

## Protests Rock SKUAST Campus Over 'Molestation'

### Police Files Case, Accused Prof Suspended Pending Inquiry



Zaid Bin Shabir

**Srinagar:** Massive protests broke out at the Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST), Wadura campus in North Kashmir's Sopore on Friday evening after a student charged her professor of sexual harassment.

A large group of students held a strong demonstration against the alleged harassment of a fellow student, raised slogans against the varsity administration and demanded justice. The situation became so tense that the District Commissioner Baramulla, Dr. Sehrish Asgar had to personally intervene in the matter.

Taking to micro-blogging site Twitter, Dr. Sehrish Asgar confirmed that police have registered

an FIR in the matter and the accused professor has been suspended pending inquiry.

As per an official from SKUAST, the girl student (name withheld) had filed a complaint on Thursday against a professor, Mushtaq Ahmed Dar, of molesting her. "An FIR in the matter has also been lodged in Police Station Bomai," the official said.

Meanwhile, as per an order issued by Registrar SKUAST, T.H.Masoodi, the professor has been suspended. "Pending enquiry into the matter of alleged misconduct, Dr. Mushtaq Ahmed Dar, Prof. Et Head, Division of Agri. Extension and Communication, Faculty of Agriculture, Wadura is hereby placed under suspension with immediate effect. He shall remain | [More on PIO](#)

## Dying Hygam Wetland Gets Fresh Lease Of Life

Pillars And Panels, Peripheral Bunds; Boat Ways Being Constructed To Restore Pristine Glory Of Water Body

Augib Javeed

**Baramulla:** Neglected for decades due to official apathy, the Hygam wetland in this north Kashmir district has got a fresh lease of life due to a slew of measures taken by the Union Territory administration, including installation of boundary pillars and panels, construction of peripheral



bunds, plugging of breaches and creation of boat ways.

Spread over 801.82 hectares, the Hygam wetland in Sopore

was added to the list of Ramsar sites in August this year. It's one of the abodes for lakhs of migratory birds who arrive in the Valley in winters from their breeding grounds in Siberia, North-China, Philippines and North Europe.

Wildlife Warden, Wetlands Division, Kashmir in a report has said that the Department has formulated a comprehensive integrated Management

Action Plan (2022-27) for (8) Wetland Conservation Reserves including Hygam.

This Plan, according to the report, has been formulated strictly in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change.

"The Plan is approved by the competent authority and is addressing | [More on PIO](#)

## Night Temperature Records Slight Rise In Kashmir

Observer News Service

**Srinagar:** Amid the prevailing dry weather conditions, mercury witnessed a slight rise in Kashmir on Friday, even as most places in the Valley continued to record sub-zero temperature.

A meteorological department official said that Srinagar recorded a low of minus 0.2°C against minus 2.1°C on the previous night. The temperature was around 1.0°C above normal during this time of the year for the capital city, he said. On Sunday last, Srinagar saw minus 2.2°C which was the coldest night so far this season.

Qazigund recorded a low of 0.5°C against minus 2.0°C on the previous night, while in Pahalgam, the mercury settled at minus 1.4°C against minus 3.8°C on the previous



night and it was 2.0°C above normal for the south Kashmir resort, he said.

Kokernag recorded a low of 1.2°C against 0.2°C on the previous night and it was 1.7°C above normal for the place, he said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 0.8°C against minus 1.0°C on the previous night,

the official said. It was 2.3°C above normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, the official said.

In Kupwara town, the mercury settled at minus 0.4°C against minus 2.6°C on the previous night, the official said. It was | [More on PIO](#)

## Board Fumes As Pvt Schools Override Govt Textbooks

'This Brings Non-Uniformity In Curriculum Taught In Schools'

Agencies

**Srinagar:** In Jammu and Kashmir, many private schools 'override' the government prescribed textbooks—thus bringing a non-uniformity in the curriculum being taught in the schools.

According to a local news agency KNO, the Joint Secretary, Publication and Procurement for JKBOSE has said, "It has been observed that many private schools do not prescribe the textbooks published by JKBOSE especially for Elementary and Middle classes."

"Instead these Private Schools prescribe textbooks from some private publishers which are sold to the students at exorbitant

rates," the officer said.

In an official communiqué, Secretary further said, "The practice of prescribing textbooks from different private publishers by different private schools results in non-uniformity in the curriculum being taught in schools across the Jammu and Kashmir which is a highly undesirable situation."

The officer further said that in recent past some controversial content was observed in some textbooks of private publishers prescribed by various Private Schools, which has been viewed seriously by the government.

"As such, it is enjoined upon all the private schools to ensure that in the first phase the textbooks published by JKBOSE are implemented and prescribed by all the private schools across Jammu and Kashmir for classes 6th to 8th from the ensuing academic session, failing which necessary action | [More on PIO](#)



وزارت برائے زراعت و بہبودی کسان  
حکومت ہند

75  
Azadi Ka  
Amrit Mahotsav

”پردہان منتری فصل بیمہ یوجنا موسم کی بے یقینی ہونے سے جڑے خطروں کو کم کر کے محنت کش کسان بھائی بہنوں کے معاشی فائدوں کو تحفظ فراہم کرنے میں لگاتار اہم کردار نبھا رہا ہے۔ کسانوں کے مفاد میں جاری بیمہ یوجنا کا فائدہ آج کروڑوں کسان اٹھا رہے ہیں۔“

— نریندر مودی، وزیر اعظم



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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](mailto:floodspillchannelnarbal@gmail.com)

### Notice inviting e-Tender

e- NIT No. 50 of 2022-23 Dated:01/12/2022

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. (Rs)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	M.H
01	Renovation of existing Divisional Office Building including construction of rest room/Pantry and side extension Under "Renovation / Upgradation of Existing Infrastructure at Narbal"	118.27 Lacs	236540/-	5000/-	05Months	AAY	4711 UT Capex

Position of AAA =Accorded Vide No. SE/HYD/Bud/DB/AAA/116 of 2022-23 Dated: 25/10/2022, Position of TS = Sanctioned, Position of funds: (Budgetary provision 2022-23= .30.00 lacs) 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	01-12-2022
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	01-12-2022 from 1800 Hrs
3.	Bid submission Start Date	01-12-2022 from 1800 Hrs
4.	Bid Submission End Date	16-12-2022 upto 1600 Hrs
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids	17-12-2022 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 uploading 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 out rightly. 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. Extension of time shall be also admissible in the event of temporary suspension of work.

25. The tender/bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in NIT.

26. All other terms and conditions same as laid down in the PWD Form 25Double shall also remain in force.

No. FSCDN/CS/8591-8614

DIPK-14476/22 Dated: 02/12/2022.

Sd/-

Er. Zaffar Mustafa Khan

Executive Engineer

Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal.

## Ayush Admissions Central Counseling Committee (AACCC) Ministry Of Ayush Government of India

AACCC-UG/PG Counselling Notice

FOR

All India Quota (AIQ) Seats under UG (BAMS/BSMS/BUMS/BHMS) Courses and PG (MD/MS) Courses of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani & Homoeopathy (ASU & H)

All the eligible candidates who qualified MEET (UG)-2022/AIAPGET-2022 examination and aspiring for admission in Under Graduate (BAMS/BSMS/BUMS/BHMS) courses and Post Graduate (MD/MS) courses are hereby informed that the AACCC UG/PG Counselling 2022 for allotment of AIQ- UG/PG seats of ASU&H-UG/PG courses to qualified eligible candidates will be held as per schedule which will be uploaded on AACCC website ([www.aaccc.uov.in](http://www.aaccc.uov.in)).

AACCC, M/o Ayush shall conduct counselling for admission in AIQ seats of ASU&H-UG/PG courses under Government/Government Aided College/Institute, National Institutes, Central Universities and Deemed Universities.

The counselling for admission to AIQ seats of UG & PG courses of Private Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani & Homoeopathy Institutes shall be conducted by the respective counseling authority of State/UT Government.

for participation in AACCC UG/PG Counseling 2022, the candidates are required to register themselves at official website of AACCC ([www.aaccc.gov.in](http://www.aaccc.gov.in)).

Kindly note that Non-Refundable registration fees and Refundable Security Deposit have to be paid by the candidates at the time of registration as per their category.

For allotment of AIQ-UG&PG seats of ASU&H-UG/PG courses under Government/Government aided Institutes/Colleges, National Institutes, Central Universities, AACCC, M/o Ayush will conduct four rounds of counselling through online mode: i.e. Round I, Round 2, Round 3 /Mop-Up Round and Stray Vacancy Round.

for admission in 100% seats of all Deemed Universities both Government Private, the AACCC.

M/o Ayush will conduct three (3) rounds of counselling through online mode: i.e. Round 1, Round 2, Round 3 /Mop-Up Round. Further the seats that remain vacant after 3rd /Mop-Up Round of AACCC-UG/PG counseling will be reverted to the respective Deemed Universities to conduct Stray Vacancy Round at their own level for which AACCC, M/o Ayush will forward the list of eligible candidates. (only NEET (UG)-2022/ AIAPGET-2022 qualified and eligible candidate who registered in the AACCC-UG/PG portal are eligible for admission in UG/PG courses)

The details regarding counselling schedule/scheme & FAQs/information bulletin and eligibility criterion for admission in UG (BAMS/BSMS/BUMS/BHMS) courses and PG (MD/MS) courses for the Academic Year 2022-23 are available at [www.aaccc.gov.in](http://www.aaccc.gov.in) Kindly stay in touch with the website for latest updates.

CBC - 17219/12/0007/2223

# 'Early Life Experiences Could Have A Lasting Impact On Genes'

Press Trust Of India

Early life experiences can impact the activity of our genes much later on and even affect longevity, finds a new study in fruit flies.

According to the study, led by University College London (UCL), UK, the scientists report that gene expression 'memory' can persist across the lifespan, and may present a novel target for improving late-life health.

Gene expression refers to the conversion of the information encoded in a gene first into messenger RNA and then to a protein.

The scientists were building on their previous research in which they found that fruit flies fed a high-sugar diet early in life lived shorter lives, even after their diets were improved in adulthood. Here, the study said, they uncover the mechanism likely explaining the finding.

"Health in old age partially depends on what a person experienced in their youth or even in the womb. Here, we have identified one way in which this happens, as changes in gene expression in youth can form a 'memory' that impacts health more than half a lifetime later," said Dr. Nazif Alic, lead author of the study, UCL.

In their previous study, the re-



searchers found that a high-sugar diet inhibited a transcription factor called dFOXO, which is involved in glucose metabolism and is known from multiple studies to affect longevity, so they now sought to enact the opposite effect by directly increasing the activity of dFOXO, the study said.

Transcription factors are proteins that regulate transcription, or copying, of information from DNA into messenger RNA, which is the

first and key step in gene expression. Messenger RNA is a form of RNA that carries information from DNA in the nucleus to the cytoplasmic sites of protein synthesis in the cell.

For this study, the researchers activated dFOXO by increasing its levels in female fruit flies during the first three weeks of the fly's adulthood.

The scientists found that these early-life experiences caused

changes to chromatin - a mixture of DNA and proteins that can be seen as the 'packaging' of DNA - that persisted and resulted in genes being expressed differently late in life.

This counteracted some changes that would be expected as part of the normal ageing process. These changes would eventually improve health in late life and impact the fruit flies' lifespan for more than a month, which is equal to half a fruit fly lifetime, later, the study said.

The researchers say their findings could lead to ways to impact late-life health in people as well.

"What happens early on in an animal or person's life can affect what their genes do late in life, for better or for worse.

"It may be that a poor diet early in life, for example, could impact our metabolism later in life by tweaking how our genes are expressed, even after substantial dietary changes over the years - but fortunately, it may well be possible to reverse this," said Alic.

"Now that we know how gene expression memory can persist across the lifespan to affect gene activity, we may be able to develop ways to counteract these changes later in life to preserve health and enable people to stay healthy for longer," said Alic.



## ANNOUNCEMENT

Directorate of Extension, SKUAST-K announces the participation in Ministry of MSME, GoI sponsored one week Advanced -MDP Training Programme on "Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Training Programme on Food Safety, Quality Management and Marketing of Food Products with reference to HACCP, value addition and quality standard" w.e.f Dec. 19-24, 2022. The programme is designed for building competence in among participants including Entrepreneurs, Industry Representatives, Graduates, Banking officials and MSME officers. Interested candidates can submit resume online as per format available at "[www.skuastkashmir.ac.in](http://www.skuastkashmir.ac.in)" by or before 10th Dec. 2022. The intake capacity for the training is 25 participants, only.

Training Venue: SKUAST-K, Shalimar Campus

For any query contact: 7298446815

-sd-

Director Extension

## محافظ علی آخون مالک حقیقی سے جا ملے



یہ خبر انتہائی دکھ کیساتھ دی جاتی ہے ہمارے لخت جگر محافظ علی آخون ولد محمد الطاف آخون مختصر علالت کے بعد 1 دسمبر 2022 کی شام یعنی جمعرات کو اس دار فانی سے کوچ کر کے مالک حقیقی سے جا ملے۔ اللہ تعالیٰ اس معصوم کو روٹ کر وٹ جنت الفردوس عطا کرے۔

مرحوم کا رسم چارم 5 دسمبر 2022 یعنی سوموار کو گھر واقع چک سدر بل، نزدیکی NIT حضرت بل سرینگر میں انجام دیا جائیگا۔

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CBC - 48129/12/0065/2223

## THE JAMMU & KASHMIR BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION

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PUBLIC NOTICE

I have passed/appeared 10th under Roll No. 640165 Year: Session Annual year 1986 through The Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education. The error committed by the School/Parent/Board against my name as Cowser Parveen instead of Kousar Parveen. Now I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education, New Campus Bemina, Srinagar. If any person has any objection in this regard may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Certificates-KD within seven days from the date of publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period, no objection will be entertained. This is published for the information of the general public. The correct particulars be recorded as under:  
**Name: Kousar Parveen**  
**Father's Name: Zaffer Ali Khan**  
**Mother's Name: Khilafat Khanam**  
**Date of Birth: 27/09/1969**  
**Residence: Trikanjan Boniyar**  
**Distt Baramulla**



BSKO

## University of Bangalore

Attention Please The candidate whose photograph is above reports that he has lost his 4th semester marks card (B. Tech) having the description as 4th Semester B-Tech in electrical & electronics Engg's from Reva University Bangalore having registration No R18EE812 Session 2019  
Name: Peerzada Mudeeb Mukhtar  
S/o Mukhtar Ahmad Masoodi  
Date of birth : 08/08/1996  
Residence: Khore Sherabad Pattan.  
Now the candidate has applied for new marks card before the case will be proceeded under rules anybody having any objection may approach the office of undersigned within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Registrar Reva University

BMG

Bangalore

## آخون خاندان کو صدمہ

یہ خبر انتہائی دکھ کے ساتھ دی جاتی ہے کہ زید محمد اکبر آخون ولد مرحوم محمد جعفر آخون ساکنہ تحصیل جہلم مورخہ 2 دسمبر 2022ء بروز جمعہ صبح پانچ بجے اس دار فانی سے انتقال کر گئی۔ مرحومہ ایک نیک سیرت اور ملنسار خاتون تھیں اللہ تعالیٰ مرحومہ کو جنت الفردوس عطا کریں اور غزوة خاندان کو یہ عظیم صدمہ برداشت کرنے کی توفیق عطا فرمائیں۔ آمین

مرحومہ کی فاتحہ خوانی مورخہ 5 دسمبر 2022ء بروز سوموار صبح آٹھ بجے ان کے آبائی مقبرہ پچھلہ درہ بل حضرت بل متصل این۔ آئی۔ بی سرینگر میں انجام دی جائے گی بعد ازاں مرحومہ کے گھر میں دن بھر عزیزی مجلس جاری رہے گی۔

صاحب تعزیت۔ محمد اکبر آخون ولد مرحوم محمد جعفر آخون

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رابطہ: 7006857498





## No Takers For Art Of Hand Dyeing In City

Artisans say new generation refuse to take up the trade

### Agencies

Srinagar: Traditional hand dyeing which has a history of 600 years is dying a slow death in Kashmir as none is interested to take up the art.

Ashiq Hussian Posh (52), an artist from Naid Kadal Rangar Masjid Srinagar said that his family has been associated with the art of dyeing for the last 100 years. He said they were dyeing silk and woollen yarn.

"We are earning our livelihood very well through this trade. But new generation, including my children, are not

ready to take up this as their profession," he said.

According to Posh, his son who completed masters has refused to follow his father.

Tariq Ahmad Posh (40) another dyeing artist said that after finishing graduation, he got a job opportunity in a bank but he refused to join and started learning dyeing art. "I am earning my livelihood decently," he said.

