and made the schools a centre of quality learning while restoring the teachers' respect in the society.

The Lt Governor noted that initiatives like Teachers-Students mentorship programme, Aao School Chalein Campaign, TALAASH Survey, 500 Atal Tinkering Labs, modern skills training, scholarship pro-



grams, computer aided learning etc are bringing real transformation in the educational ecosystem.

Dedicated efforts are being made for bridging the gender gaps and ensuring that the quality education is accessible to common man. Necessary infrastructure for girls' education has been established and in only one year, 14 hostels for girls have been developed, he added.

We are providing all necessary resources for individuality and independent thinking to grow in students and enhance their learning outcome. As many as 70,000 boys & girls are taking vocational training in 14 different trades and 1420

Computer Aided Learning Centers in Upper Primary Schools are promoting independent thinking in children, the Lt Governor further added.

The Lt Governor asked the younger generation to draw inspiration from the life of great personalities like Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam ji and Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan ji and learn higher values of life, make new discoveries & new innovations and dedicate themselves towards nation building.

Any form of violence has no place in a civilized society. We all, in unison must condemn the despicable killings of the innocent teachers, observed the Lt Governor.

There is also a need to ig-

nite the feelings of national integration, righteousness and non-violence among the younger generation. Debates, Essay Writing and other such competitions on the theme of "Truth and Non-Violence" will be organized in educational institutions across the UT, announced the Lt Governor.

Students who excel in these competitions will be awarded on 2nd October to commemorate the birth anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri, he added.

Speaking on the occasion, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lt Governor said that teachers ignite curiosity and sow the seed of knowledge and wisdom in students. He also highlighted the reforms introduced in the education sector in J&K in the last two years.

Tassaduq Hussain Mir, Director School Education Kashmir in his welcome address highlighted the invaluable role and contribution of teachers in laying a strong foundation for the future.

Earlier, the Lt Governor inspected the stalls put up by the students of various schools, and appreciated the students for showcasing the traditional artifacts, heritage, art, crafts and culture of Jammu Kashmir.

JKPCC Employees Demand Pending Salary

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: The employees and daily wagers of Jammu and Kashmir Project Construction Corporation (JKPCC) on Monday continued with the sit-in protest at Haft Chinari Office saying they are yet to receive salary from the last four months.

The employees who are on a pen down strike said they are at the receiving end as the higher officials have failed to address their issues.

"We are on a pen down strike from 26th of August and have been staging protests but the higher officials are not paying heed to our problems" Masood Ahmed Mir President Workers Union JKPCC said.

"The higher officials of the corporation say that the cor-

poration is facing financial crunch which is not true, there is financial mismanagement in the Corporation" Masood Ahmed alleged.

He further said that around 750 employees work as On Roll employees at JKPCC and around 1300 daily wagers including consolidated employees work at the corporation. It is a matter of 2000 families" he said.

The employees said they are planning more protests in the future and urged the administration to look into the matter.

Managing Director JKPCC Rajesh Kumar did not respond to repeated calls.

It is pertinent to mention, a similar protest is being held by the JKPCC employees in Jammu.

National-Level Seminar Marks Teachers Day Celebration At Kashmir University

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A national-level seminar marked the celebration of Teachers' Day at the University of Kashmir on Monday.

Vice-Chancellor Prof Nilofer Khan chaired the seminar titled "Teachers: Reorienting the Societal Consciousness towards Human Values", organized by the Department of Education.

In her presidential address, Prof Nilofer focused on the changing role of teachers in the context of National Education Policy-2020 that lays emphasis on development of strong moral and ethical facets of students, apart from their intellectual abilities, to make them capable of facing the emerging societal challenges.

"Today's teacher therefore may require to develop better strategies for teaching, research and learning to be effective and relevant within and beyond the classroom," she said, urging young teachers to "breaking the shackles of cocoons" to realise the goal of imparting multidisciplinary education to help the society to produce socially-conscious and ethically-strong student community.

In his exhaustive keynote address, Prof Akhtar Siddiqui, former chairman of NCTE, underlined how human values form the foundation of a robust education system and its success. He also underscored how effective language development can lead to effective development of a value system among individuals.

"Given the onslaught of in-

formation flow amid new technologies, penetration of mobile technology and extensive use of social media by people, the inculcation of ethical and moral values among students is a challenge before today's teachers," he said.

Dean Academic Affairs Prof Farooq A Masoodi called for greater student-teacher interaction to develop a "healthy academic ecosystem" where students learn from teachers and vice-versa.

Registrar Dr Nisar A Mir said teachers today are the "first agency of socialisation" and asserted that "education is the best leveler of inequities and inequalities." He assured the administration's full support for teacher training and learning programmes to ready teachers to "face new and emerging challenges."

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PATTAN: 01954-293507
QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

HIJRI
CALENDAR
09 Safar
1444

PRAYERS

FAJR	4:44
ZUHR	12:32
ASR	5:01
Magrib	6:56
ISHA	8:18

This Day In History

- 3114 BC- Date Maya/Mesoamerican Long Count Calendar starts dating from (as corresponds to the Julian Calendar).
- 394- Battle of Frigidus, Northern Italy.
- 1492- Columbus' fleet leaves Gomera, Canary islands.
- 1522- Ferdinand Magellan's Spanish expedition aboard the Vitoria returns to Spain without their captain. First to circumnavigate the earth.
- 1543- French & Turkish fleet occupies Nice.
- 1776- Hurricane hits Guadeloupe, killing more than 6,000.
- 1781- The Battle of Groton Heights takes place, resulting a British victory.
- 1885- Eastern Rumelia declares its union with Bulgaria. The Unification of Bulgaria is accomplished.
- 1937- Spanish Civil War: The start of the Battle of El Mazuco.
- 1939- 1st German air attack on Great Britain in WW II.
- 1939- South Africa declares war on Nazi-Germany.
- 1939- World War II: The Battle of Barking Creek.
- 1963- The Centre for International Industrial Property Studies (CEIPI) is founded.
- 1965- India invades West Pakistan - official beginning of the Indo-Pakistani War.
- 1968- Swaziland gains independence from Britain (National Day).
- 1978- Begin & Sadat meet at Camp David to discuss peace.
- 1986- Attack on synagogue in Istanbul, 23 killed.
- 1989- Police computer accuses 41,000 Parisians of murder/prostitution.
- 1991- USSR recognizes the independence of the 3 Baltic republics (Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania).
- 1991- The name Saint Petersburg is restored to Russia's second largest city, which had been renamed Leningrad in 1924.

From KO Archives

Army Officer Among 12 Killed

Observer News Service

Srinagar: An army officer and nine militants were among 12 people killed in militancy related violence across the state since yesterday. A grenade explosion in Kupwara town yesterday left seven persons including two special police officers injured. Police arrested three counter insurgents for torturing a sixty year old retired patwari to death.

Reports from Baramulla said an army lieutenant was killed in an encounter with militants at Darcipora in Kralapora area of Kupwara district last night. He was identified as Lt Amit Singh of 1/9 OR. The militants managed their escape from the spot. In another encounter at Khupplajian and Badwan village in Gurez area of Baramulla district, which lasted three days, three militants and an army jawan were killed. Reports said stores or new bunkers have been constructed and with heavy deployment of soldiers, the security has been tightened in the area to prevent any infiltration bid. Official sources said two militants of Hizbul Mujahideen were killed in an encounter with a Joint patty of police and security forces in the forests of Inderwani Sogam in Kokernag area of Anantnag district yesterday. They were identified as Abdul Jabbar alias Nair of Sogam and Tariq of Puhroo, Anantnag. However, a handout issued by the zonal police headquarters identified one of the two deceased militants as Intiaz Ahmad Bhat s/o Gulam Nabi Bhat of Mohripura Kokernag and not as tariq Ahmad as claimed by the police. Two AK rifles and three magazines and a wireless set were recovered from the encounter site.

Unidentified gunmen killed a 60 year old retired patwari at Kulgam yesterday. He was identified as Muhammad, Yousuf Dar. Taking cognizance, police claimed to have arrested three persons accused of the crime. According to a zonal police headquarter handout, they were identified as Shabbir Ahmad Dar alias Kasai of Shurut, Abdul Rahman Magray alias Nikka of Watoor and Mushtaq Ahmad Mir alias Maulvi of Katarsoo. A KPS report said Muhammad Yousuf was the 'owner of the house, which was reduced to rubble due to mortar shelling by the security forces. The Ikhwani working with the security forces pounced, on him when he was trying to come near his destroyed house. His bullet riddled body was recovered by the Qazigund police this morning which evoked a spontaneous demonstration by the villagers in protest against the killing. Police arrested the three Ikhwani Shabbir Ahmad Dar, Abdul Rahman Magray and Mushtaq Ahmad Mir for the reprisal killing Muhammad Yousuf. He bore torture marks over his body. (Kashmir Observer, September 06, 2000)

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
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Tele: 01933-247954/247955. Website: www.iust.ac.in

NOTICE

Admission (Selection) Notification No. 02 of 2022 Dated 05-09-2022 for admission to B. Tech. Engineering programmes is available on University website www.iust.ac.in. The candidates whose Form Numbers are reflected in the said notification are advised to go through the same and follow the instructions. The Last date for completion of admission formalities is **14-09-2022**. The detailed merit list is available on the University website www.iust.ac.in.

