Tuesday 06 December 2022 | 11 Jamaad-al-Awwal | 1444 Hijri | Srinagar | Vol: 25 | Issue: 287 | Pages: 08 | Price: ₹3

www.kashmirobserver.net ● twitter.com / kashmirobserver ● facebook.com/kashmirobserver ● Postal Regn: L/159/KO/SK/2014-2016

# **Exit Polls Predict Big Win for BJP In Gujarat, Edge In HP**

**KO WEB DESK** 

New Delhi: Exit polls on Monday predicted a big majority for the BJP in Gujarat while most of them gave an edge to it in Himachal Pradesh, indicating re-election of the ruling party in both states.

However, two exit polls showed a dead heat between the BJP and the Congress in Himachal Pradesh where results could go either way.

The counting of votes in both states will take place on December 8. Elections for the Himachal Pradesh Assembly took place on November 12, while polling in Gujarat happened in two phases on December 1 and 5.

Most exit polls predicted a big mandate for the BJP in Gujarat in the range of 117-148 seats in the 182-member assembly, while the Congress was predicted to bag seats in the range of 30-51 seats. The Aam Aadmi Party was projected to bag anything between three and 13 seats. The

majority mark in Gujarat is 92. In Himachal Pradesh, the exit polls projected a range of 24-40 seats for the BJP and 26-40 seats for the Congress. The AAP was projected to bag seats in the range of 0-3. The majority mark



is 35 seats.

According to the News X-Jan Ki Baat exit poll on Gujarat elections, the BJP was likely to get 117-140 seats, Congress-NCP 34-51, AAP 6-13 and others 1-2. Republic TV P-MARQ predict-

ed 128-148 seats for the BJP, 30-42 for the Congress-NCP, AAP 2-10 and others 0-3.

TV9 Gujarati forecast that the BJP would get 125-130 seats, Congress-NCP 40-50, AAP 3-5

**MOST EXIT POLLS PREDICTED A BIG MANDATE** for the BJP in Gujarat in the range

of 117-148 seats in the 182-member assembly, while the Congress was predicted to

bag seats in the range of 30-51 seats. The Aam Aadmi Party was projected to bag

anything between three and 13 seats. The majority mark in Gujarat is 92.

and others 3-7.

For Himachal Pradesh, Aaj Tak-Axis My India predicted a close contest between the Congress and the BJP. It said the BJP would get 24-34 seats and the Congress 30-40 seats.

India TV predicted that the BJP would bag 35-40 seats, Congress 26-31 and AAP zero.

News X-Jan Ki Baat survey said the BJP was likely to get 32-40 seats in the hill state,

Congress 27-34 and AAP zero. While Republic TV P-MARQ predicted that the BJP would get 34-39, Congress 28-33 and AAP 0-1, the Times Now-ETG said the average seats BJP was likely to get was 38 and the

Congress 28. For the Municipal Corporation of Delhi polls, most exit polls predicted a huge win for the AAP over the BJP with the Congress a

# **Boycotting 2018 Panchayat Polls 'A Huge** Mistake': Dr Faroog

**Press Trust Of India** 

National Srinagar: Conference chief Farooq Abdullah on Monday said boycotting the panchayat polls in 2018 was "a huge mistake" and the party must contest every future election in Jammu and Kashmir.

Abdullah also warned the government and the security forces not to interfere in any election process.

"I want to tell the party that boycotting the panchayat elections (in 2018) was a huge mistake. Remember this, we will not boycott any coming election. Instead (we will) contest and win them," Abdullah said while addressing the party's delegate session where he was re-elected unopposed as National Conference (NC) president.

Referring to his son Omar Abdullah's announcement

that he would not contest elections as long as Jammu and Kashmir remained a Union Territory, the senior Abdullah said, "As party president, I am telling you (Omar Abdullah) that you have to contest the election."

"Because if we have to fight them, then we all have to jump into the fray and contest elections," he added.

The former

# **NC Calls For Early Assembly Polls In J&K**

ational Conference on Monday called for holding assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir as well as the restoration of statehood to the Union territory and provisions of Articles 370 and 35-A. The demands were the key features of a resolution passed by the party at a delegates' session held to elect the party **More on P6** 

#### **Dr Faroog Remains NC President**

arooq Abdullah was re-elected president of the National Conference (NC) for another term on Monday. The 85-yearold leader was unanimously elected the party's chief at the NC's delegate session held near the burial site of party founder Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah at Naseem Bagh here. More on P6

# **Fear Among KPs Palpable After Fresh Threat**

**Press Trust Of India** 

Jammu: Kashmiri Pandits working in the Valley are in a state of panic after a terrorist group released a hit list of 56 employees from the community.

In the aftermath of targeted killings by terrorists, several Kashmiri Pandits employed in the Valley under the Prime Minister's Rehabilitation Package (PMRP) have shifted to Jammu and are on a protest for over 200 days demanding relocation.

They have been camping outside the rehabilitation commissioner's office here.

Recently, a blog linked to The Resistance Front (TRF), an offshoot of the Lashkar-e-Taiba, published a list of 56 Kashmiri Pandit employees under PMRP, and warned

of mounting attacks on them. "Terror groups have previously sent us threat letters, but this time, the warning is accompanied by a list of employees. This has created a fear not only among the protesting employees but the entire community," Ranjan Zutshi, one of the protesting employees, told PTI on Monday.

He said the latest warning cannot be dismissed More on P6

#### **AAP Seeks Probe** Into Info Leak

he Aam Aadmi Party on Monday expressed concerns over the fresh threat to Kashmiri Pandit employees and demanded a probe into the leak of names of employees from the community posted in the Valley. Recently, a blog linked to The Resistance Front (TRF), an offshoot of the Lashkar-e-Taiba, More on P6

## **Govt Forms Panel To Revise Civil Services Rules**

**Observer News Service** 

Jammu: The Union Territory administration on Monday constituted a committee to carry out revision of the Jammu and Kashmir Civil Regulations (CSR) and other rules and regulations governing the employees.

Headed by Administrative Secretary General Administration Department (GAD), the other members of the committee include Administrative Secretary, Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Secretary (Law), GAD and General (Codes), Director Finance Department (member secretary), reads an order issued by Dr Piyush Singla, Secretary to the government.

According to the order, the committee has been tasked with to examine and recommend the 'updation' and revision of the Jammu and Kashmir, Civil Services Regulations (CSR), the Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1956 and the Jammu and Kashmir Employees (Conduct) Rules, 1971 on the pattern of corresponding rules and regulations of Government of India.

"The Committee may co-opt any member/expert, More on P6



# **Srinagar Shivers As Mercury Falls To Minus 3.4 Deg Celsius**

**Press Trust Of India** 

**Srinagar:** At minus 3.4 degrees Celsius, Srinagar recorded the coldest night of the season so far even as the mercury settled below the freezing point across Kashmir, officials said on Monday. The minimum last night in

the city was 2.5 degrees below the normal for this time of the season, they said. The night temperature was

lesser than the famous ski

resort of Gulmarg in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, which recorded a low of minus 3.2 degrees Celsius.

The officials said mercury at Pahalgam tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district

settled at a low of minus 4.4 degrees Celsius.

Qazigund, the gateway town to the Valley, recorded a minimum of minus 3.4 degrees Celsius, while Kokernag town, also in South, More on P6

# 2 Punjabis Help Robbed Kashmiri Driver With Rs 9L Cash

**Press Trust Of India** 

maritans from Punjab on Monday came forward to help a Kashmiri trader whose cartons of apples were stolen after his truck overturned in Fatehgarh Sahib district.

Rajwinder Singh from Patiala and Gurpreet Singh from Mohali gave a cheque of Rs 9.12 lakh to Shahid, a resident of Sopore in Baramulla district to compensate for the loss he suffered.

As many as 1,200 cartons of apples were stolen by villagers and passersby after the fruit-laden truck overturned on the Delhi-Amritsar highway in Fatehgarh Sahib district on Saturday.

The truck was coming from Srinagar and heading to Bihar. The video of cartons of apples being taken away went viral.

Rajwinder Singh and Gurpreet Singh approached the police and expressed their wish to compensate for the loss to

the owner of the truck.

Rajwinder Singh said he people were busy stealing apple cartons instead of helping the truck driver who met with an accident.

It was quite an unfortunate incident which took place in Punjab, he said.

"We wanted to give a good message of Punjabiyat to people," said Rajwinder as he stressed that people should come forward to help those in need.

Gurpreet Singh said the cheque of Rs 9.12 lakh was given to the truck owner.

Truck owner Shahid said he felt very bad when he saw the video of apple cartons being stolen, not believing that it could be Punjab where people always come forward to extend help.

He said he had studied in Punjab and knew that people here are known for offering help.

He thanked the two samaritans for giving him Rs 9.12 lakh cheque. Senior Superintendent More on P6

#### 17 Injured As **Bus Overturns**



t least 17 persons, who were part of a marriage ceremony, were injured in a road accident in Rajouri district on Monday morning. News agency KNO quoting an official reported that the accident took place when a bus, carrying "Baraatis" turned turtle near Tarkundi LoC road. More on P6

#### **SC To Organise Its** First 'Hackathon'

ne Supreme Court on Monday said it will organise its first 'hackathon' event to identify innovative ideas and explore practical propositions for refining and bringing in efficiency in the existing process from 'filing to listing' of judicial matters. A statement from the top court said a notification would be published very soon. "Justice Dr Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud has directed to organise a 'Hackathon' event in the Supreme Court, which would be a novel event in the history of this court. This will be an event wherein duty holders, stakeholders

and beneficiaries More on P6

#### **Fire Damages Grid Station Partially**

S H O R



grid station in Hiller area of Qazigund in South Kashmir's Anantnag district was partially damaged in a fire incident on Monday morning. The fire broke out in the grid station, located close to Pir Panchal Tunnel, today morning, an official said. He said soon after the incident fire tenders rushed to the spot and after hectic efforts More on P6

# TAKES **KU Bans Use Of**

**Polythene At Campus** 

ashmir University on Monday announced a complete ban on entry and use of polythene on the campus as part of the UT administration's 'My Town, My Pride' initiative. The announcement imposing ban on carriage and use of polythene from December 6, was issued by Vice-Chancellor, University of Kashmir, Prof Nilofer Khan. "I will inform all relevant quarters in the University that we will have a polythene-free campus immediately. Circular instructions will be issued not to allow any polythene bags in the campus from tomorrow (December 6, 2022)," she said.

#### **Chief Justice Visits Hiranagar Court**

hief Justice, High Court of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh, Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey on Monday visited Court Complex, Hiranagar and had interactive session with the members of Bar Association, Hiranagar. President, Vice President, General Secretary, Treasurer and senior members of the Bar, who were present on the occasion, projected various demands before the Chief Justice. Most of the demands were resolved by the Chief Justice on the spot. In this regard, the Bar Association, Hiranagar thanked the Chief Justice More on P6

#### **DDMA Holds Mock Drill At Kishtwar**

Two Day Mock Drill began Monday under the overall Monday under the overall supervision of Chairman, District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), Dr Devansh Yadav here at DC office complex. On the first day, a team of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) demonstrated Table Top Exercise (TTEx) which is helpful for staying safe in the wake of an earthquake or landslide. The exercise was conducted with

the involvement of Police, UTDRF/ Civil Defense, Armed forces, Red Cross and representatives of NGOs in the presence of Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC), More on P6



Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm) No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

KASHMIR OBSERVER TO THE REPORT OF THE PROPERTY Srinagar | Tuesday | 06-12-2022

# Symptoms Of Long Covid In Children **May Change Over Time: Lancet Study**

Symptoms of long Covid experienced by children and voung people may change over time, according to the largest study of its kind published in The Lancet Regional Health - Europe.

