

## Rajouri Simmers With Anger After Twin Attacks

- Minor Siblings Among 6 killed Within 14 Hours, Protests In Many Areas
- DGP Announces To Revive, Rearm VDCs; NIA Begins Investigation



Family members mourn near mortal remains of four civilians, who were shot dead on Sunday evening, in Dhangri area of Rajouri. Photo: PTI

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Jammu:** In an apparent security lapse, two cousins - aged four and 16 - were killed when an improvised explosive device (IED) went off in a village in Jammu's Rajouri area on Monday, 14 hours after terrorists had shot dead four people there.

The terrorists, locals claimed, had planted the IED on Sunday itself and it was missed during the scanning by police and security officials who had cordoned off the area after the shootings last evening. Samiksha Sharma (16) and Vihan Kumar Sharma (4) were killed and six others injured in the blast in Dangri village near the house of Pritam Lal, a victim of the Sunday attack, locals said. There were several people, including Lal's relatives, in the house when the blast took place at around 9.30 am. Six persons were killed and 12 injured in the two incidents. Village Sarpanch (headman)

Deepak Kumar said that it was a serious security lapse on the part of police and security agencies.

"It is a serious security lapse by security agencies. Minority community people do not feel secure. The administration should take tough measures," he told reporters in Rajouri.

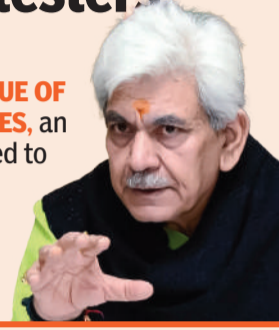
As the incidents led to protests across the district, including in Rajouri town, and a complete shutdown, Director General of Police **More on P6**

## Will Punish Culprits, End Terrorism: LG Tells Protesters

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Monday met people protesting against the double terror strikes at the same site in Rajouri within hours, and said the government is committed to eliminate terrorism from the Union Territory and help the affected families.

A total of six people were killed in two attacks on civilians at Dangri village -- four on Sunday evening when terrorists opened fire on houses, and two in an IED blast Monday morning

**SOME PEOPLE RAISED THE ISSUE OF SECURITY LAPSES, an inquiry will be conducted to find out (whether there were any such lapses). On the basis of inquiry, action will be taken."**



-- triggering a protest by the members from the minority community.

"I have heard several people among you. It is a commitment of the government of India to stamp

out terrorism from Jammu and Kashmir," the LG told the protesters.

He was accompanied by Director General of Police Dilbag Singh J&K BJP chief Ravinder Raina.

## BGSBU Rajouri Postpones Exams

Mid protests following the killing of four people in a firing incident in Rajouri, Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University (BGSBU) postponed the semester-end examinations scheduled on Monday. "It is hereby notified for information of all the concerned that the University End Semester examinations scheduled for January 2, 2023 are hereby postponed. Fresh dates shall be notified separately," Controller examination, BGSBU, said in a communication.

## Parties Condemn Attack, Slam Govt

Political leaders in Kashmir on Monday condemned the killing of five people by militants in Rajouri and slammed the LG-led administration for failing to weed out militancy even after four years of abrogation of Article 370. Former Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah said militants do not discriminate between their victims, whether they are Hindus or Muslims, as he condemned the attacks which took place on Sunday

and Monday. "I condemn the killing of innocent persons. It does not matter what religion or region the victim belongs to, an innocent is an innocent," Farooq Abdullah told reporters. He said the atmosphere of hatred was responsible for the killing of innocents. "What was the fault of the victims in Rajouri? Or what was the fault of the Kashmiri Pandits killed in Shopian?" he asked. The Lok Sabha member from Srinagar **More on P6**

## Massive Ops Underway To Track Down Attackers: Police

Security forces on Monday intensified a cordon-and-search operation by inducting additional personnel to track down two suspected militants involved in an attack on a particular community in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district. Four civilians were killed and six injured after the suspected militants opened fire on three houses in Upper Dangri village on Sunday evening, according to officials. "The cordon-and-search operation has been intensified. It was resumed this morning and additional troops have been inducted," a senior **More on P6**

## Bharat Jodo Yatra

### Rahul To Hoist Tricolor In Srinagar On Jan 30

Press Trust Of India

**New Delhi:** The Bharat Jodo Yatra will resume its second leg of the journey from Delhi on January 3 after covering nine states and a Union Territory in its first leg and will end it with the hoisting of the national flag by Rahul Gandhi in Srinagar on January 30.

Addressing a joint press conference here, AICC general secretary organisation K C Venugopal and AICC general secretary, communications Jairam Ramesh, said the Bharat Jodo Yatra has so far covered 3,122 km from Gandhi Mandapam in Kanyakumari to the Red Fort in Delhi.

Over the 108 days, the Yatra has covered 49 districts in nine states and one Union Territory -- Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, and Delhi.

"The Yatra will continue from Delhi on January 3, walking through Uttar Pradesh from the same day to January 5, Haryana from January 6 to 10, Punjab from January 11 to 20 and spending one day in Himachal Pradesh on January 19.

"The Yatra will **More on P6**

## GST Collection In J&K Up By 28% In Dec

Observer News Service

**Srinagar:** The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has registered a substantial growth in collection of Goods and Services Tax (GST) in the month of December, 2022.

As per the state/UT wise data being reflected in a statement issued by the Finance Ministry, J&K has registered an increase of 28 per cent in its GST collection for the month of December, 2022 which is 13 per cent more than the national average.

Additional Commissioner, State Taxes Kashmir, **More on P6**

## Demonetisation Was Valid, Says SC, 1 Judge Disagrees

Dissenting Judge Says Demonetisation 'Vitiating, Unlawful'

Press Trust Of India

**New Delhi:** The Supreme Court on Monday upheld the legality of the Centre's 2016 decision to ban Rs 1,000 and Rs 500 currency notes, saying the decision-making process was neither flawed nor hasty and that it is "not relevant" whether the stated objectives were achieved or not.

In a big win for the Modi government, a Constitution bench by a 4:1 majority also held that demonetisation is not bad in law merely because some citizens suffered through hardships. The decision does not suffer from illegality as there was consultation between the RBI and the Centre for a period of six months before the notification under challenge was issued, it said.

The shock move to demonetise 86 per cent of the country's



cash in circulation overnight in a bid to tackle black money and corruption was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a televised address on November 8, 2016.

Scrutinising the entire record on demonetisation, the bench said there has to be great restraint in matters of economic policy and the court would not interfere

with any opinion formed by the government if it is based on the relevant facts and circumstances or based on expert's advice.

"The decision had a reasonable nexus with its objectives, such as eradicating black money, terror funding etc., and it is not relevant whether those objectives were achieved or not," the court said, adding such decisions required to be taken with utmost confidentiality and speed. "The individual interests must yield to the larger public interest sought to be achieved." Justice B V Nagarathna dissented from the majority judgment and said the demonetisation of high-value currency notes was "vitiating and unlawful." Holding that Parliament cannot be "left aloof" in a matter of such importance and its views **on More on P6**



## Gulmarg Shivers At Minus 10 Deg Cel

Press Trust Of India

The cold wave intensified in Kashmir with the mercury plunging more than five degrees below the freezing point in Srinagar, and Gulmarg and Pahalgam recording their lowest

temperatures so far this winter, officials said on Monday. Srinagar recorded a low of minus 5.4 degrees Celsius on Sunday night as compared to 0.5 degrees Celsius the night before. This was the

## JKPCC Downplays Top Pulmonologists Concern On Air Quality

### 'Air Quality In Kashmir Has Remained Good To Satisfactory'

Auqib Javeed

**Srinagar:** Over twenty days after a top Pulmonologist flagged concern over air pollution and attributed around 10 thousands deaths every year in Jammu and Kashmir to it, the Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee (JKPCC) on Monday said that the air quality in Kashmir has remained "satisfactory". Talking to Kashmir Observer,

Rafi Ahmad Bhat, Regional Director, JKPCC said that values coming from the continuous Ambient Air Quality Index (AQI) monitoring stations in Srinagar are "good to satisfactory" from the past few months, even in the winter.

Director Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) Dr Parvaiz Koul had said that every year around 10 thousand deaths are attributed to particulate matter 2.5 (PM 2.5) exposure and there is need to control it by countering it.

"Air quality index in Kashmir is gradually going into a poor category, especially during winters and in the past few days AQI has gone from moderate to severe and there is a need to



intervene now," he had added. He had said that the permissible limit for particulate matter

(PM10) is 60 while the permissible limit for PM2.5 is 40. However, the data from

**AIR QUALITY INDEX IN KASHMIR IS GRADUALLY GOING into a poor category, especially during winters and in the past few days AQI has gone from moderate to severe and there is a need to intervene now."**

JKPCC, a copy of which lies with Kashmir Observer, reveals that PM10 in the month of June has

remained 75.18, 59.53 in July, 43.08 in August and 47.48 in September.

Similarly, PM2.5 in the month of June has remained 19.11, 15.53 in July, 18.67 in August and 21.26 in September.

Bhat said they aren't aware about the model that SKIMS has used while attributing the deaths to air pollution.

"We don't know on what basis they are claiming this. They haven't shared any data with us. We even don't know what methodology they have applied to collect the data," Bhat said, adding that "It's their (SKIMS) clinical study. Until or unless, we don't sit across and see on what basis they are claiming

this, nothing can be said." Bhat further said that there are a number of factors that lead to lung disease.

"We can't attribute every death to air pollution," he said.

He, however admitted that the air quality in the valley during winters remains low because of increase in pollution and certain activities vis-a-vis constructions.

"Look at the constructions under Smart city in Srinagar, besides emissions from vehicles. Burning of biofuels like firewood and fossil fuels like coal. People are using hammams etc. This will definitely contribute to the pollution," he added.

An official from **More on P6**



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

# Novel Water Filter Quickly Removes 99.9 Per Cent Of Microplastics

Press Trust Of India

Scientists have developed a new water purification system that can filter out small plastic particles, as well as other pollutants, very quickly and with high efficiency.

The porous material, described in the journal *Advanced Materials*, may be used as a high-efficiency adsorption material in the future as it has cost competitiveness based on raw materials and enables solar-based water purification process.

"The technology is an unrivaled with the world's highest purification efficiency, removing more than 99.9 per cent of phenolic microplastics and volatile organic compound (VOC) contaminants in water at ultra-high speeds," said Professor Park Chi-Young from Daegu Gyeongbuk Institute of Science and Technology (DGIST) in Korea.

"We expect that it will be a universal technology with high economic efficiency that can pu-



rify contaminated water and supply drinking water even in areas where there is no power supply, Chi-Young said in a statement.

Water pollution caused by the rapid development of the chemical industry is a big problem in environmental pollution.

Various water purification technologies and materials have been developed to solve this problem.

The researchers noted that carbon-based porous materials using existing adsorption mechanisms have limitations in that the adsorption rate is slow and high thermal energy is required for recycling.

Various materials have been developed to improve contaminant removal efficiency, but it has been difficult to develop materials that simultaneously satisfy excellent

recyclability, high efficiency, economic efficiency of raw materials, and industrialisation potential.

The team synthesised a porous polymer with excellent adsorption performance and photothermal properties by reacting an inexpensive and effective precursor.

The new technology enables a material with fast adsorption of micro-pollutants in the aquatic environment. It was confirmed through experiments that the polymer does not require high thermal energy for recycling and can be used multiple times without loss of performance, the researchers said.

The team produced a water treatment membrane capable of evaporating water using solar energy as a driving force through the developed polymer's ability to absorb light broadly and convert the absorbed light into heat.

The water treatment membrane coated with the oxidised polymer was confirmed to purify phenolic contaminants through sunlight.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

I have sold a vehicle KTM RC 200 bearing Regd no: JK02CE7926, Chassis No: -008626 Engine No: 8-906\*46193 to one namely Hilal Ahmad Ganie S/O: Shamim Ahmad Ganie, Saidapora Payeen Shopian, J&K 192303 on 02-01-2023. If anybody having any objection in this regard may contact concerned Office within a period of seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.  
**Yaser Javed Bhat**  
S/O: Javed Ahmad Bhat  
R/O: Sadrabal Hazratbal 190006

mko

## PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my 6th pass certificate issued by Govt High School Arpanthan. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file the same in the above mentioned office within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.  
**Ab. Rashid Bhat**  
S/o Habib Bhat  
R/o Hazyopora  
DOB:29-04-1961

bmg

## NOTICE

I Mohammad Iqbal Bhat S/o Mohammad Shafi Bhat R/o Kralapora (B.k Pora, Chadoora sole proprietor of Fertilizer Licence bearing no. Renewal Registration no 344 Budgam. Now I want to Renew licence which is located at Kralapora, Chadoora. If anybody having any objection regarding the same he/she may file the same in Chief Agriculture Officer Budgam within 7 days of publication of this notice. After that no objection will be entertained.

INF

ظہور احمد حسینی ندر ہے!



