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How Embargo Ended Government Teachers' Dominance In Kashmir's Thriving Tuition Market

Zaid Bin Shabir

The bar on private practice of government teachers has triggered a new debate in Kashmir with jobless youth calling it a "much-needed window of opportunity", even as the official teachers dismissed the move as "a dangerous trend".

The directive came on Friday, when Alok Kumar, Principal Secretary to

the Government, School Education Department, said that no government teaching faculty shall undertake any activity or assignment including teaching in a private educational institution or coaching center, "unless he or she obtains prior permission from the competent authority".

Around 550 private tuition centers teach 60,000 students in the valley at present. Out of



these coaching centers, 245 are registered.

"Over 50 percent faculty in these coaching centers are government teachers," a member of the Coaching Centres Association Kashmir told Kashmir Observer.

"Some of them are calling shots and setting agendas in the private education of the valley."

Kashmir's private tuition or coaching centre is a thriving

enterprise and a competing war-turf between big education brands. These brands have multiplied over the years and have roped in some big names in Kashmir's teaching circles for wooing students. Many of these coaching center educators are holding a government teacher's post.

The administration has now invoked Rule 10 to prohibit government **More on P6**

Avalanche Kills 3 Soldiers Near LoC

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Three soldiers were killed on Friday after coming under an avalanche along the Line of Control (LoC) in Machhil sector of Kupwara district, police said.

"In an unfortunate incident, 3 jawans of army's 56 RR died in the line of duty in Machhil area when they came under an avalanche," police said.

The bodies of all the three soldiers have been retrieved.

The avalanche hit the snow bound Machhil sector, just a day ahead of a fresh snow spell in the higher reaches predicted by the meteorological department.

According to the weather department "cloudy with possibility of light to moderate rain in plains and snowfall at scattered places over higher reaches" has been forecast on Nov 19 and 20. **More on P6**

Change Of Guard In NC On Sheikh's Birth Anniversary

Dr Farooq To Step Down As NC President, Son Omar Front Runner For The Post



Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Veteran politician and former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Farooq Abdullah on Friday announced that he would step down as president of the National Conference next month, saying it is time to hand over the mantle to the new generation.

Holding the post for nearly four decades except for seven years beginning 2002, the 85-year-old Abdullah is expected to continue as patron of the party and guide it especially during the

first assembly elections after the state was downgraded to a union territory. No dates for the polls have been announced so far.

There is widespread speculation that his son Omar Abdullah, currently the party's vice-president, is likely to succeed him as the new chief. Omar was elected as party president in 2002 and he continued to remain at the helm of affairs till 2009 after which he resigned because he was elected the chief minister of the erstwhile state.

"I will not be **More on P6**



The Chinar Park in Srinagar presents a mesmerizing look as the leaves of majestic Chinar trees have turned crimson red in the autumn season. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Students Learning Space Must Go Beyond Classroom: LG

'Our Cities, Villages Witnessing Rapid Transformation In School Education'

Observer News Service

Jammu: Asserting that National Education Policy (NEP) puts a special emphasis on engagement & involvement in both classroom and field study, the Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said Friday that teacher's most important role today is to create an atmosphere for curiosity, collaboration & encourage the students to be more imaginative and develop creative skills.

"Schools and education system must strive to prepare our students for the real world and they would require at least six



6 IN THE AGE OF ACCELERATION, STUDENTS ARE NOT JUST THE NUMBERS but our future, and they should reflect the fine balance of excellent professionals with empathy, compassion and mindfulness."

skills, curiosity, critical thinking, adaptability, effective communication, teamwork and collaboration, to become more productive, successful in their chosen career," Sinha said.

The LG made these remarks

during the joint annual function of three schools run by Shrimati Dewanani V.Badrinath Educational Trust, at the University of Jammu auditorium on Friday, an official spokesperson said. **More on P6**

Govt Pitches J&K As Best Destination For G-20 Summit

Situation Has Improved, Not A Single Strike Observed In Last One And A Half Year: CS

Observer News Service

Jammu: Asserting that the situation has improved a lot and not a single strike has been observed in Jammu and Kashmir over the last one and a half year, Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta Friday pitched the Union Territory as the best location for hosting the G-20 Summit events.

Mehta made these remarks while speaking during deliberations held with the delegation regarding conduct of its meetings here in the Union Territory, an official spokesperson said Friday.

The meeting was also attended

by Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture Production; Additional Chief Secretary, Home; Principal Secretary, PWD; Principal Secretary, Housing & Urban Development Department; Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir; Commissioner Secretary, Rural Development Department; Secretary, Planning; Secretary, Health; Secretary, GAD; Secretary, Hospitality & Protocol; Secretary, Transport and many other concerned officers.

The Chief Secretary, the spokesperson said, revealed that J&K has a breathtaking environment and **More on P6**

Azad To Rename Party After ECI Objection

Four More Names Sent To Poll Body For Approval

Agencies

Srinagar: With the Election Commission of India raising objections on the name proposed by him for his political

party, former Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad has sent four new names to the poll-body for approval.

Salman Nizami, a close confidante of Ghulam Nabi Azad said that ECI has made objections over the name proposed for the party. "We have been informed that a party with a **More on P6**

Woman Injured In Bear Attack

An elderly woman on Friday was attacked and injured by a black bear in Langate area of North Kashmir's Kupwara district. Fareeda Begum, wife of Mushtaq Malik of Guloora village was busy in her kitchen garden on Friday afternoon when a black bear appeared there and attacked her, reports said. The elderly woman suffered grievous injuries before her family and neighbours rushed out to rescue her from the clutches of the beast. The injured woman, **More on P6**



30 JKAS Officers Transferred In J&K

The Government on Friday ordered transfer of 30 JKAS officers in the interest of administration with immediate effect. According to three separate orders, Smita Sethi, JKAS, Managing Director, SIDCO, holding additional charge of Managing Director, SICOP, has been transferred and posted as Secretary in the Industries and Commerce Department. Raman Kumar Kesar, JKAS, Additional Transport Commissioner, J&K, has been transferred and posted as Managing Director, SIDCO. "He shall hold the additional charge of the post of **More on P6**

Deputy Mayor JMC Calls On LG

Baldev Singh Billawaria, Deputy Mayor Jammu Municipal Corporation on Friday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha here at Raj Bhawan. The Deputy Mayor accompanied by Raj Kumar Tarkhan and Ajay Gupta - Chairmen JMC Standing Committees, apprised the LG about strengthening of the sanitation workforce, working of JMC's Finance Committee, creation of Basic Service Fund, availability of medical staff at Government Hospital, Gangyal and other issues pertaining to the smooth functioning of the Municipal Corporation,

Youth Found Dead In Rajouri

A youth was found dead on Friday under mysterious circumstances in Naushera area of Rajouri district. 22-year-old Vishal Kumar of Siwan district in Bihar was found dead with visible torture marks in Naushera area on Friday morning, official sources said. Kumar was presently putting up at a rented accommodation. Sources said that investigators have found a hammer near the spot where Kumar's body was lying unattended. "It clearly seems that he has been murdered. FSL Team has been sent to examine the Scene of Crime," they said. **More on P6**

Migrant Worker Dies Of Gunshot Wounds

A migrant worker, who was shot at and injured last week by terrorists in South Kashmir's Anantnag district, succumbed to his injuries at a hospital here. Chotu Prasad and his colleague Govind, both residents of Uttar Pradesh, sustained injuries after terrorists opened fire upon them in Rakh Momin area of the district on last Saturday. Both the injured migrant workers were removed to Government Medical College (GMC) Anantnag for treatment. However, after battling with life for seven days, Prasad breathed his last at the hospital.

Minor Trapped Inside Well In Kupwara

An 11-year-old boy among two people were trapped inside a well in Hatmulla village of north Kashmir's Kupwara district on Friday evening. Reports said that a minor boy identified as Firdous Ahmad Mir son of Nazir Ahmad Mir accidentally fell into the well. He said that soon after the incident, villagers rushed to the spot and also informed the concerned authorities. "One of the villagers present at the spot went inside the well in a bid to rescue the boy, but he too got trapped," the officials added. He also said that a **More on P6**

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2

How Bad Is It Really to Not Rinse Rice Before Cooking It?

Lacey Muinos
livestrong

With so many different ways to prepare rice, it's easy to see why there's a debate over whether you should rinse rice before cooking it.

Rice is a staple food around the world. It's eaten by people in more than 100 countries, and there are an estimated 40,000 varieties of rice worldwide, according to the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

As it turns out, registered dietitians and professional chefs say it's probably worth it to take the extra minute to rinse rice before you cook it. Here's why.

Food experts recommend rinsing dry rice before cooking it because it helps to wash away contaminants, heavy metals, dirt and bugs that may be in the rice.

That said, rinsing rice can also get rid of some beneficial nutrients and yield

mushy rice.

The Benefits of Rinsing Rice Before Cooking It

1. It Gets Rid of Contaminants and Heavy Metals

The main reason some health professionals urge you to rinse your rice is because it can be laden with contaminants and heavy metals.

Rice is especially high in arsenic, lead and cadmium, which pose serious health risks to humans, according to November 2020 research in the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health.

"You should always rinse rice before cooking," says registered dietitian nutritionist Kimberly Gomer, RDN. "Contaminants get into rice plants from polluted groundwater that floods rice paddies, so the main benefit of rinsing rice is lowering the risk of heavy metal toxicity."

The likelihood of experiencing heavy metal toxicity from eating rice is probably pretty low. Gomer says you would have to eat rice at

several meals per day. Though this isn't likely, heavy metal toxicity is especially risky for young children and babies.

2. It Washes Away Dirt and Debris

Buying a bundle of lettuce from the supermarket and eating it without giving it a quick rinse isn't the best idea for the same reasons you shouldn't eat unrinsed rice — it could be covered in dirt, bugs and other impurities.

"Rinsing rice removes things we definitely don't want on our plates, such as dirt, dust, debris, chemicals and bugs," Gomer says.

Grains are especially prone to contamination by rice weevils (aka grain beetles), according to the University of Maryland Extension. They're small insects that can infest food and make it go bad more quickly. If you find bugs in your rice, there's a good chance the infestation can or has spread to the rest of your grains.

"There's a significant chance that rice could collect dust or become contaminated with

small bugs, so I always recommend washing it before cooking it," explains celebrity chef Kai Chase.

If you find an infested bag of rice, you should throw it out, per the University of Maryland Extension. The bugs aren't toxic to humans, but the pests can easily spread to your other foods.

3. It Can Improve the Taste and Texture

Rice is a rich source of starch, which can lead to thick, gummy textures when it's cooked. To avoid it, Chase recommends rinsing rice for the best taste and consistency.

"The starch in rice causes the grains to become sticky," she says. "Rinsing rice removes a layer of excess starch, resulting in a fluffier texture and better flavor."

If you don't rinse your rice, it may also clump together.

Potential Downsides of Rinsing Rice

1. It May Sacrifice Some Nutrients

When you rinse away the heavy metals

in rice, you may also rinse away some of the beneficial nutrients. Rinsing rice washes away some of the iron, folate, thiamine and niacin in the rice, according to the FDA.

"Excessive rinsing of rice could cause a loss in certain nutrients like B-vitamins including folate, iron, niacin and thiamin, which are water-soluble," explains registered dietitian Bonnie Taub-Dix, RDN. "Fortified rice has a layer of added nutrients, so rinsing fortified rice could cause a loss of nutrients."

2. It May Lead to a Mushy Texture

Gummy rice isn't always a bad thing. Some chefs don't always rinse their rice when making certain rice recipes.