Researchers asked children aged 11 to 17 about their health of testing, health issues were six months and 12 months after taking a PCR test between September 2020 and March 2021. They also asked them to recall their symptoms at the time of taking the test.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This Name for the information to the general

public that I, Gh. Hussan Kand S/O. Ali Mohd Kand

R/O. Kand Mohalla Dal has lost my registration of

my Unit namely T/S Shabnam located at Dal Lake

having Regd. No. 2712/54/45/Td. Now I intend to

get its duplicate if anybody have any objection

he/she may file the same with the concerned

department within a period of 7 days. No objection

will be entertained afterwards.

**NOTICE FOR** 

**GENERAL PUBLIC** It is information for

the general public

that by wrongly in my

passport bearing No.

L1924304 the Name and Date of birth was

entered. The name was entered as SIFTI MOHAMMAD

and D.O.B 01-03-1983,

While my actual name

is SIPTY MOHAMMAD

SHAH and D.O.B is

01-03-1990. Now I

want its correction

if any body having

any objection in this

regard may contact

Office Srinagar within a period of 7 days. No objection shall be entertained after that.

SIPTY MOHAMMAD

SHAH R/O WOOLINA

ICHIGAM BUDGAM. CELL.

7889779937

Regional

SHAH

Passport

None of the children initially invited to participate in the study had been hospitalised. The researchers examined data from tested positive for Covid-19 and at all three time points 2,177 of whom tested negative.

perienced from a list of 21 symptoms, including shortness of breath and tiredness, as well as using validated scales to assess quality of life, mental health, wellbeing and fatigue.

The team found that, at time more common in children and young people who had tested positive for the virus compared to those who tested negative, as well as six months and 12 months post PCR test.

For example, among the testpositives, 10.9 per cent reported fatigue at all three time points while among test-negatives 5.086 children, 2,909 of whom only 1.2 per cent reported fatigue

They also noted that the

young people what they had ex- over the course of a year. And while some of the children's original symptoms declined, new symptoms were reported.

This was also the case when measuring poor quality of life, havioural difficulties, poor wellbeing and fatigue.

The researchers found that the symptoms of long Covid experienced by children and young people change over time and that clinicians should be aware of this.

"Our research goes one step further than existing studies and indicates that researchers need to track individual trajectories usover time." said study correspond-

Hospitals (UCLH), UK.

"Simply reporting repeated cross-sectional prevalences -- or snapshots -- of symptoms over researchers looked at scales time may obscure important information about long Covid in experiencing emotional and be- young people that has clinical relevance." Pereira said.

The study will continue to analyse survey results from participants for up to two years after the initial PCR test.

The authors acknowledged some limitations to the study.

The symptoms reported by participants at time of testing are subject to recall bias as they were reported at the time of first ing repeated measurement on the contact with the study -- at eisame children and young people ther three months or six months post-test

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

This Name for the information to the general public that I. Sageer Abass Kand S/O. Gh .Hussan Kand R/O. Kand Mohalla Nehru Park has lost my registration of my Unit namely T/S Sageer Place located at Dal Lake having Regd. No. Regd. 2610/ Td. Now I intend to get its duplicate if anybody have any objection he/she may file the same with the concerned department within a period of 7 days. No objection will be entertained afterwards.

#### **Government of Jammu and Kashmir**

# **JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT**



# **OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,** PHE MECHANICAL RURAL DIVISION, 200 SRINAGAR, KASHMIR. **CORRIGENDUM- IV**

For E-NIT No. PHE/MRD/TS/ 119 of 11/2022 DT: - 03-11-2022 issued vide this office No: - PHE/MRD /TS/3183-94 DT: - 03-11-2022 and published vide No: 2022\_PHE\_194652\_1,2,3&4 is hereby extended due to nil response. New closing and opening dates are as under:

S.NO.	Description	Date	Time
1.	Closing date	14-12-2022	05:00 PM
2.	Bid opening date	16-12-2022	11:45AM

No: PHE/MRD/3834 Dated: 05-12-2022 **Executive Engineer,** DIPK-14602-22 PHE Mechanical Rural Division Dt: 05/12/2022

# SHER-E-KASHMIR UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL **SCIENCES & TECHNOLOGY OF KASHMIR**

## **ESTATES WING, MAIN CAMPUS SHALIMAR – 190 025**

## **NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**

## e-NIT No. (73) of 2022-23(FRESH)

Dated:02.12.2022

For and on behalf of Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST(K), e-tenders (Single-cover system) are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Electric contractors whose cards are valid up to 31-12-2022 registered with State PWD, CPWD, Railways and other State/ Central Govt. departments for the following work:-

S.No	Name of the work	Estimat- ed Cost (in lacs)	Money	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender document	Time of completion
	SITC of 250 KVA 33/0.44 KV Distribution transformer dedicated for Veterinary Hospital at FVSc & AH Shuhama SKUAST Kashmir	12.06	26,120	A class	500/-	15 days

Position of AAA: <u>Accorded</u> b) Position of T.S: **Sanctioned** 

Position of funds: Available

c)

1. The Bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, set of terms and conditions and other details can be downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per following schedule:-

	•	0 1
1.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	02.12.2022
2.	Date of start of downloading	02.12.2022
3.	Pre-bid meeting date	NA
4.	Bid submission start Date	02.12.2022
5.	Bid submission end date	08.12.2022 (6.00 PM)
6.	Date of opening of Technical bidof the bidders (online)	09.12.2022 (12.05PM)
7.	Date of opening Financial bid of qualifying bidders (online)	10.12.2022

Further information can be had from the office of the undersigned.

No. Au/Estates/e-NIT(73)/743 Dated: 03.12.2022 DIPK-NB-5381-22 Dt: 05/12/2022

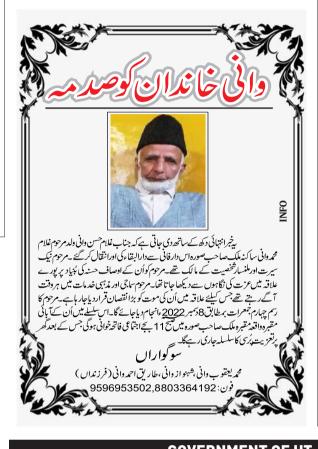
Sd/ Estates Officer/ Chief Engineer

#### CONDOLENCE

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of Mrs Habibullah Nagash who passed away on 5.12.22 at 4.30 pm at her residential house. Her Rasm-e-Chaharum will be observed on 8.12.22 at 11.00 am at Graveyard Masjid Siddiqia Nowshera, Srinagar.

#### **GRIEF STRICKEN**

Rafiq Ah. Naqash, Dr. GH Sarwar Naqash, M. Afzal Naqash (Sons) and Farid family. (9149816661)



# GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR **OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IRRIGATION**

# AND FC DIVISION

E-MAIL ID- ifcdbaramulla@gmail.com/ exenifcdbaramulla@ifckashmir.com

Sub: - Extension of dates in respect of e.NIT No. 21 of 2022-23 Dated: 26-11-2022 uploaded under Tender ID 2022\_IFC\_197521\_3.

#### **CORRIGENDUM - I**

Due to poor/less response, the extension of dates in respect of this Office e-NIT No. 21 of 2022-23 dated: 26/11/2022, issued under No. I&FCDB/5760-80 dated: 26/11/2022, and uploaded under tender ID 2022\_ IFC 197521 3 is re-scheduled as under: -

1. Tender		09/12/2022 up to 6.0		
Submission		pm		
date Ends				
	=	10/12/2022 at 02:00		
2.Date of		PM, in the Office of the		
Opening		Executive Engineer I&FC		
		Division Baramulla		

All other terms/conditions and stipulation as contained in the eNIT shall remain unaltered/ unmodified.

No: I&FCDB/6073-90 Dated: - 05/12/2022 DIPK-14604-22 Dt: 05/12/2022

**Executive Engineer** Irrigation & FC Division Baramulla

# **GOVERNMENT OF UT JAMMU & KASHMIR POLICE CONSTRUCTION DIVISION PHQ, J&K**

# **SRINAGAR**

**CIVIL WORKS FOR** 

S.no	NAME OF WORK	TENDER VALUE	COST OF DOC.
1.	Remodeling/ Up-gradation of G.O's Housing complex (02 blocks) in District Kishtwar under Improvement of Basic facilities Programme.	Rs. 25.82 lacs	Rs. 2000/-
2.	Remodeling/Up-gradation of Police Station Ind Ramban Under Improvement of basic facilities Programme.	Rs. 17.84 lacs	Rs. 1500/-
3.	Repair/ renovation of Set No. C-14 at DPL Jammu.	Rs. 2.00 lacs	Rs. 200/-

**GOVERNMENT OF UT JAMMU AND KASHMIR** 

# OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PCD (PHQ) J&K JAMMU/ SRINAGAR

## **INVITING E-TENDER NOTICE**

e-NIT No/EE-PCD/PHQ/149/2022-23 Dated: - 02-12-2022

Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K JAMMU/SRINAGAR on behalf of The President of India invites tenders by e-tendering on Percentage rate basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Govt. / CPWD / Railways and other State / Central Governments for the following works.

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Estimated Cost (Rs. In lacs)	Cost of document (In Rs)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time Allowed for completion		Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Remodeling/ Up-gradation of G.O's Housing complex (02 blocks) in District KIshtwar under Improvement of basic facilities Programme.	, ,,	25.82 lacs	4000/-	51640/-	60 days	13-12-2022	"A" & "B"
2	Remodeling/Up-gradation.of Police Station Ind Ramban under Improvement of basic facilities Programme.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jammu/ Srinagar	17.84 lacs	1500/-	35680/-	60 days	13-12-2022	"A","B" & "C"
3	Repair/ renovation of Set No.C-14 at DPL Jammu.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jammu/ Srinagar	2.00 lacs	200/-	4000/-	30 days	13-12-2022	"A","B", "C" &"D"

Date of Publishing 03-12-2022 at 1600 hours.

The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website http://iktenders.aov.in from 1630 hours on 03-12-2022 The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website http://jktenders.gov.in from 05-12-2022 to 12-12-2022 upto 1600 Hrs. The bids

received will be opened at 1100 hours on 13-12-2022 on line. The complete bidding process will be on line

Technical bids of bidders shall be opened on line in the office of Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar on 13-12-2022 at 1100 Hrs. iv. iii. The lowest bidder i. e. L1 shall be intimated to deposit the original copy of required earnest money in shape of CDR/ FDR and hard copies of all relevant documents as mentioned in clause 2 of general instructions to the bidders within five days from opening of financial bids

In light of Govt. Notification issued by Finance Department Civil Secretariat Vide No. A/24(2017)-651 dated: 07-06-2018, the bidder must upload the copy of challan / receipt on account of cost of tender documents remitted in the treasury concerned for that the bidders must write an application to be addressed to treasury officer concerned requesting therein for remittance of amount as cost of tender documents towards M. H. 0055/ Revenue (others). The cost of tender documents should be submitted by the bidder in shape of treasury challan / receipt and upload the same

Earnest Money - The earnest money deposit (EMD @ 2% of advertised cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar of the successful bidder (L1) shall be released, only after defect liability period, the DLP shall be calculated from the date of successful completion of the work to the satisfaction report of Engineer incharge. Performance Security: in case, the successful bidder found unbalanced i.e. 15% or below the advertised cost, shall have to produce performance

security @ 3% of the quoted cost in shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar within 5-days after opening of price bid and shall be released after successful completion of the work. The Bank Guarantee should be valid for 45 days beyond DLP. Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website http://jktenders.pov.in Bid documents contain qualifying criteria for bidder,

specifications, bill of quantities, conditions and other details. The site for the work is available. The intending bidders are strongly advised to inspect the site of work before bidding.

Financial Bids will be opened on line in the office of the Executive Engineer, PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/Srinagar. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue

The bid for the work shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder / tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the said earnest money shall stand forfeited. No Engineer of Gazetted rank or other Gazetted Officer employed in Engineering or Administrative duties in an Engineering Department of the Government

is allowed to work as a Contractor for a period of two years after his retirement from Government service, without permission of the Government. This contract is liable to be cancelled if either the contractor or any of his employees is found any time to be such a person who had not obtained the permission of the Government as aforesaid before submission of the tender or engagement in the Contractor's Service 10. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents.

Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process. 11.

No:-e-NIT/EE-PCD/PHQ/2022-23/9551-58

Dated: 02-12-2022.

DIPK-14596-22

Dt: 05-12-2022

 $The interested \ bidder\ can\ download\ the\ NIT/bidding\ document\ from\ the\ website\ http://jktenders.gov.\ in$ 

To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get (DSC) "Digital Signature Certificate" as per Information Technology Act-2000, to participate in online bidding. This certificate will be required for digitally signing the bid. Bidders can get above mentioned digital certificate from any appr vendors. The Bidders, who already possess valid (DSC) Digital Signature Certificates, need not to procure new Digital Signature Certificate.

The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with Digital Signature. The bids cannot be uploaded without Digital Signature. No Proposal will be accepted in physical form. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para 2(III).

Before submission of online bids, bidders must ensure that scanned copies of all the necessary documents have been attached with bid.

The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission of bids whatsoever reasons may be

All the required information for bid must be filled and submitted online vii.

viii. Bidders can contact the undersigned for any guidance for getting DSC or any other relevant details in respect of e-tendering process. Original Registration certificate of GST No. shall be uploaded on line.

The guidelines for submission of bid online can be downloaded from the website http://jktenders.Qov.in

12. 13. No construction material shall be supplied by Police Construction Division, PHQ However; the brands of the material will be approved by Engineer Incharge of the concerned site in consultation with Executive Engineer, PCD PHQ J&K.

14. In case of any typographical error, if found in the rates or units etc. the same shall be corrected and paid as per sanctioned schedule of rates 2020 in vogue with contractor's Tender appreciation/depreciation.

Any item of work not advertised in the rate list but found necessary during execution of work should be got approved by the competent authority before proceeding further beyond the allotment and payment for the same shall be made on sanctioned schedule of rates 2020 and LMR with contractor's overall appreciation/depreciation.

PCD (PHQ) J&K Jmu/Sgr.

DISCLAIMER: KASHMIROBSERVERMAKESEVERYEFFORTTOENSURETHATTHEINFORMATION CARRIED IN DISPLAY/CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS, APPEARING IN THE NEWSPAPER IS CORRECT. HOWEVER THE NEWSPAPER TAKES NO RESPONSIBILITY NOR DOES IT NECESSARILY ENDORSE THE CONTENTS OF THESE ADVERTS. THE READERS ARE THEREFORE REQUESTED TO VERIFY THE CONTENTS BEFORE ACTING THEREUPON. MANAGEMENT



"It seems the regulating au-

thority is in deep slumber and

that is why court orders are be-

ing flouted so easily. Why no

action was taken when the offi-

cials at the helm of affairs were

apprised about the situation,"

one of the persons in the food

He said when the Tehsildar

South Srinagar was apprised

of the situation and a written

complaint was submitted be-

fore him, he sought a report

from the Naib Tehsildar. "Noth-

business said.

# Sealed By Authorities, **Restaurant Still 'Operational'**

**Agencies** 

**SRINAGAR:** The government is mulling initiating strict action against one of the owners of a Restaurant who allegedly removed the seal of the food outlet and operated in violation of the law

A Division Bench of the High Court had directed the authorities to seal the 'Samci Restau-

rant' located in Polo View Srinagar after the owners failed to produce a proper food license. On the directions of the Court,



Tehsildar South Srinagar, Assistant Commissioner Foods and Drugs along with a team sealed this restaurant on 22 November last month.

Sources said that after a dispute between two brothers, the matter reached the court that subsequently ordered authorities to seal the 'Samci Restaurant'.

The irony is that even after sealing the Restaurant one of the owners allegedly removed the seal, carrying a fig for the law.

The restaurant can be seen functioning normally off and on even after it is sealed by the authorities.

even yesterday, (Sunday), 'Samci Restaurant' was operational," he claimed.

A top official said that he will look into the matter and action will be initiated against the offender if he has removed the seal of the restaurant.

Tehsildar South Srinagar, Moen Azhar told KNT that the owner might have taken advantage as it was Sunday yesterday. 'Not once, this restaurant has been sealed twice. We will look into the matter and ensure the law is implemented in letter and spirit," he said. [KNT]

# **Dog Terror Irks Kalashpora Residents**



**Agencies** 

SRINAGAR: The devotees visiting Kalashpora shrine in old Srinagar city Monday appealed to Srinagar Municipal Corporation to curb the dog menace.

A group of locals from Zaina Kadal area said that dogs have let loose a reign of terror who can be seen roaming outside and inside the premises of the shrine.

"Visiting the shrine for prayers is witnessing huge inconvenience owing to the growing canine population. People are really scared to visit the shrine for the prayers after the darkness," they said.

They said they took up the matter with the SMC officials, however, nothing was done in this regard.

The locals appealed to higher ups of Srinagar Municipal Corporation to contain the dog terror in the area and ensure hassle-free movement of devotees to the shrine. [KNT]

# **LCMA Conducts Demolition Drive In Various City Areas**



**Observer News Service** 

**SRINAGAR:** The Enforcement Wing of Lake Conservation & Management Authority (LCMA) on Monday undertook a demolition drive in the areas of Lashkari Mohalla Friends Colony Chandpora, Harwan, Batpora,

Ishber Nishat and Saida Kadal. During the drive, many illegal structures were demolished. Moreover, illegal earth filling dumped in the area of Saida Kadal was also removed on spot.

Further, legal action against the violators was also initiated. LCMA has urged people in these areas not to resort to any illegal construction/ encroachments and have been asked to get proper building permission from the competent Authority before taking any construction

in hand.

# **Events Under 'My Town** My Pride 2.0' Held In City



**Observer News Service** 

SRINAGAR: Mayor Srinagar, Junaid Azim Mattu and Principal Secretary, Housing and Urban Development, Department, Dheeraj Gupta, kick started various events and programs in and around Srinagar city under 'My Town My Pride 2.0' on Monday.

The events were organized by Srinagar Municipal Corporation at SK Park, Srinagar.

Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Aijaz Assad and Commissioner SMC and VC, LCMA, Dr. Bashir Ahmad Bhat were also present during the launch of the events.

During the programme, Principal Secretary interacted with corporators, frontline government functionaries, members of NGOs and prominent citizens.

Dheeraj Gupta inspected about 30 stalls set up by different departments for on spot delivery of services. He also inaugurated a plantation drive in the park launched by DFO Urban Forestry and DFO LCMA. Earlier, during the program,

Junaid Azim Matoo and Dheeraj Gupta distributed letters, cheques and certificates among beneficiaries under various schemes.

Plaza To Come **Up Near Ghanta Ghar: Mavor** 

**Observer News Service** 

SRINAGAR: Srinagar Municipal Corporation Mayor, Junaid Azim Mattoo on Monday said a plaza is coming up near Ghanta Ghar Lal Chowk and the work is going on at a rapid pace, while the deadline for the project is 3-4 months.

Junaid also said that directions have been passed to minimize inconvenience to the general public due to ongoing developmental works in the city.

Junaid said developmental projects come with inconveniences, but the executing agencies have been directed to minimize the same.

The Principal Secretary also visited Ghanta Ghar, Polo View, Jhelum Bund ABC/ARV Centre Tengpora, and Community Centre Batamaloo and took detailed stock of the ongoing projects in these areas.

Later, a 'Nukkad Naatak' was organized to spread the public

service message and open discussion on 'Nasha Mukt and Bhrashtachar Mukt J&K' was also organized by the Department of Youth Services and Sports, J&K.

Mayor Srinagar and Principal Secretary also visited Kothibagh Higher Secondary School and took pledge for 'Nasha Mukt Kashmir' along with students, teachers.

After the pledge taking ceremony, Mayor Srinagar and Principal Secretary inaugurated a volleyball match and a basketball match in the school.

They also inspected various projects undertaken under Smart City and also took on spot status of the undergoing projects being developed under Smart City at Ghanta Ghar and Residency Road.

Mayor Srinagar and Principal Secretary along Deputy Commissioner Srinagar and Vice Chairman LMCA also visited the parking complex at press enclave and took a detailed review of works undertaken.

The two day programme was simultaneously launched from different locations across the city by the Corporation. A number of designated dignitaries, concerned officials from various departments and the general public attended these programmes.

# **Red Cross Committee Observers** International Volunteers Day

**Observer News Service** 

SRINAGAR:To mark the International Volunteers Day, the District Red Cross Committee, Srinagar in collaboration with Kashmir Harvard Educational Institution organized a grand Programme here in the auditorium of Kashmir Harvard School with the theme "Solidarity through Volunteering".

The Additional Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar, Dr Syed Haneef Balkhi over the function.

Chairman, Kashmir Harvard Tariq Ahmad Baktoo, Vice Principal Mukhtar Ahmad Kant, besides District Social welfare Officer, Srinagar, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad, BMO Hazratbal, Dr Farah and other concerned were also present in the programme. The International Volunteers

Day is celebrated across the globe to recognize and appreciate volunteers of Red Cross Society for their selfless services for the betterment of humanity. Speaking on the occasion, Dr

Syed Haneef Balkhi congratulated the volunteers who have been continuously serving humanity irrespective of colour, caste, creed and religion. He highlighted the role of volunteers during natural calamities, accidents and other emergencies. He appreciated the volunteers for rendering services for the noble causes to be more effective during natural calamities.

The ADC said the day is observed to offer an opportunity for volunteer-involving organiza-

tions and individual volunteers to promote volunteerism, encourage Government to support volunteer efforts and recognize volunteer contributions to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals at Local, National and International levels.

The ADC stressed on promoting the spirit of volunteerism in society and said that the young generation should be prepared from the very beginning toward this noble cause to infuse the spirit of empathy among them towards those who need help in the difficult times.

Chairman, Kashmir Harward, Tariq Ahmad Baktoo also spoke on the occasion and highlighted the importance of celebrating International Volunteers Day.

#### **DIAL-EMMA**

TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686 PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883

PDD: 0194-2450213 FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES :

2479488,2452222,2452155 CAPD: 18001807011 SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081

Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

#### **AIRPORTS** SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

**RAILWAYS** SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259 ANANTNAG: 01932-228243 BARAMULLA: 0194-102029 BIJBHERA: 01932-228243 PAMPORE: 01933-294132 PATTAN: 01954-293507

QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

#### **HIGHWAY STATUS**



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



11 - Jumada al-Awwal 1444

**PRAYERS FAJR** 5:53 **ZUHR** 12:21 **ASR** 3:45 5:25 Magrib

6:50

**ISHA** 

# This Day In History

- 631 1st predicted transit of Venus (Kepler) is observed.
- 1873 1st international football game in US: Yale 2, Eton
- 1877 First recording made of the human voice Thomas Edison reciting "Mary had a little lamb".
- 1877 Washington Post publishes 1st edition.
- 1897 London becomes the world's first city to host licenced taxicabs.
- 1912 China votes for universal human rights
- 1916 German army under Gen Mackensen occupies Bucharest. 1916 - World War I: The Central Powers capture Bucharest.
- 1917 French munition ship "Mont Blanc" explodes in Halifax, kills 1,700.
- 1917 Taking advantage of the temporary relaxation of authority in Russia, Finland declares itself a republic, following the Ukraine on 20 November.
- 1921 Anglo-Irish Treaty signed; Ireland receives dominion status; partition creates Northern Ireland. 1925 - Italy, Britain & Egypt sign Jaghbub accord (Italy).
- 1938 117 Spanish knights under capt Piet Laros return to Netherlands.
- 1938 French/German non-attack treaty drawn (Ribbentrop-Bonnet Pact).
- 1941 Dutch & British pilots see Japanese invasion fleet
- at Singapore. 1956 - Nelson Mandela & 156 others arrested for political
- activities in S Africa. 1957 - 1st US attempt to launch a satellite fails-Vanguard
- rocket blows up. 1958 - US lunar probe Pioneer 3 reaches 107,269 km, falls
- back. 1962 - US abandons Skybolt balistic missile program.
- 1965 Pakistan's Islamic Ideology Advisory Committee recommends that Islamic Studies be made a compulsory subject for Muslim students from primary to graduate level.