یہ خبر انتہائی دکھ کے ساتھ دی جاتی ہے کہ ظہور احمد حسینی ولد سید بدرالدین حسینی ساکن کادی کادل (راجوری کادل) سری نگر حال الاوشیٹنگری ہاؤس حیدر پورہ سری نگر 02 جنوری 2023ء بروز سوموار کو اس دار فانی سے رحلت کر گئے۔ افسوساً لیسہ و آئینہ الیقینہ واجتوں ۵۰ مرحوم خوش اطلاق شریف انیس اور صوم و صلوات کے پابند تھے۔ اللہ سبحانہ و تعالیٰ مرحوم کو جنت الفردوس میں اعلیٰ مقام عطا کرے۔ آمین

اس سلسلے میں مرحوم کی اجتماعی فاتحہ خوانی 06 جنوری 2023ء بروز جمعہ المبارک بعد نماز جمعہ 2.30 بجے ان کے آبائی مقبرہ زیارت حضرت بہاؤ الدین گنج بخش نوہنڈری نگر میں انجام دی جائے گی۔

سگوواراں

INF

## OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION SHOPIAN

Fax No/ Tell No: 01933-260226 Email: rnbdivisonshopian@gmail.com

### CANCELLATION - NOTICE

It is notified for the information of all concerned that the work advertised vide this office NIT No 86/4242-51/RnB/SPN/e-tender of 2022-23 Dated: 07-07-2022, figuring at S.No.2 is hereby cancelled due to technical reasons.

No: NIT/11244-49  
DIPK-15896/22 Dt: 02-01-2023

sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
R&B Division Shopian

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

## OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PW (R&B) DIVISION SHOPIAN

e-mail:-rnbdivisonshopian@gmail.com (Phone/Fax No: 01933-26022)

### NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

NIT No: 188/11250-59/SPN/RnB/e-Tendering/2022-23 Dated:- 02-01-2023

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor Union Territory of J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on (%age) basis / Item rate basis (As the case may be) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Major Head of Account	Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Class of Contr actor	Time of Comp letion (In days)	Cost of T/Doc. (Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.)	AAA No / Dt	ITS No / Dt
1	Development of Park Near Helipad Shopian.	My Town My Pride	32.625	BEE/ AAY	20 Days	1100/-	65250/-	MC/SPN/ Works/20 of 2022 Dated:- 02-07-2022	67/MC/RnB/ Div/Spn of 2022-23 Dated 30-12-2022

Position of funds=Approved Project Authority= CEO MC Shopian  
Percentage Rate method requires the bidder to quote a percentage above/below /at par of the schedule of rates applicable/as mentioned in the advertised BOQ

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	02-01-2023	
2	Document downloading Start Date	03-01-2023	From 10.00 A.M
3	Document Downloading End Date	09-01-2023	upto 2:00 P.M
4	Bid submission Start Date	03-01-2023	From 10.00 A.M
5	Bid Submission End Date	09-01-2023	upto 2:00 P.M
6	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	10-01-2023	at 10:00 A.M

Bidders must upload the requisite cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan / Treasury Challan Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian (Tender receiving authority). (Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt) (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian (Tender receiving authority).

2. All the Bidders have to upload / submit Earnest money deposit / Bid security deposit in shape of CDR/FDR/BG. All the Bidders have to upload / submit Earnest money deposit / Bid security deposit in shape of CDR/FDR/BG. Besides that, it is mandatory to mention the name of advertised work / reference to (NIT & S.No.) in case the Earnest money deposit / Bid security deposit is in the form of BG (Bank Guarantee) by the bidders while submitting their bidding documents.

3. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on website www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the Bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on same web site in the office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian (Tender receiving authority)

4. Any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any Modifications in the terms & conditions of the bid.

5. a.) Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.  
b.) Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

6. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.  
A. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website

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

C. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.  
D. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.

E. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid.  
F. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents in terms of soft copies with the technical bid and no documents in terms of Hard copies shall be entertained. However in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises. The Lowest responsive bidder (L1) must submit the original Treasury Challan (cost of Tender Document) and other relevant bid documents including EMD/Bid Security

G. Scanned copy of EMD/Bid Security in shape of CDR/FDR and cost of tender document in the shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Shopian must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The Original Treasury Challan (Cost of Tender Document) and other relevant Bid documents including EMD/Bid Security shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of the Contract.

a. Extension of time shall be also admissible in the event of temporary suspension of work.  
b. Penalty for delay in completion:-In case of delay in completion of work beyond stipulated period of completion, penalty up to maximum of 10% of the contract shall be imposed on account of liquidation damages.

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

8. All other terms and conditions are as per PWD Form-25(Double agreement form)

No:- NIT/e-Tendering/RnB/Spn/11250-59

DIPK-15903/22

Dated:-02-01-2023

sd/- Camp Clark sd/- Head Assist. sd/- Technical Officer sd/- Executive Engineer



The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited

Impaired Assets Portfolio Management Department

Zonal Office Anantnag

Bakshiabad, Anantnag-192101

email: amid.zoksou@jkbmail.com

## E-AUCTION/SALE NOTICE

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE OF PROPERTIES MORTGAGED TO THE BANK UNDER SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST (SARFAESI) ACT 2002 AND SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002**

Whereas, the undersigned, being one of the Authorized Officer of The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd (hereinafter referred to as the Bank), in exercise of powers conferred under **Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (the Act) Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (the Rules)**, issued a Demand Notice dated 02.03.2022 thereby interalia calling upon Mr. Abdul Kabir Najar Son of Ghulam Mohamad Najar R/o Khandipari Harnaag Anantnag Sole Prop. M/S M M Enterprises NH near Railway Station Anantnag for payment of its dues aggregating to **Rs.71,80,999.67 (Rupees Seventy One Lacs Eighty Thousands Nine Hundred Ninety Nine And Paise Sixty Seven Only)** outstanding as on 28.2.2022 together with future interest and other cost and charges within a period of 60 days.

Whereas, Consequent upon failure by the borrower to repay the Bank's dues within stipulated time, the undersigned as Authorized Officer of the Bank in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(4) of the Act read with rule 8 and 9 of the Rules took over the possession of the mortgaged properties mentioned hereinafter under section 13 (4) of SARFAESI Act 2002 on 03.11.2022.

Whereas the undersigned as Authorized Officer of the Bank and in exercise of the powers conferred under the Act and the Rules hereby notifies the sale of the Secured Asset detailed herein for realization of the dues on "as is where is, as is what is, whatever is there is and without recourse" condition.

Name of the Borrower(s)/ Mortgagor(s)/ Guarantor(s)	1. Mr. Abdul Kabir Najar Son of Ghulam Mohamad Najar R/o Khandipari Harnaag Anantnag Sole Prop: M/S M M Enterprises N.H. near Railway Station (Borrower/Mortgagor)
	2. Mr. Abdul Rauf Najar Son of Abdul Kabir Najar R/o Khandipari Harnaag Anantnag (Guarantor)
	3. Mr. Mohd Shafi Pahalan Son of Mohd Yousuf Pahalan R/o Mohalla Shahnab Malknag Anantnag (Guarantor)
Amount in Demand Notice (excluding interest and other expenses from 28.02.2022)	Rs.71,80,999.67 (Rupees Seventy One Lacs Eighty Thousands Nine Hundred Ninety Nine And Paise Sixty Seven Only)
Amount Due on 30.11.2022 (Excluding interest from 1.12.2022 upto date. Legal and other Charges Due as on 30.11.2022)	Rs.719584.67 (Rupees Seventy Seven Lacs Nineteen Thousands Five Hundred Eighty Four And Paise Sixty Seven Only). Rs.26281.00 + Rs.122005.00
Description of the mortgaged Property/ Secured Asset (Put on sale)	Two storied residential house with Attic alongwith land underneath and appurtenant thereto measuring 01 (One) Kanal 1/2 (Half) Marla, falling under Kharsa No.1093 min Khata No.996 (Old 464) Khawat No.333 (Old 49), situated at Estate Mouza Khandipari Tehsil and District Anantnag.
Reserve Price	Rs.72.70 Lacs
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs.7,27,000/- (Rupees Seven Lacs Twenty Seven Thousand Only)
Bid Increase Amount	Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only)
Name of the Branch	Branch office LALCHOWK
Authorized Officer/Designation	Shaista Manzoor Designation Authorized officer Contact No.01932282848
Last Date & Time of submission of Bid, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Documents	03-02-2023 up to 04.00 P.M
Date and Time of e-Auction	04-02-2023 between 01.00 P.M to 03.00 P.M
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) & Other Remittance/ details/ by RTGS to Account Number	Account No. 0470070700000001 Account Name: Sundry, E Auction Account IFSC CODE: JAKA0LALANG

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1) The Auction is being held on "AS IS WHERE IS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATSOEVER THERE IS BASIS AND NO COMPLAINT BASIS". To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorized officer, there are no encumbrances on the properties, except specifically disclosed herein. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent enquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property/ies put on auction and claims/rights/dues affecting the property, prior to submitting their bid. The Authorized Officer/Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims/rights/dues. The bidders shall satisfy themselves as to the description, condition or accuracy of the details regarding the property/ies given hereinabove.

2) It shall be the responsibility of the bidders to inspect and satisfy themselves about the asset and specification before submitting the bid. The physical inspection of property/ies put on auction will be permitted to interested bidders on Bank's working days between 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM up to 03-02-2023 with prior permission of the Authorized officer. Inspection of the documents relating to the properties will be permitted to the interested bidders or their authorized representatives at Branch Lal Chowk, between 2.00 PM to 4.00 PM up to 03-02-2023. The bid price shall be absolute in terms and should not be linked to any reference. Conditional bids shall be rejected.

3) The interested bidders shall submit their offer through website <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net> (the user ID and password can be obtained free of cost by registering name with "https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net") through their login ID and Password. The EMD 10% of RESERVE PRICE shall be payable through NEFT/RTGS/DD (EMD remittance details given above) on or before 04:00 PM on 03-02-2023. Please note that Cheques shall not be accepted as EMD amount.

4) After Registration by the bidders in the web-site, the intending purchaser/ bidder is required to get the copies of following documents uploaded in the web-portal before last date of submission of the bid(s) viz. i) Copy of the NEFT/RTGS/ challan, ii) Copy of PAN card/Aadhar Card iii) Proof of identification (KYC viz. copy of Voter ID Card/Driving License/ Passport etc. iv) Copy of proof of address, v) Duly Filled up & Signed Copy of Annexure II & III attached to the Tender form, without which the bid is liable to be rejected.

5) The interested bidders who require assistance in creating login ID and password, uploading data, submitting bid, bidding amongst the bidders. The bidders shall improve their offer in multiple of amount mentioned under the column "Bid Increase Amount" against the Property. In case bid is placed in the last 5 minutes of the closing time of the e-auction, the closing time will automatically get extended for 5 minutes (subject to unlimited extensions of 5 minutes each). The bidder who submits the highest bid (not below the reserve price) on closure of online auction shall be declared as successful bidder and a communication to that effect will be issued through electronic mode which shall be subject to approval by the Authorized Officer and Secured Creditor.

6) The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of the successful bidder shall be retained towards part sale consideration and the EMD of unsuccessful bidders shall be refunded. The Earnest Money Deposit shall not bear any interest. The successful bidder shall have to deposit 25% of the sale price, adjusting the EMD already paid, within next working day of the acceptance of bid price by the Authorized Officer and the balance 75% of the sale price on or before 15<sup>th</sup> day of the sale or within such extended period as agreed upon in writing by and solely at the discretion of the Authorized Officer which may not exceed 90 days from the date of auction. In case of default in payment by the successful bidder, the amount already deposited by the Bidder shall be liable to be forfeited and the property shall be put to re-auction and the defaulting bidder shall have no claim/right in respect of property/amount.

7) The prospective qualified bidders may avail online training on e-auction from M/S E-Procurement Technologies Ltd. prior to the date of e-auction. Neither the Authorized Officer/Bank nor M/s. e-procurement technologies Ltd shall be liable for any network problem and the interested bidders to ensure that they are technically well equipped for participating in the e-auction event.

8) The purchaser shall bear the applicable stamp duties/additional stamp duty/transfer charges, fees etc. and also all the statutory/non statutory dues, taxes, rates, assessments, charges, fees etc. owing to anybody. The successful bidder shall have to bear any tax on account of the sale over and above the bid amount.

9) The Authorized Officer is not bound to accept the highest offer and the Authorized Officer has the absolute right to accept or reject any or all offer(s) or adjourn/postpone/cancel the e-auction without assigning any reason thereof. NOC or any requisite document from any concerned authority for registration of Conveyance Deed has to be obtained by the purchaser only

10) The bidders are advised to go through the detailed terms and conditions of e-auction available on the website of M/S E-Procurement Technologies Ltd. <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net> before submitting their bids and taking part in e-auction.

11) The publication is subject to the force majeure clause.

12) The sale certificate shall be issued after receipt of entire sale consideration and confirmation of sale by secured creditor. The sale certificate shall be issued in the name of the successful bidder. No request for change of name in the sale certificate other than the person who submitted the bid / participated in the e-Auction will be entertained.

13) The bid once submitted by the bidder, can not be cancelled/ withdrawn and the bidder shall be bound to buy the property at the final bid price. The failure on the part of bidder to comply with any of the terms and conditions of e-Auction, mentioned therein will result in forfeiture of the amount paid by the defaulting bidder.

14) Decision of the Authorized Officer regarding declaration of successful bidder shall be final and binding on all the bidders. The Authorized Officer shall be at liberty to cancel the e-Auction process / tender at any time, before declaring the successful bidder, without assigning any reason. The conditional bids may be treated as invalid. Please note that after submission of the bid/s, no correspondence regarding any change in the bid shall be entertained. The payment of all statutory / non- statutory dues, taxes, rates, assessments, charges, fees etc., owing to anybody shall be the sole responsibility of successful bidder only. In case of any dispute arises as to the validity of the bid (s), amount of bid, EMD once to the eligibility of the bidder, authority of the person representing the bidder, interpretation and the decision of the Authorized Officer shall be final in such an eventuality, the Bank shall in its sole discretion be entitled to call off the sale and put the property to sale once again on any date and at such time as may be decided by the Bank. For any kind of dispute, bidders are required to contact the concerned authorized officer of the concerned bank branch only.