"If you're making risotto, arborio rice, congee, porridge or rice pudding where the rice is meant to be creamy, washing and rinsing the rice or grain can turn it mushy," Chase says. "But this is a highly-debated topic, as some chefs still prefer to wash grains in the name of cleanliness prior to making these dishes."

(GOVERNMENT OF INDIA)
(UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR)

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

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

NIT No:- E-NIT/46/CRD/SMC/SGR/2022-23 DATED: 17-11-2022.

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.)	Earnest Money Deposit @2% of Adv. cost	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	M.H of A/C
1	Construction of tile path at Ehal Gori Mohalla Danihama by way Interlock Tiles.	7.01	300/-	14020/-	20 Days	CEE/ DEE Class Civil	4217 City Grants

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	17-11-2022.
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	FROM 17-11-2022 4:00 P.M
3.	Bid submission Start Date	17-11-2022 FROM 4:00 P.M
4.	Bid Submission End Date	23-11-2022 UPTO 9:30 A.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	23-11-2022 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.
- 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 which shall be uploaded with the tender documents at the time of tendering. The same shall be released after receipt of 3% of performance security.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The 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).
- The bids for the work shall remain Valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids.
- As per the circular issued by the Govt. of Union Territory of J&K Finance Department vide No.FD-Codes/233/2021-02-27 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.
 - 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.
 - The lowest bidder (L1) also called 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).
 - 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.
 - 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.
 - 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. alongwith Treasury Challan Receipt and Bid security declaration form (Annexure-A) in original.
 - Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
 - Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
 - To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.
 - The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
 - Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
 - Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.
 - Bidders must ensure to upload the clear scanned copies of all necessary documents with the bid.

DOC-1	DOC-2	DOC-3
CLEAR SCAN COPY OF CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION CARD DULY RENEWED.	CLEAR SCAN COPY OF TREASURY CHALLAN/ Earnest Money Deposit.	Scanned Copy of:-
(2022-2023)	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.	1. PAN Card
Note	The bidder should upload all the necessary documents details given above in One "01" No. PDF file.	2. Copy of GSTIN Registration
		GSTR-3B Return of previous Quarter to the issued date of NIT upto SEPTEMBER 2022 or after that.

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/233/2021-02-27 dated 10.02.2022.

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

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

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.

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.

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

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.

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

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.

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

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/46/CRD /SMC/SGR/2022-23/e-tendering/
DATED:- 18-11-2022.

DIPK-13675/22

Executive Engineer,
City Roads (SMC) Division Srinagar.

DEMISE

With profound grief, we inform the demise of **Hafeeza** W/o Late Ghulam Mohammad Dar R/o Bar Bar Shah, presently residing at Stadium Colony, near Scholars School, lane No. 07, House No. 3, Natipora on 18th November 2022.

Congressional **Fateha Khwani** will be held at **Bar Bar Shah Graveyard** near **B.B Shah bridge** on **20th November 2022 at 11:00 A.M.** Afterwards Majlis-e-dua will be held at their Natipora residence.

Grief Stricken Family & Relatives

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Subject:- Grant Of Registration of Paying Guest House/ Home Stay under the name & Style "**M/S Real Good Times Home Stay**" Situated at Elco Colony Wangunda Tailbal Srinagar

Public Notice

Whereas I Mr./Ms. Javeed Ahmad Gosani S/O Abdul Rashid Gosani R/O Elco Colony Wangunda Tailbal Srinagar, Kashmir intends to apply in the office of the prescribed authority of Directorate of Tourism kashmir for Registration of my proposed Paying Guest House/ Home Stay under the name and style **M/S Real Good Times Home Stay**" Situated at Elco Colony Wangunda Tailbal Srinagar, Kashmir under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12.

Before the case is processed for registration by the competent authority the matter is hereby notified for information of general public / Financial Institutions / Bank/ Organization, Etc For Objection, If Any And The Same Should Reach To The Deputy Director Tourism registration (email: ddtreg123@gmail.com) within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

PUBLIC NOTICE

In my previous passport bearing No. M2184593, my Name was wrongly admitted as "Syed Aiman Shafi" but as per my adhaar card my name is actually written as "Aiman Shafi". I have applied for re-issuance/ New passport with above said correction. In this regard if anybody is having any kind of objection may file the same to Regional passport office Srinagar within the period of Seven days from the date of publication of this notice.

Aiman Shafi
D/O: Syed Mohd Shafi Indrabi
R/O: Kaitech Razir Khan Sahib Budgam

inf

Subject:- Grant Of Registration of Paying Guest House/ Home Stay under the name & Style "**M/S Sopori Home Stay**" Situated at Wangunda Tailbal Srinagar

Public Notice

Whereas I Mr./Ms. Gulam Nabi Sopori S/O Abdul Salam Sopori R/O Wangunda Tailbal Srinagar, Kashmir intends to apply in the office of the prescribed authority of Directorate of Tourism kashmir for Registration of my proposed Paying Guest House/ Home Stay under the name and style **M/S Sopori Home Stay** "Situated at Wangunda Tailbal Srinagar

Situated at Elco Colony Wangunda Tailbal Srinagar, Kashmir under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12.

Before the case is processed for registration by the competent authority the matter is hereby notified for information of general public / Financial Institutions / Bank/ Organization, Etc For Objection, If Any And The Same Should Reach To The Deputy Director Tourism registration (email: ddtreg123@gmail.com) within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

University of Kashmir, Srinagar

Notice

The candidate whose particulars are given below has reported to the University that he / she has lost his/her University Certificate/s and has applied for issuance of duplicate certificate/s:

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S/o Lt Gh Ahmad Jan
R/o Khawaja Bazar Nowhatta
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Roll. No; 26903 Session/Year July-August 1999

Before University will consider issuance of Duplicate Certificate/s in favour of the candidate, any person having any objection shall report to the undersigned within one week from the date of issuance of this notice. The original certificate/s issued to the candidate be treated as cancelled

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of Examinations (PG/UG/Prof
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CANCELLATION NOTICE

It is notified for the information of all concerned that due to zero tender response for the work advertised vide this office NIT No: 151/8610-17 /RnB/SPN/e-tendering/2022-23 Dated:- 17-10-2022 figuring at S.No: 1 is hereby cancelled.

DIPK-13727/22

No: NIT/9715-20
Dt: 18-11-2022

sd/-
Executive Engineer
R&B Division Shopian

Max Life launches ‘Smart Wealth Advantage Guarantee’

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Max Life Insurance Company Ltd. (“Max Life”/ “Company”), has launched its marquee Smart Wealth Advantage Guarantee Plan - a Non-Linked, Non Participating Individual Life Insurance Savings Plan, that offers guaranteed returns, life insurance cover and financial protection all combined in one product.

With its comprehensive benefits, the Smart Wealth

in Gogji Bagh, Srinagar in the presence of the company’s senior leadership, V. Viswanand, Deputy Managing Director, and Amrit Singh, Chief Financial Officer, Max Life Insurance.

Prashant Tripathy, MD & CEO, Max Life Insurance said, “Life is ever-changing and as you grow, your and your family’s needs and aspirations also grow. Whether it is achieving milestones like buying your dream house, securing your child’s education or enabling a peaceful retire-



Advantage Guarantee Plan is a holistic product that endeavors to ensure customers meet their life goals and remain protected in the long-run from financial uncertainties. In a unique proposition, the product offers the customer to receive the annual income on a preferred date decided by the policyholder, and not necessarily at the anniversary of the policy issuance.

The product launch took place at the Max Life branch

ment, you need to safeguard them in today’s uncertain environment,” He said.

“Our Smart Wealth Advantage Guarantee Plan offers life insurance with wealth creation benefits, meant for a financially strengthened future” he added.

A marquee product from Max Life, it’s made on a very innovative design to provide a range of flexible options to the policyholder to choose from, without discounting the returns.”



SSCL Holds Consultation With Stakeholders

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: The Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL) conducted a stakeholder’s consultation on Smart City Projects at the Auditorium of Department of Information and Public Relations, Srinagar on Friday.

The consultation saw participation of people from different walks of life to discuss and deliberate on the projects of the Srinagar Smart City and how well the life of citizens is going to change for the better.

Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation / CEO, Srinagar Smart City Limited Athar Aamir Khan, while speaking on the occasion said that the basic idea behind organising workshops or holding stakeholders consultation is to get feedback from the locals on how they are feeling about the ongoing projects.

“Idea sharing and cross learning and holding deliberations and discussions with the stakeholders and clearing mis-

“Idea sharing and cross learning and holding deliberations and discussions with the stakeholders and clearing misconceptions is the main objective of the consultation”

conceptions is the main objective of the consultation” Athar said.

He also gave a detailed presentation highlighting the working and objectives of the Smart City and deliberated on the broad themes for development. He delved on the Jhelum water front development and water transport, Heritage Conservation and Downtown Renewal, Urban Mobility Street and Intersection Development, Information Technology, City

Beautification, Green Srinagar, Integrated Solid Waste Management among other things.

Srinagar Smart City Limited has launched an initiative to hear from the people through citizen perception survey (CPS) about the projects of Smart City, from 9 November to 23 December, 2022.

The CEO said that all stakeholders are working in tandem to make Srinagar city a best example in the smart city movement in the country.

“With a wide range of smart solutions and infrastructure, we hope to enhance resource efficiency and seamless citizen services. The Smart City Mission envisions transforming Srinagar into an eco-friendly, resilient and socio-economically vibrant city that celebrates its natural and cultural heritage creating harmony and opportunities for all” Athar said.

Later a question-answer session was held during which the stakeholders posed questions which were answered by the

Shifting Bus Stand To Parimpora

We Suffered Loss Of Rs 12,500 Cr in 5 Years’ Say Traders

Agencies

Srinagar: After elapsing over five years since the Batamaloo bus stand was shifted to Parimpora, the traders here have termed the decision as dubious and said that the business has suffered a loss of Rs 12,500 crore in the last half a decade.

Abrar Ahmad, President of Batamaloo Traders Association and Chairman of All Traders and Transport Joint Coordination Committee, said that as per a conservative figure, the traders are facing a loss of Rs 2500 crore every year. “The exact figure is very high, but if we provide a conservative figure, the traders have suffered a loss of Rs

12,500 crore in the last five years,” he said.

“Batamaloo is a business hub where 30-35 per cent is wholesale mandi. There are nearly 12000 shopkeepers in the market. One can imagine how much the loss traders are facing due to the dubious decision taken by the erstwhile government in Jammu and Kashmir,” he said.

“One fails to understand what has been achieved in the past five years. The motives behind the move have not been achieved. Other than shifting the bus stand to Pairmpora, everything that was in the plan then—including road widening, removing street vendors and other things, has not been achieved so

far,” he said.

“It is certainly a dubious move as to why it was necessary to drag the High Court into the issue,” he said. President of Batamaloo Traders Association further said that 70-75 per cent jobs have been lost. “A proper survey if conducted can easily bring facts that 1.5 lakh people have lost their jobs,” he said.

“What has been achieved, the passengers coming from South and north Kashmir are being asked to pay double the bus fare, but are not being dropped at the suitable place as per their ease. Batamaloo was an apt place and such a move has landed the people across Kashmir to suffer,” he said.

Several Transport Unions Of City Call On DC

Observer News Service


Srinagar: A delegation of City Transport Unions Friday called on Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad here and put forth their issues in a meeting .

Besides, SSP Traffic, Muzaffar Ahmad and Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Dr Syed Haneef Balkhi, the meeting was attended by S P Headquarter, SP South, Chief Planning Officer, SDM, East, Tehsildar, South, Tehsildar Khanyar and Officers from SDA, RTO and other concerned

Departments.While representatives of various transport companies operating in Srinagar including Star Transport, Western Transport and other Unions also participated in the meeting.

