# KASHVIR OBSERVER

Thursday 16 February 2023 | 25 Rajab | 1444 Hijri | Srinagar | Vol: 26 | Issue: 42 | Pages: 08 | Price: ₹3

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

# **Hindi Language Not Being Imposed On Students: JKSCERT**

**Auqib Javeed** 

Srinagar: Putting all speculations over imposition of Hindi language in the schools here to rest, the Jammu Kashmir State Council of Educational Research and Training (JKSCERT) on Wednesday said that the initiative is aimed to help students and will not be forced upon them.

An official from the JKSCERT said on Wednesday that the initiative was taken for the students who could at least "fill the forms" and learn the basics of the language in order to avoid any inconvenience while going for studies in other states of the country.

"Let me clarify, it is not compulsory and is not being offered as a separate subject. This is being done for the benefit of the students so that he/she may be able to read or write Hindi when they go to further studies in other states of the country," the official, who is one of the members of the committee formed by the government, told Kashmir Observer.

He further said that the idea is to give the basic knowledge of Hindi to the students as an "Index" and "Bibliography".

"When you are living in a country where Hindi is everydeal with any kind of situation. So, this is being done to make reading and writing Hindi easy for them," he added

In the first week of February, the JKSCERT constituted a committee to chart out a mechanism for teaching and learning of Hindi language in schools of Jammu and Kashmir.

The idea was to teach the Hindi language of classes 1st to 10th in all schools of the Union Territory and the Director, JKSCERT sought suggestions from the committee. The committee is likely to submit its recommendations by February-20-2023.

According to the order, the committee will be headed by Chairman of JKBOSE followed by seven members that include Director School Education Director School Iammu. Education Kashmir, Project Director Samagra Shiksha, JK, Project Director Academics of JKBOSE, Joint Director, SCERT Divisional Office Jammu, Joint Director SCERT Divisional Office Kashmir Member and Joint Director SCERT Central, JK.

In the order, a copy of which lies with Kashmir Observer, JKSCERT said that the committee shall be serviced by Jammu and Kashmir Board More on P6



Students returned to their colleges in Kashmir after 50-day winter vacation came to an end on Wednesday: KO Photo, Abid Bhat

#### 100's of Vehicles **Stranded On Banihal Highway**

Agencies

Srinagar: Hundreds of vehicles continued to remain stranded for the second straight day on Wednesday as the Srinagar-Jammu highway continues to remain closed for the traffic due to shooting stones in Ramban while the administration said that the men and machinery has been pressed into service to restore the highway at earliest.

An official said that Jammu-Srinagar highway remained closed for the second consecutive day today due to shooting stones at Mehar-Cafeteria in Ramban district.

He said due to the disruption of traffic on Mehar-Cafeteria stretch, the traffic congestion was also witnessed at different places on the stretch.
"Hundreds of Light Motor
Vehicles (LMVs) and Heavy Motor Vehicles (HMVs) are stranded at various places along the highway. The work is on to clear the highway," the official said, adding that they are expecting the partial restoration of vehicular movement on the highway within the next few hours.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Traffic National Highway, Ramban, Mohita Sharma said that the highway is blocked so far. More on P6



**LET ME CLARIFY, IT IS NOT COMPULSORY** and is not being offered as a separate subject. This is being done for the benefit of the students so that he/she may be able to read or write Hindi when they go to further studies in other states of the country."

#### **J&K Gets 1-Year Extension** In Rs 1500 Crore WB Project

Srinagar: Noting the remarkable progress made over the last 2.5 years, the World Bank has extended the deadline for completion of its Rs 1500 crore project in Jammu & Kashmir by one more year, but made it clear to the Central Government and I&K authorities that any works not completed by December 31, 2023 would need to be completed with the government's own resources.

In a letter to the Union Finance Ministry and J&K administration, the World Bank has accepted the Union Finance Ministry's request to extend the deadline of the project to December 31, 2023. "We also refer to the let-

ter from the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance F.No. 05/06/2014-FB. VIII/V dated December 19, 2022,



requesting the Association to extend the Closing Date of the Credit by 12 months. We are pleased to inform you that the Association concurs with the request and has established December 31, 2023, as the later date for purposes of Section IV.B.2 of Schedule 2 to the Financing Agreement," reads the letter written by WB's Hideki Mori, Acting Country Director, India to Rajat Kumar Mishra, More on P6

# Ladakh Groups Protest In Delhi, Seek Statehood; 6th Schedule

**Press Trust Of India** 

New Delhi: Slogans demanding statehood Ladakh were raised at the Jantar Mantar on Wednesday as a joint protest was held by the Leh Apex Body and Kargil Democratic Alliance in the national capital.

Representatives of social, cultural and political organisations from Ladakh, as well as hundreds of common Ladakhis gathered at the 18th-century observatory, a stone's throw away from t Parliament building, and said they hoped their voice would reach the government.

"Our traditions, ethnic identity, resources and security are at stake today. Our demand is very simple, we want democracy to be



restored in Ladakh by giving it statehood, and to be brought under the sixth schedule of Constitution," said Thupstan Chhewang, a former BJP MP who resigned in 2018 accusing the party of not fulfilling promises made to the people of Ladakh.

He said Ladakh is an ecologically sensitive area and development activities without consulting locals will be harmful.

"A big solar power project has been planned, but the area earmarked is the area of nomadic More on P6

## **Scores Of Protesting KP Employees Detained In Jammu**

**Press Trust Of India** 

Jammu: Scores of migrant Kashmiri Pandit employees demanding a transfer from the Valley and release of salary dues were detained on Wednesday, shortly after they assembled here for a protest to press for their demands, officials said.

The employees were sup posed to stage a protest outside the Press Club but were not allowed by police.

As the employees assembled in the nearby chowk and started to raise slogans in support of their demands. detained nearly 50 protesters. They were shifted to the Police Lines in a bus.

'We tried to persuade them to disperse but since they were adamant about continuing the protest, we took them into preventive custody," a government



official said.

When asked if prohibitory orders had been implemented outside the Press Club - the scene of frequent protests -- the official said prolonged protests in the area have become a public nuisance.

There are no restrictions on peaceful protests for half an hour or one hour but they are occupying the space for hours till midnight, More on P6

### Rahul Gandhi **Goes Skiing In Gulmarg**

**Press Trust Of India** 

Gulmarg: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi went skiing in Gulmarg in north Kashmir on Wednesday as he began a twoday personal visit to the valley. Gandhi, who completed his

Bharat Iodo Yatra in Srinagar two weeks ago, was once again in his now-trademark T-shirt as he stopped for a brief period in Tangmarg town while on his way to Gulmarg skiing resort, 52 km from Srinagar

The former Congress president refused to take questions from the media. "Namaskar" was all he said when he was asked to comment.

At Gulmarg, Gandhi took a ride on famous Gondola Cable car and

went to Affarwat for skiing. Before heading downhill, the Congress leader posed for selfies with an excited bunch of tourists, giving a tough time to his security personnel.

Gandhi was accompanied by police personnel on skiis as he glided down the majestic mountains of Gulmarg.

'We are lucky to have met Shri Rahul Gandhi," said one the tourists who met the Congress leader.

Another tourist said Gandhi deserved to enjoy his holiday "after undertaking the monumental Bharat Jodo Yatra". Pradesh Congress More on P6

# **Govt Okays 7 New Battalions For ITBP At LAC**

Shinkun La Tunnel For All-Weather Connectivity To Ladakh Also Approved

**Press Trust Of India** 

New Delhi: Seven new battalions of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) will be raised and a 4.1-km tunnel to provide allweather connectivity to the border areas of Ladakh built with the government giving its approval on Wednesday, in a major move to bolster the country's defence along the China border.

The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) cleared the proposal for hiring of 9,400 fresh personnel for raising seven new border battalions apart from a new operational base for the ITBP, which guards the 3,488-km-long India-China border ranging from the Karakoram



Pass in Ladakh to Jachep La in Arunachal Pradesh. The new personnel will be stationed mainly in Arunachal Pradesh.

The government decisions amid the India-China

military standoff along the Line of Actual Control(LAC) in eastern Ladakh that erupted in May 2020 and scuffles in the Tawang sector of Arunachal Pradesh in December last year. More on P6

#### **Tyre Burst Creates Panic In Old City**

anic spread Wednesday night as a loud sound of explosion rocked Saraf Kadal area of the city and was mistaken as a grenade blast, but was actually caused by a tyre burst in a security vehicle, a police official said. The incident took place near a CRPF camp in the old city area around 8 pm, the police official said. Eyewitnesses had earlier claimed that a grenade explosion had occurred on the roadside near the security force camp.

"A tyre of a vehicle belonging to security forces burst More on P6

#### **Forest Fire Trigger Landmine Blasts**

everal landmines exploded following a forest fire along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on Wednesday, officials said. The fire started in the forest area across the border and spread to the Balakot sector of Mendhar subdivision on the Indian side. The fire also prompted a security alert, they said. At least half-adozen landmines, part of an antiinfiltration obstacle system, got activated due to the fire but there was no report of any damage. Efforts were on to More on P6

#### New CJ Of J&K, Ladakh **HC Takes Oath**

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ustice Nongmeikapam Kotiswar Singh was on Wednesday sworn in as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. He was administered the oath by J-K Lieutenant Governor Manoi Sinha at the Convention Centre here. Justice Singh was appointed as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh on February 12. The post had fallen vacant after

the retirement of Chief Justice Ali

Mohammad Magrey. More on P6

#### **Iltija Moves Court For Passport Renewal**

Ε

DP president Mehbooba Mufti's daughter Iltija moved the Jammu and Kashmir High Court for issuance of passport. pleading that she needs the travel document immediately to pursue her higher education outside the country. The 35-year-old said her passport expired on January 2, and she had applied for a fresh one in advance on June 8 last year. "The passport, as per the instruction manual, is expected to be dispatched within approximately 30 days... the inaction is More on P6

#### **3 Injured In Fire Caused By Cylinder Blast**

t least two civilians and a firefighter were injured while putting off a blaze, triggered by a gas cylinder blast, in the Wanihama area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

News agency GNS reported that a gas cylinder exploded with a bang, resulting in fire in the house of one Mohammad Ishaq Parry, son of Ghulam Mohidin Parray at Watrigam Wanihama.

Fire tenders were rushed to the spot to contain the spread of fire and in the course of time two civilians identified as More on P6

#### **Computer Shop Sealed For Overcharging**

he district administration here on Wednesday sealed a computer shop for overcharging people for online services. The computer shop was sealed by Tehsildar Kahara on the basis of a complaint that an applicant was charged Rs 500 for filing 4 online domicile applications, an official spokesperson said. He said that Deputy Commissioner Doda, Vishesh Paul Mahajan has already prescribed the rates for online services and has appealed to the public to pay accordingly to the service providers and More on P6

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

KASHMIR OBSERVER (\*\*) Srinagar | Thursday | 16-02-2023

# **Acceleration Of Global Sea Level Rise Imminent Past 1.8 Degrees Warming: Study**

#### **Press Trust Of India**

An irreversible loss of the West Antarctic and Greenland ice sheets, and a corresponding rapid acceleration of sea level rise, may be imminent if global temperature change is not limited below 1.8 degrees Celsius, according to a study.

Coastal populations worldwide are already bracing for rising seas. However, planning for counter-measures to prevent inundation and other damages has been extremely difficult, the researchers said.

This is because the latest climate model projections presented in the 6th assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) do not agree on how quickly the major ice sheets will respond to global warming, they said.

The study, published in the journal Nature Communications, noted that melting ice sheets are potentially the largest contributor to sea level change, and historically the hardest to predict because the physics governing their behaviour is notoriously complex.

"Moreover, computer models that simulate the dynamics of the ice sheets in Greenland and Antarctica often do not account for the fact that ice sheet melting will affect ocean processes, which, in turn, can feed back onto the ice sheet and the atmosphere," said Jun Young Park, PhD student at the IBS Center for Climate Physics and Pusan National University, South Korea and first author of the study.

Using a new computer model, which captures for the first time the coupling between ice sheets, icebergs, ocean and atmosphere, the researchers found that an ice sheet/sea level run-away effect can be prevented only if the world reaches net zero carbon emissions before 2060.