15) Special instructions, Bidding in the last moment should be avoided in the bidders own interest. Neither The Jammu & Kashmir Ltd. nor Service provider will be responsible for any lapse/failure, (Internet failure/power failure etc.). In order to ward-off such contingent situations bidders are requested to make all necessary arrangements / alternatives such as power supply back-up etc, so that they are able to circumvent such situation & are able to participate in the auction successfully.

(For detailed term & conditions please refer to website <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net> of M/S E-procurement Technologies Ltd.)

**STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8 (6) READ WITH RULE 9 OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002**  
The borrower(s)/mortgagor(s) are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with upto date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of e-auction and get the property redeemed, failing which the property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and costs.

Dated:- 30.12.2022  
Place : Anantnag

Authorized Officer  
Registered office : Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India  
CIN: L6510JK1938SG000048; T : +91 (0)194 2481 930-35; F : +91 (0)194 248 1928; E : info@jkbmail.com; W : www.jkbank.com

DIPK-NB-5865/22  
DATED: 02-01-2023

DIPK-15903/22  
Dated:-02-01-2023

sd/- Camp Clark sd/- Head Assist. sd/- Technical Officer sd/- Executive Engineer

DIPK-15903/22  
Dated:-02-01-2023

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sd/- Camp Clark sd/- Head Assist. sd/- Technical Officer sd/- Executive Engineer

DIPK-15903/22  
Dated:-02-01-2023

## DC Visits Addiction Treatment Facility At Bemina

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad Monday undertook a visit to Treatment Facility (ATF) at JVC, Bemina and Drug De-addiction Centre, SMHS Hospital of the district to oversee the treatment and counselling facilities being provided to the affected youth undergoing treatment.

Additional Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar, Dr Syed Haneef Balkhi, Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Yaseen Lone, District Social Welfare Officer, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad, DDMO, Srinagar, Imtiyaz Amin Naik, Professor and Incharge of DDC, SMHS, GMC, Srinagar Dr Yasir Rather and other concerned Officers accompanied the DC during the visit.

The Deputy Commissioner visited the Addiction Treatment Facility (ATF) at JVC, Bemina to take stock of the functioning of the Centre and facilities being provided to the visiting drug affected persons.

On the occasion, the DC was given a detailed description about the operation of the centre by Medical Superintendent JVC, Dr Shifa and HoD Department of Psychiatry, Dr Abdul Majid.

While interacting with the staff of ATF, the DC emphasised upon the Doctors and other Paramedical staff to take the job as a noble task and treat the affected people with patience and dedication.

On the occasion, the DC was informed that as many as 1500 patients have been given treatment at the Center.

The Deputy Commissioner also inspected the ongoing work on new Psychiatry block of the JVC Bemina and emphasised on its time bound completion.

At the Drug De-Addiction Centre SMHS Hospital, the DC

stock of the facilities and mechanism adopted by the authorities for the treatment, counselling and rehabilitation of the drug affected persons.

The DC held a detailed interaction with the patients/inmates undergoing treatment in the Hospital and took feedback from them regarding the medical facilities and counselling being given to them.

The patients apprised the DC that they are being given satisfactory treatment at the centre. They also assured that they will spread the message about the ill effects of the menace so that no one becomes an addict to the substance abuse.

During the interaction, the DC advised them to strongly resolve to shun the habit of drug addiction and properly take the treatment administered at the centre and free themselves from the clutches of drug abuse.

At the occasion, the DC was apprised that from January 2022 to January 02, 2023 as many as 3645 drug affected persons were given treatment along counselling at Psychiatry Unit of SMHS Hospital.

The DC said the District Administration will provide all possible support to the affected persons and shall help them settle in careers by extending benefits of various employment generation programmes of the Government. He said by availing the benefits through different self-employment schemes they can earn livelihood with dignity and honour.

The DC said elimination of drug menace from society is top priority of the Government and to combat this rising societal problem, multi-pronged rehabilitation, counselling and guidance policy is being implemented on ground to monitor drug abuse and take remedial measures to curb the menace.



## 'Work On Noor Jahan Bridge To Get Completed By March 2023'

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: After missing several deadlines in the past more than one decade, authorities say the work on the much-awaited Noorbagh-Qamarwari Bridge is going to get completed by March 2023.

Speaking on anonymity, an Official of the R&B Department Division I said that, subject to favorable weather conditions, the work on the Noor Jahan Bridge will be completed soon.

"We will lay a deck slab on the bridge and it won't need macadamization and if all goes well, we will ensure it gets completed by March 2023," He said.

He further said that work on the approach roads from both the ends are nearing

completion.

However, he said that the macadamization of approach roads will be carried out in the month of May 2023.

Officials say the Qamarwari side of the bridge hosts some concrete structures including the building of the Fire & Emergency Department which have to be raised to the ground to pave way for a smooth landing from the bridge.

"The building of the Fire & Emergency Department will be auctioned soon and the other shops will be raised to the ground soon." He said.

Pertinently, the "New Noor Jahan Bridge" is being constructed at a cost of Rs 957 lakhs and the allotment cost of the approach roads is Rs 398 lakhs.

For city dwellers and people from other towns thronging the city, the ride on the

"cement bride" is a hectic one, because of the huge volume of vehicles plying on the bridge.

Once completed, the bridge will lessen traffic on the already existing "Cement Bridge" which over the period of time has served as an important link between Shahr-e-Khaas and other areas of North Kashmir.

It is pertinent to mention, the construction of the Noor Jahan Bridge started in 2011. Initially, the bridge was scheduled to be completed in the year 2014. Later, the deadline was extended upto March 2017 and then upto December 2018.

Earlier, In May 2022, Executive Engineer, Roads and Building Department, Division I Srinagar had said the Bridge would be made motorable by the end of the year 2022.

## Entrepreneurship Awareness Prog Organized For Artisans

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In order to create awareness among the artisan community about schemes available with the government for establishing Micro enterprises, an awareness programme was organized by Branch MSME DFO Srinagar under Ministry of MSME GOI in collaboration with Department of Handicrafts and Handlooms Kashmir at Craft Development Institute Srinagar.

The program was presided over by Mahmood Ahmad Shah, Director Handicrafts and Handloom (H&H) Kashmir as chief guest and was attended by officers of various departments including Handicrafts/Handlooms, Industries and Commerce and MSME office.

The Director H&H interacted with the artisans in detail

and gave patient hearing to the issues of artisans. He enlightened them about the initiatives taken by the government for development of handicraft/handloom products in order to ensure sustainable livelihood for the artisans.

While interacting, artisans related to Carpet craft requested for providing space in order to establish looms.

Assistant Director MSME, Saheel Alaqband said that the program is organized with an objective to impart awareness to the artisans with respect to the schemes available and provide complete handholding support besides providing financial assistance. He said the current era is of skill and competencies and artisans besides being skilled need to be competent in the market while setting up their units.

Agencies

Srinagar: Over 22,000 patients were treated at the Urology department at Government Medical College, Srinagar with urolithiasis which is emerging as the main urological problem among people.

Doctors said that the primary cause for urolithiasis is dietary habits, environmental, lifestyle and genetic factors.

Like other parts of the world, the disease is a major source of morbidity in Kashmir.

As per official figures, the department of Urology has conducted 2,547 major and 7,634 minor procedures since June 2017.

The number of major surgeries conducted by the department has increased from 270 in 2017 to 766 in 2022.

As per data, around 15,000 patients were treated at the IPD section of the department since June 2017 while around 90,000 were treated in the OPD section of the department.

The department has carried out 3,580 Extracorporeal Shock Wave Lithotripsy (ESWL) procedures since June 2017 while in the same period 4,054 Uroflowmetry (UFM) and Urodynamic studies (UDS) procedures were carried out at the department.

590 emergency surgeries have been conducted by the

department since 2017.

Kashmir being a cold area, people avoid taking more fluids and avoid frequent urination due to which urine becomes saturated with calcium, uric acid, and oxalates, which result in formation of renal stones and slowly with intake of salty food like Nun Chai, it leads to formation of stone, they said.

They advised people to take precautions like reducing salt intake, processed foods, canned goods and cold nuts and moderate mutton consumption.

The doctors also advised people to keep themselves hydrated—(KNO)

## 'Urolithiasis Emerges As Main Urological Problem In Kashmir'

Over 22,000 patients visit GMC's Urology department

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## Dead Body Of A Missing Man Found

Agencies

Srinagar: River Police on Monday recovered the dead body of a septuagenarian man from the river Jhelum in Srinagar.

The dead body was retrieved between Budshah Bridge and Amirakadal.

The deceased person has

been identified as 70-year old Ghulam Muhammad Bhat, a resident of Rambagh who had gone missing on 26 December last month.

After the medico-legal formalities, police handed over the body to the family. Police in this regard have registered a case under relevant sections of law. [KNT]

## Police Arrests Poacher In Dal Lake

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir Police on Monday said to have arrested a poacher, along with a double barrel rifle, after the latter allegedly made a poaching attempt on migratory birds inside Dal Lake here.

"One poacher namely Mudasir Ah Wangnu S/o Fayaz

Ah Wangnu R/o Bhagwanpora arrested along with unlicensed double barrel rifle while attempting poaching migratory birds inside Dal Lake" reads a tweet by Srinagar Police on its official Twitter handle.

"FIR no: 01/2023 U/S 03, 25 of Arms Act & sec 51 of Wildlife protection act registered in Nigeen PS", the tweet reads further.

# CRITICAL CARE AMBULANCE

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- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,2452222,2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
- Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

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**RAILWAYS**

- SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259
- ANANTNAG: 01932-228243
- BARAMULLA: 0194-102029
- BIJBERA: 01932-228243
- PAMPORE: 01933-294132
- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

**HIGHWAY STATUS**

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

HIJRI  
CALENDAR

10 Jumad al-Sani  
1444

PRAYERS	
FAJR	6:07
ZUHR	12:35
ASR	3:56
Magrib	5:37
ISHA	7:03

### This Day In History

- 1945 - Allies land on west coast of Burma, conquer Akyab.
- 1947 - 1st opening session of Congress to be televised.
- 1948 - Bradman completes dual Test tons (132 & 127\*) v India MCG.
- 1956 - A fire damages the top part of the Eiffel Tower.
- 1958 - Edmund Hillary reaches South Pole overland.
- 1958 - The West Indies Federation is formed.
- 1959 - Alaska admitted as 49th US state.
- 1961 - US breaks diplomatic relations with Cuba.
- 1970 - Marxist government takes over in Congo.
- 1974 - Arias Navarro succeeds Carrero Blanco as premier of Spain.
- 1974 - Burma accepts its constitution.
- 1977 - Apple Computer, Inc incorporates.
- 1977 - Former Home Secretary Roy Jenkins announces his intention to be Britain's first President of the European Commission.
- 1980 - Babrak Karmal defends the Soviet-backed coup in first public appearance since taking power as President of Afghanistan.
- 1984 - Syria frees captured US pilot after appeal from Jesse Jackson.
- 1985 - Israel government confirms resettlement of 10,000 Ethiopian Jews.
- 1988 - Israel orders 9 Palestinian "instigators" deported from W Beirut
- 1988 - Margaret Thatcher becomes longest-serving British PM this century.
- 1990 - Panama's leader Gen Manuel Noriega surrenders to US authorities.
- 1991 - Israel reopens consulate in USSR after 23 years.
- 1993 - In Moscow, the Start II arms reduction treaty is signed by George H. W. Bush (USA) and Boris Yeltsin (Russia).
- 1994 - 100s killed in Venezuela in prison revolt.
- 1994 - Tupolev-154M crashes at Irkutsk, Siberia: 122 killed.
- 1994 - 35-foot-tall Chief Wahoo, trademark of Indians on top of Stadium since 1962, is taken down, to be moved to Jacob's Field.
- 1994 - Restoration of South African citizenship, announced on 15 December 1993 by the South African parliament led by President F. W. de Klerk, becomes effective four months before the first South Africa non-racial polls of 27 April, 1994.

From KO Archives

## Advani Unhappy With Release Of Militants

NEW DELHI- Union Home Minister Lai Kishenchand Advani opposed the Vajpayee Cabinet's decision to obtain the release of the Indian passengers held hostage in Kandahar by releasing three hard-core militants, Rediffon Net quoting top government sources, said today.

The report said that the home minister's note of dissent came during yesterday's Cabinet meeting. Advani underscored that releasing the militants would be tantamount to India bowing to the blackmail of the Taliban aided and abetted by Pakistan.

Advani pointed out that the militants' release would fuel terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir with a vengeance again, and all the good work done by the government would come undone.

A few other Bharatiya Janata Party politicians, including Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pramod Mahajan, also questioned Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's reading that his government had no option but to bow to the hijackers. But Mahajan is learnt to have fallen in line with Vajpayee and External Affairs Minister Jaswant Singh's argument that the government had no alternative.

According to the sources, a few allies of the government too supported Advani's contention that the release of the three terrorists would be a self-destructive act.

"Apart from demoralisation of the security forces, the government has been perceived as eating crow," home ministry officials pointed out. "How the government will regain its credibility after this is difficult to see, because those directly affected by the decision will not forget it in a hurry."

Advani was not available for comment. But his personal assistant, Deepak Chopra denied that the home minister had dissented on the issue of releasing of the three militants.