# Rapist Released, **Victims In Lock-Up**

**Observer News Service** 

**SRINAGAR:** People of Darpora in Lolab area have expressed grave concern over the continued 'detention' of two women who had been raped by two counter-insurgents last month. The alleged rapists have been released to the chagrin of the indignant villagers who have demanded their immediate arrest.

According to the president of the Human Rights Front, Muhammad Ahsan Untoo, who led a team of his activists to the village today, two Ikhwanis, Manzoor Ahmad Lone alias Shalla s/o Abdul Jabbar and Nazir Ahmad Tantray s/o Ghulam Rasool, residents of Darpora and working with army's 18 RR, forced their entry into the house of one Ghulam Nabi Mir at the village on the night intervening November 18 and 19 last. Finding two women alone in the house, Untoo alleged, the two renegades picked them up at gun point, took them to a deserted place in the forests and raped them throughout the night. The two victims arrived in the village in the morning in a battered condition sparking a spontaneous protest by the people. The victims were identified as Shafiqa w/o Ghulam Nabi and Atiqa w/o Fayaz Ahmad Mir. Reports said the villagers staged a demonstration dis-

rupting traffic on the road. On receipt of the reports, the deputy commis-sioner and the superintendent of police visited the village and or-dered immediate arrest of the counter-insurgents. Police registered a case and arrested the two next day.

Untoo said both the accused Ikhwanis were released on the next day following intervention by the security forces. Instead, their vic-tims were arrested. He said the two women have been in the police lock up for the past 12 days. When the HRF team I an audience with the deputy Commissioner Syed Haq Nawaz, and the superinten-dent of police, Singh, Untoo said, both avoided meeting them .The police station officials also did not make any comment on why the two women had been detained.

(Kashmir Observer, 06 December, 2000)



# KASHMIR OBSERVER

TUESDAY | 06.12.2022

# **The Dead-End**

oon after becoming Pakistan's new army chief, General Syed Asim Munir, during a visit to the Line of Control, said the military was ready to defend "every inch of our motherland" if attacked. He was apparently referring to Northern Army Commander Lt General Upendra Dwivedi's recent statement in which he said thar Army will carry out any order given by the government of India about retrieving the parts of Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan illegally occupied by Pakistan. Lt General Dwivedi was reacting to the defence minister Rajnath Singh's statement earlier expressing India's resolve to capture Pakistani-controlled parts of Kashmi. Speaking on October 27 to celebrate the landing of Indian soldiers in the former state on the same day in 1947, Singh said the mission of full integration of J&K that started on August 5, 2019 "will complete when Gilgit-Baltistan and areas of the Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (PoK) will reunite with India." Earlier, speaking in June on the occasion of Kargil Divas in Jammu, Singh famously said that "if Amarnath is on this side, how can Maa Sharda remain on the other".

Pakistani Kashmir has grown in importance over time in India's strategic calculus because of its location. It shares borders with Pakistan's Punjab, North-West Frontier Provinces, the Wakhan Corridor of Afghanistan to the north-west, China's Xinjiang province to the north, and Jammu and Kashmir to the east. If anything, the escalating threats and counter-threats between the two nations reflects the dismal state of India's relations with Pakistan which has currently been plunged into chaos following ousted Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan's protest march during which he survived an assassination bid. One fallout of this troubled situation in the country is that there is no hope for an India, Pakistan dialogue. The three and a half years of Khan's term saw relations between the two neighbors nosedive.

Going forward, the situation looks bleak. Should Shabaz Sharif's government continue, there will be little chance of the relations between India and Pakistan reviving in the near to medium future. The defence minister's PoK remarks reveal that India is no longer hampered by the violence in Kashmir but seeks to take the offensive into the part of the territory occupied by Pakistan. A war between the two countries is not in the interest of either country. The war will also hurl the region into prolonged instability, a fraught prospect for its 1.7 billion people. Best course for the two nations is to enter into a dialogue and work to resolve their issues. This alone will usher in a long-term peace in the region.

# OTHER OPINON

# **Slow Wheel**



ays after the Indian president, Droupadi Murmu, highighted the plight of poor and tribal undertrials languishing in jails for petty crimes despite getting bail, the Supreme Court has sought details of such prisoners for formulating a national scheme for their release. This is timely. It has been estimated that 76% of all prisoners in India — 371,848 in absolute numbers — are undertrials. Over half of this constituency are Muslims, Dalits or tribals. These shocking numbers are in spite of the fact that the Supreme Court has time and again reiterated that bail — not jail — should be the norm. Hearteningly, the highest court continues to strive. Recently, the Chief Justice of India, who has said that the focus of his term would be ensuring personal liberties, directed all judges to hear 10 transfer petitions and 10 bail petitions at every sitting. This could go a long way in reducing the burden of undertrials. Pendency is a challenge but even bail does not always ensure freedom as Ms Murmu highlighted. For instance, prison authorities insist on getting the 'authentic' hard copy of the bail order before releasing undertrials. The former CJI, N.V. Ramana, had proposed a system where bail orders would get electronically transmitted to the jail authorities instantly to speed up the release process. All states are yet to respond to the court with the status of internet connectivity in prisons to implement this system.

There are other — entirely avoidable — delays: the government often files pleas against bail orders to slow things down. Data also show that a rise in arrests since 2015 — one year after the ascension of the Narendra Modi government — has driven up the numbers of undertrial prisoners year-on-year. This inevitably raises questions about the State's commitment to the cause of liberty. That undertrial prisoners remain incarcerated for longer than they would have been if found guilty on account of prejudicial institutions is deeply unjust. Many of these prisoners are poor and unable to access timely legal help. Expanding the scope of free legal aid should be pursued. However, not much is likely to change unless political will coalesces with public pressure to bring justice to those who have been deprived of it.

of it. - Telegraph India

# Dredging Irrigation Canals, Wetlands, Flood Channels

This Is The Only Way To Prevent Destruction Of Karewas & Saving Our Grazing Land



Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

arewas have been in the news for many years now as they continue to be destroyed through massive clay mining. This illegal activity has gained momentum during the several months as the clay obtained from Karewas is used for filling low lying areas for construction of Srinagar Semi Ring Road project in Budgam, Pulwama, Srinagar districts. The National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has allotted the construction work to a Private Firm from Gurgaon who are excavating huge amounts of clay from the Karewas in Budgam which is causing large scale plunder of this geological treasure of Kashmir. I have written a lot on this issue for quite some time, but the situation is very serious now as the destruction is massive from the last 3 to 4 months. The National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) which has tendered out this work should have explored the alternative ways to get this filling material. It seems no research has been done by them and the company executing the worl

On the other hand, local district administrations of Pulwama and Budgam including the Geology & Mining Department, State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) and Pollution Control Committee (PCC) are mute spectators to this loot and plunder. Our Geological and archeological treasures are being erased and we will have nothing to showcase of our history.

The excavation was done without obtaining any Environmental Clearance (EC) from J&K State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (JK SEIAA). Even if some clearance is obtained from the Geology & Mining Department or District Administration that still violats many laws and statutes. The excavated clay is transported in huge trucks called dumpers which emits dust. This is causing severe air pollution in many villages around Pulwama and Budgam areas plus some parts of Srinagar outskirts as well. The worst affected areas in Pulwama and Budgam are Newa, Khanda, Magraypora, Kuzwera, Gowherpora, Kultreh, Nowbugh, Budgam etc. The road surfaces that were blacktopped this summer have been destroyed completely. Access to large amounts of soil for development projects is difficult in the valley because of its topography and physiology. At the highest elevation are mountain ranges that are predominantly made up of hard rocks.

# Violation of Land Revenue Act 1996

The clay mining in Karewas emits huge dust as constant movement of trucks causes pollution. This makes people living around these areas prone to respiratory diseases. Government's decision to allow clay mining is illegal as it violates many environmental laws like Environmental Protection Act 1986 and J&K Land Revenue Act, 1996. Section 133 A of land revenue act clearly says that topographic shape of any land which includes karewa cannot be changed.

The constant clay mining razes these highlands to the ground and changes the entire topography of the place. The activity undertaken by Ring Road construction company NKC Projects Pvt Ltd also violates the J&K Minor Mineral (Storage, Transportation of Minerals and Prevention of Illegal Mining) Rules, 2016. As per these rules, the panchayats are supposed to give their consent for minor mineral mining. In some areas, the Sarpaches are bribed to give their consent but technically the consent has to be given after holding a Gram Sabha (village assembly) which is hardly held. In the Shali Ganga Riverbed Mining case also, consent of Sarpaches from Panzan, Ranger, Kanira villages in Budgam was obtained but they had not discussed this in the Gram Sabha meeting at all. Section 133-A of J&K Land Revenue Act samvat 1996 says that there is restriction on conversion of agricultural land and process for permission of non-agriculture (NA) use. Section 133-A reads:

"Subject to the procedure notified in sub-section (4), no land used for agriculture purposes shall be used for any non-agricultural purposes except with the permission of the District Collector."

The Karewa land is completely agricultural land with saffron, almonds, apples, corn, wheat, oats, and mustard crops grown over this land. The land is raised to

building, grain storage, primary processing of agriculture produce, wells or tanks or make any other improvements thereon for residential purpose or agricultural improvement, on intimation to the Tehsildar concerned, however, the plinth area of such building or improvement shall not exceed four hundred Square meters in total: Provided also that any attempt to convert agriculture land for non-agriculture use by contravening the aforesaid provisos by way of fragmenting the land or otherwise shall be considered violation of the provisions of this Act."

## Impacting Dairy & Sheep farming

In many areas of Budgam and Pulwama, almonds and saffron used to be grown in good quantities in the Karewa land until 10 to 15 years back. That is not the case now. Government agencies allow bulldozing of grazing land also called Kahcharai in Karewas first which forces people to use their proprietary land as well for this once the surrounding land is vandalized or deformed. Most of this Khahcharai land is also under the possession of local people and they get hefty amounts for selling the clay.

The people associated with clay mining and the company constructing the Srinagar Ring Road are paying a good amount of money for clay excavation and that is the reason people fall under

but from October to March the animals graze in Karewas, which won't be possible in the years to come.

#### Solution

For the last several decades, our wetlands, flood spill channels and irrigation canals have got choked with huge amounts of silt. The siltation of wetlands and irrigation canals is very dangerous as it is responsible for floods and is threatening the habitat of migratory birds who visit Kashmir from various central Asian countries, Eastern Europ, Russia and other colder regions. Had proper dredging been done around Hygam or Hokersar wetlands in the past, we would have used the same for filling our railway tracks in the past. The Karewas of Pattan would not have been destroyed.

Similarly, the Govt can clear the Flood Spill Channel from Kursoo Rajbagh to Narbal by dredging it and the same silt can be used to fill the Srinagar Semi Ring Road project around Narbal, Sozeth, Ranbir Garh and other areas in Srinagar city. The Semi Ring Road project is a 62 kms alternate highway that connects Pampore with Ganderbal via Budgam and Srinagar districts.

The Silt from Marvel Irrigation Canal, Jhelum,Hokersar can also be used on the same highway construction in Wathoo-



THE GOVT CAN CLEAR THE FLOOD SPILL CHANNEL from Kursoo Rajbagh to Narbal by dredging it and the same silt can be used to fill the Srinagar Semi Ring Road project around Narbal, Sozeth, Ranbir Garh and other areas in Srinagar city. The Semi Ring Road project is a 62 kms alternate highway that

ground and even the state-land (kah charai) is plundered which is the property of the village meant for grazing animals but who cares for all this?

