

**P1 ANCHOR**

## J&K's Digital Education Needs A Boost, Says UDISE Report

**6 100 PERCENT GOVERNMENT-AIDED SCHOOLS** and 62.5 percent private-unaided schools provide internet facilities, but only 22.3 percent government schools had the facility, which is even worse than the national average (24.2 per cent)



The Report Has Come At A Time When The Government Is Investing In The Model Of Education Through Digital Mode That Holds The Promise Of Being Accessible To Everyone

**Zaid Bin Shabir**

**D**espite efforts afoot to digitize civic affairs and governance structure in Jammu Kashmir, the region's "slow progress" in the digital education—gaining momentum in the mainland—has prompted a new report to suggest some boost measures.

As per the latest Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE) report, only 32.6 per cent of schools in J&K had functional computer facilities in the academic year of 2021-22. The UDISE data has also shown stark difference in availability of computer and internet facilities in government as compared to private schools in J&K.

This disparity has probably affected the kind of digital education options available to government schools during the pandemic. Only 21.9 per cent of government schools had a functional computer facility which has largely dragged down the JK's average. At the same time, the government-aided schools have registered 100 percent

functional computer facilities, while the private-unaided schools have shown 77.1 per cent progress in J&K. When compared with the national average of government-aided (67.5 per cent) and private schools (71.9 per cent), J&K did much better. The region has even surpassed several states including Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh **More on P6**

## HC Panel Serves Notices to Mian Qayoom, Shaheen & Ronga

**T**he Disciplinary Committee of High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh has issued notice to three senior lawyers, Mian Abdul Qayoom, Nazir Ahmad Ronga and Ghulam Nabi Thoker alias Shaheen for "committing professional and other misconduct" under the Advocates Act, 1961. The Disciplinary Committee has asked the lawyers to appear before it on 17th December 2022. A complaint was filed against the three advocates for appropriate action on the basis of detailed investigation carried out by the law enforcement agencies, sources said. The investigation report says that Mian Abdul Qayoom is known for his anti-national and secessionist stand. **More on P6**

## 300 Militants Active in J&K: Northern Command

- Figure Includes 82 Foreigners, 53 Locals and 170 Unidentified Militants
- 75 Per Cent Between 20 to 30 Years Age Group
- Counter Drones to Face Drone Challenge on LoC

**Agencies**

**Poonch:** A top army commander Tuesday said that the total number of militants active in Jammu and Kashmir hovers around 300 and that includes 82 foreigners and 53 locals while all efforts, he said, were on to foil their attempts to target the security forces.

Addressing a press conference in Poonch on the occasion of Poonch Link Up Day, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief Northern Command Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi said that figures available with the army suggest that there are 300 militants active in J&K including the Rajouri-Poonch area.

"There are 82 foreign militants and 53 local militants active in J&K. Worrisome is that there are almost 170 unidentified militants listed with the army who are tasked to conduct criminal activities," he said. The army



**LT General Upendra Dwivedi** Commanding-in-Chief Northern Command

commander said that all efforts were afoot by the army to prevent and foil all the designs of militants with regard to attacking the security forces across the J&K.

Replying to a query about the number of active militants on the launch pads, the army officer said that there are 160 militants sitting on the **More on P6**



**FOOTBALL ALL OVER-** Real Kashmir FC and Gokulam Kerala FC played out a goalless draw in their I-League match at TRC Grounds on Tuesday- KO Photo

**Allegation of Sexual Harrasment**

## HC Junks JKAS Officer's Petition Against ACB SP, DySP

**Observer News Service**

**Srinagar-** The High Court JK and Ladakh has dismissed a petition by a woman JKAS officer wherein she had sought direction for quashing a verification by Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) regarding a "pseudonymous" complaint against her.

A petition was filed by woman KAS officer the then BDO Singhpora Pattan District Baramulla before High Court at Srinagar on 28-08-2022 alleging therein that the Enquiry officer, one DySP rank officer and SP ACB North Kashmir are harassing her since 2018 and she had prayed that proceeding initiated against her by ACB in verification No. 09/2022 for possessing disproportionate assets are not as per laid down law and may be quashed etc.

On 28-08-2022 High Court had initially passed following interim order that the



respondents are directed not to undertake any further verification in respect of the complaint which is the subject matter of the this petition and they shall also furnish the status report before this Court relating to the verification conducted so far, the case listed on 30, 09, 2022. Accordingly a detail status report was filed by the superintendent of police ACB North Kashmir before High Court through Ld AAG Miss Asifa Padroo, in which it was submitted that the woman KAS officer has accumulated property

worth crores of rupees within short span of her service of 10 years (check period) by indulging in corrupt practices in connivance with one class 4th of CAPD Department namely Mohd Shafi Rather and for indulging in corruption she was also recently placed under suspension by Govt for excess withdrawal of MGNREGA funds when she was posted in District Baramulla.

It was further submitted that the preliminary probe conducted so far shows that her bank accounts have huge suspicious cash deposits and huge investments in Benami properties which are being thoroughly probed and instead of explaining source from which she raised these assets of crores of rupees and incurred huge expenditures on different heads that too without having any other legal known source of income except her salary, she **More on P6**

## Two Militants, Woman Associate Arrested: Police

**Agencies**

**Bandipora:** Police Tuesday said that it along with security forces busted a LeT militant module by arresting two active Lashkar militants and their two associates including a woman in Bandipora.

"Incriminating materials, huge cache of arms & ammunition and material for preparing IED has been recovered from their possession, thereby averting a major tragedy", police said.



Bandipora Police along-with 13RR & CRPF during a cordon & search operation launched at Gundbal Nursery arrested two active militants linked with proscribed militants outfit

LeT. They have been identified as Musaib Mir @ Moya resident of Rakh Hajin and Arafat Farooq Wagey @ Dr Adil resident of Gulshnabad Hajin.

Incriminating materials, arms & ammunition including 01 AK-47 rifle, 01 AK-56 rifle, 04 AK series Magazines, **More on P6**

## NIA Court Frames Charges Against 4 JeM Militants

**S**tate Investigation Agency Kashmir on Tuesday said that the designated Competent Court of Additional Sessions Special Judge, NIA Court, Srinagar framed charges against four Jaish **More on P6**

## Number of Active Local Militants Reduced to Two Digit: DGP

**J**ammu and Kashmir's Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbagh Singh Tuesday said that the number of local militants active in Kashmir has been reduced to two digit while a "miniscule number of foreigners were active who are being tracked down."

"As far as the status of militancy is concerned, the number of active local militants has been brought to just two digit. Very **More on P6**



## Media Persons Need Not Worry: DGP

**T**o a query about Kashmir Fight blog, DGP Dilbagh Singh said that some elements sitting across the LoC can't digest the peace prevailing in Kashmir and hence continue to issue **More on P6**

## BSF Foils 2 Infiltration Bids, Kills Intruder

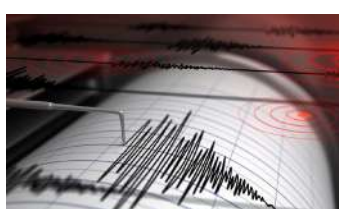
**T**he Border Security Force (BSF) foiled two infiltration attempts along the International Border (IB) in Jammu frontier on Tuesday, by killing an intruder and apprehending another. "At about 2.30 am today, alert BSF troops noticed suspicious movement of an intruder near the International Border in Arnia sector of RS Pura area. The intruder crossed over to the Indian **More on P6**

## S H O R T T A K E S

### Man Accused of Raping 9-Yr-Old Girl

**A** 35-year-old man has been arrested from a village near the Line of Control (LoC) in the Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir for allegedly raping a nine-year-old girl, police said on Tuesday. Ishfaq Lone, a resident of Narsoo village, was on the run after relatives of the victim lodged a police complaint in the Udhampur district on November 17 based on which a case was registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) and IPC sections, a police official said. Acting on information, a police team raided a house in Beti Pattan village in Rajouri and nabbed **More on P6**

### 4.2 Magnitude Quake In Kargil, No Loss



**A** 4.3 magnitude earthquake hit Ladakh's Kargil district on Tuesday, the National Centre for Seismology said. There were no reports of casualties or damage to property. The epicenter of the tremor, recorded at 10.05 am, was 191 kilometers north of Kargil, the NCS said. The quake in the earthquake-prone **More on P6**

### Baramulla Main Chowk Renamed After Slain Cop

**T**he administration on Tuesday renamed the Main Chowk Baramulla as "Bindaas Chowk" after a cop Mudasir Ahmad alias Bindaas, who was killed in an encounter in Kreeri area of the northern district on May 25 this year. The foundation stone for the same was laid by police chief Dilbag Singh on Tuesday. He said Mudasir Ahmad alias Bindaas, who was a constable in J&K police, was killed in an encounter in Najibhat area of Kreeri on May 25. He added the Chowk was renamed after approval for the **More on P6**

### MoS Finance For Loan Awareness

**B**anks should increase awareness about different loan schemes among people, especially those meant for lower strata of society so that the benefits percolate to them, Union Minister of State for Finance Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad said here on Tuesday. Addressing a special review meeting special meeting of the Union Territory Level Bankers' Committee, the minister said financial literacy was as important as education in general for financial inclusion. "The banks should increase awareness among the people about **More on P6**

## J&K's Economy Now Growing Quite Strongly: LG

**Inaugurates IFFCO's Farmer's Convention On Liquid Nano Urea**

**Observer News Service**

**Jammu:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated IFFCO's Farmer's Convention on liquid Nano Urea, today at the Convention Centre.

Addressing the gathering of farmers and agricultural scientists, the Lt Governor said that the biggest challenge before us today is to make fertilizers more sustainable for the future and ensure adequate nutrition. Nano Urea enhances



productivity, quality, reduces CO2 emission, and increases farmer's profitability, he added. In order to meet the **More on P6**





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# Gamers Seek Fame, Riches in World's Next Esports Hub India

Bloomberg

Next to a primary school and a shabby playground in India's financial capital Mumbai stands a plush four-story building that's home to the world's newest breed of athlete.

More than 20 young "streamers" in residence spend their day playing video games, training hard for televised esports tournaments that draw in millions of viewers. Equipped with bunkbeds, cubicles and a kitchen with a full-time chef, the gaming house is one of many popping up around the country -- testament to the explosive growth of an industry that's attracting investment from around the world.

"We eat, sleep and play under the same roof," said Animesh Agarwal, founder of Mumbai-based content creator and gaming talent management company S8UL. "When we play big ticket tournaments, it's all about the mental play. We need to bring teams together to build trust."

While still in its infancy compared to the US, China and Japan, investors are betting on huge growth in Indian esports -- powered by one of the world's youngest populations and cheap mobile data. Tournaments are attracting huge prime-time television audiences, while thousands pack into arenas to watch teams play shooter games on their mobile phones, with the action beamed onto giant screens.

Dubai-based esports firm Galaxy Racer is joining up with one of Asia's largest music festivals Sunburn to host a three-day tournament from Nov. 18 in the city of Hyderabad, where players of the first-person hero shooter game

Valorant will compete for a prize pool of \$100,000.

"India's growing middle class will have more disposable income, which they will spend on entertainment of their choice," said Akshat Rathee, managing director of Nodwin Gaming, which organized the three-week Battlegrounds Mobile India Masters Series tournament earlier this year. "These eyeballs are going to be worth a lot of money."

The industry was jolted in July when India's government demanded the Battlegrounds game be removed from app stores. But investors and gamers seem unfazed by the disruption and the potential for more regulatory action, figuring the order was aimed at a Chinese-backed firm and there are plenty of other blockbuster titles to fill the void.

"Our revenues have only gone up after the game was taken away," said Rohit Jagasia, the founder of Revenant Esports, whose teams play a range of titles and announced a sponsorship deal from sportswear brand Puma in October.