According to the sources both Vajpayee and Jaswant Singh assured Advani till Thursday that there was question of agreeing to release the three militants. But

Taliban's act of bringing militia men and surrounding the Indian Airlines Airbus with rocket-launchers, a tank and armoured personnel carriers convinced the govt the aircraft could be stormed without harming the passengers and crew.

KASHMIR OBSERVER

Tuesday | 03-01-2023

Happy New Year

Over the past three decades, the occasion of new year in Kashmir has evoked both hope and a deep sense of foreboding. The hope is for one more peaceful year. The foreboding is about a possible spike in violence or the Valley's plunge into yet another mass unrest as was the case on the very first day of the new year in a Rajouri village, where six innocent villagers were killed in cold blood. But 2022 was different. It was a year when all predictions of a turn for worse in the situation proved wrong. There was no doubt some violence. Security forces killed 172 militants including 56 foreign militants in 93 encounters. Around 100 youth are said to have joined militancy and only eighteen of them have survived, Director General of Police Dilbagh Singh said in his year-end press conference. This, according to the DGP, is a 37 percent drop in the recruitment. Similarly, 14 policemen and 17 security forces personnel were killed, which is the lowest ever. There were also 29 civilian casualties - six of them Hindus, including three Kashmiri Pandits, and the rest were Muslims. The DGP said that the new year resolution of police for 2023 will be "Mission Zero Terror" and its prime focus will be to wipe out the "terror ecosystem wherever it exists in J&K."

2023 saw a boom in tourism with over one crore visitors making their way to the union territory. This included 3.65 lakh Amarnath yatris and over ten thousand foreigners. According to the tourist officials, this is the highest number of tourists Kashmir has received so far, beating by far even the pre-turmoil period record. This gave a leg up to Kashmir economy, otherwise laid low by the turmoil and the successive lockdowns of the previous two years.

It is also true that the last year saw zero hartal and as a result, zero disruption of the businesses and the academic session. The schools for the first time remained open for over 200 days. This alone is the biggest proof of the peaceful nature of the year.

2022 also witnessed completion of the delimitation process and revision of electoral rolls in J&K. This has effectively cleared decks for holding the Assembly polls in the UT. However, there are no signs that elections will be held anytime soon. But considering that the general elections are being held in 2024, there is hope that the Assembly polls in J&K will be held this year only. Here's hoping that all our dire prognostications for the year ahead come untrue and the efforts are made towards ushering in genuine peace. Happy New Year to our esteemed readers.

OTHER OPINION

Take Note In Noteban

Justice Nagarathna notes that the proposal for demonetisation "originated" from the central government and that the recommendation was "obtained" from the RBI in the form of an opinion. She points out that the records contained phrases such as — "as desired" by the central government, and that the government had "recommended" — which showed that there was "no independent application of mind" by the RBI. The entire exercise was, after all, carried out in 24 hours. The Indian Express has previously reported how the central bank differed from the government on the effectiveness of demonetisation in tackling the menace of black money in the economy, the problem of fake currency, and its use in terror financing. However, despite those reservations, the RBI failed to convince the government of the folly of the move during the six months that it was in consultations with it on the matter, according to the majority judgment. If demonetisation was a litmus test for its institutional credibility and independence, then the RBI fell short of its duty to impose checks and balances on an executive that could be said to be short-circuiting due process or even bludgeoning a policy through.

While the decision to demonetise cannot be reversed, the arguments presented in court, and the judgment now, are not of academic interest alone. They have far-reaching implications for the policy-making process and institutional ethos in the country. The Court has done well in not making any pronouncements over the efficacy of demonetisation in meeting its stated objectives, which, incidentally, grew more expansive as the economic pain from the exercise became more evident. The dissenting judgment has differentiated between an exercise carried out on the basis of a mere notification in the official gazette and legislation in Parliament — this distinction seeks to place limits on the exercise of power by an overweening executive, while underlining the supremacy of Parliament. For central banks, which have become important players in the country, wielding far greater sway over economic outcomes than before in a challenging economic climate, the dissenting judgment must be read carefully for the glaring institutional gaps and weaknesses it points to.

Indian Express

# Streamline Fire and Emergency Services in J&K

PRI & ULB Grants can be utilized for purchasing small fire fighting vans in towns, cities and villages

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

During the intervening night of December 26th and 27th 2022, a massive fire incident took place in Chek-e-Surasyar village in Chadoora sub division of Budgam. As the village doesn't have a proper road connectivity, the house of Mushtaq Ahmad Hajam and his brothers turned into ashes within hours. The local residents had to use muck and soil to douse the fire as they could not even get a high pressure water spraying motor (used in apple farms).

On December 28th, there was another fire incident in the nearby Kutbal village. The village is well connected with roads but until the fire fighting vehicle reached the village, the house where the fire broke out had been damaged completely. Still the fire fighters did a commendable job by ensuring that fire didn't spread to other houses which were located very closely. Earlier, before the Chek-e-Surasyar incident, fire destroyed two houses in Ledden village of Charar-e-Sharif.

In May this year, a nine-year-old girl was charred to death after a houseboat in the Dal Lake area of Srinagar caught fire. Kashmir Observer had filed a detailed report on this issue. The houseboat near Ghat number 16 was completely gutted in the fire. The houseboat fire was controlled by firefighters of the Fire & Emergency Services Department. Bashir Ahmed, a 9-year-old little girl Nahida was charred to death.

In November 2022, two siblings were burnt alive after a fire broke out in a residential house in Diver Lolab area of North Kashmir's Kupwara district. A major fire broke out in a residential house of Mohammad Akbar Khan at Kakadpatti Diver on November 19th 2022 around 11:30 PM. The flames spread to the whole wooden structure and it was turned into ashes in a few hours. In spite of the fact that the Fire and Emergency Services Department local army unit and civilians made great efforts to douse off the fire, they were unsuccessful. Biggest tragedy during this incident was that two minor siblings of Akbar Khan namely Amir Khan 6 and Sabzar Khan 3 couldn't be rescued on time and were burnt alive.

The deadly fire incidents across Kashmir valley and Srinagar city in particular continues to consume the precious lives and property worth hundreds of crores has been destroyed during the year 2022.

Around 10 people were killed between January to March 2022, while 660 fire incidents were reported in Kashmir valley during the same time as per the official data prepared by the Fire & Emergency Services (F&ES) department. The data further revealed that property worth Rs 3572.26 lakh and belongings worth over Rs 31306.38 lakh were damaged in these incidents. The highest number of fire incidents have been reported in Srinagar district where the Fire & Emergency Services Department between January to March only received 143 fire calls and the property worth Rs 1704.58 lakhs was damaged.

The second-highest fire calls between Jan to March 2022 was reported from Baramulla district where 108 fire incidents have taken place in which property worth Rs 224.87 lakh and belongings worth Rs 1778.50 lakh was damaged. The incidents in the other eight districts of Budgam, Anantnag, Kupwara, Pulwama, Shopian, Ganderbal, Kulgam and Bandipora were 45, 68, 81, 53, 24, 49, 39, and 50, respectively between the same time.

**Rs 560 crore property destroyed in 6 yrs**

A report published by Kashmir Observer on April 30th 2022 revealed that fire incidents caused a huge financial loss of around Rs 560 crore in the last six years. In Srinagar district only, the data suggests a clear spike in the fire incidents between Janu-



**Why can't the Govt encourage the rural communities to utilize PRI grants meant for every village panchayat wherein Rs 23.30 lakhs is available? If two to three panchayats pool only Rs 5 lakhs, they can buy a small fire fighting van which will cost around Rs 15 lakhs only. A TATA 207 lorry can be modified into a small fire fighting van fitted with a water tank and a high pressure motor. Similarly in cities and towns the funds allocated to municipal councillors, corporators can also be used to buy similar vans and in Dal lake area we can have fire fighting boats**

ary to March 2022. 21 residential houses, nine shops and one shopping complex, one vehicle, six electricity transformers got damaged in the month of January 2022 only. The property worth Rs 2,85,53,000 got damaged. In February 2022, the fire calls increased to 49 in Srinagar wherein 14 residential houses, two shops and three shopping complex got damaged. The property worth 1,78,40,00 got damaged in the month of February.

In the month of March 2022, the department received over 52 fire calls in which 58 residential houses, two shops and six shopping complexes were damaged. The property worth Rs 12,40,65,500 got damaged. From March to December 2022 the incidents of fire have been on constant rise and on a daily basis we hear and see fire incidents damaging our lives and properties across J&K.

Since many decades now, there has been no augmentation of the Fire Service stations. In Srinagar city with a huge population growth in the last 20 years we have only 31 fire stations. In Ganderbal district there are only 6 fire stations located in Ganderbal town, Kangan, Lar, Safapora, Gund, Bawtina. In District Budgam there had been no augmentation of fire stations for the last 25 years or more. There are only 7 fire stations located in Budgam

town, Charar Sharief, Pakherpora, Magam, Beerwah, Chadoora and Khansahib. There is an urgent need for Fire Stations at Surasyar, Loolipora, Khag, Arizal. These areas are located in the upper reaches of Budgam and have a huge catchment area as well. In Kishtwar there are only two fire stations in Padder Atholi and Kishtwar town. In Udhampur, there are only 3 stations at Ramnagar, Chinani and Udhampur town.

Corruption

The Government has failed to even streamline the selection process of firemen and drivers in the Fire and Emergency Services Department and people are made to suffer as there is dearth of firemen and drivers in the department. The Department is marred by controversies as recruitment of 800 has come under scanner following allegations of massive corruption in the selection process. The Government has now formed a panel headed by R K Goel Additional Chief Secretary Home J&K Govt who has been asked to probe this scam. Over 14,000 candidates appeared for the exams for 800 posts of firemen and drivers in the Fire Service Department in October 2020 and till date the selection process isn't completed. Had the Govt appointed these 800 firemen and drivers 2 years back, the working of the department would have been streamlined and there would not have been such a huge loss due to fire incidents in J&K.

Suggestions

In my most recent weekly programme, Inkishaaf, on increasing fire incidents I suggested that small fire fighting vans be purchased at community level. I am aware of the fact that the Govt needs huge finances to create new posts and to set up new fire stations but why can't the Govt encourage the rural communities to utilize PRI grants meant for every village panchayat wherein Rs 23.30 lakhs is available? If two to three panchayats pool only Rs 5 lakhs, they can buy a small fire fighting van which will cost around Rs 15 lakhs only? A TATA 207 lorry can be modified into a small fire fighting van fitted with a water tank and a high pressure motor. Similarly in cities and towns the funds allocated to municipal councillors, corporators can also be used to buy similar vans and in Dal lake area we can have fire fighting boats.

The Government must learn a lesson from Tariq Patloo who has modified his motor boat into a fire fighting van and this guy is doing a great job. The development doesn't mean only to undertake civil works so that cuts and commissions are taken out of them. The utilization of PRI grants or funds allotted to Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) / Municipal Institutions can be used innovatively by purchasing fire fighting vans, ambulances, snow cutting machines, waste processing machines etc. These are also developmental works. Until a big fire fighting vehicle comes to the village or the congested mohalla or town, the small fire van can also do a great job by dousing off the fire at the appropriate time which will minimise the loss of life and property.

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



Residential houses gutted by fire at Chek Suryasar, Budgam. Picture by Tauseef Khaliq

# Lung Health Hazards

Majid Yousuf

Being a Kashmiri, it has been a very disturbing and disappointing trend for me to observe that there is a steady increase in the number of Kashmiri youngsters who are addicted to smoking. Whereas there has been a decreasing predilection towards smoking in Western youth, there seems to be no cessation in the habit of our young generation in Kashmir.

Smoking is a serious health hazard because tobacco contains some 4000 chemicals, 43 of which are known carcinogens. Some of these like nicotine, a poisonous alkaloid, tar and carbon monoxide are well known but acrolein, ammonia, prussic acid and other substances though less known are no less malicious.

Cigarette is a number one cause of lung cancer all over the world and a major culprit in the cancers of larynx, oral cavity, pharynx and oesophagus and is a contributing cause in the development of bladder, pancreas, uterine cervix, kidney, stomach cancers and a number of leukaemias. Cardiovascular disorders including hypertension, strokes and other heart attacks have also been increasingly linked with smoking.

COPD is a dangerous incurable and highly probable disorder associated with this habit. The list of smoking related maladies in an unending listening of debilitating and often fatal complications. Lung cancer and COPD being most formidable and prevalent of the lot will be the focus herein.