## Section 133 A further reads:

"Provided that the permission for conversion of land notified as Saffron Belt shall be made as per procedure prescribed under the Jammu and Kashmir Saffron Act, 2007. Provided further that holder of any agriculture land may construct a residential house or erect farm

their trap. Due to constant clay mining, we are not only losing our Karewas but we are losing the state-land, Khahchari and other types of grazing land which will have a very bad impact on our livestock especially it will impact dairy & sheep farming in the long run as villagers won't be able to have enough fodder availability in the next 5 to 10 years. The areas where illegal clay mining is being done in Budgam & Pulwama districts on Karewa land are known for their sheep population. In summers, the sheep are sent to pasturelands with shepherds

ra, Panzan,Ichgam , Soibugh, Dharmuna and other areas of Budgam. The desilting of Khurwan Sar and Shalbugh wetlands is also needed and the silt can also be used on this highway from Shadipora to Manigam areas in Ganderbal.

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

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat is an Acumen Fellow. He is also Anant Fellow for Climate Action , Anant National University Ahmedabad

# Winter Depression or Seasonal Affective Disorder

#### Isha Malik

When the long dark days of winter approach, do you feel slowed down? Does it feel more difficult to wake up early in the morning? Do you face difficulty in concentrating on work; feel demotivated and sad for most part of the day?

You may be one of the many people who get psychologically affected by change in the season. This condition is known as SAD- seasonal affective disorder. Though most of the people with this condition never seek professional help but they complain about feeling less cheerful, creative, energetic and productive during the winter season compared to the rest of the year.

In Kashmir, the cold weather lasts for more than six months, which leads to most of the people having significantly low levels of vitamin D due to less exposure to sunlight. A number of studies have shown a relationship between Vit D levels and depression, which to some extent explains why people living in cold regions have a higher risk of developing seasonal affective disorder. You might have heard many people around you saying

"ye wande shikas chu mae kharaan; wandas manz chu mae souri kharaan, beh chus/ches na hekaan kih thi karith; mae chu nebar wuchun tuth kharaan, souri chu manhoos baasaan"

#### What is Seasonal Affective Disorder?

As per APA- American Psychological Association **Seasonal affective disorder is a form of depression** also known as SAD, seasonal depression, or winter depression. In the Diagnostic Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5), this disorder is identified as a type of depres-

sion – Major Depressive Disorder with Seasonal Pattern. Seasonal affective disorder (SAD) was first described as a syndrome of recurrent episodes of depression that occur annually (usually in the winter season at same time each year) by Rosenthal et al. in 1984.

People with SAD experience mood changes and symptoms similar to depression. The symptoms usually occur during the fall and winter months when there is less sunlight and usually improve with the arrival of spring. The most difficult months for people with SAD tend to be January and February. While it is much less common, some people experience SAD in the summer as well.

SAD is more than just "winter blues." The symptoms can be distressing and overwhelming and can interfere with daily functioning. However, it can be treated. It is more common among women than men. SAD may begin at any age, but it typically starts when a person is between ages 18 and 30.

SAD has been linked to a biochemical imbalance in the brain prompted by shorter daylight hours and less sunlight in winter. As seasons change, people experience a shift in their biological internal clock or circadian rhythm that can cause them to be out of step with their daily



schedule. SAD is more common in people living far from the equator where there are fewer daylight hours in the winter.

#### **Symptoms and Diagnosis**

Common symptoms of SAD include fatigue, even with too much sleep, and weight gain associated with overeating and carbohydrate cravings. SAD symptoms can vary from mild to severe and can include many symptoms similar to major depression, such as:

- Feeling sad or having a depressed mood
   Loss of interest or pleasure in activities once en-
- joyed.
   Changes in appetite; usually eating more, craving
- carbohydrates.

  Change in sleep; usually sleeping too much.
- Loss of energy or increased fatigue despite increased sleep hours
- Social withdrawal (feeling like "hibernating")
   Increase in purposeless physical activity (e.g., inability to sit still, pacing, handwringing) or slowed movements or speech (these actions must be severe
- enough to be observable to others).Feeling worthless or guilty
- Difficulty thinking, concentrating, or making decisions
- Thoughts of death or suicide (APA)

  Personnel or that the grantoms assessed.

Remember that the symptoms associated with SAD could be a result of some other underlying medical causes. Physical examination and some blood tests can help to confirm the diagnosis and rule out the presence of any other causal factor. Some specific illnesses that

need to be considered are:

Hypothyroidism, hypoglycaemia, chronic viral illnesses, chronic fatigue syndrome etc.

#### How is SAD diagnosed?

If you think you may be suffering from SAD, talk to your family doctor or a mental health professional. To be diagnosed with SAD, an individual must meet the following criteria:

They must have symptoms of depression (as mentioned in list above)

The depressive episodes must occur during specific seasons (i.e., only during the winter months or the summer months) for at least 2 consecutive years. This means there must be a temporal relationship between the onset of the symptoms and a particular time of the year.

Full remissions also occur at a characteristic time of the year (e.g., depression disappears in spring).

#### Causes of SAD

The exact cause of SAD has not been fully understood yet, but it's often linked to- reduced exposure to sunlight during short winter days.

Lack of sunlight might stop a part of the brain called the hypothalamus from working properly; this may in turn affect.

- Production of melatonin melatonin is a hormone that makes you feel sleepy; in people with SAD, the body may produce it in higher than normal levels
- Production of serotonin serotonin is a hormone that affects your mood, appetite and sleep; a lack of

sunlight may lead to lower serotonin levels, which is linked to symptoms of depression.

- Body's internal clock (circadian rhythm) your body uses sunlight to time various important functions, such as when you wake up, so lower light levels during the winter may disrupt your body clock and lead to symptoms of SAD
- It's also possible that some people are more vulnerable to SAD as a result of their genetic predisposition, as mood disorders appear to run in families.

#### Who is at more risk?

- Females
- Young adults
- Individuals living in cold regions with long winter season
- Individuals with personal or family history of depression.
- Individuals diagnosed with depression or bipolar disorder.
- Females in post-partum phase

#### Treatment:

SAD can be effectively treated in several ways which includes- light therapy, antidepressant medications, talk therapy or some combination of these. Although symptoms generally improve with the change of season, symptoms can improve more quickly with proper treatment.

#### The main treatments are:

Making lifestyle changes –getting natural sunlight, eat a healthy and balanced diet, and paying extra attention to stress management. Keeping yourself engaged in pleasurable activities and doing physical exercise for at least 30minutes-3-4 times a week can prove to be quite helpful. Regulation of your sleep cycle is also important. Taking vacations in sunnier regions can also help one cope with SAD.

Light therapy – where a special lamp called a light box is used to simulate exposure to sunlight. It usually requires 20 minutes or more per day, typically first thing in the morning, during the winter months. Most people see some improvements from light therapy within one or two weeks of beginning treatment. To maintain the benefits and prevent relapse, treatment is usually continued through the winter. Because of the anticipated return of symptoms in late fall, some people may begin light therapy in early fall to prevent symptoms.

Consulting a Clinical Psychologist (for CBT sessions) or a

Psychiatrist, who will prescribe some antidepressant medicine– such as selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs).

Views expressed in the articles are the author's own responsibility. The content is not intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment and is strictly for educational/informative purposes only

The author is a Clinical Psychologist at G.B.Panth Hospital

# **QATAR WORLD CUP**

# Western Hypocrisy Knows No Bounds

# Feras Abu Helal

The 2022 World Cup in Qatar has been the focus of unprecedented debate since the Arab state won its hosting bid in 2010. While many international sporting events have fuelled moral discussions over the human rights records of the host countries - such as the controversy over China's suppression of Uyghurs in Xinjiang ahead of the Olympics in Beijing this year - none have been as viciously attacked as Qatar.

This debate is brimming with hypocrisy, Orientalism and Eurocentrism. The main criticisms centre on Qatar's treatment of foreign workers, particularly those employed to build World Cup projects. The country has spent an estimated \$220bn on building stadiums, roads and other infrastructure to support the international tournament, and was aiming to prepare 130,000 hotel rooms.

Foreign workers in the construction and hospitality sectors in all Gulf states, including Qatar, suffer from poor working conditions, long hours and low wages, but safety measures for large infrastructure projects are relatively good. In addition, Qatar and other Gulf states have reformed the kafala sponsorship system, which previously restricted workers from changing jobs without the permission of their employers. Qatar also recently introduced a minimum wage.

While these changes in labour laws are positive, they don't go far enough, and western media have rightly condemned the poor working conditions for foreign labourers ahead of the World Cup. But the reporting on this issue has been rife with hypocrisy.

Indeed, many of the biggest construction firms that have worked on World Cup projects, along with many hotels and residences, are western-based. Westerners in these industries also earn higher salaries in Qatar. These facts, however, are rarely addressed by western critics of Qatar's human rights record.



## 'Desert World Cup'

Western ex-pats are among the biggest beneficiaries of the unfair and unjust wage distribution in Gulf states, including Qatar, but this issue has not gained traction in western coverage. They are often offered attractive compensation packages, including relocation and accommodation expenses,

along with tax-free salaries.

Western hypocrisy is also evident, as British journalist Piers Morgan has pointed out, in the behaviour of media corporations.

cord and labour conditions for foreign workers in relation to the World Cup, these same companies have sent their staff to enjoy the affordable luxuries made possible by these very workers.

Criticisms over the Qatar World Cup have tended to feature a mix of white supremacy and Orientalism. Some have dubbed it a "desert World Cup". In covering the debate over the tournament, the BBC used another tired trope, asserting that it was "blighted by a dust-storm of controversy". The Daily Star, meanwhile, published an "exclusive"

article headlined: "Grunting camels outside England's Qatar HQ leave team facing sleepless nights".

Such coverage relies on a stereotypical, Orientalist picture of those who live in the Arab world, conveying an inaccurate impression to western readers. While Qatar might have been a small desert nation before it gained independence from British colonialism in the 1970s, it is now a bustling country with outstanding infrastructure, beaches, buildings and human development. And for the record: I lived in the Gulf for close to a decade, and never once

saw a camel.

## Global game

Eurocentrism is another factor in the debate over the Qatar World Cup. In the Netflix series FIFA Uncovered, one commentator questioned how European fans would be able to reach Qatar. This a valid question, but why isn't this asked about Middle Eastern, African and South American fans when the World Cup is hosted in Europe - which it has been close to a dozen times.

Western media coverage also focused on the soaring summer heat in Qatar, which is why the tournament was ultimately scheduled for November and December. According to the Daily Mail, this decision "robbed us of a summer of football". But why must all countries schedule their most significant international sporting events according to Europe's holidays? There is no answer, except, Eurocentrism.

A French reporter was asked about his first impression of Qatar, and he replied that it had "lots of mosques". Such comments reinforce the notion of westerners feeling discomfort outside of the traditional European environment. But why shouldn't other countries be able to host the World Cup and showcase their own cultures and traditions?

Yes, Europe has a strong football tradition and has won more World Cups than any other continent. But football is a global game and its biggest tournament should showcase various countries, regions and continents.

The 2022 World Cup offers an opportunity to address human rights issues in Qatar and other Arab states. At the same time, it provides a chance to highlight hypocrisy, Orientalism and Eurocentrism in western media coverage. The World Cup should be a celebration and an opportunity to improve the sport in all countries, across all continents.

The views expressed in this article belong to the author and do not necessarily reflect the editorial policy of Middle East Eye.

# Forced religious conversion against Constitution: SC



New Delhi: Reaffirming that forced religious conversion is a "serious issue", the Supreme Court said on Monday it is against the Constitution.

The court was hearing a plea filed by advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay seeking direction to the Centre and states to take stringent steps to control fraudulent religious conversion by "intimidation, threatening, deceivingly lur-ing through gifts and monetary benefits".

The Centre told the court it is collecting information from states on religious conversion through such means.

Appearing before a bench of Justices M R Shah and C T Ravikumar, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta sought time to furnish detailed information on the issue.