The industry, excluding real money gaming, is expected to grow to \$4 billion by the fiscal year ending March 2027, from \$1.1 billion in 2022, according to gaming focused venture capital fund Lumikai. India was the largest consumer of mobile games in the world this fiscal year, topping China and the US with 15 billion downloads, it said.

Investor interest remains strong, even after the government action against Battlegrounds, said Lumikai's founding general partner Salone Sehgal. "Investors care about the long-term picture, and that is still intact," she said.



Mobile Global Esports Inc., a U.S.-based firm that runs India's biggest university esports competition with more than 400 teams, raised \$6.75 million in an initial public offering on the Nasdaq exchange in July. "It's very clear that all components for a successful capitalistic venture with extreme upside exists here," said Richard Whelan, founder of MOGO.

Unlike other gaming markets where play is console- or PC-based, Indian users access live-streams mainly via their mobile devices. Thanks to cheap data from wireless carriers such as Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd., India

is among the highest mobile data users in the world. The nation will have 1 billion smartphone users by 2026, from 750 million last year, according to Deloitte.

The rollout of 5G in India will give gaming a further boost, according to Sean Hyunil Sohn, the chief executive officer of Kraftron India whose South Korean parent created hit video game PUBG: Battlegrounds, and the Indian version Battlegrounds Mobile.

"When 5G is established, we will have much more resources to deploy more games into the Indian market," said Sohn.

Back in the gaming house, the financial rewards are clear.

Salman Ahmad, 29, quit his job as a tech assistant at Google in New Delhi to be a full-time gamer. He now earns more than 1 million rupees (\$12,000) a month, several times more than his Google salary, playing for S8UL.

Clad in stylish shades and designer clothing, he's carefully cultivated a personal brand to generate revenue streams that include brand endorsements from Chinese mobile giant Redmi to Indian skincare company Mamaearth.

"Gaming has given everything to

me," said Ahmad, whose player name is Mamba. "I used to play games till 4 am during my engineering days -- now I am supporting my family with it."

Saloni Pawar, 23, is one of a growing number of women gamers, though doesn't play for S8UL or reside in its training house. She was the first woman to represent India internationally, and helped her team come second in a tournament in Thailand in 2019.

"My parents have told me to do more 'girly' things and not sit at home playing games," said Pawar, who has almost 61,000 YouTube subscribers and has collaborated with brands such as LG and Asus. "But once money started flowing in, they turned supportive."

The industry does face some difficulties, not least the fact that esports are not officially recognized as a sport -- making it more difficult for players to gain visas to take part in international tournaments. There needs to be a clear distinction between esports that require skill, and other online "games of chance" such as rummy or poker, according to Lokesh Suji, director of Esports Federation of India.

The government action against Battlegrounds Mobile has also fueled uncertainty for developers, according to Rishi Alwani, communications manager and writer at SuperGaming. "The concern is not whether this a permanent ban or not, it's about the lack of clarity," he said.

There's been no official government comment on the decision to remove the battle royale shooter game from app stores, though industry participants suspect concerns over data privacy. India's technology ministry didn't respond to emailed requests for comment.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir UT

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
FLOOD SPILL CHANNEL DIVISION NARBAL

PIN No.193401

Fax/Phone: 01951-260223

Email: floodspillchannelnarbal@gmail.com

Notice inviting e-Tender

e- NIT No. 43 of 2022-23 Dated:21/11/2022

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, e-tenders (in Single Cover System) on percentile basis are invited from approved and eligible contractors for the following works to be received by the Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal.

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (. In Lacs)	Earnest Money	Cost of T/Doc.(.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	M.H
01	Raising / Strengthening of Right Periphery Bund of Narkara Numbal (D/S Peerbagh Bridge) Rd 1938m at Nadroo to RD.2140m	5.26 lacs	10520/-	300/-	10 days	CEE & DEE	4711 Capex

Position of AAA =Accorded Vide No. KMR.I&FC/DB/93 of 2020-21 Dated: 18/01/2021, Position of TS = Sanctioned ,Position of funds: 100% Budgetary provision 2022-23.

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, 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](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per schedule of date given below:-

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	21-11-2022
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	21-11-2022 from 1800 Hrs
3.	Bid submission Start Date	21-11-2022 from 1800 Hrs
4.	Bid Submission End Date	30 -11-2022 upto 1600 Hrs
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids	01-12-2022 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal.
6	Submission of Performance Security (PS)	The bidder has to provide 3% of Adv. Cost as Performance Security within 7 days after opening of Financial Bid.

Note:-

1) :- The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploaded softcopy any short fall if any found in the soft copy the tender shall be rejected

2) As per Circular issued by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Sectt. Finance department vide No.OM No.A/24(2017)-651 dtd. 07-06-2018 which reads as under :-

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

b) The Cost of tenders should be collected by uploading a copy of necessary Treasury Challan/Receipt.

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan/Receipt (Debited to M.H.0701--Rev.Misc) and Earnest Money in the shape of CDR/FDR in favour of Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal failing which the tender will be rejected outrightly. The issuing date of CDR/FDR uploaded must be between issuing date to Bid Submission end date of NIT. CDR/FDR (Earnest money/Bid security) and relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of contract.

2. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web site [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal.

3. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids.

4. The normal deposits to be deducted as per GFR 2017 rules from running bills to be released after total completion of the work.

5. The tender opening authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders or any part of any tender without assigning reason thereof.

6. 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](http://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 vendor.

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.

7.5. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid.

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

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

8. Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan/Receipt (Debited to M.H.0701-Rev.Misc) in favour of Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal and Earnest Money in the shape of CDR/FDR in favour of Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal failing which the tender will be rejected outrightly.

9. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. The BOQ downloaded should be inclusive of all taxes.

10. Bidders should note that if the documents uploaded/submitted on the basis of which the contract has been awarded are found fake/ not genuine at any time, the contract shall be cancelled and the contractor/ bidder shall be blacklisted for participation in this division for a period of One year besides the performance security deposited for the said work shall be forfeited.

11. Price escalation and Taxes:- The %age quoted by the bidder shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work. 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.

12. Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on [www.jktenders.gov](http://www.jktenders.gov) e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.

a. ALL KEY CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL shall have to be strictly as per prescribed specifications and approval of the Engineer In-charge.

b. Satisfactory maintenance for such period.

c. Failure on part of the contractor to fulfill his obligations of maintenance schedules shall result in forfeiture of the Performance Security deposits held for this purpose for this work.

Office of the Executive Engineer,  
Electric Division- Ist, Srinagar.

Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited

Email: xen.ed1st@gmail.com Tel No. 0194-2452079 Fax No.0194-2452079

e-TENDER ABBREVIATED NOTICE

e-NIT No. 078/ EDI, dt: 21-11-2022

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Executive Engineer, Electric Division-1<sup>st</sup>, Srinagar invites online e-bids from registered A-Class Contractors/firms for as under:

S.No	Particulars	Estimated Cost (In Lacs)
1	Improvement of LT network by way of erection of 8m long PCC poles at various spots in Khunmoh.	5.63

The complete tender document is available at website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidder/tenderers may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below. Bidding Documents contain Qualifying Criteria for Bidders, Specifications, Bill of Quantities, Terms and Conditions of Contract and other details.

i)	Date and Time of downloading/ Sale (Start) of Tender Document	21.11.2022; 16:00 Hrs
ii)	Date & Time of Download/ Sale (End) of Tender Document	29.11.2022; 16:00 Hrs
iii)	Date & Time of Bid Uploading (Start/End)	21.11.2022; 16:00 Hrs to 29.11.2022; 16:00 Hrs
iv)	Commercial/Technical Bid Opening Date & Time	30.11.2022 at 13:00 Hrs
v)	Financial Bid Opening	Shall be declared later on for the technically qualified bidders
vi)	Venue of Commercial/ Technical Bid Opening	Electronically on J&K Government e-Procurement System website <a href="http://jktenders.gov.in">http://jktenders.gov.in</a>
vii)	Cost of e-Bid document	Rs. 500.00 (Rupees Five Hundred Only) (Non-refundable)
viii)	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	[Treasury Receipt Only] Rs. 11,300/= (Rupees Eleven Thousand Three Hundred Only)

DIPK-NB-5132/22

dated : 21-11-2022

Sd/-

Executive Engineer

Electric Division 1<sup>st</sup>, Srinagar

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

SKIMS MEDICAL COLLEGE-HOSPITAL

Bemina Srinagar, (J&K)-190017

Phone No. 0194-2494256, Fax 0194-2492110

e-NIT No. SKIMS MC (Estt.) 04 OF 2022 Date 21-11-2022

SUB: ABBREVIATED NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS FOR OUTSOURCING OF SANITATION SERVICES AT SKIMS MEDICAL COLLEGE-HOSPITAL, BEMINA SRINAGAR FOR THE YEAR 2023-24

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor UT of Jammu St. Kashmir, through Principal, SKIMS Medical College, Bemina Srinagar, e-tenders are invited under two bid system from registered agencies with good track record, manpower capacity and relevant experience of three (03) years or more towards providing Sanitation services in any Govt./Semi Govt. Department/Institution/reputed Public/Private Organizations, for a period of one (01) year, as per the scope of work mentioned in the detailed NIT.

The detailed tender document containing scope of work and other terms & conditions is available on [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) and complete bidding process will be online on said e-tender portal, as per following schedule:

S. No	Description	Schedule
1	Tender Fee	Rs. 1000/-
2	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	2.00 lacs
3	Date & time for downloading of tenders	23-11-2022 to 07-12-2022 up-to 4 pm
4	Date & time for submission of online tender	28-11-2022 to 07-12-2022 up-to 4 pm
5	Date & time for opening of technical bids	10-12-2022

Any clarification will be entertained from 25-11-2022 to 05-12-2022 on all working days during office hours. No representation shall be entertained beyond the stipulated period.

The tender notice is also available on SKIMS Medical College website [www.skimsmc.edu.in](http://www.skimsmc.edu.in) (for reference only).

Complete bidding process will be online at [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in). Technical and Price bids shall have to be submitted in electronic format on the said tender portal and in no case be submitted in physical form, unless demanded by SKIMS Medical College.

Principal, SKIMS Medical College reserves the right to accept/reject or cancel any tender or all Tenders in full or part thereof without assigning any reason.

The tenders should be submitted strictly in accordance with the provisions of the detailed e-NIT.

DIPK NB No.: 5123-22

Date: 21/11/22

No.: SKIMS MC-362-2022/809-13

Dt: 21/11/2022

Estates Officer SKIMS Medical College

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## Srinagar’s Namda Man Gives New Twist To Dying Craft

Agencies

Srinagar: Kashmir’s lone Nuno felting artisan is blending traditional art with Australian technology to give a modern look to Namda.

Namda, a rug made of wool was introduced in Kashmir during the reign of Mughal Emperor Akbar and used as flooring during winters in Kashmir. But over the years, the demand for Namda declined with a few craftspeople left now.

Among them, Farooq Ahmad Khan of Khanqah-e-Sokhta in Safa Kadal’s Srinagar, an old hand, has incorporated the technique to come up with new designs of Namda so that it can introduce life to the dying art. Khan said that he learnt the craft grandparents and his parents.

“Majority of artisans have already left the craft due to low market demand. It took me years together to learn Nuno felting, which is a fabric felting technique used to press loose fibres, usually sheep’s wool, into soft fabrics such as silk. This technique has an Australian origin,” said Khan, who is

the lone Namda artisan in his area which was once home to scores of artisans.

The combination of traditional art with Nuno technique has brought the latest form of traditional Namda besides silk carpets and other articles, he said.

“With new designs and combination of Nuno felting, it has started to get a name again and our products are being purchased in different markets of India,” Khan added.

He said that genuine craftspeople are facing problems in seeking registration from the Handicrafts department while people who do not know any art are getting support as well as registration.