ADMISSION UNDER SELF FINANCING CATEGORY / NRI SPONSORED QUOTA:

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K O V I E W

Nitish Rahul meet

Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar on Monday met Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in New Delhi and the two leaders discussed ways to forge opposition unity. This is the first meeting between the two leaders since Kumar walked out of the NDA in Bihar and formed a grand alliance government with the RJD, and the Congress. Nitish is also likely to meet other opposition leaders including the NCP's Sarad Pawar, the AAP's Arvind Kejriwal, JDS supremo H D Kumaraswamy, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav and leaders from the Left parties. Kumar is trying to bring all opposition parties together to take on the BJP for the 2024 Lok Sabha election.

Kumar is being touted as a potential opposition leader to take on Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Speaking to the media soon after leaving the NDA, Kumar reinforced this view by reiterating his desire to work for opposition unity, a project he couldn't accomplish in his previous stint as a major opposition leader. Would he pull it off this time around? The chances remain moot. In fact, his ability to do so may be more diminished now than ever before. Kumar may continue to be a nationally-known high-profile leader, but the support base of his party in Bihar has considerably depleted, affecting his standing as a credible political opponent to the BJP.

But, at the same time, it would be a mistake to discount Kumar's ability to reinvent himself. During his previous stint as the BJP opponent, Kumar had called for the formation of a Third Front to take on the saffron party in 2019. It, however, didn't materialize.

Kumar's effort for opposition unity comes amid the Congress programme to launch padyatra from Kanyakumari to Kashmir. The party has already unveiled the Yatra logo, slogan and website. The slogan is 'Mile Kadam-Jude Vatan,' which is an attempt to convey a message that runs counter to the Hindutva narrative.

As is apparent, the yatra is part of the party's preparation for 2024, although the party is projecting it as an apolitical exercise. But the moot point is whether the march will connect with the people. Though only a small number of people will be part of the yatra, its success will be determined by how many more people will join it across the twelve states through which it is due to travel. And also how many people will attend Gandhi's public interactions. So, in a sense, the yatra and Nitish's meetings with political leaders in New Delhi will be a political bellwether: it will make it clear whether the Congress and with it the wider opposition, stands a chance in 2024 against the BJP juggernaut, an unlikely prospect.

O T H E R O P I N O N

Congress and Credibility

This is a small but important step that can further internal democracy and enthuse cadres in the country's main Opposition party. An elected president, especially from outside the Nehru-Gandhi family, can also blunt the BJP campaign that the Congress is merely a family enterprise. In such circumstances, it is necessary for the Congress to ensure that the election process is held in a free and fair manner, and also seen to be doing so. It will also send out a message across the political spectrum, which, unfortunately, is crowded with outfits led by founder-chiefs who prefer to appoint family members to party posts and ministries than allow leaders to emerge through internal elections.

However, the Congress's Central Election Authority (CEA) has refused to budge on the matter citing absence of precedence. It has held that the presidential election is an internal matter of the party and the electoral rolls could be misused if rivals manage to access them. These are facile arguments. Leaders such as Shashi Tharoor, Manish Tewari, Prithviraj Chavan and Pradyut Bordoloi, some of them potential candidates, have a point when they insist that making the rolls public is an essential step to ensuring transparency in the election process. Also, the electoral college consists of about 10,000 Pradesh Congress Committee delegates and it is not an easy task for a candidate to reach out to each of them via the PCCs. The CEA would be doing the party a disservice if it continues to be intransigent on the issue and allow critics to question the fairness of the election process.

The presidential poll comes in the wake of a section of the Congress turning sceptical about the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty's ability to run the party or win elections. Old-time family loyalist Ghulam Nabi Azad's scathing criticism of Rahul Gandhi in his resignation letter is a severe indictment of the dynasty's record in helming the party. The presidential poll, in the midst of the Rahul-led Bharat Jodo Yatra, is expected to settle the leadership question for now and mute the criticism of G-23 leaders. This would, however, require the Congress to ensure that the credibility of the poll process is not compromised. A failure could further damage the party and discredit its claim to lead the Opposition.

Indian Express

Playing Within Boundaries

Teachers can't be asked to perform Non-Teaching duty

“
Prohibition of deployment of teachers for non-educational purposes.—No teacher shall be deployed for any non-educational purposes other than the decennial population census, disaster relief duties or duties relating to elections to the local authority or the State Legislatures or Parliament, as the case may be



Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

An order issued by the Chief Education Officer (CEO) of district Shopian in June this year, nine (9) teachers working in various different Government schools of the district were deputed for election related work and asked to report to different Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) and Assistant Electoral Registration Officer(AEROs). The CEO's order No: CEO/SPN/Estt/2505-11 Dated : 3.06.2022 read:

“As desired by District Election Officer (Deputy Commissioner Shopian) vide official letter number mentioned under reference regarding the subject cited above, sanction is hereby accorded for the temporary deployment of computer knowing teaching officials to ERO/ AERO offices of district Shopian for a period of three months with immediate effect in light of circular No: 01 Edu of 2022 Dated 18.01.2022 to the various offices of EROs and AEROs of district Shopian”

Government might have fully trained these nine teachers for 3 months and by now they would be fully aware about electoral registration work but what about the poor children who were deprived of education for three months? According to some reports, these teachers have still not been relieved from the deputation. Out of the nine teachers, three are working in primary schools and another five teachers are working in Upper Primary Schools (UPS) and one is working in a high school. We know that most of the Primary schools have only a single teacher.

What does the RTE Act say?

The Right of Children to Free & Compulsory Education Act 2009 also called Right to Education Act (RTE) says that no teacher shall be deployed for any non-educational purposes other than the decennial population census, disaster relief duties or duties relating to elections to the local authority or state legislatures or parliament, as the case may be. How can the Government depute school teachers for 3 months training on electoral registration or any other election related work when even the election notification in J&K has not been issued. It is still unclear when state assembly elections will be held. The section 27 of RTE Act 2009 reads:

“Prohibition of deployment of teachers for non-educational purposes.—No teacher shall be deployed for any non-educational purposes other than the decennial population census, disaster relief duties or duties relating to elections to the local authority or the State Legislatures or Parliament, as the case may be”

In 2019, Delhi High Court took the authorities to task for assigning duties to school teachers who were “not remotely” connected to imparting education. The high court held that principals and teachers cannot be asked by mu-



nicipal corporations to perform duties outside the purview of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act and rules under it.

Justice C Hari Shankar set aside several notifications issued by the corporations requiring the principals and teachers to conduct household surveys and participate in preparation of the Ward Education Register.

The court, however, clarified that authorities are justified in seeking assistance of principals and teachers to aid in opening bank accounts of children in the school and linking them with Aadhaar cards, but the requirement cannot be treated as “mandatory” and cannot be made a basis for proceeding against them for non-rendering adequate assistance.

Govt teachers as BLOs in J&K

As Government teachers in Jammu & Kashmir are also assigned the work of Booth Level Officers (BLOs) by various District Election Offices, the matter was on various occasions discussed and deliberated at various forums but Govt didn't find a solution to it. In January 2018, J&K Government admitted from the floor

“Quality education is only possible when the Government implements the Right to Education Act (RTE) in letter and spirit in J&K. The Right to Education is a fundamental right in India. Why are Government schools not able to deliver on the ground inspite of the fact that there are highly qualified teachers in these institutions?”

of the house that the deployment of government school teachers as booth level officers (BLOs) for election related works was adversely affecting the academics and overall education standards of students in government run schools. This was revealed in a reply to a query raised by BJP MLA from Chennai Udhampur Dina Nath Bhagat during the question hour of the Legislative Assembly. The then Education Minister Syed Altaf Bukhari in his reply however said that the matter has been taken up with the General Administration Department for exemption of teachers from such duties, but till date nothing has been done in this regard.

Talaash for out-of-school children

J&K Government launched a mobile based application Talash developed by UNICEF to track Out of School Children (OoSC). The Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has been involved in identifying and mainstreaming out of School Children in Jammu & Kashmir. Last year in October, when the Talash app was launched around 60 Education Facilitators were trained during the training workshop at Jammu. Director Samagra Shiksha, during his address in the workshop called upon departments like Social Welfare and Labour Department to join hands with the School Education Department in the best interest of the children. Under the 'Aao School Chalein Campaign', J&K Govt has enrolled 1.65 lakh children in the last one year. The 'Talaash' app is being used to identify those who had to drop out of schools due to some reasons in the past few years. Unfortunately, under this Talash programme and door to door survey several Govt teachers are involved which also affects the school work. In Budgam district, many

Government school teachers were involved in the Talaash survey recently but that should have been done on holidays and after school hours but the Government school teachers were seen involved in this survey from 10 am to 4 pm. On the one hand, the Government is working hard to bring back school dropouts back to the schools but on the other hand the work in many Government schools has suffered because Government school teachers were involved in the Talaash survey during office hours.

RTE a fundamental right

Quality education is only possible when the Government implements the Right to Education Act (RTE) in letter and spirit in J&K. The Right to Education is a fundamental right in India. Why are Government schools not able to deliver on the ground inspite of the fact that there are highly qualified teachers in these institutions?

It has been observed that parents/guardians of Govt school teachers are not made the stakeholders in the education of their children/wards. The school students and the parents community have to join hands together and that is why the Right to Education Act (RTE) was en-

acted with supreme wisdom. This law ensures free and compulsory education to children across India. Earlier, RTE Act was not applicable in J&K but it has been extended to J&K after article 370 was read down. Who is supposed to enforce this law if not the government which has failed on this account?