"If we miss this emission goal, the ice sheets will disintegrate and melt at an accelerated pace, according to our calculations. If we don't take any action, retreating ice sheets would continue to increase

NIT No: 87 /GDA of 2022-23



sea level by at least 100 cm within the next 130 years," said Professor Axel Timmermann, co-author of the study and Director of the IBS Center for Climate Physics.

"This would be on top of other contributions, such as the thermal expansion of ocean water," Timmermann said.

Ice sheets respond to atmospheric and

oceanic warming in delayed and often unpredictable ways. Previously, scientists have highlighted the importance of subsurface ocean melting as a key process, which can trigger runaway effects in the major marine based ice sheets in Antarctica.

"However, according to our supercomputer simulations, the effectiveness of these processes may have been overestimated in recent studies," said Professor June Yi Lee from the IBS Center for Climate Physics and Pusan National University and co-author of the study.

"We see that sea ice and atmospheric circulation changes around Antarctica also play a crucial role in controlling the amount of ice sheet melting with repercussions for global sea level projections," she added.

The study highlights the need to develop more complex earth system models, which capture the different climate components, as well as their interactions.

ازعدالت سب جيسپيشل ميونپل مجسٹريٺ سرينگر

عامله مندجه عنوان الصدر میں سائل سائلہ نے عدالت مذامیں ایک درخواست بشمول حلفی بغرض

رخواست کوئی عذریااعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے عذرات اشعاعت اشتہار کے اندردس ہِم عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔بعد گزرنے معیاد کوئی عذر یااعتراض قابلِ قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ

\_\_\_\_\_ ازعدالت سب جیسپیثل میونیل مجسٹریٹ سرینگر

عامله مندجه عنوان الصدريين سائل سائله نے عدالت بذامين ايك درخواست بشمول حلفي بغرض

رارج تاریخ پیدائش ست رشید دختر عبدالرشید درزی ساکنه یار یمپوره سرینگر مورخه

ر خواست کوئی عذریااعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے عذرات اشعاعت اشتہار کے اندروس

یوم عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے معیاد کوئی عذریااعتراض قابلِ قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ

02-202 پیش کی ہے۔لہذاعوام الناس کو بذریعیاشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ نسبت

ندارج تاریخ پیدائش: ذاهده اقبال دختر داؤ دا قبال بت ساکندامرا کدل سرینگر مورخه

02-202 08 بیش کی ہے۔ لہذاعوام الناس کوبڈر لعداشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ نسبت

أينده عدالت بذامين 2023-02-27

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

#### Office Of The Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal

Email: xenrnbkhanabal@gmail.com Phone and Fax: 01932-222221

#### **CANCELLATION**

Subject: Cancellation of work at S. No 01 of NIT 223 "Construction of Resident Hostel at MMABM Associated Hospital Govt. Medical College Anantnag."

This Office NIT NO 223 OF R&B/ Khanabal/2022-23 /E-TENDERING/26326-35 DATED 13-02-2023

Due to administrative reasons, the subject cited work which was put to tenders vide this office above referred NIT No. is hereby Cancelled.

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

I have applied for the issuance of DOB Certificate for my

daughter namely Tafseer Zehra . If anybody having any

objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the

office of the BDO Shareabad Khore within a period of seven

days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no

R/O Hassan Abad (Kantar Bugh Singhpora Dist: Baramulla

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

I have lost my Penssion Passbok of 9th JKLI NIKE bearing No;

9076179 while travelling from Kunzer To Lalpora . Now I have

applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any

objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the

Police Statioin Kunzer within a period of seven days from the

date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall

No. 26479-88 DIPK-17530/22 Dated: 15-02-2023

objection shall be entertained.

F/O Zainab Altaf (DOB 30-11-2015)

Altaf Ahmad Malla

be entertained.

Ali Mohmmad Wani S/o Ab Gaffar Wani

R/o Lalapora Kunzer

**Executive Engineer, R&B Division Khanabal** 

#### Government of Jammu & Kashmir

#### Office Of The Executive Engineer Gulmarg Dev. Authority

**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER** 

Dated: 11-02-2023

For and on behalf of the President of India, e-tenders are being invited on an item rate basis/percentage age basis (as applicable) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with the J&K Government, CPWD, Railways, and other State/Central Governments for the following works:

S.	Name of Work	Adv. Cost	Cost of T/Doc.	Earnest money	Time of	M.H of	Class of
N	0	(Rs. In Lacs)	(In Rupees )	(In Rupees )	completion	Account	Contractor
1_	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Fixing of Crash barriers on OC road at Gulmarg	16.00	800	32000	35days	Plan (G-20)	C & B-Class
2	Development of Road Berms by way of GSB and WBM	12.04	600	24080	35days	Plan (G-20)	B,C & D-Class
	Grade-II Gulmarg						
3	Construction of pedestal type signage's at Tangmarg (3	16.58	800	33160	40days	Plan (G-20)	C & B-Class
	Nos) near Gondola Gate and Tangmarg				·	, ,	
4	P/F of retro reflective and wooden signage at Gulmarg	17.09	800	34180	40days	Plan (G-20)	C & B-Class
5	P/F of retro reflective and wooden signage at Tangmarg	5.00	200	10000	20days	Plan (G-20)	D-Class
Position of AAA: Accorded							
Position of funds Available							

The bidding documents, which would include qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications/drawings, a bill of quantities (B.O.Q), a set of contract terms and conditions, and other details, can be viewed/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in on the

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	11-02-2023
2	<ul> <li>Period of downloading of bidding documents</li> </ul>	11-02-2023
3	Bid submission Start Date	13-02-2023
4	<ul> <li>Bid Submission End Date</li> </ul>	20-02-2023 4:00 PM
5	<ul> <li>Date &amp; time of opening of Bids (Online)</li> </ul>	21-02-2023 11:00 AM
_		

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. 1452 TSM in the name of Executive Engineer GDA TANGMARG (tender inviting authority) as the cost of the tender document.

At the time of tendering all bidders must upload expect manage (fig. country).

At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/ FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer GDA TANGMARG. The successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 3% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/ bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 3% of the total cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.

4. The date and time of bid associated the ULP/Maintenance Period.

The date and time of bid opening shall be notified on the Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and automatically communicated to bidders via an e-mail message sent to their e-mail address. Responsive bidders' bids will be opened online on the same Web Site in the Office of the Executive Engineer GDA TANGMARG (tender receiving authority).

Bids for the work shall be valid for 120 decided.

Bids for the work shall be valid for 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids. Draftsman

Technical Officer

Sd/= **Executive Engineer GDA TANGMARG** 

No: GDA/Divn/2547-53

DIPK-NB-6462/22 Dated: - 15/02/2023

بااجلاس مهرين مشاق

سب جج سپیش موبائل مجسڑیٹ سرینگر

Ghulam Nabi

آیندہ عدالت بذامیں 2023-27-27 کومقررہے۔

رخواست بغرج اندراج تاريخ پيدائش اوفات Ali Mohammad Bhat :

عامله مندجة عنوان الصدر ميں سائل سائله نے عدالت مذاميں ايک درخواست بشمول حلفی بغرض Kreshbal Noorbagh Srinagar مورخه کا 13-02-2023 پیش کی ہے۔ لہذا عوام الناس کو بذر لعداشتها مطلع كياجاتا ہے كەنسبت درخواست كوئى عذريااعتراض ہونے كى صورت ميں اپنے عذرات اشعاعت اشتہار کے اندروس یوم عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔ بعد گز رنے معیاد کوئی عذر یا عتراض قابلِ قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آیندہ عدالت ہذامیں 2023-02-22 کو مقررہے۔

# Bhat 14-05-1998 :

# **ASF ENTERPRISES**

Sale and Services of Computers 2nd. Floor Munir Manzil Regal Chowk Srinagar [J&K) Ph.0194-24 77949, 9419001176, 9419776235

Sale and Sendee of Laptops. Desktops. Printers, Photocopiers. Faxes, CCTV Cameras, Security System and Refilling of all Types

of Cartridges, Toners Registered Government order Suppliers.



#### **GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR UT** Office Of The Executive Engineer Muffasil (R&B) Division Budgam **ENGINEERING COMPLEX BUDGAM PIN NO.191111** E-MAIL:- XENRNBDIVBUD@GMAIL.COM,PHONE-FAX:- 01951-255208

**TENDER NOTICE** E-TENDERING NIT NO.-254-MDB OF 2022-23/17116-36 DATED: -13-02-2023

For And On Behalf Of The Lt. Governor, J&K Ut, E-Tenders (In Single Cover System) Are Invited On Percentage Basisfrom 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	Est. Cost	Earnest	Cost of T/	Time of	Class of	MH Acct
		(Rs. In Lacs)	Money(Rs)	Doc. (Rs.)	completion	Contractor	
1.	Construction of drain at from house of Showkat Hus-	7.76	Rs.15520.00	Rs.300/-	35 Days	"CEE"	Capex Budget
	sain Bhat S/o Mohammad Taki Bhat At Zaber Mohalla					"DEE"	(Drainage)
2.	Modernization/Repair, Renovation of Super Bazar at	4.57	Rs.9140.00	Rs.200/-	25 Days	"DEE"	District Capex Bud-
	Budgam (Additional Items)						get (NFB Sector)
3.	Construction of X-Ray Building at District Hospital	2.59	Rs.5180.00	Rs.200/-	25 Days	"DEE"	4210-Medical
	Budgam (Balance work)						District Sector
4.	Construction of drain at Ganai Mohalla Grave Yard	2.18	Rs.4360.00	Rs.200/-	17 Days	"DEE"	Capex Budget
	side from House of Bilal Ahmad to Spring near Police						(Drainage)
	Station						
5.	Fixing of available sign boards at various locations	1.00	Rs.2000.00	Rs.200/-	15 Days	"DEE"	Contingency
	under the jurisdiction of Muffasil (R&B) Division						
	Budgam						
6.	Construction of cement concrete drain at spots on	2.88	Rs.5760/-	Rs.200/-	15 Days	"DEE"	3054 M&R
	Kremshore Shogapora (Khansahib)						

Position of AAA =Accorded Position of TS =Accorded Position of funds: - = Available/Committed.

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

Date of Issue of Tender Notice 13-02-2023 From 14-02-2023 Period of downloading of bidding documents Bid submission Start Date 14-02-2023 from 10.00 AM Bid Submission End Date 22-02-2023 upto 4.00 P.M Date & time of opening of Bids Submission of Performance 23-02-2023 at 11.00A.Min the office of Executive Engineer Muffasil (R&B) Division Budgam Within 7 days of receipt of LOI. (The bidder as to provide 3% of allotted Cost as Performance Security(PS) Security within 7days after opening of Financial Bid) in shape of CDR/FDR/BG

No: EE/MDB/17116-36

DIPK-17470/22 DATED:-15-02-2023

**Executive Engineer** Muffasil(R&B) Division Budgam.

Sd/-

П	ار فکرا مت مرب کی بیریت سریبر					
	بااجلاس مهرين مشاق					
1	رجسرار برهس ایند و پیشس					
	ايس ايم ينگر (سيول) Abdul Rahim Dar					
	سائل اسائلہ					
	درخواست بغرج اندراج تاریخ پیدائش اوفات					
	نام: Haneefa Akhtar					
	تاریخ / پیدائش: 04-06-1989					
	معامله مندجه عنوان الصدريين سائل سائله نے عدالت مندامين ايک درخواست بشمول حلفی لغرض					
	اندارج تاریخ پیدائش/وفات Haneefa Akhtar D/o Abdul Rahim Dar					
	Sangam Eidgah Sgr مورخه 202-202 پیش کی ہے۔ کہذاعوام الناس کو					
	بذر ایداشتها رطلع کیاجا تاہے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی عذریااعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے					
	عذرات اشعاعت اشتہار کے اندر دس یوم عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے معیاد کوئی عذر یا					
	اعتراض قابلِ قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آیندہ عدالت ہذامیں 202-202 کو مقرر ہے۔					
	تح ريالصدر					
	nj سب جيم ميرنيل مجسر بي سرينگر					



# J&K Bank Collaborates With SKIMS To Help **Poor Cancer Patients**

**Observer News Service** 

SRINAGAR: Under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Program, J&K Bank presented an amount of Rs 14.40 lakh to the premier healthcare institution of Jammu and Kashmir for procurement of Platelet/Therapeutic Plasma Apheresis kits for treatment of poor patients suffering from cancer and severe blood dysfunctional diseases.