A three time recipient of state awards, the Namda artisan said that the aim behind the technique is to infuse new life in this dying art.

Khan claimed that he is the only artist in entire India who uses the new technology as he believes it needs patience and hard work, which is quite rare these days.

“I want people to learn the art along with new techniques so that with my death, the art won’t die,” he added—(KNO)

## Mayor Reviews Progress Of Ongoing Works In City

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Mayor of Srinagar, Junaid Azim Mattu on Tuesday chaired a meeting to review the progress of various ongoing tendered works by Srinagar Municipal Corporation at the conference hall, here.

The meeting was attended by Joint Commissioner (S) SMC, FA/CAO SMC, Superintendent Engineer Drainage, Executive Engineer Electric and Mechanical SMC, concerned and various other senior officials from SMC.

Stressing upon the timely completion of all the pending works, the Mayor directed Joint Commissioner (Works) to ensure necessary action in all the pending works for their timely completion.

He further instructed them to make necessary arrangements for the foundation laying ceremony of cell four at landfill site Achan.

During the meeting, the Mayor was provided a detailed report about the Animal Birth Control Project at Tengpora and Chatterhama respec-

tively. It was also decided that the tenders of the projects will be floated within a couple of days.

In order to bring all Wards at par in regard to light distribution, the Mayor directed Executive Engineer Electric, SMC to provide a detailed Ward wise list of the number of lights installed under ESSL.

During the meeting Executive Engineer electric SMC provided status for the 2nd phase of ESSL Street Lighting.

Superintendent Engineer Drainage and concerned officials were directed by the Mayor to take measures for city drainage under “Drainage Master Plan.”

“Our work has to be beyond question, our integrity has to be unquestionable”, said the Mayor adding, ‘eventually people will judge us on the basis of work we have delivered’.

A detailed outlook report of current financial scenario and availability of funds and existing liabilities funds earmarked for projects were provided by FA/CAO SMC during the meeting.



## Guest Lectures On Domestic Abuse, Cyber Security Held At GMC

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: The Department of Community Medicine Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar On Wednesday organized a programme on domestic abuse and Cyber frauds.

Speakers voiced concern on the ever increasing number of cyber-crimes and the cases of domestic violence. Ways to deal with these severe issues grappling with society were also discussed.

Speaking on the occasion Mantasha Bin Rashid, Secretary SDA spoke on the issue of domestic violence and how over the time it has been changing forms.

“The rising number of domestic violence cases is a matter of health concern. Mostly, it has been seen that women are at the receiving end” Mantasha said.

Citing recent examples of violence against women, she said that a woman was killed at Palpora using an axe, so, the forms of violence against women have changed but it has not been eliminated.

She said that it should be ensured that women are given their due rights.

“Being part and parcel of this society, we need to do something at our individual levels” Mantasha said.

“There are integrated models in the health department on the basis of which a person facing domestic violence is identified. Such persons are referred for medical treatment, counselling, legal services and other things,” she added.

“It is unfortunate women are still treated as animals and they are being deprived of the position which they deserve as humans. Women are still considered inferior and sub humans,” Mantsha added.

According to her, beating a woman is considered a normal thing and when such things are being normalised and internalised, then it becomes very difficult to overcome such things globally.

“Different organisations have been working on it but on individual basis, we must try to stop all such cultural practices

and norms which lead to violence against women,” she added

There is shame, stigma and silence around domestic violence but now such things are being reported as it is the era of social media, she said.

Syed Sleet Shah, DySP Cyber Crime said that in Kashmir when it comes to cyber-crimes, an upward trend has been seen.

“We try to connect with the people and try to go to different educational institutions to make them aware about the cyber-crimes and the different cyber security measures they can use to remain safe.

“Don’t click on any unauthentic website and don’t provide any confidential or personal information to any website or scammer who wants data and other things,” she said.

Awareness is must and people need to be informed how to tackle such situations leading to cyber-crimes and police is always available and can be approached anytime, Shah added.

Sleet further said that such programmes shall continue in the future (With KNO inputs)

## LG To Inaugurate ‘Sonzal-2022’ At KU

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha will inaugurate the Kashmir University’s Annual Youth Festival ‘Sonzal-2022’ today.

The LG, who is also the Chancellor of the University, will be the Chief Guest at the inaugural session being held at the varsity’s Convocation Complex.

Sonzal, organised by the Department of Students Welfare, is the popular youth festival

that draws students from the University’s main and satellite campuses, besides its affiliated colleges, to showcase their talent and give vent to their creative abilities.


The Festival started in 2007 and continues to be a platform for the students to exchange ideas, sharpen their skills and develop further passion for extracurricular activities.

The Sonzal-2022 will see participation of over 2000 students in 25 competitions in art,

culture, literary activities, fine arts and music.

Vice-Chancellor Prof Nilofer Khan, the Chief Patron of Sonzal, thanked the Honourable Chancellor for consenting to inaugurate the Festival. She conveyed her best wishes to the students participating in the eight-day event.

The winners of different competitions will participate at North Zone Level and further at the National Level Competitions



**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/Bloc in shape of E- Challan (in Rs.)	Earnest Money in Rs.	Time and Date for Submission of E-Tender.	Date & Time of Opening of Bid	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Construction of Washrooms (4 No's) in CORD at Naseem bagh Campus.	12.00Lacs	Rs.600/-	Rs.24,000/-	18-11-2022 to 30-11-2022 (6.00 PM)	01-12-2022 (11.30 AM)	“BEE” “CEE” & “DEE”
2.	Renovation of Quarter No LF-20 at Main Campus by way of Sanitary/Joinery Work, Tile Work for Kitchen, Washroom and other allied minor works.	2.95Lacs	Rs.200/-	Rs.5,900/-	18-11-2022 to 30-11-2022 (6.00 PM)	01-12-2022 (11.30 AM)	“DEE”
3.	Painting of automation and Printing Section in Examination Block at Main Campus.	0.65Lacs	Rs. 100/-	Rs.1,300/-	18-11-2022 to 30-11-2022 (6.00 PM)	01-12-2022 (11.30 AM)	“DEE”
4.	Renovation of attached Washroom of Controller of Examination at Main Campus.	0.60Lacs	Rs. 100/-	Rs. 1,200/-	18-11-2022 to 30-11-2022 (6.00 PM)	01-12-2022 (11.30 AM)	“DEE”
5.	Renovation of Various sections in Examination Block at Main Campus.	0.54Lacs	Rs. 100/-	Rs. 1,080/-	18-11-2022 to 30-11-2022 (6.00 PM)	01-12-2022 (11.30 AM)	“DEE”

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the web site [www.kashmiruniversity.net](http://www.kashmiruniversity.net) / [www.iktenders.gov.in](http://www.iktenders.gov.in).

Executive Engineer

NIT No: - F(E.Tend)(UCD)/KU/56/22  
DATED: 22/11/22.  
**DIPK-NB-5137/22**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

It is to inform the General Public that i have applied for Death Certificate in the office of The Block Development Officer Litter Shahoora on behalf of my father Ghulam Nabi Shah S/o Ghulam Mohidin Shah R/o Adoora Shahoora Pulwama who died on 21-02-1989 due to heart attack at home. S o in this connection if anyone have any objection he/she may contact the BDO Officer Litter Shahoora or Tehsildar Shahoora SHO Litter Shahoora within seven days after that no objection would be accepted

Fayaz Ahmad Shah

Inf

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**HIGHWAY STATUS**



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



**HIJRI  
CALENDAR**  
27 Rabi ul Sani  
1444

**PRAYERS**

FAJR	5:42
ZUHR	12:14
ASR	3:50
Magrib	5:30
ISHA	7: 50

### This Day In History

- 1165 - Pope Alexander III returns from exile to Rome
- 1499 - Flemish pretender to the English throne Perkin Warbeck hanged for reportedly attempting to escape from Tower of London. Invaded England in 1497, claiming to be the lost son of King Edward IV
- 1556 - King Philip II confers with Dutch financial experts
- 1654 - French mathematician, scientist, and religious philosopher Blaise Pascal experiences an intense, mystical vision that marks him for life.
- 1700 - Cardinal Francesco Albani elected Pope Clemens XI
- 1832 - French take Antwerp in liberation of Belgium
- 1844 - Independence of the Duke of Schleswig-Holstein from Denmark.
- 1863 - Battle of Chattanooga & Orchard Knob, TN, begins
- 1863 - Patent granted for a process of making color photographs
- 1864 - Battle at Ball's Ferry Georgia (30 casualties)
- 1892 - Battle of Lomani Congo: Belgian unit beats Arabs, 1000-3000 killed
- 1899 - Battle at Belmont, Cape colony: general Methuen beats Farmers
- 1914 - The US Army withdraws from Mexico.
- 1915 - On the Tigris River in Mesopotamia, the Battle of Ctesiphon between Allied and Turkish forces enters its second day
- 1940 - Romania signs Tripartite Pact
- 1941 - German troops conquer Klin, at NW of Moscow
- 1942 - 3rd & 5th Romanian army corps surrenders
- 1942 - US Coast Guard Woman's Auxiliary (SPARS) authorized
- 1942 - German 4th & 6th Army surrounded at Stalingrad
- 1942 - Japanese bombing of Port Darwin, Australia
- 1943 - 1st printing of illegal "Warheid"
- 1943 - British Forces Broadcasting Service begins operations
- 1943 - US Forces take control of Tarawa, Gilbert Island & Makin from Japanese
- 1944 - US 7th army under General Alexander Patch conquers Straatsburg
- 1945 - Most US wartime rationing of foods, including meat & butter, ends
- 1946 - French Navy fire in Haiphong Vietnam, kills 6,000.
- 1971 - China People's Republic seated in UN Security Council.

### *From KO Archives*

## Bomb Attack In Anantnag; 1 Killed, 45 Injured

Observer News Service

Srinagar- One person was killed and 45 others, including four women injured in a blast near Anantnag headquarters of Superintendent of Police this morning, reports said. The condition of ten more persons is stated to be serious.

The blast occurred at 10-30 a.m., when large number of civilians had gathered outside SP's office to seek a meeting with him. SP was in his office chamber when the explosion rocked outside his office, reports reaching here said.

The explosion left over 40 people injured. Eleven critical persons were shifted to hospital first, where one of them was declared brought dead. He was identified as Mohammad Yusuf, Son of Abdul Aziz Rather of Larkipora, Anantnag.

While others are out of danger, reports said, ten people have suffered serious wounds. Doctors are trying their best to stem their hemorrhages Four Special Police Officers are among also among the injured, besides two home guard personnel.

Following the explosion, security forces opened fire in all the directions, injuring a civilian. He was also removed to hospital, where his condition is stated to be serious. The security personnel fired from their bunkers, sparking panic in the entire town.

There were contradictory reports as to what caused the explosion outside the SP's Office in Anantnag. While police said it was a bomb explosion, witnesses said, an explosive device was tossed towards the SP's Office which exploded with a bang.

Security forces and SOG personnel later sealed the area and started searching the area. Residents were huddled in one of the grounds and masked informers scanned through them to find out the suspected militants.

Police blamed the militants for the explosion. However, no militant group has owned the same so far.

This is the second explosion in three days in Anantnag. Earlier on Thursday a cop was killed and 12 others including the daughter and son of the former union junior home minister, Magbool Dar were injured in a landmine explosion.

Militants, meanwhile, hurled grenades and followed it by firing with AK rifles on an ITBP camp in Baghwanpora, Verinag in Anantnag district overnight, reports said. The fire was returned and the ensuing fire-fight lasted for several hours, causing panic among the residents living in the area.