Conclusion

The teachers continue to be deputed for non-educational work. The School Management Committee (SMC) that are supposed to be set up under RTE Act in Govt schools are not made operational. The SMCs involve parents to make decisions for school development along with school principals and local elected representatives. We have SMCs only on papers and during the last 3 years, I haven't heard about a single vibrant SMC working in any Govt Higher or High school in J&K. The 25 % reservation for children of economically weaker sections of society in private schools too is not enforced on ground. On this Teachers Day, my message to the Govt is to enforce the RTE Act on the ground. Once this law is operational in totality it will ensure Govt school teachers are not deputed for non educational work and other provisions of this like constitution of SMCs and reservation for disadvantaged communities in private schools will also be implemented.

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

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MAIL YOUR LETTERS

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The Traffic Hellhole — Srinagar

THROUGH the column of this reputable paper, I want to bring to your attention the repercussions of traffic menace in Srinagar city. Through a commoner's view, the traffic system in the city seems haphazard, as if lacking any arrangement or organisation. Yesterday itself, almost every route in the city was blocked and jammed due to excessive traffic and no surveillance and lack of manage-

ment. Recently, traffic lights have been installed across the city but it is unfortunate how no one seems to adhere to them. It is even more tragic how no authority or members of the traffic police department are seen to be authorising and making sure traffic rules are followed.

Traffic jams result in wastage of time, and wastage of fuel especially when fuel prices are rocketing every other day, making it harder for com-

mon people to afford it.

When all routes in Srinagar were jammed yesterday, almost no escort from the traffic police department was seen to be diverting the traffic to clear the jam. As a matter of fact, at most of the places it was the local boys who did the job. It is as if the traffic police department does not exist at all. People were stuck in the traffic jams for hours altogether, but no stern action was taken by the de-

partment which only portrays their incompetence in tackling such situations.

Adherence of traffic rules should be made sure by hook or by crook. The department must realise their responsibility and find ways to fill the loopholes. I hope you analyse the situation and act upon it.

Sarah Koul
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Iraq-Kurdistan Oil Tussle

Asad Mirza

The perilous relationship between Iraq and Kurdistan has soured once again, due to Kurdistan's oil exports to Turkey. There are reports that international oil firms operating in Kurdistan have asked the US to help defuse an upsurge in tension between Iraq's central government and the Kurd Autonomous Region or Kurdistan regional government (KRG), according to a letter seen by Reuters.

Over the years, Kurdistan had been supplying oil to Turkey and in the present circumstances they say intervention is needed to ensure oil continues to flow from the north of Iraq to Turkey to prevent Turkey having to increase oil shipments from Iran and Russia.

Besides this to a large extent the economy of the Kurdistan region depends on oil export, as the monetary support from Baghdad is not enough to cover its developmental projects, and shutting the oil export could pose a grave threat to its economy and it may even collapse.

Earlier in February this year, Iraq's Federal Court deemed that an oil and gas law regulating the oil industry in Iraqi Kurdistan was unconstitutional. Following the ruling, Iraq's federal government, which has long opposed allowing the KRG to independently export oil, has increased its efforts to control export revenues from Kurdistan.

Reuters reports that it has copies of letters which shows that some oil multinationals even approached US ambassadors in Baghdad and Ankara in January 2022, seeking mediation in a separate case dating back to 2014 concerning the Iraq-Turkey Pipeline (ITP).

Baghdad claims that Turkey violated the ITP agreement by oil from Kurdistan – which it deems illegal – through the pipeline to the Turkish port of Ceyhan.

According to Iraq's oil ministry, the final hearing in the case took place in Paris in July, and the International Chamber of Commerce will issue a final decision in the coming months.

Apart from requiring Turkey to get more crude oil from Iran and Russia, a cessation of oil flows through the ITP, would cause the KRG's economy to collapse, oil companies' letter to US representatives said.

Iraq is already getting benefit of high oil prices, which leapt to 14-year-highs after major oil exporter Russia invaded Ukraine in February and they remain close to \$100 a barrel.

The ITP has the capacity to pump up to 900,000 barrels per day (bpd) of crude, roughly one percent of daily world oil demand, from Iraqi state-owned oil marketer State Oil Marketing Organisation (SOMO) as well as the KRG. For now it is pumping 500,000 bpd from northern Iraqi fields.

The multinational oil companies have also lobbied US congress members to write letters to the US Secretary of State Antony Blinken in August. State Department spokesperson Ned Price said on 16 August that disputes between Baghdad and Erbil were between the two sides, but the US could encourage dialogue.

Al Arabiya TV channel reporting on the



A flame rises from a chimney at Taq Taq oilfield in Erbil, in Iraq's Kurdistan region, August 16, 2014. REUTERS/Azad Lashkari

matter quoted Raad Alkadiri, managing director for energy, climate, and sustainability at Eurasia Group, as saying that the US has become disengaged from Iraq over the past decade. And thus, no pressure from Washington or other governments will resolve the issues between Baghdad and the Kurds.

To make matters further complicated last week, SOMO threatened legal action against international buyers of Kurdish crude, only adding to the risks associated with investing in the region. This is the latest step by Baghdad in the escalating dispute with the KRG over who should control Kurdistan's oil.

Experts say that Kurdistan could see its oil production and exports halved within five years, further depleting the already drained coffers of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG).

The investment climate in Kurdistan is currently not conducive to major oil industry investments – despite Kurdistan officials' claims to the contrary – amid a bitter dispute between the KRG and the federal government of Iraq over who has the right to control the oil resources and revenues in the semi-autonomous region. A Kurdish official has described the dispute as the worst fallout between Baghdad and Erbil in nearly 20 years.

Oil exports account for over 80% of the KRG budget, and without revenues from oil, the

“It seems that now perhaps the time is ripe for the international community to step-in to ensure Kurdistan's independence once and for all, from Iraq and let the country embark on its route to democracy and prosperity

region faces even more hardships, on top of the limited budget allocations from the federal government in Iraq, which itself is a caretaker cabinet as politicians have been unable to form a regular government for nearly a year after the October 2021 general election.

Without new investment in oil, Kurdistan risks losing half of its current oil production by 2027, according to government documents seen by Reuters.

But attracting investment to Kurdistan again is much easier said than done.

Throughout the 20th century, Kurds in Iraq

oscillated between fighting for autonomy and for independence. Kurds experienced Arabisation and genocide at the hands of Ba'athist Iraq.

The Iraqi no-fly zones over most of Iraqi Kurdistan after March 1991 gave the Kurds a chance to experiment with self-governance and the autonomous region was de-facto established.

The Baghdad government only recognised the autonomy of the Kurdistan Region after the fall of Saddam Hussein, with a new Iraqi constitution in 2005. A non-binding

independence referendum was passed in September 2017, to mixed reactions internationally.

The Kurdistan Region largely escaped the privations of the last years of Saddam Hussein's rule and the chaos that followed his ousting in 2003, and built a parliamentary democracy with a growing economy.

It seems that now perhaps the time is ripe for the international community to step-in to ensure Kurdistan's independence once and for all, from Iraq and let the country embark on its route to democracy and prosperity.

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

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Pandemic's Garden Boom

Alessandro Ossola

As lockdowns went into effect in the spring of 2020 to slow the spread of the coronavirus, reports emerged of a global gardening boom, with plants, flowers, vegetables and herbs sprouting in backyards and on balconies around the world.

The data backs up the narrative: An analysis of Google Trends and infection statistics found that during the first few months of the COVID-19 pandemic, country-by-country interest in gardening, from Italy to India, tended to peak just as infections peaked.

Why did so many people find themselves being pulled toward the earth in a time of crisis? And what sort of effect did gardening have on them?

In a new study conducted with a team of environmental and public health scholars, we highlight the extent to which gardening became a coping mechanism during the early days of the pandemic.

Even as restrictions related to COVID-19 have eased, we see some real lessons for the way gardening can continue to play a role in people's lives.

DIRT, SWEAT, TRANQUILITY

To conduct our study, we used an online questionnaire to survey more than 3,700 respondents who primarily lived in the U.S., Germany and Australia. The group included experienced gardeners and those who were new to the pursuit.

More than half of those we surveyed said they felt isolated, anxious and depressed during the early days of the pandemic. Yet more than 75% also found immense value in gardening during that same period. Whether done in cities or out in the



country, gardening was almost universally described as a way to either relax, socialize, connect with nature or stay active.

More than half of the respondents reported a significant increase in the amount of time they were able to spend gardening. Other respondents found some value in growing their own food, but few felt financially compelled to do so.

Instead, most respondents saw gardening as a way to connect with their community and get some exercise.

People with more personal difficulties due to COVID-19, like the inability to work or struggling

with child care, were more likely to spend more time gardening in their spare time than they had in the past.

THE GARDEN AS A REFUGE

In our analysis of written responses to the survey, most gardeners seemed to either experience a heightened sense of joy and reassurance or feel more attuned to the natural world. This seemed to have positive therapeutic and psychological benefits, regardless of age or location.

To many people, gardening became a sort of safe space – a haven

“If anything, the pandemic showed how gardens serve a public health need – that they're not only places of beauty or sources of food, but also conduits for healing

from daily worries. One German gardener started seeing their garden as a sanctuary where even “birds felt louder.”

“Gardening has been my salvation,” a respondent from the U.S. noted. “I'm very grateful I can surround myself with beauty as a buffer to the depressing news COVID brings each day.”

Another German gardener wrote that their garden became their “little safe universe in a very uncertain and somewhat dangerous time. ... We have learned to appreciate the so far very high value of 'own land, own refuge' even more.”