In a function organized at SKIMS Soura, the Bank's Divisional Head (Kashmir), Syed Shafat Hussain today handed over the cheque to Director SKIMS, Professor Parvez Koul in presence of Head Pediatric Oncology Department Dr Javed Rasool and Head BU SKIMS, Syed Irfan besides other officials of SKIMS and the bank.

Pertinently, the event coincided with the 'International Childhood Cancer Day', which is observed on 15th February all over the world to raise awareness about childhood cancer and honours all the children and families experiencing the effects of the disease.

Speaking on the occasion, Syed Shafat Hussain said, "Healthcare is critical for every society and with the rise in the number of patients suffering from terminal ailments in J&K, we do feel the need to step in and do our bit. However, as a socially responsible institution, it is a very humble contribution from J&K Bank to SKIMS Srinagar for the patients who cannot

**NIT Srinagar Signs MOU With** 

**First To Promote Incubation** 

**Activities, Startups** 

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Innovation,

Incubation and Entrepreneur-

ship Development Centre

(IIEDC), National Institute of

Technology (NIT) Srinagar

Wednesday signed an MoU

with Foundation for Innovation

& Research in Science & Tech-

nology (FIRST) to promote in-

cubation activities and startup

tween Director, NIT Srinagar

Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal and

Prof. Ankush Sharma, Profes-

sor-In-Charge, Innovation &

sultancy (R&C) NIT Srinagar,

Prof. M F Wani, Registrar

Prof. Syed Kaiser Bukhari,

Head, IIED Centre, Dr. Saad

NAME CHANGE

My name and DOB has been wrongly

written in my passport as Jani Be-

gum W/O Noor Din Sheikh & DOB

04 06 1961 instead of Jana Begum & DOB 04-06-1960 which need to be

corrected. If anybody have any ob-

jection shell report within week after

that no objection will be entertained

Name Jana Begum

R/O Baghi Buchroo

Dob 04.06.1960

W/O Noonda Sheikh

Dean Research and Con-

The MoU was signed be-

ecosystem in the region.

Incubation, IIT Kanpur.

afford these kits critical for their treatment."

Besides empowering the people financially, J&K Bank has been contributing to the society through its CSR activities meant for helping the economically weaker sections especially in the health sector. We believe our little support would help many patients and alleviate the hardships of their families", said Syed Shafaat Hussain.

Director SKIMS Srinagar thanked the Bank for the contribution and expressed hope that amid rising number of patients suffering from such dangerous diseases and dysfunctionalities, the Bank would increase its CSR spend towards healthcare as a large number of the patients hailing from weaker socio-economic background visit SKIMS Hospital for treatment in pediatric oncology every year who find it difficult to afford expensive Apheresis kits containing Platelet/Therapeutic Plasma.

"With J&K Bank's earlier support, we have been able to increase the survival rate among the children suffering from cancer and many of them are present today in this function to collectively thank J&K Bank for their help and support", he added.

Pertinently, in the last year also, J&K Bank had contributed an amount of Rs. 7.85 lacs to SKIMS for procuring these kits which have been utilized for the treatment of hundreds of poor patients especially children.



Shikara's Float At Dal Lake In Srinagar On A Sunny Day On Wednesday (Pic/Abid Bhat)

# **Parts Of City Observe Shutdown Against 'Eviction' Drive**

MAJID NABI

Srinagar: A partial shutdown was observed in Srinagar on Wednesday against the ongoing antiencroachment drive launched by the government to 'reclaim' state land from the encroachers.

While shops and business establishments in and around city center Lal Chowk were shut, public and private vehicles were plying normally on roads, reports said. Similar reports were received from the old

ing a 'forged' list figuring names of

'encroachers' on social media, Dep-

uty Commissioner (DC) Srinagar.

and unsigned' list mentioning

names of those having allegedly

encroached upon the state land is

nimed at creating panic among the

people and that a formal case stands

mir has also taken cognizance of the

issue and keeps an 'eye' on those

attempting to create a sense of fear

among masses. DC Srinagar said

those found involved in circulating

the fake list of encroachers will be

meeting, scheduled to be hosted in

Welcoming G20 tourism track

He said the Cyber Police Kash-

DC Srinagar said the 'unsealed

Ajaz Assad said Wednesday.

registered in this direction.

dealt with sternly.

city wherein business activities remained 'suspended' as a mark of protest.

Reports said the posters calling for shutdown against the ongoing demolition drive launched by the government appeared in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Reports reaching from north Kashmir including Bandipora, Baramulla and Kupwara said the impact of shutdown call evoked no response as markets were abuzz with shoppers throughout the day.

Similar reports were received from central Kashmir's Ganderbal district wherein shutdown call evoked partial or no response.

Complete shutdown was however observed in Anantnag district of south Kashmir wherein all marketplaces remained closed as a mark of protest.

In Shopian, Kulgam and Pulwama districts of north Kashmir, shutdown call evoked positive response in few areas and partial in others.

# Fake List Of Encroachers Circulated To Create Panic: DC Srinagar "Trouble Mongers Will Be Dealt Sternly, Case Registered"

MAJID NABI

Parvez, Dr. Nikhil Agarwal, CEO, SIIC (FIRST). Dr. Sanchita Chaudhary, President (Projects), SIIC, and Mr. Deepak Agarwal, Consultant SIIC, among other dignitaries were pres-

ent at the occasion. As per the MOU, both NIT Srinagar and FIRST IIT Kanpur will understand the industrial strength of the region in terms of innovation and business activities.

On the occasion, Director, NIT Srinagar Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal said it is indeed a matter of great pleasure that both NIT Srinagar and FIRST are coming together to sign the historic MoU. This collaboration will further strengthen the ties in innovations and technology, he said.

Srinagar in May, he said holding G20 summit in Srinagar is a proud moment for Jammu and Kashmir SRINAGAR, Feb 15: Administration especially Srinagar. He said the adwill act tough against the 'trouble ministration is gearing up for the mongers' for creating an alarming event to be hosted in Srinagar. situation among people by circulat-

Assad said the people of Kashmir are famous for their hospitality throughout the world and that they will be able to exhibit their 'liberality' to the visiting delegates.

"So far two episodes have come to our notice, an unsealed and unsigned list figuring names of encroachers has been making rounds on social media. These at tempts by trouble mongers are aimed at creating a sense of fear among masses; police have filed an FIR in this direction and investigation is on. Cyber Police Kashmir has also taken cognizance of the issue and keeps an 'eye' on those creating confusions," DC Srinagar told the media during his

routine visit to Lal Chowk. Flanked by Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Srinagar, Rakesh Bhalwal, Assad while reiterating Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha's commitment that poor will not be touched during the eviction drive, said the administration is implementing LG's directions in 'letter and spirit'. He said landless, labor class and poor masses will not be touched as per LG's directions.

"Welfare state provides livelihood to masses and does not render them jobless, since LG is on record to say that poor or landless will not be touched during the ongoing eviction drive, his directions will be implemented in letter and spirit. Land less, poor and labor class will not be touched or harassed," he added.

On works being executed in Srinagar under Smart City mission, he said the men and machinery have been pressed into service to complete the project in allotted time.

"Work is on at full pace, the project will be completed in allotted time and once weather improves, work will be done in night shifts as well," he added.

TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686 PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883 PDD: 0194-2450213 FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES: 2479488,2452222,2452155 CAPD: 18001807011

SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081 Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

**AIRPORTS** 

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



#### **RAILWAYS**

SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259 ANANTNAG: 01932-228243 BARAMULLA: 0194-102029 BIJBHERA: 01932-228243

#### PAMPORE: 01933-294132 PATTAN: 01954-293507 OAZIGUND: 01951-296153

#### **HIGHWAY STATUS**



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



**PRAYERS FAJR** 5:51 12:45 **ZUHR ASR** 4:36 Magrib 6:18 ISHA 7:40

#### This Day In History

- 1917 1st synagogue in 425 years opens in Madrid 1918 - Lithuania declares independence from Russia & Germany (National Day).
- 1923 Allies accept Latvia's occupation of Memel territory. 1927 - US restores diplomatic relations with Turkey.
- 1929 KID-AM in Idaho Falls ID begins radio transmissions. • 1932 - 1st patent for a tree issued to James Markham for a peach
- 1934 Austrian Civil War ends with the defeat of the Social
- Democrats and the Republican Schutzbund. · 1940 - British search plane finds German supply ship Altmark, used to accommodate aliied sailors from vessles sunk by the Graf
- Spee, off Norway. · 1942 - German submarines attack Aruba oil refinery
- 1943 World War II: The USSR reconquers Kharkov.
   1945 US forces land on Corregidor, complete conquest on March
- 1945 Venezuela declares war on Nazi Germany
  1948 Miranda, famous moon of Uranus, photographed for 1st
- 1959 Fidel Castro becomes the 16th Prime Minister of Cuba after
- overthrowing Fulgencio Batista
- · 1961 China uses its 1st nuclear reactor 1961 - US satellite Explorer 9 is launched
  - 1965 Pegasus 1 launched to detect micro-meteors
  - Algeria 1968 Beatles George Harrison, John Lennon and their wifes fly
- to India for transcendental meditation study with the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi 1978 - 1st Computer Bulletin Board System (Ward & Randy's
- 1982 Assembled STS-3 vehicle moves from Vandenberg AFB to
- · 1989 Egypt, Iraq, Jordan & North Yemen form common market

#### From KO Archives

# Tower Blasts Deepen Power Crisis

Qazigund Fault Forces Extra Shedding

Observer News Service

RINAGAR: Power supply to the valley seemed to take a turn for the worse this evening with possibility of total darkness looming in event of blasted transmission towers near Banihal town collapsing under the impact of heavy snowfall in the region. Authorities were keeping their fingers crossed in anticipation of the damaged towers withstanding heavy snowfall or fierce winds. They were under stood to be charting desperate contingency measures, including temporary restoration, to tide over the grim situation arising out of the blasts. The picture would be dear by tomorrow.

According to reports, mysterious blasts reportedly triggered by some 'unidentified persons' on Sunday and Monday morning damaged the double circuit 132-KV Udhampur -Srinagar transmission tower in 220-KV Kishenpur Pampore transmission tower in Banihal area. All the four legs of the 132-KV tower are damaged while the 220-tower, though standing, has tumbled twards one side. Their total collapse can cut off the entire power import to the valley, leaving it with a mere 70 megawatts (mw) - 50 mw from uri project and 20 mw from other power stations - barely sufficient for

the essential loads only. When contacted, the power development commissioner Vinod Sharma, told Kashmir Observer this evening a of engineers ed by a superintending engineer visited the spot yesterday and, after collecting some equipment, left Udhampur again today to start restoration of the damaged towers, possibly tomorrow Strengthening of the 220-KV tower and re-erection of the '132-KV tower would be taken up simultaneously. He said it would require

a minimum of three days to effect the repairs. Meanwhile, Sharma said, extra curtailment was resorted to in the valley this evening following a snag in one of the circuits of 220-KV transmission line between Qazigund and Wanpoh. With a big question marie banging over the 17-hour relief in six days provided to the valley consumers last week, the availability of energy is likely to be badly disrupted. At present, the power import has come down to 230 mw which includes 50 mw from Uri project. The

availability had] gone up to 350 mw last week, mainly due to fall in demand, facilitating the 17-hour relief. Sharma said one of the double circuit 132-KV Udhampur-Srinagar transmission line had been in a state of disrepair for the past two years. This leaves the department with only one circuit of this line besides the 220-KV Kishenpur-Pampore transmission line to import power to the valley. However, Sharma insisted the valley was getting "more than 55 per cent" of the available power against Jammu's 45 per cent. He attributed the longer spells of darkness in Kashmir to tigher con-sump turn" compared to Jammu region's

It may be recalled two transmission towers of both 132-KV and 220-KV lines at Qazigund were blasted in similar circumstances on the night between January 13 and 14 last year followed by blasting of 400-KV tower at Kutpora near Wagoora in Budgam district a day later. The power supply to the valley was disrupted for more than a fortnight till the temporary restoration equipment was airlifted from Delhi for erect the damaged towers. Curiously,

the blasts have been taking place only in winter.

(KASHMIR OBSERVER, 16 February, 2001)

# **NOTICE**

I Mohd Akber Bhat (Owner) S/o Ab Gani Bhat R/o Humlina, Amargadh Sopore. Vehicle No: JK05F-8012 Alto 800 LXI have lost front no plate while traveling from Danger Pora to Sumbal on date 12.03.2023.