(KASHMIR OBSERVER, 23 NOVEMBER, 1998)



KASHMIR OBSERVER

Wednesday | 23-11-2022

No time for  
Indo-Pak talks

In an interesting comment, National Conference president Dr Farooq Abdullah on Monday called on the union government to use its presidency of G20 to engage Pakistan to address the Kashmir issue. He also urged the government to help the world end the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war. Abdullah, who has been the former J&K Chief Minister, said he was tired of the media dubbing anyone making a case for India-Pakistan dialogue as “anti-national.”

He is right. In recent years, advocating talks between the two neighbours has become a taboo subject in the political discourse of the country. And there are reasons for it. The union government under prime minister Narendra Modi has taken Kashmir off the table in any future discussions with Pakistan. This was also made clear by home minister Amit Shah during his visit to Kashmir in October. Addressing a well-attended rally in Baramulla, the home minister refused to engage with Pakistan, saying instead he would prefer to talk with Gujjars and Paharis and also with the youth of Kashmir. This has made the chances of any re-engagement between the two neighbours in the near future look very bleak.

The removal of Article 370 in August 2019 and the subsequent measures have fundamentally altered the ground situation in J&K in most of its aspects. It has also changed the complexion of the Kashmir issue as it existed before. The home minister’s rally in Baramulla was a testament to this reality.

But it is also true that the union government did engage with the neighbouring country informally for months after the withdrawal of Article 370. The back-channel talks were reported to have begun in November 2020 and by February 2021, the two countries reinstated the otherwise defunct 2003 ceasefire along the Line of Control. The truce was marked by a brief spell of bonhomie. Both the then Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan and the Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa called for dialogue and resolving Kashmir in a peaceful manner. But there was no further progress on the back-channel making it difficult for the two neighbours to move to the front-channel.

And now, with the two countries due to hold their national elections in the next two years - Pakistan in 2023 and India in 2024 - the chances of an engagement have further ebbed. The ongoing turmoil in Pakistan has further complicated the matters. Now, if at all, any meaningful talks can only happen after the new governments are formed in the two countries which would happen only after 2024. So Abdullah’s call for the resumption of India-Pakistan engagement is unlikely to find any traction in the current situation.

OTHER OPINION

“Tabassum: A pioneering  
chat show host

In a recent interview with Twinkle Khanna, filmmaker Karan Johar revealed that he wanted to “become Tabassum” when he grew up. His revelation that the late chat show host, who died this week at 78, was the inspiration for his show Koffee with Karan, is not surprising. To Indians of a certain vintage, the line of descent from Tabassum’s popular Doordarshan chat show, Phool Khile Hain Gulshan Gulshan, to Johar’s show couldn’t be clearer. At a time when mystique was an essential part of the celebrity toolkit, Tabassum nudged her famous guests to let their guard down. Others, like Johar or Simi Garewal, have only followed the path she laid down.

It helped that Tabassum — born Kiranbala — was a Bollywood insider almost from the start. She began acting before she turned three, debuting in the 1947 film Nargis as Baby Tabassum. She took on more mature roles as she grew up, but her biggest success came as an interviewer, where she used her considerable charm to coax revelations out of her celebrity interviewees. With a flower tucked in her hair and her sari drawn over both shoulders, she soon came to be as recognisable a figure as some of the stars on her show.

Celebrity chat shows have been a mainstay of television since the 1990s. One might argue that Tabassum’s gentle interviewing style won’t work today. But as much as Tabassum relied on her native charm, she also deployed craft in her interviews. To watch her, for example, draw out a young, painfully shy Nazia Hassan, then still in school, to talk about her aspirations and even sing “Aap jaisa koi”, is to get a masterclass in the art of the interview. Tabassum knew how to probe without prying, with conversations that remain, to this day, a pleasure to watch.

Indian Express



Ground Zero Gujarat

The outcome of the elections in all-important state could very well set the stage for 2024

RIYAZ WANI

This has allowed the AAP to operate in an ambiguous political space, where it has tried to morph into a la carte party so as to appeal to the voters across the various political persuasions: It has precariously straddled the Hindutva-secular divide complemented with a governance promise focussed on improving education and healthcare

The ongoing election campaign in Gujarat is the focus of media attention in the country and rightly so. More so, with the AAP entering the fray. Its leader Arvind Kejriwal has been in the state to try and replicate his party’s triumph in Punjab. The key question is whether he can pull it off. In Gujarat, he is up against the toughest odds. Gujarat is not Punjab. It is in this state that the phenomenon of prime minister Narendra Modi began in 2001, when he was first made the chief minister of the state. Rest as the cliché goes is the history.

The BJP has already been in power in Gujarat for 27 years, making it too entrenched in the state to be easily dislodged. What is more, it hardly faces any anti-incumbency issues. Under Modi, the BJP in Gujarat has become much more than a political party: it has become a part of the Gujarati identity. Gujaratis are perceived to be proud of the fact that one of their own is the prime minister of the country and another is the home minister. So, the BJP is not necessarily judged on the basis of its performance in the government but as the party of Modi, the prime minister of the country.

This puts the Gujarat BJP beyond any political challenge on the traditional lines. The opposition can’t draw attention to its governance shortcomings, as the party most likely won’t be evaluated on that criterion. The parties can’t even rail against Hindutva at a time when the ideology has become the reigning ideological creed of the country. Also, in Gujarat, the opposition have to contend with the fact that the BJP is the party of Modi, a

son of the soil.

The advantages like these make the BJP unassailable. That said, Kejriwal has proved he is not a pushover. In Gujarat, he is attempting to fill the void left by the Congress party’s decline as a viable political alternative. He is also trying to beat the BJP at its Hindutva game by playing a Hindutva lite version of the ideology. And in this pursuit, the AAP leader has even shocked the BJP by demanding that images of Hindu deities Lakshmi and Ganesh be printed on currency notes for the economy to do well. He has now also sought a uniform civil code - one of the BJP’s core electoral planks - and sought its nationwide implementation. Once during his campaign, he emerged from the Somnath temple with a tripund on his forehead and rudraksha around his wrists. Earlier, he has also chanted the Hanuman Chalisa and flagged off pilgrim trains to the temple town of Ayodhya. And so far this politics has paid off for him in Delhi and subsequently in Punjab. This has allowed the AAP to operate in an ambiguous political space, where it has tried to morph into a la carte party so as to appeal to the voters across the various political persuasions: It has precariously straddled the Hindutva-secular divide complemented with a governance promise focussed on improving education and healthcare.

Will this position the AAP as a credible political alternative in what is an all-important state for the BJP? Only time will tell. But Gujarat is not just any other state. It is from here that the phenomenon of prime minister Narendra Modi began and

there are not even distant signs that it will end there. Competition is getting tougher with Congress also in the process of rejuvenating itself by hitting the road. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi is currently undertaking a padayatra to reconnect Congress with the people. The public response has so far been good. And the participation of people has grown with every passing day. It remains to be seen whether this public outreach could translate into any electoral gains for the party in Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh.

Kejriwal has shown political skills to get his party up and running out of nowhere. He could very well do so in Gujarat by peddling the Hindutva card. But it is also true that PM Modi’s charisma is still fresh and more so in his home state where his remarkable journey began. So, it would be next to impossible to dislodge him in Gujarat. With every passing year, his political appeal and constituency have grown stronger and wider while that of Congress has correspondingly shrunk. But there are still two years to go before the general elections are held, and much can change during this time. Two years is a long time in politics. The outcome of the polls in Gujarat and Himachal could very well set the stage for 2024. More so, the one in Gujarat.

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

The author is the Political Editor at Kashmir Observer



OBSERVER  
MAIL

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

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Single Use Plastic Not Fully Recycled

According to a recent study, only 8% of plastic waste makes it to recycling facilities and is properly processed. Recycling is not the solution to plastic pollution. Everyone in the country needs to end plastic pollution by becoming more aware of where plastic waste goes, fighting wasteful, single-use plastic practices encouraged by industry and bad politics alike, and reducing plastic consumption in general. The popularity of single-use of plas-

tics harms both human society and global ecosystems. Businesses have few restrictions on the amount of plastic waste they can produce and few financial incentives to change their practices. 90% of companies production of single-use plastic in the country do not get recycled. The burden of limiting plastic pollution should not fall on the everyday consumer. It’s not the individual’s fault. While the reasoning behind plastic recycling is sound, it’s not the be-all and end-all of the environment; The

vast majority of plastic that ends up in the country’s recycling facilities is not properly recycled. Only 5% of plastics produced in the country are properly recycled. That’s just 0.25 million tons out of 5 million tons of plastic waste. Plastic waste takes more than 450 years to fully degrade, releasing myriad microplastics into the environment that can carry chemical contaminants and cause severe cellular damage if ingested. Plastics production has exploded in recent years: 50% of all plastics pro-

duced were made in the last two decades. With so little being properly recycled, the amount going to landfill has also increased dramatically. If country’s plastic consumption continues as usual, plastic waste will triple by 2050, according to the study. Half of that goes straight to landfill, it’s a future we can’t afford to live in.

Vijay Kumar



# Has Kashmir's Fight Against Disability Become Personal?

*For his community welfare works and crisis-management, Haneef has become a "messiah" for the differently-abled people of Kashmir.*



Mrinal Pathak

Mohammed Haneef is a textbook activist whose community campaign is touching many lives. This Pattan resident has become a new hope for the specially-abled people of Kashmir. Haneef lost his vision in 2007 due to a reason he does not wish to mention. Since then, the resilient man never looked back and strived to turn his disability into strength.

He worked as an electrician before joining Voluntary Medicare Society (VMS), an organisation working for the welfare of the disabled people of Kashmir.

Even after joining VMS, Haneef continued to repair electrical fittings and appliances in the office, setting up an example for the rest of the staff members.

When the pandemic lockdown held everyone captive inside their home, Haneef visited disabled people with an ambulance and driver. His critical visits helped his brethren to face the trying times that human race had witnessed in decades.

"Disability leads to depression and the pandemic lockdown deteriorated the already distressed mental state of disabled people of Kashmir," Haneef said. "As someone wearing disabled shoes, I tried to motivate those people through counseling and consoling conversations."

Apart from his comforting visits, he spent 25 per cent of his salary on the needy. Recently, Haneef said, he helped a visually-challenged poor person to get a cornea transplant. The total cost of the operation was around Rs. 2.50 lakh. Out of which, Haneef got the assistance of Rs. 1.50 lakh from the VMS. He paid Rs. 50,000 from his own pocket.



**APART FROM EDUCATION, THE SURVIVAL OF THE SPECIALLY-ABLED**

community of Kashmir is equally crucial. This is where the likes of Lone are working quite unassumingly and effectively. The Samaritan is working for the better wage-structure for the persons with disability.

"I'm just playing a small part in lighting peoples' lives," he said. "It's not a big deal. That's how a human being has to be—helpful and considerate."

With the same human quality, Haneef lately came to the rescue of a handicapped couple. He boosted their morale as well as helped them monetarily. "Sometimes these people just need an act of kindness, like a consoling talk," he said. "I'm happy I could comfort the couple."

For his community welfare works and crisis-management, Haneef has become a "messiah" for the disabled people in

Kashmir. As a familiar figure now, he gets distress calls and addresses them curtly. And to sustain his Samaritan cause, the society is now throwing its weight behind him.

This silent activism worked wonders during the pandemic that freaked out the already fractured life and exposed faultlines in Kashmir. The restrictions imposed by the authorities to prevent the spread of COVID-19 had cast a spell of uncertainties around. While an ordinary person was struggling for some normalcy, it was the people with disabilities who were grappling with isolation and helplessness. Among them were the specially-abled children.

Though the speed of the internet was very slow in Kashmir back then, students were somehow trying to cope up with their studies. But it was the children with visual and mental disabilities who were facing the brunt of the lockdown. "For such students," said Bashir Lone of VMS, "only offline class was possible."

