

Rs 66,000 Cr Investment Proposals Received Within 2 Years: LG

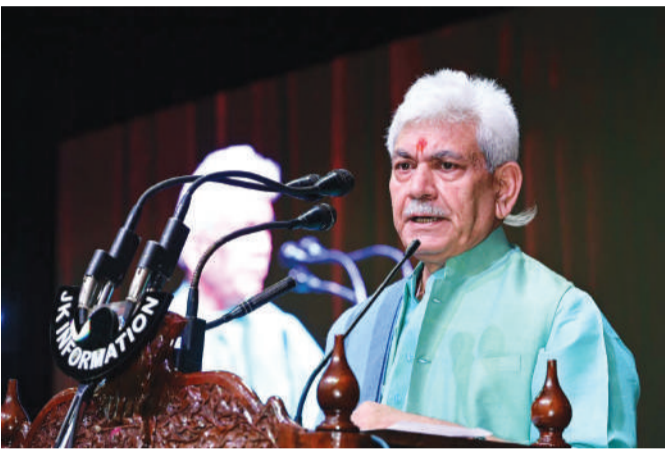
Asks Every Taxpayer To Come Forward And Contribute Towards Nation Building

Observer News Service

Jammu: Asserting that Jammu and Kashmir has taken a giant leap in the industrial sector, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Wednesday that within two years the Union Territory administration has received investment proposals worth Rs 66,000 crores.

“Jammu Kashmir has taken a giant leap in the industrial sector and investments from big companies from India & abroad continue to flow into the UT for industrial activities. Within two years, we have received investment proposals worth Rs 66,000 crores,” Sinha said, after inaugurating the GST symposium and Tax awareness initiative ‘Kar-Tavya’ at the Convention Center here on Wednesday.

The GST symposium is being



organized by the J & K State Taxes Department in collaboration with The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India.

The LG highlighted the transformation taking place in the industrial sector with the

introduction of a new Industrial development policy.

“In the last 6 months, one industrial-business unit has commenced its operation every day. This reflects the true picture of new & aspirational **|More on P6**

‘Schools, Colleges; Hospitals To Come Up On Retrieved Land’

Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Wednesday that the land retrieved by his administration during a massive anti-encroachment drive across Jammu and Kashmir will be used for creating public infrastructure like schools, colleges, hospitals and sports facilities.

“No poor will be touched during anti encroachment drives but no influential encroacher will be spared. The encroached land retrieved by the government will be utilized for the welfare of

common man and schools, colleges, hospitals, sports facilities will be developed on the retrieved land,” Sinha said. He also urged people not to fall prey to the certain vested interests spreading false information and creating misconceptions around anti-encroachment drives, power generation and property tax. The LG also shared the facts in detail regarding the imposition of property tax in the UT and said that the tax in Jammu and Kashmir is the lowest as compared to other states of the country. **|More on P6**

‘30000 Govt Jobs Filled In 3 Yrs, 20,000 More In Offing’

The Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Wednesday that over 30,000 government posts have been filled in the last three years while recruitment for another 20,000 posts in the administration will be advertised in 3-4 months. Sinha shared these details during the inauguration of GST symposium and Tax awareness initiative ‘Kar-Tavya’ at the Convention Center here on Wednesday. The LG also spoke on efforts of the government to generate employment and livelihood opportunities for the youth. **|More on P6**

LPG Gets Costlier After Rs 50 Hike

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: Cooking gas LPG price on Wednesday was hiked by Rs 50 per cylinder — the first increase in rates in almost eight months — that came within days of end of polling in three north-eastern states and was sharply criticised by the Opposition.

A 14.2-kg LPG cylinder in Delhi now costs Rs 1,103, up from Rs 1,053, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.

State-owned Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) said Rs 1,103 was the rate for a 14.2-kg non-subsidised LPG cylinder.