Both Ashiq and Tariq said that if the new generation will learn the art, they can earn a livelihood there too. "But none is interested and we are worried it may die its own death," he added—(KNO)

## SKUAST To Host Training Programme On Food Safety

### Observer News Service

Srinagar: Directorate of Extension, SKUAST-K has announced the participation in Ministry of MSME, Govt sponsored one week Advanced -MDP Training Programme on "Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Training Programme on Food Safety, Quality Management and Marketing of Food Products with reference to HACCP value addition and quality standard,"

The programme will be

held from 19 Dec to 24th December 2022. The programme is designed for building competence among participants including Entrepreneurs, Industry Representatives, Graduates, Banking officials and MSME officers.

Interested candidates have been asked to submit resumes online as per format available at "www.skuast-kashmir.ac.in" by or before 10th Dec. 2022. The intake capacity for the training is 25 participants.

## After Uproar, Authorities Issue Age Certificates Zone Wise

### Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: After a video of elderly people waiting to get age certificates outside District Medical Board, Jawahar Nagar went viral on social media, authorities later announced the age certificates will be issued at multiple locations in the city.

Pertinently, elderly people, widows and specially abled people who receive government assistance were being issued age certificates at Jawahar Nagar Office of District Medical Board.

Elderly, people had voiced resentment over the move saying that age certificates should be issued at other locations as well.

Later, the Chief Medical Officer Srinagar informed

that age certificates which were earlier issued by District Medical Board, Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar shall be issued zone wise.

"People from Zone Khanyar can obtain the given certificate from CHC Gousia, NTPHC Rainawari and for Zone Zadibal the same can be obtained from NTPHC Lal Bazar, PHC Zadibal" CMO in a statement said.

"PHC S. R. Gunj, NTPHC Narwara have been designated for people from Zone S. R. Gunj and further Trauma Centre Lawaypora, PHE Laloo, NTPHC Jawahar Nagar, PHC Lasjan have been nominated for Zone Batmaloo. People in need of age certificates are advised to visit the nearest centres". the statement added.

## SMC Has Installed Over 70K Street Lights Across City

### Agencies

Srinagar: The people from several areas here have complained of the defunct street lights in their locality while the corporation has asked people to contact the provided mobile phone number in case of any complaint about the non-operational street lights.

SMC has installed over 70 thousand street lights across 74 wards of the City.

"A total of 70019 street lights have been installed by

SMC so far in the areas falling under the jurisdiction of the corporation," the data reads.

The corporators here have said the people having any complaint about the defunct street lights should contact on 6006404919. "There is no need to visit the corporation office to get the street lights repaired. The people can contact on the phone number to register their complaint and the issue would be resolved within the shortest possible time," the corporators said—(KNO)



## Vulgarity At Shrines Unacceptable: Darakhshan

### Agencies

Srinagar: Chairperson of Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board Dr Darakhshan Andrabi has ordered the police authorities to take stern action against the youth who have shot the vulgar video in Hazratbal lawns and uploaded it on social media, hurting the public sentiment.

"We cannot tolerate such vulgarity at our spiritual shrines. Waqf Board has already issued orders for prior permission for all for any shoot in shrine complexes and



this cheap video shoot is in violation of the directive and is hurting the sentiments of the people. Such misdeeds can-

not be tolerated at all. Action against Waqf staff on duty will also be initiated", Dr Andrabi said.

She appealed to the public also to report such mischievous acts immediately to the Police or Waqf staff so that such elements are stopped from shooting such types of cheap videos.

"We will in no case allow such elements to play with the collective sentiments of the people in any case and such elements will be dealt with sternly", assured Waqf Board Chairperson. (KDC)

## Div Com Reviews Development, Management Of Public Parks in City

### Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Pandurang K Pole on Thursday convened a meeting to review the development & management of Public parks by Floriculture, Srinagar Municipal Corporation, SDA, Tourism, Traffic and other departments.

The meeting was attended by Director Tourism; VC, Srinagar Development Authority; RTO Kashmir; officers of the floriculture department, SMC, YSS, police and others.

On the occasion, Div Com asked concerned departments to provide a list of public parks under their possession including major and small gardens.

## Conference On Peace Education Held At KU

### Observer News Service

Srinagar: A UT-level conference on peace education was held at the University of Kashmir.

The day-long conference was organized by the Department of Social Work (DoSW) in collaboration with Directorate of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) and Save the Children, a non-governmental organization.

More than 200 participants including scholars and educationists from KU and DSEK participated in the event, besides 30 children from government schools in Budgam, Anantnag and Srinagar.

The valedictory session was presided over by Prof Nilofer Khan, Vice Chancellor, University of Kashmir, who complimented the organizers for bringing all key stakeholders under one roof to discuss themes related to peace education in schools of J&K.

The VC emphasised the role of teachers and children in mak-

ing peace education a reality to enable children to face challenges of the future.

Prof Irshad A Nawchoo, Dean Research KU; Dr Nisar Ahmed Mir, Registrar KU; Dr Shazia Manzoor, Head DoSW, Dr. Ata-ul-Muneem Tak, Personnel Officer DSEK Mr Sudarshan Suchi, CEO Save the Children and Mr. Sharif Bhat, Head, Save the Children also spoke on the occasion and shared their observations and way forward.

Later, the Vice-Chancellor also launched a web-based peace education portal developed jointly by Save the Children and DSEK with support from HCL Foundation.

Earlier, Prof Pervez Ahmed, HoD Geography & Disaster Management KU; Prof Mohammad Hussain, faculty School of Law KU and Prof Showkat A Shah, Dean, Behavioural Sciences chaired various technical sessions.

Dr Aadil Bashir and Dr Javid Rashid were the organizing secretaries of the conference.

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### HIGHWAY STATUS



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

 HIJRI CALENDAR 08 Jumad al-Awwal 1444	PRAYERS	
	FAJR	5:53
	ZUHR	12:20
	ASR	3:45
	Magrib	5:25
	ISHA	6: 49

## This Day In History

- 1834 - First US dental society organized (NY).
- 1835 - First US mutual fire insurance company issues first policy (Rhode Island).
- 1847 - Frederick Douglass publishes first issue of his newspaper "North Star".
- 1854 - Eureka Stockade: In what is claimed by many to be the birth of Australian democracy, more than 20 goldminers at Ballarat, Victoria, are killed by state troopers in an uprising over mining licences.
- 1863 - Confederate General James Longstreet abandons his siege at Knoxville, TN.
- 1878 - Settlers arrive at Petach Tikvah, Israel.
- 1910 - Neon lights first publicly displayed (Paris Auto Show).
- 1912 - Turkey, Serbia, Montenegro, Greece & Bulgaria sign weapons pact
- 1912 - First Balkan War: The Naval Battle of Elli takes place.
- 1917 - The Supreme Allied War Council, meeting at Versailles to define war aim, fails to reach an agreement.
- 1920 - Turkey & Armenia agree to peace treaty.
- 1922 - First successful technicolor movie (Tall of the Sea), shown in NYC.
- 1934 - Italian colonial Tripoli & Cyrenaica annexed to Libya.
- 1943 - Battle of Monte Cassino, Italy begins.
- 1946 - US government asks UN to order dictator Franco out of Spain.
- 1948 - Chinese refugee ship "Kiangya" explodes in E China Sea killing 1,100.
- 1952 - Marcos Perez Jiménez elected president of Venezuela.
- 1956 - Britain and France pull troops out of Egypt.
- 1965 - USSR launches Luna 8; it crashes on the Moon.
- 1967 - 1st human heart transplant performed by Dr Christian Barnard in South Africa.
- 1967 - Former Indonesian president Sukarno placed under house arrest.
- 1971 - Indo-Pakistani War of 1971: India invades West Pakistan and a full scale war begins claiming hundreds of lives.
- 1973 - Pioneer 10 passes Jupiter (1st fly-by of an outer planet)
- 1985 - 23rd Shuttle Mission (61-B)-Atlantis 2-lands at Edwards AFB.
- 1989 - Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and US President George H. W. Bush, declare the Cold War over.
- 1991 - Hulk Hogan defeats Undertaker to become 4th time WWF champion.
- 1992 - UN Security Council votes unanimous for US led forces to enter Somalia
- 1992 - The Greek oil tanker Aegean Sea, carrying 80,000 tonnes of crude oil, runs aground in a storm while approaching La Coruña, Spain, and spills much of its cargo
- 1995 - England cricket wicket-keeper Jack Russell dismisses Clive Eksteen with his record 11th catch in 2nd Test v South Africa in Johannesburg

*From KO Archives*

## Family Slaughtered In Poonch

### Observer News Service

Jammu- Three members of a family, seven militants, two security force personnel and a woman were killed in escalating violence across the Jammu division of the state since last evening, reports reaching here said.

Unidentified gunmen killed a couple and their daughter in a village in Mendhar sector of Jammu division late last night, reports reaching here said.

The masked men, reports said, armed with guns and knives forced their entry into the house of one Bhag Hussain at village Silva in Mendhar sector of Poonch and killed him along with his wife and daughter by slitting their throats during the dead of night.

The gunmen escaped from the area immediately after committing the crime. The deceased were identified as Bhag Hussain, his wife Shariefa and their daughter Shamima. Police blamed the militants for the killing. No group has owned up the responsibility so far.

Earlier also police had blamed the militants for the massacre of 16 members of a family in Salian village in the same district The state human rights commission had later refuted the police version .

Details about the incident are awaited. No independent version was available till late this evening.

(Kashmir Observer, 03 December, 1998)

**Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited**  
Technology & Development  
Ground Floor, Air India Building  
Residency Road, Srinagar 190001

**Online Request For Proposal (e-RFP)**  
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## 'Congress Worked With British For Several Years, As A Result...': PM Modi

Press Trust of India

**AHMEDABAD:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday accused the Congress of disowning Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and said it absorbed a "slave mentality" after working with the British prior to Independence.

He was speaking at a campaign rally at Sojitra town in Gujarat's Anand district where voting will take place in the second phase of the state Assembly elections on December 5.

"The Congress has a problem not only with Sardar Patel but also with the unity of India because their politics is based on the policy of divide and rule while Patel believed in uniting everyone. Due to this stark difference, Congress never considered Sardar Patel as their own," the PM said.

The Congress's "policy" of inciting one community, caste or religion against another weakened Gujarat, Prime Minister Modi said.

"Congress people had worked



with the British for several years (ahead of Independence). As a result, the party absorbed all the bad habits of the British, such as this policy of divide and rule and the slave mentality," he added.

The opposition party's leaders avoid visiting the Statue of Unity, Patel's statue and memorial in Narmada district, he alleged.

"Just because the statue has been built by Modi, Patel became untouchable for you? I am sure that people of Anand district will punish Congress for insulting Sardar Patel," the PM added.

## "Natural Allies": Israel President On Relationship With India

Press Trust of India

**JERUSALEM:** India and Israel are "natural allies" who are united by a fundamental commitment to the democratic ideals upon which they were founded, Israeli President Isaac Herzog has said, as he made a rare appearance at an exhibition here featuring Indian deities and temple rituals.

Herzog attended a cultural event at the Israel Museum on Thursday evening to inaugurate the new exhibition titled 'Body of Faith: Sculpture from the National Museum of India'. He called the exhibition a byproduct of the growing friendship between the two countries.

"India and Israel are natural allies, united by a fundamental commitment to the democratic ideals upon which both our nations were founded. Yet this evening transcends politics, commerce – even diplomacy," he said.

"This evening shines a light on our shared humanity while paying tribute to the rich history and cultural legacy of the Indian people," Herzog, who made a rare appearance because of "his love for India", said.

"This exhibition, literally 'spirit within matter' in Hebrew, is yet another byproduct of the growing friendship between the Indian and Israeli nations and a reflection of the deep resonance of arts and culture that our nations share," the Israeli President emphasised.

The display features 14 exquisite large-scale Indian sculptures created between the fourth and thirteenth centuries, some on loan from the National Museum in New Delhi and some from the Israel Museum's collection, a spokesperson for the Israel museum told PTI.



The exhibition taking place in Jerusalem assumes a special significance given the Biblical references to Indian-origin spices and fragrances like Nerad oil, Ahaal aromatic wood and Cinnamon, which among others were considered essential for religious services during the Temple periods in Jerusalem.

The six-month-long exhibition will also involve a series of academic talks and special lecture demonstrations by selected artists from India, adding to the academic affluence of the exhibits on display.

Taking note of the unique first collaboration between the Israel Museum and the National Museum, Herzog highlighted that the exhibition brings to Israel historic artefacts that have never before left India.

"What an honour and a pleasure it is. I had the privilege of seeing the exhibition, and it is just incredible," the Israeli President said.

"Through this collaboration, we have the pleasure of hosting incredible statues and a thousand years of Hindu culture. These masterpieces span three distinct periods in Indian history and with remarkable precision, they reflect the vitality and dynamism of a Hindu religion that has strongly influenced the collective human consciousness and has sparked the imagination and interest of people throughout the world," he said.

## NATO trying to drag India into alliance targeting Russia, China, claims Lavrov

**MOSCOW:** Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on Thursday accused NATO of trying to drag India into what he called an anti-Russian and anti-Chinese alliance at a time when he said the West was attempting to squeeze out Russian influence.

Russia's top diplomat, speaking on Thursday during his annual news conference in Moscow, also accused the United States and



NATO of trying to ratchet up

tensions in the South China Sea and of trying to subvert any regional bodies designed to promote dialogue, such as the OSCE in Europe and ASEAN in Asia.

He defended a Russian campaign that has used air, drone and missile strikes to destroy Ukrainian infrastructure. "We disable energy facilities that allow West to pump weapons into Ukraine," he said. — Reuters

## A Sudden Death Leads To Focus On Risky Hair Transplants In India

Agencies

**NEW DELHI:** All that balding Indian television executive Athar Rasheed wanted was to look handsome and get married. But the 30-year-old's seemingly harmless hair transplant went fatally wrong.

Women have been judged on their appearance for millennia, but in an increasingly materialistic Indian society, men are also feeling pressure to look young and presentable for fear of losing their social standing.

More and more prematurely balding men are opting for hair transplants as disposable incomes rise and an emphasis on personal appearance becomes stronger.

But in a weakly regulated sector, the procedure -- sometimes performed by amateurs self-trained on YouTube -- can have deadly results.

Rasheed was the sole breadwinner for his family and aspired to a better life -- owning a house and getting his two sisters married.

But he developed sepsis after undergoing a hair transplant at a clinic in Delhi last year, his distraught mother Asiya Begum, 62, told AFP.

The swelling spread from his head and he suffered terrible agonies.

"My son died a very painful death. His kidneys stopped functioning and then all his other organs collapsed," she said, breaking down.

Armed with photographs showing Rasheed's bloated face and black rashes that broke out all over his body in his final hours, the family lodged a police complaint.

Four people, including the two men who performed the surgery, have been arrested and are awaiting trial.

"I remember my son every day and die a slow death," she said, sitting in her modest one-room rented flat in a rundown neighbourhood of the capital.

"I lost my son but I don't want any other mother to lose their child because of fraudulent practices of a few people," she said.



she said.

- Confidence booster -

When performed by a skilled surgeon, a hair transplant can be a life-changing and confidence-boosting experience, especially for young Indian men looking for personal and professional growth.

Harish Iyer, a social commentator and equal rights activist, said men have started focusing more on their grooming as lifestyles change.

"The need to exhibit youth and vitality is echoed by all genders," Iyer told AFP.

"The pressure was always on women to look a certain way and find acceptance, but the needle is now changing."

But at the same time, specialists say increasingly sedentary lifestyles, smoking, improper diet and stress can result in early hair loss.

A hair transplantation procedure involves removing follicles from a dense area of hair, such as the back of the head, and then implanting them on the affected area of the scalp.

Doctor Mayank Singh performs up to 15 surgeries a month at his upscale clinic in a posh New Delhi neighbourhood. Most of his patients are aged 25 to 35 and looking to either get married or climb the professional ladder, especially in jobs where appearances matter.

The procedure costs some 350,000 rupees (\$4,300), a considerable sum in a country where millions live on less than two dollars a day.

Seedy clinics manned by untrained personnel perform the surgery at a fraction of the cost.

- YouTube workshops - Singh, who is also the secretary of the Association of Hair Restoration Surgeons of India, said quacks were bringing the industry a bad name.

"People have this myth that this is a minor procedure, whereas the duration of the surgery is pretty long, running into some six to eight hours," said Singh.

"It involves a lot of local anaesthesia that has to be administered over time. If someone does not have the knowledge about what we need to do, then it can become an unsafe procedure."

Alarmed by the mushrooming number of clinics offering often subpar service at discounted prices, India's National Medical Commission issued a warning in September.

"Watching in workshops or on YouTube or similar platforms is not adequate training to start aesthetic procedures including hair transplantation," it said.

Only properly trained doctors should perform such procedures, it added.