"We are gathering information from the states. Give us a

week's time," Mehta said. He said statutory the regime will determine whether a person is converting due to some change in belief.

per the culture of India,"

The top court acknowledged forced religious conversion is a very serious matter.

When a lawyer questioned the maintainability of the plea, the bench said,"Do not be so technical. We are here to find a solution. We are here for a cause. We are here to set things right. If the purpose of the charity is good then it is welcome but what is required to be considered is the intention

"Do not take it as adversarial. It is a very serious issue. Ultimately it is against our Constitution. When everyone stays in India, they have to act per the culture of India," the bench observed.

The apex court will now take up the matter on December 12.

Forced religious conversion may pose a danger to national security and impinge on religious freedom of citizens, the top court had said recently, and asked the Centre to step in and make sincere efforts to tackle the "very serious" issue.

DO NOT TAKE IT AS ADVERSARIAL. It is a very serious issue. Ultimately it is against our Constitution. When everyone stays in India, they have to act

# India's presidency of G-20 a matter of pride for all citizens: PM Modi



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Monday that India's presidency of the G-20 is a matter of pride for all citizens and it is an occasion to establish globally Indianness and its culture.

Addressing a key meeting of BJP leaders from across the country, Modi also asked party members to maintain direct connect with border villagers and said they should be developed as places that draw visitors.

Former Chhattisgarh chief minister Raman Singh briefed reporters on the meeting and Modi's closed-door address.

The prime minister inaugurated the BJP's national officebearers meeting and said there is an acknowledgement worldwide of the country's emergence as an economic power

amid global challenges like the Ukraine war and the Covid pandemic.

He also lauded the "Kashi Tamil Sangamam", a monthlong event going on in Varanasi that celebrates ancient cultural ties between the two places.

Modi said "sneh milan", an idea he had first voiced during the party's national executive meeting in Hyderabad, programmes should be promoted for cultural exchanges as being seen in Kashi, an ancient name of Varanasi

Singh said the two-day meeting will discuss various topical issues and also upcoming state elections. Party leaders are deliberating on further strengthening its presence at booths.

Besides its national officebearers, presidents and general secretaries (organisation) of the BJP's state units are also

the party's national president J P Nadda.

The party's future strategy, preparations for the next round of state assembly polls and various ongoing organisational ac-tivities will be discussed in the meeting which is also serving as a stock-taking exercise for leaders who are engaged in organisational works round the year, party sources have said.

Various groups of leaders, including Union ministers, have also been roped in to further strengthen the party's presence, especially in places where it lost in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls and is eying victory in 2024.

Some electorally important states, including Karnataka, Pradesh Madhya Rajasthan, besides Tripura and Chhattisgarh, are scheduled to have assembly polls ahead of the Lok Sabha elections.

# Blinken vows US support for Israel despite unease over govt

**Washington:** Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Sunday the US will not shrink from its unwavering support for Israel despite stark differences with Prime Ministerelect Benjamin Netanyahu concerns the Biden administration may have about potential members of his incoming right-wing government.

Speaking to a left-leaning group that some on the right accuse of being too sympathetic to the Palestinians and Iran, Blinken said the United States will remain a stalwart friend of Israel even as it pursues goals that Netanyahu has opposed, including a two-state resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and a restoration of the languishing 2015 Iran nuclear deal.

The US-Israel "partnership and all that it's produced for the people of our nations and the world has always been underwritten by the United States ironclad commitment to Israel's security, a commitment that has never been stronger than it is today," he

Blinken said the Biden administration would engage with Netanyahu's government based on its policies and not on personalities, including potential senior Cabinet ministers who have expressed vehement anti-Palestinian and anti-Arab views in the past.

But, Blinken also warned that the U.S. would object to policies that marginalize the Palestinians, diminish their "horizon for hope," or make a two-state resolution more difficult. He said those would be detrimental to Israel's longterm security or future as a Jewish democratic state.

"We expect the new Israeli government to continue to work with us to advance our shared values, just as we have previous governments," he said. will gauge the government by the policies it pursues rather than individual personalities. We will hold it to the mutual standards we have established in our relationship over the past seven decades," Blinken said.

U.S. officials have previexpressed concerns ously about the possible positions in Netanyahu's government of at least two right-wing Israeli politicians: Itamar Ben-Gvir and Bezalel Smotrich.

Ben-Gvir, a lawmaker known for anti-Arab vitriol and provocative stunts, has been offered the job of national security minister, a powerful position that will put him in charge of Israel's police force. Meanwhile, Smotrich, leader of the Religious Zionism party, which shares anti-Palestinian and anti-gay views, has been offered oversight over the Israeli agency for Palestinian civil affairs.

Blinken noted that the US-Israel relationship is seven decades old and the Biden administration would "speak honestly" with the new Israeli government as well as the Palestinians, whose leaders he said must also refrain from raising tensions that endanger a two-state solution.

He pointed out that the Biden administration continues to support its predecessor's recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital and is working to expand former President Donald Trump's "Abraham Accords" that saw several Arab nations normalize relations with Israel. He lauded the recent completion of a maritime border accord between Israel and Lebanon.

Blinken's comments came at the annual conference of J Street, a pro-Israel group that has distinguished itself from the much larger and older American Israel Public Affairs Committee by advancing positions often supported by the Democratic party. (AP)

## CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

## **Boycotting 2018**

Union minister said the BJP "will do anything, even make attempts to buy your loyalties, but God will fail all their designs".

Abdullah also warned the security forces and the government not to interfere in the elections in Jammu and Kashmir and said "let people decide whom to vote for".

"Otherwise there will be such a storm, which you will not be able to control," he said. Abdullah also threatened to launch an agita-

tion in case such a thing occurred. "We will be ready to sacrifice our lives. Farooq Abdullah will be the first to start an agitation over it," he said.

# **NC Calls For Early**

president at the mausoleum of National Conference founder Shiekh Mohammad Abdullah on his 117th birth anniversary.

According to the resolution, the assembly elections have not been announced for Jammu and Kashmir even though the delimitation process has been completed.

"It was promised by the country's Home Minister that the much-awaited assembly elections will be held after the delimitation process is over. Now that the process is complete and the final updated voter list is out, still there is no announcement for assembly elections," it

"Considering the political situation in J&K, this delegate session resolves that Articles 370, 35-A be restored to their original, undiluted form," the resolution reads.

It also demanded that the Centre should restore full statehood to J and K and announce the assembly election dates at the earliest.

"We urge the people of India to rise to the occasion and ask the BJP-led central government to remove injustices in J and K," it added.

The other major demands of the party in the resolution included return of THE NHPCowned power projects to Jammu and Kashmir and repatriation of prisoners from outside the union territory to jails within Jammu and Kashmir.

"JKNC is committed towards the upliftment and development of every weaker section of the society and welcome the steps taken for conferment of ST Status in favour of Paharis of Jammu and Kashmir. As assured, ST status already conferred in favour of Gujjars and Bakarwals shall not be diluted is also a welcome step," it added.

The National Conference also passed two other resolutions on press freedom and condition of economy in Jammu and Kashmir.

The party demanded that the media should be provided a free environment to operate and there should be no undue interference from

any quarter.

# **Dr Farooq Remains**

The day also marked the 117th birth anniversary of Sheikh Abdullah. NC general secretary Ali Mohammad Sagar

should take such things seriously and ensure the safety of those employees who are still stationed in the Valley," he said. Another employee Rakesh Kumar said their

demands for the past 208 days have gone unanswered. "The government is stopping our salaries

and using pressure tactics to force us to move back to our place of postings in the Valley. How can we even think of returning in such a situation?" he said.

said only Abdullah's nomination was received

A total of 183 proposals from Kashmir, 396

from Jammu and 25 proposals from Ladakh

were received in support of Farooq Abdullah,

The senior leader had recently expressed a

"I will not be contesting for the post of presi-

"Anyone from the party can contest for

the post. It is a democratic exercise." Faroog

Abdullah, who has retained the post for nearly

four decades except for seven years beginning

for the first time in 1983.

**Fear Among KPs** 

He became National Conference president

as a propaganda as "they (terrorists) have all

Demanding a probe into the leak of names to

terrorists, Zutshi said it shows the terror eco-

sytem is deep-rooted and needs to be disman-

tled by taking stern action against overground

such vital information to terrorists. The police

The government must find out who leaked

relevant information about the employees".

dent any longer. The elections for the post will

be held on December 5. It is time for the new

generation to take over the responsibilities,'

Farooq Abdullah had said on November 18.

desire to step down from the post owing to his

till the last date of filing the nominations.

Kumar said the Kashmiri Pandits have decided not to rejoin their duties in the Valley as it is directly related to their "life and death".

"We can work only if we are alive...the government should immediately relocate us to save our families who are suffering immensely, both mentally as well as financially," he said. **AAP Seeks** 

published a list of 56 Kashmiri Pandit employees engaged under the Prime Minister's Rehabilitation Package, and warned of mounting attacks on them.

AAP spokesperson Pratap Jamwal criticised the silence of the Jammu and Kashmir administration and the central government on the threat putting the employees in a state of

"Kashmiri Pandit employees as well as reserved category employees serving in Kashmir are on protest following (targeted) killings and are on the road for months but the government of India as well as the Jammu and Kashmir government are mute spectators," he said.

Jamwal termed the demand of the Kashmiri

Pandit employees for relocation "genuine in nature", saying the government's stubborn attitude was putting these employees in a situation of helplessness.

# **Govt Forms Panel**

as may be required and shall submit its report within a period of one month from the the order.

# **Srinagar Shivers**

registered a low of minus 1.4 degrees Celsius. Kupwara in north Kashmir recorded minus 2.7 degrees Celsius, the officials added. The MeT Office said the weather is likely to stay dry

but hazy till December 8. A fresh western disturbance is likely to affect Jammu and Kashmir and adjoining areas from December 9, under the influence of which there is a possibility of light snow over plains and lower reaches, and light-to-moderate snow over the middle and higher reaches over

#### the next two days 2 Punjabis Help

of Police, Fatehgarh, Sahib Ravjot Grewal said a case has been registered in connection with the stealing of apples and 10 people have

# 17 Injured As

been arrested in this regard.

He said at least 17 persons were injured in the accident and they were immediately evacuated to a nearby hospital.

The official added condition of five of the injured persons is stated to be serious.

# **SC To Organise**

shall engage in collaborative brainstorming, with a goal to bring in evolution by inclusion of new methodology for upgrading the ecosystem by generating out-of-the-box open innovative ideas," it said.

The statement said the event will be organised under the supervision and guidance of Supreme Court judge Sanjay Kishan Kaul. Members of the Supreme Court Bar Association and the Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association will also be invited to participate in the event and provide insights by way of their suggestions for the improvement of the system.

It said suggestions will also be sought from the officials of the registry as well as the law clerks deputed in the residential offices of the chief justice of India and the judges of the Supreme Court. The best 18 suggestions and innovative ideas will be identified and the participants will be

accorded the opportunity to deliver a presentation, the statement said. "The procedure to apply for the event along with the link for online submission of applications would be indicated therein. The applicant/participant would be required to briefly suggest the change/innovation, which

in his/her opinion, will bring further efficien-

cy in the existing processes of filing of cases

to listing thereof," it said.

The statement further said that the winner and the runner-up of the hackathon will be felicitated.

"Larger hackathons are proposed to be organised in future also under the aegis of various committees of judges of the Supreme Court on the various topics of importance for the efficient functioning of the judicial system," it added.

## Fire Damages

fire was put off.
"The grid stated suffered partial damage and the loss was being estimated," he said—(KNO) **Chief Justice Visits** 

and presented memento to the Chief Justice. Chief Justice also launched a plantation drive

## **DDMA Holds**

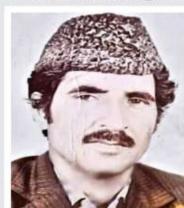
Sham Lal.