A GREEN PRESCRIPTION

As life returns to normal, work ramps up and obligations mount, I wonder how many pandemic gardens are already being neglected.

Will a hobby born out of unique circumstances recede into the background?

I hope not. Gardening shouldn't be something that's only taken up in times of crises. If anything, the pandemic showed how gardens serve a public health need – that they're not only places of beauty or sources of food, but also conduits for healing.

In fact, several countries like New Zealand, Canada and some in Europe now allow “green prescriptions” to be issued as alternatives to medication. These are directives from doctors to spend a certain amount of time outdoors each day or month – an acknowledgment of the very real health benefits, from lowered stress to better sleep and improved memory, that venturing into nature can offer.

I also think of the people who never had a chance to garden in the first place during the pandemic. Not everyone has a backyard or can afford gardening tools. Improving access to home gardens, urban green spaces and community gardens could be an important way to boost well-being and health.

Making seeding, planting, pruning and harvesting part of your daily routine seems to open up more opportunities, too.

“I never previously had the time to commit to a garden,” one first-time gardener told us, “but [I've] found such satisfaction and happiness in watching things grow. It has been a catalyst for making other positive changes in my life.”

By arrangements with The Conversation

NIT Srinagar Holds Workshop On 3D Printing, Nano-Tribology, Characterization Of Materials

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A week-long high end workshop on 3D printing, nano-tribology and characterization of Materials on Monday concluded a National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar.

The event was organized by Mechanical Engineering Department, NIT Srinagar and was sponsored by Science and Engineering Research Board, Govt. of India under the Accelerate Vigyan Scheme.

The inaugural session was inaugurated by Director NIT, Prof. (Dr) Rakesh Sehgal, Prof. Sachin Maheshwari, NSUT New Delhi, Prof M.F. Wani, Dean R&C and Institute's Registrar Prof. Syed Kaiser Bukhari.

On Monday, the valedictory session was presided over by Prof. Rakesh Sehgal, Director NIT Srinagar & Chief Patron of the event and Prof. Sachin Maheshwari, NSUT New Delhi who was the chief guest of the valedictory session.

Prof M.F. Wani, Dean R&C was



the guest of honor for the event. The event also saw the presence of eminent personalities from NIT Srinagar including Registrar Prof. Kaiser Bukhari, Head of the Department, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Sheikh, Senior Professor and ex Dean R&C, Prof. Harmain, coordinator of the event Dr. Sandeep Rathee amongst others.

In his key speech, Prof. Maheshwari said that both high-end workshops and FDPs are need of the hour. "If a few of the participants will get motivated through this workshop then it will be a great achievement," he said.

He thanked Prof. Rakesh Sehgal,

Director NIT Srinagar and Dr. Sandeep Rathee, event coordinator for inviting him for this noble endeavor towards nation building and technological advancement.

Prof. Maheshwari also highlighted the effectiveness of the chosen field of the workshop. He also remarked that the service to the nation can be done by empowering the youth of the country and thus the institute's contribution towards the nation is remarkable.

In his message, Prof. Rakesh Sehgal shared that the institute has done every bit towards the nation's technological manpower capability building. He promised

to enhance the contribution of the institute at every front towards such noble initiatives.

Prof. Sehgal emphasized the need for capacity building in emerging fields like tribo-materials, additive manufacturing and material characterization.

He also highlighted the importance of sharing the expert knowledge of researchers and academicians in these fields with the upcoming researchers and faculty members to empower them with the right information so that they can make conscious choice to move forward.

Prof. Sehgal said NIT is

committed to serve as a platform for sharing knowledge and skills with everyone through the medium of these outreach activities in the form of FDPs, workshops, skill development programs, etc.

"High end facilities developed by the institute by the hard work of so many years can serve their purpose best if they are utilized for national technological capacity building," he said.

Prof. Sehgal thanked Prof. Maheshwari for gracing the valedictory function and also for delivering the expert talk in the field of advancements in welding techniques. He observed that the day is not far when our nation will be leading the world in technology and it is his vision to see NIT Srinagar as a primary torchbearer for this endeavor.

Prof. Sehgal said the workshop was a successful program and the details of each aspect were worked out very intricately. He congratulated the organizing committee, especially the coordinator of the event Dr. Sandeep Rathee.

BABRI MOSQUE DEMOLITION CASE

CBI Files Objection In HC, Next Hearing On Sep 26

Agenceis

Lucknow: The CBI on Monday submitted objections on the maintainability of a criminal appeal filed in the high court here against the acquittal of all 32 accused, including former deputy prime minister I. K. Advani, Muri Manohar Joshi and Uma Bharti, in the Babri mosque demolition case. A bench of justices Ramesh Sinha and Renu Agrawal of the Allahabad High Court fixed September 26 for the next hearing on the appeal of Haji Mahboob Ahmad and Syed Akhlaq Ahmad.

When the matter came up before the Lucknow bench on Monday, CBI counsel Shiv P Shukla and government advocate Vimal Kumar Srivastava raised objections regarding the maintainability of the appeal.

They contended that the appellants were not the victims in the case and hence did not have the right to file the present appeal against the acquittal of the accused.

Earlier, the appellants had filed a revision petition against

the acquittal but Justice Dinesh Kumar Singh had held that it was not maintainable under Section 372 of CrPC, which deals with the provision of appeals in criminal cases. On request of the petitioners, the court had directed its office to convert and treat it as a criminal appeal.

Accordingly, the criminal revision was converted into a criminal appeal and listed before the appropriate division bench.

The appellants said that they were witnesses in the trial and were victims owing to the demolition of the disputed structure. The Babri mosque was demolished by Karsewaks on December 6, 1992. After a long legal battle, the special CBI court on September 30, 2020 pronounced the judgment in the criminal trial and acquitted all the accused.

The trial judge had refused to believe newspaper cuttings, video clips as evidence as the originals of the same were not produced, while the entire edifice of the case rested on these pieces of documentary evidence.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

8 Years Later,

to Illahi, was to restore the livelihood of those who were impacted by the floods besides restoration of heritage buildings.

The factory gained heritage status in 2017, after which it was upgraded with modern machinery.

"The factory remained closed for many years and when re-opened the employees were able to produce only six variants of silk," Illahi said, adding that "the quality and the quantity of our product decreased due to floods"

Presently, the factory is in the possession of over 30 machines which include 20 new looms, 11 two for one twister machines (TFO), three winding, two cold winding, one wrapping and other machines.

With the help of new machines, the silk fabric production from the factory reached 10000 to 12000 metres per month. Annually, the factory produced over 1.5 lakh meters of silk fabric.

"Earlier, it was 3000 metres monthly but from last year we have increased the production," Illahi added.

The factory is now able to manufacture 23 varieties of Silk with the help of new machinery.

"These machines are automatic and very much needed for the revival of the factory," Illahi said.

The factory also buys cocoons from the farmers of the valley.

According to Manzoor Ahmad Qadri, Director, Sericulture, over 27000 families in the J&K are associated with silk farming, out of which 8,900 families are from Kashmir Valley and rest from Jammu.

"Even if more families from Jammu are involved in this trade, the protection in Jammu is less than the Valley," Qadri added.

The Sericulture department provides silkworm seeds to the farmers who then feed silkworms on mulberry leaves to make cocoons.

According to the Sericulture department, over 800 metric tons of cocoons are produced, generating an income of about Rs. 2026.00 lakh for these silkworm rearers coupled with the annual employment generation to the tune of 3.5 lakh in the UT.

"Out of 800 metric ton of silk cocoons, 375 metric tons are being produced in the valley while the rest comes from Jammu," Qadri told Kashmir Observer.

The Department has 173 mulberry nurseries spread over an area of 963 acres, and 374 mulberry blocks over an area 2215 acres across the UT.

Illahi told Kashmir Observer when the factory closed post 2014 floods, the farmers were affected.

"We provide them (farmers) best rates," Illahi said. One kilogram of cocoons sells at Rs 1300- 1500.

Major Silk production districts are Anantnag, Kupwara, Pulwama and Baramulla, Qadri said.

Illahi said they have tied-up with Amazon and Reliance for selling the product online. He said most of the buyers come from other states of the country.

7 Killed As Two

The deceased were identified as Naseeb Singh (62), his wife Satya Devi (58), son Vikram Singh (22), Lekh Raj (63) and his wife Satisha Devi (60), all residents of Shiva village, who were on their way to Bhaderwah as part of a marriage procession, he said.

Earlier, another private car fell into the stream from a height of about 300 feet at Mughal Market, two km from the site of the second accident.

The accident occurred around 12.30 am and the bodies of Sajad Ahmad (38) of Tangorna-Bhaderwah and Ravinder Kumar (33) of Himote-Bhaderwah were retrieved from the vehicle, the

SSP, who supervised both the rescue operations, said.

Piyush Kumar of Chinta was rescued in a critical condition, he added.

The latest deaths in road accidents came just a week after eight residents of Bonda village were killed when their taxi plunged into a 300-foot gorge in the Chatroo area of adjoining Kishtwar district.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha expressed grief over the loss of lives in the two accidents.

"The two unfortunate road accidents in Doda are deeply distressing. Extremely pained over the loss of lives. Condolences to families of the deceased. My prayers with the injured. Directed district administration to ensure best possible treatment to the injured," Sinha said in a tweet.

Union minister Jitendra Singh, a member of the Lok Sabha from the Udhampur constituency, which also covers Doda and Kishtwar districts, has assured the victims' families of full assistance.