Now i am applying for its duplicate. If anybody having any objection in this regard He/She can contact to concerned authorties within a period of 7 days from the publishing of this notice.



#### NOTICE INVITING TENDERS FROM SPECIALLY ABLED PERSONS FOR RUNNING OF PROVISIONAL STORE AND PHOTOCOPYING CUM STATIONERY SHOP AT IUST CAMPUS

For and on behalf of Vice Chancellor Islamic University of Science and Technology, Awantipora, sealed tenders affixed with Revenue Stamp of Rs. 5/- are invited from the Specially Abled Persons (with not less than 40% of disability) at Islamic University of Science and Technology- Awantipora, for running of following for the convenience of students and staff for a period of one year:

(I) Provisional Store.

(II) Photocopying cum Stationery Shop.

The Contract may be extended subject to the satisfactory performance (on yearly basis). The Tender Document can be obtained from the office of Deputy Registrar Estates or can be downloaded from the University website: www.iust.ac.in against DD of Rs. 200/- (non-refundable) favouring Islamic University of Science & Technology, Awantipora Pulwama, payable at Awantipora, (J&K) as cost of the tender document, to be submitted by or before 06-03-2023 (2.00 PM). Terms and Conditions apply. No: IUST/ Shops/Tender/23/36

Dated: 14-02-2023

inf

Deputy Registrar, Estates DIPK-NB-6457/22 dated: 15-02-2023



Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited Impaired Assets Portfolio Management Department (IAPMD)

Zonal Office Srinagar M.A. Road Srinagar, Kashmir-190001 E: iapmd.kmr@jkbmail.com

#### Possession Notice

Notice under Section 13 (4) of the SARFAESI ACT, 2002 read with Rule 8 (1) of the Security (Enforcement) Interest Rules, 2002

Whereas Mr. Shafiq Hussain Mir, as the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notice dated 28-11-2022 thereby calling upon the Borrower namely M/s Khan Carving Prop Mehraj-ud-din Khan to repay an amount of Rs. 29,35,972.45/= (Rupees Twenty Nine Lac Thirty Five Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Two And Paisa Forty Five Only) being the balance outstanding as on 28.11.2022 in the accounts of the Borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon.

The said borrower having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower in particular and the public in general that the undersigned being authorized officer of the J & K Bank Ltd. has taken Symbolic possession of the mortgage property described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on me under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on this the 08th day of month February of the year 2023.

The said borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the J&K Bank Limited for the amount in aggregating to Rs. 30,27,237.45/= (Rupees Thirty Lac Twenty Seven Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Seven And Paisa Forty Five Only) together with future interest thereon from 01.02.2023 and other charges incurred or to be incurred The borrowers attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in

#### **Description of the Immovable Property**

respect of the time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Equitable Mortgage of property comprising of double storied residential house with attic along with land underneath & appurtenant thereto measuring 09 marlas 145 Sfts. bearing khasra no.132, khata no.411 and Khewat No.173 situated in mouza Brari Nambal, Tehsil Khas & Distrcit Srinagar in the of Mr Ghulam Mohi-ud-din Khan S/o Mr Magbool Ahmad Khan R/o Aquilmir Khanyar Srinagar.

Dated: 08.02.2023 Place: Srinagar

Authorized Officer

Registered office: Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India CIN: L65110JK1938SGC000048; T:+91 (0)194 2481 930-35; F:+91 (0)194 248 1928; E: info@jkbmail.com; W: www.jkbank.com

DIPK-NB-6442/22 dated: 14-02-2023

## KASHMIR OBSERVER

Thursday | 16-02-2023

# Evolving Security Situation

peaking on the fourth anniversary of Pulwama bombing, the Assistant Director General of Police Vijay Kumar said that among the 19 involved in the attack that killed 40 security personnel, eight have been killed and seven arrested. More importantly, the ADGP Kumar said that the number of active militants in Jammu and Kashmir has dwindled to 37, almost all of them new recruits. This is a drastic drop from the 200 militants who roamed the Valley a year or so ago. Kumar also expressed confidence that there would be no repetition of a Pulwama-like attack. He also assured people that police would protect minorities saying that the attacks were being aborted by timely action of the department.

The drastic reduction in the number if militants is the biggest change that has taken place over the last three years. This, for once, has created a distinct possibility that the militancy could very well end in the next few months or over the course of this year if there is no replenishment of the ranks in the form of local recruitment or influx from across the border. Contrary to the apprehensions, the foreign presence in the Valley's militancy has also increasingly diminished over the years. The depleted Kashmir militancy is now mainly composed of the local youth who are untrained in armed combat and have fewer weapons to use. So, they have posed little challenge to the security forces beyond some occasional attacks on the policemen and the civilians.

The militancy in the union territory apparently looks on a shaky wicket. But it is premature and also risky to make predictions about Kashmir. The situation in Kashmir remains far too complex to lend itself to linear analysis. A case in point can be the sudden heightened violence in Jammu in recent past, which worsened the security situation in Rajouri. The militancy had all but ended in the twin districts of Poonch and Rajouri since early 2000. But since the middle of 2021, the area has witnessed a sharp resurgence in violence, led by the militants infiltrating from across the Line of Control.

In the past also this ebb and flow in militancy has continued. As the history of the past thirty years shows militancy has gone on. And it seems unlikely to die down until the corresponding local replenishment and the infiltration from across the LoC continues. That said, the coming weeks and months will be crucial as to the fate of militancy in the union territory.

#### OTHER OPINON

# Women's Premier League

ot quite 25 even, Siliguri's Richa Ghosh might become a home owner soon if her father's dream of buying her a house near Eden Gardens plays out after going for Rs 1.9 crore. With the BCCI coming good on its pledge to offer an equal platform to women cricketers, a whole bunch of aspiring athletes can dream of taking up that sport as a career, and play in front of large crowds, just like the men, if they can summon equally thrilling cricket.

The early figures are impressive. Only the women's NBA and England's Women's Super League in football reportedly have bigger broadcast deals. England cricket star Nat Scivers' Rs 3.2 crore earning is almost three times her national central contract and it is a staggering 10 times the highest sum paid out in the Hundred or Australia's women's Big Bash. Leading female rugby players in England earn a sixth of that figure, and Scivers will pocket a cool £100,000 more than what England's UEFA Euro captain and Arsenal star, Leah Williamson was believed to have been paid in the 2021-22 season. More importantly though, all the cricketers will now be able to avail the technical, financial and strategic coaching expertise of a pro league.

For the Indian team, the timing couldn't have been any better. Freshly minted U19 champions, the start of the WPL means franchises will begin to deploy scouting armies into the hinterland to unearth talent. India is yet to win an ICC World Cup for women and the WPL gives a fillip to women's domestic structure, as franchise expertise will likely extend to women's teams. The likes of Mahela Jayawardene will be available to pick brains of, while the best of analysts, physios, trainers and specialist coaches will become available. Expect the skills and big-hitting to upgrade several notches in coming years. The big test of course is if the five teams will be able to pull in the crowds to the bleachers like the men's game does and much curiosity centres around finding that answer.

The Indian Express



# Salal Lithium – The Battery of Potentials

Dr. Ashaq Hussain

Surging demand, driven primarily by the use of lithium batteries, plus an abundant supply and adequate infrastructure in place to mine this resource means we are well placed to reap the benefits of lithium over the next decade or so

hen vour cars need juice, lithium is the thing to use. The days of petrol and diesel cars are numbered. In a decade or so their sale will be minimised and might be banned as of 2035-40 in most of the metropolitan cities as lithium has the power to offer this change and electric cars will become the norm. Since, EVs run on lithium batteries, each containing about 10 kilos of the metal, the future of any region will depend upon this white gold and Jammu and Kashmir is the luckiest one as we too are about to join this white gold rush. The Government has made a historic discovery in the mineral-rich region of Jammu and Kashmir, for the first time ever, the country has found lithium deposits in this area. According to the Mines Ministry, the Salal-Haimana area of Reasi District has approximately 5.9 million tonnes of lithium reserves. This information was revealed recently during the 62nd meeting of the Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB).

The lithium deposits found in Jammu and Kashmir are the first of such deposits discovered in India and are expected to give a major flip to the country's self-sufficiency in Electric Vehicle (EV).

Vehicle (EV).

A non-ferrous metal, lithium is one of the key components used in EV batteries for electric vehicles. Till now India used to import lithium required for EV Battery production but now this discovery could lead to not only a reduction in India's dependence on foreign countries but also bring down the cost of such batteries in the future. The

discovery is likely to make India truly 'Atmanirbhar' while also creating jobs, generating revenue, and furthering its renewable energy ambitions.

Not only EVs batteries; Lithium has a broad range of other uses in our modern world, encompassing both chemical and technical applications. It is used to make soap and lubricant greases, to produce heat resistant glass and ceramics such as stove tops, and to manufacture aircraft. It is also used to make fireworks: lithium mixed with strontium salts and other chemicals creates a vibrant red colour upon combustion. A lesser-known application of lithium today is as a treatment for mental health issues. Lithium carbonate, most often sold as a pharmaceutical, is a common treatment of bipolar disorder and manic depression, helping stabilise and boost mood. Studies have even found that lithium in drinking water correlates with lower levels of suicide, although psychiatrists are careful about prescribing lithium in high doses, due to unknown effects it can have on the body.

Thus the discovery of lithium deposits in J&K is a positive step for the state and lithium has a bright future in India. Surging demand, driven primarily by the use of lithium batteries, plus an abundant supply and adequate infrastructure in place to mine this resource means we are well placed to reap the benefits of lithium over the next decade or so. Thus, it has the potential to drive economic growth and boost the country's mineral resources and thereby the economy of the country on the whole.

But a million dollar question to ponder over is, from time immemorial, the mineral resource sector has played a vital role in the world economy and human development.; Will the Mineral riches be really good for J&K too? Will 5.9 Million Tons of Lithium reserves change the economy of Jammu and Kashmir and especially the future of residents of Reasi District?

Usually the minerals mining industry supports a good number of jobs and metal mining jobs are one of the highest paying in the private sector. Prospects are thus bright for the unemployed youth who choose entering the field but only when preference will be given to locals who are already facing unemployment pangs. Therefore, lithium mining is critical for our economy as well.

Other good things associated with the mining in the region will be the infrastructural, technological and productivity gains that will also transform other sectors. Thus, the Lithium reserve of Jammu and Kashmir is a Jackpot for the Indian economy on the whole and is set to boost the economy and future development of Jammu and Kashmir in general and that of Salal-Haimana area of Reasi District in particular as well.

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

Dr. Ashaq Hussain is Associate Professor at Govt. Degree College Chatroo and can be reached at joinchemistry@gmail.com



OBSERVER MAIL

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

MAIL YOUR LETTERS

P.O.Box # 337, GPO, Srinagar-190 001 email: editpage.ko@gmail.com

# Al Becoming a Boon in Cardiology

ESEARCHERS found that clinicians who most frequently followed an Artificial intelligence (AI) tool's recommendations were twice as likely to diagnose low ejection fraction (EF) perfectly, a sign that the heart is not functioning as well as it should.AI is poised to revolutionize medicine.AI can fill in any gaps in prior clinical experience. Promoting early detection, timely treatment,

and proper referral procedures in primary care can be greatly aided by this. It is evident that those that are able to employ AI effectively can increase their diagnostic precision and deliver superior patient care. Since AI is still in its infancy, the tools developed will undoubtedly advance in the coming years to assist physicians in determining whether a patient has a cardiac condition or a problem with their heart's func-

tion. Most patients approach the doctor when they have symptoms like heaviness in the chest or difficulty in breathing – AI will diagnose heart conditions before the symptoms start prompting early treatment as per study. AI Technology will help doctors diagnose patients way before symptoms start and this will help in future according to research. With recent developments, the widespread use of electronic

health records, and the capacity to apply machine learning to this large data store, it is now conceivable to employ AI to enhance the precision of diagnoses and fine-tune treatment regimens. AI systems will be easy for busy caregivers to use.

Vijay Kumar hkvkmech@gmail.com

# The Scope of Predictions

**Harold Tobin** 

Imost like aftershocks, questions about earthquake prediction tend to follow disasters like the Feb. 6, 2023, Turkey-Syria quake. Could advance notice have prevented some of the devastation? Unfortunately, useful predictions are still in the realm of science fiction.