Earlier, the Assistant Commandant, 13th Battalion, NDRF, Javed Iqbal gave a detailed PowerPoint presentation on the structure and role of NDRF in India, its abilities, the list of machines used for dealing with all types of natural and man-made disasters, etc. He stressed on the need to maintain coordination among the stakeholders during a disaster to reduce response time for rescue measures as District Kishtwar falls in IV and V seismic zones.

Heads of different stakeholder departments responded to the queries during the meeting.

A mock exercise would be conducted tomorrow at the GDC Kishtwar at 11:00 AM by the NDRF team to sensitise stakeholders about the rescue preparedness at the time of an earthquake.

Deliberations were also held on the utility of satellite phone, helipads, medial infrastructure and response team, hygiene and sanitation, drinking water supply, role of media, awareness and training to effectively tackle the unprecedented disaster in the district.



With profound grief, we inform the demise of our beloved father Ghulam Ahmad Kawdari R/o Sazgaripora Hawal Srinagar, who left for heavenly abode on 5th December 2022 after prolonged illness. Mourning will be held for 3 days only and Congregational Fateha Khawani will be held on 7th December 2022 at 10:30 am at our ancestral graveyard Islamia College Sheeshbagh near marriage hall.

**Bereaved Family** 

Fayaz Ahmed Kawdari (Son)

Aijaz Ahmed Kawdari (Son), Sheezan Ahmad Wani, Azfar Faroog, Nomaan Faroog, Milad (Grandsons) Cell No's: 7889784094, 9419010593

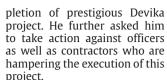
'My Town My Pride Programme'

# **People First Is Basic Policy Of J&K Govt: Chief Secy**

**Observer News Service** 

**JAMMU:** Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta Monday held a marathon live interaction with the visiting officers (Prabharis), President's and representatives of different Municipal Wards and Councils of Jammu division under My Town My Pride Programme (MTMP) at Civil Secretariat here.

During the interaction, the Chief Secretary held detailed deliberations on different deliverables with the officers and took on spot assessment from them about the participation of



tential as tourist destination



general public in the MTMP.

While interacting with the officers and representatives of Municipal Wards, the Chief impressed upon them to encourage maximum participation of general public in the programme so that the prime objective of this festival of development is achieved. He asked them to involve educational institutions in the celebrations of MTMP and organise events under this programme so that a much larger awareness is generated among the public about different government beneficiary schemes.

Dr. Mehta enjoined upon the officers to involve common masses into the MTMP activities and hold events of such nature which create interest and enthusiasm among the public. "People first" is basic policy of J&K Government and we must serve people as per their needs", Dr. Mehta observed.

While interacting with visiting officer Udhampur district (Principal Secretary, School Education Department), Alok Kumar, the Chief Secretary asked him to involve the local public as well as municipal council representatives for the comand we must channelize our resources to make it one of the fin-

The Chief Secretary further asked the visiting officers of Jammu district to involve all wards of Jammu Municipal Corporation into the celebrations of MTMP besides educational institutions, in order to generate awareness among public about beneficiary oriented schemes.

(Commissioner Secretary, Fortary impressed upon the officer to involve locals and other pubowing to its significance due to NH-44. He asked the officers to make it such an attraction that people stay there purposely.

# JK Plans To Set Up **Incubator For Cybersecurity-Related Startups**

**Observer News Service** 

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir set up a dedicated incubator for cybersecurity-related startups

Cyber Security Policy, the adminevant research and development projects to the corporate sector.

government policies.

"The government of J-K shall set up a dedicated incubator for cyber security related startups. The UT shall also develop a venture capital model to provide assistance to first generation entrepreneurs, startups and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) operating and intending to enter in this field (cybersecurity)," the policy document said.

endeavour to conduct Cyber Security Expos to showcase the advantages of the indigenously developed products by SMEs and Startups, it said.

"This will ensure a platform

award a certain number of cybersecurity contracts every year to Kashmir and devise a mechanism to ensure transparency in the allotment procedure.

"To boost the local industry, special fiscal and non-fiscal incentives will be given to firms operating in Jammu and Kashmir as per the prevailing policy(ies) of the J-K government," it said.

mu and Kashmir will be provided access to government applications to showcase their product as proof of concept (PoC). These projects may be converted into full-scale government contracts, post performance reviews," it said.

According to the document, the government will enter into strate-

Similarly, interacting with visiting officer for Jammu district Shaleen Kabra, Principal Secretary, Jal Shakti Department, the Chief Secretary asked him to keep complete tab on all the ongoing works in the district so that the Jammu City is made one of the cleanest and vibrant cities of the country. He highlighted that Jammu city has lot of po-



est attractions in the country.

Likewise, interacting with visiting officer Ramban district est, Ecology and Environment), Sanjeev Verma, the Chief Secrelic representatives for developing Ramban as a tourist place

Dr. Mehta while delving on different aspects of MTMP, impressed upon the officers to saturate the different benefi-Tejaswani, among others.

to promote local industries.

Under its recently launched istration will also outsource rel-

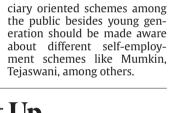
It is also mulling to provide special fiscal and non-fiscal incentives to cybersecurity firms operating in the union territory (UT) according to the prevailing

Jammu and Kashmir would

for cybersecurity enthusiasts to interact and discuss the latest developments across the globe," the document read.

It said the government would SMEs incorporated in Jammu and

"Startups Incorporated in Jam-



gic partnerships with the private sector to set up infrastructure such as cybersecurity training and development labs, which in turn will facilitate the development of new products.

"To ensure safety at the supply end, the government shall work with Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to help individuals assess the existing security levels and devise strategies to protect them from future attacks," it said.

Further, to avoid fraudulent practices and identify service users, the government would take up personal identity assurance and other measures.

It said the J-K government will partner with various institutions, public sector undertakings, government bodies like Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) and National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) for driving various initiatives.

"The potential partners include academic and research institutions, private players and other government organisations," the

document read. According to the policy, the J-K government will promote an annual competition, named the Cyber Security Challenge, which will help identify and nurture individual talent.

"This will be a UT-wide drive to increase awareness as well as build assurance in the community about government initiatives and efforts to secure the cyber space with the help of its stakeholders,' it said.

The government will also establish the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) security assessment facility where product certifications and compliance assessment of all sensitive ICT products linked directly or indirectly to Critical Information Infrastructure (CII) will be done,

# 43% Polling On 2 DDC Seats In North Kashmir



**Observer News Service** 

**SRINAGAR:** Around 43 % voting was recorded in the two District Development Consistencies (DDCs) which went to the re-poll in the Kashmir Division on Monday.

53.33 voter turnout was recorded in Hajin -A Constituency in Bandipora district whereas 32.73 % was recorded in Drugmulla Constituency in Kupwara District, an official spokesperson said. He said 42 polling stations were set up for DDC Drugmulla which recorded a percentage of 32.73.

Out of total electorate of 16026, the spokesperson said, 10724 voters, including 5100 female were polled. Also, he said that 141 Migrant votes were also cast at Special polling Stations for Kashmiri Migrants

Complaints Range From

Corporal Punishment

To Transfer Woes, Fee

Collection By Private

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Directorate of

School Education (DSEK) has

received over 400 grievances

this year varying from corporal

An official said the grievance

punishment to transfer woes.

cell receives complaints and grievances of different na-

ture from employees as

well other stakeholders

of the department in-

cluding parents as well.

As per the official fig-

ures available with the

news agency-Kashmir News

Observer (KNO), the director-

ate has been able to resolve 40

percent of the grievances and

the complaints received from

different quarters while 60

percent grievances are under

the grievances and dispose

of the cases in a time bound

manner but there is no end

to receiving complaints. That

is why the number goes on

increasing with each passing

Notably, the directorate has

been receiving grievances

wherein the nature of com-

plaints vary from corporal

day," the official said.

"We try our best to resolve

process at different stages.

Schools

### Centenarian **Votes For Village's Development**

BANDIPORA: Braving the cold weather, a 105-year-old woman cast her vote at a polling station in Hakbara area of Hajin-A constituency in North Kashmir's Bandipora district on Monday.

The 105-year-old Azee Begum of Hakbara village said that she cast her vote for the benefit of her locality, which was being ignored by the authorities in terms of the development, reported news agency KNO.

She also said she has been a regular voter and didn't want to miss her chance even today with the hope to see her village developed.

**DSEK Received 400 Complaints This Year** 

punishment to transfer woes

of the teachers besides deploy-

plaints pertaining to collec-

tion of fees by private schools.

At times there are grievances

regarding appointment under

Notably, the issue of collection

of fees by private schools has

been a persistent problem across

J&K as parents always complain

"But at times we are unable

end as parents do not always

cooperate with us. Most of the

parents register complaints

against private schools and

later do not want to be identi-

The directorate has also re-

ceived complaints about unau-

thorised absence of teachers as

well fake appointment of ReT

teachers by the previous regimes.

stances when the directorate

received complaints about

"There have been many in-

fied." the official said.

SRO-43," the official said.

"We mostly receive com-

ment of teachers.

set up at GMS Jagti, GGHS Patta Bohri and GMS Model Higher Secondary school Udhampur. Similarly in Hajin-A, 53.33 %

voting was recorded in 57 polling Stations. "8669 Electors out of the total 16313 cast their votes. 4717 Males out of 8565 and 3982 females out of 7748

cast their votes," the spokesperson said. "The voting which started at the 7.A.M in morning and concluded at 2.P.M. in after noon passed of peacefully with people across the age groups participating. Kashmiri Migrants also cast their votes in the special polling stations setup for them in different places in

Jammu," he added. Counting for both the Constituencies will be held on 8th

the fake appointment of ReT

teachers. All such cases are re-

ferred to the crime branch for

thorough investigations," the

"At times we receive some

cases from ACB wherein the

report is sought about differ-

ent matters. Such complaints

are either of corruption or fake

Besides other complaints,

the grievance cell has also reg-

istered complaints about the

shifting of schools in various

The schools are shifted

by the department for

having zero enrollment

and are clubbed with

"But the complainants

state that their kids cannot

go to the other schools citing

various reasons. All such cases

are referred to higher ups for

their decision on these mat-

tion Department (SED) has

shifted (clubbed) hundreds of

schools for the last many years.

These schools were clubbed

under the process of rationali-

sation to streamline the Pupil

Teacher ratio (PTR) in govern-

Meanwhile, the official said

the efforts of the grievance cell

remains to dispose of the cases

as early as possible to redress

the grievances of the general

ters," the official said

ment schools.

public-(KNO)

Notably, the School

areas across the Valley.

nearby schools.

appointments," he said.

official said.

# **Education Teaches Human Beings To Coexist: Azad**

'Societies With Pluralistic Values Have The Highest Moral Standing Globally'

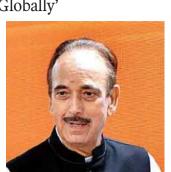
**Observer News Service** 

**JAMMU:** Democratic Azad Party Chairman, Ghulam Nabi Azad said that no nation can ever prosper unless that prioritizes the education sector.

He said nations can be built only when its education system meets the moral, economic and social standards. "Education leads to nation building and we shall all focus on it. Our youth shall be imparted with quality education that will guide them to prosper in life ahead," he said while speaking as Chief Guest on the annual day function of Shiksha Niketan Senior Secondary School, at General Zorawar Singh Auditorium Jammu on Monday.

Azad said that the coexistence of human societies has become possible only due to education. Education doesn't only impart you with skills to earn livelihood but it makes you understand about social and cultural responsibilities. It lets you live in peace, coexistence and harmony," he said. He urged students to respect harmony and each other's religious beliefs.

"Those societies with plu-



ralistic values have the highest moral standing globally. We need to promote religious harmony and respect each other to thrive together," he said while lauding the contribution of the founder of the institute Dev Dut Mengi Ji.