The government doesn't pay any subsidy to most non-Ujjwala users and this is the rate that they will have to pay for buying cooking gas refills.

The government pays Rs 200 per cylinder subsidy to the 9.58 crore poor who got free LPG connection under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana. The effective price for them **|More on P6**

Gulmarg Receives 5cm Snow, Rains In Plains

Agencies

Srinagar: The upper reaches of Kashmir, including the ski resort of Gulmarg received light snowfall while rains lashed the plains, even as the weather department has forecast intermittent snowfall and rainfall during the next 24 hours in the Union Territory

A meteorological department official said that the famous hill station of Gulmarg received 5cm of snowfall during the last 24 hours till 0830 hours on Wednesday. Srinagar received 0.6mm of rain, Pahalgam 0.7mm, Kupwara 2.1mm, Jammu traces, Banihal 1.2mm and Bhaderwah 1.1mm.

Regarding temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 6.4°C against 4.0°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 4.9°C for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 5.0°C against 1.8°C on the previous night while Pahalgam recorded a low of 0.6°C.

Kokernag recorded a low of 3.4°C against 3.0°C on the previous night and it was 3.3°C above normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 2.0°C against minus 3.0°C on the previous night and it was 3.3°C above normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

In Kupwara town, **|More on P6**



Students attended morning assembly in schools in Srinagar and elsewhere, as three-month long winter vacation came to an end on Wednesday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Back To Schools After 3-Month Winter Break

Schools in Kashmir Valley reopened Wednesday after remaining closed for three months on account of winter vacations. There was a sudden change in weather conditions

in the Valley following a spell of rainfall but the downpour failed to dampen the enthusiasm among the students, many of whom were feeling bored and confined at home for such

a long span of time.

“I am happy that we are back to school. It was boring to stay at home for such a long time,” Tahoor Ahmad, a student of a private school, said here.

Fareeha, another student, was happy to meet her friends again.

“After three months, I am back at school. I have missed my teachers and friends. I feel so happy that I am **|More on P6**

Dr Farooq Pitches For Stalin As Prime Minister

Tells Congress To Look Into 'PM Choice' Post LS Polls

Press Trust Of India

Chennai: Jammu Kashmir National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Wednesday said there are chances for DMK top leader and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin to become the Prime Minister if Opposition parties come together and win the general election next year.

Abdullah said Congress should forget about the Prime Minister's choice and focus only on winning the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

On his arrival here to take part in the 70th birthday celebrations of Stalin, Abdullah, when asked on prospective Prime Ministerial candidates, said a decision could be made on the best man to lead and unite the nation at the appropriate time after a win by a united opposition in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

Asked on chances of Stalin becoming the Prime Minister, he told reporters: “Why not? Why can't he become the Prime Minister?”

To a question on opposition unity, he said Stalin and DMK have done very well. When the nation's diversity is protected, then unity is **|More on P6**

PROPERTY TAX

Municipalities Passing Resolutions To Adopt Decision: Div Com

Agencies

Srinagar: Days after the government announced levying of property tax in Jammu & Kashmir, the administration on Wednesday said that the Municipal Corporations and Committees have started passing resolutions to adopt the decision and that the transparency system in the Union territory has no comparison with the rest of the country.

Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, V K Bidhuri said that the Municipal Corporations



and committees require resources to run the affairs, but presently these corporations

and committees are generating only 10-15 per cent of the revenue and are dependent for the rest of the resources.

“To ensure better facilities, every municipality requires resources and property tax is the best decision to generate revenue for the wellbeing of the people,” he said.

He added that J&K is the last in the country where the property tax has been imposed, and that too minimum

“The rural areas are already out while in urban areas, agricultural land and **|More on P6**

Kupwara Family's Search To Find Missing Son Ends 33-Year-Old's Lifeless Body Found In Forest Area After 75 Days

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The long wait of a family from Kunan area of Kupwara to hear about their missing son, ended on Wednesday after the youth's lifeless body was found in a forest area in the frontier district.