Crimes Against

per data also include a single case of robbery U/S 392-394, 397,397 IPC, 18 cases of criminal trespass U/S 447-452 IPC and 16 other IPC crimes.

As per data, 42 cases of crimes against senior citizens including two pending cases of 2020 were investigated in 2021, however, no previous case was reopened for investigation in 2021.

Too Much Blood

his family to educate children, to shape their future," he added.

Earlier, Sinha said that the J & K government will hold debates and essay writing competitions in all schools and colleges on truth and non-violence for inculcating these Gandhian values in the character of new generations.

"In the next few days, we will start debate and essay writing competitions in all schools and colleges. On Gandhi Jayanti, we will gather all awarded students and prominent Gandhians of the country so that the values of Babu are not confined to books but reflect on our morals and character as well," he added.

Extending his greetings on the occasion of Teachers' Day, the Lt Governor urged the teachers to allow independent thinking, creativity, inquisitiveness, knowledge for quality education by involving students and ensuring individual growth for appropriate learning experience.

A teacher is a bright lamp which has the capability of lighting hundreds of unlit lamps and imparts courage to innovate and invent. Holistic education as suggested by National Education Policy will provide equal opportunities to teachers and students to use knowledge to transform, he said.

Calls NEP-2020

addressing a jam-jam-packed gathering comprising mostly teachers in the auditorium of the Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre on the eve of the Teachers Day.

Teachers' Day is celebrated each year on this day to recognise the importance of teachers in our lives. The occasion falls on Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan's birthday, who was India's first vice-president, second president, and an ardent supporter of education.

LG Sinha while placing the blame on the system raised serious concerns about why adolescents begin to lose their sense of creativity, curiosity, inventiveness, and risk-taking ability around the age of 15 or 16.

"Since the system he or she had been using was possibly flawed by its very nature, neither a teacher nor a student is to blame for all of this,"

Sinha said. "Rote-memory and intense competition to achieve the highest exam results led to a mechanical system whereby a student finds himself at a crossroads after finishing the 10th class examination.

Hailing the new education policy aka NEP-2020, he said the document's creators made sure to take into account any inconsistencies that the previous policies may have had.

"Institutions eventually had to make significant investments in unlearning just to know what to drop and what to keep," he said. "You must consider yourselves the luckiest ones as you have a document that ensures universal access at all levels of schooling to Grade-12 with a new curricular and pedagogical structure like never seen before."

NEP-2020, he said, will usher you to a learning institution rather than a factory where goods are produced solely for profit and loss.

According to Sinha, nations that made investments in the knowledge economy advanced much more quickly than those that trailed behind in adopting these ideas.

"The knowledge economy both supports, and is fuelled by, innovation, research, and rapid technological advancement," Sinha remarked. "In the knowledge economy, highly skilled employees make up the vast majority of the workforce. Developing certain skill sets is becoming more and more important. In the current economy, skills like data analysis, developing and using financial models, and innovation are in high demand."

Sinha said that different changes are ensuring the quality of education in every school and that community involvement is making the dream of universal education a reality.

"Attending to an excellent school is more important than just going to any school," he said. "Quality education is being ensured in all UT schools in order to accomplish this goal, and it is one of our top priorities."

Hailing the efforts of teachers, Sinha said the person after the father who aspires for his student to advance faster than him was the teacher.

The word 'Guru', Sinha said, confers the utmost honour and respect to teachers, which no other definition can match.

The event concluded with an award-distribution ceremony wherein the best teachers picked up for the year were felicitated by the Lieutenant Governor.

"Although there may be fewer prizes given out for the top teachers of the year, there are plenty more talented and competent ones who have performed just as admirably," he said.

Attends Foundation

and education along with it and said, to cater ever growing demand for better standard and quality of education, University has gone through many changes in the last 53 yrs and has evolved as a centre of excellence.

On the occasion, he said, the LG congratulated the faculty, and all those associated with the functioning of the University for achieving great milestones, shaping young minds and increased collaboration between academia and industry.

The spokesperson said that the LG invoked the vision of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and asserted that NEP will redefine education in Universities and expressed his wholehearted support to the initiatives of the University.

"National Education Policy stresses upon nurturing creativity, curiosity, collaboration, involvement of students in activities inside and beyond the classroom. The education policy is a beacon of light to guide and motivate

teachers as well as students and overall learning outcomes," Sinha said.

The LG, as per the spokesperson emphasized that the real function of education is to nurture talents. National Education Policy provides us an opportunity to develop our Universities, education institutions as centres of future oriented, value based quality education centres where students get an independent environment to innovate and invent.

"Education is the key to open the mind of students. Individual growth and independent thinking is possible only when a student is provided an environment not confined to the classroom and gets an opportunity to nurture creativity and wisdom," the LG said.

"Under the guidance of Prime Minister, we have received an opportunity to make sure that universities are not known as centres of providing degrees but the education and increasing the collaboration between teachers and students," he added.

The spokesperson said that the LG further said that students don't just need the degree, they need education and it is possible only with increased involvement and collaboration with teachers.

Highlighting the major initiatives of the University of Jammu, the spokesperson said that the LG attributed the establishment of Special Purpose Vehicle Foundation in November 2020 as a major milestone and a significant step towards promoting a culture of Start-ups, Industry-Academic Partnership, Innovation and Incubation in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Sinha, he said, also stated that the establishment of Guru Nanak Chair was in line with the National Education Policy, as it was a major initiative to reestablish the significance of our invaluable cultural heritage.

"The ancient wisdom by saints and seers and contribution of great scientists is what actually forms the foundation of modern India," the LG said.

On the occasion, the spokesperson said that the LG urged all the teachers to dedicate themselves to opening the minds of their students to new ideas, stirring curiosity and nurturing creativity by creating an open environment for their growth and eventually facilitating in building a new society in future.

J&K CEO Says

"outsiders" in the assembly elections.

In an apparent attempt to put an end to the raging controversy surrounding the inclusion of about 25 lakh voters including non-locals, Kumar chaired an hour-long meeting with leaders of almost all political parties, including National Conference, BJP, Congress, PDP, Apni Party, BSP, National Panthers party and CPI(M).

Officials said the meeting was a routine exercise to brief the parties about the ongoing SSR of electoral rolls, the final report of which will be made public on November 25.

"We are satisfied with the clarification given by the chief electoral officer with regard to our main concern over inclusion of 25 lakh voters including non-locals," General secretary of Pradesh Congress Committee and former minister Yogesh Sawhney told reporters.

He said Kumar made it clear that there was some misunderstanding with regard to the figure and assured that only eligible local voters who have attained or crossed the age of 18 years but could not be added over the past four years would be enlisted as the voters as per the law.

Sawhney, however, said the

opposition parties made it clear to the Election Commission and the BJP that they will forcefully oppose any attempt to provide voting rights to non-locals to impact the next assembly elections.

The meeting witnessed heated argument towards the end when senior BJP leader and former minister Sat Sharma, during his speech, supported the inclusion of non-locals in the voters' list citing the Representation of Peoples Act, an insider said.

National Conference president Rattan Lal Gupta said they are somewhat satisfied with the clarification of Kumar, though "we need to remain alert and keep an eye on the exercise".

"Our main objection was where this figure of 25 lakhs has come and whether security forces are also included in it. Kumar first denied having given the number but later said he was withdrawing his remark which is of satisfaction," he said, adding since J-K falls under the Disturbed Areas Act, the security personnel cannot vote in the local elections here.

PDP leader Pervaz Waffa said they are not satisfied with the clarification, given the BJP's "opt repeated attempts to compromise the demography and facilitate outsiders".

The party put forth a suggestion to include a political worker in the team at booth level to identify the non-locals so that they are not included in the list, he said.

Defending the stand of the BJP, Sat Sharma said the party favours conduct of the SSR in accordance with the law of the land.

"Anyone eligible to vote, whether local or non-local, should be given his right. The Representation of Peoples Act came into force in J-K after the abrogation of Article 370 (in 2019) and accordingly, the West Pakistani refugees, Gorkhas, Valmiki are eligible to vote along with other Indian citizens who are ordinary residing here," he said.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) boycotted the meeting with its leaders led by former minister Harsh Dev Singh staging a sit-in outside the Election Commission office, raising serious concern and objections on mode of its working.

The protesters alleged that the commission has become a "frontal wing" and a "mouthpiece" of the BJP.

"We are boycotting this meeting in the interest of Jammu and Kashmir... all these meetings are just eyewash and an attempt of election commission as well as BJP to befool the people and to revalidate their right of ruling this region through its bureaucratic setup which has already put J-K in a mode of uncertainty and chaos, Singh said.

He said dozens of such meetings have been held in the past but not even a single suggestion of opposition political parties was taken on board by the Election Commission and only those decisions are implemented which are decided in the rooms of the BJP.

MeT Forecasts

Gulmarg resort recorded a low of 10.6°C against 10.2°C on the previous night. It was 0.6°C above normal for the north Kashmir place, he said.

In Kupwara town, the mercury settled at 16.2°C against 15.6°C the previous night, the official said. It was 2.7°C above normal for the north Kashmir place, he said.

Jammu recorded a low of 20.1°C against 21.4°C on the previous night. It was 3.8°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said. Banihal recorded a low of 16.8°C, Batote 15.5°C, Katra 20.2°C and Bhadarwah 15.9°C.