During those virulent times, the VMS was arranging Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) kits for the educators who went to the homes of various special children for teaching. "Since attending the online classes was tough for those specially-abled children," Lone said, "we had started home visits at various locations. Something, I believe, was better than nothing."

The education centres for special children were not able to provide classes to all the students back then. The restrictions had forced those children to stay at home. The special educators of various organizations working for the cause of physically and mentally disabled children conducted online classes from time to time but the slow speed of internet marred the dedicated efforts put in by these teachers.

"The visually-impaired people needed timely medication and education and we provided door-to-door services to them," Lone said. "But we were not sure how much these PPE kits would protect our educators but still we needed to pull it off in those special circumstances."

According to Lone, behavioural changes were seen in the mentally-unstable students who were away from schools for quite a while. Prolonged home stay had caused psychological disorders and bedsores to many disabled people. "Children had become more aggressive," he said. "And if they didn't get to talk to teachers for any longer, it might've gotten worse."

At that point in time, Lone said, parents' cooperation saved their day and efforts. "They were very encouraging and wanted their kids to learn." One such parent was Muzaffar Ahmed, the father of Khabib Muzaffar.

Muzaffar's 12-year-old son was coming under severe depression because of being locked at home. The three-month therapy he got at the special school helped a lot, but things had deteriorated again during pandemic.

Back then, many educators faced street and security hassles despite the mandatory movement passes. "We had to re-



**WHILE AN ORDINARY PERSON was struggling for some normalcy, it was the people with disabilities who were grappling with isolation and helplessness. Among them were the specially-abled children**

quest the office of the deputy commissioner to issue movement passes," Lone said, "but those passes had a validity of only 2-3 days."

However, in order to educate the specially-abled children, ambulances were being used to ferry the special educators from one place to another. "It helped our collective cause of educating specially-abled children during those challenging times," Lone smiled.

Apart from education, the survival of the specially-abled community of Kashmir is equally crucial. This is where the likes of Lone are working quite unassumingly and effectively. The Samaritan is working for the better wage-structure for the persons with disability.

"People with disability get a meager amount of Rs 1000 as a pension," Lone said. "This amount is not enough to end their miseries. They struggle to make ends meet."

Working for the welfare of people with disabilities for many years now, Humanity Welfare Organisation Helpline (HWOH) is a leading crisis-manager in the region where the rights of the differently-abled are being brushed aside. But the body didn't buckle under the pressure of pandemic and attended the crisis head on.

"We send audio material on WhatsApp to the children with visual impairment and our special educator went to the homes of mentally challenged children twice a week," Javed Tak, founder HWOH, a south Kashmir-based welfare body.

"But a majority of students were unable to get an education, since they live at far off locations. But still, the visually-challenged students are somehow managing to study using the available technology, while the mentally-unstable children are facing many hassles."

Many children were becoming attention-deficit during pandemic, Tak said, as majority of them had no smartphones at their homes. "And the stigmas attached to COVID-19 were preventing their neighbours to give them their phones," he said.

"We were not allowed to enter red zones to help out these children. Even after having a pass, our special educators faced the strict and stringent street manning."

While these individual efforts are tackling the disability distress every now and then, the larger community response is still missing. The bodies working for the welfare of the persons with disabilities often rally for the synergic support to save the ship from sinking.

Amid the absence of the collective response, Kashmir's disability predicament is deepening. Apart from the visually and mentally disabled children, even people with physical disabilities are being marginalized.

Irfan Rasool Lone became wheel-chair ridden after getting injured in a car accident in 2008. He did not move out of home for four years. He started rehabilitation at VMS, and now he plays basketball for disabled at the national level.

He often returns home in a very distressed state. "Be it bus stations or terminals," he said, "there are hardly any ramps at stands. The washrooms are also not accessible for physically disabled persons."

The same anguish is being voiced by Irfan Mir, a visually-challenged cricketer. Despite representing JK at National Level, he feels an apparent apathy for his tribe. "In every community, there are persons with disability," Mir said. "Ours isn't an exception. We are very much part of this society and our disability isn't our fault. We fated fate deserves some empathetic treatment and not a cold shoulder."

But till the community mobilization happens, Haneef wants to play his individual role with an unflinching spirit.

He lately helped a handicapped couple from Hajin sonawari village. The poverty had forced the couple to live with their children under a tin shed.

"During summers, the tin shed gets very hot, and it is impossible to stay under that during the daytime," he said.

The welfare worker reported the old couple's case to VMS, and along with the organization, he helped them to build a small house. "Some of us might be attending the local cases only," Haneef said, "but small steps eventually become a giant leap."

Haneef was partially visually-impaired since birth but lost his sight completely in 2007.

The loss of vision did not become a hindrance in overcoming his weaknesses, rather he chose to show the world light through his eyes.

"During the previous lockdowns," Haneef says, "I teach my tribe to use available technology."

He also motivates visually-challenged people to not to stop learning and writing using Braille script. The Samaritan wants to open a training institute to teach electrical work to visually challenged people, but the paucity of funds forced him to withdraw hands.

"For this kind of investment, one needs a huge investment," Haneef said. "I neither have land nor types of equipment to start this. My sole objective is to help disabled people to shed their disabilities."



# District Level Committee To Monitor Aadhaar Related Activities Now

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Tuesday ordered constitution of District Level Aadhaar Monitoring Committee for monitoring Aadhaar related activities in concerned districts of the of the union territory

The committee would be headed by District Magistrate as Chairperson while its members include Superintendent of

Police, Representative of District Level Bankers Committee (DLBC) (Manager of Lead Bank 4, District Co-coordinator CSC e-Governance, Senior-Most District level officer of Nodal Department (For Aadhaar), Senior-Most District level officers of all the Government Registrars of UIDAI (One member each from School Education Department,

Social Welfare Department, Health Department etc.), District Heads of India Post and India Post Payments Bank and Representative from UIDAI (appointed by Member DDG of concerned Regional Office of UIDAI) and Representative of District Magistrate (Not Member below the rank of Additional District Magistrate).

The terms of references for the committee include among others to assess the requirement of additional enrollment and update centres and ensuring availability of enrollment centres in uncovered areas, according to a government order.

The committee has been has been also tasked with to ensure Aadhaar

saturation in all age groups and mandatory biometric updation of children; to ensure establishment of District/ Sub-District/Block level ASKs by UIDAI, State/UT Registrar and CSC e-Gov; to ensure Implementation of Aadhaar linked Birth Registration (ALBR); to ensure progress in mobile update in Aadhaar; to enhance usage of Aadhaar

in various Schemes and related issues and to monitor fraudulent activities related to Aadhaar.

Besides, the committee has been tasked with monitoring activities at Aadhaar Enrollment Centres and compliance of related CRMs and grievances as well as any other issues as approved by the Chairman.

## CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

### J&K's Digital Education

in terms of functional computer facilities in government-aided and private schools.

In the case of internet facilities at schools, only 29.7 per cent of schools in J&K provide it.

100 per cent government-aided schools and 62.5 per cent private-unaided schools provide internet facilities, but only 22.3 per cent government schools had the facility, which is even worse than the national average (24.2 per cent), the data revealed.

Pertinently, the data has come at a time when the government is investing in the model of education through digital mode that holds promise of being accessible to everyone, affordable, and can overcome the shortage of quality education.

Further, only 22 per cent of schools in J&K have functional desktops/PCs.

Even though 53 per cent of private schools have functional desktops/PCs, only 14.5 per cent of government schools have such facilities in J&K.

In comparison, 100 per cent government-aided schools have functional desktops.

Moreover, the data reveals that only 12.6 per cent of schools in J&K have functional projectors.

"21.2 per cent of private schools have such facilities while only 10.6 per cent of government schools have such facilities," it notes.

J&K even lags behind in terms of schools with functional Smart Classrooms used for teaching with digital boards/ smart boards/ virtual classrooms/ smart TV availability.

Only 15.4 per cent of private schools and 6.4 per cent of government schools offer smart classrooms with digital boards, smart TVs, etc.

In comparison with the national average of 14.9 per cent, J&K has only 8.1 per cent of smart classrooms.

The data further noted that only 7.2 per cent of JK schools have functional mobile phones used for teaching purposes, which is quite lower than the national average of 17.7 per cent.

Out of this, only 3.6 per cent of government schools and 22.5 per cent of private-unaided schools use this facility.

### 13 Member Panel

Secretary Planning Development & Monitoring Department, Administrative Secretary, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Department, Representative of Administrative Secretary Industries and Commerce Department, Representative of Administrative Secretary Revenue Department, Representative of Administrative Secretary Science and Technology Department, Special/Additional Secretary to Government, Housing and Urban Development Department, Sr. DDG, License Service Area, DoT, J&K, Chief Town Planner, Jammu/Kashmir and Representative Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI).

### HC Panel Serves

"He has been instrumental in endorsing hartal calls and protest demonstration throughout the Kashmir valley," the investigation report has revealed.

The report further revealed that in 1990, Qayoom openly came out in support of the secessionist movement and presented a memorandum to UNMOGIP Hqrs, at Srinagar. He was solely responsible for making High Court Bar Association as a constituent part of All Party Hurriyat Conference and drafting the constitution of Bar Association, wherein it was provided in the aims and objectives to secure secession of J&K from Union of India. While recording his statement as witness in contempt petition No.11/2010 against Superintendent Kot Bhalwal Jail and others in Hon'ble High Court Srinagar on April 07, 2010, Shri Qayoom challenged the Indian constitution and said that "I do not believe in the Constitution of India."

A detailed investigation carried out the law enforcement agencies has said that in April 2005 Qayoom made a public statement openly supporting militancy and said that armed struggle should continue till goal of azadi is achieved.

In December 2007 he attended a seminar titled Qaid e Azam organised by Muslim league to commemorate the birth of Mohammed Ali Jinnah.

"In June 2008 Qayoom played a key role in instigating the people against the government during the Amarnath Land row. In October 2008 led a procession up to Lal Chowk raising slogans in support of freedom. In March, 2009 Qayoom said that Kashmiri people should be proud of 18 "Mujahideen" who sacrificed their lives at Kupwara.

"Mian Qayoom and J&K High Court

Bar Association in the name of free legal aid defends the cases of all the terrorists and stone pelters", charge sheet reads.

"Qayoom claims that the assistance is given free of cost, however, reports contrarily suggest that Qayoom draws huge sums from Pakistan and terrorist organization for fighting their cases," the charge sheet further reads, according to sources.

It says Qayoom was heading the legal cell established and funded by Pakistan ISI, he along with battery of lawyers including late Advocate Shafqat Hussain would plead and secure favourable decisions in all cases pertaining to entities involved in terrorism and secessionism since 1990," the investigation report said.

The report had further observed that Ghulam Nabi Shaheen is known secessionist element.

"In February 2009, Ghulam Nabi Thoker alias Shaheen while speaking in a seminar asked the self-styled separatist leadership to shun their differences and fight unitedly for seceding J&K from Union of India," the investigation has revealed.

Similarly, similar charges have been made against Advocate Nazir Ronga.

"Nazir Ronga openly expressed sympathies towards the terrorists and defended individuals accused of terror actions. During 2008 Shri Amarnath Shrine Board land transfer row, Ronga played an active role in provoking people. He had also threatened Advocates for appearing before courts during the Hartal call given by illegal bar association," the Investigation has revealed.

### 300 Militants

various launch pads across the border.

About security situation post article 370 abrogation, the GoC-in-C said that the security scenario has witnessed a big change post August 5, 2019. He said peace and development has gained speed and civil administration is occupying the space.

He said that militants operating in J&K are facing shortage of weapons and the neighbouring country is sending consignments of pistols, grenades, and drugs. "Small weapons are being used to target non-J&K residents who come here to earn their living. Locals, security forces and police have strongly condemned such acts. Those involved in killing innocents will face action," the army officer said.