According to a police spokesperson, the body of 33-year-old Abdul Rashid Dar was recovered from Zurhama -PK Galli forest area. The body, he said, was brought to Sub-district hospital (SDH) Kupwara where it was identified by the relatives of the missing person.

After completing all medico-legal formalities, including post mortem, Rashid's body was handed over to the family members for burial.



The trauma for Dar's family started on a cold night of December 15 when a posse of soldiers raided their house and began asking for Rashid.

A day later when the family went to the army camp seeking details of Rashid, they were told that their son had fled from their custody.

A week after **|More on P6**

Socialism 'Bogus', India Will Run As 'Ramrajya': CM Yogi

Nagender Tiwari

Lucknow: Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath Wednesday described Socialism as a bogus brand saying that it makes the rich poor, the poor slaves and intellectuals fools.

“Socialism is the greatest hypocrisy that empowers only politicians and their people,” Yogi said while addressing the Budget session in the UP Assembly.

Yogi said that socialism has not brought prosperity anywhere in the world, emphasising that the country will run only as Ramrajya and this budget of Uttar Pradesh is going to serve as the foundation of Ramrajya. He said that the concept of Ramrajya in Uttar Pradesh would not be realised through Socialism, but with determination and strong will power. No discrimination, everyone's support, everyone's basic mantra of development



will be included in this.

Socialism a polymorphic brand

CM Yogi said that Socialism is a multifaceted brand. It has different forms. There is democratic socialism, progressive socialism and even family socialism. CM asked whether everyone can do good for the country and the state. “It is only a mirage. India and Uttar Pradesh are not moving forward with Socialism, but with the spirit of **|More on P6**

S H O R T T A K E S

Accidental Fire Creates Panic

Panic gripped Batamloo area of this capital city on Wednesday after a policeman's rifle went off following a hit-and-run case in which he was injured. Talking to microblogging site Twitter, Traffic City Srinagar (@SSPTFCSGR) wrote: “A speeding vehicle without number plate hit & injured a PSO of a traffic officer on duty, resulting in accidental discharge of PSO's **|More on P6**

Cash, Mobiles Seized From Gamblers

Police on Wednesday claimed to have arrested three gamblers during a raid in Mirbazar area of South Kashmir's Kulgam district. Acting on specific information regarding gambling activities, a police party carried out a raid at Chirhama village of Mirbazar and apprehended three gamblers from the spot, a police spokesperson said Wednesday. Besides playing cards **|More on P6**

Avalanche Warning Issued In 2 Districts

Jammu and Kashmir Disaster Management Authority (JKDMA) on Wednesday issued an avalanche warning over higher reaches in two districts of Kashmir division. Quoting officials, a local news agency GNS reported that a ‘low’ danger level avalanche is likely to occur 2600 metres above sea level in Kupwara district in next 24 hours. Also, an avalanche **|More on P6**

Two Burglars Arrested In Sopore

Police on Wednesday claimed to have cracked a burglary case in Sopore town of Baramulla district by arresting two people involved in the commission of crime. In a statement issued on Wednesday, a police spokesperson said that a complaint was received from the BDO Sopore on February 28, stating that some unknown burglars broke open the lock of Panchayat **|More on P6**

WhatsApp Bans Over 2.9 Mn Accounts In Jan

Meta-owned WhatsApp banned 2.9 million accounts in January, according to the latest India monthly report by the popular messaging platform. The ‘user-safety report’ contains details of the user complaints received and the corresponding action taken by WhatsApp, as well as WhatsApp's own preventive actions to combat abuse on **|More on P6**

Daily Wager Dies During Dredging Process

A daily rated worker in Irrigation and Flood Control Department died after sustaining grievous injuries during the dredging process in the world-famous Wular Lake in North Kashmir's Sopore area, official sources said. The incident occurred late Tuesday evening. Official sources told a local news agency KNT that Tanveer Hasan Bhat a resident of Darpora, Delina Baramulla **|More on P6**