Singh, a plastic surgeon, said it was imperative that the guidelines were strictly adhered to.

He has a long list of happy customers, including doctor Lakshmi Narayanan, who for years avoided going to social gatherings because of his baldness.

## Bharat Jodo Yatra Likely To Conclude On Republic Day In Kashmir



Agencies

**NEW DELHI:** In view of the upcoming 2024 Lok Sabha elections and state assembly elections, the Congress party has taken a big decision for the selection of a special day for the conclusion of the Bharat Jodo Yatra.

According to sources, in this context, the Congress has decided that the Bharat Jodo Padyatra, which started from Kanyakumari on September 7, will conclude on January 26 in Kashmir covering a distance of about 3500 km.

"In fact, the Congress was going to end this yatra by hoisting the national flag in Srinagar on February 20, but now under the new strategy, Rahul Gandhi will conclude his yatra by hoisting the flag in Srinagar on Republic Day," said sources.

According to Congress sources, after January 26, a plenary session of the Congress will also be held before February 7, in which the name of Congress Party President Mallikarjun Kharge will be approved, after which the new Congress Work-

ing Committee will be formed.

Immediately after that major changes will also be made in the Congress organisation which have been postponed for a long time. A Meeting of the Steering Committee is also scheduled to be convened on December 4 at Party Headquarters in Delhi and three issues from Bharat Jodo Yatra, Plenary Session and Organizational Matters are on the Agenda, said the Congress sources.

In fact, Congress felt that it was impractical to undertake major organisational programs and changes in the midst of Rahul's Padyatra while delaying them could harm the party in future elections. That's why a way has been found by cutting down the time by choosing a favourable day of 26th January for the yatra.

If sources are to be believed, in that case, the target of January 26 will be achieved by increasing the daily distance of the journey a little, reducing the number of days in the coming states like UP, and Delhi and this will not make any difference in the journey.

## Pak diplomat Ubaid Nizamani shot at in Kabul



Agencies

**NEW DELHI:** The recently-appointed Charge d' Affairs of Pakistan in Kabul, Ubaid Nizamani, was targeted by a gunman injuring a guard in his security details. Nizamani took charge as Head of Mission of the Pakistani Embassy in Kabul less than a month back.

As per initial investigations of the Taliban, multiple shots were fired from a nearby building while he was walking in the grounds of the Pakistan Embas-

sy compound in Afghanistan's Kabul. One Pakistani security personnel took two bullets while protecting Nizamani who is a familiar name for Indian diplomats as he was till recently the DG of South Asia and SAARC in the Pakistan Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Last month, he had received Pakistan Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar who had held political consultations with Foreign Minister of Interim Afghan Government Amir Khan Mutaqqi.

### NEWS MAKERS

## Delhi Man Arrested For Blackmailing, Extorting \$48,000 From US Professor

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** The CBI has busted a racket of "sextortionists", arresting one who allegedly blackmailed an economics professor at California University into shelling out USD 48,000 threatening him with making public his sexually explicit video chats with a female gang member, officials said.

Based on information received from the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the US, CBI arrested Rahul Kumar, a resident of Delhi's Asola, while the search for his purported girlfriend who lured the professor into sending explicit videos on Facebook chat is going on, they said.

The girl, who was chatting through Facebook, had befriended the economics professor of a prominent university on social media service chat platform, they said.

In conspiracy with her purported partner Rahul Kumar, she diverted conversations towards sexual connotations, eventually asking the professor to record and send his sexually



explicit video on September 10, 2021, they said.

Once a video was received, she told the professor that her boyfriend Rahul Kumar had recorded the video, they said.

The duo started blackmailing the US-based professor with threats to make send the video to authorities in the university and some prominent US-based journalists, they said.

"Rahul, using his accounts asolarahul@gmail.com and rahulrana6585@gmail.com, started sending extortionist threats related to the sexually explicit video chat to the professor demanding money and other valuable things from him for deleting the video and directed him to make the monetary pay-

ments to his PayPal account," the CBI FIR has alleged.

The alleged blackmail went on for over a year, during which repeated money transfers took place in the PayPal account of Rahul, as directed by him. Over USD 48,000 (approximately ₹38 lakh) was received from the victim, they said.

Kumar later asked the professor for costly gifts such as Apple iPhone chargers and headsets, following which the professor filed a complaint with the US Department of Justice, which handed over the matter to the FBI, they said.

The FBI got in touch with the CBI where International Operation Division registered a case, tracked the person and arrested Rahul while the search for his purported girlfriend is going on, they said.

"A case was registered by International Operation Division of CBI against a private person resident of New Delhi & Others on certain allegations including sextortion of a Professor at a prominent University in the USA on the inputs received from the USA," CBI said in a statement.

## Mumbai Class 8 Student Gang-Raped By 2 Classmates In School, Case Filed: Police

Press Trust of India

**MUMBAI:** Two boys allegedly raped their 13-year-old classmate inside the classroom of their civic-run school in Mumbai, after which the police registered a case against them, an official said today. The incident took place on Monday, he said.

"The girl was sexually assaulted by her two classmates, when their fellow classmates stepped out of the classroom for dance practice. The two accused indulged in the crime by taking advantage of the situation," an police official said. The girl and the accused are students of Class 8, he said.

"The incident left the girl in shock and she shared her ordeal with her family members, who immediately filed a complaint against the accused," the official said.

Based on the complaint, the police registered a case against the boys under Indian Penal Code (IPC) section 376 DA (gang-rape of a woman under sixteen years of age) and under relevant sections of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, he added.

The minor accused were produced in a juvenile court, which sent them to the juvenile detention centre at in south Mumbai. Further investigation is being carried out, said the police.

## Man Dies After Iron Rod Breaks Window, Pierces His Neck On Board Delhi-Kanpur Train



Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** A passenger on board the Delhi-Kanpur Neelachal Express died on Friday after being impaled by an iron rod that broke through a glass window of the coach and struck him in the neck, an official said.

The freak accident took place around 8:45 am between Danwar and Somna in the Prayagraj division of the North Central Railway, the spokesperson said.

"One person died in general coach by external object (iron rod) which

damaged the window. The train was stopped at the Aligarh junction at 09.23 hrs," the railway spokesperson said.

The man was identified as Hrishakesh Dubey. He was sitting by the window when the iron rod pierced his neck.

Sources said some work was underway on the tracks when the incident happened. However, no confirmation has been received from the Railways so far.

The official said the body was handed over to the GRP and an investigation launched.



## Chief Secretary Bids Farewell To Rohit Kansal



Terms Kansal As Strategic Thinker Who Had A Great Career In J&K

Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta along with other administrative secretaries on Friday bid farewell to Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department and Information Department at a function organized here at Civil Secretariat.

Dr Mehta described Kansal as a professional with kind heart who proved his mettle during his 25 year long service in Jammu and Kashmir.

He credited Kansal for handling job of government spokesperson with great ability due to which he became a household name in the entire Union Territory.

"Mr Kanasal had a great career in J&K. He was an officer with strategic thinking and was able to bring fundamental

changes in the higher education sector," Dr Mehta said about the outgoing Principal Secretary.

He also wished him good luck in his future assignments and hoped that will keep supporting J&K in any manner.

Speaking on the occasion, Kansal said that he has an emotional connection to J&K and has fond memories with everyone here and is overwhelmed by the affection he has received. He said that he has received out of way cooperation and support from everyone, officers, staff and people alike in J&K.

He added that as he is moving out of J&K, he is hoping that he would always be there to support whatever way he can.

Recalling their service stint with Rohit Kansal, several administrative secretaries recollected the role he had played during their initial period of services in J&K. They credited the success of flagship programmes like Back to Village and My Town My Pride to Rohit Kansal.

### ASSEMBLY POLL PREPARATIONS

## BJP Undertakes Massive Changes In J&K Unit

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** The BJP on Friday undertook massive organisational changes in the party by appointing 30 leaders to different posts including district presidents in the union territory.

All districts of Jammu region have new district presidents as also of Kashmir division, BJP spokesman Purnima Sharma said.

Former Jammu Mayor Chander Mohan Gupta is appointed as vice-president of the BJP's Jammu and Kashmir unit, while senior leader Ashok Bhat has been appointed as the new president of Srinagar district, she said.

The step was taken by the BJP leadership after publication of the final electoral roll of Jammu and Kashmir on Friday last with the highest-ever net addition of more than 7.72 lakh voters. This electoral process is step towards conducting of the assembly elections in J&K.

"Large scale organisational changes has been undertaken in the BJP as president of J&K unit Ravinder Raina nominted



new districts presidents," the BJP spokesman said.

Raina took the decision after consultation with BJP national president J P Nadda, national general secretary (Org) B L Santhosh, national general secretary and incharge J&K Tarun Chugh, J&K Seh-Prabhari Ashish Sood and J&K seneral secretary (Org) Ashok Koul, the spokesman said.

Ayodhya Gupta is nominated as the J-K BJP secretary, she said.

Advocate Purnima Sharma (former deputy mayor) is nominated as the party's J-K spokesperson, she said.

In all 27 leaders were appointed as new district presidents, she said.

Parmodh Kapahi is nominated as president of Jammu district followed by Omi Khajuria as president of Jammu north district, the spokesman said.

Similarly, Rekha Mahajan is nominated as president of Jammu south district followed by Sunil Shastri nominated as president of Jammu border district, she said.

While Chand Ji Bhat is nominated as the president of Kashmir displaced district, she added.

## SIU Charges 13 Men For Having Links With LeT Offshoot

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Special Investigation Unit of police on Friday presented charge sheet in NIA court against 13 persons allegedly linked with TRF, said to be an offshoot of Lashkar-e-Taiba.

"As per details, the case FIR No 127/2022 under sections 7/25 of Arms act & sections 13 18 19 20 38 39 of UAP Act of PS Parimpora was registered on 28-05- 2022 under relevant sections of law on credible inputs about the presence of active militants of TRF (off-shoot of LeT) in few residential houses of Barthana, Qamarwari area, police said in a statement.

The Police arrested six accused persons initially in the case and one more accused (active militant) namely Shariq Wani was arrested later in case, it said.

"Seven (7) accused are



lodged in different jails undergoing judicial custody.

Three (3) accused (active terrorists) in case were killed in different encounters. While three (3) other accused are absconding as active militants of TRF namely Basit, Momin and Umair".

The investigation conducted has revealed, the police said, that the accused persons had developed links with active militants and in pursuance of

a criminal conspiracy hatched, they collectively conspired with militants for executing militant activities in Srinagar.

"It is pertinent to mention here that the said militants were sheltered in residential houses," the police said, adding, "Process has started to attach all these houses as per section 25 of UAPA act."

"Further investigation in going on as per provisions of section 173(8)", the police added.

## DC Bandipora Orders Pace In Completion Of KP Transit Flats

Observer News Service

**BANDIPORA:** The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad on Friday visited Odina, Sumbal to inspect the ongoing works on the Transit Accommodation.

During his visit to the Transit Accommodation site, the DC assessed the progress on ongoing works there.

SDM Sumbal and concerned engineers from executing departments briefed the DC about progress of work on the project.

Officers at Transit Accommodation informed that transit accommodation is coming up at the cost of Rs 57.60 crores comprising 480 flats in 30 blocks. They said each block is four-storied with four flats in each storey, totaling 16 flats in each block.

The concerned executing department informed that 06 flats are near completion and will be ready to use by the end of this month. It was further apprised that work on other



blocks is in full swing and shall be completed within the set deadlines.

Dr. Owais exhorted upon the executing agencies to expedite the progress of work by way of engaging more men and machinery so that work gets completed well before stipulated time frame without compromising the quality of work.

He also directed for early construction of approach road and boundary wall besides

making immediate availability of drinking water and electricity facility for 6 completed blocks.

He instructed SDM Sumbal to monitor the execution of work regularly and ensure quality and timely completion of works.

The DC was accompanied by SDM Sumbal Dr. Bashir Ahmad Lone, Tehsildar, DIO and officers from PDD, R&B, Jal Shakti and other concerned departments.

## DC Shopian Inspects Developmental Works In District



Observer News Service

**SHOPIAN:** The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Shopian, Sachin Kumar Vaishya on Friday visited various areas of the district to oversee the progress of ongoing developmental works.

He inspected work sites of Children's Park Shopian, Solid Waste Management Centre Aglar, Amrit Sarovar Site at Pinjora and Fair Price Shop at Bongam.

At Shopian, he reviewed the progress of work on bridge at Children's Park Shopian being constructed at a cost of Rs 32 lacs and inspected the under-construction site of Solid waste management Centre at Aglar Shopian.

Later, the DC also visited Pinjora and took stock of ongoing work on Amrit Sarovar Site besides inspecting Fair Price Shop at Bongam.

The concerned executing agencies apprised the DDC about the progress and assured time bound completion of these projects.

DDC insisted upon all stakeholders on increasing the pace on these developmental projects so that they are completed well before desired timelines while ensuring quality.

The DDC was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner Shopian, Yar Ali Khan, Tehsildar Shopian, Executive Officer Municipal Council, Secretary MC and other concerned.

Re-Poll Of DDC Constituency Drugmulla

## 2nd Training Programme For Presiding, Polling Officers Held

Press Trust Of India

**KUPWARA:** The District Administration Kupwara Friday conducted a second training programme for Presiding and Polling Officers for Re-poll of DDC Constituency Drugmulla in Kupwara district.

The Dy. District Election Officer Kupwara presided over the training programme. The Returning Officer for DDC Constituency Drugmulla, ARO, various Nodal Officers and DIO Kupwara were present on the occasion.

The Master Trainers imparted the necessary training related to smooth conduct of election

process at the occasion.

The Dy. DEO said that the training was imparted to 163 Officers including 42 Presiding Officers, 84 Polling Officers and reserved quota to acquaint them with the rules and regulations of the election process and implementation of Model Code of Conduct. He stressed upon them to work in coordination to get best results for smooth conduct of the election.

On the occasion, the Master Trainers provided detailed awareness and guidelines to the Presiding and Polling officers with regard to their duties and responsibilities during the election process.

## Arms, Drugs Recovered Along LoC In Uri

**SRINAGAR:** Security forces foiled an attempt on Friday to infiltrate arms and drugs along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir's Uri sector, officials said.

A joint team of the army launched a cordon and search operation around the LoC in Rewand Nallah area of Kamalkote in north Kashmir's Baramulla district after receiving an input of an attempted smuggling of arms, ammunition and contraband, the officials said. They said there were indications of initiation of an early-warning system installed by the army and some fires were also spotted. The search led to the recovery of 10 packets of suspected contraband as well as arms and ammunition, including two AK-74 rifles, two AK magazines, 117 rounds of ammunition, two pistols, and two magazines.

## Bengali Bride Found Dead In Budgam

**SRINAGAR:** A newlywed woman from West Bengal was found dead on Friday at her husband's house in Nasrullahpora area of Central Kashmir's Budgam district.

30-year-old Muslimoon, a resident of Kolkata, who was married to Ghulam Mohammad Bhat of Nasrullahpora around 20 days ago, was found dead on Friday at her husband's house, reports said. A police team reached the spot after receiving information from the locals.

The body, reports said, was taken by police for conducting medico-legal formalities.

Reports also said that the authorities have seized the house where the woman was found lifeless.

## Father-Daughter Charged In Cheque Fraud Case

**SRINAGAR:** Crime Branch Kashmir's Economic Offence Wing on Friday said that it has produced a charge-sheet against father-daughter duo in an alleged forged cheque case of undisclosed amount here three years ago. The chargesheet was presented in the case (FIR No. 10/2018 U/S 420, 467, 468, 471, 120-B RPC) against Abdul Rashid Bhat and her daughter R Rashid of Hari Singh High Street Srinagar before the Court of 13th Finance Srinagar.

"The instant case had been registered upon receipt of a written complaint preferred by JK Bank Branch Head, B/U (branch unit) Hari Singh High Street Srinagar, wherein it was alleged that a forged cheque was presented before the concerned Bank officials and later on the same was credited into the Bank account of the accused persons," the CBK said in a statement.

## Minor Among 3 Injured By Leopard

**SRINAGAR:** Three people, including a minor boy were attacked and injured on Friday by a leopard in Pampore town of South Kashmir's Pulwama district.

According to reports, a leopard appeared in an orchard in Ladoo village of Pampore on Friday morning and attacked a group of people, including a minor boy. In the surprise beast attack, four-year-old Zahid Ahmad, Shaheena Akhter and Zakir Hussian, all residents of Ladoo sustained injuries.

The injured trio, reports said, were removed to a nearby hospital for treatment. However, the doctors there referred them to Srinagar's SMHS hospital for specialized treatment.

## Dr Samiullah Performs Rare Liver Surgery

**SRINAGAR:** In a first, a senior surgeon in Kashmir carried out a Liver resection for Cholangiocarcinoma in a patient and saved his life.