The army officer said that a huge quantity of drugs are being sent to this side and in June last year Heroine worth Rs 45 Crore besides weapons were seized in Baramulla. On the drone challenge, the northern army commander said that the army has started to counter drones with drones coming to drops weapons and drugs. About the local militant recruitment, Lt Gen Dwivedi said 35 per cent of the recruitment comprise youth below 20 years of age and the remaining 75 per cent include the youth between the age of 20 and 30 years. "It is time for parents to keep the watch on their children and ensure proper upbringing. These youth need to study and see the world outside. We have sent 1800 youth to various parts of India for studies," he said.

### Number of Active

less foreign militants are active as of now," DGP Singh told reporters on the sidelines of his visit to north Kashmir's Baramulla town. "Anti-militancy operations are going on and very soon remaining militants will be eliminated as well."

He said that at one point of time, north Kashmir was badly affected by the militancy and at present "this place is almost peaceful and there is less influence of militancy now."

About hybrid militancy, he said it has been a challenge as the handlers across the border had been luring the young boys, giving them weapons and targets. "We have largely succeeded in facing this challenge and this year so far, over 100 modules of hybrid militants were busted across J&K," the DGP said.

### Media Persons

threats to police, media men and even public representatives. "It is the media that has to take the call. Media men don't need to worry as we have already lodged a case against the blog and people running it. Strict action will be taken against those handling this blog," the DGP said, adding that "we are keenly watching the activities taking place on this blog."

He reviewed the security situation in north Kashmir and the need of upgrading the infrastructure of the police force.

### BSF Foils 2

side from IB and started moving towards the fence", Inspector General of BSF, Jammu Frontier, DK Boora, told reporters at the force headquarters here.

He said troops warned the intruder many times not to move forward, but he didn't pay any heed and kept aggressively moving towards the fence.

"On this, BSF troops fired and neutralised the intruder and thwarted the infiltration attempt", he said.

In the second incident, BSF troops observed suspicious movement along the IB in Indreshwar Nagar of Samba's Ramghar sector around 4.30 am.

"In this case, when the intruder tried to cross IB and come near the border fence, he was challenged. He raised his hands to surrender and was caught", he said.

Both incidents show that attempts to engineer infiltration from across the border are on, he said.

"They keep trying to see whether terrorists can be penetrated through into Indian territory by sending guides from across the border..But we will not allow any infiltration to take place", he said.

Boora further said that the BSF is determined to safeguard the borders and will defeat the designs of the enemy to commit terror activities in the country.

### HC Junks JKAS

resorted to false concocted allegations of sexual harassment against officers of ACB just to impede the investigations.

It was conveyed to the Court that no clean chit has been given to the lady KAS officer, neither her disproportionate assets have been enquired by any agency and her statement is false and misleading as there is a set procedure to investigate the assets as per JK vigilance manual.

In their status report ACB further conveyed that they had received about six different complaints against petitioner lady KAS officer and other officers/officials of RDD Block Singhpora with different allegations ranging from abuse of official position, embezzlement of the Government funds in MGNREGA, Swachh Bharat Mission, releasing payments without execution of works, taking bribe and commission for releasing payments under MGNREGA, diversion of Govt funds for intended purpose, working for some specific people, taking bribe through staff VLVs, GRS etc.

The complaints pertain to her postings in District Baramulla especially her posting as Assistant Director Food Baramulla, Block Development Officer Singhpora District Baramulla and her tenure as BDO Pattan Baramulla.

ACB conveyed to the Court that these complaints contain very serious allegations of corruption and criminal misconduct against the woman KAS officer.

The brief details of these complaints and action taken by ACB were submitted to court by ACB in its status report.

It was also conveyed by ACB that when the reports in rest of the complaints forwarded to District Vigilance Officer for enquiry were awaited from DVO/Director Rural Development Kashmir, and other reports were being examined for taking further course of action, a fresh credible information was received by the ACB on 30-05-2022 from a primer intelligence agency against KAS officer, again with serious and multiple allegations of abuse of official position, indulging in corruption/bribery, allegations of misappropriation of Govt funds in the garb of execution of developmental works, causing loss to state exchequer and accumulation of disproportionate assets.

There are allegations of malpractices against woman KAS officer, BDO Pattan and her activities have caused considerable loss to the exchequer. The said officer remained posted as Block Development Officer, Block Singhpora from 15 Mar. 2015 to 15 Oct. 2021 during her tenure she is alleged to have misappropriated government funds in the name of executing developmental works in her area of jurisdiction and this way earned huge sums of money. While being posted in the Block, she came in contact with one Mohammad Shafi Rather son of Mohammad Sultan, a resident of Vaniganm Payeen, Pattan who is working as a salesman in CAPD Department.

He is considered to be very close to the officer and his services were utilized by her in sale and purchase of land in the area. This way huge profits were made by the officer.

In its status report ACB submitted that there are Allegations of the huge Benami property in form of investments in plots, real estate and other business by the lady officer and her

conduit Mohd Shafi Rather which are being thoroughly probed and the lady has resorted to false allegations of sexual harassment to shield Mohd Shafi also who is involved in two FIRs already registered against him at Anti-corruption Bureau and Crime branch JK and a separate probe for possessing assets disproportionate to his legal source of income in Verification No. 06/2022.

It was further submitted that the procedure for conducting assets probe has been laid down in the J&K Vigilance Manual 2008 approved by Govt of the JK vide No. GAD/Vig/22-Adm/2008 dated 20-06-2008 and various circulars issued by ACB Hqrs from time to time and the law laid down by Supreme Court of India in various judgments delivered on DA probes conducted by various agencies CBI/ACB of different states is strictly being followed in the instant case and submissions of the lady officer are not only false but concocted and misleading to escape from investigations.

During the course of hearing Ld AAG Asifa Padroo strongly pleaded that the petitioner has no evidence of whatsoever she is alleging as she had never ever been called to ACB office nor any officer visited her or called her through any medium and allegations are totally false, baseless and made with intent to sensationalise the case and to evade the investigation process launched against her.

Meanwhile, during the hearing of the case the counsel for the petitioner failed to present any credible evidence in support of allegations levelled by his client petitioner lady KAS officer before the court.

On the very first hearing the court after listening to the arguments of both sides reserved its judgement on 30-09-2022 and finally pronounced its order on 17-11-2022.

In its concluding Para's of the order the court observed that "Section 482 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, preserves the inherent powers of the High Court to prevent an abuse of the process of any court or to secure the ends of justice.

The provision does not confer new powers. It only recognises and preserves powers which are inherent in the High Court.

The High Court, while forming an opinion whether a criminal proceeding or complaint or FIR should be quashed in exercise of its jurisdiction under Section 482 Cr. P.C., must evaluate whether the ends of justice would justify the exercise of the inherent power. While inherent power of the High Court has a wide ambit and plenitude, it has to be exercised to secure ends of justice or to prevent an abuse of the process of any court."

The court further observed that "The instant petition, when looked from all angles, requires and demands full dress trial and examination of facts by this Court as if it is in appeal and acting as an appellate court and to draw its own conclusion vis-à-vis impugned FIR, complaint and proceedings emanating therefrom."

"This is not the aim and objective of provisions of Section 482 Cr. P.C. more particularly when petition on hand does not unveil any ground much less cogent or material one, to indicate that the inherent powers are to be exercised to prevent abuse of process of law and to secure ends of justice."

"In that view of matter, impugned FIR does not call for any interference qua petitioner and as a consequence of which, petition on hand is liable to be dismissed."

And finally the Court observed that; "For the reasons discussed above, the instant petition is without any merit and is, accordingly, dismissed with connected CM(s). Interim direction, if any, shall stand vacated."

The judgement was pronounced by Justice Vinod Chatterji Koul and the case on behalf of Anti-Corruption Bureau was pleaded by senior Ld AAG Asifa Padroo.

With the High Court final judgement, Anti-corruption Bureau is free to conduct investigations into all 07 number of complaints received against woman KAS officer Sheeba Inayat including allegations of disproportionate assets/Benami assets with her conduit Mohd Shafi Rather and will accordingly take appropriate legal action as envisaged under law.

Anti corruption Bureau JK has already shared a detailed report before General Administration Department Govt of JK wherein it has been conveyed that there are many corruption related complaints against the woman KAS officer and in order to obstruct the probe into these allegations she filed a false and concocted case against the officers of Anti Corruption Bureau. KDC

### Two Militants

live rounds, RDX powder, nails & ball bearings, batteries 9 volt, detonators, IED mechanism circuit, remote control, loose wire and iron pipes etc have been recovered from their possession.

"The joint party also arrested their two important terror associates identified as Imran Majeed Mir @Jaffar Bhaie resident of Wangipora Sumbal and Suraya Rashid Wani alias Senty and Tabish a resident of Wahab Parray Mohalla, Hajin alongwith two hand grenades & other incriminating materials", police said.

"Preliminary investigation revealed that the busted militants' module was being handled by LeT terrorist commander @Samama @Babar from PaK. The module was directed to carry out substantial attacks on civilians and security forces to instill fear in the minds of the general public. They were also tasked to carry out a powerful IED blast at any crowded public place to cause maximum civilian casualties thereby averting a major tragedy. Local public has appreciated the timely arrest of the Pak handled militant module".

ADGP Kashmir congratulates joint forces for busting the militant module and averting a major tragedy. He also termed it as a big success in demolishing the militant infrastructure of North Kashmir.

### NIA Court Frames

Muhammad militants.

In a statement, the SIA said that it had on 22th August this year presented a charge sheet against four accused namely Inayat Sikender Padder son of Mohammad Sikender Padder resident of Bathipora Kulgam, Mohammad Hussain Dar alias Kifayat son of Abdul Hamid Dar resident of Gandwani H Pora Kulgam, Sabzar Ahmad Bhat son of Bashir Ahmad Bhat resident of Okay Kulgam and Shahid Bhaie of Jhelum City Punjab Pakistan before the Designated Competent Court of NIA at Srinagar in Case FIR No 05/2022 of P/S CI-SIA Kashmir Srinagar.

The statement further stated that on Monday, the Court framed the charges against three accused persons under sections 13, 17, 39 and 40 of ULAP Act including one entity based in Pakistan against whom proceedings under section 299 of Cr. PC were initiated. However, charges against one accused namely Sabzar Ahmad were framed u/s 13 ULAP Act only by the Hon'ble Court.

Case FIR No. 05/2022 under relevant sections of law was lodged at Police Station CIK (SIA) Kashmir following some credible inputs about the above named valley based accused persons in connivance with a Pakistani militant Shahid Bhaie of JeM trying to carry out militant acts with a purpose of causing disturbance to the peace and tranquillity in the UT of J&K with an ulterior motive of challenging the sovereignty and integrity of Union of India, they said.

Investigation was set into motion for the logical conclusion of the case for judicial determination. The investigation conducted has revealed that the Pakistani militant under a well-knit criminal conspiracy, hatched with the above militant associates had created and were continuously attempting to create new militant modules, comprising mostly youth, by a variety of methods including instigation, enticement and at times combined with implied coercion to act as logistics and militant agents with the intention to further militant and unlawful activities in J&K, reads the statement.

### J&K's Economy

challenges of climate change, high farm input cost, productivity, resilience against socio-economic factors, we are implementing policies that tackle the problems and create synergies between a range of concerns and with the multiple stakeholders, the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor further observed that J&K's economy is now growing quite strongly & Agri reform is the best cure for sustained growth. "Our steps are focused on enhancing productivity, competitiveness, removing disparities, diversification to higher value commodities, expansion of agro-processing and value chains", he added.

Noting that the relationship between administration and society is changing and people & government are devising a new mechanism to work together, the Lt Governor stressed that farmers and officials should work together and strengthen the collaboration in order to put agri-economy on a new trajectory of growth and better implementation of reforms.