From The Principal District Judge, Srinagar

Present : Mr. Jawad Ahmad
1. Mst Raja (Mother of Deceased) Wd/o Late. Ghulam Mohi-
uddin Siraj R/o Kachgari Masjid Fateh Kadal Srinagar
2. Firdosa (Sister of deceased)
W/o Mohammad Shafi Lone R/o Shah Mohalla, Harwan Srinagar
3. Tasleema (Sister of deceased)
D/o Late. Ghulam Mohiuddin Siraj W/o Ghulam Mohammad Najar
R/O Sheikh Hamza Colony Eidgah Srinagar
4. Sakina (Sister of Deceased)
D/o Late. Ghulam Mohiuddin Siraj W/o Nazir Ahmad Wani
R/o Dargerkhah, Batmaloo Srinagar
5. Shagufta Parveen (Sister of deceased) D/o Late. Ghulam Mohiuddin
Siraj R/o Kachgari Masjid Fateh Kadal Sgr.
6. Basharat Ahmad (Brother of deceased) S/o Late. Ghulam Mohiuddin
Siraj R/o Kachgari Masjid Fateh Kadal Sgr.
In the matter of:
Application for issuance of Succession certificate in favour of the
petitioner(s)

Notice To Public At Large

Where the petitioners(s) FILED ABOVE TITLED PETITION BEFORE
THIS COURT OF ISSUANCE OF SUCCESSION certificate in favour of
Petitioner(s) in respect of Rs 2,23,777 as debits and securities in name
of Deceased Namely: Lt. Zareena D/W/o Lt Ghulam Mohiuddin Siraj R/o
Siraj R/o Kachgari Masjid Fateh Kadal Sgr. who died on ---. The petition
is pending disposal before this court and the next date of hearing is fixed
on 18-03-2023

Public Notice is hereby issued, informing all and sundry through the
drom of this proclamation that at any anyone has any objection for
issuance of succession certificate, he/she / they shall appear before this
court either personally or through counsel or any authorized agent and
file objections on or before 18-03-2023. Failing which the petition will be
taken up and appropriate orders will be passed in the same
In case, the date fixed is declared as holiday the matter shall be taken on
the next working day.
Given under my hand and seal of this court on 08-02-2023

NJ_r Jawad Ahmad Principal District
Judge, Srinagar

IN THE COURT OF Additional Munsiff , JUDGE Magistrate 1st Class, SRINAGAR

Present:- Shafeeq Ahmad Malik
Saleema W/o Late Mohammad Subhan Lone R/o Pamposh
Colony Natipora Sgr

v/s
Registrar Births & Deaths SMC, Srinagar. (Non-Applicant)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas an application has been received from the applicant
for registration of Birth of Mohammad Shaban Lone in
the records of SMC Srinagar. Objection, if any, be submitted
in writing before the undersigned within seven days from
the date of this Publication. The details of the Person are as
under:-

Name:- Mohammad Shaban Lone
Sex:-Male
Father's Name:- Ab Razak Lone
Mother's name: Rathi
DOB: 15-02-1953
Residence: Pomposh Colony Natipora
Place Of Death:-at home

Sd/-
Judge Small Causes, Srinagar

nj

Court Of The 2nd Additional Munsiff Judicial Magistrate 1st Class At Srinagar

(PROCLAMATION REQUIRING OBJECTIONS FROM GENERAL PUBLIC)
CNR: JKSG030055002023
Date of filing 27.02.2023
Aijaz Ahmad Bhat S/o Abdul Gani Bhat
R/o Sanat Nagar Iqbal Colony Peerbagh, Rawalpura, Srinagar

VERSUS
Registrar, Births and Deaths, SMC Srinagar

Non-Applicant

WHEREAS an application has been made before me that Ab Gani
Bhat S/o Ab Aziz Bhat R/o Rawalpura, Parbagh Iqbal Colony,
Srinagar has died on 04.10.1996 and the applicant has sought a
direction from this court for registration of the death particulars
of Ab Gani Bhat, in the concerned register of births and deaths.
Proclamation is hereby made that the any person having
any objection(s) to this application may appear before this
Court (or before me) to file objections within 07 days of this
publication.
Dated, this 27th day of February 2023.