During the meeting, the delegation put forth their issues with regard to allocation of parking facilities at Shergari Magarmalbagh.

After giving patient hearing to their issues, the DC assured them that their genuine issues will be looked into on priority. He also sought response from the concerned Departments with regard to allocation of parking facilities.



Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited
 Branch New Market Anantnag
 Jammu & Kashmir - 192101
 E : bubble@jkbmail.com

Possession Notice

Whereas Mr. Mohammad Shafi Bhat as the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notice dated 27.07.2021 thereby calling upon the Borrower namely Mr. Tahir Ahmad Bhat S/O Mr Mohammad Yousuf Bhat R/O Sarnal Kadipora, Anantnag Kashmir- 192101 along with Guarantors (Hereinafter referred as Borrower/s) to repay an amount of Rs.7,04,032 (Rupees Seven Lacs Four Thousand Thirty Two Only) being the balance outstanding as on 30.06.2021 in the accounts of the Borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon.

The said borrower/s having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower in particular and the public in general that the undersigned being authorized officer of the J & K Bank Ltd. has taken possession of the mortgaged property described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on me under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on this the 14th day of month of November of the year 2022.

The said borrower/s in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the J&K Bank Limited for the amount in aggregating to Rs. 7,04,032 (Rupees Seven Lacs Four Thousand Thirty Two Only) together with future interest thereon from 01.07.2022 and other charges incurred or to be incurred.

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

Description of the Immovable Property

Residential house together with piece of land measuring 02 Marlas 02 Siraai and 14sft situated at Bhat Mohalla Sarnal Payeen Anantnag and as per revenue records falling under Khasra No 1263 min (IM SS), Khawat No 255, Khata NO 1256, khasra No 4147/1264 min, (6S 14sqft) Khawat No 24, Khata No 1217 of estate qasba Bhagat Tehsil and district Anantnag.

Dated: 14.11.2022
Place : Mohalla Sarnal Payeen Anantnag

Shaista Manzoor
Authorized Officer

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HIGHWAY STATUS



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



HIJRI
CALENDAR
 23 Rabi ul Sani
 1444

PRAYERS

FAJR 5:41

ZUHR 12:15

ASR 3:45

Magrib 5:25

ISHA 7: 49

This Day In History

- 461- St Hilary begins his reign as Catholic Pope.
- 615 - Pope Deusdedit/Aedeodatus I elected to succeed Boniface IV.
- 1274 - Mongol army lands at Hakata Bay in Japan during their first invasion attempt and are defeated; a typhoon destroys most of their fleet as they withdraw
- 1302 - Pope Boniface VIII delegates degree “Unam sanctam”.
- 136 7 - League of Cologne goes against Danish king Waldemar IV.
- 1493 - Christopher Columbus discovers Puerto Rico, on his 2nd voyage.
- 1521 - Battle at Milan: Emperor Karel V's/pontifical/ Spanish/German troops beat France & occupy Milan.
- 1620 - Mayflower reaches Cape Cod & explores the coast.
- 1621 - Rabbi Isaiah ben Abraham aha-Levi Horowitz arrives in Israel.
- 1700 - Battle at Narva: Swedish King Karel XII defeats Russians.
- 1794 - Jay Treaty, first US extradition treaty, signed with Great Britain.
- 1824 - Storm causes St Petersburg flood, killing 10,000.
- 1850 - Alfred Tennyson becomes British Poet Laureate, succeeding William Wordsworth.
- 1863 - US President Lincoln delivers his Gettysburg address beginning: “Four score & seven years ago...”
- 1872 - E.D. Barbour of Boston is awarded the first U.S. patent for the first ‘calculator’, an adding machine capable of printing totals and subtotals.
- 1893 -1st newspaper color supplement (NY World)
- 1895 - American inventor Frederick E Blaisdell patents the pencil.
- 1911 - NY receives first Marconi wireless transmission from Italy.
- 1926 - Leon Trotsky is expelled from the Politburo in the Soviet Union.

From KO Archives

8 Civilians Blown Up In Anantnag Village

Observer News Service

Srinagar- An unexploded shell went off inside an army firing range in a south Kashmir village last evening leaving three locals dead and injuring ten others. Five of the seriously injured succumbed to their injuries taking the death toll to eight.

One report quoting official spokesman said the residents of a nearby village, ignoring warning, ventured into the firing range at Renipora Khandoora near Achabal and fiddled with unexploded bombs which then went off.

While one person was killed in the first blast at around 16:46 hours, five were killed in the second, which took place within minutes and just 100 mt away from the first one.

Reports reaching here said that explosion occurred soon after the army personnel finished their routine exercise of conducting test explosions of grenades, IED's and other explosives in Renipora firing range and left the area. No sooner had the army personnel left the area than a large number of residents rushed to the spot to collect the lead pieces. Reports quoting eyewitnesses said that an unexploded shell went off with a big bang leaving scores dead and injured. Many were blown to pieces and some beyond recognition.

The dead have been identified as Fayaz Ahmad Kuchay son of Ghulam Mohammad, Mushtaq Ahmad Ganai son of Abdul Gani, Sheeraz Ahmad Gania son of Usman Ganai, Shakeel Ahmad Ganai son of Ghulam Qadir, Bashir Ahmad Bhat son of Ghulam Nabi, Bashir Ahmad Kuchay son of Ghulam Hassan and Abdul Rehman Bhat.

The identity of the eighth victim could not be ascertained as he was blown beyond recognition. Police has started investigating the matter that caused the deaths.

The incident shocked the family members of the deceased as they were expecting their return by the evening. The people remained shell-shocked for the entire day today, reports said. They even advised their children not to touch any unattended object. A pall of gloom has descended upon the Renipora and adjoining villages following the incident.

Scores of people have died in similar incidents before in these areas, where army and paramilitary forces conduct trial fires and explosions. Many a time some unexplosive devices remain in the area, which are later fiddled with by the locals resulting into casualties. An army spokesman while describing the incident as most unfortunate said that the army personnel present had tried to prevent residents from entering the firing range.

(KASHMIR OBSERVER, 19 NOVEMBER, 1998)

All in a Day's Work

Is Urdu a Foreign Language ?

Justice Markandey Katju

Some people in India say that Urdu is a foreign language. But is it ? I submit that while Arabic and Persian are no doubt foreign languages, Urdu is a desi or indigenous language. Let me explain.

If we want to know to which language a sentence belongs, we should find out to which language do the verbs in that sentence belong. It is the verb (called kriya in Hindi and feyl in Urdu) which determines this, not the nouns, adjectives, or pronouns.

For example, suppose I say “ Please aaiye with your wife for dinner to my house tomorrow evening at 8 p.m. “. Now this sentence has 15 words, 14 of which are in English. But it is a Hindustani (simple Hindi) sentence, not an English sentence, because the verb ‘aaiye’ is a Hindustani word.

In Urdu, all verbs are invariably in Hindustani, not in Persian or Arabic, though many nouns are in Persian or Arabic.

We may take any sher (couplet) of any Urdu poet, and we will find that the verbs therein are always in Hindustani (though the nouns and adjectives are often in Persian or Turkish). Ghalib’s poetry is often highly Persianised, but the verbs there are always in Hindustani.

Consider this sher :

“ Dekho mujhe jo deeda-e-ibarat nigaah ho
Meri suno jo gosh-e-naseehat niyosh hai “

Here the words ‘deeda’, ‘ibarat’, ‘nigaah’, ‘gosh’, ‘naseehat’, and ‘niyosh’ are all in Persian or Arabic. But the verbs ‘dekho’, ‘suno’, and ‘hai’ are Hindustani words. So it is a Hindustani sher, not a Persian or Arabic one.

Similarly, consider this :

“ Baazeecha-e-atfaal hai duniya mere aage
Hota hai shab-o-roz tamaasha mere aage “

Here the words ‘baazeecha’, ‘atfaal’, ‘shab’, ‘roz’ and ‘tamaasha’ are Persian or Arabic words. But the verbs ‘hota’ and ‘hai’ are Hindustani words.

So this sher too is a Hindustani, not a Persian or Arabic sher.

If the verbs in a sher are Persian or Arabic words, it would become a Persian or Arabic, not Hindustani, sher.

No doubt Urdu is a special kind of Hindustani, not the Hindustani of the common man. This is because it often uses, particularly in poetry, many Persian and Arabic words which the common man often finds difficult to understand. Nevertheless it is a form or variation of Hindustani (because its verbs are all in Hindustani), not a form or variation of Persian or Arabic. So Urdu is a special kind of Hindustani, not a special kind of Persian or Arabic.

Hence Urdu is an indigenous, not a foreign, language

The article was originally published on the facebook timeline of the author

In Search of Electricity

Amir Suhail Wani

Ironically , an order was circulated a few days ago by the Ganderbal administration banning the purchase and utility of heating gadgets — flying in the face of common sense. The order had to be revoked following public reaction but the entire drama has revealed the extent to which administration can go in order to blanket its own misgivings and caring a naught about the inconvenience and miseries of people



With the onset of winters, the Power Development Department has hit the headlines again, and this time for more than one bad reason. Winter is yet to be in its full swing but electricity has started playing hide and seek already; giving unremitting trouble to the common masses. Social media denizens are aghast and lamenting midst the winter woes which are only aggravated by the improper, intermittent and irregular supply of electricity. In addition to scheduled power cuts, the additional problems which hit the valley in winters are unscheduled power cuts, frequent faults, voltage sags and other systemic disturbances.

Winter is the time of the year when electricity is needed the most and consumption in terms of heating gadgets becomes inevitable. Ironically , an order was circulated a few days ago by the Ganderbal administration banning the purchase and utility of heating gadgets — flying in the face of common sense. The order had to be revoked following public reaction but the entire drama has revealed the extent to which administration can go in order to blanket its own misgivings and caring a naught about the inconvenience and miseries of people.

Let us try to understand and make sense of the power curtailment schedule issued by JK-

PDCL recently. It announced a four-and-a-half-hour curtailment for metered areas, whereas the non-metered areas are set to face a load shedding of eight hours daily in winters. Experience tells us that the curtailment in winters far exceeds the notified hours and there are days when electricity is nowhere in sight. Even if it be conceded that eight hour curtailment will be followed in non-metered areas, does one understand the magnitude and the spectrum of problems people are expected to face? What is it that benumbs our policy makers and the concerned departments to the unforeseen miseries of people and why does administration fail to take cognizance of public grievances?

There are patients surviving on electricity operated life supporting devices; students, who have to attend online classes; offices, which depend on electricity like life blood. All these activities come to a literal halt with disturbance in electric supply and people are pushed to the abyss of darkness. Winters in Kashmir turn nightmarish with temperatures touching sub-zeros and electricity supply ripped now and then.

People believe, and genuinely so, that the electricity generated in Kashmir illuminates the rest of the country while the people of Kashmir continue to reel under darkness. Statistics bear witness

to the fact that our total generation reserves are in excess of the domestic demand but for the fact that bigger and larger units are owned by centrally owned companies, we get a meagre share from our own stock .People are blamed and part of this blame holds water that people restore to pilferage, misuse and wastage of electricity.

Observations reveal that the actual consumption of electricity far exceeds the load recorded on documents and the agreements made with the consumers. But how true are authorities in their intent and might be that they are hiding behind the facade of pilferage to escape their responsibilities. Why do they fail to take measures to put an end to the menace of pilferage and why is it that despite there are reports from ground that patrolling personnel are hand in glove with people and guide them in their pilferage tactics. The takeaway is that we might not downplay the malpractice of pilferage and misuse but that can’t be used as a shield by the department to cover up its own misgivings and justify the irrational and troublesome power cuts.