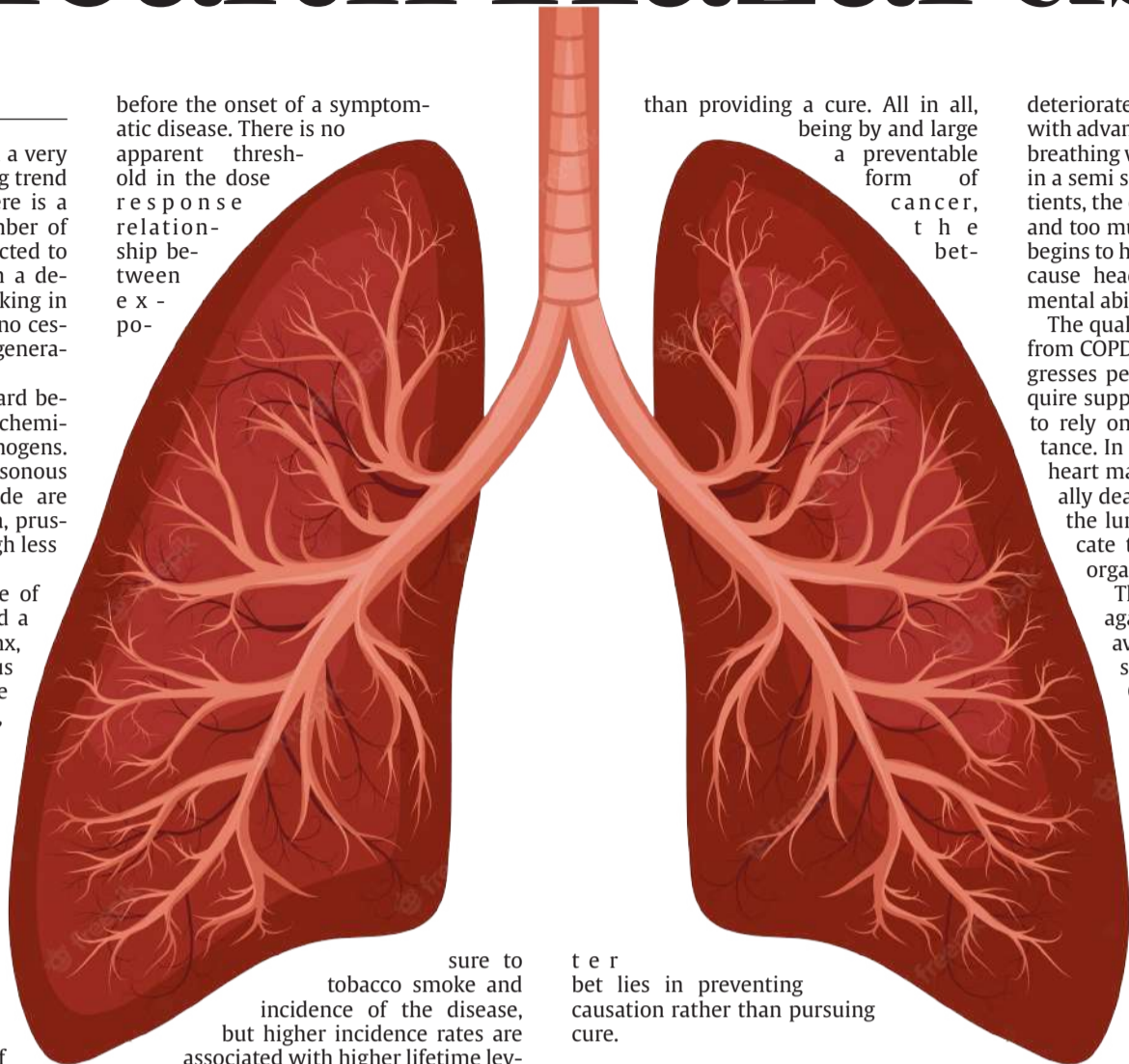
## LUNG CANCER

Lung cancer is the leading cancer killer around the world. It also is the most tragic in being preventable, since smoking is its number one cause. 87% of all lung cancers are caused by smoking. The two major types of lung cancers are: Small cell cancers and non-small cell cancers. Non-small cell cancer is the most prevalent and spreads slower to different sites in the body than the other type. Squamous cell carcinoma, adenocarcinoma and large cell carcinoma are the three sub types within this type. Non small cell cancers account for 80% of all lung cancers.

The development of lung cancer is insidious with an interval of upto 30 years,

before the onset of a symptomatic disease. There is no apparent threshold in the dose response relationship between exposure

than providing a cure. All in all, being by and large a preventable form of cancer, the bet-



sure to tobacco smoke and incidence of the disease, but higher incidence rates are associated with higher lifetime levels of tobacco consumption and early age of starting the habit. Lung cancer is a passive killer, in its symptoms being rarely felt till the disease has reached an advanced stage.

Overall, lung cancer prognosis is not good. Only about 13% patients survive 5 years after diagnosis of the disease. These low numbers reflect the advanced stage of the most lung cancers. Prognosis for a young patient whose tumour has been surgically removed is much better. However, lack of symptoms and screening procedure means that most tumours are already advanced when detected.

Treatment options depend on the stage and extent of malignant growth. Most treatments are designed to provide palliative care and reduce symptoms rather

ter bet lies in preventing causation rather than pursuing cure.

## COPD

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is an umbrella term used to describe airflow obstruction that is associated mainly with emphysema and chronic bronchitis. It is potentially terminal and has no known cure as of now.

Long term smoking is the most frequent cause of COPD. It accounts for 80 to 90% of all cases. COPD decreases the lung ability to take in oxygen and remove carbon dioxide. A typical course of COPD might begin after a person has been smoking for 10 years, during which symptoms are not very noticeable. Then the patient starts developing a productive, chronic cough. The patient usually also develops shortness of breath during exertion. While the symptoms may vary over time, the patient

deteriorates progressively. Many patients with advanced COPD have so much trouble breathing when lying down that they sleep in a semi sitting up position. For COPD patients, the combination of too little oxygen and too much carbon dioxide in the blood begins to have impact on the brain and can cause headache, sleeplessness, impaired mental ability and irritability.

The quality of life for a person suffering from COPD diminishes as the disease progresses people with COPD eventually require supplemental oxygen and may have to rely on mechanical respiratory assistance. In latter stages of the disease, the heart may be severely affected. Eventually death occurs when the function of the lung and heart is no longer adequate to deliver, oxygen to the body organs and tissues.

The only effective weapon against COPD is prevention; avoiding or cessation. Avoiding smoking almost always prevents COPD from developing and ceasing smoking slows the disease process. The preventive course of action is thus only hope as COPD is incurable. Smokers not only jeopardize their health but also expose people around them to unnecessary health hazards by way of passive smoking.

In conclusion, the mammoth proportions this habit has acquired in our community will not only reflect in the personal health and life-style of each smoker, it will also reflect in the productivity of our Society as a whole. A collective effort needs to be launched to combat this courage that eating away at the health and life of our community. The young from the valley need to spearhead a campaign that demands a total ban on public smoking. Whatever course of action be taken, it is clear that strong public sentiment against the habit will only be activated when a re-evaluation occurs at the individual level, serious enough to make abstinence a priority in our life-styles.

The author is a Radiodiagnosis student at Government Medical College, Anantnag

**CIGARETTE IS A NUMBER ONE CAUSE OF LUNG CANCER ALL OVER THE WORLD AND A MAJOR CULPRIT IN THE CANCERS OF LARYNX, ORAL CAVITY, PHARYNX and oesophagus and is a contributing cause in the development of bladder, pancreas, uterine cervix, kidney, stomach cancers and a number of leukaemias. Cardiovascular disorders including hypertension, strokes and other heart attacks have also been increasingly linked with smoking**

# Pelé: A Global Superstar And Cultural Icon Who Put Passion At The Heart Of Soccer

Simon Chadwick

Pelé, soccer's first global superstar, has died at the age of 82. To many fans, the Brazilian will be remembered as the best to have ever played the game.

For others it goes further: He was the symbol of soccer played with passion, gusto and a smile. Indeed, he helped to forge an image of the game, which even today lots of people continue to crave.

Pelé wasn't just a great player and a wonderful ambassador for the world's favorite game; he was a cultural icon. Indeed, he remains the face of a purity in soccer that existed long before big money and global geopolitics infiltrated the game.

It is testament to his legend that everyone from English 1966 World Cup winner Sir Bobby Charlton and current French superstar Kylian Mbappé to Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva – the former and incoming president of Brazil – and former U.S. President Barack Obama have led tributes to him.

## EARLY DAYS AT SANTOS

Pelé was born Edson Arantes do Nascimento in Sao Paulo state, Brazil in 1940. His early years were the same as many soccer players who preceded him and countless who then followed and were inspired by him: born into poverty, introduced to the game by a family member, later becoming obsessed by a sport that taught him about life and gave him opportunities.

Youth team football came first, in 1953, when he signed for his local club, Bauru. But it was his first professional club, Santos, that propelled Pelé toward stardom. Having moved there in 1956, he played 636 matches and scored 618 goals before leaving in 1974. Not just the beating heart of the team, Pelé was also an immense, one-club loyalist.

Long before the feats of modern-day stars Cristiano Ronaldo or Erling Haaland, Pelé blazed a goal-scoring trail that marked him out as be-



ing significantly different to other players around him. Similarly, he displayed levels of skill which even today mean that some observers of the game place the Brazilian ahead of the likes of other contenders for the title of Greatest of All Time: Lionel Messi and Diego Maradona.

Ultimately, Pelé played 92 times for Brazil, scoring 77 goals. By comparison, England's Harry Kane has scored 53 times in 80 matches. In addition to his national team achieve-

ments, for his club Pelé won six Brazilian league titles and two South American championships.

A year later, in 1958, this young player helped his national team win the World Cup in Sweden. Then again in 1962, at the World Cup in Chile, and once more at the 1970 tournament in Mexico.

Later, in 1975, he came out of semi-retirement to play for the New York Cosmos in the North American Soccer League. By then, Pelé was in his mid-30s but still managed to score 37 goals in 64 matches. Some believe that it was his brief stint playing in the United States that kick-started

## THE AMERICAN YEARS

the country's interest in football. After his retirement, Pelé was venerated, adored and remained influential. He became FIFA's Player of the 20th century, an award he shared with Maradona. In 2014, he was given FIFA's first-ever Ballon d'Or Prix d'Honneur, and even Nelson Mandela spoke of his regard for the Brazilian when presenting him with a Laureus Lifetime Achievement Award, in 2000. Pelé's talent has never been in doubt. Yet it was fortuitous that he played at a

6 Long before the feats of modern-day stars Cristiano Ronaldo or Erling Haaland, Pelé blazed a goal-scoring trail that marked him out as being significantly different to other players around him

time when soccer was emerging from the shadows cast by global conflict, when the world needed symbols of hope and sporting heroes.

The Brazilian was able to serve this purpose, though he did so during a period when television – first black-and-white, then color – brought soccer directly into people's living rooms. At the time, Pelé was Messi, Ronaldo and Mbappé rolled into one – made globally consumable by this new technology.

Inevitably, during his life, Pelé encountered problems: his commercial activities were sometimes mired in controversy; at one stage he was labeled a left-wing antagonist of the Brazilian government, then was later described as being too conservative in his views of the Brazilian dictatorship. He had numerous children – some the result of affairs – and one of them, a son, Edinho, was sent to prison for laundering money made from drug deals.

However, the abiding memory is of a man who played soccer in a way that many of us – both amateurs and professionals – have all aspired to. Pelé was not only skillful, he also brought great joy to innumerable people across the world, over a period of decades. For all of us, even those with just the slightest interest in football, we will never forget him.

By arrangements with The Conversation

# "What China Is Saying To India Is...": Rahul Gandhi's Big Warning

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi:** Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday said China is adopting the same principle with India as Russia is with Ukraine, as it is threatening to alter India's boundaries.

He also claimed that the Sino-Indian border conflict has a link with a weak economy, a confused nation without any vision, hatred, anger and the Chinese sitting in Indian territory.

"Essentially, what the Russians have done in Ukraine is that they have said we do not want Ukraine to have a strong relationship with the west and they have basically told the Ukrainians that if you will have a strong relationship with the west, we will alter your geography.

"That is the exact same principle that can be applied to

India. What the Chinese are saying to us is that be careful with what you are doing, because we will alter your geography. We will enter Ladakh, we will enter Arunachal (Pradesh), and what I can see is them building a platform for that type of an approach," Mr Gandhi said in a conversation with film actor-turned-politician Kamal Haasan.

The Congress leader has shared the video of his conversation with Mr Haasan on YouTube.

Mr Gandhi said security has become a holistic thing in the 21st century as one has to have a global view of it, adding, "I think our government has completely miscalculated it."

He also said the definition of conflict has changed as earlier, one fought on the border while now, one has to fight everywhere.

So the single most important

thing in the 21st century is that the country has internal cohesion, the Congress leader noted, adding that there needs to be harmony in the country, people should not be fighting with each other, there should be peace and the country should have a vision.

"The point is not going to war, the point is going to a position where you cannot be attacked. And there is a link between a weak economy, a confused nation without vision, hatred and anger and the Chinese sitting in our territory.

"Because they know we are dealing with internal matters, internal confusion and internal lack of harmony and so they can go in and do whatever they want. This is one end of the problem," he said, adding that a huge element of the problem is what has happened in Ukraine.

"So as an Indian person, I do not want to be somebody who is war mongering, but I would like our country to be aware that there are real problems at the border and those problems are connected to what is going on inside our country. When Indians fight Indians, when the economy does not work, when there is joblessness, our external opponent can take advantage of this situation," Mr Gandhi said.

He said one of the things that the leaders of various political parties are constantly asking the government is to talk about it, if not to the media, then at least to the opposition, as they understand these things.

"We might be able to help you, advise you, bounce ideas. But they just do not listen. It is like the approach that we understand everything," he said.

## Actor Tunisha Sharma Made To Wear Hijab? What Sheezan Khan's Family Says

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai: Actor Sheezan Khan's family members on Monday claimed that he was falsely implicated in the case of death of co-star Tunisha Sharma by the latter's mother. Addressing a press conference, Mr Khan's mother and two sisters said Ms Sharma was "like their family member" and alleged the victim's mother used to force her to work even as she wanted to enjoy life.