Sd /-
(AHTZAZ AHMED)
2nd Additional (JMJC), Srinagar

nj

IN THE COURT OF JMJC, JUDGE SMALL CAUSES, SRINAGAR

Present:- Ms Tabasum
Misra Bano

v/s
Registrar Births & Deaths SMC, Srinagar. (Non-Applicant)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas an application has been received from the applicant
for registration of Death of Ghulam Nabi Rather in the re-
cords of SMC Srinagar. Objection, if any, be submitted in writing
before the undersigned within seven days from the date of
this Publication. The details of the Person are as under:-

Name:- Ghulam Nabi Rather
Sex:-MALE
Father's Name:-Habibullah Rather
Mother's name: Asha Deed
DOD: 04-03-2011
Residence: Shugli Pora Noor Bagh Srinagar
Place Of Death:-at home

Sd/-
Judge Small Causes, Srinagar

nj

IN THE COURT OF JMJC, JUDGE SMALL CAUSES, SRINAGAR

Present:- Ms Tabasum
Abdul Khaliq In favour of Raja v/s
Registrar Births & Deaths SMC, Srinagar. (Non-Applicant)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas an application has been received from the applicant
for registration of Death of Abdul Khaliq Shangloo in the re-
cords of SMC Srinagar. Objection, if any, be submitted in writing
before the undersigned within seven days from the date of this
Publication. The details of the Person are as under:-

Name:- Abdul Khaliq Shangloo
Sex:-MALE
Father's Name:-Rasool Shangloo
Mother's name: Khatijah
DOD: 09-06-1971
Residence: Khonkhan Dalgate A/P Boatman Colony Sgr
Place Of Death:-Khonkhan Dalgate Srinagar

Sd/-
Judge Small Causes, Srinagar

nj

از نیابت سرکل نند پورہ تحصیل نارتھ سربنگر
درخواست منجانب سعید و الفتقاری ولد مرحوم سعید محمد شاہ ساکنہ حکیم محلہ باغوان
پورہ سربنگر بغرض اجرائی وارث جائز سر تفکیک بیچ فوٹو کٹی والد مورثہ
27-06-2022

اشتہار بمراد آگا ہی ہر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سائل / سائلہ دفتر ہذا میں زیر
کاروائی ہے اس سلسلے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ بشمول ریکارڈ طلب کیا گیا
ہے جس سے عیمان سائل کا والد مورثہ 27-06-2022 سائل کا
کمپ 4 افراد پر مشتمل ہے تفصیل کتبہ بذیل ہے۔

زبیدہ بیگم زوجہ موتوئی 74 سال گھریلو کام
سعید و الفتقاری پرموتوئی 54 سال ملازم
سعید مقبول حسین رضوی پرموتوئی 50 سال دکاندار

سعید عابد حسین پرموتوئی 48 سال پرنیٹ ڈاکٹر

اس کے علاوہ ادرو کوئی افراد کتبہ نہیں ہے۔ سرٹیفیکٹ زیر بحث اجرا کرنے میں
اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض وغیرہ ہو تو وہ دفتر ہذا میں اندر سات یوم پیش کریں

بعد معیاد کڈ رکھوئی اعتراض وغیرہ قبول نہ ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیل inf