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

The author is a Srinagar based columnist

We are aware about the increasing number of scams whether a text Scam, direct call scam, Video Call Scam, email Scam or Direct Sextortion or any other mode of grabbing money from the people. The solutions to these are obvious but we continue to remain oblivious.

The way we see an increase in these crimes, it is not the end but a beginning in J&K. Many among us have lost a lifetime of earnings and some have even lost their lives at the hands of these scams.

Being a victim of such scams can also lead to suicides when people face heavy losses and blackmailing.

Scams are of different types and not all are technically sound to understand the things.

So what is a scam?

Scam simply means “fraud” which means a dishonest or illegal plan to grab money or even disrespect anyone. There are various scams depending on the scammers. Here are a few:

SMS Scam – Almost every individual is using phones nowadays as it is the blessing of technology and we are getting benefited. But the problem is when we get SMS in direct inbox regarding prize & lottery, Loan Approvals, Business Investments, 5G SIM swap, Work from home job offers, Electricity disconnection, Credit Card dispatch etc. The caller might say you were “selected” for an offer or that you’ve won a lottery. Do not respond to these and lodge a complaint in case of prolonged trouble.

Video Call Scam - Some time we may get a video call from an unknown over messenger or WhatsApp depending on the target users of the scammers. They will



pretend to be some girl posing nude and once you begin to watch, they record everything and will blackmail you for posting contents on websites and will threaten you to share the videos with your known contacts (family and friends too).

Do not respond to these at all. Since there is shame associated with it, one might not even report it. One may even

be blackmailed into paying huge sums of money. Many of your acquaintances may already have fallen prey to this without you knowing.

If it happens to you, it’s best to report it to the police immediately.

Email Scam – In the same manner like a SMS, you may get emails from unknown email ids regarding lottery, opening of

Online Scams are Increasing and You Aren’t Safe

Khalid Mustafa

Ironically , an order was circulated a few days ago by the Ganderbal administration banning the purchase and utility of heating gadgets — flying in the face of common sense. The order had to be revoked following public reaction but the entire drama has revealed the extent to which administration can go in order to blanket its own misgivings and caring a naught about the inconvenience and miseries of people

free bank accounts, 0% interest finance, car extended warranties, job offers etc. Kindly DON'T RESPOND to such emails. They are bogus emails and mostly get automatically visible in your scam folders.

Direct Sextortion – Sextortion is the practice of extorting money or sexual favours from someone by threatening to re-

veal evidence of their sexual activity. This crime is currently at the higher graph.

Scammers will approach you by direct phone calls, texts, emails as your opposite gender and will offer you sexual favors (online over video call) or at some designated scammers place installed with cameras and other scamming members. Once the victim accepts the offers, they record the sexual activities and blackmail the victim for money or for any other favours like for drugs. In fact, recently in some districts of Kashmir, police cracked various sextortion cases and society is thankful for the appreciable work.

How do scammers get your number?

Scammers get many numbers from social media, random number generators and dark web. As a precaution, never share your phone number/email ids on social media. Never add yourself to any unknown WhatsApp groups, telegraph channels etc. Never submit your details on any unknown shopping websites (unauthorized), avoid synchronizing your phone (contacts, photos, videos) on web drives, email accounts and you can backup on portable hard drives and keep that safe.

Not everyone among us and in your family will be well versed about such things and will be a user of phones and emails especially our elders and teenagers at home. It’s our prime responsibility to discuss and raise awareness about these scams. In any case, if any family or family member is trapped as a victim, support them instead of teasing or being harsh.

The Author Is Management & IT Professional. Presently IT-Operations Manager @ HK

‘A Living Death’

LIFE INSIDE KASHMIR’S ISOLATED COLONY

This Colony Is Often Termed As The End-Of-The-Road Area – Isolated And Exiled From Rest Of The World.

Muntaha Mehraj Hafiz

A cleric's voice heralds dawn at a sickbay sheltering stigmatised souls of the valley. In this Srinagar sanatorium nestled at a placid upland overlooking a misty lake, a meditative morning is driving out the silence of social seclusion.

Young boys and girls recite Koranic verses in a unanimous tone inside a single-room seminary. Sanctified texts, worn-out carpets and muddy walls make it a specious spiritual shelter for the young children – the third generation of Leprosy patients, of Baharaar: the only, and probably the last leprosy hospital in Kashmir.

At the seminary's roughly-painted door, Ayesha is cooling her heels. The 28-year-old is a mother of three kids, but she's worried about her daughter's learning ability.

The young one is showing no signs of improvement despite it being her second year in seminary. Last time, she was bullied at the school and since then she requires regular prompting in her learning engagement.

"After that incident," says Ayesha, concerned about her six-year-old's mental health, "my daughter has been reluctant about school. She has been asking me questions about leprosy. And I tell her it's nothing to worry about."

A place like Baharaar faces a 130-year-old trajectory of discrimination and stigma from the outer world. But while men have learned to cope with the external pressures, the women and children lack behind.

Like most of the challenges in the world, fighting prejudice against leprosy patients, survivors and their families has been a matter of concern.

According to the latest figures provided to World Health Organization (WHO) by 139 countries, 127558 new leprosy cases were detected globally in 2020, showing a decline of 37 to 50 per cent.

In India, the country with the highest number of cases, the rate of visible deformities is 1.1 per million population.

Back in the day when the same ailment spread its tentacles in the valley, Baharaar was situated in Srinagar by the Imperial British in 1894 under the "Kashmir Medical Mission".

Over a century later, the route towards the colony opens in a wide road twinning with beauty and grief. The right side has the sparkle and freshness of a jewel-like eutrophic lake marked by willow and poplar trees, while the left end has two graveyards dotted with around 300 graves of the past generations of the residents.

This colony is often termed as the end-of-the-road area – isolated and exiled from rest of the world.

Built over an expanse of 39 acres – the hospital-turned-home has 64 residential apartments accommodating more than 250 people –young, old and children including 70 patients who survived Leprosy.

The new quarters with two rooms and an attached washroom lie adjacent to old billets and are the windowless mud huts with high ceilings.

These structures wouldn't allow a speck of light to enter, alike to a mausoleum. And in the middle of the colony is a huge deck built around the 500-year-old Chinar tree where men and women often sit to discuss their daily affairs.

EXILED FROM HOMES

62-year-old Noora sits on the porch of her two-room apartment. With glint in her eyes, she likes to have a view of children playing in the narrow pathways of the leprosy colony. Her demeanour looks sturdy but a shade of exhaustion is evident on her face. Her story of Leprosy begins when she was a 14-year-old.

"I was playing with my friends, and suddenly I felt numbness in my right hand," Noora recalls her day of doom. "For days, I overlooked it but it eventually spread to my whole arm. In a state of fear my father rushed me to a district hospital and doctors after a short deliberation diagnosed me with leprosy."

Hailing from south Kashmir's Kulgam district, Noora lived in a joint family of 14. Being the youngest child among her six siblings, she was the pampered one.

However, as the news of her disease broke amongst her relatives, the scenario changed. She clearly remembers how her father was pressurized to expel her from the house, and how he beseeched his brothers to let his daughter live there in a separate room.

"This disease was considered a curse," recounts Noora in a difficult tone. "Everyone treated me like I was a bad omen."

The family fuss ended one fine morning when Noora's father wrapped a blanket over her and silently left for Baharaar.

As a girl of a tender age, Noora barely understood why she was treated so miserably. She was cold. However, she knew she was an outcast.

Noora's new home –Baharaar –was al-



located on the immediate orders of the then commander in chief of India, Lord Roberts during the inception of leprosy in Kashmir during 19th century.

Initially, the hospital admitted 25 patients and as cases of leprosy escalated, the number increased. During 1970s, when Noora arrived, around 150 patients were admitted in the hospital – men and women, from various parts of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

"When my father brought me here, I wept for a month," Noora continues to narrate her life trauma. "Everything seemed lifeless. The walls of my quarters haunted me and I wanted to return home. But when I met patients with the severe cases of leprosy, I stopped complaining and learnt to live with it."

Among all the patients, Noora remembers Ali Muhammad who was the oldest and among the first 40 patients admitted to the hospital. Ali was a 90-year-old cleric, who tied her knot with one Mohammad Sultan.

Like her other inmates in the colony, Noora began a new chapter of her life, and Baharaar turned into a place of suffering and ease, sorrow and happiness, longing and relief.

A decade after this, in 1980, a sigh of relief descended as MDT–Multidrug therapy–was discovered, and leprosy became a treatable disease. Eventually, as the disease was contained at Baharaar, no new patient was admitted after the year 2000. However, for patients like Noora, the battle for a better identity is still ongoing.

"The stigma has been worse than the disease," says Noora as she pushes her knees to gear back to her routine work. "Leprosy left us crippled but the society left us exhausted."

DEFORMITIES: VISIBLE AND HIDDEN

It's not uncommon how women with leprosy are more vulnerable to discrimination when compared to their male counterparts primarily due to their gender and then due to the disabilities that result from the disease.

Women living at Baharaar consider themselves untouchables and outcasts due to their disability. Most of them have deformed limbs, and blind eyes. Abandoned by their loved ones, this has impacted their self-confidence, mental health and economic self-sufficiency.

"We no longer feel like humans," says Maqsooda, picking collard greens from her kitchen garden. "This is a living death."

She clutches the basket by her arm and moves towards her quarter. She uses her fists to open the door, and rests on the chair to catch her breath. Both of her hands and feet are crippled due to nerve damage caused by leprosy.

Leprosy is a chronic infectious disease caused by a bacillus, Mycobacterium leprae. It multiplies slowly and the incubation period of the disease is 5 years.

Symptoms of the disease may occur within 1 year but can also take as long as 20 years to develop. Leprosy mainly affects the skin, the peripheral nerves, mucosa of the upper respiratory tract, and the eyes.

A team of dermatologists, pathologists work closely to detect leprosy.

"More commonly leprosy starts with an anesthetic patch on the body and this patch can be seen over the abdomen, trunk, buttocks, legs with either fewer or no sensations at all," says Dr Umar, Dermatologist, GMC Anantnag. "This is mainly a dry patch on the body which leads to nerve enlargement of the peripheral nerves of the body."

If the peripheral nerves are found to be enlarged in the patient, and a dry patch is found, the medico says, it's suggestive of leprosy which is further confirmed by performing a slit-skin smear test on the patients.

Maqsooda too was diagnosed with a

reddish white patch on her skin but until she would know about the disease the bacterial infection initiated chronic non-healing ulcers on her feet and hands.

At this moment, she was a 26-year-old. And soon, she was admitted to Baharaar by her brother who never returned to meet her again. She's married to a fellow patient and has two children now.

"My mother wanted to come with me," says Maqsooda, rubbing sweat with her pink dupatta shading her crippled hand. "But my family didn't allow her. What can be worse than your own family disowning you?"

As Maqsooda reaches out to get her medicines for osteoarthritis from the two-toned almira besides her, she wishes to be as efficient as other women. But at the same time, she feels disheartened due to her destiny: "Myani khoth khaste kus chu? Ye daghh cha anaan waelith" (Who's worse than me? This pain consumes you and kills you slowly).

The stigma and fear associated with transmission of the disease is so ingrained that women at Baharaar don't move out of their colonies, until it's an emergency. Some patients prefer to stay indoors, even if there's a serious health condition. One such case is of Saira Rafiq.

Until last week, the 47-year-old woman took medications without consulting a specialist but when in the middle of the night she had difficulty in breathing, she was rushed to SKIMS in the stationed ambulance at the colony that ferries patients when required. She was diagnosed with Pneumonia.