Soil conservation is a global priority

now. For better management of agricultural production, investing deeply in soil health, prevention of biodiversity loss is necessary for sustainable growth, said the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor underscored that Individual Farmer incomes have grown solidly over the last two years and the pace of reform has quickened recently followed by recommendations of Apex Committee on holistic development of Agriculture & allied sectors.

Structural and attitudinal changes are reflecting in productivity performance, adaption of new technologies, expansion of public extension services and strengthening of infrastructure and operations, he added.

We have huge potential for processing, comparative advantage in several Agri-commodities and scope for mobilizing farmers through FPOs and SHGs to monetize produce, secure livelihood and standard of living for farmers and workers, said the Lt Governor.

Congratulating Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd (IFFCO) for developing Liquid Nano Urea aimed at reducing pollution and increasing crop production, the Lt Governor said Liquid Nano Urea is making a positive impact in J&K's agriculture sector.

IFFCO's initiatives like training on the use of Nano Urea, battery-operated sprayers & spray-drones and declaring villages -Akalpur in Jammu and Y.K Pora in Kashmir Valley- as IFFCO Nano Fertilizer Model Villages will surely complement the government's efforts in protecting and improving fertility of our agricultural fields, he added.

The Lt Governor observed that Dr Mangala Rai-led Apex Committee on Agriculture provides a futuristic roadmap for upliftment of the farming community and making agriculture sustainable and productive for the coming generations, especially for those involved in traditional and high-value crops.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor distributed incentives and awards to the progressive farmers. Exhibitions and stalls were installed for extending information on various agriculture schemes and benefits to farmers.

Sh Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture Production Department, in his address said that 140 PM Kisan Samridhhi Kendras will be established in phase-I in J&K in collaboration with IFFCO and fertilizer companies which will provide information, advisories and equipment required for farming, besides increasing interactions between agricultural scientists and farmers.

Prof JP Sharma, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu highlighted the steps taken and initiatives initiated for increasing farmers' income through increased production and reducing input cost.

### Man Accused of

him following a chase, the official added. (PTI)

### 4.2 Magnitude

Himalayan region was at a latitude of 36.27 degrees north and longitude of 76.26 degrees east at a depth of 10 km, it said.

### Baramulla Main Chowk

same was given by the government of Jammu and Kashmir.

Mohammad Maqsood Sheikh, father of the slain cop, said he was thankful to J&K police and was proud of his son who sacrificed his life.

"He made the nation proud by his supreme sacrifice. My son is not going to return back, but we are proud of him," he said.

### MoS Finance

different loan schemes, especially meant for lower strata of society so that the benefits are percolated to them," he said.

Stressing the need to increase the number of borrowers in the PM SVANIDHI scheme, he said the beneficiaries of the scheme be guided and gradually upgraded to avail higher ticket-size loans under the PM Mudra Yojana.

Karad reviewed the achievements of banks and financial institutions operating in Jammu and Kashmir under various initiatives of the Centre and state governments.While expressing satisfaction over the performance of banks in J&K, Karad stressed the need to further accelerate the growth, besides proactively improving their outreach to poor and marginalised sections of society.

The Union government is ready to support them in this endeavour, he said.The minister congratulated public and private sector banks for their commendable performance during the last two years that added to the economic growth of the country.



## With Disbanded Women's Commission, Women Victims Have Nowhere To Go



### Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** At a time when crimes against women have been showing an upward trend, the victims are unable to approach anywhere for the redressal of their grievances.

In Jammu and Kashmir there is no such platform for women at present.

After the abrogation of the special status of Jammu and Kashmir in 2019, the BJP-led Delhi government disbanded the Commission for Protection of Women and Child Rights along with six other Commissions.

In the opinion of a senior journalist: "There's nobody to listen to the J&K women, particularly women employees, whose rights are being brazenly violated & who are brought to the verge of suicide by government officers as there is no trace, no address of Women and Child Rights Commissions after the creation of Union Territory in October 2019."

"We can't go anywhere for the redressal of our complaints. There is no platform for us. Everything has stagnated in Kashmir after 2019," a social activist said.

The J&K State Commission for Protection of Women and Child Rights was created in April 1999 to investigate and examine matters relating to safeguards provided for women under the Indian Constitution and other laws.

Kashmir Valley has witnessed a surge in domestic violence cases over the years. The victims are unable to lodge complaints and get justice. The victims have nowhere to go to seek justice in the absence of any commission in Jammu and Kashmir.

Pertinently, Senior Supreme Court lawyer Vasundhara Pathak Masoodi, was the last chairperson of the J&K State Commission for Protection of Women and Child Rights before it ceased to exist. This Commission used to receive complaints from victims of domestic violence and sexual harassment. [KNT]

## Restore Statehood, Hold Early Assembly Elections: Bukhari

### Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Apni Party President Syed Mohammed Altaf Bukhari on Tuesday demanded restoration of Statehood to J&K and holding of early assembly elections to end the suffering of the people amid growing economic crises, unemployment and underdevelopment.

Addressing party leaders and workers following the inauguration of a newly constructed meeting hall at Apni Party Headquarter in Gandhi Nagar in Jammu, Altaf Bukhari said that the LG administration has completely failed to come up to the expectation of the people which has led to the suffering of the general masses in J&K.

"The electricity and water supply system has almost collapsed in Kashmir and parts of Jammu region with the onset of winter season. The Power Department has imposed 18 hours long power cuts in many areas and it has left people hopeless in absence of an elected Govt," he said.

He said that "The failure of the LG administration has put the people in a difficult situation. The issues like economic crises; unscheduled power cuts, improper

water supply, horticulture, agriculture; underdevelopment and unemployment are among the burning issues which are being faced by the people in J&K."

In this situation, he said that "The restoration of Statehood and holding of early assembly elections in J&K is a must. The delay in the holding of assembly elections will further add to the problems and it would not be suitable for J&K where people had hopes with the LG administration."

He said that in the last four years of LG rule, the underdevelopment and unemployment has increased many folds in all the regions and people desperately want statehood back and holding of assembly elections to end the growing feeling of alienation.

"A politically elected Govt is answerable to the people. Therefore, there must be an elected Govt in J&K to end the public suffering and address the issues accordingly. The people are passing through a difficult phase amid growing economic crises, unemployment, and underdevelopment," he said while highlighting the policy and agenda of Apni Party for equitable development and employment

## Admin Directs Crackdown On Illegal Brick Kilns Of Budgam

Calls them threat to environ, public health; seeks action from SDMs

### Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** The District Magistrate, Budgam on Tuesday directed all the Sub-Divisional Magistrates to act against the illegal establishment, construction and operation of brick kilns in their respective jurisdictions.

An order according to Kashmir News Observer reads that the Jammu and Kashmir Brick Kiln (Regulation), Act. 2010 and the Jammu and Kashmir Brick Kiln (Regulation) (Amendment), Act, 2016, envisage a proper procedure for establishing and operating the brick kilns.

The complaints are being received every now and then regarding the illegal establishment and operation of brick kilns in the jurisdiction of district Budgam. It added that these illegal brick kilns are a threat to the environment, health and



flora and fauna of the area.

"Now, therefore, in view of the above, all Sub-Divisional Magistrates of District Budgam, Assistant Commissioner (Revenue), Budgam and all Tehsildars of District Budgam are hereby authorized to take necessary action as per the norms in vogue including the aforementioned Acts against the il-

legal establishment/construction/operation of brick kilns in their respective jurisdictions. Further, it is impressed upon all stake-holders to strictly abide by the provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir Brick Kiln (Regulation), Act. 2010. Any violation thereof shall be dealt with strictly under law," the order reads.

## Mercury Falls To Sub-zero Level In Kashmir, Ladakh Under Deep Freeze



Abid Bhat/KO

### Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** Night temperature dropped on Tuesday with all places but Srinagar and Kokernag in Kashmir Valley recording sub zero temperature. While Ladakh remained under deep freeze, all places but Banihal in Jammu division witnessed below normal temperature, a meteorological department official said.

He said Srinagar recorded a low of 0.2°C against 3.7°C on the previous night. The temperature was 0.1°C above normal for the summer capital during this time of the year, he said.

Qazigund recorded a low of minus 1.2°C against 3.0°C on the previous night. The temperature was 1.8°C below nor-

mal for the gateway town of Kashmir, he said.

In Pahalgam, the mercury settled at minus 4.2°C against minus 3.5°C on the previous night and it was 1.8°C below normal for the south Kashmir resort, he said.

Kokernag recorded a low of 0.6°C against 3.4°C on the previous night and it was normal for the place, he said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 3.5°C against minus 3.4°C on the previous night, the official told GNS. It was 1.4°C below normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, the official said.

In Kupwara town, the mercury settled at minus 1.8°C against minus 0.3°C on the previous night, the official said. It

was 1.3°C below normal for the north Kashmir place, he said.

Jammu recorded a low of 9.1°C against 8.9°C on the previous night. It was 2.4°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said. Banihal recorded a low of 4.7°C (2.4°C above normal), Batote 4.0°C (0.8°C below normal), Katra 9.0°C (0.7°C below normal) and Bhadarwah 2.0°C (0.1°C below normal).

In Ladakh, Kargil recorded a low of minus 7.6°C, Leh minus 9.8°C and mercury in Drass, the world's second coldest place after Siberia, settled at minus 13.3°C, the official said.

The Met department has forecast mainly dry weather for next 24 in J&K and said that no large change was expected by the end of this month. (GNS)

## Death Rate Due to LSD 4% In J&K: Govt

Animal Husbandry Department enforcing vaccination, surveillance of animals: Dulloo

### Agencies

**JAMMU:** Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Department, Atal Dulloo, chaired a meeting held to review status of Lumpy Skin Disease in the Union Territory besides assessing mitigation measures being implemented to contain the malady at the civil secretariat.

It was apprised in the meeting that more than 96 percent eligible cattle has been vaccinated against the LSD and the vaccination data is also being updated online. Besides, more than 72 thousand cattle, around 2.3 percent of total population, have been affected in J&K. Encouragingly, the recovery rate of 90 percent and average fatality rate of around 4 percent (for Jammu and Kashmir divisions collectively) has been reported by the experts, it was highlighted.

ACS underlined the need to lower the mortality rate in the

Kashmir division, along with regular uploading of respective data from all districts. He pressed for strict surveillance and also enquired about the availability of methylene blue, which is also an effective drug against the disease.

Experts from SKUAST advised that the farmers should continue giving recommended treatment to the infected animals for at least 10 days, post recovery, to prevent death caused due to thromboembolism, i.e. blood clotting.

Technical Officer, Dr Arif, assured that the department is maintaining surveillance of all animals being imported into J&K and that sufficient stock of vaccines is available.

The meeting was attended by Secretary Agriculture, Director, Animal Husbandry Jammu/Kashmir, Chief Animal Husbandry Officers and other senior officers from all districts.

## At Rozgar Mela MoS Finance Distributes Letters Of Appointment

### Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today launched the mega recruitment drive, the 'Rozgar Mela' via video conferencing. During this 2nd tranche of drive, around 71000 appointment letters (OOAs) including 7045 candidates of BSF were distributed across 45 locations all over India, including Ftr HQ BSF & STC BSF, Kashmir.

Union Minister of State for Finance, Dr. Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad presided over the function organized at BSF Campus Humhama. He was welcomed and received by Raja Babu Singh, Inspector General, BSF Kashmir followed by guard of honour and wreath laying ceremony at Martyrs Memorial.

During the programme, the Prime Minister launched Mission Karmayogi Prarambh Module with a short film. This module is an online orientation course for all new appointees in various Government departments. It will include code of conduct for Government servants, workplace ethics & integrity, human resource policies and other benefits and allowances that will help them to get acclimatized to the policies and transition smoothly into the new roles. They will also get an opportunity to explore other courses on igotkarmayogi.gov.in platform to enhance their knowledge, skills and competencies.