Renowned surgical Gastroenterologist Dr Mir Samiullah of Star Hospital, Sanat Nagar, operated upon a young patient suffering from cancer of bile duct."It is a complicated procedure in which bile ducts along with a part of liver is resected. The patient came with jaundice and itching for which he was evaluated and operated upon," Dr Samiullah said.

He said the patient is presently doing well. Dr Samiullah has pioneered the field of gastrointestinal surgery in the valley and has been doing such complex procedures continuously from many years now. Pertinently, Dr. Mir Samiullah has studied Surgical Gastroenterology at Kings College Hospital London and is now delivering healthcare at Star hospital in Srinagar.

### SHORT TAKES



On International Day of Disabled Persons

Why Is ‘Ability’  
The Norm?

Amir Suhail Wani

As the world wakes up to International Day of Disabled Persons, speeches and sermons are being delivered across the globe while persons with disabilities continue to suffer unabatedly. The sufferings of persons with disabilities only seem to cumulate and aggravate in spite of these massive awareness campaigns. This brute state only reveals that the conscience of people hasn't been sufficiently stirred and insensitivity and indifference towards persons with disabilities continues to be the defining parameters of majoritarian behaviour. The laws, which have been laid out on paper, have been either insufficient or ineffective in curbing the violence and injustice committed against persons with disabilities in structural and a-structural forms. Society too has maintained a status quo of marginalisation and subalternity towards persons with disabilities and this social numbness has only amplified and deepened the crisis of persons with disabilities. They are being deprived of a life of dignity, repeatedly made objects of satire and sarcasm and an attitude of pervasive bullying is legitimised against them. As a result, their already existing problems of physical disability are only compounded by the mental torture inflicted upon them.

The challenge of restoring a life of dignity to persons with disabilities has to have at least a bilateral approach – ethical and legal. It seems almost a universal preconception and a deep rooted human bias that persons with disabilities aren't full humans and are, in one way or the other, inferior to able-bodied persons. This bias seems to be rooted in the notion that individuals are to be evaluated in terms of their delivering capacities

“As somebody suffering from cerebral palsy, life has been like an uphill task and despite securing for myself a niche in academic and social circles based purely on hard work and determination, a life of dignity is nowhere in sight. On a daily basis, I have to endure maltreatment and marginalisation, as people who are unable to understand my words, go on passing vulgar and demoralising remarks

and their potential to “contribute”.

Our civilizations, both eastern and western have made the delivering capacity of an individual as the sole

measure and criteria of worth, dignity and right to live. The mechanised rather technological society which we have found ourselves in, has drawn a dictum on stone that only those are entitled to a life of dignity who can be active agents of material generation: ones who can generate wealth and material resources, who don't rely on others' helping hand and personify 'strength' to mould the world and tailor it to their needs, thereby proving themselves to be “fruitful individuals for the society”.

This perspective of understanding people in terms of their utilitarian merit has not only overshadowed the concept of humanity as such but also exposed people with disabilities to vulnerabilities and discriminations of all sorts. It is extremely difficult for people, who are otherwise able-bodied, to understand the problems of and empathize with people with disabilities, for the psycho-social dimensions of these problems are so broad that only people with disabilities face them first hand and are rattled and broken by the same.

The challenges which people with disabilities face are augmented and multiplied by discouraging social framework, lack of logistical support and prevalence of social mores that deteriorate and aggravate their situation further.

This economization of values and the determination of people's worth in terms of their ability to contribute to the economic production has had detrimental consequences to the reception of persons with disabilities, hampering their claims to equality and a life of dignity.

A basic revision of outlook is need-

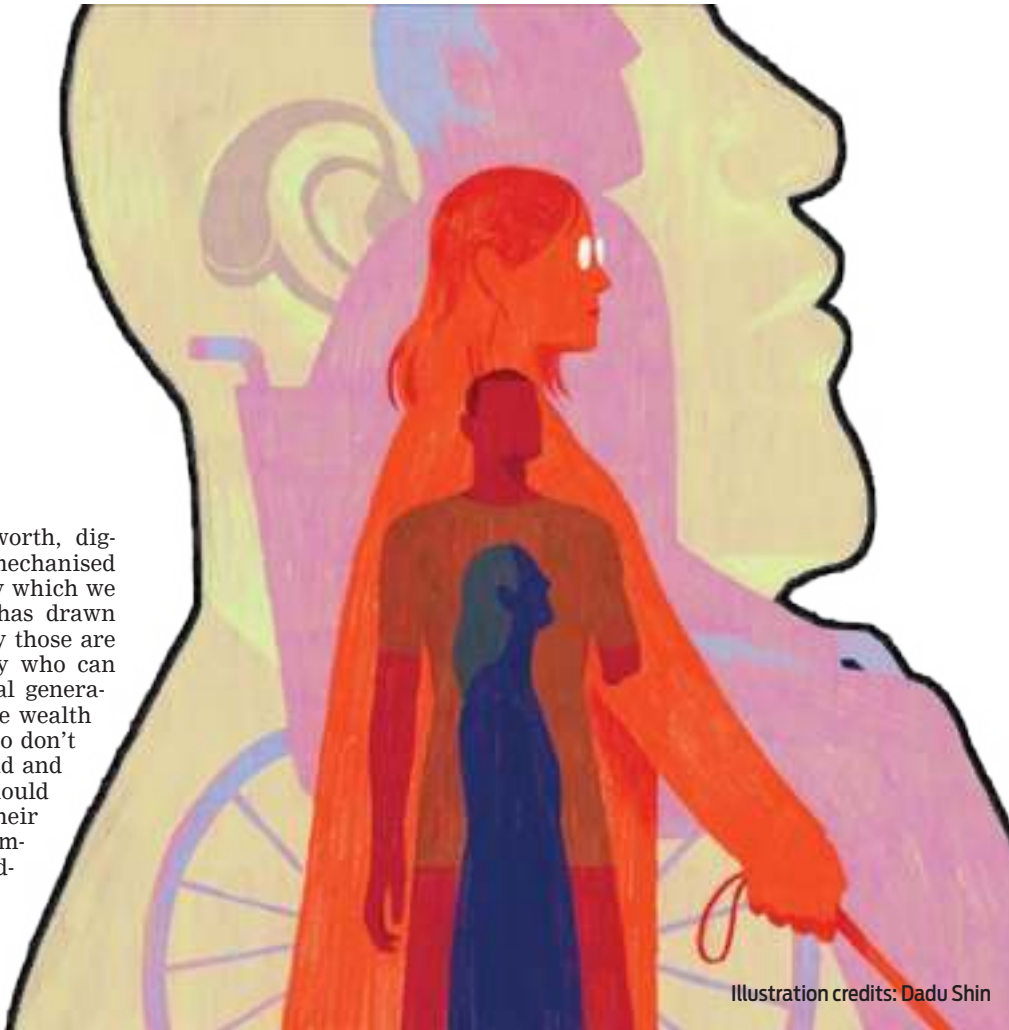


Illustration credits: Dadu Shin

ed on this front and people are to be respected on the pure grounds of sanctity and dignity of life irrespective of their economic outcomes and their abilities to contribute to the society in general.

These insights stem from my first hand observation. As somebody suffering from cerebral palsy, life has been like an uphill task and despite securing for myself a niche in academic and social circles based purely on hard work and determination, a life of dignity is nowhere in sight. On a daily basis, I have to endure maltreatment and marginalisation, as people who are unable to understand my words, go on passing vulgar and demoralising remarks. I often contemplate the plight of those, who are still lesser privileged, have no space to vent the maltreatment and lack of courtesy meted out to them. The psychological repercussions of such happenings are so destructive that it takes a long time for a victim to recover from these episodes and sometimes the victim doesn't recover at all.

If the academic excellence, resilience, merit and recognition doesn't help a person to secure for himself/herself a life of general social dignity, one is left wondering, what else needs to be done to secure one's right to life of dignity and respect – something which is so basic and inviolable a right that it should require no qualifications. When people with disabilities are disrespected, maltreated and given a realisation that they don't belong to the normal lot, the detrimental consequences can well be figured out and these consequences corner people with disabilities into helplessness, insecurity, depression and a feeling of pervasive meaninglessness of life.

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

The author is a Srinagar based columnist

Masood Ali Mir

In the opening ceremony of the ongoing FIFA World Cup at Qatar, the Hollywood actor Morgan Freeman came down to his knees in order to shake his hand with Qatari Youtuber and Philanthropist Ghanim Al Muftah, who as born with a rare condition known as Caudal Regression Syndrome (CDS). The two created the scene worth watching full of respect, dignity and human values in the form of universal massage for tolerance and togetherness:

"What unites us is greater than what divides us. We are one big tribe and the earth is our tent. Together we can make the call for everyone to unite".

This day, celebrated as "International Day of Persons with Disabilities", asks for the same kind of approach and understanding from us towards all those specially-abled people who live around us in the same environment with common values and cultural ethos. The purpose for the observance of this day is to widen our outlook and promote the understanding of the concept of disability and mobilize local, national and international support for the rights, dignity and well-being of persons with disabilities. It is observed with the aim of complete integration of persons with disabilities with the rest in different social, political, economic and cultural aspects of life.

Disability is a complex and multifaceted concept. Its meaning differs across territories along numerous associated legal, political and social constructs. Disabilities such as physical challenges, acid attacks or dwarfism are easy to identify but the disabilities like mental illness, specific learning disabilities, hearing impairments or autism are comparatively difficult and complex to identify without appropriate training. Hence, disability is more complex.

Disability, in simple terms, is a physical or mental condition or both, that limits individuals movement, activities or sense of perception.

In India, Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPWD) Act of 2016 recognises 21 disability conditions. It has replaced Persons with Disabilities (PWD) Act 1995

Keep Your Sympathies  
The persons with disability do not need sympathy they need the dignity and honour that they deserve

which recognised only seven disability conditions. The Right of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016 is in pure harmony with the United Nations Convention on Right of Persons with Disabilities and provides a legal framework, generates awareness about the rights of persons with disabilities and promotes equity based inclusion.

Of the one billion population of Persons with disabilities, 80% live in developing countries. It is estimated that 46% of the older people aged 60 years and over are people with disabilities and one in every five women is likely to experience disability in her life while one in every ten children is a child with a disability. Despite being so numerous, persons with disabilities are still overwhelmingly overlooked and are not treated the right way as any other human being should be treated.

The reality of experiences across the country are totally different from the international and national legal and constitutional provisions. Persons with disabilities are facing a lot of discrimination due to prejudices and biases in our society. It is most common in institutions which impart education.

The day which we are observing actually demands certain pledges from us for which we have to work hard. In order to facilitate the welfare and the overall development of the people around us with any sort of disability, we have to go a mile ahead and design things which may prove easy, relevant and helpful for the people with special needs.

1. The first step towards progress and prosperity is the early identification process. It is better that the identification process of the persons with disabilities should begin ideally at the



moment of birth. The needs of people arising due to the disability should be appropriately addressed and they should be supported to realise their full potential within the society.

2. The second step for welfare is proper education. Education is the single greatest tool for achieving social justice and equality. Education aims to benefit the way that no person loses any opportunity to learn and excel because of the circumstances of birth, background and any disability.

In the field of education there is the need to redesign the settings in order to have:

a) Equal opportunities for the children with special needs. (Democratic settings of the classroom)

b) Conducive educational environment for the children with special needs. ( CWSN friendly infrastructure and supportive school environment)

c) To facilitate the retention and completion of schooling of these children. ( Resource rooms with special teacher educators)

d) To facilitate the cooperative living and mainstreaming of the children with special needs.( Those who learn together, learn to live together)

e) To develop the knowledge, skills and understanding of key strategies critical for living a decent human life. ( Vocational courses)

f) To involve these children with the other students of the school in all the activities of School.( School can serve as a nursery for an inclusive society)

3. After education there is a need to look for a decent living. A decent living here refers to two things:

I) There are enough opportunities for them to earn their livelihood with full honour. In order to earn a livelihood we have to create suitable workplace conditions for them in accordance with their abilities, capacities and capabilities.

II) Persons with disabilities deserve equal social and political status in society. The country must have a certain amount of affirmative action favouring the people with special needs because they have suffered in the past due to the disabilities. As the equal partners of the system, this section must have the equal opportunities to participate in the process of decision making. When they are at the helm of affairs they may legislate better policies and apply the same for their betterment.

III) The next intervention which the persons with disability need is to have the special and need specific environment and engagement in the social, cultural, religious and economic fields. We have to create a genuine space for them in accordance with their special needs. This space is needed in the schools, hospitals, mosques, public parks, means of transport, cultural events etc etc. We do already have some space for them but it is not up to the mark and is not satisfying the ultimate aim.

The day which we do observe every year calls for the general attitudinal change and adjustment of the common masses in the society so that a large section of the people get the chance to live their life the way they deserve with all the rights, respect, dignity, honour and privilege. They never ask for sympathy and the things they do not deserve, they only ask for the respect, honour, position and power which we owe to them.

Masood Ali Mir is a Sr Academic Officer SCERT J&K and can be mailed at masoodalimir@yahoo.co.in



With a growing taste for good coffee that isn't just a regular iced brew or simple hot cup that can be found anywhere, coffee shops and cafes are turning things up a notch by specialising in particular brews.

# Five Must Visit COFFEE SHOPS

*for the perfect brew  
in Srinagar*



## Muskaan Chaudhary

Good coffee, good conversation, and good vibes - the three things that make for a perfect winter day out. Whether you are looking to have a fun hangout with friends, some quality quiet time alone, or a productive study session, coffee shops are the place to be in. Instant coffee mixes and dip bags don't hold a candle to a freshly brewed cuppa paired with a filling snack or dessert.

With a growing taste for good coffee that isn't just a regular iced brew or simple hot cup that can be found anywhere, coffee shops and cafes are turning things up a notch by specialising in particular brews. Here are five places and their best brews for you to enjoy!

### 1. Papparoti



Comfortable, cosy, and chill, this coffee shop is a great place to relax with your friends. Sit down for a chat with their Caramel Macchiato or find a comfortable corner to curl up with a book and hot chocolate. From signature buns to filling, well spiced burgers, there is a variety of food options to pair your drink of choice with. Perfect place to warm up and relax on chilly afternoons!

**Location:** Opposite new era school, Rajbagh, Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir

### 2. Cafe Liberty



If you are looking for a place with a great ambience and atmosphere to relax in after a tough day, Cafe Liberty is the space for you. Old school decor, a charming and quaint interior, and mouth watering food, what's not to like? With a cup of their cappuccino with whipped cream and a retro playlist queued, you are all set for a good time.

**Location:** 309, Alijan Shopping Complex, M.A road Lalchowk Srinagar Jammu and Kashmir

### 3. 14th Avenue Cafe & Grill



A well situated, lovely place to take some time for yourself, this is a must visit for those looking to have a quiet and wholesome meal. A cafe with its own bakeshop and a lovely ambience, it is a quality place for a self care session. Whether you bring along a friend for a chat or a book for entertainment, a cup of their latte is bound to make your day.

**Location:** 3R97+FR8, Near Foot Bride Silk Factory Road, Srinaga

### 4. Golden Coffee House



No trip to an outdoor location is complete without a cup of coffee to warm your hands. Whether you are visiting the Botanical garden for a picnic with family or a walk about with friends, make sure to stop by the parking lot for an amazing cup of takeaway coffee to enjoy as you take in the beautiful surroundings.

**Location:** Nehru park, Shop no 1, Botanical Garden Parking



### 5. Zero Little Hut

Ice-cream, coffee, and positively delicious shakes make this a must visit place on this list. A small but charming little corner to hangout in when out for an evening stroll. The nostalgic vibes of the location paired with a cup of coffee that will warm your heart will certainly make your visit to Little Hut worth it!

**Location:** Zero Bridge, Rajbagh, Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir



# ‘Chemotherapy May Make Kids, Grandkids More Disease Susceptible’

Press Trust Of India

A common chemotherapy drug could pass down increased disease susceptibility to children and grandchildren of adolescent cancer survivors, a study conducted in mice has found.

The research published in the journal iScience found that male rats who received the drug ifosfamide during adolescence had offspring and grand-offspring with increased incidence of disease.

"The findings suggest that if a patient receives chemotherapy, and then later has children, that their grandchildren, and even great-grandchildren, may have an increased disease susceptibility due to their ancestors' chemotherapy exposure," said Michael Skinner, Washington State University, US and corresponding author on the study.

Skinner emphasized that the findings should not dissuade cancer patients from undertaking chemotherapy since it can be a very effective treatment. Chemotherapy drugs kill cancerous cells and prevent them from multiplying, but have many side-effects since they impact the whole body, including reproductive systems.

Given this study's implications, the researchers recommend that cancer pa-

tients who plan to have children later take precautions, such as using cryo-preservation to freeze sperm or ova before having chemotherapy.