Saira's encounter with the outside world has been unfortunate. Leprosy has disfigured her face. With a flattened nasal cavity, thickened skin of forehead and chin, and with multiple nodular lesions all over her face, she has been covering her facial deformity since last 10 years.

"I don't like to go out in public," says Saira in a hoarse voice. Due to her persistent dry cough she pauses for a moment, to speak again. She has been fearful after someone at a local health centre had called her a demon.

"People fret over our presence," she continues. "There's no social participation for people like us. Not only people but doctors also look down upon us."

She lays open all her documents to reveal her worsening health condition. Besides leprosy, she's been treated for hypertension, thyroid and herniated discs.

The medical officer had suggested her to visit a physiotherapist for her neck pain, but the dearth of trained physiotherapists for Leprosy patients in Kashmir has made the situation even more challenging.

"Physiotherapy plays an important role in treating leprosy patients," says Dr Arif Ahmad, one of the senior physiotherapists from Srinagar's SMHS Hospital.

"We identify the nerve function impairment at the earliest, and keeping in view the condition of the patient, indulge in pre- and post-operative rehabilitation process that prevents further deterioration of limbs."

As experts, Dr Arif continues, physiotherapists also focus on imparting education on lifestyle modification skills and self-care techniques to the patients which help improve the emotional, psychological and physical state of the patient.

"But many physiotherapists in Kashmir lack expertise in leprosy and disability," the medico says. "We require partnership with state and central government so trainings and workshops are conducted in Kashmir. This is essential."

Patients like Saira suffer in silence. For now, she cannot contemplate going to a physiotherapist as she's worried about 'other' medical expenses that her family cannot afford.

"Where shall I get money for such costly MRI's and blood tests? We all here are helpless," complains Saira.

Although under the supervision of

director of health services, a medical centre for "basic" health check-ups is functional in the leprosy hospital but it is devoid of para-medical services and as of now is one of the "major concerns" of the under-privileged inhabitants at Baharaar.

BATTLING LIFETIME SECLUSION

While some women were segregated by their immediate families, many faced cruelty and abuse at the hands of their husbands after being diagnosed with leprosy, ending their marriages miserably.

As one steps inside the leper colony, an aura of gloom and solitude descends. But what if there's solitude within solitude, isolation within isolation? Many patients found love, care within the community, and raised families except a few who're still living a life of loneliness, pain and struggle, like Khatija.

She migrated from Ladakh to Srinagar in 1992 with a fellow inmate. Her story of leprosy is almost identical to other women at Baharaar: clawed hands, disfigured face, suppurating sores oozing pus and blood. But she's blind too. And what makes her struggle extraordinary is: her devotion to fight leprosy – all on her own.

More than the disease, it was her husband's cold behaviour toward her that caused her relentless agony. She was 32-year-old when she arrived at Baharaar. Her disease initiated with a dry patch on her arms that made her husband suspicious of her disease and out of fear, one day he dragged her out of the house.

"Instead of taking me to a doctor my husband thrashed me," says Khatija in a mix of two languages, Balti –her native language, and Kashmiri, that she picked in the colony.

"I was an orphan. Where would I go? Moreover I was pregnant with his child. He didn't even consider that."

Khatija lived with her aunt until she delivered a baby. After which, she left for Baharaar. That year her husband had married another woman.

Khatija's appearance is lean, and her entire body is reduced to a body of a small child. For a 62-year-old, the condition is pitiful. Her bulging white eyes have lost the radiance and her struggle is real.

"No other affliction causes as much pain and agony as leprosy. My husband took my son away and never visited me," says Khatija. "Nor did my son," she whispers timidly.

Khatija barely cries but when her eyes go dry a tear falls down. It's the modulation of her voice that signals how lonely she feels. She's been taken care by her neighbours who come and cook for her. For her nurturing, she submits her stipend to them. "What would I do with the money," she says. Surprisingly, where family left them to die, strangers extended a helping hand to them.

At present, the Directorate of Health Services Kashmir provides food, supportive medicine and clothes to the patients at Baharaar. They also receive a monthly allowance of Rs.1000 by the Department of Social Welfare which they feel is "not enough."

Khatija's son is terrified to meet his own mother, as communicated to her via some relative. She shrinks her body, as she expresses her last wish: "I want to talk to my son. He can see me through the window if he fears to meet me here. I'll not touch him," says Khatija. "A child can hate his mother but a mother cannot hate her child even if he creates a mountain of troubles for her."

Stigma associated with leprosy has rendered patients helpless. Some are attended by fellow inmates while some live in isolation, all alone in a terrible mess.

At one of the shrines located 2 kilometres away from the Leprosy Colony, a group of women raise their hands to pray as head priest displays holy relic to

the devotees. In a huddle of women, a visually impaired lady stands quietly at the back of the row. Following her intuition, she prays in the direction of other women.

She's Zeba, a 78-year-old inhabitant of Kupwara –now a patient at Baharaar.

She visits the shrine once a year – on the eve of birth anniversary of Prophet Muhammad. With her apparent disability, she has oriented herself to adjust in a group of people who at first saw her as a threat.

"At times women sit away from me. And I don't mind that," says Zeba who has been fighting the disgrace and distinction for 40 years now.

When she was diagnosed with leprosy she was banished from her village, and forced to live in separation from her husband, along with her 2-year-old son.

Due to lack of knowledge, and awareness among the community members, many believe leprosy is highly contagious, which has led to ostracization and discrimination of patients.

"Leprosy is a communicable disease but one cannot get leprosy by shaking hands, casual social contact, sharing food or by sitting with the affected people," says Dr Aliya, Pathologist SKIMS.

"Leprosy," the medic explains, "is likely transmitted when there is a prolonged close contact with someone with untreated leprosy, or when a person coughs or sneezes and the germ enters the body of a healthy person via droplets containing bacteria."

Presently, if a person is diagnosed with leprosy he's cured within a year of transmission. In 1981, WHO recommended MDT for the treatment of leprosy. Currently, it has recommended MDT which consists of medicines: Dapsone, Rifampicin, and Clofazimine.

This treatment is prescribed for 6 months to patients with Paucibacillary leprosy (PB), and 12 months for Multibacillary (MB) cases. MDT kills the bacteria and the patient is cured.

As the head cleric at the shrine finishes the prayer, Zeba folds her prayer mat, adjusts her black sunglasses that protect her against light sensitivity and bends down to lift a wooden stick that helps her navigate back towards the colony.

Leprosy has invaded her facial nerves, resulting in acute corneal ulcers in her eyes. She has no vision in her left eye and failing eyesight in her right.

Zeba's son works as a daily-wager, and returns home at midnight. Until then, with her stubby hands, bleeding numb feet and blindness, she manages to cook and clean.

At her allotted room at Baharaar, the hygiene is missing. There are heaps of garbage lying at the door, with dust-ridden carpets, and worn-out beddings, she sits at a corner of this dilapidated space. But when guests visit her, she never fails to offer a clean carpet to them.

Zeba is surviving through tough times but this is evident that blind patients at Baharaar are the worst sufferers. This negligence questions the contribution of government towards the well-being of leprosy patients and also, the supervising department that vows to provide quality life to this marginalized group.

CONCERN FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

More than 16 million leprosy patients have been treated over past 20 years, and a general reduction in new cases has been observed in several countries. However, discrimination against the patients and their families doesn't cease to exist.

People diagnosed with leprosy are ripped off their basic fundamental rights such as right to equality, right to education and right to all opportunities in matters of employment, marriage and health.

"We are not considered part of the society," says Yasmin, a 28-year-old resident of Baharaar. "We are living a

life of untouchables. Nobody wants to understand that our families are no longer contagious."

Yasmin was 4-year-old when her mother was diagnosed with leprosy. Since then, a track of "disgrace" and "misery" has been following her, persistently.

It's been 12 years since her mother has been cured of leprosy, but the family is suffering –psychologically and emotionally.

Contemplating Yasmin's marriage for 3 years now, they've failed to find a better match for her.

"Women living at leprosy colonies often struggle to find better families for themselves," says Yasmin. "Even my brother was rejected by many families for the same reason. Consequently, we had to get him married to a non-local girl."

This is not the only case. There are dozens of other women who're struggling and they either end up marrying someone from the countryside or within the community, often against their will to do so.

Another challenge for young girls and women at Baharaar is lack of opportunities in terms of job and education. Many drop out of school while struggling with bullying, low self-esteem, poor academic performance, and poverty.

"I want to continue my studies but who will pay my school expenses?" says Rufaida, keenly embroidering a shawl, that's spread over her knees.

Rufaida passed her Class 10 in 2018. Now she's employed at a small manufacturing unit that sells shawls and stoles. Apart from the stipend that her family receives from the government, she earns Rs 3000 a month. At such a tender age, Rufaida has assumed both domestic as well as economic responsibilities of her family but sadly, at the cost of her dreams.

In pursuit of a better future and life, a few residents have moved out from Baharaar. But the majority –with their children and grandchildren –stay back.

Despite being the third generation of treated leprosy patients, there are individuals who lie or hide about their predecessors, out of fear of inequity, and backlash.

Nusrat Ara belongs to third-generation of Leprosy patients. She has lately completed her post-graduation and joined a private school. However, she has not disclosed her "real address", to her colleagues.

"I don't feel comfortable telling them that I reside at Baharaar," says Nusrat. "I did that once at a hospital, and the doctor denied treating my ailing father."

Due to stigma associated with the disease, descendants of leprosy patients often shy away from attending any social gathering. Reminiscing the struggle, and trials of growing up in a leprosy colony, Nusrat says: "We are straddling between two worlds. What future do we have? How many times do you find someone from the colony buying provisions or travelling freely like everyone else? This is because we don't have policies that would facilitate our inclusion and participation in the society."

Despite several challenges, the community exhibits such love and brotherhood that binds them together, in any worse or privileged situation.

Among the younger generations of leprosy patients, a lady has set an example. She's Najma, a 65-year-old who lives at the outskirts of the colony. Her husband purchased the land in the vicinity so she can live close to the place where her parents lived.

Najma rewrites her memory back to 1960's when 350 patients were admitted to the hospital. "I have witnessed a sea of affliction, and tragedy here," she recalls. "People who belonged to affluent families saw themselves diminishing."

Najma was the only daughter of her parents. She was a keen child, and her analysis of pain turned her into a spiritual figure. Now she assists women at Baharaar in matters of Islamic jurisprudence, and helps them unburden their melancholy-filled hearts.

"At this age, they feel lonely and helpless, and all they need is a listening ear," reflects Najma.

Leprosy patients often visit Najma to either have a chat, or get their clothes stitched and hair combed. For the place that nobody wants to visit, and bodies no one wants to touch, she's an official mortician for the women of the community.

"They don't have a female attendant here. And it's difficult to wash the body of a leprosy patient," says Najma. "Due to pain and suffering, their bodies are in a miserable condition, so one has to be careful. You have to turn and wash their bodies like a flower. I will do that as long as I have the strength to do so. Death is for each one of us –and that's what we should never forget."

-This story was produced as part of Laddi Media Fellowship.

PM Advocates Imposition Of Cost To Terror Supporting Countries

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: In a veiled attack on Pakistan and China, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said certain countries support terrorism as part of their foreign policy while some do so indirectly by blocking action against terrorists.

Addressing the 3rd 'No Money for Terror Ministerial Conference on Counter-Terrorism Financing', the prime minister also stressed on the need for imposing cost on countries that support terrorism.

In a similar tone, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, addressing a separate session at the conference, said there are countries that seek to undermine, or even hinder, our collective resolve to fight terrorism.