Ms Sharma, 21, who acted in the show 'Ali Baba: Dastaan-E-Kabul', was found hanging in the washroom on the set of the serial near Vasai in Palghar on December 24. Mr Khan was arrested on December 25 on the charge of abetment to suicide.

Tunisha Sharma's mother Vanita Sharma last week said her daughter's death could be a case of murder, and also accused Mr Khan and his family of trying to force her daughter

to convert.

She also alleged that Ms Sharma had checked the phone of Mr Khan, with whom she was in a relationship before breaking up recently, and found his WhatsApp chats with some other woman.

When Ms Sharma confronted Mr Khan about it, he slapped her, Vanita Sharma had alleged. Responding to the allegations, Mr Khan's sister Falaq Naaz, also an actor, said Ms Sharma was "like their family member". Ms Naaz said Ms Sharma and her mother used to come to their home on many occasions. "We never forced anyone to do anything," she said.

Mr Khan's mother said Ms Sharma's mother should produce evidence for the allegations that she has been making against him.

On the allegation that Mr Khan had slapped Ms Sharma once during a shoot, the accused actor's mother asked,

"Why had Vanita Sharma not complained to us or slapped Sheezan?"

Ms Naaz said everyone knew how Ms Sharma's mother used to call her several times in a day. "We also want justice for Tunisha, but her mother is trying to falsely implicate Sheezan in the case, that is not correct," she said.

"We had decided to give Tunisha a surprise on her birthday on January 4. Her mother also knows she was like our younger sister. We had spent around six months with Tunisha which she enjoyed, and we are proud of it," Ms Naaz said.

On the allegations that Ms Sharma was forced to wear a hijab and visit a dargah, she said, "We never asked her to do anything." Referring to a picture of Ms Sharma wearing a hijab that has now gone viral, Mr Khan's another sister claimed that the actor wore the headscarf for a shoot.

## CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

### Rajouri Simmers

Dilbag Singh, who visited the site, said that the IED blast was intended to target senior officers who were about to reach there.

"The IED blast was a planned attack aimed at targeting senior officers (who were to reach the site). The officers reached the spot late. The incident had happened already," Singh told reporters in Rajouri.

"We will have to give them a befitting reply," he said.

He announced that village defence committees (VDCs) will now be revived and re-armed, after some protesting leaders and locals claimed that the incident could have been averted had the authorities not taken away the weapons of VDCs.

Senior J-K BJP leader and former MLC Vibodh Gupta alleged that 60 per cent of guns of VDCs have been taken back.

The DGP also met the protesters who were refusing to conduct the last rites of the victims.

The VDCs were first set up in the mid-1990s in the Chenab Valley area of Jammu to arm and train villagers to defend against Pakistan-sponsored militants and comprise villagers as well as Special Police Officers (SPOs).

Officials said a team of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) also reached Dangri village for an investigation.

Medical Superintendent of Government Medical College (GMC) Rajouri Mehmood H. Bajar confirmed the death of four persons in the firing incident.

"The improvised explosive device (IED) was planted beneath a bag," Additional Director General of Police, Jammu, Mukesh Singh told reporters in Rajouri.

The army and police are conducting a massive search operation, the senior police officer, who reached the spot along with Jammu-Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar, said.

He said that locals have reported that two militants are involved in the attack.

DGP Dilbag Singh, who reached the attack site in Rajouri, "I came because it was more important to be in solidarity with the families. So instead of heading to Kashmir, I came straight away. Do not forget this incident. There may be more IEDs as well."

The DGP also reached the protest site and said that the people of Rajouri have bravely fought terrorism in the past. "I am sad over the killings. It is a matter of grief. It is time to give a boost to VDCs".

"No guns will be taken away..., if some guns have been taken away, they will be returned (to VDCs) and and more guns will be provided if needed," he said.

"Let us not disrespect the bodies and conduct cremation of the bodies," he urged the protesters.

The injured in the Monday incident- Kanaya Sharma (14), Vanshu Sharma (15), Samiksha Devi (20), Sharda Devi (38), Kamlesh Devi (55) and Samiksha Sharma - were admitted to the hospital.

On Sunday's attack, Singh said two militants fired on three houses in which four people were killed and six injured. The condition of the injured is stable, he said.

These are the first such incidents in the past many years in the otherwise peaceful Jammu region.

Village Sarpanch (headman) Deepak Kumar said that it was a serious security lapse on the part of police and security agencies.

"It is a serious security lapse by security agencies. Minority community people do not feel secure. The administration should take tough measures," he told reporters in Rajouri.

Protesters carried the bodies of those killed in Sunday's attack in a procession and kept them at Dongri Chowk.

They demanded that Lieutenant governor Manoj Sinha should come to meet them so that they can put their demands before him.

Several senior administration and police officials tried to persuade the protesters to conduct the last rites of the victims but in vain.

The protesters said that if the LG does not come to them by this evening, they will not cremate the bodies till Union Home Minister Amit Shah meets them.

In Jammu, protests against Pakistan were held by VHP, Bajrang Dal, Mission Statehood, Shiv Sena and Dogra Front.

### Will Punish Culprits

"Your feelings will be fully respected," the LG told the protesting people, who raised

questions on the security situation in Rajouri and also said the withdrawal of weapons from Village Defence Committees (VDCs) have made them an "easy prey" to terrorists.

Sinha said there is no compensation to these deaths. "It is a grave loss to the families. What you told me (about security lapses and measures), I promise you we will go into the depth of the matter. Whatever strong and necessary action is needed will be taken," Sinha said.

Expressing sympathies with the families, the LG said he had come to express his condolence and share their grief. "I and my administration are with these families in stamping out terrorism in J&K. Whatever is to be done, will be done for the families.

Hundreds of people belonging to the minority community are sitting on the dharna with the six bodies. They were demanding a visit by the LG to the spot so that they can put their demands before him.

The LG also met locals, leaders and the grieving families.

Sinha also said an in-depth probe will be conducted into the "security lapses" in the wake of twin terror attacks.

Sinha chaired a security review meeting with top officials from police, Army and CAPFs in Rajouri and called for a detailed probe into the terror attacks that took place in Dangri village.

DGP Dilbag Singh; ACS, Home, R K Goyal; Divisional Commissioner Jammu; ADGP Jammu; and leaders of various political parties were present in the meeting, which was also attended by the families of the victims and the village sarpanch.

"Some people raised the issue of security lapses, an inquiry will be conducted to find out (whether there were any such lapses). On the basis of inquiry, action will be taken," Sinha told reporters.

He said the Army was also conducting operations in the area and "we will try to take strong action in days to come in this area".

The LG said "two to three decisions were taken" in the meeting.

We will settle scores with those involved in this act, he added.

Asked whether the administration will set up security posts in villages for the security of minorities, he said whatever measures will be required, will be taken.

Sinha also asserted that the administration would strengthen village defence committees (VDCs). The VDCs set up in mid-1990s have proved a stone wall defence against militancy in remote hilly areas of the Jammu region, according to officials.

The LG also held a meeting with the sarpanch of Dangri village, DDC and BDC members and the families of victims, sources said.

"We have given full freedom to the security forces and I want to assure the people that the perpetrators of this attack will be punished soon. Terrorists will have to pay a very heavy price for this despicable attack. It is our firm resolve to crush terrorists and terror ecosystem," Sinha said.

He also said VDCs will be strengthened immediately.

Earlier in the day, Sinha said announced Rs 10 lakh ex-gratia and a government job to the next of kin of the civilians killed in the incident. He said those behind the terror attack will not go unpunished.

"I strongly condemn the cowardly terror attack in Rajouri. I assure the people that those behind this despicable attack will not go unpunished. My thoughts and prayers are with the bereaved families," Sinha said in a tweet.

He said the seriously injured would be given Rs 1 lakh.

### Massive Ops Underway

police officer told PTI.

In Rajouri town, people along with the bodies of those killed in the attack gathered at Dangri chowk and blocked roads. They are demanding that Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha come to the protest site, officials said.

On the hunt for the suspected militants, the officer said army, police, special operation group and Central Reserve Police Force personnel are involved in the cordon-and-search operation. Drones and sniffer dogs have also been deployed, the officials said.

Security has been beefed up in view of the attack in Rajouri, where there is a complete shut down in protest against the killings.

### Parties Condemn

said that according to the BJP government at the Centre, militancy in Jammu and Kashmir was due to Article 370, but they were mistaken.

"Have they been able to end terrorism? Four years have passed since Jammu and Kashmir was made a Union Territory," he said.

Omar Abdullah, the National Conference Vice President, questioned the authorities for allegedly not following the standard operating procedure in the aftermath of the Sunday gun-fire incident.

"This apparent carelessness on the part of the security forces needs to be probed & accountability fixed. Costly lessons learnt in the past taught us not to hand over the sites of encounters/attacks without thoroughly sanitising them.

"Why wasn't this SOP followed in Rajouri?" he said in a tweet.

"Deeply shocked as more details emerge of this targeted attack in Rajouri district of Jammu. I unequivocally condemn this heinous attack & send my condolences to the families of the deceased.

"I hope those injured in this attack will make a swift & complete recovery," he said.

PDP president Mehbooba Mufti too condemned the killings and attacked the BJP for its "bogus claims" of ending militancy in the region.

"Condemn this cowardly act & condolences to their families. Despite being under BJP rule & its bogus claims of ending militancy, violence continues unabated. Had J&K had its own elected government, the same media would have hauled them over the coals," she tweeted. Mufti also accused the BJP of leveraging Hindus' deaths for political gains and appealed to the people to retain their brotherly spirit.

"Muslims get killed here every day but when our Hindu brethren get killed, a particular party exploits these incidents to spread Hindu-Muslim hatred across the country for its benefit," Mehbooba Mufti told reporters in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

People's Conference leader Sajad Lone in a tweet said: "Yet another carnage. This time in Rajouri. Condemn the cowardly act. My thoughts are with the families of those who lost their lives."

"The perpetrators of this dastardly act will rot in hell," he added.

Altaf Bukhari-led Apni Party called it a "cowardly and dastardly attack."

"Such heinous acts are condemned in the strongest possible terms. We stand in solidarity with the civilians and pray for peace to the deceased, and strength to the bereaved," the party tweeted.

### Rahul To Hoist

enter Jammu and Kashmir on the evening of January 20 and will end with a flag hoisting on Srinagar on January 30," Venugopal said.

He said the message of "Bharat Jodo" is not limited only to the 12 states and two Union Territories through which the Yatra passes.

Several state-level Yatras have already been announced, and the upcoming 'Haath Se Haath Jodo Abhiyan' will take the message of Bharat Jodo to the doorstep of every Indian, he said.

Through all these activities, we will continue to take the message of the Bharat Jodo Yatra forward, he noted.

Ramesh said most importantly, Rahul Gandhi and the Bharat Yatris have been meeting, interacting, and conveying the message of Bharat Jodo to tens of thousands of people every single day.

"This Yatra is truly a Yatra for listening to the people of India. The Yatra listens to people through large numbers of meetings," he said.

So far, there have been 87 sitting interactions of 30-40 min with various groups, usually 20-30 people in each group, the Congress leader said.

These groups raise various issues of the localities and states we are walking through and there have been over 200 planned walks with smaller groups of 4-5 people, which range from celebrities to intellectuals to activists to ex-servicemen to local children.

In addition, there have been uncounted people whom Rahul Gandhi has greeted and walked with during the Yatra.

"To convey the message of the Yatra, there have been 95 corner meetings, where Rahul Gandhi makes a short speech about the message of the Yatra at the end of the day.

"In addition, 10 large public meetings have been held, to which lakhs of people have attended. There have also been nine press

conferences, one in each state, where media, especially local media, have freely asked questions," Ramesh said.

The spirit of Bharat Jodo has also been celebrated with visits to several important religious and spiritual centres, interactions and performances by numerous artists, and two Bharat Jodo concerts, he said.

"Through this range of mass contact efforts, the Yatra is a significant milestone in the Congress Party's rich tradition of representing the voice of all Indians," Ramesh said.

Asked if the concerns raised by them about the security of Gandhi and other Yatris have been addressed, Venugopal said the Delhi police has been holding a meeting to deal with such concerns on Monday.

He said Rahul Gandhi is not afraid of any security concerns as people in large numbers are joining him. The Yatra has been incident-free so far and will continue to be so.

Venugopal added that he has already held a meeting with Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on security arrangements in their states and they have assured of their cooperation.

### GST Collection

Shakeel Maqbool, while speaking in this backdrop, said that this spurt in GST collection has been recorded due to better tax compliance and reporting coupled with economic recovery.

He added that this increase is one of the highest ever monthly growth rates in J&K since the inception of GST.

### Demonetisation Was

demonetisation were critical, Justice Nagarathna, who was the junior-most judge in the bench, noted there was no independent application of mind by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the entire exercise was carried out in 24 hours.

At the same time, the judge said it is beyond the pale of doubt that the demonetisation measure, which was aimed at eliminating "depraved practices" like hoarding black money and counterfeiting, was well-intentioned.

While the BJP hailed as "historic" the judgement and asked if Congress leader Rahul Gandhi will now tender an apology for his campaign against note ban, the Congress said the majority verdict dealt with the limited issue of the process of decision-making and not with its outcome. The Congress also maintained that it is "misleading and wrong" to say top court upheld demonetisation.

The judgement came on a batch of 58 petitions including one filed by Vivek Narayan Sharma challenging the demonetisation exercise.

On the issue of hardships suffered by citizens during demonetisation, the apex court said if the RBI notification had a nexus with the objectives to be achieved, then, merely because some citizens have suffered through hardships would not be a ground to hold the notification to be bad in law.