The results of the researchers' analysis showed epigenetic changes in two generations linked to the chemotherapy exposure of the originally exposed rats, the study said.

The fact that these changes could be seen in the grand-offspring, who had no direct exposure to the chemotherapy drug, indicates that the negative effects were passed down through epigenetic inheritance, the study said.

Skinner and colleagues at Seattle Children's Research Institute are currently working on a human study with former adolescent cancer patients to learn more about the effects chemotherapy exposure has on fertility and disease susceptibility later in life.

A better knowledge of chemotherapy's epigenetic shifts could also help inform patients of their likelihood of developing certain diseases, creating the possibility of earlier prevention and treatment strategies, Skinner said.

"We could potentially determine if a person's exposure had these epigenetic shifts that could direct what diseases they're going to develop, and what they're going to



potentially pass on to their grandchildren," he said.

"We could use epigenetics to help diagnose whether they're going to have a susceptibility to disease," said Skinner.

For the study, researchers exposed a set of young male rats to ifosfamide over three

days, mimicking a course of treatment an adolescent human cancer patient might receive. Those rats were later bred with female rats who had not been exposed to the drug. The resulting offspring were bred again with another set of unexposed rats.

The first-generation offspring had some

exposure to the chemotherapy drug since their fathers' sperm was exposed, but researchers found greater incidence of disease in not only the first- but also the second-generation, who had no direct exposure to the drug, the study said.

While there were some differences by generation and sex, the associated problems included greater incidence of kidney and testis diseases as well as delayed onset of puberty and abnormally low anxiety, indicating a lowered ability to assess risk, the study said.

The researchers also analyzed the rats' epigenomes, which are molecular processes that are independent of DNA sequence, but influence gene expression, including turning genes on or off, the study said.

Previous research has shown that exposure to toxicants, particularly during development, can create epigenetic changes that can be passed down through sperm and ova, the study said.

While other research has shown that cancer treatments can increase patients' chance of developing disease later in life, this is one of the first-known studies showing that susceptibility can be passed down to a third generation of unexposed offspring, the study said.

## 'New Single-Dose Drug 95% Effective Against Sleeping Sickness In Adults'

Press Trust Of India

A new, single-dose oral treatment for sleeping sickness is 95 per cent effective in adults and adolescents, regardless of disease stage, and could be a key factor in eliminating disease transmission by 2030, according to a study published in The Lancet Infectious Diseases.

Developed by not-for-profit Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi) and Sanofi, acoziborole, unlike current treatments for sleeping sickness, does not require multiple days of treatment, hospitalisation or highly skilled health personnel, the researchers said.

Transmitted by the bite of an infected tsetse fly, sleeping sickness, or human African trypanosomiasis (HAT), is a neglected tropical disease, which can be fatal if left untreated.

The Gambiense human African trypanosomiasis (g-HAT) form of the disease is found across countries in west and central Africa with most cases in Congo.

Until 2019, treatment for patients in the earlier stage of the disease was a daily injection for seven or more days and, for patients in the later disease stage, an intravenous drip for seven days, which requires hospitalisation, the researchers said.

Patients were also required to undergo a spinal tap, where fluid is collected from the spine, to diagnose the stage of sleeping sickness to determine the most appropriate treatment, they said.

In 2019, fexinidazole was introduced, a 10-day oral drug developed by DNDi as a first-line treatment for both stages of the disease, but its administration still requires skilled staff and, often, hospitalisation.

The new prospective study looks at the efficacy of one oral dose of acoziborole in treating g-HAT.

"Sleeping sickness threatens millions of people across sub-Saharan Africa. Many of the people at risk live in remote rural areas where there is little access to adequate health services, and where acoziborole has the potential to revolutionise treatment for sleeping sickness," said Dr. Antoine Tarral, Head of Human African Trypanosomiasis Clinical Program at DNDi, and lead author of the study.

"It is administered in a single dose and is effective across every stage of the disease, thereby eliminating the many barriers currently in place for people most vulnerable to the diseases, such as invasive treatments and long travel distances to a hospital or clinic, and opening the door to screen-and-treat approaches at the village level," Tarral said in a statement.

## ‘Air Pollution Linked With Multiple Long-Term Health Conditions’

Press Trust Of India

Exposure to traffic related air pollution is associated with an increased risk of multiple long-term physical and mental health conditions, according to a study.

This is the largest study worldwide -- conducted on over 364,000 (over 3.6 lakh) people in England -- to examine whether air pollution exposure is linked with the occurrence of multiple long-term health conditions, the researchers said.

The study, published in the journal Frontiers in Public Health, showed that high levels of traffic-related air pollution - fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and nitrogen dioxide (NO2) were associated with an increased risk of having at least two long term health conditions.

The strongest associations were observed for co-occurring neurological, respiratory, cardiovascular and common mental health conditions such as depression and anxiety, the researchers said.

"People with more than one long-term health condition have a lower quality of life and greater dependence on the health-care system," said Amy Ronaldson, Research Associate at King's College

London and first author on the study.

"Our research has indicated that those people that live in areas of higher traffic-related air pollution are at greater risk of having multiple health conditions," Ronaldson said.

However, the study does not prove that air pollution causes multimorbidity, but it does warrant further research in this area, the researchers said.

6Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Office Of The Executive Engineer Mechanical Division Anantnag

Telephone/ Fax 01932-222559 email id: [xenmedang@gmail.com](mailto:xenmedang@gmail.com)

TENDER DOCUMENT

(Abstract)

01	Contract	Supply / Providing of Bedding Items for Mechanical Snow Clearance Control Room at Devsar of Mechanical Field Sub Division Kulgam.
02	Reference of NIT	MDA/TS/E-Tender/119 of 2022-23 dated: 01-12-2022.
03	Time of Completion of Contract	05 days
04	Position of funds	Available
05	Estimated Cost (In Rs.)	15900.00
06	Cost of tender documents	200.00 In shape of E- Challan/GR to be uploaded in the online bid Bank: Jammu and Kashmir Bank Branch: T. P. Anantnag IFSC: JAKAOEMPIRE Account No: 0014010901006015
07	Bid Security.	2% of estimated cost in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer Mechanical Division Anantnag.
08	Online tender download/ start date	01-12-2022 (04:00 PM)
09	Online tender submission End Date	09-12-2022 (02:00 PM)
10	Date and time of opening of Technical Bid online (Cover 1 <sup>st</sup> )	10-12-2022 (02:00 PM) In Office of the Executive Engineer Mechanical Division, (MED), Anantnag.
11	Date and time of opening of Financial Bid online (Cover 3 <sup>rd</sup> )	After evaluation of cover 1 <sup>st</sup> in Office of the Executive Engineer Mechanical Division, (MED), Anantnag.

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer,  
Mechanical Division Anantnag

E-TENDER

No: MDA/TS/E-Tender/119 of 2022-23 Dated: 01-12-2022

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division Anantnag, invites E- Tenders in two cover system on item wise basis from reputed and registered furnisners / General Order Suppliers for the following work:

S.No	Name of work	Estt. cost (In Rs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rs)	Bid Security.	Time of Completion	Administrative Approval	Technical Sanction
1	Supply / Providing of Bedding Items for Mechanical Snow Clearance Control Room at Devsar of Mechanical Field Sub Division Kulgam.	15900.00	200.00	2% of the estimated cost in the shape of CDR/FDR.	5 days	Accorded	Yes

The tender documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, Bill of quantities (BOQ), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/ downloaded from Government website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per the schedule given in the "Abstract" appended to this notice:

Instructions to Bidders:

- The bids shall be deposited in electronic format with digital signature on the official website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) in two covers ; viz Techno- Commercial/ Financial cover
- Cover 1<sup>st</sup> shall contain:
  - Bid security/Earnest money:- Equivalent to 2% of the estimated cost in the shape of CDR/FDR from any nationalized bank having a working branch in Anantnag. The CDR/FDR shall be pledged to the Executive Engineer Mechanical Division Anantnag, without which tender cannot be entertained
  - Registration Certificate of Sales Tax Department quoting GST No.
  - Scanned copies of PAN Card/ GST Registration/ latest GST Clearance certificate or acknowledgement of latest returns.
  - Scanned copies of the Annexure "A", & "B" duly signed and accepted.
  - Scanned copy of E- Challan/DD etc. for an amount of Rs.200/= duly signed with date.
  - Cover 2<sup>nd</sup> shall contain:
    - Price bid, as per BOQ uploaded by this Department/Division.
    - The Department/ Division will not be responsible for delay in submission of bids due to any reason.
- The cost of tender documents is Non- Refundable and Non- Transferable.

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer,  
Mechanical Division Anantnag

No: MDA/TS- 145/5016-19.

DIPK-14482/22

Dated:02-12-2022.

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir

KASHMIR GOLF CLUB, M.A. ROAD SRINAGAR

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Fresh E-NIT No. 15 of 2022-23 Dated: 01 .12.2022

For and on behalf of the Administrator KGC, e-tenders are invited by Executive Engineer KGC Srinagar by e-tendering mode on Percentage basis from approved having Contractors with J&K UTI , PWD, CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Govt. for the following works:-

S	Name of work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Earnest Money	Cost of T/Doc	Time of Compl	Class of Contract	Major Head
1	Supply of sand for top dressing at Kashmir Golf Club, MA Road Srinagar	5.04	10080/- in shape of CDR/ FDR in favour of Executive Engineer RSGC/ KGC	300/= Non Refundable in shape of Bank Challan CD-0005010100005998 J&K Bank Branch Residency Road Srinagar in favour Administrator KGC	Full financial year 2022-23	DEE Class	CAPEX
2	Construction of Entrance Gate along M.A. Road and Crowns at Kashmir Golf Club	6.10	12200/- in shape of CDR/ FDR in favour of Executive Engineer RSGC/ KGC	354/= Non Refundable in shape of Bank Challan CD-0005010100005998 J&K Bank Branch Residency Road Srinagar in favour Administrator KGC	30 days	CEE/ DEE Class	
3	Replacing of Old Batteries of Inverter at Restaurant of Kashmir Golf Club Srinagar.	0.34	560/- in shape of CDR/ FDR in favour of Executive Engineer RSGC/ KGC	236/= Non Refundable in shape of Bank Challan CD-0005010100005998 J&K Bank Branch Residency Road Srinagar in favour Administrator KGC	15 days	DEE Class	Internal Resource
4	Procurement Landscaping seedling for winter season at Kashmir Golf Club	0.344	688/- in shape of CDR/ FDR in favour of Executive Engineer RSGC/ KGC	200/= Non Refundable in shape of Bank Challan CD-0005010100005998 J&K Bank Branch Residency Road Srinagar in favour Administrator KGC	30 days	Nursery Card Holder	

Position of AA: Accorded

Position of TS: Obtained

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per schedule of dates given below:-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	01.12.2022 3:30 PM
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 01.12.2022 TO 09.12.2022 4:30 PM
3	Bid Submission Start Date	01.12.2022 5:00 PM
4	Bid Submission End Date	09.12.2022 4:00 PM
5	Date & time of opening of Bids(Online)	10.12.2022 11:00 AM in the office of Executive Engineer KGC Srinagar

Special conditions:-

- The intending tenderers must have sufficient skilled /unskilled labour force.
- The intending bidders shall upload scanned copies of documents of valid Registration card / PAN / GST registration and Bank Receipt and CDR or FDR. However successful bidder shall produce the original copies of same within 3 days after opening of tenders.
- The Earnest Money Deposit of 2% of successful bidder shall be released after receipt of 3% performance security.
- For work at item No 2 Viz a-Viz Construction of Entrance Gate. The crowns will be as per approved Sample attached herewith)

General Conditions:

- The financial bid (BOQ) of only eligible, responsive bidders shall be opened on line on the date mentioned above in the office of Executive Engineer, RSGC/ KGC Srinagar. In case of any avoidable circumstances the tenders shall be opened on the next working day or any subsequent date convenient to the Authority.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> lowest bidder (Successful) has to submit performance security @ 3% of the Contract Value in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer, RSGC/ KGC Srinagar drawn from any recognized Bank, which should reach to the office of Executive Engineer, RSGC/ KGC Srinagar within 05 days from the date of opening of on line bids. In case of failure the bid shall be treated as non response.
- The bidders will submit the e-mail address, postal address and cell No.s on a separate page along with their bids.
- The bids for the works shall remain valid for 120 days from the date of opening of tenders.
- The department shall not be responsible for any technical error or delay in submission of on line bids due to any reason.
- The department can modify the terms and conditions, specification of work if need arises before the dead line date of receipt of tenders.
- The bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ down loaded should be used for filling the item rate/ Percentage inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains.
- The contract is bound to supply the material of best quality as per specifications. Any material found defective shall not be entertained and contractor is bound to replace.
- The Executive Engineer, RSGC/ KGC Srinagar reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
- The date of start of work shall be reckoned within one week from the date of issue of LOI/ allotment.
- In case of delay in completion of the work beyond stipulated period of completion, penalty up to 5% of the allotted cost shall be imposed.
- No advance payment shall be paid to the contractor.
- The payment shall be made as and when funds are available with this office, and no claim on delayed payments what so ever shall be entertained by the Department.
- The contractor shall ensure execution of an agreement with the Department within 15 days from the date of issue of LOI/ allotment.
- All disputes and differences between the parties arising out of any relating to the NIT, Letter of intent, Allotment, work done bills and agreement to be signed between the Officer of RSGC and the contractor including interpretation of its terms and conditions shall be referable to Administrator KGC whose decision shall be final and binding upon all the parties
- The bidders are advised to quote their rates in Percentage which includes Income tax, GST, Labour cess etc
- The employer may terminate the contract if the contractor causes a breach of the contract.
- The tender is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in the NIT/ Agreement
- All other terms and conditions shall remain same as laid down in PWD form-25 double /FC-31.
- Any item found to be necessary execute on site not covered by allotment the same shall be paid in vounge rate along allotted percentage.
- Any information asking from bidders shall be acceptance soft copy, However for clarification agency will be asked for producing hard copy.

Executive Engineer  
Kashmir  
Golf Club  
Srinagar

No: KGC/EE/2022-23/101-03

DIPK-NB-5337/22

Dated: 02/12/2022



## J&K Admin Approves Regulations For Functioning Of Agri-Markets

Observer News Service

**JAMMU-** The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Friday approved regulations for the functioning of agricultural markets across the union territory.

The Jammu and Kashmir Agriculture Produce and Market Committee (APMC) Act ceased to exist after the operation of J&K State Reorganization Act- 2019 with carving out of the Union Territory in Jammu and Kashmir.

The administrative council (AC), which met here under the chairmanship of the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, approved regulations for the functioning of agriculture markets across Jammu and Kashmir, an official spokesman said.

This Board will manage and regulate the established mandies in J&K and will remove the operational difficulties faced due to non-existing of statutory mechanism as on date, he said.

The board will be headed by the additional chief secretary

and will have representatives of mandies and food associations as members as also other official members, spokesman said.

In terms of the new mechanism, director horticulture, planning and marketing to declare any store, cold store, warehouse with above 3 ton capacity and cooperatives, store centres as sub-yards of mandies for purpose of doing trade on e-nam platforms and for making e-payments on the e-nam portal, he said.

Director will be the sole authority to issue unified licences for carrying out trade in any mandi in J&K, he said.

It has a provision to allow outside J&K traders to do trade on the e-nam with the growers and traders of J&K, spokesman said.

For this purpose, the director is allowed to recognize the licenses issued by the outside APMCs as valid licenses for doing trade on e-nam portal on mutual understanding basis with other states, he said.

## Markets Settle Lower After 8 Days Of Rally



Press Trust Of India

**MUMBAI:** Equity benchmark indices ended lower on Friday, halting their eight-day rally, amid a weak trend in global markets and emergence of profit-taking.

The 30-share BSE Sensex fell 415.69 points or 0.66 per cent to settle at 62,868.50. During the day, it tanked 604.56 points or 0.95 per cent to 62,679.63.

The broader NSE Nifty dipped 116.40 points or 0.62 per cent to end at 18,696.10.

Among the Sensex pack, Mahindra & Mahindra, Hindustan Unilever, Maruti, Nestle, HDFC, Asian Paints, Bajaj Finance and Power Grid were among the major laggards.

Tata Steel, Dr Reddy's, Tech Mahindra, IndusInd Bank and HCL Technologies were among the winners.

"The rally in the domestic market was halted by negative cues from global counterparts and broad-based profit-booking in large caps. The correction in the market was led by auto stocks as the sales data came in lower-than-expected due to weaker exports and sequential de-stocking," Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

In the past eight days, the BSE benchmark had jumped 2,139.35 points or 3.49 per cent. "Markets witnessed profit-taking and lost over half a per cent, taking a breather after the

recent surge," said Ajit Mishra, VP - Technical Research, Religare Broking Ltd.