Ministry of Home Affairs is organising the conference which is being attended by 450 delegates from over 75 nations and international organisations.

Officials said Pakistan and Afghanistan are not participating in the conference while China was invited but did not come.

During the last two decades,

India has repeatedly sought inclusion of several Pakistan-based leaders of Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed leaders in the United Nations Security Council's 1267 committee list but the proposals have been vetoed by China, a permanent member of the Council.

"We have seen that some countries protect and shelter terrorists, protecting a terrorist is equivalent to promoting terrorism. It will be our collective responsibility that such elements never succeed in their intentions," Shah said.

He said no one should ignore terrorists' safe havens or their resources.

"We also have to expose the double-speak of such elements who sponsor and support them," Shah said.

Pakistan is accused of providing all-round support to terrorist organisations in carrying out attacks in India, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir.

The prime minister said organisations and individuals that try to create sympathy for terrorists must also be isolated.

"International organisations must not think that absence of

war means peace. Proxy wars are also dangerous and violent. There must be a cost imposed upon countries that support terrorism," he said.

Certain countries support terrorism as part of their foreign policy and they offer political, ideological and financial support, Modi said, adding, "There can be no ifs and buts entertained in such matters. The world needs to unite against all kinds of overt and covert backing of terror."

He said it is well known that terrorist organisations get money through several sources and one of them is state support.

The prime minister said in present times, ideally there should be no need for anyone to remind the world of the dangers of terrorism.

"However, there are still certain mistaken notions about terrorism in some circles," he said.

Modi said the intensity of the reaction to different attacks cannot vary based on where it happens and all terrorist attacks deserve equal outrage and action.

"Further, sometimes, there are indirect arguments made in support of terrorism to block

actions against terrorists," he said.

Modi asserted that there is no place for an ambiguous approach while dealing with a global threat.

"It is an attack on humanity, freedom and civilisation. It knows no boundaries. Only a uniform, unified and zero-tolerance approach can defeat terrorism," he said.

Modi said uprooting terrorism needs a larger proactive response and to make citizens safe no one can wait until terror comes to individual homes.

"We must pursue terrorists, break their support networks and hit their finances," he said.

In his session, Shah said financing of terrorism is more dangerous than terrorism and threat of terrorism cannot and should not be linked to any religion, nationality or group.

He also said that terrorists are constantly finding new ways to carry out violence, radicalise youth and raise financial resources and the Darknet is being used by terrorists to spread radical content and conceal their identities.

The home minister said transformation of terrorism from "Dynamite to Metaverse" and "AK-47 to Virtual Assets" is definitely a matter of concern for the countries of the world and everyone have to work together to formulate a common strategy against it.

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Secy Health Inaugurates Seminar On 'Naturopathy An Integrative Medicine'

Observer News Service

Jammu: The Directorate of AYUSH on Friday celebrated 5th National Naturopathy Day at Government Ayurvedic Hospital, Jammu.

The hospital organized a one day seminar with "Naturopathy an integrative medicine" as events' theme. Secretary, Health and Medical Education (H&ME), Bhupinder Kumar, was the chief guest while Additional Commissioner State Taxes, Ankita Kar, was the guest of honor on the occasion.

In his address to Ayush fraternity, Secretary congratulated the entire Ayush fraternity on 5th National Naturopathy Day and urged upon them to become an enthusiastic advocate of Ayush systems of health care so that a mass movement of Ayush health services can be initiated across the UT. He also emphasized that these wellness interventions being drugless must be integrated with conventional care as NCDs like Diabetes, Cancer, Metabolic Disorders which are emerging as global challenges. Naturopathy being a life style oriented health and wellness approach can go

a long way in prevention of public health threat of NCDs in a cost effective manner.

Secretary also inaugurated Nature Cure exhibition organized by the Government Ayurvedic Hospital in presence of Ankita Kar and Director Ayush J&K. He visited the stalls displaying various therapeutic modalities of Naturopathy like dietotherapy, magneto therapy, heliotherapy, mud therapy, hydrotherapy, Accupressure, Acupuncture, IEC and Bcc Material on Naturopathy.

Secretary unveiled official logo of Directorate of Ayush, J&K, the new iconic identity of the department. He also felicitated 10 best Ayush health and wellness centers, one from each district of Jammu division for their commendable efforts in implementation of components of National Ayush Mission in the Ayush Health and Wellness centers.

Later, Secretary also visited Government Ayurvedic Hospital and inspected working of different wards there. He interacted with the patients and enquired about the quality of services being provided to them in the hospital.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

How Embargo Ended

employees from private practice.

'A Welcome Move'

Many educated-unemployed youth of Kashmir hailed the order as the end of the hour.

"It's a welcome move," said Amir Javeed, an unemployed youth from Bandipora.

"Most of us weren't able to reach many opportunities because of these people [government teachers]. They occupied everything and barred us from coming forward in this field. I'm pretty sure that this decision will prove to be a new gig for many unemployed youths."

As per the order, the government is providing toll-free numbers to register complaints against the banned teaching activity. "Any violation in this regard shall invite disciplinary action against the delinquent officer(s)/official(s), as warranted under rules," it noted.

Meanwhile, as the debate raged on, many called the private practice by government teachers as unethical. "It's equally inhumane because these people draw fat salaries from the government and then teach absolutely nothing in the schools," said Seher Mushtaq, a government teacher.

"Many of these teachers would lure gullible students of government institutes to join their private tuition. Such teachers increasingly operate on the theory that private tuition centers are more efficient and more effective than government schools. It does not bode well for either the cost of education or a student's mind. Government's decision to ban such practice was the need of the hour."

In fact, many argued that it's pretty absurd that these teachers force poor students of government schools to join private tuition centers for their own benefits.

"Not just that," said Nasir Ali, another jobless youth, "the previous elected government's initiative of Super 50 Coaching was also ruined because of these teachers".

'A Dangerous Trend'

However, the order has also left many government teachers upset. The irked lot is dismissing the directive as 'a dangerous trend'.

"How is it anyone's business if I'm holding private classes after my office hours?" asked Lateef Khan, a government teacher running tuition centre in Srinagar.

"As long as I'm performing my duty ethically, it shouldn't be a problem. As an educator, I'm only helping the society grow."

Private tuition is a universal practice, argues Seher Misgar, another government teacher into private practice. "Most of us engage in it to help students in clearing concepts for various competitive exams," Seher said.

"If normal classwork is meant to cover syllabus, then these private lessons are there to boost one's aptitude level for qualifying some big exams. I don't think it's unethical on part of government teachers to be the part of this competitive teaching. It doesn't make us offenders."

Avalanche Kills 3

Meanwhile, Defence sources said that a fresh weather advisory has been shared with the soldiers guarding forward posts, and they have been asked to take precautions while performing

duties in avalanche prone areas.

EGI Condemns

"their timeline is sealed"," it said.

It said the space for media freedom and active civil society has been steadily eroding in the region.

Turkey-based Mukhtar Baba and six of his contacts in Jammu and Kashmir, according to an intelligence dossier, are suspected to be behind threats received by several journalists in the Valley in the past couple of days.

Several journalists resigned from local publications recently after being threatened by terror outfit The Resistance Front (TRF), a shadow organisation of the Lashker-e-Taiba.

The Guild recalled that the editor of Rising Kashmir Shujaat Bukhari was assassinated in June 2018.

"The Kashmir Press Club, which had become an important institution for fighting for the protection and rights of journalists, was shut down by the state administration earlier in the year, weakening the layer of peer-driven protection for the journalists," the Guild noted.

"These pronouncements by terror organisations have further worsened the sense of fear and insecurity, which makes it impossible for the journalists to work freely," it said.

"The Guild strongly condemns such threats and calls upon the state government to create an atmosphere of security and trust, wherein the media is not compelled to take sides, and is able to work in a free environment with full security," the statement said.

Change Of Guard

contesting for the post of president any longer. The elections for the post will be held on December 5. It is time for the new generation to take over the responsibilities," Farooq Abdullah told PTI.

"Anyone from the party can contest for the post. It is a democratic exercise," Farooq Abdullah, who is a Lok Sabha member, said.

He became National Conference president for the first time in 1983.

He will, however, continue to head the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD), an alliance of five political parties comprising of the National Conference, its arch rival PDP, CPI, CPM and Awami National Conference.

"Yes, I will continue to lead the alliance," Abdullah made it clear.

The National Conference, which is one of the oldest party of the state, also tweeted saying that Abdullah informed his colleagues of his decision to step down as president of JKNC.

"In spite of the best efforts of senior colleagues in the party Dr Sahib was adamant that he wouldn't review his decision," the tweet said.

"In light of this sudden announcement which has caught everyone by surprise the General Secretary as per the party constitution, has been tasked with conducting the election for party president which will be completed on Dec 5. Until then Dr Sahib continues as president of JKNC," the party said.

NC party general secretary Ali Mohammad Sagar issued a notification for election which will be held on December 5, the birth anniversary of party founder Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah.

According to the notification, the last date for filing of nominations for the post is December 1.

Azad To Rename

similar name in Uttar Pradesh is already registered with the ECI," he said.

Azad had proposed to register the party with the ECI by the name of "Democratic Azad Party".

Nizami said that the name of the party has not been finalized yet.

"We will announce the name of the party only after getting approval from ECI," he said.

Nizami said words "Azad" and "Party" will remain in the name, but only Democratic or National Democratic or Progressive or National Progressive will be suffixed or prefixed to them.

He said they have prioritised "National Democratic Azad Party" as the name of the party, but it is not the final name.

On September 26, Azad along with senior party leaders announced the name of his party as "Democratic Azad Party".

The party was formed by Azad nearly a month after parting ways with the Congress with which he remained associated for 50 years. After his resignation from AICC, several other Congress leaders from Jammu and Kashmir, mostly former ministers and legislators, also joined the Azad-led party. But no major leader from other political parties joined DAP.

It is worthwhile to mention that more than 40 J&K-based political parties are registered with the ECI. National Conference, Peoples Conference were registered with the poll-body before 1987. Jama'at-e-Islami, which was banned by the Central Government in 2019, was also participating in the electoral process till 1987. Peoples Democratic Party came into existence in 1999—(KNO)

Students Learning

The LG highlighted the need to adopt reforms in the education sector and stressed that students' learning space must go beyond the classroom. He also congratulated the Trust for its immense contribution in the education sector of Jammu & Kashmir.

"Our cities and villages are witnessing rapid transformation in school education. Fusion of technology and tradition are providing the progressive path to schools to be happy schools. The social connection, universal values, life skills can only be learnt in a happy school," the LG said.

"In the age of acceleration, students are not just the numbers but our future, and they should reflect the fine balance of excellent professionals with empathy, compassion and mindfulness," he added.

Speaking on the transformation taking place in the education system across the country, the LG said National Education Policy has put special emphasis on engagement and involvement in both classroom as well as field study.

"A teacher's most important role today is to create an atmosphere for curiosity, collaboration, and encourage the students to be more imaginative and develop creative skills," he added.

The LG emphasized that schools must nurture independent thinking, provide vibrant space for individual growth.

"It will help knowledge, skills, innovation and awareness to blossom," Sinha said, adding "A student's capacity to be a better scientist, doctor, engineer, musician hinges on the efforts to be more inquisitive, creative and learn the values that will act as navigation tools for the future,"

The LG also highlighted the need to focus on increased student-teacher engagement, where a teacher acts as collaborator & mentor, and encourages the students to think across the boundaries of subjects and disciplines.

Gauri Nayar, Secretary DBN Trust in her welcome address, threw light on the working of the schools run by the trust.