"The contention that the impugned notification is liable to be set aside on the ground that it caused hardship to individual/citizens will hold no water." The sudden note ban decision sparked anxiety and panic as banks and ATMs witnessed serpentine queues with people waiting for several hours for their turn to get some cash. Demonetisation was also blamed for people losing their livelihoods and small businesses having to shut shop during that period.

The bench headed by Justice S A Nazeer and also comprising justices B R Gavai, A S Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian, said the November 8, 2016 notification cannot be said to be unreasonable and struck down on the ground of decision-making process.

The bench said the 52-day window provided for the exchange of the demonetised notes with legal tenders was not unreasonable and it cannot be extended now.

"Merely because on two earlier occasions the demonetisation exercise was by plenary legislation, it cannot be held that such power would not be available to the central government," it said in a 382-page judgement.

Observing that scope of judicial review in matters of economic policy is narrower, the court said it was of considered view after perusal of the material on record that the RBI's Central Board had taken into consideration the relevant factors while recommending

withdrawal of legal tender of bank notes.

"The power available to the Central Government under sub-section (2) of Section 26 of the RBI Act cannot be restricted to mean that it can be exercised only for 'one' or 'some' series of bank notes and not for 'all' series of bank notes. The power can be exercised for all series of bank notes." The court said section 26(2) of the RBI Act does not provide for excessive delegation as there is an in-built safeguard that such a power has to be exercised on the recommendation of the RBI's Central Board and as such cannot be struck down.

"The impugned Notification dated November 8, 2016 satisfies the test of proportionality and, as such, cannot be struck down on the said ground. The period provided for exchange of notes vide the impugned Notification dated November 8, 2016 cannot be said to be unreasonable." Commenting on the procedure adopted by the Centre in the entire exercise, the court said all the relevant factors were placed for consideration before the Cabinet when it took the decision to demonetise.

"We are of the considered view that the contention that the decision-making process suffers from non-consideration of relevant factors and eschewing of the irrelevant factors, is without substance," it said while rejecting the submission of the petitioners.

The court said that it cannot be disputed that the final say with regard to economic and monetary policies of the country will be with the Central Government.

Mere errors of judgment by the government seen in retrospect is not subject to judicial review, it added.

"The decision-making process is also sought to be attacked on the ground that the decision was taken in a hasty manner. We find that the 'hasty' argument would be destructive of the very purpose of demonetization.

"Such measures undisputedly are required to be taken with utmost confidentiality and speed. If the news of such a measure is leaked out, it is difficult to imagine how disastrous the consequences would be. It can thus be seen that confidentiality and secrecy in such sort of measures is of paramount importance," the bench said.

### Gulmarg Shivers

steepest drop in the night temperature in the city so far this winter, they said.

Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district recorded a low of minus 9.6 degrees Celsius.

Gulmarg was the coldest place in Jammu and Kashmir with a minimum temperature of minus 10 degrees Celsius, the officials said.

The meteorological office has forecast dry weather in the region over the next few days which will lead to colder nights and slightly warmer days.

Qazigund, the gateway town to the Valley, recorded a low of minus 5.8 degrees Celsius -- a six-degree drop from last night.

In Kupwara, the minimum temperature settled at minus 5.7 degrees Celsius, while Kokernag in south Kashmir recorded a low of minus 4.6 degrees Celsius, the officials said.

Kashmir is currently under the grip of 'Chilla-i-Kalan', the 40-day harshest weather period when the chances of snowfall are the maximum. It begins on December 21 and ends on January 30.

The cold wave continues even after that with a 20-day-long 'Chillai-Khurid' (small cold) and a 10-day-long 'Chillai-Bachha' (baby cold) following it.

### JKPCC Downplays

the JKPCC said that the air quality in Kashmir during winters remains 120-150 while the permissible limit is 80-100.

"The AQI remained moderate. It hasn't gone to severe. The recent rainfall has decreased the pollutants. Currently the PM10 is 50-60 while the permissible limit for PM2.5 is 20-30," said the official, wishing not to be named.

He further said that air quality in Kashmir remains good in summers and poor in winters. Earlier, there were several studies conducted that revealed Srinagar city has the highest concentration of particulate matter in air compared to other Himalayan areas.

According to IQAir website, the PM2.5 concentration in Srinagar is currently 9.2 times the WHO annual air quality guideline value.

It says that the air-quality is "Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups" while the main pollutant is PM2.5

## Secretary Reviews Implementation Of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission In J&K

Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Secretary, Health and Medical Education, Bhupinder Kumar Monday reviewed implementation of flagship programme 'Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)' in Jammu and Kashmir.



Additional Mission Director, ABDM, made a presentation regarding the milestones achieved and the targets set as part of scheme execution. It was informed that, so far, more than 50 lakh ABHA IDs have been created and 3500 health facilities have been registered under the Health Facility Registry (HFR).

Secretary also reviewed the Hospital Health Professional Registration and asked the CMOs to ensure registration of all the Health Professionals on the designated portal within two weeks besides linking their Aadhar.

He said that the aim of ABDM is to develop support system for integrated digital health infrastructure of the country which shall bridge the existing gap among different stakeholders of Healthcare ecosystem through digital highways.

Regarding development of ecosystem for the digital mission, Secretary directed the offi-

cers to ensure that all the modules of the Health Management Information System (HMIS) including scan and share queue registration are rolled out in a time bound manner.

Secretary, while reviewing level of integration at block levels, stressed upon the participation by all the stakeholders. He asked the Principals of Government Medical Colleges and the Head of Departments to accomplish the task in a time bound manner so that intended objectives of the mission are realized for public welfare. He reiterated that proper digitization of health records shall be the only way to ensure delivery of quality health care delivery in a professional and accountable manner.

The meeting was attended by Mission Director NHM, CEO AB-PMJAY, all the Principals and HODs among other senior officers of the department.

## 4 Days Peace Education Programme Begins In Pulwama



Observer News Service

**PULWAMA:** Four days Peace Education programme organised by Prem Rawat Foundation in collaboration with the District Administration commenced today at Pulwama.

The program was inaugurated by Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Pulwama, Dr Sheikh Abdul Aziz in presence of SE PDD (KPDCL), Dy SP Hq Pulwama, Principal GDC Pulwama/Awantipora, DIO Pulwama, ALC Pulwama, Project Manager DIC Pulwama and other District officers.

It was informed that the Peace Education programme is an innovative series of video workshops that helps people discover their own resources and personal peace with focus to develop a "Holistic Perspective about Life".

The objective of the programme is to inculcate inner strength and personal peace, self direction to improve well-

being of an individual.

Speaking on the occasion, ADDC thanked the members of the foundation for organizing this program. He resonated the golden words of Prem Rawat that "Peace needs to be in everyone's life. It is not the world that needs peace; it is people. When people in the world are at peace within themselves, the world too will be at peace."

It is worth mentioning here that Prem Rawat Foundation advances dignity, peace, and prosperity by addressing the fundamental human needs of food, water and peace.

Members of the organization said that the program gives participants an opportunity to focus and reflect on their own humanity, and their inner resources such as choice, hope, and dignity. Rather than describing or defining personal peace, the program empowers individuals to reach their own understanding.

## NFSA Beneficiaries To Get Free Rice, Wheat In J&K

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** In an important decision, Government of India has made distribution of foodgrains to NFSA beneficiaries free of cost from January, 1st this year.

So far under NFSA, subsidized foodgrains were being distributed at Rs 3 per kg for rice, Rs. 2 per kg for wheat and Rs. 3 per kg for wheat flour to NFSA beneficiaries under PDS in Jammu & Kashmir.

The Central Government has now decided to provide free of cost foodgrains, rice and wheat, to all NFSA beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) for one year, effective from 1st January, 2023.

### RAJOURI ATTACK

## Youth Killed In Dhangri Was To Join Army's Ordnance Dept

Press Trust Of India

**DHANGRI (RAJOURI):** Twenty-three-year-old Deepak Kumar who was killed in terror attacks on the minority community in Jammu and Kashmir's Dhangri village on Sunday was about to join Indian Army's ordnance department on Tuesday.

Deepak, who was son of an employee of the public health engineering department, worked hard and qualified for the army job, his close relatives said on Monday.

He was supposed to join the army's ordnance department in two days but destiny had something else in store for him, they said.

Four civilians, including Deepak, were killed and six others injured when terrorists opened fire on three houses of the minority community in the village in the border district of Rajouri Sunday evening, officials had said.

The other deceased in the incident were identified as Satish Kumar (45), Pritam Sharma (56) and Shishu Pal (32).

"Food was being prepared when terrorists entered Pritam Sharma's house. They verified his name through Aadhaar card and then resorted to indiscriminate firing," said Ranjeet Tara, a resident of Dhangri and Pritam's neighbour.

This was the first house that became the target of the terrorists, he said, adding that he was the first to visit the house after the attack to ferry the injured to the hospital.

"The food is still on plates. Blood stains have dried. The terrorists targeted the minority community in Rajouri to force their migration," Tara said, while showing the bullets still lying in the house.

On Sunday at around 7 pm, two

terrorists appeared in a house in Devi Ka Naka of Dhangri and resorted to firing in which two brothers got injured. Later, one of the injured, Deepak Kumar, succumbed, eyewitnesses said.

The terrorists then moved to another house located at around 200 metres away and again resorted to firing in which Pritam Sharma and his son were killed, they said.

Continuing their attacks, the militants then moved towards a house located at around 300 metres away and fired in which ex-serviceman Satish Kumar died while his wife, a daughter, a son, a brother and a neighbour got injured, the eyewitnesses said.

As the terrorists were going from one house to another to target minority community members, one villager Bal Krishen came out with the gun of a village defence committee (VDC) member and started firing in the open.

"Only after Bal Krishen resorted to firing with a VDC gun that the terrorists fled the area," former MLC Vibood Gupta said.

The terrorists, presuming that the firing was done by security forces, escaped from the scene, Gupta said.

In response to the attacks, victims' relatives and other villagers protested at Dhangri Chowk with the bodies when they received them

with applicable conversion loss, where wheat flour is provided to beneficiaries instead of wheat. The beneficiaries are advised to obtain printed e-PoS receipts, clearly indicating free distribution of rice and wheat, along with their entitlement.

The above benefit is exclusively for NFSA beneficiaries and the rate/scale shall remain unchanged in respect of Non-NFSA beneficiaries.

All the field staff and FPS dealers have been advised to create awareness amongst the beneficiaries for free of cost foodgrains distribution under NFSA. This free distribution under NFSA shall continue till 31st December, 2023.



from the GMC hospital. Army and police put the area in cordon throughout the night.

On Monday at around 9:30 am, an IED explosion took place outside the house of victim Deepak Kumar in which nine people got injured. Of the nine injured, a baby boy aged four years and a 17-year-old girl later succumbed to injuries. Dheeraj Kumar, Sarpanch of Dhangri, said that it is a major security lapse.

"What were the security forces doing here? The incident took place despite high alert," he said.

As the people raised the issue of the security lapse with J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, he promised a detailed probe into it.

J&K DGP Dilbag Singh termed it a "planned attack" to target senior officers who were visiting the Sunday's attack site.

While the people were protesting along with six bodies at Dhangri Chowk, Lieutenant Governor Sinha reached out to them.

Sinha, along with DGP Singh, visited houses of the victims and expressed their condolences.

Those behind the terror attacks in Dhangri village will not go unpunished, Sinha said on Monday and announced Rs 10 lakh ex-gratia and a government job to the next of kin of the civilians killed in the incidents.

## Justice Tashi Rabstan Launches LADCS In J&K



Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Justice Tashi Rabstan, acting Chief Justice, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court on Monday launched Legal Aid Defense Counsel System in 10

districts of the Union Territory. The system would be further extended to remaining 10 districts in the coming months in a consolidated and improved manner to ensure quality legal services in criminal matters to eligible poor persons.

Justice Tashi Rabstan, while delivering the inaugural address, congratulated the selected Legal Aid Defense Counsel and exhorted upon them to work hard towards making this vital system a huge success. He stated that the Court based legal services need to be strengthened for providing effective and efficient legal services to weaker and marginalized sections of the society. To achieve the same, several steps are being taken up such as capacity building of lawyers, enhancing the structure and functioning of monitoring and mentoring committees besides upgradation of front offices.

Pertinently, Assigned Counsel System of delivery of Legal Aid is being followed in India in which cases are assigned to salaried panel lawyers by Legal Services

Institutions. The Legal Aid Defense Counsel System (LADCS) would be dealing exclusively with the legal aid work in criminal matters. Lawyers engaged for it shall not be taking any private cases. It will create institutional capacity to effectively provide legal aid to needy in criminal justice system.

LADCS has been conceived to be implemented on pilot basis for providing legal aid in criminal matters in Sessions Courts. Success of the pilot project led to extension of the LADCS to other districts and magisterial courts including Executive Magistrates throughout the country.

Earlier, M K Sharma, Member Secretary, J&K LSA gave an overview of the scheme and highlighted as to how the Legal Aid Defense Counsel System is better than the other Legal Aid Delivery Systems.

The programme was attended by Sanjeev Gupta, Registrar General, Aijaz Ahmad Khan, Principal Secretary, Sobha Ram Gandhi, Registrar Judicial, Parveen Pandoh, Joint Registrar Judicial, Principal District and Sessions Judges who are also Former Officio Chairpersons of DLSAs and Secretaries DLSAs of the concerned districts and the Legal Aid Defense Counsel from across the UT of J&K.