The Rozgar Mela is a step towards fulfilment of the com-

mitment of the Prime Minister to accord highest priority to employment generation. The Rozgar Mela is expected to act as a catalyst in further employment generation and provide meaningful opportunities to the youth for their empowerment and participation in nation building.

After PM's online address, the selected candidates from different parts of Kashmir Valley who will infuse the flow of young blood in forces, and were at the venue -Hangul Auditorium, Ftr HQ BSF Kashmir, were given appointment letters by MoS Finance, Dr. Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad.

During his speech the Prime Minister congratulated these appointees on this occasion. All the new appointees participated in the function, at 45 chosen locations/centers all across the country or through a link provided to them to connect virtually. Functions were held in 45 locations all over India and were presided over by senior dignitaries who handed over appointment letters to some of the new recruits at these centres.

More than 700 candidates have been appointed in the Kashmir region by the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) including BSF, CISF and SSB. Out of these, 110 appointees were present in person to receive the appointment letters from Dr Karad. The 'Rozgar Mela' culminated with the planting of trees by the Minister signifying the divine duty towards Mother Nature.

## Kashmir And Bollywood - A Never Ending Love Story

### IANs

**SRINAGAR:** The love story between Kashmir and Bollywood began way back in 1949 when Raj Kapoor shot parts of his film 'Barsaat' in the Valley, taking its beauty to a wider audience. Ever since, the Kashmir Valley became the focus area of many film producers.

In the 60s and 70s, several Bollywood films, including 'Kashmir Ki Kali' (1964), 'Jab Jab Phool Khile' (1965) and 'Bobby' (1973), among many others, were shot in Kashmir. The songs of these films remained favourites for generations to come.

Not only this, there are many places in Kashmir which are known by movie names or characters, like the landmark 'Bobby Hut' in Gulmarg, where the song of the super hit movie 'Bobby' -- 'Hum tum ek karmay main...' -- was filmed, or the 'Betab Valley' in Pahalgam where the Sunny Deol-Amrita Singh starrer 'Betaab' was shot.

This beautiful relationship between Kashmir and Bollywood lasted until Vidhu Vinod Chopra's 'Khamosh' in 1985, after which the unfortunate circum-



stances that ensued due to terrorism in the region brought a temporary end to this love story.

Bollywood made a comeback to the Valley post 2000, when films like 'Mission Kashmir' and 'Haider' were shot in Kashmir.

This relationship is also unique because this time the subject of these films was not the beauty of the Valley, but Kashmir itself.

During the last few

years, many popular Bollywood films and web series have been shot in Kashmir, while many local actors also rose to prominence. Notable among them are Mir Sarwar, who acted in films like "Qaisari" and "Bajranghi Bhaijaan", and Zaira Wasim, who acted in Aamir Khan's "Dangal" and "Secret Superstar", among others.

Film screening also got a boost in the region

this year with Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurating cinema halls in Srinagar, Shopian and Pulwama districts. Also, a new film policy has been implemented in Kashmir, besides the announcement by Sinha about opening cinema halls in every district of the UT.

With all these, the aspirations of local filmmakers and actors have also got a boost.



Government of Jammu & Kashmir

### OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL DIVISION BARAMULLA

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### CORRIGENDUM (CANCELLATION OF TENDER)

**Subject: - CANCELLATION OF e-NIT No. 157 of 2022-23**

Reference: -This office e- NIT Nos. MDB/TS/e-Tender /157 Dated: 18-10-2022 (2022\_PWDJK\_192765\_1)

Owing to Administrative reasons / Technical grounds, above referred e-NIT floated in respect of "Repairs Job to Snow Clearance Machine No: 28 pertaining to Snow Clearance Control Room Sumbal of Field Sub Division Baramulla" is cancelled ab initio.

No: - MDB/TS/e-tendering/4011-13  
Dated:- 22-11-2022  
DIPK-13924-22

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Mechanical Division  
Baramulla

## SRINAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

### PUBLIC NOTICE AGAINST DEFACEMENT .

Defacement by way of sticking bills, posters, unauthorized advertisements & graffiti on walls, buildings, flyovers, trees, bus bays public monuments or structures and walls facing roads and public places in Srinagar city is an offence under section 302 (a) Vii read with section 384 of Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Corporation Act 2000.

The violators shall be liable for prosecution and a fine which may extent to Rupees five lakhs.

In case of continuing offence/contravention, the offender shall be liable for a recurring fine for every day after the first conviction during which he has persisted in the failure of contravention.

It is therefore, impressed upon the general Public including companies, commercial establishments, educational institutions etc to refrain from such acts. Violation shall lead action and prosecuted under section 384,385,386 & 387. Violators shall be taken under the aforesaid provisions of Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Corporation Act, 2000.

No. SMC/Rev/2060-95.  
Dated: 22/11/2022.  
DIPK-NB-5147-22

Sd/-  
Joint Commissioner (S)  
Srinagar Municipal Corporation



## J&K Face Uttarakhand In Crucial Vijay Hazare Match Today

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** J&K senior men's cricket team will take on Uttarakhand on Wednesday at Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai, in a Vijay Hazare Trophy match that could decide their future in the competition.

After five rounds of matches, J&K sit second in the Elite Group D table with 16 points. Punjab have won all their matches to top the group with 20 points. Breathing down J&K's neck are Ranji champions, Madhya Pradesh, who have taken 12 points from

their five matches. And have a better Net Run Rate than J&K. With seven teams in Elite Group D, each team plays six matches.

This leaves J&K in a must-win fixture against a decent side like Uttarakhand, as only the top two teams will progress to the next round of the one-day tournament.

If J&K win, they will seal their spot in the pre-quarterfinals. A loss will give MP the golden opportunity to progress by beating Baroda. MP and Baroda face off today at 9:00 am, playing 30 minutes before J&K take on Uttarakhand.

## J&K Softball U-14 Teams Leave For Nationals



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Jammu & Kashmir Softball Under-14 Boys & Girls teams left for Softball National Championship from Jammu on Tuesday.

Waseem Raja Khan, General Secretary J&K Softball Association, flagged off the teams for the 35th Sub-Junior National Softball championship to be held at Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh from 25th to 29th November, 2022.

Speaking during the flagging off ceremony, he highlighted the role of JKSC and said that this Olympic sport of Softball is included in SRO earlier called SRO-376 which is now presently called SO-12 (Appointment of Outstanding Sports Persons) and produced many Na-

tional Medallist and Internationalist in J&K since from 2000.

The General Secretary added that 38 member team, which includes 16 Boys, 16 Girls, 4 Coaches and 2 Managers, will perform well and bring laurels for J&K. He was accompanied by Padam Dev Singh Joint Secretary JKSA, Harvinder Singh Softball NIS Coach and Sudhir Singh, Member Disciplinary Committee of the Association.

The 35th Sub-Junior National championship is being organized by Andhra Pradesh Softball Association under the aegis of Softball Association of India. The J&K UT teams will participate in Nationals under the banner of J&K Softball Association and supported by J&K Sports Council.

## World Cup Stunner: Saudi Arabia Beats Messi's Argentina 2-1



Agencies

**LUSAIL:** Lionel Messi stood with his hands on his hips near the center circle, looking stone-faced as Saudi Arabia's jubilant players ran in all directions around him after pulling off one of the biggest World Cup upsets ever against Argentina.

The South American champions and one of the tournament favourites slumped to a 2-1 loss Tuesday against the second lowest-ranked team at the World Cup in a deflating start to Messi's quest to win the one major title that has eluded him.

Asked how he felt after a painful start to his record fifth World Cup for Argentina, Messi said: "The truth? Dead. It's a very hard blow because we did not expect to start in this way."

Saudi Arabia's comeback joins the list of other major World Cup upsets: Cameroon's 1-0 win over an Argentina team led by Diego Maradona in the opening game of the 1990

World Cup; Senegal's 1-0 victory over defending champion France 1-0 in the 2002 tournament opener; or the United States beating England by the same score in 1950.

The match that started with Messi giving Argentina the lead, calmly converting a penalty in the 10th minute for his 92nd international goal.

However, goals by Saleh Alshehri and Salem Aldawsari in a five-minute span early in the second half gave the Saudis a landmark result in the first World Cup staged in the Middle East. Their previous biggest win was 1-0 over Belgium at the 1994 World Cup, secured by a storied individual goal by Saeed Al-Owairan.

"We are facing two finals now," said Argentina striker Lautaro Martinez, looking ahead of remaining group matches against Mexico and Poland. "We screwed it up in the second half."

The unlikely victory by a team made up entirely of Sau-

di-based players was sealed by a somersault by Aldawsari, who brought down a high ball just inside the penalty area, spun his way past Nahuel Molina with the help of a ricochet, dribbled past Leandro Paredes and drove a powerful shot to the far corner in the 53rd.

A stunned Messi watched as Saudi Arabia's green-clad fans, who had come over the Qatari border in their thousands, celebrated in disbelief in the stands. Saudi Arabia's substitutes swarmed onto the field to congratulate Aldawsari, who sank to his knees after his post-goal acrobatics.

Saudi goalkeeper Mohammed Alowais made two diving saves during 14 minutes of stoppage time to preserve a win that shakes up the group.

"This group always stood out for its evenness, its strength, and it is time to be more united than ever," Messi said. "We have to go back to our training base and try to win the next game."

I-LEAGUE 2022-23

## Real Kashmir Held To A Goalless Draw At Home Turf

Press Trust Of India

**SRINAGAR:** The goalkeepers stole the show with some superb display as Real Kashmir FC and Gokulam Kerala FC played out a goalless draw in their I-League match here on Tuesday.

Both the teams had their chances but the goalkeepers produced some excellent saves to ensure that neither team found the back of the net. Both teams came into the encounter on the back of two wins each and zero goals conceded as well. With this result, they maintain their respective unbeaten starts and also make it three clean sheets in a row.

The first half began with both teams going for the attack right from the get-go. Gokulam's Arjun Jayaraj charged into the penalty area with the ball in the sixth minute but was closed down before he could shoot.

Snow Leopards had a chance when defender Jerry Pulamte fired in a shot through his marker's legs but it was no trouble for Shibinraj in goal. In the same attack, Babadzhanov tried his luck with a powerful effort from long range once more, but his effort was wide of the mark.

The best chance of the half came in the 44th minute through Real Kashmir's Nuhu Seidu but the Ghanaian's free-kick from distance rattled the post, and the Gokulam defence was quick to clear in time. At the end of the first half, the scoreline remained goalless.

After the breather, the visitors had an opportunity in the 50th minute but Farshad Noor's shot from outside the penalty area could not beat the defensive wall.

In the 63rd minute, Wadudu Yakubu evaded a trio of Gokulam defenders and danced his way into a dangerous position, before



Pic: Abid Bhat/KO

A couple of minutes later, Real Kashmir had their first shy at goal through Nozim Babadzhanov, whose shot from distance was narrowly off target.

The league's double defending champions started to have the better of the exchanges and were able to counter the aerial threat posed by the hosts. In the 14th minute, Sreekuttan VS had his shot saved sharply by Subhashish Row Chowdhury in goal. Seven minutes later, Jayaraj put Auguste Somlaga through on goal with a defence-splitting pass but the forward was adjudged to be narrowly offside.

As the half drew to a close, the

laying the ball off to Samuel Kynshi inside the box. However, the forward's shot with the outside of his boot was wide of the far post.

Sreekuttan had a couple of chances as the match approached the final whistle but veteran goalkeeper Subhashish made comfortable saves.

Gokulam keeper Shibinraj too had to be alert to tip over a looping header from a long throw-in by Lamine Moro in the 80th minute. From the resulting corner kick, Jestin George rose highest and fired in a powerful header that was saved in spectacular fashion by Shibinraj once again.

# Bun Maska



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