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for general Public that I have lost my
shikara license while I was travelling from my residence to dal-
gate, Srinagar before few days bearing shikara license number
2941/TS, if any bodying found it He/she may be return back
on the given below mentioned address. As I am also going
to register FIR from the concerned police station in this regard
and I am also applying for its duplicate of the same from the
tourism department. If anybody having any objection in this
regard may contact the Deputy Director Tourism, Kashmir
within seven days from the date of publication of this notice
in daily newspaper after that no objection will be entertained.
Name:- Bashir Ahmad S/o Mohammad Safdar Bhat
Registration number 2941/TS
Dated 2/12/2004
Dal lake

INF

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the information of general Public that I have lost
my passport bearing No: T0877842. 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 office of
the Regional Passport Office Srinagar within a period of seven
days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no
objection shall be entertained.
Nasir Ud-Din Bhat
S/o Gh. Mohi Ud-Din Bhat
R/o Watapora Qazipora Bandipora

bb

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of death Certificate of my
father who died on 24-01-2000. If anybody having any
objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in
the office of the Block Development Officer Sherabad Khore
within a period of seven days from the date of publication of
this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Mohammad Ashraf Dar
S/o Late Ghulam Ahmad Dar
R/o Nooripora Pattan Block Sharabad Khore

bmjg

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of death Certificate of my
father who died on 28-11-1997. If anybody having any objection
in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of
the Block Development Officer Sherabad Khore within a pe-
riod of seven days from the date of publication of this notice.
After that no objection shall be entertained.
Bilal Ahmad Bhat
S/o Late Mohmmad Ishaq Bhat
R/o Nooripora Pattan Block Sharabad Khore

bmjg

'Common Artificial Sweetener Linked To Increased Heart Attack, Stroke Risk'

Press Trust Of India

Consumption of popular arti-
ficial sweetener, erythritol, is
associated with an increased
risk of heart attack and stroke,
according to a study which calls
for further safety research to examine the
long-term effects of such products.

Researchers at Cleveland Clinic
studied over 4,000 people in the US
and Europe and found those with
higher blood erythritol levels were at
elevated risk of experiencing a major
adverse cardiac event such as heart at-
tack, stroke or death.

They also examined the effects
of adding erythritol to either whole
blood or isolated platelets, which are
cell fragments that clump together
to stop bleeding and contribute to
blood clots.

The study, published in the journal
Nature Medicine, found that erythritol
made platelets easier to activate and
form a clot. Pre-clinical studies con-
firmed ingestion of erythritol height-
ened clot formation.

Artificial sweeteners are pre-
sent in thousands of food and bever-
age brands worldwide, however they
remain a controversial topic and are
currently being re-evaluated by the
European Food Safety Authority, the
World Health Organization, and other
health agencies.

The findings from a large-scale
study published in the British Medical
Journal in September last year found
a potential direct association between
higher artificial sweetener consump-
tion, especially aspartame, acesul-
fame potassium, and sucralose, and
increased cardiovascular disease risk.

"Sweeteners like erythritol have
rapidly increased in popularity in re-
cent years but there needs to be more
in-depth research into their long-term
effects," said senior study author Stan-
ley Hazen, co-section head of Preven-
tive Cardiology at Cleveland Clinic.

"Cardiovascular disease builds
over time, and heart disease is the
leading cause of death globally. We
need to make sure the foods we eat
aren't hidden contributors," Hazen
said in a statement.

Artificial sweeteners, such as
erythritol, are common replace-
ments for table sugar in low-cal-
orie, low-carbohydrate and "keto"
products. Sugar-free products con-
taining erythritol are often rec-
ommended for people who have
obesity, diabetes or metabolic syn-
drome and are looking for options
to help manage their sugar or calo-
rie intake.



People with these conditions
also are at higher risk for adverse
cardiovascular events like heart at-
tack and stroke.

The researchers noted that eryth-
ritol is about 70 per cent as sweet as
sugar and is produced through fer-
menting corn. After ingestion, erythri-
tol is poorly metabolised by the body.