## DC Ganderbal chairs Road Safety Committee Meeting



Observer News Service

**GANDERBAL:** The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir who is also (Chairman Road Safety Committee) today convened a meeting of the District Road Safety Committee to discuss the implementation of the traffic management plan in the district.

During the meeting, detailed discussion was held on the road safety measures, identification of black spots, awareness programs, parking bays at regular intervals, signage plan, upgradation of roads, installation of crash barriers and other measures.

While interacting with the committee members, the DC said that identification of road accident black spots is the first

step towards the solution of road accidents especially on National Highway and directed all the concerned to identify such spots on all roads of the district.

He exhorted upon the concerned to coordinate in streamlining the traffic management to evade traffic congestion in the district adding that road safety is the prevention and protection of road accidents by using all the road safety measures.

The DC directed the BEACON authorities to install proper signage boards and crash barriers in the accident prone areas on National Highway especially Gagangear onwards for which it was informed that the five spots has been identified in the area and work shall be started soon.

## R-Day Arrangements Reviewed At Handwara

Observer News Service

**KUPWARA:** The Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC), Handwara, Nazir Ahmad Mir Monday convened a meeting of all concerned officers to review the arrangements for smooth celebration of Republic Day.

On the occasion, the ADC stressed upon the officers to ensure hassle free arrangements for smooth conduct of the National event. He directed them to maintain proper coordination and ensure arrangements well in advance.

ADC directed all departments to display Tableaus on

the eve of Republic Day parade to showcase developmental activities of their respective departments and government schemes. He said all efforts shall be made to make the National function more attractive and informative.

He also stressed the need for maintaining protocol in seating arrangements and also issued directions to the police department for taking proper protocol of the National Flag and security arrangements.

The ADC gave directions that Republic Day celebration functions shall be held at Tehsil headquarters and blocks with the same fervour and enthusiasm.

He said the main Republic Day function shall be held at District Police Lines (DPL), Kulangam Handwara, while as Administrative level function shall be held at Handwara Town early in the morning. He asked officers to ensure Flag hoisting functions at their respective offices also.

It was also informed that the function will start with Shanaivadan at 8:05Am while the National Flag will be hoisted at 10:00 am.

The ADC asked R&B department, Mechanical Engineering and Municipality Handwara to ensure proper sanitation and cleanliness of the DPL ground. They were also di-

rected to keep manpower available in case of Snowfall on both days of rehearsal and main function. R&B department was directed to make seating arrangements for the function, besides, Decoration will be done by Floriculture and the PHE department was directed to ensure uninterrupted water supply.

Other arrangements including availability of doctors, first aid, Ambulance, besides, security arrangements, Public Address System, media coverage, arrangements of vehicles and sanitation were also reviewed and concerned officers were directed to ensure these arrangements smoothly.

## DC Shopian Chairs Meeting On JJM Stresses On Completion Of Works Within Time Limits

Observer News Service

**SHOPIAN:** The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Sachin Kumar Vaishya Monday chaired a meeting on Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in his office chamber, here.

At the outset, the DC reviewed the status of under construction Water schemes, OHTs, Treatment plants and other works which have been taken up under the mission.

The DC took detailed review of rate revisions, re-tendering

and allotments of works and asked for expediting the pre execution processes.

Highlighting the significance of the ambitious JJM, Vaishya emphasized upon stakeholder departments to give special focus on works aimed at augmentation of existing supply of portable drinking water facilities in the district through convergence with active participation of Jal Samitis.

The DC while reviewing the status of administration

approval, technical sanction, evaluation process and allotment of works, directed the concerned to expedite the allotment and execution of other works.

He also impressed upon the officers to maintain the highest level of transparency and accountability in the implementation process and meet the timelines targeted for completion of various tasks. He also exhorted upon the officers to put in coordinated efforts to achieve the desired results.

The DC emphasized that all JJM works be executed on a fast-track basis and instructed concerned to conduct IEC activities through sign boards, hoardings, public announcements and public interactions programmes in all areas.

The chair was informed that out of 107 works under Jal Jeevan Mission, 29 works have been allotted and work is going on speedily to get them completed within the shortest possible time.

Government of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir

## OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) TRUCK TERMINAL DIVISION SRINAGAR

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

Fresh NIT No: 09/TTD/2022-23/2093-99 DATED:30.12.2022

E-tenders (In single cover system) from qualified contractors registered with the J&K UT Government, CPWD, Railways, and other State/Central Governments are invited for Snow Clearance (Stage-wise) on a Percentage Rate basis for a contract period of winter session 2022-23 that may be extended to three years depending on the performance of the successful bidder.

S. No	Stage Name	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	M.H of Account	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Snow Clearance Stage - 1	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 5000/-	3054 Snow	All classes

1 The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, (if any), Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

Sl No	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	30-12-2022
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	31-12-2022
3	Bid submission Start Date	31-12-2022
4	Bid Submission End Date	07-01-2023 up to 4.00 PM
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	09-01-2023 at 11:00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer (R&B) Truck Terminal Division Pantha chowk Srinagar

2 Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between the bid submission start date and the Bid Submission End date) deposited in M.H. 0059 in the name of Executive Engineer R&B TRUCK TERMINAL Division SRINAGAR (tender inviting authority) as the cost of the tender document.

3 All bidders are required to submit bid security or earnest money for an amount of Rs.5000/= at the time of tendering in the form of CDRs, FDRs, or BGs pledged to the authority responsible for receiving bids, in this case Executive Engineer R&B TRUCK TERMINAL Division SRINAGAR. In strict accordance with the Government's circular and other instructions as required, the successful bidder will be required to provide performance security in the amount of Rs.10,000/= at the time of contract award. Following the fixing of the contract in favour of the successful bidder, the unsuccessful bidders will receive the earnest money/bid security. The successful bidder's performance security will be released only after completed successfully performance of the Contract.

3 The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B TRUCK TERMINAL Division SRINAGAR (tender receiving authority).

4 The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 30 days from the date of opening of technical bids.

5 The earnest money shall be forfeited, if:-

a. Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.

b. Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within three days from the date of intimation.

No:2093-99  
DATED: 30.12.2022  
DIPK-15893-22  
DT: 02-01-2023

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer,  
R&B Truck Terminal  
Division Srinagar



## J&K Draw 0-0 Against Rajasthan In Santosh Trophy

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Jammu & Kashmir football team missed a golden opportunity to move closer to the next round of 76th Santosh Trophy after drawing 0-0 against Rajasthan on Monday.

J&K are now third in the Group 2 standings, with 4 points from 3 matches. Mizoram and Kerala top the table with 3 wins from 3. J&K will now have to win both their remaining matches against Andhra Pradesh and Kerala to at least have a chance of staying in the competition.

In the match played at EMS Corporation Stadium, Kozhikode,

Kerala, J&K head coach Satpal Singh Kala stuck to his guns with a 5-3-2 formation against Rajasthan, with J&K Bank boys Aakif Reshi and Adnan Ayoub leading the charge. Kala made 5 changes in the second half, but J&K failed to capitalize on their chances.

J&K next play Kerala on January 5, before taking on Andhra Pradesh on January 7.

Jammu & Kashmir Starting XI: 1) Furqan Ahmad Dar (GK) 3) Zahid Yousif 6) Hyder Yousuf 7) Mohammad Inam 9) Furqan Nabi Zargar 10) Aakif Javaid 11) Adnan Ayub (C) 12) Farhan Ganai 13) Faisal Maqsood Thakur 15) Dimple Bhagat 20) Urfan Hamid Bhat.

## J&K Take On Railways In Ranji Trophy Today



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Jammu and Kashmir senior men's cricket team is all set to take on Railways in Ranji Trophy on Tuesday, January 3. The match will take place at Lalbhai Contractor Stadium in Surat, Gujarat.

J&K are placed 5th in the Elite D table, accumulating 6 points from 5 matches. Madhya Pradesh lead the group with 20 points from 3 matches, followed by Gujarat who have taken 14 from 3.

The J&K side have won 1 and lost 2 matches in the tournament thus far, while Railways have earned 1 point from their 3.

Including the game against Railways, J&K still have four matches left to play in the tournament. Punjab, Tripura and Chandigarh await J&K after today's match, and the team will hope Abid Mushtaq, who took 8 wickets in their previous match against Vidarbha, will once again spin Jammu & Kashmir closer to the next round.

## Pakistan Recover After Conway Hits Ton In 2nd Test



Agencies

**KARACHI:** New Zealand slipped against Pakistan allrounder Agha Salman's offspin in the final session after Devon Conway hit his fourth Test hundred on the opening day of the second test on Monday.

New Zealand was cruising along at 234-1 on the back of Conway's 122 off 191 balls before Salman picked up 3-55 and the Black Caps finished the day at 309-6.

Tom Blundell was not out on 30 while Ish Sodhi, who made a career-best 65 in the drawn first test, was unbeaten on 11.

Conway put on two solid century stands with Tom Latham (71) and Kane Williamson (36) in a dominating first two sessions for the Black Caps after

Tim Southee won the toss and elected to bat before losing five wickets for 45 runs after tea.

Salman pegged back New Zealand with the old ball on a wicket that had some grass and tempted Pakistan to go with three fast bowlers - Mir Hamza, recalled Hasan Ali and fit-again Naseem Shah - and just one specialist spinner Abrar Ahmed.

Salman ignited the collapse when he found the outside edge of Conway's bat that ended his 100-run stand with Williamson. The offspinner, who bowled 12-over spell after tea, hit back the off stump of Daryl Mitchell (3) with his turning delivery before successfully overturning a caught behind decision through TV referral against Henry Nicholls (26). (AP)

## Fans Mourn Pelé At Public Viewing In Brazil Stadium



Agencies

**SANTOS:** Mourners began paying their respects to Pelé in a solemn procession past his coffin at the Vila Belmiro Stadium in his hometown of Santos on Monday.

The Brazilian football great died Thursday after a battle with cancer. He was 82.

Pelé's coffin was placed on the field where he scored some of the best goals of his career. Mourners walked past his casket in the 16,000-seat stadium outside Sao Paulo.

His burial will take place in a cemetery only 600 meters away on Tuesday.

Fans arrived at the stadium in the early hours of Monday to honor Edson Arantes do Nascimento, globally known as Pelé.

One of them was Brazilian Supreme Court Justice Gilmar Mendes.

"It is a very sad moment, but we are now seeing the real meaning of this legendary player to our country," Mendes told journalists. "My office has shirts signed by Pelé, a picture of him as a goalkeeper, also signed by

him. DVDs, photos, a big collection of him." Mendes also said Pelé was a humble man despite his global fame, and that he deserves every tribute.

Pelé's casket will be ushered through the streets of Santos before his burial. Brazil President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva and other dignitaries are expected to attend.

Pelé had undergone treatment for colon cancer since 2021. The medical center where he had been hospitalised said he died of multiple organ failure as a result of the cancer. (AP)

## Ronaldo Set For Grand Unveiling After Shock Al Nassr Move

Agence France-Presse

**RIYADH:** Portuguese superstar Cristiano Ronaldo will be unveiled before thousands of fans at Saudi Arabian Al Nassr club on Tuesday, a spokesman said, after sealing a shock move estimated at more than 200 million euros.

The 37-year-old great, a five-time winner of the Ballon d'Or, will arrive late on Monday with his family together with media and



technical staff, club spokesman Al-

Walid Al-Muhaidib told AFP.

Ronaldo, who left Manchester United under a cloud after slamming the club in a TV interview, will appear at Al Nassr's 25,000-capacity Mrsool Park stadium in Riyadh at 7:00 pm (1600 GMT) on Tuesday, officials said.

Al Nassr is expecting a full stadium for the unveiling, according to one official who did not want to be named because he was not authorised to speak to media.

## Captain Hardik Sends 'Love & Prayers' For Injured Pant

Press Trust of India

**MUMBAI:** Rishabh Pant's absence from the national team would definitely have a huge impact on the side's balance but all that new T20 skipper Hardik Pandya can think of right now is "speedy recovery" of his teammate.

A game-changer like Pant, on Friday, encountered a horrifying accident when he lost control of his car while driving on NH-58 and is currently admitted in Max Dehradun with multiple injuries on head, back, knee and ankle. He was on Monday shifted from ICU to a private ward.

The injuries, especially the ones on knee and ankle, will keep him out of action for a minimum period of six months.

When Hardik was asked about Pant, he was full of empathy even as he put things into perspective.

"What happened is very unfortunate. No one had any con-



control about it and as a team, we wish him (Pant) all the best. Our love and prayers are always with him and we wish he has a speedy recovery," Hardik said on the eve of first T20I against Sri Lanka here on Tuesday.

Hardik then went on to underline the importance of a player of Pant's calibre in the Indian team's set-up. "Obviously, he was very important but now everyone knows where the situation stands. If Rishabh would also have been there, it would have made a big difference, yes, because of the kind of player he is. But now that he is not there, it is something, we can't control," Hardik added.

## Director YSS Inaugurates 'National Youth Festival' In Jammu



Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Director Youth Services & Sports J&K, S. C. Chibber inaugurated a five-day long National Youth Festival at Teachers Bhawan Jammu on Monday.

The Chief Guest along with Joint Director Jammu and all the District Officers of the Department lighted the ceremonial

lamp to declare the event open.

On the first day of the event, all the districts presented folk songs reflecting the culture & tradition of the UT. In the event, more than 500 participants from all 20 districts of the UT are participating. The artistic youth selected here will participate in the National Youth Festival being held in Karnataka from the 12th of the instant.



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