Shrimati Dewanani V.Badrinath Educational Trust runs three institutions- DBN Vidya Mandir Mubarak Mandi, DBN Vidya Mandir Amarvillla and SNS Vidya Mandir. The DBN institutions are highly regarded throughout J&K as hubs for excellence.

the climate is also highly conducive for holding such events.

He said Mehta mentioned that the infrastructure has also been upgraded to a large extent during the past few years and is up to mark for holding prestigious international events like that of G-20 Summit.

The spokesperson said that the Chief Secretary also revealed that the situation here has improved a lot and it is worth noting that for the last one and a half year not a single strike has been observed in the UT.

"He said that the crime rate in the UT is very low. He told them that the tourist flow to UT has been all time high this year witnessing a record footfall of 1.62 Crore tourists since January 2022, the highest in 75 years of Independence," he said.

Mehta, he said, ensured the delegation that best possible arrangements would be put in place and the delegates would find an opportunity to watch the rich cultural diversity of J&K.

"He also took stock of other arrangements like hotel accommodation, protocol, city sprucing, holding of cultural events, transport, internet connectivity, medical facilities, arrangements at airports, training of staff and other branding strategies," the spokesperson added.

Pertinent to mention here that from December 1 this year, India will assume the G20 presidency for a year and chair over 200 meetings that aim to secure global economic growth and prosperity. Together, the G-20 countries represent more than 80% of the world's GDP, 75% of international trade and 60% of the world's population.

Woman Injured

reports said, was removed to the district hospital Handwara for treatment.

30 JKAS Officers

Managing Director, SICOP, till further orders".

Reyaz Ahmad Sofi, JKAS, Additional District Development Commissioner, Kulgam, has been transferred and posted as Additional Transport Commissioner, J&K.

Showkat Ahmad Rather, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Kulgam, has been posted as Additional District Development Commissioner, Kulgam.

Suram Chand Sharma, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Samba, has been transferred and posted as Joint Director, Youth Services and Sports, Jammu, against an available vacancy.

Ved Prakash, JKAS, Joint Director, Industries and Commerce (Development), Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Chief Executive Officer, Tourism

Development Authority, Surinsar-Mansar, vice Gurminderjit Singh, JKAS, has been asked to await further orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department.

Neelam Khajuria, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department, has been posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Youth Services and Sports Department.

Syed Shabir Ahmad, JKAS, Officer on Special Duty with State Election Commissioner, J&K, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar, against an available vacancy.

Mohammad Ashraf Sheikh, JKAS, General Manager, DIC, Budgam, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Anantnag, against an available vacancy.

Shahnawaz Shah, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner, State Taxes Department, Kashmir, has been posted as Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes, Enforcement (South), Kashmir hqr at Lower Munda, against an available vacancy.

Rakesh Dubey, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner (General), Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Samba.

Vikar Ahmad Giri, JKAS, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Ramsoo, holding additional charge of Sub-Registrar, Ramsoo, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Kulgam.

Minakshi Vaid, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Joint Director, Industries (Development), Jammu.

Yar Ali Khan, JKAS, Project Officer, Wage Employment (ACD), Baramulla, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Shopian, against an available vacancy.

Mehraj-ud-din Shah, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Ganderbal, has been posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal, against an available vacancy.

Surinder Pal Sharma, JKAS, General Manager, DIC, Samba, has been transferred and posted as Joint Director, Industries and Commerce (S&M), Jammu, against an available vacancy.

Dr. Des Raj Bhagat, JKAS, Additional Secretary to the Government, Power Development Department, has been transferred and posted as Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Development Authority, Bani-Basholi with hqr at Basholi, relieving Ajeet Singh, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Basholi of the additional charge of the post.

Jagdish Singh, JKAS, Additional Secretary in the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Power Development Department.

Pankaj Bhagotra, JKAS, Additional Secretary in the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat, has been transferred and posted as Regional Transport Officer, Jammu.

Ankush Hans, JKAS, Deputy Secretary in the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Secretary to the Government, Power Development Department.

Sanjay Kumar Tickoo, Under Secretary to the Government, Power Development Department, has been transferred and posted as

Under Secretary in the J&K Board of Professional Entrance Examinations, Jammu.

Shakeel Maqbool, ICAS, Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes (Recovery), Kashmir, holding additional charge of Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes, Enforcement (North), Kashmir and PFMS matter in the Finance department, has been posted as Additional Commissioner, State Enforcement), Kashmir, vice Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, JKAS, who has been asked to await further orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department.

Ms. Anu Behl, JKAS, Additional District Development Commissioner, Udhampur, has been transferred and posted as Special Secretary to the Government, School Education Department.

Ghan Shyam Singh, JKAS, Regional Transport Officer, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Additional District Development Commissioner, Udhampur.

Basharat Hussain, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Poonch, has been transferred and posted as Programme Officer, ICDS Project, Kathua, relieving Joginder Singh Jasrotia, JKAS, Programme Officer, ICDS Project Samba of the additional charge of the post.

Syed Sajad Qadri, JKAS, Programme Officer, ICDS Project, Ganderbal, has been transferred and posted as Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Development Authority, Pahalgam, vice Masarat Hashim, JKAS, who has been asked to await further orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department.

Satish Kumar, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Information Technology Department.

Tahir Mustafa Malik, JKAS, Director, Land Management, Srinagar Development Authority, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Poonch.

Afaq Ahmed, JKAS, Additional Secretary to the Government, Information Technology Department, has been transferred and posted as Principal, Revenue Training Institute, Jammu, vice Ms. Anju Gupta who has been asked to await further orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department.

Sandeep Seiontra, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Kathua, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Jammu.

Deputy Mayor

an official spokesperson said.

Similarly, he said, Raju Sharma, senior BJP leader also called on the LG and projected the issues of the real-estate sector.

"The Lt Governor assured the deputations of due consideration of the issues and demands projected by them during the interaction," he added.

Youth Found

Meanwhile SSP Rajouri Mohammad Aslam Choudhary told a local news agency CNS that police have started an investigation in this regard.

Minor Trapped

team of police, civil administration and fire and emergency department was on the spot and rescue operation was going on when the reports last came in Thursday evening.

DAK Warns Of Possible Triple Virus Threat This Winter

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Friday warned people of possible triple virus threat this winter.

"We could be facing a triple virus whammy of Covid, Flu and RSV this winter," said DAK President and influenza expert Dr Nisar ul Hassan in a statement issued here.

"All three of these viruses are expected to go up as we get into the cold season," he said. "The season is already off to a rough start with respiratory illnesses spiking across Kashmir valley."

Dr Hassan said flu and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) are not new. "We see them every year during winter months. RSV particularly affects young children. But in the last two seasons people were hardly exposed to these viruses because of Covid precautions like masking and social distancing," he said.

"Now that people are out without masks, travelling extensively, business has resumed and children are back

to schools, there are more opportunities for these viruses to circulate and they could make a comeback," he said.

The DAK President said in typical years a good percentage of the population gets infected with these viruses and builds immunity against the infections. "What we are

seeing are a couple of years where we didn't see infections. So more people are susceptible to these viruses in this season that could lead to higher rates of infections and also

more severe cases," he said. Dr Nisar said pandemic has added another virus to the season mix. While Covid-19 has leveled off, but like other respiratory viruses, we could see uptick in winter, he said.

"In the face of possible triple virus threat, people should get flu shot and Covid booster. And, taking common sense precautions, such as staying home when sick and maintaining personal hygiene, can also help keep everyone healthy and prevent hospitals from getting overwhelmed," he said.

JKSA Writes To Yogi After Student Assaulted At AMU

Press Trust Of India

ALIGARH: The Jammu and Kashmir Students Association has expressed serious concern after a student from the Union territory was seriously injured in a clash during a friendly cricket match here.

In a statement released on Thursday, the Association said it has written to Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath to ensure the safety of all students of Jammu and Kashmir studying in different colleges in the state.

A minor tiff during a cricket match turned violent and the student of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) got injured allegedly after being hit on the head on Wednesday, a varsity official had said.

Sajid Husain, a native of Jam-

mu and Kashmir, was rushed to the Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College in an unconscious state, he said.

Nasir Khuehami, national convenor, Jammu and Kashmir Students Association also urged the AMU authorities to immediately rusticate the student who had attacked the victim.

The statement said such incidents are leading to a sense of insecurity among students from the region.

The Association also appealed to students from the Union territory (UT) to live amicably in different colleges and avoid the possibility of such incidents.

It, however, thanked the police chief of Aligarh, Kalanidhi Naithani for his intervention in the matter.

Centre's Priority To Provide Employment Avenues To J&K Youth: Minister

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Union Minister of State for Labour & Employment, Petroleum and Natural Gas, Rameshwar Teli on Friday said that providing better avenues of employment and increasing social security measures for the youth and working class of Jammu and Kashmir are among the top priorities of the Central Government.

Addressing the media persons at Tagore Hall Srinagar, the minister highlighted the initiatives of the Central Government under the leadership of Prime Minister for the benefit of common people in the Union Territory. He said that work on various development projects is going on at full pace and the same will be completed ahead of the stipulated timelines.

Responding to the questions of the media the Minister said that unemployed youth are being provided loans on zero interest basis and e-SHRAM cards are issued to tackle the problem of unemployment. He said that the government aspires to complete the target of issuing 38 crore e-SHRAM cards in the country of which 30 crore cards are already issued. The Minister further added that the problem of child labour in J&K will also be taken up with the ministry and addressed in time.

Later the minister participated in a delegate convention of Trade Union Coordination Centre (TUCC) in which the leaders and members of different worker unions participated and deliberated upon the pending demands of temporary, seasonal and other workers in different departments.

Addressing the convention, the Minister assured the delegates that the issues pertaining to the working force of J&K will be put before the Central Government & the UT administration for their early settlement



'Committed To Provide Better Health Care Facilities To Residents'

BUDGAM: Union Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Labour and Employment, Rameshwar Teli today said that the Central Government is committed to provide better healthcare facilities to the residents of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

He said this during the inspection of the under construction 100 - bedded Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), Hospital at SIDCO Industrial Complex, Ompora Budgam.

The Minister said that the hospital shall cater best patient care facilities and shall be equipped with all modern machinery and adequate deployment of medical and para- medical staff adding that ESIC is among the best multidimensional social security schemes in the world.

The minister instructed the concerned agency to ensure the construction of the hospital before the stipulated timeline adding that the completion of this hospital will take the number of

ESIC functional hospitals in the country to 161 along with 8 Medical Colleges.

The Minister was apprised that the hospital is being constructed at a cost of Rs 159 crore and shall have modern healthcare facilities including 24*7 emergency, OPD, IPD, Operation theatre, dental, maternity, ICU wards, diagnostic Laboratories, psychiatric department and all other health facilities.

In order to ensure ESIC benefits reach to maximum beneficiaries, the Minister emphasized on registration of more and more employees of factories and other labourers or any work force working on temporary basis as Insured Persons to avail benefits of ESIC.

The Minister directed the Labour department to conduct assessment and registration of all workers at all existing factories and other business units in the UT. He also stressed on the registration of beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhaan (PMSYM) pension scheme.

especially regularization of 61000 temporary workers and utilization of services of seasonal workers. He added that the UT Government will be apprised to implement the minimum wages act as per the components of revised rates at par with the other states of the country.

The minister highlighted the initiative taken by the central

government for the welfare of the workers. He assured the leadership of TUCC for every possible assistance from his Ministry for the early settlement of their genuine demands.

On this occasion the Minister also inaugurated e-SHRAM registration camp and issued sanction letters to Ujjwala scheme beneficiaries.

State Taxes Dept Holds Interactive Session With Traders, Hoteliers

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: As part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', Commissioner State Taxes Department, Dr. Kashmir Singh on Friday held a GST interactive session for traders, manufacturers and hoteliers of South Kashmir.