University of Washington professor of seismology and geohazards Harold Tobin heads the Pacific Northwest Seismic Network. He explains the differences between predicting and forecasting earthquakes, as well as early warning systems that are currently in place in some areas.

#### CAN SCIENTISTS PREDICT A PARTICULAR EARTHQUAKE?

In short, no. Science has not yet found a way to make actionable earthquake predictions. A useful prediction would specify a time, a place and a magnitude – and all of these would need to be fairly specific, with enough advance notice to be worthwhile.

For example, if I predict that California will have an earthquake in 2023, that would certainly come true, but it's not useful because California has many small earthquakes every day. Or imagine I predict a magnitude 8 or greater earthquake will strike in the Pacific Northwest. That is almost certainly true but doesn't specify when, so it's not helpful new information.

Earthquakes happen because the slow and steady motions of tectonic plates cause stresses to build up along faults in the Earth's crust. Faults are not really lines, but planes extending down miles into the ground. Friction due to the enormous pressure from the weight of all the overlying rock holds these cracks together.

An earthquake starts in some small spot on the fault where the stress overcomes the friction. The two sides slip past each other, with the rupture spreading out at a mile or two per second. The grinding of the two sides against each other on the fault plane sends out waves of motion of the rock in every direction. Like the ripples in a pond after you drop in a stone, it's those waves that make the ground shake and cause damage.

Most earthquakes strike without warning because the faults are stuck – locked up and stationary despite the strain of the moving plates



4

**MOST EARTHQUAKES STRIKE WITHOUT WARNING BECAUSE THE FAULTS ARE STUCK – LOCKED** up and stationary despite the strain of the moving plates around them, and therefore silent until that rupture begins. Seismologists have not yet found any reliable signal to measure before that initial break

around them, and therefore silent until that rupture begins. Seismologists have not yet found any reliable signal to measure before that initial break.

#### WHAT ABOUT THE LIKELIHOOD OF A QUAKE IN ONE AREA?

n the other hand, earthquake science today has come a long way in what I'll call forecasting as opposed to prediction.

Seismologists can measure the movement of the plates with millimeter-scale precision using GPS technology and other means, and detect the places where stress is building up. Scientists know about the recorded history of past earthquakes and can even infer farther back in time using the methods of paleoseismology: the geologically preserved evidence of past quakes.

Putting all this information together allows us to recognize areas where conditions are ripe for a fault to break. These forecasts are expressed as the likelihood of an earthquake of a given size or greater in a region over a period of decades into the future. For example, the U.S. Geological Survey estimates the odds of a magnitude 6.7 or greater quake in the San Francisco Bay Area over the next 30 years is 72%.

#### ARE THERE ANY HINTS A QUAKE COULD BE COMING?

nly about 1 in 20 damaging earthquakes have foreshocks
– smaller quakes that precede a larger one in the same place. By definition they aren't foreshocks, though, until a bigger one follows. The inability to recognize whether an earthquake in isolation is a foreshock is a big part of why useful prediction still eludes us.

However, in the past decade or so, there have been a number of massive earthquakes of magnitude 8 or more, including the 2011 magnitude 9.0 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami in Japan and a 2014 magnitude 8.1 in Chile. Interestingly, a larger fraction of those very biggest earthquakes seem to have exhibited some precursory events, either in the form of a series of foreshocks detected by seismometers or sped-up movements of the nearby Earth's crust detected by GPS stations, called "slow slip events" by earthquake scientists.

These observations suggest perhaps there really are precursory signals for at least some huge quakes. Maybe the sheer size of the ensuing quake made otherwise imperceptible changes in the region of the fault prior to the main event more detectable. We don't know, because so few of these greater than magnitude 8 earthquakes happen. Scientists don't have a lot of examples to go on that would let us test hypotheses with statistical methods.

In fact, while earthquake scientists all agree that we can't predict quakes today, there are now essentially two camps: In one view, earthquakes are the result of complex

cascades of tiny effects – a sensitive chain reaction of sorts that starts with the proverbial butterfly wing flapping deep within a fault – so they're inherently unpredictable and will always remain so. On the other hand, some geophysicists believe we may one day unlock the key to prediction, if we can just find the right signals to measure and gain enough experience.

#### HOW DO EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS

ne real breakthrough today is that scientists have developed earthquake early warning systems like the USGS ShakeAlert now operating in California, Oregon and Washington state. These systems can send out an alert to residents' mobile devices and to operators of critical machinery, including utilities, hospitals, trains and so on, providing warning of anywhere from a few seconds to more than a minute before shaking begins.

This sounds like earthquake prediction, but it is not. Earthquake early warning relies on networks of seismometers that detect the very beginning of an earthquake on a fault and automatically calculate its location and magnitude before the damaging waves have spread very far. The sensing, calculating and data transfer all happen near the speed of light, while the seismic waves move more slowly. That time difference is what allows early warning.

For example, if an earthquake begins off the coast of Washington state beneath the ocean, coastal stations can detect it, and cities like Portland and Seattle could get tens of seconds of warning time. People may well get enough time to take a life safety action like "Drop, Cover and Hold On" – as long as they are sufficiently far away from the fault itself.

#### WHAT COMPLICATIONS WOULD PREDICTING BRING?

hile earthquake prediction has often been referred to as the "holy grail" of seismology, it actually would present some real dilemmas if ever developed.

First of all, earthquakes are so infrequent that any early methods will inevitably be of uncertain accuracy. In the face of that uncertainty, who will make the call to take a major action, such as evacuating an entire city or region? How long should people stay away if a quake doesn't materialize? How many times before it's a boy-who-cried-wolf situation and the public stops heeding the orders? How do officials balance the known risks from the chaos of mass evacuation against the risk from the shaking itself? The idea that prediction technology will emerge fully formed and reliable is a mirage.

It is often said in the field of seismology that earthquakes don't kill people, buildings do. Scientists are already good enough today at forecasting earthquake hazards that the best course of action is to redouble efforts to construct or retrofit buildings, bridges and other infrastructure so they're safe and resilient in the event of ground shaking in any area known to be at risk from large future quakes. These precautions will pay off in lives and property saved far more than a hoped-for means of earthquake prediction, at least for the foreseeable future.

By arrangements with The Conversation

# Why Climate Change Is A Medical Emergency

Aamir Amin

From luxury car-collecting influencers boasting about their 'enormous emissions' on Twitter, to fierce protests at Lützerath, Germany over lignite coal mining against the backdrop of an unprecedented energy crisis — the optics and politics of climate change have been less than sightly this past year.

Let's put things in perspective. As a defining challenge of the 21st century, climate change has all the hallmarks of being a man-made disaster. The alarm raised from within the scientific community is no longer a Cassandran prophecy of doom, rather the widespread concern itself qualifies as a vaticinum ex eventu.

Catastrophic floods displacing thousands in the US, scorching wildfires in the UK and France, extreme heat in Australia and Pakistan, followed by devastating floods, droughts in Europe heralding an unbelievable 'winter' heatwave — together account for merely a few of the many recent outbursts of an irascible Mother Nature, while humanity keep belching out green houses gases.

Teetering on the edge, our existence is threatened by a failing balance between the natural forces that make up our planet. In this death-dealing reality which intersects on race, poverty, education, industry and the future of civilisation itself—human health and health care are no exceptions.

In fact, the present state of knowledge about climate change is that it has transformed the epidemiology of infectious diseases since the late nineteenth century.

Malaria, for example, is the biggest vector-borne disease cause of



sickness and death worldwide. There were 241 million cases of malaria in 2020 and 627 thousand malaria deaths globally (WMR, 2020).

Higher temperatures promote higher mosquito-biting rates, shorten reproductive cycles and are expected to increase chances of survival in previously uninhabitable areas. Dengue viruses, just like malarial parasites, are temperature dependant in terms of their replication and spread.

#### Plesnite 2022 being à La Niñ

Despite 2022 being à La Niña period i.e. cooler-than-average water temperatures, the most recent data from the Copernicus Climate Change Service reveals that the world experienced its fifth warmest year on record.

Evidence shows that climate change is increasing the frequency and severity of warmer-than-aver-

age El Niño conditions which are associated with higher mortality and morbidity.

It is believed that the 2015 El Niño event provided an optimal climate for the Zika virus infection to disseminate. Moreover, rising temperatures have favoured the proliferation of Vibrio species causing outbreaks around the Baltic Sea, Spain, Chile and the US Pacific North-west.

and the US Pacific North-west. Food security and access to safe drinking water — the very foundations of health — are under significant threat from climate change.

Malnutrition is bound to increase in the setting of extreme weather events, coastal inundation, desertification, etc. Increasing precipitation is associated with the spread of waterborne diseases primarily through contamination of both surface and underground drinking water supplies.

#### RAVAGING TRAIL OF HURRICANES

RAVAGING TRAIL OF HURRICANES

Microbiological findings have revealed that outbreaks of leptospirosis, cholera and dengue have lashed communities in the ravaging trail of

hurricanes in the US. Furthermore, the threat of rising form or energy to function.

If the world fails to adopt clean, sustainable sources of energy before it's too late, access to modern surgical treatments will become crippled with limitations, or worse, completely lost in the foreseeable future.

Estimates predict that between 2030 and 2050, there will be an additional quarter of a million deaths per year globally due to climate-sensitive diseases (WHO).

Many a policy in favour of 'green' and 'clean' energy has found itself charred in the flames of political argumentation or pigeonholed due to corruption, short-sightedness and lackadaisical political will.

Far from requiring a siloed ap-



Malnutrition is bound to increase in the setting of extreme weather events, coastal inundation, desertification, etc. Increasing precipitation is associated with the spread of waterborne diseases primarily through contamination of both surface and underground drinking water supplies

sea-levels due to global warming looms large over human habitations, particularly those residing in the South-Pacific and similar low-lying areas. At the present rate, large-scale human displacement is becoming an imminent reality.

It is likely that, in the long run, modern surgical care will also be affected by climate change. Operating rooms work on electricity and numerous instruments require some

proach, the predicament of climate change needs an international solution guided by the latest science driven by sustainability. To embark on anything less than an intersectional global strategy is to court failure and, as a consequence, undermine human health itself.

The article was originally published

# I-T Dept Survey On BBC India Continues For Second Day

**Press Trust of India** 

**New Delhi:** The Income Tax department survey operation against the BBC India continued for the second day with the sleuths understood to be making copies of electronic and paper-based financial data of the organisation, officials said Wednesday.

The tax department had launched the action on Tuesday at the BBC's Delhi and Mumbai offices along with at least two linked premises as part of an investigation into alleged tax evasion against the British broadcaster in India.

Sleuths knocked at the doors of the BBC around 11:30 AM on Tuesday and they are still present, sources aware of the development told PTI.

The tax officials are speaking to staffers of the BBC in the finance and some other departments even as other staffers and journalists were allowed to leave Tuesday night.

Some computer peripherals and mobile phones were cloned as part of the operation, officials had said.

The action, which sparked a sharp political debate with the ruling BJP accusing the BBC of "venomous reporting" and the opposition questioning the timing of the move, came weeks after the broadcaster aired a two-part documentary, "India: The Modi Question", on the prime minister and the 2002 Gujarat riots.

The survey is being carried out to investigate issues related to international taxation and transfer pricing of BBC subsidiary companies, officials had

said on Tuesday.

While there has been no official statement from the Income Tax department on the action, the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) has said it was cooperating with the authorities.

"The Income Tax Authorities remain at the BBC offices in New Delhi and Mumbai. Many staff have now left the building, but some have been asked to remain and are continuing to cooperate with the ongoing enquiries," a BBC News Press Team said in a official Twitter post at 10:26 pm on Tuesday.

We are supporting our staff during this time and continue to hope to have this situation resolved as soon as possible. Our output and journalism continues as normal and we are committed to serving our audiences in India, the post added.

As part of a survey, the Income Tax department only covers the business premises of a company and does not raid residences and other locations of its promoters or directors.

The Supreme Court last week dismissed a plea seeking the imposition of a complete ban on the BBC in India in the wake of the controversial documentary, terming the petition "entirely misconceived" and "absolutely meritless".

Another set of petitions challenging the government's decision to block the documentary will be heard in April next.