Earlier, during the welcome address, Rameshwar Mengi, Principal Shiksha Niketan School highlighted the achievements of the school & students. He further disclosed with proud that for the first time seven Padma Awardees & Param Vir Chakra attended the annual function of the any school in Jammu & Kashmir. The function was presided by I D Soni eminent educationist & President Elder's Home Ambphala.

# **Secretary Tribal Affairs** Participates In MTMP At Shopian



**Interacts With** People, Inaugurates Public Park, Sumo Stand

**Observer News Service** 

SRINAGAR: Secretary, Tribal Affairs Department, Shahid Iqbal Chaudhary, who is also Visiting Officer for MC Shopia on Monday visited Shopian and listened to people's grievances and demands during 'My Town My Pride' programme at Municipal Park Shopian.

On the occasion, a large gathering of citizens participated and raised their grievances and other development issues concerning their respective areas.

While speaking on the or casion, the Visiting Officer said that the main aim of the programme is to take feedback from the people and strengthen bond between the government and the people besides ensuring service delivery at people's door steps.

The officer inspected stalls highlighting services and products of various departments.

Deputy Commissioner, Shopian, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, presented a detailed review of all development works being executed in the district saying that the district is progressing in every field of public welfare and development.

Director Urban Local Bodies, Kashmir, Mathora Masoom, while speaking on the occasion, gave brief of achievements and targets completed within the given timeframe in MC Shopian.

The departments of Animal Husbandry, Agriculture, Horticulture, Handloom, Handicrafts, Social Welfare, Revenue, Education, MC, Floriculture and others disseminated information on various schemes of their departments.

A special awareness programme on Nasha Mukt Bharat was also presented by the officials of health department. Besides, special cultural programmes and Marshal Art was also presented on the occasion.

During the programme, the sanction letters, Sehat Cards, land passbooks and agricultural equipments among the benefi-

Later, Secretary inaugurated Public Park at Kanipora, Shopian, completed with a cost of Rs. 28 lakh and newly developed Sumo Stand at Kanipora Shopian worth Rs 25 lakh, both executed by Municipal Council Shopian.

Among others, the programme was attended by President MC, Subhash Chander Koul, SSP Shopian, Tanushree, ADC Shopian, Yar Ali Khan, DDC members, PRI's, counsellors, senior officers besides locals.

# **Bandipora Wears Festive Look On** First Day Of 'My Town My Proud'

**Observer News Service** 

BANDIPORA: The first day of 'My Town My Pride' 2.0 (MTMP) begin here Monday with great enthusiasm and fan fare at Nishat Park, Bandipora. On day first of MTMP pro-

gramme, Secretary Tourism and YS&S, Sarmad Hafeez, visited Bandipora and participated in day long celebrations held across the Town. Secretary inaugurated the main event at Nishat Park Bandipora in presence of Deputy Commissioner, Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmed and Director Employment, Nisar Ahmad Wani.

Speaking on the occasion, Sarmad Hafeez said 'My Town My Pride' is an initiative to strengthen Urban Local Self Governance and to serve the people with accountable and participatory governance. He stressed on intensive awareness regarding public oriented government schemes and online services.

Sarmad Hafeez stressed on community participation for enhanced socio-economic empowerment of the area. He urged upon the people to maintain cleanliness in and around the surroundings and cooperate with authorities for door to door collection of waste. 'It is our collective responsibil-



ity to implement all government schemes at grassroots level", he added. He asked officers to work with more dedication, honesty and integrity for economic and social uplift of people and saturation of various government scheme including self employment schemes.

He urged upon the unemployed youth to come forward and take benefit from various youth oriented Government Schemes.

Secretary visited stalls installed by various departments to showcase their achievements and progress under different schemes. He distributed cash assistance

among the beneficiaries under

PMAY (urban) and handed over keys and sanction letters to unemployed youth under Mumkin and Deputy Commissioner high-

lighted various ongoing and completed developmental initiatives in the district. He said that various works including shopping complex at New Bus Adda, installation of solar tree at Nishat Park and beautification of Papchan bridge have been completed in Bandipora town under 'My Town My Pride'. Besides, out of 117 works in Bandipora, Hajin and Sumbal towns, 93 works have been completed while 24 are in progress.

# **CUK's DCJ Holds Induction Programme**

**Observer News Service** 

GANDERBAL: Department of Convergent Journalism (DCJ), School of Media Studies (SMS), Central University of Kashmir (CUK) organized a one-day induction programme for the newly admitted students in the Department at Tulmulla campus here Monday.

Addressing the students, keynote speaker, Mr. Sajjad Bazaz, corporate communicator working in J&K Bank said the media has a huge impact of changing people's perception that is reflected from the campaigns by various corporate houses. "Media is not only about Newspaper, radio and television as there is a huge scope in corporate communication through digitized new media technology," he said, adding that credibility is more important in journalism than TRP. He added, 'identify your interest, understand your sector, do human interest stories and be a specialist with your own capacity".

In his address, Dean, SMS, Prof. Shahid Rasool said success has no short-cuts and anyone can achieve

their dreams by being dedicated to their interests. Prof. Shahid emphasized on having a great scope of digital media to start with and create different forms of revenue generation tools for themselves. He said the department has been changing the syllabus to fit the industry demands.

In his remarks, Head, DCJ, Dr. Arif Nazir said "We are among a very few universities that have specialization subjects such as advanced AV production, Narrative journalism, New Media, Research Dissertation, Photojournalism and students in their fourth semester have to choose any of these."

Medical Officer, Dr. Sheeba Nazir introduced the new batch with the medical facilities available at the Health Centre. "We are having facilities like nebulization, Covid 19 testing and conduct regular camps on mental health, blood donation etc."

Dr. Mir Insha Farooq, Presiding Officer Internal Complaints Committee (ICC), gave details about the ICC functionality saying that it ensures a safe and conducive environment for students, scholars and employees in the varsity.

# **LG's Rolling Trophy Final Phase Jammu Begins**

**Observer News Service** 

Level phase of mega cricket for Jammu division was inaugurated on Monday at Khel Gaon here. The cricket tournament is being organised under the supervision of Director of Youth Services and Sports Department Subash C Chibber and with the young blood in games and sports. able support of Deputy Director, Central, Jatinder Mishra and Accounts Officer J&K Sunil Sharma.

Hundreds of young cricketers and senior officials of the Department were present at the colourful inaugural ceremony of the tournament. Pertinently 10 district teams of the Jammu division are participating in this

phase of the cricket tournament. The Department has deployed many cricket knowing officials for the day were in progress.

the smooth conduct of the trophy. In the first match of the inau-

JAMMU: The final Inter-District gural day, Director YSS flipped a coin in the air, Doda won the toss tournament LG's Rolling Trophy and elected to field against District Poonch. Both the teams scored equal, getting the equal points. Director Youth Services and Sports J&K while interacting with the participants of different districts highlighted the importance of

> "There is no denying that Cricket is a religion in India. Probably because of its stature in the society, the sport has reached inexplicable heights. It is by far the most glamorous sporting choice of our youth. The J&K Government under LGs Rolling Trophy, the first of it's kind cricket tournament, is providing opportunities to J&K youth for showcasing their talent," he added. Three other scheduled matches of

# **Sher-i-Kashmir Bodybuilding Championship Concludes**



**Observer News Service** 

**SRINAGAR:** The Sher-i-Kashmir Bodybuilding & Men's Physique Championship 2022 concluded on Sunday at Multipurpose Indoor Sports Hall Polo Ground. The championship was organised by All J&K Fitness and Bodybuilders Association, affiliated with J&K Sports Association and Indian Fitness and Bodybuilders Federation.

The championship saw competi-

tion among various categories. The winners list includes:

Bilal Ahmad Rah won overall Senior bodybuilding championship Uzair Ahmad won overall Youth bodybuilding championship

Hamid Qazi won overall Junior bodybuilding championship

Showkat Ahmad won overall Senior Men's Physique championship Sahil Tashok won overall Junior Men's Physique championship

# **Image Of Pelé Shines Bright For Fans At World Cup**

DOHA: The image of a young Pelé celebrating goals and lift-ing trophies with Brazil's national team appeared brightly on the shirts, flags and banners of Brazilian fans gathering before the Seleçao's World Cup match against South Korea on Monday.

The 82-year-old Pelé remained in a hospital in Sao Paulo, recovering from a respiratory infection that was aggravated by COVID-19. The news coming from Brazil early Monday was good, as two daughters and one grandson of the soccer great said he was not under an imminent risk of death.

It was reason for celebration for the many Brazilians who have been cheering for the Selecao and showing their support to Pelé in Qatar.

said whether it had spread.

A few thousand people were at the Brazilian fans' gather-

Pelé had a colon tumor re- to cheer for the team in the the No. 10 on it was displayed,

watch the game.

ing point in Doha on Monday bay, a large Brazilian flag with and 2002.

plovees were moved by the

moved last year, but neither match against South Korea in along with the message "Get his family nor the hospital have" the round of 16. Many would well soon, Pelé." Pelé won be heading to Stadium 974 to three World Cups with Brazil, in 1958, 1962 and 1970. The Se-During a drone show at Doha lecao also won the title in 1994

# **Arab Fans In Qatar Rally Behind Morocco**

**Agencies** 

DOHA: Moroccans in Qatar are feeling the love from across the Arab world ahead of their country's World Cup clash with Spain on Tuesday.

After their own teams were eliminated from the first World Cup in the Middle East, many Qatari, Saudi and Tunisians fans in Doha are now rallying behind Morocco — the last Arab team left in the tournament.

At Marrakech, a Moroccan tional team. restaurant in Doha, some em-

big for the na-

"All Arab countries felt the joy for us and helped us feel outpouring of support. Some the joy," Yassin al- Youssfi, said even dared to dream as he poured Moroccan tea wearing the team's bright red

> "I hope this feeling lasts when we hold up the cup. It will be held by Moroccan hands." The Atlas Lions clinched first place in Group F ahead of 2018 finalist Croatia and semifinalist Belgium, reaching the round of 16 in a World Cup for the first time since 1986. One more victory for Morocco would mean the country's first trip to the quarterfinals.



# Saudi Arabia Club Al-Nassr **Eyes Cristiano Ronaldo**

**Agencies** 

Saudi Arabian club Al-Nassr has made the best offer so far to star striker Cristiano Ronaldo. who recently left Manchester United after reaching a mutual agreement with them. As per Sky Sports, the Portugal star has not yet completed his deal with the club and is yet to sign with

Al-Nassr is one of the clubs from the country which wants to sign Ronaldo, who is currently a Hag. Ronaldo's tumultuous defree agent. Ronaldo's likely destination would be a club in Saudi arrived at a mutual agreement Arabia, with the country inter- with the club that made him ested in making him an ambas- a star. The departure from the sador of the sport there. Mean- club happened days after the inwhile, Ronaldo will be in action terview. (ANI)

in FIFA World Cup 2022 in Qatar in Portugal's round of 16 match against Switzerland on Tuesday.

The five-time winner of the Ballon d'Or, who had a frustrating season at Manchester United doing regular bench duty, startled the world with an interview in which he took aim at the Manchester United board and manager Erik ten Hag. Ronaldo criticized the club, its owners Glazers family and said he has "no respect" for its manager ten parture was inevitable and he

# **England Seal Memorable Win Over Pakistan In 1st Test**

**Agencies** 

**RAWALPINDI:** England pulled off one of their most memorable test victories on Monday when Ben Stokes and his men beat Pakistan by 74 runs in the fading light on day five of a high-scor-

ing series opener in Rawalpindi. Barely 10 minutes before the final session's scheduled close of play, Jack Leach dismissed Naseem Shah to give England the win after Stokes boldly declared on Sunday to set Pakistan a target of 343. The game had threatened to become an endless run-



fest on a docile track that yielded seven hundreds inside three days, and the 1,768 runs scored in the match is the third-highest aggregate in test cricket history.

But Ollie Robinson (4-36) and James Anderson (4-50) produced a reverse-swing masterclass for England to wreck Pakistan, who folded for 268.