Dr Rashmi Singh, responded to various issues raised by the participants and assured that all genuine issues will be taken care of. She directed the STOs of Anantnag, Kulgam, Pulwama and Shopian districts to have a registration drive to ensure that those falling in the threshold limit of GST Act get registered and do not evade taxes. This will also ensure a level playing field for all, she added.

Commissioner exhorted upon the concerned to focus on revenue augmenting measures and ensure proper implementation of all provisions of the GST Act.

Deputy Commissioner State Taxes Recovery, Shakeel Maqbool, gave a detailed presentation sensitising participants about malpractices that lead to tax evasion and loss of revenue to the government. In particular, he flagged the issues of utilisation of ineligible input tax credit for setting off tax liability and declaration of IGST liabilities by the hotels and travel agents in violation of place of supply rules which leads to loss of revenue to the government of Jammu and Kashmir. He also sensitised the participants about recent GST related changes and the benefits accruing from the same.

Deputy Commissioner Central, Dr Parvez Raina, to educate the participants about the benefits and

issues related to various tax reimbursement schemes being made available by the government for promotion of local industries.

The session witnessed active participation from Hotelier Association Pahalgam, Traders Federation South Kashmir, Taxpayers of South Kashmir, Contractors, Manufacturers Association of South Kashmir and other stakeholders who raised concerns and raised questions before the senior officers present pertaining to CGST, SGST and IGST components involved in the billing process etc.

President Pahalgam Hotelier Association, Javed Burza, suggested that existing hotels should also get benefit under incentives being given to new ones which have been declared as industry meant for boosting their sector further.

Gurpriya Kour, a young entrepreneur from Punjabi Rasoi, said, "We really appreciate such information exchange and this will prevent us from falling prey to misinformation." Ayaz Ahmad Munsi, a businessman from plywood industry, raised concerns about unregistered dealers in the area skipping taxation process and the brunt being born by registered dealers due to such malpractices.

Shahnawaz Shah, Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes (Enforcement), South Kashmir; Waseem Raja, Assistant Commissioner State Taxes (Technical); Wajahat Mehmood, Programmer and other officers of the State Taxes Department responded to queries raised by the participants including matters related to GST reimbursement, invoicing, supplies received from unregistered dealers etc.

Rice Mill Owner Dies In Freak Accident

SRINAGAR: A 55-year-old rice mill owner was crushed to death after he slipped into a conveyor belt fitted to spinning machine of the mill in Bakihar village of north Kashmir's Kupwara district on Friday.

Report said that Ghulam Ahmad Dar met with an accident after he slipped into the conveyor belt of his rice mill following which he was shifted

to district Hospital Handwara where doctors declared him dead on arrival.

As per doctor, the mill owner had multi-trauma injuries due to which his internal organs were damaged. The critically injured man, he said, was referred to Srinagar for advance treatment.

However he succumbed to his injuries on way doctor added. (KNS)

Delhi HC Refuses To Transfer Militant From Tihar To Srinagar Jail

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Delhi High Court has declined to transfer from Tihar Jail to Srinagar Jail a Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) militant, who is serving life term in a UAPA case, considering the law and order repercussions expressed by the authorities after evaluating the security risk.

Sixty-six-year-old JeM militant Abdul Majeed Baba sought transfer to his native state jail, Srinagar Central Jail, from Central Jail of Tihar in Delhi pleading his ill health and that his family members were unable to meet him frequently in Delhi.

Justice Poonam A Bamba said the Delhi Prison Rules, 2018 provide that the prisoner may be transferred from one prison to another on medical and humanitarian grounds with prior approval of the state government.

"However, in view of the above facts and circumstances and taking into account the apprehension of law and order repercussions expressed by the state pursuant to evaluation of the security risk in transfer of the petitioner from Central Jail Tihar, Delhi to Srinagar

Central Jail, this court is not inclined to grant the prayer of the petitioner (Baba)," Justice Bamba said.

It was submitted in the plea that the petitioner was a resident of Jammu and Kashmir and was lodged in high-risk ward of Tihar Jail pursuant to his conviction in a 2007 case lodged by the Special Cell of the Delhi Police under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

He was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment for the offences of criminal conspiracy, conspiracy to wage war against the government, collecting arms for waging war and concealing with intent to facilitate the design to wage war under the Indian Penal Code and the provisions of the UAPA.

The petitioner said he was old and was suffering from multiple ailments and his health was deteriorating. Therefore, being close to his family would help him recover better.

The petition was opposed by the prosecutor who said Baba was a hard core militant of a banned terrorist organisation and during pen-



dency of his appeal, when the court had released on bail, he absconded.

He was later arrested in 2019 from Srinagar and there was every likelihood of the convict managing to flee from any other jail, considering his past conduct, the prosecutor argued.

The state, in its status report, mentioned that according to an advisory issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs on the shifting of high risk prisoners from the jail of one state or union territory to the other, it has been emphasised that states or union territories need to be extremely cautious in shifting high risk prisoners to other jails and that inputs from both, the central and state security agencies should be taken to avoid any adverse security implications in transfer of such

prisoners.

The court was informed that Baba's request for transfer was rejected by the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi after consideration.

The prosecutor submitted that taking into account the previous conduct of the convict and other facts or inputs, there was an apprehension of likelihood of law and order repercussions in both, the transferring and the receiving state, in case the petitioner is transferred to Srinagar Central Jail.

The court said according to the MHA's advisory, the government has to be cautious in transfer of high risk prisoners convicted in terror related cases taking into account the security implications of such transfers in both, the transferring and the receiving state or union territory.

Regarding the issue of the petitioner's health, the court said as per the report of the jail medical officer, he was being provided due medical care and treatment.

It directed the jail superintendent to ensure that requisite treatment or medical care be continued to be provided to the petitioner.

2 Smugglers Arrested With Poppy

JAMMU: Police on Friday arrested two drug peddlers and recovered 800 kilograms of poppy in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district, officials said.

A police team conducting routine checks of the vehicle on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway intercepted an oil tanker at Jakhani, they said.

During the search, police recovered 800 kg poppy from the vehicle heading towards Udhampur, they said.

Two inter-state smugglers, who were smuggling the consignment of poppy straw outside the union territory, were also arrested, they said.

A case was registered against the duo identified as Gorav and Naseeb of Sonipat (Haryana).



UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

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.	Upgradation of IT Section into Single window System section in Examination Block at Main Campus.	22.46Lacs	Rs.800/-	Rs.44,920/-	17-11-2022 to 29-11-2022 (6.00 PM)	30-11-2022 (11.30 AM)	"BEE" & "CEE"
2.	Aluminium Partition of Secrecy II in Examination Block at Main Campus, University of Kashmir.	1.61Lacs	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 3,220/-	17-11-2022 to 29-11-2022 (6.00 PM)	30-11-2022 (11.30 AM)	"DEE"
3.	Construction of Steel truss for Covering of outdoor unit of Cold Room at Ice Core Lab.	1.25Lacs	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 2,500/-	17-11-2022 to 29-11-2022 (6.00 PM)	30-11-2022 (11.30 AM)	"DEE"

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

NIT No: - F(E.Tend)(UCD)/KU/55/22
DATED: 18/11/22.

Executive Engineer
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ADMISSION NOTIFICATION

Pursuant to some vacant seats available in General and Reserved categories in the below mentioned programmes, it is hereby notified for the information of all the interested candidates who couldn't appear in CUET-2022 conducted by NTA that they can submit their online admission application forms on <https://cukashmiradm.samarth.edu.in/> as per the eligibility shown against each programme. Selection of the candidates will be purely based on the marks obtained in the qualifying examination: -

S.No	Name of the Programme	Eligibility
1.	M.A Islamic Studies	Bachelor's Degree in any Discipline from recognised University with at least 50% marks or its equivalent on grading scale of respective University (45% for OBC/SC/ST/PwD/Candidates).
2.	M.A. Comparative Religion	
3.	M.A. Convergent Journalism	
4.	P.G Diploma in Guidance and Counselling	
5.	Integrated B.Sc. M.Sc. Physics.	Minimum 50% aggregate marks or its equivalent on a Grading Scale of respective Boards/ Universities at 10+2 level with Physics and Mathematics as main subjects (respectively) (45% for OBC (Non-Creamy layer)/SC/ ST/ PWD candidates).
6.	Integrated B.Sc. M.Sc. Mathematics.	
7.	M.Tech CS&E	B.E/ B.Tech in CSE (Computer Science Engineering/IT (Information Technology) through regular course of study from an UGC/AICTE approved institution with at least 55% marks (50% for OBC (Non-Creamy layer)/SC/ST/PWD candidates).In addition, the candidates should have valid GATE/NET-JRF /JEST score. However, in case of non-availability of candidates with valid GATE/ NET-JRF/JEST score, non-GATE/ NET-JRF/ JEST candidates will also be considered for admission. Preference will be given to the candidates having valid GATE/ NETJRF/JEST score.
8.	M. A Urdu	Bachelor's Degree from a recognized University with at least 50% marks or its equivalent on Grading Scale of respective Universities having Urdu as a subject in at least one semester (45% for OBC/ SC/ ST/ PWD candidates).
9.	M.A. Kashmiri	Bachelor's Degree from a recognized University with at least 50% marks or its equivalent on Grading Scale of respective Universities having Kashmiri as a subject in at least one semester (45% for OBC/ SC/ ST/ PWD candidates).
10.	B.Voc T&HM	10+2 in any stream from a recognized University with at least 50% marks or its equivalent on a Grading Scale of respective Boards / Universities (45% for OBC (Non-Creamy layer)/SC/ST/PWD candidates).
11.	B.Voc R&LM	10+2 in any stream from a recognized University with at least 50% marks or its equivalent on Grading Scale of respective Boards / Universities (45% for OBC (Non-Creamy layer)/SC/ST/PWD candidates).
12.	MTTM (Masters in Tourism & Travel Management)	Bachelor's Degree in any discipline from a recognized University with at least 50% marks or its equivalent on a Grading Scale of respective Universities (45% for OBC (Non-Creamy layer)/ SC/ ST/ PWD candidates).
13.	M.Com	B. Com/BBA from a recognized University with at least 50% marks or its equivalent on a grading scale of respective Universities (45% for OBC (Non-Creamy layer)/ SC/ ST/ PWD candidates)

The last date of submission of application forms is 20th November,2022.

Further, the notification for admission to M.A Islamic Studies and M.A Comparative religion issued vide notification No:CUKmr/DRS/CUET-22/F.No.81/22/Dated:14thNovember 2022 is hereby cancelled/ withdrawn ab initio.

For any assistance please contact the following:

1. Dr. Mohammad Ashraf Malik, (M.A Islamic Studies)	7006651472
2. Dr. John Babu (Convergent Journalism)	9419026848
3. Dr. M.Syed Bhat (PGDGC)	7006614879
4. Dr. Raja Nisar Ali (Integrated B.Sc. M.Sc. Physics)	9419344923
5. Dr. Shabir Ahmad (Integrated B.Sc. M.Sc. Mathematics)	9906966500
6. Mr. Amjed Hussain (M.Tech CS & E)	9149725792
7. Dr. Pervez Ahmed Azmi (M. A Urdu)	9419033383
8. Dr. Ali Mohammad Dar,(M.A Kashmiri)	9419420055
9. Dr Ashaq H. Najar (B.Voc T&HM):	7780989559
10. Dr. Zia Ul Haq (B.Voc R& LM)	7006148708
11. Dr. Shizwan Akhter (MTTM)	9419190637
12. Dr. Rizwana Rafiq (M.Com)	6006209611

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