The broader market, however, bucked the trend and ended in the green, with the BSE mid-cap gauge settling 0.80 per cent higher and smallcap index climbed 0.70 per cent.

Among sectoral indices, power fell 1.23 per cent, auto declined 1.12 per cent, utilities (1.10 per cent), teck (0.52 per cent), consumer durables (0.46 per cent), IT (0.41 per cent) and bankex (0.32 per cent).

Commodities, industrials, capital goods, telecommunication and metal were among the winners.

Elsewhere in Asia, markets in Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong ended in the negative territory.

Equity exchanges in Europe were trading mostly lower in the afternoon trade. Wall Street had ended lower on Thursday.

International oil benchmark Brent crude was trading 0.13 per cent lower at USD 86.77 per barrel.

The BSE benchmark had climbed 184.54 points or 0.29 per cent to settle at 63,284.19, its fresh record closing high, on Thursday. The Nifty advanced 54.15 points or 0.29 per cent to end at 18,812.50, its new record closing high.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) turned buyers on Friday as they purchased shares worth Rs 214.76 crore, as per exchange data.

## CS Bats For Making Agri-Allied Sector Attractive With Lucrative Economic Returns

Chairs meeting to discuss financial structuring of policy for holistic development of agriculture and allied sectors in J&K

Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta Friday impressed upon the officers of agriculture and allied sector to make the agriculture sector more attractive and remunerative with attractive economic returns for farmers.

He stated this while chairing a meeting to discuss the financial structuring of policy for holistic development of agriculture and allied sectors in Jammu and Kashmir here at Civil Secretariat.

He called for a multi pronged strategy as the sector is going through large scale interventions to increase farmers' income manifold and be more profitable.

He added that in order to achieve better results on ground, the department has to work in mission mode to facilitate farmers in such a way that he would sustain beyond government support at the end of five years or so.

He called upon the concerned that J&K should become a role model as an UT.

He said any scheme becomes successful only if it is implemented well on the ground and added that there should be



continuity for the implementation of these agricultural interventions on ground with clear withdrawal strategy so that farmers will reap maximum benefits even after external support winds up for them.

Earlier, Additional Chief Secretary (ACS) Agriculture Production Department, Atal Dullo made a detailed presentation on envisioning robust growth in agriculture and allied sectors in the Union Territory of J&K.

The meeting held a threadbare discussion over the list of projects cleared by Apex Committee.

The meeting discussed development of seed and seed multiplication chain in PPP, promotion of niche crops in J&K, farm mechanization and automation in detail while deliberating over interventions,

output, and outcome in particular sector.

Besides, the meeting held discussion on other projects already cleared by the apex committee for implementation in the UT.

While summing up the discussion, it was informed that with the infusion of Rs 5013 crore, the compound annual growth rate (CAGR) is projected to increase from Rs 37559 Crore/year (2.02%) to 65701 Crore/year at 11.08%.

It was given out that livelihood would be secured for 13 lakh farm families with additional SDGP of R 28,142 cr/year. Similarly, 18,861 additional enterprises would be created to generate additional 2.88 lakh jobs and skill development for over 2.5 lakh persons to be trained in agri-skills.

## Oil Min To Seek Compensation For Petrol, Diesel Losses

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) posted a combined net loss of Rs 21,201.18 crore in April-September.

This loss would have been higher but for them accounting for Rs 22,000 crore yet-to-received LPG subsidy for past years.

"The first half losses are publicly available. Add to that the LPG subsidy and you would arrive at approximate loss they have incurred," the official said.

Since holding of the prices benefited the economy in terms of not add to the already high inflation rate, there is a case for the oil marketing companies (OMCs) to be compensated, he said.

"Petrol and diesel prices are deregulated (not controlled or dictated by the government). OMCs are free to fix the rates daily on the basis of benchmark international oil prices. But they on their own volition decided to keep the prices on hold," he said.

The oil ministry will calculate the likely losses for the



entire fiscal year before approaching the finance ministry for the compensation.

The three fuel retailers are still losing money on sale of auto fuel despite softening international rates.

They have not changed prices since April 6 despite international oil prices shooting up to more than a decade high.

The government in October doled out Rs 22,000 crore to the three firms as a one-time grant to make up for the losses they incurred on selling domestic cooking gas (LPG) in two years starting June 2020.

The oil ministry had sought Rs 28,000 crore for the LPG losses but got Rs 22,000 crore. The softening of international oil prices had raised the expectation of a cut in petrol and diesel prices.

The basket of crude oil that India imports had shot up to

USD 116 per barrel in June but has moderated to USD 83.23 this month.

If the price reduction happens, this will be the first cut since May 22 when the government cut excise duty on the two fuels to shield customers from high global prices and rein in inflation.

Petrol and diesel prices are supposed to be revised daily but state-owned fuel retailers have not exercised their rights since April 6. Rates have been on freeze since then except on May 22 when prices were reduced following a cut in excise duty.

Prior to the April freeze, petrol and diesel prices had gone up by Rs 10 per litre each.

Petrol currently costs Rs 96.72 a litre in the national capital and diesel is priced at Rs 89.62.



## 'PMKVY Projects Preserving, Reviving Namda Craft Of Kashmir'

Namda project to benefit more than 2000 persons in 30 Namda clusters

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) 3.0 and its component; Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for upskilling of artisans and weavers of Kashmir is tremendously helping in preserving and revival of Namda craft of Kashmir.

The Namda project will benefit more than two thousand persons of 30 Namda Clusters from six districts of Kashmir (Srinagar, Baramulla, Ganderbal, Bandipora, Budgam and Anantnag) and RPL initiative targets to upskill around eleven thousand artisans and weavers of Jammu and Kashmir. Namda craft is a rug made of sheep wool through felting technique instead of normal weaving process.

Earlier the export of this craft had declined and Central Government through this special project under PMKVY, of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has designed short-term training curriculum to preserve this endangered craft.

The project is being implemented in 25 batches in 3 cycles of training. Each training program is of ap-

proximately three and half months, which results in the cycles being completed in approximately 14 - 16 months.

The Namda project will be an industry-based training program with beneficiaries involved in Namda Crafts Production who will contribute towards preserving and reviving the rich heritage associated with Namda craft in Kashmir.

This will also improve the access of existing artisans of Namda crafts cluster in Kashmir and will improve their prospects of employability. The objective of these projects is to boost and preserve the traditional Namda craft of Kashmir and upskill the local weavers and artisans to enhance their productivity through RPL assessment and certification.

The vision of the central Government is to revive and promote traditional and heritage skills and to give artisans support to make them economically sustainable.

Government is also offering artisans exposure to the international markets so that the world becomes aware of vibrant culture of Kashmir. The project was launched after artisans of J&K sought support to boost the local economy through customised skill training programmes. This prompted the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship to come up with this programme in a bid to meet the economic aspirations of the local youth and take them on the path of development.

## Dir Agri Reviews Working Scenario Of Agriculture Law Enforcement Agency

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal Friday convened a meeting of law enforcement officers of all the districts of Kashmir division to re-

divisional and district levels to maintain transparency and accountability in the system in addition to smooth distribution of quality pesticides, fertilizers and other inputs to the growers and farmers.

He asked the officers to submit



view the overall working of the law enforcement agency.

Addressing the meeting, the Director said that the prime objective of the law enforcement wing of the department is to ensure the availability of quality insecticides, pesticides and fertilizers to the farmers through proper sales outlets well in time. In this direction every effort must be put in place so that the farmer's interest could be secured, he further added.

Director impressed upon the officers of the law enforcement agency to remain in close coordination at

weekly reports on demand, distribution, seizures and other activities. Besides, he also impressed them to strictly follow and implement different provisions of insecticides act 1968 and fertilizer control order 1985.

Iqbal asked the officers to initiate strict action according to law against the retailers if found selling fertilizers, pesticides without following the proper procedure. He said any sub-standard/spurious material if found should be immediately seized and the warranted action as per law against the erring parties should be initiated.

## Sensitisation Program On MSME Initiatives Held

**JAMMU:** A sensitisation programme on various initiatives by MSME including revised Guidelines of Micro & Small Enterprises Cluster Development Programme (MSE-CDP) was organised Friday at Udyog Bhanwan, Rail Head Complex Jammu..

Anoo Malhotra, Director General Industries & Commerce, Jammu welcomed the participants and appreciated the initiatives of MSME-DI Jammu in helping the MSMEs of J&K. She also thanked MSME-DI Jammu for getting special relaxation in land requirement norms for establishment of a Tool Room in J&K.

G. Velladuria, Joint Director of MSME Development & Facilitation Office, Govt. Of India, Industrial Estate Digiana Jammu gave a detailed presentation on revised MSE-CDP guidelines. He exhorted the General Managers, District Industries Centres of Jammu Division, to come up with new proposals so that MSMEs in Jammu are benefited. He noted that there was a lot of potential for cluster development in J&K, which is still at a nascent stage in J&K.

He apprised that various projects have been approved viz. Up-gradation of Industrial Estate at Lassipura, Up-gradation of Industrial Estate at Battal Ballian Udhampur in addition to setting up of the Technology Centre at Industrial Growth Centre, Samba among others. **ONS**

## Maruti Suzuki To Hike Vehicle Prices From January

**NEW DELHI:** Maruti Suzuki India will increase the prices of its vehicles 'substantially' from next month as it looks to offset the impact of rising input costs and make provisions to update the model range to conform to stricter emission norms which kick in from April 2023.

In a regulatory filing on Friday, the country's largest carmaker said it continues to witness increased cost pressure driven by overall inflation and recent regulatory requirements.

While the automaker makes maximum effort to reduce cost and partially offset the increase, it has become imperative to pass on some of the impact through a price increase, it added.

The company has planned the price increase in January 2023 which shall vary across models, the auto major said without disclosing the exact quantum of the increase.

In an interaction with PTI, Maruti Suzuki India Senior Executive Officer Marketing & Sales Shashank Srivastava said that commodity prices still remain on the higher side if compared with two years ago.

"Besides there is general inflationary pressure on every input cost whether it is energy or material or manpower cost. Then there is requirement to conform to regulatory requirements," he said. **PTI**

## SHORT TAKES

### 'Bank Credit Grows Nearly 17% For Fortnight Ended Nov 18'

**NEW DELHI:** Indian banking system's outstanding credit grew by 16.96 per cent for the fortnight ended November 18, the Reserve Bank said on Friday.

The bank credit grew to Rs 133.29 lakh crore for the fortnight ended November 18 this year as against Rs 113.96 lakh crore on November 19, 2021, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said.

The deposit growth came at 9.30 per cent, with the overall base Rs 177.15 lakh crore as on November 18 as against Rs 162.06 lakh crore in the year-ago period, it said.

Interestingly, amid a war for deposits in the system as banks jostle to raise the liabilities to fund the elevated credit growth, the overall deposits in the system declined marginally during the fortnight as against the Rs 177.88 lakh crore as on November 4.

It can be noted that the current fiscal has seen a steady rise in credit growth in FY23 driven by a variety of reasons, including economic growth, borrowers' shift to the bank as against other credit substitutes amid rising interest rates, etc.

In FY 2021-22, bank credit rose by 8.59 per cent and deposits by 8.94 per cent. **PTI**

## Rupee Falls 7 Paise To Close At 81.33 Against US Dollar

**MUMBAI:** The rupee pared its initial gains to settle down by 7 paise at 81.33 against the US dollar on Friday as the support from weak dollar was negated by weak domestic markets and gains in crude oil prices.

Forex traders said foreign fund outflows also weighed on investor sentiments. At the inter-bank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 81.11, but pared the gains and ended at 81.33, down 7 paise over its previous close.

During the day, the local unit witnessed an intraday high of 81.08 and a low of 81.35. On Thursday, the rupee appreciated by 4 paise to close at 81.26 against the US dollar.

"Weak US Dollar index supported the rupee. However, weak domestic markets, a surge in crude oil and FI outflows capped sharp gains," said Anuj Choudhary - Research Analyst at Sharekhan by BNP Paribas. The US Dollar declined as US ISM manufacturing PMI slipped into contraction and positive riskier currencies such as Euro and Pound. Euro surged as the German trade surplus topped street estimates.

"We expect the Rupee to trade with a slight negative bias on risk aversion in global markets and fresh outflows by FIIs. However, softness in the greenback may support Rupee at lower levels. Markets may also take cues from US non-farm payroll data today evening, wherein it is expected to show a slower pace of hiring," Choudhary added. **PTI**

## 'India To Continue Buying Oil From All Countries'

**NEW DELHI:** India will continue to buy crude oil from anywhere in the world, including Russia, to meet its energy needs, a top official said ahead of EU restrictions on Russian oil kicking in.

The executive body of the European Union has asked its 27-member countries to cap the price of Russian oil at USD 60 as part of the West's attempt to squeeze Moscow's oil revenues and limit its ability to wage war in Ukraine while keeping global prices and supplies steady. "Unlike Iran and Venezuela, there are no sanctions on buying oil from Russia."

So anyone who can arrange for shipping, insurance and financing outside of the EU can buy oil," the official said.

The price caps are part of the EU's plan to use its clout in insurance and shipping industries to crimp Moscow. "We will continue to buy oil from anywhere in the world including Russia," he said. Under the price-cap system that kick-in from December 5, companies shipping Russian oil outside of Europe would only be able to access EU insurance and brokerage services if they sell the oil at or under USD 60.

"So for all practical purposes, if I can send a ship, cover insurance and devise a mode of payment, I can continue to buy oil from Russia," the official said explaining how the mechanism works. **PTI**



Congress Blaming EVMs  
Indicates It Has Accepted Defeat  
In Gujarat Polls: PM Modi

Agenceis

Ahmedabad: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said the Congress alleging tampering of Electronic Voting Machines is an indication that it has already accepted defeat in the Gujarat Assembly elections.

Voting for 89 seats in the first phase of the Gujarat elections took place on Thursday.

"The way Congress has started blaming EVMs after yesterday's voting in Kutch, Saurashtra and south Gujarat, it is evident the opposition party has conceded defeat and has accepted that the BJP will win the election. Alleging EVM tampering is an indication the Congress is on its way out," said Modi.

He was speaking at an election rally in Patan town of north Gujarat where voting will be held along with remaining 92 seats on December 5.

"The Congress knows only

two things, abuse Modi ahead of polls to please the voters and then blame EVMs after voting. This proves the Congress has accepted defeat," the prime minister said.

He also slammed past Congress governments for 'widening' the rift between the rich and the poor in the country and "looting" the funds meant for the welfare of the poor.

"A former Congress PM used to say that out of Rs 1 sent by the Centre, only 15 paise reaches the poor," Modi said, referring to the late Rajiv Gandhi's famous quote.

"In those days local bodies, state governments and the Centre were ruled by the Congress. The BJP was not in the picture. So which 'palm' was responsible for siphoning off 85 paise?" he said, in a dig at the Congress's poll symbol (hand).

After he became prime minister, he plugged all such loopholes, Modi added.



J&K Bank Collaborates  
With BSF To Undertake  
Plantation Drive



Observer News Service

**Srinagar:** As part of enhancing environment sustainability, J&K Bank today provided 1500 plant stems of apple, almond, walnut, cherry and pear to officials of the Border Security Force (BSF). Supported by J&K Bank under its Corporate Social Responsibility, Plantation Drive was organized by BSF (Humhama Kashmir) at its Subsidiary Training Center (STC) that encompasses an area of over 300 acres.

Bank's General Manager Sudhir Gupta and IG BSF Kashmir Frontier Ashok Yadav (IPS) jointly kick-started the drive by planting the first stem. Others

present on the occasion included DIGs of BSF Subhash Chand, Alok Chakorborty, Dr Umesh Tiwari and A Srinivas, besides other senior officers of the bank and BSF.

Speaking on the occasion, General Manager, J&K Bank, Sudhir Gupta said, "As a responsible corporate, J&K Bank is committed to help preserve the ecology, environment and heritage of the region by making relevant and sustainable interventions. And training centre being placed in an ecologically sensitive area shall hugely benefit from plantation of these trees."

Terming the drive as an eco-friendly initiative, Sudhir Gupta added, "The drive assumes

greater importance as the green cover through plantation will go a long way in protecting not only the campus residents from the ill effects of pollution but also the people living in the adjoining areas."

Speaking on the occasion, IG BSF Kashmir Frontier, Ashok Yadav (IPS) expressed his gratitude towards J&K Bank for coming forward to make the drive a success. "Apart from serving the nation on security front, BSF is also playing its part to promote and implement socially and environmentally relevant initiatives through collaboration with socially responsible corporates like J&K Bank", he added.

SC Directs Centre, States To  
File Responses On Plea Seeking  
Directions For Uniform  
Healthcare Standard

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Friday directed the Centre and the states to file their responses on a plea seeking directions for a uniform standard of healthcare for citizens in line with the Constitution by adopting provisions of the Clinical Establishments Act, 2010.