On January 21, the government issued directions to block multiple YouTube videos and Twitter posts sharing links to the documentary.

**ADANI-HINDENBURG ROW** 

# SC Agrees To Hear Fresh PIL Of Congress Leader On February 17

**Press Trust of India** 

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Wednesday agreed to hear on February 17 a fresh plea of a Congress leader seeking investigation under the supervision of a sitting apex court judge against the Adani Group of companies in light of the allegations made by the US-based Hindenburg Research.

A bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justice P S Narasimha took note of the submissions of a lawyer, representing Congress leader Jaya Thakur, that the plea needed urgent hearing.

The bench initially agreed to list the PIL for hearing on February 24 and later decided to hear on Friday after the lawyer pointed out that two other PILs are listed on February 17.

Thakur has also sought a direction for investigating the role of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and the State Bank of India (SBI) in investing huge amounts of public money in the FPOs (follow on public offer) of Adani Enterprises, allegedly at a much higher rate than the prevailing share price in the

secondary market.

A follow on public offer is a process by which a company already listed on a stock exchange issues new shares to the investors or shareholders, usually the promoters.

On Monday, the Centre had agreed to the apex court's

proposal to set up a panel of experts to look into strengthening the regulatory mechanisms for the stock market following the recent Adani group shares crash triggered by Hindenburg Research's fraud allegations.

The market regulator, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), in its note filed in the top court indicated that it is not in favour of banning short-selling or sale of borrowed shares, and said it is investigating allegations made by a tiny short-seller against the Adani Group as well as its share price movements.

The top court seized of two petitions alleging exploitation of innocent investors and "artificial crashing" of the Adani Group's stock value.

Adani Group stocks have taken a beating on the bourses after the Hindenburg Research made a litany of allegations, including those of fraudulent transactions and share price manipulation, against the business conglomerate.

The Adani Group has dismissed the charges as lies, saying it complies with all laws and disclosure requirements

In her plea, Thakur has alleged, "The Hindenburg report has raised serious questions about the act and conduct of respondent no 13 (Adani Group of companies) and their associates, by which they have caused huge losses to the various public sector bank and LIC

by inflating the share price of shares of their group of company for obtaining loans and investment from banks and financial institution ibid." The plea, filed through advo-

cate Varinder Kumar Sharma, claimed in accordance with the disclosure made in the Hindenburg report, the Adani Group and their associates have violated various laws, including the Indian Penal Code, the Customs Act, the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act and the Prevention of Corruption Act, for "illegal and undue benefit" and have caused huge losses to the public sector bank and financial institutions.

"The Adani Group i.e. respondent no. 13 is indulge in huge corruption, for gaining illegal and undue benefits, such as loans from various banks upon highly inflated share price of shares of their companies, due to which Rs 82,000 crore of public money is at risk," it claimed.

The plea alleged that after the allegations were made in the Hindenburg report, the FPO of Adani Enterprises was opened in January and the LIC, SBI and several public sector companies invested huge amounts at the rate of Rs 3,200 per share, whereas in the secondary market, the share was prevailing at Rs 1,600 to Rs 1,800 per share.

**DEMOLITION OF NIGHT SHELTER** 

# Have To Now Consider Question Of Rehabilitation, says SC

**Press Trust of India** 

New Delhi: We will have to now consider the question of rehabilitation, the Supreme Court said on Wednesday after it was informed that a night shelter at Sarai Kale Khan here has been demolished by authorities earlier in the day. Advocate Prashant Bhushan mentioned the matter before a bench of Justices Hrishikesh Roy and Dipankar Datta, and said the demolition was supposed to start at 10.30 am but the authorities commenced it at 10 am and the night shelter has been demolished.

Bhushan said over 50 people were availing of the night shelter. When he said that demoli-

tion has been done, the bench observed, "Nothing can be done now at this stage. If it is demolished, we have to now consider the question of rehabilitation." "The urgency element has

gone away," the top court said. Bhushan initially mentioned the matter for urgent hearing before a bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud.

He told the bench that earlier the matter pertaining to homeless people was heard by a bench of Justices S R Bhat and Dipankar Datta.

The CJI said that Justice Bhat

was not available today and granted him liberty to mention the matter before a bench comprising Justice Datta.

Bhushan rushed to the bench headed by Justice Roy which was in the midst of hearing a matter listed before it.

"There is something very urgent that has propped up. I am sorry to interrupt. This is that

homeless matter. There is a night shelter," Bhushan told the bench.

The bench said it was in the midst of hearing a matter.

After the hearing in the matter was over, Bhushan mentioned the issue relating to demolition of the night shelter and said the authorities have come there with bulldozers.

"The homeless matter is pending before this court. The issue is about a night shelter for homeless people," he said. "One night shelter is being

demolished right now without providing alternative accommodation. They (authorities) have preponed the demolition. It was supposed to start at 10.30 am but it started at 10 am today," Bhushan told the apex court.

The bench told him to call the counsel for the other side so that the matter can be heard.

Bhushan said he is being informed that demolition at the site has happened. He told the bench that matter pertaining to homeless people is slated to come up for hearing on February 22 and his application on the issue concerning demolition of night shelter at Sarai Kale Khan be heard on that day.

"We can take it up on that day," the bench observed, while asking Bhushan to incorporate the subsequent developments in the matter.

The Delhi Police recently asked the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB) to shift the night shelter at Sarai Kale Khan before the scheduled G20 summit in September amid concerns that it is being used by criminals and miscreants, officials had said on Tuesday.

#### CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

#### Hindi Language

of School Education (JKBOSE).

However the order drew sharp reactions from the regional political parties and other stakeholders in Kashmir saying that "imposition" of Hindi language amounts to "deepening the divide further".

The Communist Party of India (Marxist) leader M Y Tarigami while condemning the order said "Favouring Hindi at the cost of other languages amounts to an attack on national integration. The educational system and administrative institutions have accepted Urdu which is a modern Indian language as a link language since Maharaja Hari Singh declared it as the official link language in 1920," he said in a statement.

The official said even though the valley doesn't have many teachers who can teach Hindi, the government is keen to train teachers for teaching Hindi in the schools.

"The government feels that every teacher in Kashmir understands and can teach this level of Hindi in schools. They will also train the teachers for the same," he added.

There are about 24000 government schools in J&K. Hindi is taught in most of the government and private schools in Jammu. However, the language was not taught in the Kashmir Valley, except Army schools.

Sources said there are over 1700 high schools in Jammu and Kashmir out of which 600 schools are teaching Hindi. They said in Kashmir over 100 percent of the students learn Urdu while in Jammu 40 percent of the students learn Urdu.

#### Ladakh Groups

people who are known for producing Pashmina. It will displace them because their rich pastures will go. In addition, it will also impact the environment in the area," he said.

"If the people of Ladakh have a say in the decision making, we will decide what kind of industries should be set up," he said.

Environmental activist and educator Sonam

Environmental activist and educator Sonam Wangchuk accused the BJP of reneging on its promise of including Ladakh under the sixth schedule.

"In 2020, when Hill Council elections were held, the BJP had promised sixth schedule status. We are very thankful to the BJP as they gave Union Territory status to Ladakh... Was it a promise or not? Does the election manifesto mean anything or not," he said.

"We made them win the Hill Council, they deserved it because they gave us a Union Territory. It was a promise, then they went silent on it, and now it is a crime to even talk about it. If youth in Ladakh speak of the sixth schedule, they are detained," he said.

The absence of Ladakh MP Jamyang Tsering Namgyal from the protest site was also pointed out by some.

Leader of Opposition in Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh and councillor from lower Leh, Tsering Namgail said the MP should raise their demands in Parliament.

"There is a programment should be used to the schedule status to Ladakh, this issue should have been raised by our MP. Rahul Gandhi also tried to bring an adjournment motion on the Ladakh issue. It is the duty of our MP to talk about sixth schedule," Namgail said.

"There is anger among people, they are unable to understand why Ladakh was made into a Union Territory... Was it done to put us under a bureaucratic regime?" he said.

Former Kargil MLA Asgar Ali Karbalai said statehood for Ladakh was important as it is a sensitive region which shares borders with both Pakistan and China.

"We have protected the borders with our blood... Today we are in Delhi, shouting that we need protection and security," he said. "If Sikkim can get statehood, why not

Ladakh," he added.
Politician and activist Sajjad Hussain said they hope government would take note of their demands and listen to them.

"Leh Apex Body and Kargil Democratic Alliance are holding this protest jointly. We are raising a four-point agenda, under which our demands are statehood for Ladakh, sixth schedule under Constitution, job reservation, a separate public service commission for Ladakh, and two parliamentary seats for Leh

and Kargil," he said.

Ladakh was carved into a Union Territory without legislature when Article 370 and 35A were abrogated, and Jammu and Kashmir was bifurcated into two Union Territories.

Over the last two years, protests have been held in both Leh and Kargil demanding protection of the interests of the people of Ladakh.

In January this year, the home ministry constituted a high-powered committee headed by Minister of State Nityanand Rai to "ensure protection of land and employment" for the people of Ladakh.

The two bodies from Leh and Kargil, however, rejected the committee, and decided not to attend any meeting conducted under its aegis, saying its mandate did not mention the issues raised by them.

#### 100's of Vehicles

"Unrelenting shooting stones at Mehar-Cafeteria have halted traffic on both sides. It will resume after clearance," she said.

Speaking to a local news agency KNO, Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri said that massive efforts are underway to restore the highway. "Machines have been pressed into service and heavy manpower is at work to help in the process of restoration of Srinagar- Jammu highway," he said.

He said they are monitoring the regulation of traffic on the highway, adding that the highway shall be restored at an earliest.

The Divisional Commissioner further said that there was no shortage of essentials in Kashmir. "Stock including gas cylinders, ration is available in abundance in the Valley and there is no shortage of essentials," he added.\

#### **Scores Of Protesting**

causing hardship to commuters and preoccupying the administration and the police," he said.

Hundreds of Kashmiri Pandits employed in the Valley under the Prime Minister's package moved to Jammu last May following the killing of two colleagues -- Rahul Bhat and Rajini Bala -- by militants.

While Bhat was shot dead inside his office in central Kashmir's Budgam on May 12, schoolteacher Bala was gunned down in south Kashmir's Kulgam on May 31.

On February 4, Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha said many of the employees had resumed their duties in the Valley and directions were issued to release their pending salaries.

Sinha had said the administration and the security forces were working with dedication

to ensure the community's safety.

However, the protesters claimed that only a few hundred employees had resumed their duties under compulsion while many are not willing to return to the Valley due to a "sense of insecurity".

Yogesh Pandita, a leader of the protesting employees, said, "We have submitted dozens of memorandums and even met the Lt Governor but all our pleas fell on deaf ears... Maha Shivratri, the biggest festival of the Pandit community, is around the corner but they are not releasing our salaries," he said.

The protesters said they have been suffering financially since the government stopped their salaries in September.

Appealing to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Lt Governor Sinha for a "sympathetic consideration" of their demands, Pandita said, "We left Kashmir due to the terror threat, which has not faded. If we return, where will we go as we do not have secure accommodation?"

Rahul Pandit, another protester, criticised the government for imposing Section 144 of the CrPC outside the Press Club and said they "are on a peaceful protest for the past 290 days but never blocked traffic or caused inconvenience to anyone".

"The government is trying to hide the reality from the public and is not even allowing peaceful protests. We are forced to come on the roads as nobody is listening to us," he said.

#### J&K Gets 1-Year

Additional Secretary (MBC), Department of Economic Affairs Ministry of Finance and Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary, J&K.

But the WB has made it clear to them that any works of the project not completed by the closing date of December 31, 2023, including for L.D. Hospital, Srinagar, would need to be completed with the government's own resources.

After the 2014 floods, the Jhelum-Tawi Flood Recovery Project (JTFRP) was approved by the World Bank in June 2015 for reconstruction of the damaged public sector infrastructure and strengthening J&K's disaster management mechanism.

The closing date of the Rs 1500 crore project was June 30, 2020, which has been extended to December 31, 2023. The project has faced multiple challenges, including COVID-19, which led to substantial implementation delays.