Corona Cases

while two cases each were reported from Budgam, Pulwama and Kulgam districts. No new cases were registered in Kupwara, Anantnag, Bandipora, Ganderbal and Shopian.

In the winter capital, officials said, Jammu reported a maximum of 5 new cases of infection and one each in Doda, Kathua, Samba and Poonch. The remaining five districts of Ramban, Reasi, Kishtwar, Udhampur and Rajouri detected no new cases of Covid-19.

Also, they said that the death toll in the pandemic remained unchanged at 4783, as no fresh fatality was reported during the last 24 hours.

"Moreover, 141 more COVID-19 patients have recovered and been discharged from various hospitals including 20from Jammu division and 121from Kashmir division," the officials added.

Bipul Pathak Takes

Under his leadership IMPARD was able to organise three National level conferences including Regional Conference on Replication of Good Governance Practices, launching of District Good Governance Index and Regional Conference on Bringing Citizens and Government closer through Administrative Reforms.

Besides, MoUs with more than 30 prominent national level institutions had also been signed under Bhagat's supervision. The MoUs enabled capacity building in various areas including Public Administration, Finance and several government schemes.

Saurabh Bhagat, introduced the capacity building programs for officers in Grievance redressal mechanism.

During his tenure the newly constructed buildings were completed thus adding more infrastructural facilities to the Institute. Besides, KAS, IFS and more than 5000 Senior and Junior assistants were imparted necessary training apart from routine training courses.

During Covid -19, IMPARD conducted all training activities online and launched Knowledge Management System (KMS).

SC Rejects PIL

saying that it pertained to policy matters.

"These are matters for the State... There might be skirmishes on the border. Whether there is a loss of territory or no loss of territory, whether there has been encroachment from the other side or whether we have advanced into their territory, these are not matters for the courts, it said.

Reacting to the order, Law Minister Kiren Rijju said the Supreme Court has taken a correct stand on the matter

"Supreme Court is absolutely correct. These matters should not be brought to the apex court. Govt has to handle such matters and citizens should trust Indian Army about the sensitive ground realities," the minister, who is a Lok Sabha member from Arunachal Pradesh, said on Twitter.

Migrant Worker

prepared alcoholic drink at the kiln," the report quoted an unnamed officer as saying.

Guns Fall Silent

fresh contact with the militants amid CASO in the area, they said.

A senior police officer told GNS that the possibility of militants having "fled taking advantage of the orchards should not be ruled out". "The searches will resume tomorrow morning," the officer added. Agencies

Two Gamblers

under relevant sections of law has been registered in this regard.

245 Sub-Inspectors In Sales Taxes Dept Pass Out

Observer News Service

JAMMU: As many as 245 sub-inspectors in the sales tax department, appointed under the Prime Minister's special package for Kashmiri Pandits, passed out here on Monday after successfully completing three-months training.

Among them, 81 were girls and 164 boys, who successfully completed three-month course and got the roll of completion along with 2 stars on their uniform as per their rank, an official spokesperson said. He said that Additional Chief Secretary Finance Department, Vivek Bharadwaj attended the passing out Parade at the Excise and Taxation Training Institute Nagrota here.

He said that the passing out Parade began with a general salute to the ACS Bharadwaj, who was the chief guest on the occasion, followed by inspection of parade and oath Ceremony.

The cadets presented an impressive march past after which a piping ceremony was held.

The parade was commanded by Sub Inspector MI Bhat. It was followed by an award ceremony where SI Monika Jamwal was adjudged as All Round Best Female, SI Abhimanyu Zutshi as All Round Best Male, SI Ayush Bhat as Indoor Best and SI M. I. Bhat as Outdoor Best cadet.

Speaking on the occasion, Bharadwaj congratulated the passing out candidates and encouraged them to conduct their duties with sincerity and honesty.

The ACS called upon the candidates to educate the public about the role of taxes and revenue extraction in building the nation and its defence. The very revenue that you collect is used to run the nation, build schools, roads and hospitals and to maintain our security systems, he said.

He also encouraged the candidates to educate the masses about

the Goods and Services Taxes (GST). He asked them to highlight that the tax has replaced 17 odd taxes into one simplified form and is in no way affecting the taxpayers extraordinarily.

Commissioner State Taxes J&K, Dr. Rashmi Singh in her welcome address highlighted the importance of the State Taxation Department in revenue generation which forms the bedrock of effective and efficient administrative machinery.

She highlighted the background of commencing this training and innovative measures introduced to hone the skills of the functionaries who would now play a significant role in the department.

The three months training included classroom orientation, field visits, group activities, yoga/ meditation sessions and field attachments.

Classroom orientation focused on the provisions of GST Act, J&K Excise Act, J&K Motor Spirit Act 2005 etc. During on job practical training emphasis was laid on GST portal, data analysis, assessments, field visits and other enforcement activities so as to give a first hand knowledge of implementation of GST Act and functioning of State Taxes Department. In order to prioritise their mental health and life skills, yoga and meditation was made an essential and integral part of their curriculum. In addition to this, trainees were also provided an opportunity to play various indoor and outdoor games for strengthening their physical strength and instilling sportsman spirit.

Resource persons from Central University, experts on GST, narcotics and advocates dealing with tax laws were roped in for delivering lectures. Commissioner State Taxes J&K, Excise Commissioner J&K and other senior officers of the State Taxes Department also interacted with the trainees from time to time.

DEO Flags-Off SVEEP Mobile Vehicle At Shopian

Greater Participation Of People Essential In Electoral Process: Vaishya



Observer News Service

SHOPIAN: In the run up to Special Summary Revision starting on 15th of September 2022, the District Election Officer (DEO) Shopian, Sachin Kumar Vaishya on Monday flagged-off a mobile vehicle for disseminating Information and Awareness regarding the Special Summary Revision 2022 to masses.

The vehicle through the medium of print, banners and boards carries in detail all the messages and information related to the revision activities. Besides, the vehicle plays an audio jingle in Kashmiri and Urdu languages urging people for greater participation in the process.

The vehicle was flagged-off from the District Headquarter Shopian and shall cover all the tehsils and subdivisions of the district. A large number of the local officers and general masses participated in the flag-off programme.

On the occasion, the DEO called for greater and more inclusive participation of people in the electoral process for strengthening the electoral democracy.

Pakistan Army Accepts Body Of Lashkar Terrorist

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: For the first time in more than two decades, Pakistan on Monday accepted the body of a trained agent and guide of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) militant group who had infiltrated into Jammu and Kashmir to attack an army post.

The body of Tabarak Hussain (32) was handed over two days after he died of cardiac arrest at a military hospital in Rajouri district, officials said. He was operated at the hospital where army soldiers even donated blood to him to keep him alive, they said.

Hussain, a resident of Sabzkot village of Kotli in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), underwent a surgery for bullet injuries which he had suffered while trying to infiltrate into this side

from across the border last month.

"Body of Hussain was handed over to Pakistan by the Indian Army in the presence of police and civil officers at Chakan Da Bagh crossing point on the LoC in Poonch district," an army official said, adding this is probably the first instance in more than two decades of Pakistan accepting the body of a militant.

Hussain, a trained Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) guide and Pakistani Army agent, attempted to infiltrate into this side in Nowshera sector of Rajouri on August 21 when he was shot at and critically injured by the Indian troops.

He was later shifted to military hospital Rajouri where he underwent a surgery during which the soldiers donated three units of blood to save his life. However, he suffered a fatal cardiac arrest on September 3.

Road Connectivity In Rural Areas Improved In Last 3 Years: Govt



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: People in Jammu and Kashmir are reaping the benefits of road connectivity which they were deprived of for past seventy years, an official spokesperson said Monday.

He said that the insensitivity of earlier regimes in road connectivity had deprived many areas of development and prosperity so and so that many hamlets in the Himalayan region were forbidden.

"The road construction in Jammu and Kashmir picked up pace after 2019 with focused attention of the Government on major highways in three years and thereby travel time between major destinations across the Union Territory has reduced considerably," he said.

During the last two years, the spokesperson said, road and tunnel infrastructure has been prioritized and around one lakh crore is being spent to build a robust road network.

Last year, he said, Jammu and Kashmir has set a new record of constructing 6,450 kms of road length and Jammu and Kashmir achieved third rank in the target of longest road length in the country.

"Earlier, six kms of road length was constructed per day which has increased to 20 km per day from last few years. Un-

der the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Jammu and Kashmir ranks fourth in the country," he added.

According to the spokesperson, in the last two years, a total of 169 bridges have been constructed to strengthen the transport system and in the last financial year, 7610 km of road length has been macadamized which used to be around 2500-3000 km previously. Travel time between Jammu and Srinagar has been reduced from 12 hours to 7 hours.

In 2022, he said, for the second consecutive year that J&K maintained its national ranking as J&K was once again ranked among top three performing states/UTs at the national level for construction of road length per year under the PMGSY.

"Udhampur district bagged the top position at the national level for successfully implementing the PMGSY for 2020-21. The district remained on top for constructing roads of 560.49 kms," he said.

"Currently under PMGSY, an average nine kms of road length is constructed per day, which is higher than the achievement for the year 2020-21," he added.

Notably, the Union Ministry of Rural Development had sanctioned 3,347 schemes under the PMGSY-I to be executed in 12

phases envisaging construction of 18,432.79 km roads costing Rs 1,19,646.76 crore to provide connectivity to 2,148 habitations. Under the PMGSY-2, 107 schemes (704.55 km) have been sanctioned costing Rs 790.49 crore.