A bench of Justices B R Gavai and Vikram Nath granted four weeks to the Union of India and the state governments to file their replies.

The top court was hearing a plea filed by Jan Swasthya Abhiyan, Patients' Rights Campaign and K M Gopakumar which had also sought directions for operationalising all the provisions of the Act, as well as Clinical Establishment Rules, 2012 in order to ensure affordable and quality healthcare.

The plea had sought directions for notification and implementation of the conditions for registration of clinical establishments such as observance of minimum standards, display of rates for procedures and services, compliance with the standard treatment protocol, as provided in Sections 11 and 12 of the

CEA read with Rule 9 of the Rules, 2012.

The petition had also sought directions that a grievance redressal mechanism be created for the patients at the district, state and national level national level till the lacunae in the CEA are filled by a suitable legislation.

The PIL said the duty to provide healthcare to citizens was put on the government under Article 47 of the Constitution; however, the public healthcare system did not proceed as conceived and treats only 30 per cent of the patients, while the rest are treated by the private sector.

The petition contended that the public healthcare system suffers from a lack of public health infrastructure and human resources, non-availability of medicines, lack of public investment and forced dependency on the private sector.

The plea had submitted that there is an urgent need to develop the public healthcare system in India by providing proper infrastructure and sufficient budget to ensure that the maximum facilities exist in the public domain, not only in normal times but also at the time of emergencies such as COVID-19.



21 Uninhabited Andaman And Nicobar  
Islands Named After Decorated Soldiers

Agenceis

Port Blair: The government has named 21 uninhabited islands in the union territory of Andaman & Nicobar after recipients of Param Vir Chakra , the country's highest wartime gallantry award.

Out of the 21 islands, 16 are located in North and Middle Andaman district, while five islands are in South Andaman.

Speaking to PTI, Andaman and Nicobar Islands MP, Kuldeep Rai Sharma, welcomed the move taken by the Centre for naming the 21 islands after decorated soldiers in assistance with the Defence and the local administration.

"I am happy that the Centre has chosen 21 islands from Andaman to honour our brave soldiers. I would also like to request the administration to publish a small handbook for schoolchildren so that they can learn more about their supreme sacrifice for our motherland.

"Andaman and Nicobar Island is a tirtha sthan' (pilgrimage) because of sacrifices made by the freedom fighters and now such honour for the Param Vir Chakra recipients is a matter of pride for us," Sharma said.

The first uninhabited island numbered INAN370' in North and Middle Andaman was named after Major Somnath Sharma. Now INAN370' will be



known as Somnath Dweep'. He was the first and the first recipient of the Param Vir Chakra. Sharma lost his life in the line of duty on 3 November 1947 while handling Pakistani infiltrators near Srinagar Airport. He was posthumously awarded the highest military award for his gallantry and sacrifice during the Battle of Badgam.

Subedar and Honorary Captain Karam Singh who fought in the Indo-Pakistani War of 1947, and was awarded the Param Vir Chakra for saving a forward post at Richmar Gali, south of Tithwal (a small border-village in Jammu and Kashmir) was also honoured after the Andaman administration and the Defence Ministry named another uninhabited island numbered INAN308' after

him as Karam Singh Dweep'.

Similarly, Major Rama Raghoba Rane, Naik Jadunath Singh, Company Havildar Major Piru Singh Shekhawat, Captain Gurbachan Singh Salaria, Lieutenant Colonel Dhan Singh Thapa Magar, Subedar Joginder Singh Sahnan, Major Shaitan Singh Bhati, Company Quartermaster Havildar Abdul Hamid, Lieutenant Colonel Ardeshir Burzorji Tarapore, Lance Naik Albert Ekka, Colonel Hoshiar Singh Dahiya, Second Lieutenant Arun Khetarpal, Flying Officer Nirmal Jit Singh Sekhon, Major Ramaswamy Parameswaran, Captain Bana Singh, Captain Vikram Batra, Captain Manoj Kumar Pandey and Subedar Major Sanjay Kumar - all recipients of the

Param Vir Chakra- were honoured after the islands were named after them.

"Christening of the 21 uninhabited islands of Andaman and Nicobar archipelago with names of Param Vir Chakra heroes is a real tribute to the soldiers "who had given their today for our tomorrow," the MP said.

Some of the 21 islands fall under reserved forest while some have great potential for water sports, creek tourism and fishing.

The Andamans in general and the Cellular Jail in particular played a prominent part in the history of our freedom struggle. People who took part in various anti-British movements such as the 1857 revolt, the Wahabi Movement, and the Burmese Rebellion were deported to the Andamans where they lived there under barbaric conditions. Great stalwarts of the freedom struggle were confined in the solitary cells of the Cellular Jail.

"In today's fast-moving world and tough competitive day-to-day life, the youth hardly find time to remember our rich heritage and past. This initiative is a testimony to the sacrifices made by Indian Army personnel and youngsters will be aware of their heroic deeds. This becomes most crucial whilst the nation celebrates Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (commemoration of 75 years of Indian Independence)," said Col Diptangshu Chaudhury, a war veteran of the Kargil conflict.

SC Quashes Kerala Hc Order  
Granting Anticipatory Bail To  
4 In ISRO Espionage Case

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Friday quashed the Kerala High Court order granting anticipatory bail to four people, including a former Director General of Police (DGP), in a case of alleged frame-up of scientist Nambi Narayanan in the 1994 ISRO espionage matter.

A bench of Justices M R Shah and C T Ravikumar remanded the matter back to the high court and directed it to decide the issue within four weeks.

"All these appeals allowed. Impugned orders granting anticipatory bail passed by HC are quashed and set aside. All matters are remitted back to the HC to be decided afresh on its own merits. This court had not observed anything on merits for either of the parties.

"It is ultimately for the HC to pass orders. We request the HC to decide the anticipatory bail applications at the earliest preferably within four weeks from date of this order," the bench said.

The top court directed the registry of the high court to notify bail applications before the bench concerned within one week from today.

"Till then by way of an interim arrangement, and without prejudice to rights, it is

directed that for a period of five weeks and till the bail applications are finally decided by HC on remand, the respondents may not be arrested subject to cooperation in the investigation," the apex court said.

The judgement came on the CBI's appeal against the high court order granting bail to former Gujarat DGP R B Sreekumar, two former police officers of Kerala S Vijayan and Thamphi S Durga Dutt, and a retired intelligence official P S Jayaprakash. Sreekumar was then the Deputy Director of the Intelligence Bureau (IB).

The apex court had in November last year issued notice on the CBI's plea filed in the matter.

The agency had said its probe found that some scientists were tortured and framed in the espionage case due to which the development of cryogenic engine was hit, setting back India's space programme by almost one or two decades.

The CBI earlier alleged there was a clear indication that the accused were part of a team which had ulterior motives to torpedo the attempts of the ISRO for manufacturing the cryogenic engine.

While granting anticipatory bail to these four accused on

August 13 last year, the high court had said, "There is not even a scintilla of evidence regarding the petitioners being influenced by any foreign power so as to induce them to hatch a conspiracy to falsely implicate the scientists of the ISRO with the intention to stall the activities of the ISRO with regard to the development of the cryogenic engine."

It had said unless there is specific material regarding their involvement, prima facie, it cannot be said that they were acting against the interests of the country.

The CBI has registered a case against 18 people for various offences, including criminal conspiracy, in connection with the arrest and detention of Narayanan in the espionage case.

The case, which had hit the headlines in 1994, pertained to allegations of transfer of certain confidential documents on India's space programme to foreign countries by two scientists and four others, including two Maldivian women.

Narayanan, who was given a clean chit by the CBI, had earlier alleged that the Kerala Police had "fabricated" the case and the technology he was accused to have stolen and sold in the 1994 case did not even exist at that time.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Protests Rock

attached with KVK, Pombai, Kulgam," reads the order, a copy of which lies with Kashmir Observer.

Pertinent to mention here that barely a week ago, a female student of Government Degree College (GDC) Sopore had made a similar allegation against a professor in which the college authorities submitted a report to the government after inquiring into the matter.

Speaking to Kashmir Observer, Dean SKUAST (Wadura) Dr. Raihana Habib Kanth said that the varsity administration has already suspended the professor and his salary has also been withheld.

Several students have also alleged that the accused professor Mushtaq Ahmed Dar is a habitual offender who has demanded sexual favours from girl students in the past and the varsity administration has been saving him despite knowing about his reality.

However, Dr. Raihana Habib refuted such allegations and said that nothing like this has ever come under the notice of varsity in the past.

"This is an absolute lie. Most of these protesting students are from 1st and 2nd year....so how can they be so sure about what has happened in the

past," Dr. Raihana said.

Dying Hygam

all the causes responsible for degradation in the Wetlands and scientific prescriptions have been recommended to improve upon its hydrological regimes, pollution or loss of biodiversity," reads the report, a copy of which lies with Kashmir Observer.

It further says presently the plans are being prepared as per this Management Action Plan (MAP).

According to the report, the survey and digital delineation of Hygam Wetland Conservation Reserve has been completed jointly with the Revenue Department and Forest Demarcation Division. Further, work of installation of boundary pillars has been taken up and shall be completed in next year, out of 70 boundary pillars , 35 have been installed.

It says that some bunds like Cross bund and Gohal Tengpora Bund were established long way back (60 years ago) resulting in fragmentation of the Wetland.

"These bunds have been demolished by this division in last year i.e. 2020-21 with the assistance of Revenue department, Forest Protection Force and Police retrieving thereby 2400 kanal of land from illegal encroachers," it

informs.

The wildlife department says that presently the work on consolidation of the peripheral bunds is being taken on priority.

"In this regard raising/strengthening of bunds from Tiffin Shed to Kralkhud (2.5 Km's) and from Rinji to Lolipora (2.00 Km's) has been completed. This will help in restoration of water level and will redress apprehensions of encroachments," the report notes.

Over 145 panels have been installed around the periphery of the wetland during last year, previously these panels were damaged by "miscreants" and people showed resentment while installing.

The department says that restoration works like making of boat ways, pools, plugging of breaches is also being carried out regularly.

Regarding the pollution, the department says that the water quality monitoring of the wetland is being carried out periodically in order to monitor the status of health and plus of the wetland.

"The results reveal that water quality confirms the category B of primary water quality criteria which is within the prescribed permissible norms as per CPCB guidelines," the report adds.

According to the department, a

capacity building workshop in order to collect samples for water quality monitoring was organized in collaboration with the pollution Control Board.

"Now our field staff is collecting samples and sending it to PCB for analysis," it says.

The department maintains that the division is regularly conducting anti-plastic drives in and around Hygam Wetland by involving local schools, N.G.O's and other stakeholders and solid waste is being removed in order to keep this protected wetland plastic free.

On migratory birds and biodiversity, the department highlights that every year the Asia Water bird census is carried out by this division in association with some NGO's/universities/ colleges/ bird watching groups and media persons.

While refuting the reports of deteriorated condition and decline of bird species in the Hygam Wetland, the report said that the census has revealed that bird species which were previously recorded within the wetland have presently also been reported within the wetland.

The details of bird counts of last few years is as under:-

Year	No. of birds visited
2021	573290
2022	274300

The department said that as per the recent survey carried out by the division along with more than one lac migratory birds have been recorded in the wetland. The species include Mallard, shovlar , pintail, common shelduck, crested poachards, Graylag geese ,Mor hens and other species.

It may be noted, a Srinagar based Environmental Police Group (EPG) and its offshoot Green Citizens Council (GCC) had visited Hygam Wetland Reserve last week and found no migratory birds.

Talking to Kashmir Observer, Wildlife Warden Wetlands, Kashmir, Ifshan Dewan said the news of like previous years, the migratory birds have arrived in this year as well and termed the report fake and baseless.

Night Temperature

0.7°C above normal for the north Kashmir place, he said.

Jammu recorded a low of 11.1°C against 9.3°C on the previous night. It was 0.8°C above normal for J&K's winter capital, he said. Banihal recorded a low of 6.6°C, Batote 4.5°C (0.4°C above normal), Katra 9.4°C (0.5°C above normal) and Bhabarwah 4.5°C (around 2°C above normal).

In Ladakh, Leh recorded minus 4.4°C, Kargil minus 10.6°C and

mercury in Drass, the world's second coldest place after Siberia, settled at minus 6.5°C, the official said.

On Wednesday, Mukhtar Ahmed, Deputy Director, Meteorological Department told Kashmir Observer that the weather will continue to remain foggy, which is likely to reduce visibility in the valley in the coming days

"As of now, there's no expectation of any new weather system in J&K. The weather will continue to remain somewhat the same in the next 8-10 days. It's unlikely that plain areas will receive any snowfall during the above period," he had said. (With GNS inputs)

Board Fumes

as warranted under rules shall be initiated against the defaulters," reads the communiqué.

The officer further said that the board has notified for information of all the stake holders that as per Board Act it is the mandate of JKBOSE to prescribe the courses of instructions, prepare curricula and also prescribe text books for the primary, elementary, secondary and higher secondary schools.

"It is mandatory for all the private and government schools to implement and prescribe the textbooks published by JKBOSE for all the classes," the officer said.



## J&K Cricket On The Up, Say JKCA

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Jammu & Kashmir Cricket Association (JKCA) has lauded the efforts of the region's cricketers for their recent performances in National-level tournaments. In a press release titled, "JKCA Creates History",



on December 2, the Supreme Court of India appointed Sub Committee detailed its work in the Association over the past year or so.

"For the first time in the Crick-eting History of J&K, all 03 Men's Teams of JKCA representing J&K in various One Day Tournaments conducted by Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) at different venues during the season 2022-23 have qualified for the Knockout Stage.

"The Men's U-19 team in the Vinoo Mankad Tournament topped in its elite pool in the League matches and moved directly to the knockout stage. In Vijay Hazare Trophy, the Senior Men's Team defeated teams like Madhya Pradesh, Baroda, Odisha, Uttarakhand and finally lost in the Quarter Finals to Assam in a high scoring match.

"Following the footsteps of other 02 teams, the Men's U-25 team also qualified for the

pre-quarter finals of the U-25 Men's State A Tournament being played at Rajkot. The team is scheduled to play Railways on 04th December, 2022 at Rajkot," the press release noted.

"JKCA is pleased with the performance of the Teams and has also complimented the members of the Junior and Senior Selection Committees who have used their experience and expertise in selecting the best possible combination for each team," it read.

"What is heartening is that all the teams performed consistently and worked together as a team and excelled in batting, fielding and bowling, all three departments of this game. The team spirit displayed by the teams and their urge to win is something new and is a welcome change," said Anil Gupta, Member Administration, JKCA.

Mithun Manhas, Member Cricket Operations & Development, JKCA is in full praise of the Support Staff apart from the teams and maintains that their performance is directly related to the hardwork put in by the Coaches and other members of the Support Staff. It certainly is an excellent team work, remarked Manhas.

"The various processes and procedures placed to bring in transparency and fairness in the system has enabled the real talent to be included in the team which is evident from the performance of certain new comers," Manhas added. He also gave credit to the talent hunt by the JKCA and the subsequent Cricket for Peace Tournament.

## Santosh Trophy Trials Begin In Srinagar & Jammu



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** J&K Football Association (JKFA) kick started its trials for the upcoming Santosh Trophy on Friday. The trials were held simultaneously at Srinagar and Jammu.

"JKFA is conducting two days trials for the Probables to select the final contingent for participation in the 73rd National Championship for Santosh Trophy to be held at Calicut Kerala. In this connection today's tri-

als (2nd December 2022) were held at Synthetic Turf TRC, Srinagar and Mini Stadium Prade, Jammu. The players from almost all the districts of J&K are participating in the trials. The selection process is being done by professional/International footballers of J&K," the JKFA said in a statement.

The trials will continue today, December 3, as well. The final selection of the contingent will be made on December 5 at Jammu.

## LG's Rolling Trophy Enters Final Phase



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** J&K Administration's LG's Rolling Trophy, which has seen the participation of more than 40 thousand J&K youth, has entered its final phase, which was inaugurated on Friday at twin south Kashmir districts of Pulwama and Bijnbehara.

Inaugurated by Chief Secretary of J&K in the month of September, the tournament is being organised by Department of Youth Services & Sports. After completing the trails at Zonal and Inter Zonal District level, the well skilled and talented cricketers are representing their native districts in the top level Inter District tournament.

Syed Aijaz ACR Pulwama was chief guest at the inaugural ceremony at Sports Stadium Pulwama. DYSSO Pulwama Noor ul Haq, DYSSO Budgam Gurmukh Singh and many other senior officials of the Department were also present on this occasion.