According to the World Bank, the project has shown remarkable progress over the last 2.5 years in improving the pace of public infrastructure construction, completing livelihood support activities, implementing CERC component activities to boost healthcare services for COVID response, and augmenting disaster preparedness capabilities One of the notable contributions of the project has been the installation and commissioning of 30 oxygen generation plants in rural areas of J&K which include areas like Gurez, Tangdar and Bani basoli. The project has committed 100% of the credit with signed contracts including the cost variations and funds earmarked for implementation support

Out of 213 contract packages under the project, 159 (74 percent) have been completed till December 15, 2022. These includes completion of: 41 schools and higher education buildings, 10 road packages, one bridge, silk and wool factories and showroom with new machineries; procurement and deployment of: mobile pumps, search and rescue equipment; and

trainings and technical support to handloom and handicrafts sector and artisans; and several technical studies and assessments—(KNO) **Rahul Gandhi** 

Committee sources said Gandhi is on a personal visit and is likely to attend a private function in the valley.

The sources did not divulge the details of his programme.

#### **Govt Okays 7**

The ITBP proposal was cleared during the CCS meeting that was chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Information and Broadcasting minister Anurag Thakur told

The new battalions and the sector headquarters are expected to be put in place by 2025-26,

he said.

The Union Cabinet at its meeting chaired by Prime Minister Modi gave its nod for the construction of the 4.1-km Shinkun La tunnel on the Nimu-Padam-Darcha road link to provide all-weather connectivity to the border areas of

Ladakh.

Thakur said the tunnel will be completed by Possember 2025 at a cost of Ps 1 691 grove.

December 2025 at a cost of Rs 1,681 crore.

The tunnel will provide all-weather road connectivity to Ladakh and this will be the shortest route to the border areas of the union territory, he said.

"The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) today approved the Shinku La tunnel for Ladakh area which will provide all-weather connectivity to the Ladakh region with the entire country.

"This (project) is also very important as far as the security and safety of the country is concerned.... It will also help in the movement of our security forces in that region," he added.

Sources said the tunnel project is a significant step in terms of security perspective as Nimu in Ladakh is close to Kargil as well as Leh and will help the armed forces in quicker deployment of forces and equipment in the re-

gion if there is any tense situation.

The ITBP, which has about 90,000 personnel in its ranks, was raised in the aftermath of the 1962 Chinese aggression.

According to the government sanction, the fresh manpower will be utilised for manning 47 new border posts and a dozen 'staging camps' or troops bases to be created along the LAC, largely in Arunachal Pradesh.

In order to ensure effective guarding of the LAC, these new bases were sanctioned in 2020 and now seven battalions comprising about 9,400 personnel and a new sector headquarters have been approved, a senior officer said.

Thakur said a non-recurring expenditure of

Thakur said a non-recurring expenditure of Rs 1,808.15 crore is estimated to be spent for land acquisition, creation of office and residential buildings, and arms and ammunition while there will be a recurring annual expenditure of Rs 963.68 crore under the salaries and rations head for the fresh manpower.

Officials said the creation of 47 new border

posts will lead to a 26 per cent increase in the

strength of these bases while the induction of

9,400 fresh personnel will enhance the force's

strength by 10 per cent. The force has 176 border posts at the LAC currently.

Before the new tunnel project in Ladakh, Thakur noted that the Atal tunnel was inaugurated and dedicated by Prime Minister Modi. The Atal tunnel links Manali to Leh and provides all-weather connectivity throughout the

Another tunnel which is under construction

is the Zojila tunnel on the Srinagar-Kargil-Leh national highway which will be dedicated soon. Thakur said after the Shinkun La tunnel is

Thakur said after the Shinkun La tunnel is built it will help connect the Ladakh area, especially the Zanskar valley, with the entire country

#### around 8 pm at Saraf Kadal in the vicinity of

**Tyre Burst Creates** 

a CRPF camp. The tyre burst was initially mistaken as a grenade attack due to darkness," the police official said.

#### **Forest Fire Trigger**

control the fire when the last reports came in, the officials said.

Army troops are keeping strict vigil and are on high alert to ensure that there is no infiltration attempt by terrorists from across the border thousaid.

### der, they said. Iltija Moves Court

discriminatory in nature and unconstitutional," read the petition filed by the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister's daughter in the high court through her lawyer. In the petition, she said that the passport is required immediately by her as she intends to apply for obtaining a masters degree in sustainable development from outside the country.

velopment from outside the country.

"In this view of the matter, the delay occasioned in issuing the passport in favour of the petitioner and thereto in restraining the petitioner from travelling abroad is not only illegal but violates with impunity the mandate of Article 21 of the Constitution of India and the respondents by an appropriate writ are required to be directed to issue passport in favour of the petitioner," she said in her petition. The petition has mentioned the Ministry of External Affairs and Additional Director General of Police (CID), Jammu and Kashmir, and the Passport Officer, Srinagar, as respondents.

in March 2021, Mehbooba and 80-year-old mother Gulshan Nazir were refused passports after Jammu and Kashmir Police cited "adverse report".

Mehbooba's passport expired on May 31, 2019, and she had applied for a fresh passport on December 11 next year, while her mother, wife of former chief minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, had also applied for a passport in 2020 to undertake a religious pilgrimage to Saudi

Mehbooba's passport application is still pending but authorities released the passport of her mother last week, a month after the high court passed fresh directions to the passport

#### 3 Injured In Fire

Tawseef Ahmad and Waseem Ahmad Itoo and a firefighter received injuries at the incident spot.

The injured trio was taken to a nearby hospital, where all of them are said to be stable.

An F&ES official confirming the injury of the fireman, identified him as Manzoor Ahmad,

## working as MD in the department. Computer Shop

immediately report overcharging to the concerned Tehsildar.

# **Centre Using J&K To Divert Attention From Adani Issue: Mufti**

**Press Trust Of India** 

SRINAGAR: Criticising the ongoing anti-encroachment drive, PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Wednesday accused the BJPled Centre of using Jammu and Kashmir to divert attention of the country from pressing issues such as unemployment and the Adani row.

"To divert the attention from the Adani issue and the damage it has done to the economy of the country, they (BJP) don't get anything better than Jammu and Kashmir, like demolition drive," Mehbooba told reporters here.

Asked about Union Home Minister Amit Shah's comments about the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, the former chief minister said, "They do not make statements, they make jumlas."

"He himself said the promises of two crore jobs and Rs 15 lakh in every bank account were election jumla (rhetoric),"

Mehbooba said Shah was the first home minister in the history of independent India who turned a state into a Union territory.

On the demolition drive, she said the BJP earlier used to brand the people of Jammu and Kashmir as anti-nationals but has now started labelling them as encroachers.

"Land in JK belongs to the people of JK. I urge the people to take control of their land, be it through mohalla committees or panchayats.... Earlier they used to call us anti-nationals, now it is encroachers. We are not encroachers," she said.

The PDP president alleged that the administration was carrying out anti-people mea-



that they don't have time to think about anything else".

"But they should realise that there is a sentiment here .. people want to resolve the issue on the terms of equality. You cannot jail that sentiment," she said.

Asked if her party's alliance with the BJP after the 2014 assembly elections was a mistake, Mehbooba said her father took the decision after carefully considering it.

"My father took a very well thought-out decision. He wanted to prevent this situation. Till we had a coalition government, nothing like this had happened. After the government fell, they repealed Article 370 and took other steps," she said.

The PDP president said people can criticise her as they have a right to do so.

On the proposal to make Hindi language compulsory in all schools in Jammu and Kashmir, she said the Centre should try this in southern India first.

"They are not able to do anything in the south but in Jammu and Kashmir they are doing everything.... They have silenced the people. We have nothing against Hindi but our language is Urdu. If they have the courage, let them do it in the south first," she added.

## **'Action Against BBC Sending** Wrong Message Globally'

**SRINAGAR:** PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Wednesday said there was "nothing new" in the Income Tax department's survey operations at BBC offices as the BJP-led government had allegedly adopted similar measures against journalists in

However, Mehbooba said the action against the BBC India was sending a wrong message internationally and damaging India's image as a democracy.

"There is nothing new. Espeally in Jammu and Kashmir we have been seeing for the past three years how journalists are treated. Fahad Shah and Sajad Gul have been jailed. Unfortunately, the national and international community stayed silent when it was happening here and now it is happening there as well," she told reporters here.

"Today BBC, which is considered very credible around the world, has been raided after the documentary on Gujarat riots was released. This has damaged the image of India at international level, they are defaming the country. It also exposes the BJP's Vishwaguru claims. We are known as the mother of all democracies but this does not augur well," she added.

Asked about the G20 meeting

being held in Jammu and Kashmir, the PDP president said while the ruling party at the Centre would not tire of claiming to be the Vishwaguru, the 'raids' on the BBC were sending out a "bad'

"On one side you are talking about G20 and Vishwaguru, on the other you are 'raiding' credible agencies like the BBC and demolishing houses of the poor. The message going out is very bad and gives an impression that India is regressing,"

The former chief minister alleged that opposition voices -- be it journalists or politicians - are being suppressed.

"These are acts of 'hooliganism' and this started from J-K," she added.

The Income Tax department survey operation against the BBC India continued for the second day with the sleuths understood to be making copies of electronic and paper-based financial data of the organisation, officials said Wednesday.

The tax department had launched the action on Tuesday at the BBC's Delhi and Mumbai offices along with at least two linked premises as part of an investigation into alleged tax evasion against the British broadcaster in India.



COLLEGES ACROSS KASHMIR VALLEY reopened on Wednesday after 50-day winter

# **Mercury Rises But Stays Below Sub-Zero Level In Kashmir**

**SRINAGAR:** The minimum temperature stayed below sub-zero level in Kashmir Valley despite further increase on Wednesday. The weather department here has already forecast mainly dry weather till the weekend.

Quoting a meteorological department official, news agency GNS reported that Srinagar recorded a low of minus 0.2°C against the previous night's minus 1.6°C. Today's minimum temperature, he said, was below normal by 0.3°C for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of minus 1.2°C against minus 3.0°C on the previous night and it was 1.1°C below

normal for the gateway town of Kashmir.

Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of minus 3.6°C against minus 4.6°C on the previous night and it was 0.8°C above normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Kokernag recorded a low of minus 1.5°C against minus 2.4°C on the previous night and it was 0.6°C below normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 4.2°C against minus 7.2°C on the previous night and it was 2.6°C above normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at minus

1.7°C against minus 3.5°C on the previous night and it was 1.5°C below normal for the north Kashmir area.

Jammu recorded a low of 9.8°C against 7.2°C on the previous night. It was 0.7°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said

Banihal, he said, recorded a low of 2.0°C (above normal by 1.3°C), Batote 6.0°C (above normal by 3.1°C), Katra 10.6°C (2.5°C above normal) and Bhadarwah 3.4°C (3.1°C above

Ladakh's Leh and Kargil recorded a low of minus 10.4°C and minus 13.4°C respectively, the official said.

Regarding the forecast, he said, mainly dry weather was

# **Demolition Drive Another Assault** On J&K: JKPCC President

**Press Trust Of India** 

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Congress president Vikar Rasool Wani on Wednesday termed the demolition drive another assault on Jammu and Kashmir and demanded immediate end to the "antipeople" move of the administration.

He said the "bulldozer politics of the BJP" must end.

"Demolishing residential houses and commercial buildings of people in Jammu and Kashmir without serving any notice is an undemocratic and anti-people move, which is being done to terrorize people. Demolition drive is another assault on Jammu and Kashmir," Wani said at a party meeting here.

He targeted the administration for "terrorizing people under the garb of an anti-encroachment drive."

The J-K governor administra-



tion has launched a massive anti-encroachment drive in the Union Territory to retrieve the state land from encroachers.

He also reviewed preparations for the party's upcoming "Haath Se Haath Jodo Abhiyaan", which is set to start in -K in a couple of days.

Wani expressed confidence that the campaign will be "very successful people's movement", which was designed after the successful completion of the Bharat Jodo

"The Abhiyaan is another initiative of the Congress party to reach out to people at village level across the country aiming to strengthen the unity and brotherhood in the country, which is being harmed by the hate and divisive politics of

the BJP, " he said. The J-K Pradesh Congress Committee president also discussed the AICC's 85th plenary session to be held at Raipur in Chattisgarh later this month. He urged the party leaders to gear up for the session.