According to the spokesperson, last week the Union Ministry for Rural Development approved PMGSY-III for 1,276 km costing Rs 1,357 crore for J&K with an aim to provide all-weather road connectivity to unconnected habitations for sustainable and inclusive growth.

He further said that the PMGSY-III is yet another milestone in the rural connectivity of J&K.

"The Central Government is supporting the efforts of J&K Government to improvise the rural infrastructure so that the connectivity can be enhanced and the rural population can get the benefits for ease of living," he added.

J&K Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha expressed gratitude to Prime Minister, Narendra Modi and Union Minister for Rural Development, Giriraj Singh for granting approval to PMGSY-III and termed it as yet another milestone in the rural connectivity of J&K.

"It will provide all-weather road connectivity to unconnected habitats for sustainable and inclusive growth", he said.

Azad Meets Delegations Ahead Of Finalizing Party Name

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Several delegations on Monday visited former chief minister Ghulam Nabi Azad at his residence here, a day after he returned from Delhi to a warm welcome by his supporters after quitting Congress last month to launch his own party.

The delegations comprising large number of people from the twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch and Chenab valley including Doda, Bhalessa, Khara, Batyas, Chilly and Gandoh, Kishtwar and Baniyal visited Azad at his Gandhi Nagar residence, Azad's close aide said.

Addressing his first public meeting after returning from Delhi on Sunday, Azad had said that he is staying for four days in Jammu to meet delegations from different parts of the region before visiting Doda, Kishtwar and Kashmir.

The process of interactions started this morning with various delegations visiting Azad and extending their support to him. The process of interactions will continue till Wednesday, the aide said.

Azad, 73, ended his five-decade-long association with the Congress on August 26, terming the party "comprehensively destroyed". He

also lashed out at Rahul Gandhi for "demolishing" the party's entire consultative mechanism.

During the public meeting, the veteran leader said he would announce the name of his new party after consulting people and leaders of Jammu and Kashmir, but added "it will be in neither Maulana's Urdu nor Pandit's Sanskrit".

He, however, spelled out the agenda of his yet-to-be-named party -- the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood, protection of land and job rights of its residents, and the return and rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits.

Chef Killed Due To Group Rivalry Among Terrorists: Police

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Police on Monday found a bullet-riddled body of a man, alleged to be a victim of group rivalry among terrorists, from an orchard in Jammu and Kashmir's Shopian district, officials said here.

The body of the 30-year-old man was found in an orchard at Narapora village, they added.

A police spokesperson said the deceased was identified as Manzoor Ahmad Nengroo, a resident of Hanjan village in nearby Pulwama district.

According to a preliminary investigation, Nengroo was abducted by unidentified people on Sunday night.

The police spokesperson said a murder case was registered under the relevant sections of law.

The preliminary investigation revealed that the deceased, who was a "waza" (Kashmiri cuisine chef) by profession, along with two more associates including an elderly man, was returning home from work in an autorickshaw. They were joined by another man, a baker by profession, along the way, the spokesperson said.

"Terrorists in a pickup van intercepted the autorickshaw at Aglar and abducted all the four passen-

gers. The elderly man was released after they travelled a distance of two kilometres, followed by the release of two others near Kellar. However, Manzoor Ahmad was taken along by the abductors," he added.

According to the police spokesperson, the 30-year-old man was killed by the terrorists due to a group rivalry.

"One of the brothers of the deceased -- Ashiq Nengroo -- is a member of the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) terror outfit and is presently in Pakistan. Another of his brothers, Abbas Nengroo, was an active terrorist who was killed in an encounter in 2014 in Pulwama, while another brother -- Reyaz Nengroo -- is in jail for his involvement in a Jammu terror attack case. He used to ferry terrorists from Jammu to the Kashmir valley in his trucks," the spokesperson said.

He added that one of Reyaz Nengroo's trucks carrying three terrorists was intercepted at Jajar Kotli in Jammu and the three ultras were killed in an encounter.

"The investigation of the case is going on. The terrorists involved in the crime will be identified soon and dealt with strictly under law," the spokesperson said.

Chief Secretary Reviews Revival Of Heritage Sites



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Monday chaired the meeting to take stock of sites to be taken up under the scheme "Revival, Restoration, Preservation & Maintenance of Architecture and Heritage in Jammu & Kashmir".

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Culture; Secretary, Tourism; Director Tourism, Jammu and several other government officers from the concerned Departments.

The Chief Secretary impressed upon the officers to include as many sites as possible that have rich cultural importance and social appeal. He underscored the need of striking the balance in selection of sites belonging to different socio-religious communities.

Dr Mehta advised the officers to take best care of the original ingredients and architecture while carrying out the restoration works on these heritage sites. He stressed on maintaining the aesthetic, cultural and historic aura of each site while taking up any new works at these sites.

The sites include dozens of sites from both the divisions of UT. Some of the prominent sites to be taken up for revival and restoration includes Basohli Fort Kathua, Machail Mata Temple, Sarthal Mata Temple, Shriomani Deri Nangali Sahib Gurudwara Poonch, Sharika Devi Tempke Srinagar, Baba Shukoor-ud-Din Baramulla, Shamas Faqeer Bud-

gam, Sheikh ulAlam Shrine Qaimoh Kulgam and dozens of others across all the districts of J&K.

On the occasion the Chief Secretary also asked the officers to have close coordination between the School Education, Higher Education, Rural Development, Urban Development and Youth Services & Sports Departments in order to give fillip to the cultural and sports activities at the Panchayat level.

Dr Mehta observed that each person irrespective of age, gender or economic background has some inherent talent in him and only needs some encouragement to showcase it. He maintained that our younger generation is exceptionally talented and deserves handholding to bring best out of them. He underlined the need of providing them opportunities at each level for making big in their lives.

He asked the departments to integrate the ongoing Sports activities with those of cultural activities. He told them to use these events for promotion of 'Nasha Mukht Abhiyan' and 'Digital Literacy' for the benefit of masses.

The Chief Secretary further emphasised on making the twin cities vibrant cultural hubs where some sort of activities are going on daily basis. He made out that the relevant places like Bahu Fort, Mubarak Mandi, Char Chinar, Nehru Park besides the infrastructure present in these cities should be fully utilized to promote the local culture and artists here.

Drug De-Addiction Rehab Centers Coming Up In Every District

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Secretary, Health and Medical Education (H&ME), Bhupinder Kumar on Monday instructed for augmentation and establishment of Drug De-addiction Rehabilitation Centres in all districts of Jammu and Kashmir with OPD and IPD facilities, an official spokesperson said Monday.

Kumar, he said, took serious note of reports of over-the-counter drugs/medicines misuse by drug abusers and directed concerned officers to identify the abusers by putting in place a fool proof mechanism. He said that the Secretary stressed on the need of augmenting and strengthening Drug De-addiction Rehabilitation Centres in every district.

"Secretary conveyed these instructions during a meeting chaired by him to review functioning of Drug De-addiction Rehabilitation Centres

which was attended by Principals of GMCs, MD NHM and other senior officers of Health department besides CMOs of all the districts," he added.

According to spokesperson, Kumar directed the officers to put in place an effective inspection mechanism and ensure that these Centres are operating as per norms. He asked the Director Ayush to hold regular yoga sessions for drug addicts/de-addicts.

The Secretary, he said, advised the concerned officers to issue a calendar of events for launch of a sustained IEC campaign to educate and sensitise the youth including students about the ill-effects of misuse of Drug and substance abuse.

"He highlighted the need for co-ordinated efforts by the field functionaries of Health department and the civil society at large to tackle this issue. He asked officers to ensure community participation in controlling this menace in the society," the spokesperson added.

Man Held After Firing 3 Rounds From Licensed Gun: Police

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Police on Monday arrested a man for firing three rounds from his licensed gun in Jammu's Khour Deonian area which created panic among the locals, officials said.

"Today on an information received through reliable source that one person namely Jatinder Singh Salaria son of Sansar Singh Salaria of Khour Deonian has fired 03 rounds from his li-

censed 12 bore gun without any reason which has created fear among the locals in the area," a police official said in a statement to GNS.

"As per information the person has committed offence U/S 336/IPC, 30 Arms Act," he said, adding, "in this regard a case FIR No. 104/2022 U/S 336/IPC, 30 Arms Act has been registered and investigation entrusted."

The official said that a police

team from police station Miran Sahib headed by SHO Inspector Zaher Mushtaq under the supervision of SDO RS Pura SH Surinder Singh and overall supervision of SP Headquarters Ramnish Gupta rushed to the spot and with technical assistance and human intelligence apprehended the accused alongwith his licensed weapon. "The accused has been arrested and further investigation of case is going on." (GNS)

UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER (1st Call)

For and on behalf of the University of Kashmir, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on Percentage (%age) basis from approved and eligible Civil Contractors registered with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/U.T/ Central Governments for the following works

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc in shape of E-Challan (in Rs.)	Earnest Money in Rs.	Time and Date for Submission of E-Tender.	Date & Time of Opening of Bid	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Construction of Guard Room at Girls Hostel at Lower Delina, North Campus.	16.04	800/-	32080/-	02-09-2022 to 17-09-2022 (6.00 PM)	19-09-2022 (11.30 AM)	"BEE" & "CEE"

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the web site www.kashmiruniversity.net / www.jktenders.gov.in.
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 DATED: 02/09/22.

Executive Engineer
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MYMP: Hockey, Football Matches Played



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: J&K Sports Council's special initiative 'My Youth My Pride' events were conducted in many playfields and indoor complexes across Kashmir on Monday.