Speaking on the occasion Syed said that it is an honour for the District to host Inter-District matches of LG's Rolling Trophy. The tournament is also being held at Open Field Lelhara in the dis-

trict. Ganderbal vs. Baramulla and Bandipora vs. Shopian matches were played at Sports Stadium Pulwama and Sports Field Lelhara, respectively.

At another south Kashmir district, Sub-District Magistrate Bhi-jbehra Abdul Rashid and International Cricketer Parvaiz Rasool witnessed the inaugural match of the final phase of tournament at Sports Stadium Bijnbehara.

District Youth Services & Sports Officer (DYSSO) Anantnag Mush-taq Ahmed Pampori, (DYSSO) Kulgam Ghulam Hassan Lone and other senior officials of the Department were also present on the occasion. At Anantnag, the scheduled matches are being played at two venues, HSS Bhi-jbehra and Sports Stadium, Mattan. Sub-District Magistrate congratulated the Department of Youth Services & Sports for organising such tournaments. Parvaiz Rasool also boosted the morale of the players by delivering a motivational speech on the occasion. Simultaneously at Sports Stadium Mattan the inaugural ceremony was attended by Block Development Council Chairman Abdul Rashid.

## FIFA World Cup 2022: Round Of 16 Teams, Schedule & More



Observer News Service

The 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar has reached its knockout phase. Apart from big name exits of Germany and Belgium, the teams expected to make it to Round of 16 stage are there.

Here's a complete list of all the qualified teams, the schedule of the matches, including time and date:

### FIFA World Cup 2022 Round of 16 Qualifiers, Teams:

**GROUP A:**  
Qualifier 1 - Netherlands  
Qualifier 2 - Senegal  
**GROUP B:**  
Qualifier 1 - England  
Qualifier 2 - United States of America (USA)  
**GROUP C:**  
Qualifier 1 - Argentina  
Qualifier 2 - Poland  
**GROUP D:**

Qualifier 1 - France  
Qualifier 2 - Australia  
**GROUP E:**  
Qualifier 1 - Japan  
Qualifier 2 - Spain  
**GROUP F:**  
Qualifier 1 - Morocco  
Qualifier 2 - Croatia  
**GROUP G:**  
Brazil, Serbia, Switzerland, Cameroon  
(Yet to be decided)  
**GROUP H:**  
Qualifier 1 - Portugal  
Qualifier 2 - South Korea

### FIFA World Cup 2022 Round of 16 Schedule:

• Saturday, December 3  
Netherlands vs USA - 8:30 PM IST  
• Sunday, December 4  
Argentina vs Australia - 12:30 AM IST  
France vs Poland - 8:30 PM IST  
• Monday, December 5  
England vs Senegal - 12:30

AM IST  
Japan vs Croatia - 8:30 PM IST  
• Tuesday, December 6  
1G vs South Korea - 12:30 AM IST (yet to be decided)  
Morocco vs Spain - 8:30 PM IST  
• Wednesday, December 7  
Portugal vs 2G - 12:30 AM IST (yet to be decided)  
• Friday, December 9  
Quarter-final 1 - 8:30 PM IST  
• Saturday, December 10  
Quarter-final 2 - 12:30 AM IST  
Quarter-final 3 - 8:30 PM IST  
• Sunday, December 11  
Quarter-final 4 - 12:30 AM IST  
• Wednesday, December 14  
Semi-final 1 - 12:30 AM IST  
• Thursday, December 15  
Semi-final 2 - 12:30 AM IST  
• Saturday, December 17  
Bronze final (3rd Place Play-off) - 8:30 PM IST  
• Sunday, December 18  
FIFA World Cup 2022 Final - 8:30 PM IST

## FIFA WC: South Korea Beat Portugal 2-1, Uruguay Trounce Ghana

Agencies

**AL RAYYAN:** South Korea advanced to the round of 16 at the World Cup on the tiebreaker of goals scored after beating Portugal 2-1 Friday following a stoppage-time strike from Hwang Hee-chan.

South Korea was heading out of the tournament until Son Heung-min led a length-of-the-field breakaway in the first minute of added time and slipped a pass through to Hwang, who converted a low finish.

Son and his teammates then formed a huddle in the middle of the field after the final whistle and watched coverage of the end of the other Group H match between Uruguay and Ghana on a cell phone.

South Korea's team's fans were in tears, and some were praying.

When that game finished 2-0 to Uruguay and South Korea was sure of its second-place finish,



the players erupted in joy.

Uruguay was in a position to go through until South Korea's late goal gave it a 2-1 win over Portugal in the other Group H game. That meant Uruguay needed to score one more goal in the dying minutes of its game to qualify.

It didn't and Suarez was distraught on the sidelines and covered his face with his shirt

having been substituted in what was likely his last World Cup appearance.

South Korea finished even with Uruguay with four points and both had a goal difference of zero, but the Asian team scored four goals compared to Uruguay's two.

Portugal had already advanced after two games and won the group.

## Pakistan Will Pull Out Of Asia Cup If ACC Shifts Tournament: Ramiz Raja

Press Trust of India

**RAWALPINDI:** Pakistan will pull out of the Asia Cup if Asian Cricket Council decides to shift the tournament, PCB chairman Ramiz Raja said on Friday.

In October, Asian Cricket Council president and BCCI secretary Jay Shah had said that India will not travel to Pakistan next year for the 50-over Asia Cup event after which PCB had threatened to pull out of the World Cup scheduled to be held in India.

Talking to the media personnel during the second day of the first Test against England, Ramiz said Pakistan would not accept the Asia Cup being moved out of Pakistan only because India could not tour the country.

"If that is the case if India cannot come to Pakistan, then we also have the option of not playing in the Asia Cup at all," he said.

India had last toured Pakistan in the year 2008 for the Asia Cup ODI event.

Ramiz had earlier threatened that Pakistan might not tour India for next year's World Cup if

India continued to avoid touring Pakistan for any reason.

"Yes that is also there. We have options before us because frankly speaking, I don't see the point of Asian Cricket Council (ACC) awarding us hosting rights of the Asia Cup when India is not going to come." He noted that the Asia Cup would



lose a lot of revenue if India versus Pakistan matches are not held.

The former Pakistan captain said that as a player, he had toured India and got a lot of respect and love from the Indian people and even after retirement he went there as commentator for IPL matches.

"Something needs to be done

about this impasse but we look at this way that the Asia Cup is a multi-nation event and not a bilateral series between Pakistan and India. The two teams have been playing against each other in ACC and ICC events so why are there any problems for India to play in Pakistan." He pointed out that all big teams were now playing in Pakistan and every effort was made to make them feel comfortable and give them the best state level security.

"I don't know what will happen if India will come or not but we don't want the tournament moved out of Pakistan. If that happens, we will look at pulling out of the event altogether," he added.

Ramiz also said that the BCCI started this issue by giving a statement India would not tour Pakistan and he was forced to respond.

India has not played any bilateral Test cricket with Pakistan since 2007 while their last bilateral white ball series was held in the winter of 2012.

The BCCI will need sanction from the Indian government in order to travel to Pakistan.

## BCCI Set To Introduce 'Impact Player' Rule In IPL

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** In its bid to provide tactical flexibility to the teams, the BCCI is all set to introduce the 'impact player' system in the upcoming edition of IPL where the captains will be able to replace one playing-XI member with a substitute player during the match.

BCCI had put the system on trial during the Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 tournament in October and the move was largely welcomed by the state teams.

According to sources privy to development, the matter was discussed at the IPL Governing Council on Thursday evening. The franchises have already been sent a note with regards to introduction of tactical substitution. "The matter has been discussed at the IPL GC meeting and BCCI will share the details soon," an IPL franchise



source told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

While the exact details are awaited, the playing regulations, followed during the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, would be adopted.

According to the 'impact player', a team can have four pre-decided substitute players who can be pencilled as "tactical substitutions" and one of them can be used in a match situation.

However any such substitute has to be introduced, if required, into the match before or by the end of the 14th over of a team's innings.

## Pakistan Reaches 181-0 After England Makes 657 In 1st Test



Agencies

**RAWALPINDI:** Pakistan's openers provided a confident start after England was bowled out for an aggressive 657 on Friday on the second day of its record-setting first test in Pakistan in 17 years.

Imam-ul-Haq was not out on 90 and Abdullah Shafique was unbeaten on 89 as they played out over two sessions and guided the home team to 181-0 before bad light closed out play with 17 overs still remaining in the day. Pakistan still trails England by 476 runs on a grassless wicket and needs a further 277 runs to avoid the follow-on, with the wicket still unresponsive to either pace or spin.

Imam has already faced 148 balls and hit 13 fours and a six while Shafique hit 10 boundaries and two sixes in his 158-ball innings.

Neither batter matched the belligerent batting of England at the Pindi Cricket Stadium as they scored at an average of 3.5 an over in comparison to visitors' scoring rate of 6.5.

Shafique survived two close chances in the last session when Ollie Pope couldn't grab a low legside catch off veteran James Anderson and Ben Duckett dropped a reflex catch close to

the wicket.

Pope had to don the gloves behind the wicket after regular wicketkeeper Ben Foakes didn't recover from a viral infection on the eve of the test match.

Imam should have been dismissed very early into the second session but Pope fumbled a faint edge in left-arm spinner Jack Leach's first over.

On an unresponsive wicket for the bowlers, England persisted with spinners most of the time but the experienced Anderson couldn't extract any movement with either new and old ball. Left-arm spinner Leach and off-spinner Will Jacks bowled 31 overs in between them but England couldn't get the breakthrough.

After amassing a world record 506-4 in 75 overs on the opening day when four of the five top-order England batters scored centuries, England added 151 runs at the same electrifying pace to rack up its highest total in a test innings against Pakistan.

England's previous best effort against Pakistan came at Manchester in 2016 when it scored 589-8.

Zahid Mahmood recorded the most expensive figures in a debut test innings when he finished with 4-235 as England batters swept and reverse swept the leg-spinner with ease on a placid wicket. (AP)

## Australia Lead By 344 After Bowling Windies Over



Reuters

**PERTH:** The West Indies showed heart but lacked a batting anchor on Friday, as Australia were clinical in reducing the tourists to 283 all out and building a lead of 344 runs on day three of the first test in Perth.

The hosts, who had a put up a massive first innings score of 598-4 before declaring, opted not to enforce the follow-on and reached 29-1 at stumps. Paceman Josh Hazlewood bowled the first over of the day to Guyanese opener Tagenarine Chanderpaul, resuming from an entertaining day two knock of 47, who quickly experienced the highs and lows of test cricket.

After bringing up a half-century on his debut - just as his father Shivnarine did against England in 1994 - the 26-year-old immediately nicked the ball to David Warner at second slip and departed for a 79-ball 51. A venomous 140 kph bouncer from Cameron Green hit

Nkrumah Bonner on the side of the helmet, forcing the number three batsman out of the game, retired hurt on 16.

The strangest moment of the day came prior to lunch, when stadium security removed a "Justice for JL" banner, ostensibly for obscuring advertising boards, from a parochial group of fans supporting former Australia coach Justin Langer. Langer, a Perth local, last week denied falling out with players after saying that unnamed "cowards" in the team had criticised his coaching methods via the media.

Australia captain Pat Cummins (3-34) ensured his side began the second session strongly by clean bowling his counterpart Kraigg Brathwaite (64), the 200th wicket of his test career. Kyle Mayers (1) fell in the same fashion three overs later to an inswinger by Mitchell Starc (3-51), who also accounted for Jermaine Blackwood (36) and keeper Joshua Da Silva (0) quickly after tea.



## New Potential Drug Target To Treat Heart Disease Found: Study

Agenceis

Scientists have uncovered details of a phenomenon that contributes to coronary artery disease, more commonly known as heart disease, an advance that may lead to new drug treatments for fighting heart disease, according to a study.

Soon after cholesterol and fat start depositing on the lining of the blood vessels that supply your heart, the smooth muscle cells that give the blood vessels strength and flexibility start to get bigger and multiply.

While scientists studying the phenomenon suspect these vascular smooth muscle cells are trying to help, this atypical behavior for these strong cells instead contributes to coronary artery disease.

In a bit of a vicious cycle, stents as well as bypass grafts used to treat coronary artery disease can prompt the same response.

Now Medical College of Georgia (MCG) scientists report new insight into how the cells enable this unhealthy growth and a new target to intervene.

The endothelial cells that line our blood vessels are in constant communication with the layers of vascular smooth muscle cells that encase them and play a key role in regulating our blood pressure, said Yuying Huo, director of the Vascular Inflammation

Program in the Vascular Biology Center at MCG.

In states of good health, for example, the two cell types share messages about how it is time for our blood vessels to dilate a little because we are exercising. Early in vascular disease, however the conversations change, said Huo, corresponding author of the study in the journal Circulation.

"They get the message that something is wrong," said Huo, and existing cells get exponentially bigger and start proliferating, which these cells don't normally do, perhaps in an effort to make more room inside for blood to flow since cholesterol and fat are narrowing the existing passageway.

"Normally, the smooth muscle cells provide strength. If they start to proliferate a lot, it changes their identity," Huo says.

Whatever the reason, the result is more narrowing and scarring of the vital passageway for blood and worsening disease. So, the scientists looked at the building blocks needed to enable the unhealthy response.

They knew that growing more and bigger cells required more DNA, RNA and the proteins they produce. To make that happen required more purines, one of two chemical compounds in the body used to make the building blocks of DNA, in this case adenine and guanine.

## East Pakistan Debacle In 1971 A 'Military Failure', Says Bilawal Bhutto

Agenceis

Pakistan's Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari has termed the East Pakistan debacle in 1971 a "military failure," in a veiled jibe at the former Army chief Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa, who termed it a "political failure."

Bilawal made these comments at the Nishtar Park rally, which was organised to mark the 55th Foundation Day of his Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP).

On the occasion, the PPP chairman revisited the history of his party and recounted the achievements of its founder, his grandfather, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

When Zulfikar Ali Bhutto took over the government, and the people were broken and had lost all hope, he was quoted as saying by the Dawn newspaper.

But he rebuilt the nation, restored the confidence of the people, and finally brought our 90,000 troops back home who had been made prisoners of war due to military failure. Those 90,000 soldiers were reunited with their families. And that all was made possible due to politics of hope... of unity... and inclusion," he added.

Days before his retirement on November 29, Gen Bajwa



termed the East Pakistan debacle a "political failure," and complained that the sacrifices of the troops were never properly acknowledged.

He rejected the commonly held notion that 92,000 soldiers surrendered in the 1971 war and claimed that there were just 34,000 combatants, while the others were part of different government departments.

While addressing a Defence and Martyrs Ceremony at the General Headquarters in Rawalpindi last week, Bajwa said: I want to correct the record. First of all, the fall of East

Pakistan was not a military but a political failure. The number of fighting soldiers was not 92,000, it was rather only 34,000, the rest were from various government departments.

Gen Bajwa, 61, retired on November 29 after getting a three-year extension in 2019 by the then Prime Minister Imran Khan, who turned out to be the biggest critic of the Pakistan Army.

The East Pakistan debacle in 1971 saw Pakistan suffering a humiliating defeat to India.

It saw East Pakistan secede to form a new country called Bangladesh.

## Musk's Company Aims To Soon Test Brain Implant In People

Agenceis

Tech billionaire Elon Musk said his Neuralink company is seeking permission to test its brain implant in people soon. In a show and tell presentation livestreamed Wednesday night, Musk said his team is in the process of asking US regulators to allow them to test the device. He said he thinks the company should be able to put the implant in a human brain as part of a clinical trial in about six months, though that timeline is far from certain.

Musk's Neuralink is one of many groups working on linking brains to computers, efforts aimed at helping treat brain disorders, overcoming brain injuries and other applications.

The field dates back to the 1960s, said Rajesh Rao, co-director of the Center for Neurotechnology at the University of Washington. But it really took off in the 90s. And more recently we've seen lots of advances, especially in the area of communication brain computer interfaces.

Rao, who watched Musk's presentation online, said he doesn't think Neuralink is ahead of the pack in terms of brain-computer interface achievements. But ... they are quite ahead in terms of the actual hardware in the devices, he said.

The Neuralink device is about the size of a large coin



and is designed to be implanted in the skull, with ultra-thin wires going directly into the brain. Musk said the first two applications in people would be restoring vision and helping people with little or no ability to operate their muscles rapidly use digital devices.

He said he also envisions that in someone with a broken neck, signals from the brain could be bridged to Neuralink devices in the spinal cord. We're confident there are no physical limitations to enabling full body functionality, said Musk, who recently took over Twitter and is the CEO of Tesla and SpaceX.

In experiments by other teams, implanted sensors have let paralyzed people use brain signals to operate computers and move robotic arms. In a 2018 study in the journal PLOS ONE, three participants with paralysis below the neck affecting all of their limbs used an experimental brain-computer interface being tested by the consortium BrainGate.

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