#### Kupwara **Teenage Girl's Body Retrieved** From Jhelum

**SRINAGAR:** The body of a teenage girl from Kupwara, who had allegedly jumped into river Jhelum in Sonwar area of Srinagar on February 12 evening, was retrieved on Wednesday afternoon.

teenage girl in river Jhelum at Aramwari Sonwar here

They said that the body has been taken by the police for legal medical formalities after which it would be handed over to the family for last rites-

# Salary Of 7 BDOs In **Doda Withheld For Poor Performance**

**Observer News Service** 

SRINAGAR: District Development Commissioner, Doda Vishesh Paul Mahajan has withheld the salary of 7 Block Development Officers (BDOs) for poor performance in achieving the targets under District Capex and Area Development Plan which was reviewed by him the other day.

"Subsequent to the review meeting of the progress of physical and financial achievements by the Rural Develop-

ment Department and in view of poor performance, the salary of the 07 Block Development Officers is stopped with immediate effect till further orders",

an order issued by DDC reads. The officers, whose salaries have been withheld are, BDO Bhaderwah, BDO Bhalla, BDO Changa, BDO Jakyas, BDO Khellani, BDO Marmat and BDO Thathri.

The BDOs whose salary has been kept withheld have been asked to improve their performance to avoid further action as warranted under rules.

# DC Kupwara Hands **Over Cheques To Fire** Victims Of Kalaroos

**Observer News Service** 

SRINAGAR: The Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Dr.Doifode Sagar Dattatray on Wednesday handed-over cheques to the fire victims of remote Nagsari village of Kalaroos.

Extending his sympathies with the fire victims, the DC assured them of all possible support from the District Administration.

He handed over relief cheques among the victims and assured that all arrangements shall be made for the victims and proper assessment of damages including livestock shall be carried out for due compensation.

Meanwhile, the DC urged people to ensure all fire safety measures are taken for safety and security of life and property.

The fire victims of Nagsari Kalaroos extended their special thanks to the District Administration Kupwara especially to the DC for providing them timely assistance and other essential commodities.

On the intervening night of Feb 11 and 12 at Nagsari Kalaroos 7 residential houses belonging to vulnerable Gujjar tribals were completely damaged in a fire incident.

## **Progress Of 'Wular Walkway' Reviewed At Bandipora**



**Observer News Service** 

SRINAGAR: The Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bandipora, Waseem Raja on Wednesday convened a meeting to discuss various issues regarding execution of nonmotorable roads around Wular Lake with officers of different

The locals of the Wular adjacent areas appraised the chair about the local issues with regard to the construction of the walkway.

The ADC reiterated the commitment of the District Administration towards early completion of the walkway which is a prestigious project of the Government and will be beneficial for the locals.

He said the construction of the walkway shall not only at-

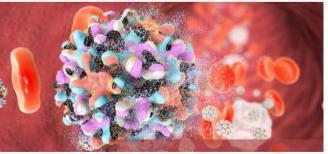
tract tourists towards these areas but also provide various employment opportunities to the local youth.

During the meeting, it was decided that field visits with concerned officers shall be made in the coming days to assess the progress of the walkway.

Waseem Raja assured the loals that all the bottlenecks and genuine issues, if any, shall be resolved during the field visit. He also urged people to coordinate with administration and executing agencies for implementation of the prestigious project.

The meeting was attended by DDC Member Hajin B Dr Mustafa, Executive Engineer I&FC, Executive Engineer R&B Bandipora, Tehsildar Ajas, Coordinator WUCMA, A.D. Rakhs & Farms. besides, local inhabitants of the Wular adjacent areas.

## **Several Cases Of Hepatitis-A Reported In Shopian**



**Agencies** 

SRINAGAR: Few cases of Hepatitis-A have been reported in Ganowpora area of South Kashmir's Shopian district following which the health department has started taking sampling in the village.

A health official said that a few cases of Hepatitis-A have been reported in Ganowpora area, who were tested outside the district.

He said the health department has taken cognizance and has started sampling in the area.

Meanwhile, locals alleged that the main reason behind the cases of Hepatitis-A is contaminated water as they are getting water without any filtration.

They also said they don't have proper health care facilities available in the area, thereby forcing them to visit Pulwama even to get tests done. Locals said that despite bringing the issue of filtration into the notice of the authorities several times, nothing has been done so far.

They appealed to the higher ups to look into the matter so that locals won't suffer anymore.

Meanwhile, Chief Medical Officer Shopian Dr Arshid Tak told a local news agency KNO that a few cases of Hepatitis-A have been reported in Ganowpora area. "We have started sampling in

the area-both water and blood samples have been taken and sent to the laboratory," he said, adding that they have asked people to take precautions and have provided them medicine as well.

He also urged people not to panic as Hepatitis-A is usually a short-term infection and does not become chronic.

# **J&K Received Investment Proposals** Worth Rs 66,000 Crore: Govt

**Observer News Service** 

**SRINAGAR:** Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing biggest industrial revolution in the history of UT as private investment proposals worth Rs. 66,000 crore have been received within a period of around one year as well as 1455 industrial units have also started their operations, an official spokesperson said Wednesday. He said these remarkable de-

doors of immense possibilities for the new generation as promised by Lieutenant Governors Administration. "The existing industrial landscape is being transformed into a futuristic, profitable and sustainable ecosystem, leading to

velopments have opened up

ucation, skill development and better quality of life," he added From job creation to entrepreneurship, the spokesperson said,

livelihood generation, better ed-

the Government is going to make J&K a model of Industry 4.0, the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Government is working tirelessly on promoting institutional readiness, increasing entrepreneurship and attracting investments. He said that the multiplier effect of industrial transformation will be felt across the entire length and breadth of the UT.

"New Industrial Development Scheme, with an outlay of Rs. 28,400 Crore, has been approved by the Government of India for encouraging investment in manufacturing and service sectors in J&K, which has started helping in stepping up economic development in Ĵammu & Kashmir," he said.

"This is the dawn of new era for the growth, development and overall well-being of the people of J&K. Barriers to commerce and trade have also been removed. The people of J&K can now fully enjoy the rights and benefits enjoyed by all other citizens of India rather than just a limited set of rights and benefits," he added.

The spokesperson said that J&K is on a mission to renovate, reinvent, and ready to take a quantum leap to become the fastest-growing region in the country, pushing the targets for economic growth and employment. He said that the aim of J&K Administration is to deepen the trust with the business conglomerate, build the industrial base and strengthen the socio-

economic stability. "With the consistent efforts of J&K Administration, Jammu and Kashmir is emerging as one of the best destinations in the country for setting up new businesses as of now with the best incentives and improved infrastructure facilities," he added.

Moreover, the spokesperson said, J&K Government is fulfilling all the crucial requirements of the industries including the transparent policy of land allotment, private industrial estate development, ensuring ease of doing business, besides the administration has actively worked with solutions approach and introduced various initiatives and reforms in a short period of time. the Industrial "Notably,

Scheme for J&K is giving a boost to domestic manufacturing in the region and helps J&K in becoming Aatma Nirbhar. The Scheme is encouraging new investment, substantial expansion and also nurturing the existing industries in J&K. The administration is also ensuring that the implementation of the new scheme is done in a manner which is friendly and hassle free to the investors and entrepreneurs from within J&K and outside find a smooth and progressive ecosystem for their business plans," he added.

**Agencies** 

Officials said that Indian Navy, River Police and SDRF jointly launched a massive search operation and fished out the body of a

# **India Becomes World No.1 Team In All Three Formats**

**DUBAI:** India on Wednesday claimed the top spot in the latest ICC Test rankings to become the number one ranked side in all three formats of the game. India's big innings and 132-run win over Australia in the first Test catapulted the 'Men in Blue' to the top spot, dislodging the Pat Cummins-

Already the top T20 side, India had reached the number one spot in ODIs last month after beating New Zealand 3-0.

India (115) are four rating points ahead of Australia (111) in the Test rankings and a win in the second Test, starting Friday, will not only consolidate their top spot



but also aid their push for entering second consecutive World Test Championship Final. India need to win the four-match Border Gavaskar Trophy 3-1 or 3-0 to make the

Among individuals, India offspinner Ravichandran Ashwin jumped to the second spot in the Men's Test Bowlers Rankings following his eight-wicket show against Australia in Nagpur.

The 36-year-old is 21 rating points behind Australia captain Pat Cummins and is contention to return to the No.1 ranking for the first time since 2017.

#### The second Test between India and Australia will be played in New Delhi from Friday.

#### **Explosive Revelations Of BCCI Chief Selector Chetan Sharma**

Agencies

The Chairman of the Na-**I** tional Selection Committee Chetan Sharma made several shocking revelations during a sting operation with a popular news channel on Tuesday.

We have compiled a list of some explosive revelations that Sharma made.

#### **Use of injections in** national team:

"Even if players are 85 per cent fit, they ask us to let them play even though the medical science does not clear them. Players never refuse to play matches and want to play. There is Bumrah (Jasprit Bumrah) who cannot even bend properly right now. There are one or two such major injuries that happen. Otherwise, at 80 per cent of fitness, these players take an injection, come to

us and tell us that they are fit to play," said Sharma.

"They are big superstars. Do they really face shortage of doctors? They can have them come to their house after making a phone call and he will give them an injection," he said.

#### Viral Kohli vs Sourav

Ganguly

"When the player becomes popular, he considers himself to be bigger than the Board and thinks that nobody can touch him. He feels that cricket in India would stop without him. But has that ever happened? Some of our biggest cricketing stars came and went but cricket remained the same. So he (Kohli) tried to hit back at the (former) president at that time. It was a damaging controversy. It was a classic case of a player going against the BCCI.

## **SQAY Martial Arts Champion** Hanaya Nisar Felicitated

**Observer News Service** 

ANANTNAG: District Administration Anantnag on Wednesday felicitated ace SQAY Martial Arts International Champion Hanaya Nisar, who was also awarded with Pradhan Mantri Rashtriva Bal Puruskar in the sports category by President of India and recently won gold medal in the 7th

onship at Kathmandu, Nepal. The felicitation ceremony was held at Dak Bungalow, Anantnag with Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, Dr Basharat Qayoom felicitating the athlete.

SQAY South Asian Champi-

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said that it is a proud moment for Anantnag that Hanaya is such an acclaimed martial arts champion at such a young age. He said that success is the result of years of hard-



work and dedication demonstrated by Hanaya.

Hanaya said that she is overwhelmed by the appreciation and plans to continue to work with the same dedication and discipline.

ACD Anantnag Riyaz Ahmad Shah threw light on the career of Hanaya Nisar and the various achievements of the champion at such a young age. He said Hanaya who hails from Kokernag area is presently enrolled at HSS Kokernag and has represented India and won Gold Medal in 3rd World SQAY Martial Art Championship held in Chingju, South Korea in

October 2018 at the age of 12. Gold Medal in 4th Tri-Nation SQAY Event, Gold at 9th International Masters Cup Pahalgam, Gold at 7th International Masters Cup Pahalgam, Silver at 62nd National School Games under SGFI Delhi, Gold at 63rd National School Games under SGFI, Gold at 64th National School Games Under SGFI, Gold at 18th Federation Cup National, awarded Role model of J&K 2019, Gold at 23rd SQAY National Championship 2023 Jammu and won Champion of Champions Title 2023 in 23rd SQAY National Championship held at Jammu.

# **Baramulla Police Felicitates SQAY Gold Medallist**

**Observer News Service** 

BARAMULLA: Police in Baramulla on Wednesday facilitated an athlete for securing Gold Medal in 7th South Asian SQAY Martial Art Championship held in Kathmandu, Nepal.

The event was organised at District Police Headquarters Baramulla, where SSP Baramulla Amod Ashok Nagpure (IPS) felicitated a 6th standard student of St. Joseph's Higher Secondary School Baramulla, Saaed Manzoor, for securing the



Gold medal.

On the occasion, SSP Baramulla congratulated the achiever for making the feat and hoped that this achievement would inspire other youth also in engaging them in sports activities. He also stated that the sports play an important

role in the overall personality development of an individual and is important for channelization of youth energy to keep them away from negative forces. Appreciating his role, he was felicitated with appreciation letter presented by SSP



**ENDOCRINOLOGY DR. ABID RASOOL** Expert in Adult & Pediatric Endocrinology

**CARDIOLOGY DR. HAKIM IRFAN SHOWKAT** MBBS, MD, DNB (cardiologist) FACC (USA) FAPSIC (Singapore), AFESC (Europe)

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FELLOWSHIP IN

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**PAEDIATRICS** 

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**DNB NEURO Psychiatry** 

**UROLOGY** 

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