Some of the events were organised by J&K Sports Council in association with the respective recognised associations or educational institutes by providing logistics.

The Guru Hargobind Sahib Hockey Tournament 2022 hockey event being played in Gindun Sports Complex, Srinagar entered its 2nd day. The tournament is scheduled to be played over eight days.

On day one of the championship, two matches were played. Similarly, two matches were played on Monday also.

The first match was played between Rangreth XI and Kupwara XI in which the former trounced the latter by 5 goals to nil.

In the second encounter of the day, Jammu XI was playing against the Pulwama XI. Though both teams were playing quality hockey yet were unable to penetrate the goal line till the report was filed.

Meanwhile, two inter-university football matches were played in TRC Football Astro Turf in which the first match of the day was played between Government Degree College Beerwah and IITM Hyderabad, GDC Beerwah scored 3 goals to 1 to claim the match. In the second match played between SSM-II and Government Degree College Sopore, the former played some remarkable football and scored 2 goals in reply to the latter's solitary goal.

Secretary J&K Sports Council, Nuzhat Gull while speaking on the occasion said that the administration is keenly focusing on tapping the sports talent.

Playfields and cricket grounds remained active all through the day and a night match is scheduled to be played in floodlights-

IND-PAK Aftermath: Arshdeep Singh Faces Wrath Of Trolls



Press Trust of India

CHANDIGARH: Indian pacer Arshdeep Singh has been heavily criticised on social media since his dropped catch in Sunday's Asia Cup 2022 encounter against Pakistan.

The constant trolling has led to several Punjab leaders including Rajya Sabha MP Harbhajan Singh, a former cricketer, Monday came out in support of fast bowler Arshdeep Singh who is facing brutal social media trolls for dropping a catch in an India-Pakistan match in Dubai. Pakistan won the Super 4 Asia Cup encounter on Sunday by five wickets.

AAP MP Raghav Chadha, former Punjab chief minister Amarinder Singh, Punjab Sports Minister Gurmeet Singh Meht Hayer and BJP leader Manjinder Sirsa also backed the 23-year-old fast bowler.

Ex-cricketer and Aam Aadmi Party MP Harbhajan Singh slammed those saying "cheap things" about Arshdeep.

"Stop criticising young @arshdeepsingh," he tweeted. "No one drops the catch purposely.. we are proud of our boys .. Pakistan played better.. shame on such people who r putting our own guys down by saying cheap things on this platform bout arsh

and team.. Arsh is GOLD."

Chadha also said the kind of hate Arshdeep was being subjected to is appalling.

Punjab Sports Minister Gurmeet Singh Meht Hayer said Arshdeep is a future of the nation. He spoke to Arshdeep's mother Baljit Kaur on the phone and told her that Punjab and the whole country was with him.

Former CM Amarinder Singh said it was unfortunate that Arshdeep was being mocked over dropping the catch.

BJP leader Manjinder Singh Sirsa also slammed those who targeted Arshdeep and called him a 'Khalistani'.

Ministry Summons Wikipedia Officials Over Arshdeep Bio

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The Indian government on Monday slammed Wikipedia for publishing false information on cricketer Arshdeep Singh's page that linked him to the separatist Khalistani movement, saying such incitement cannot be permitted.

After the missed catch, information on his Wikipedia page was changed to link him to the separatist Khalistani movement.

Minister of State for IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar took to Twitter to slam such a move.

"No intermediary operating in India can permit this type of misinformation (a)n(d) deliberate efforts to incitement (a)n(d) user harm - violates our govts expectations of safe and trusted internet," he said.

It was also said the Ministry of Electronics and IT has summoned executives from Wikipedia to explain the false post but officials denied any such move.

According to the edit history of the cricketer's Wikipedia page, an unregistered user replaced the words "India" with "Khalistan" at several places on the profile and his name was changed to "Major Arshdeep Singh Bajwa". But the changes were reversed within 15 minutes by Wikipedia editors.

The slanderous linking of him to the Khalistani movement was said to have been done by elements in Pakistan.

ASIA CUP: India Face Sri Lanka In Must-Win Game



Press Trust of India

DUBAI: India would need to get the best out of their thin bowling resources and avoid too much experimentation when they clash with Sri Lanka in their must win Super 4 game in the Asia Cup here Tuesday.

India went in with five bowling options against Pakistan on Sunday and it did not work out in their favour as Bhuvneshwar Kumar had a rare off day. After a match-winning effort in the opening game against Pakistan, Hardik Pandya proved expensive and so was Yuzvendra Chahal, who has not at been his best in the tournament.

Avesh Khan, who was unwell ahead of the Pakistan clash, can also come back as the third specialist pacer.

With the intense debate over Rishabh Pant versus Dinesh Karthik in the team, the management gave a go to Deepak Hooda at the expense of the Tamil Nadu wicketkeeper-batter, who hardly got to bat in the first two games. One can expect Kohli and two openers to go all guns blazing against Sri Lanka from ball one.

Having pulled off two close chases against Bangladesh and Afghanistan, Sri Lanka have turned their campaign around after a heavy defeat in their opening game.

Barring number three Charith Asalanka, Sri Lanka batters have made an impact, whether it was skipper Dasun Shanaka and Kusal Mendis against Bangladesh or Danushka Gunathilaka and Bhanuka Rajapaksa against Afghanistan.

The Chris Silverwood coached side now has the belief that it can win from any situation. It is a developing squad but India will be wary of them. Another loss will eliminate India from the final race.

Champions League: Madrid, City, PSG Kick Off Campaign



Agencies

The UEFA Champions League kicks off with 10 games spread across Tuesday night.

Holders Real Madrid face a daunting trip to Glasgow to meet Celtic, Manchester City has Sevilla in their sights, Bayern travel to Inter, and PSG face off against Juventus as the group stage kicks off.

Celtic have been absent from the Champions League since 2017/18, but after regaining the Scottish title from Rangers last season, they are returning to this level with a bang. Carlo Ancelotti's visitors are the reigning Spanish and European champions, but Hoops boss Ange Postecoglou wants his charges to see them as a beatable team.

Sevilla will look to prove the paper wrong as Manchester City come to Estadio Ramón Sánchez-Pizjuán for their first group stage game. The last time Erling Haa-

land visited Seville, for a 2020/21 Champions League round of 16 opener, Spanish sports paper Marca began its match report with the words: "A monster called."

Bayern will head to Inter Milan for their 'group of death' opener. Julian Nagelsmann was left in no doubt after the draw teed Bayern up for meetings with Inter, Barcelona and Plzeň in Group C. Simone Inzaghi's Inter will be no pushovers, though; second in Italy last season, they have Edin Džeko, Lautaro Martínez and Romelu Lukaku among their forward options.

French champions Paris Saint-Germain will face-off against Juventus for their Group H opener.

Dinamo Zagreb vs Chelsea, Dortmund vs Copenhagen, FC Salzburg vs AC Milan, RB Leipzig vs Shakhtar Donetsk, Benfica vs Maccabi Haifa FC, Ajax vs Rangers and Frankfurt vs Sporting CP complete the opening day matches schedule.



Manchester United debutant Antony, right, scores his side's opening goal past Arsenal's Aaron Ramsdale on Sunday. United won 3-1 to end the Gunner's winning streak. (AP Photo/Dave Thompson)

LG's Rolling Trophy: Zonal Trials Held At Sumbal



Observer News Service

BANDIPORA: The Department of Youth Services and Sports Zone Sumbal on Monday organised Zonal Level selection trials for LG's Rolling Trophy 2022 in the discipline of Cricket for two CD Blocks (Ganastan and Nowgam) at Ganastan Ground, here.

The event was inaugurated by Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Sumbal, Dr. Bashir Lone.

SDM while interacting with

players appreciated the participants and urged them to showcase their talent for selection in LG's Rolling trophy.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Bashir highlighted the importance of sports and said that this initiative provides an excellent platform to youth for showcasing their talent.

A large number of participants from both the blocks participated in the trials with great enthusiasm.

Baisoya To Lead Indian Field In 2nd J&K Open Golf



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Defending champion Honey Baisoya will lead a strong Indian field, including Olympian Udayan Mane in the second J&K Open golf tournament, a PGTI event, to be held for the first time in Jammu Tawi golf course in Jammu from September 7 to 10.

Besides Baisoya and Mane, other Indian golfers who will be seen in action at the Rs 40 lakh event are Rashid Khan, Khalin Joshi, Yuvraj Singh Sanshu, Manu Gandas and Karandeep Kochar to name a few.

The foreign challenge will be led by Sri Lankans Mithun Perera and N Thagaraja and Bangladesh's Jamal Hossain.

The local challenge will be led by Pawan Parihar, Fayaz Ahmed

Langoo, Raghav Wahi, Mohd Din Poda as well as amateurs Prabhnoor Singh and Vedant Handa.

The field will have 126 players, including 10 foreign golfers.

The Professional Golf Tour of India-sanctioned tournament is part of J&K Tourism's initiative of promoting golf tourism in the region.

Jammu Tawi Golf Course is an 18-hole course designed by internationally renowned designer Col. K D Bagga.

Manu, who is currently ranked in the PGTI Order of Merit, is looking forward to his maiden outing at the new course.

"I played in Srinagar but heard the Jammu Tawi course is in superb condition. I don't know what to expect and will figure out everything in the training rounds on Tuesday," he said during the launch of the event.

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