Instead, it goes into the blood-
stream and leaves the body mainly
through urine. The human body cre-
ates low amounts of erythritol natu-
rally, so any additional consumption
can accumulate.

Measuring artificial sweeteners is
difficult and labelling requirements
are minimal and often do not list indi-

vidual compounds.

Erythritol is "Generally Recog-
nised As Safe (GRAS)" by the US FDA,
which means there is no requirement
for long-term safety studies. The
authors of the latest study note the
importance of follow-up research to
confirm their findings in the general
population.

The study had several limitations,
including that clinical observation

studies demonstrate association and
not causation.

"Our study shows that when par-
ticipants consumed an artificially
sweetened beverage with an amount
of erythritol found in many processed
foods, markedly elevated levels in the
blood are observed for days—levels
well above those observed to enhance
clotting risks," said Hazen.

"It is important that further
safety studies are conducted to ex-
amine the long-term effects of arti-
ficial sweeteners in general, and
erythritol specifically, on risks for
heart attack and stroke, particularly
in people at higher risk for cardio-
vascular disease," Hazen added.

E-mail:- techrbpu1786@gmail.com Phone:-01933-295302,
Government of Jammu & Kashmir(UT)

Office Of The Executive Engineer R&B Division Pulwama.

TENDER NOTICE

E-NIT No :- 415 /EEP/RNB/of 2022-23/18757-67
Dated: 27 /02/2023

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT term e-tenders (In Single Cover system) are
invited on %age Basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD,
Railways and other State/Central Government for the following work:-

S.No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost in (Rs.Lacs.)	Cost of T/D (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.) in the shape of CDR/ FDR/BG	Time of Comple- tion in working Days	Class of Contract	Major Head of Accounts	Administrative Accord Ap- proval No:
1.	Construction of drain from house of Ab sattar Bhat at Laltrag.	4.74	200/-	2% of Adv. cost	08 working Days	DEE	UT Sector	24/SE/PS of 2022- 23 Dated: 07/02/2023.

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:-

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	27 /02/2023
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 27/02/2023 10:00 A.M.
3.	Bid submission Start Date	27 /02/2023 from 10.00 A.M
4.	Bid Submission End Date	06 /03/2023 upto 4.00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	06/03/2023 at 04:05 P.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Div. Pulwama
6.	Submission of Performance Security (PS)	Within 3 days of receipt of LOA. (The First lowest successful bidder has to pro- vide 3% of allotted cost as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG and EMD of 2% shall be released after receipt of 3% Performance security.

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan/Receipt (Deb-
ited to M.H.0059 PWD) and EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer R&B
Div.Pulwama.

- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web site www.jktenders .gov.
in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address.
The bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive
Engineer R&B Div.Pulwama
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening
of bids.
- If first lowest bidder fails to deposit 3% as performance security within prescribed date
the work will be put to fresh tenders at his risk and cost and the CDR/FDR/BG will be forfeited and
shall be debarred from participating the tendering process for the period of one year in this division.
All other terms and conditions shall be available in website www.jktenders.gov.in

Head Draftsman

Technical Officer

Executive Engineer,
R&B Division Pulwama

DIPK-18059/22 dated 01-03-2023

All the candidates who have applied for the post of lecturer / teaching

assistant in Kashmir Division for the session 2023-24 are advised to mail

their genuine grievances to {support@spcollege.edu.in}. All the

grievances shall be looked into and resolved through this mode only.

However, when asked the candidates shall visit the college for verification of

documents, wherever and whenever required. For all other purposes, the

candidates shall refrain from visiting the college unnecessarily.

Nodal Officere / Principal
Sri Pratap College, Sgr.

DIPK-18086/22
dated: 01-03-2023

NOTICE

Conference On Industrial Fest & Innovation Begins At NIT

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A three-day long National Conference on Industrial fest and innovation hunt began on Wednesday at the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar.

The conference is being organized by Innovation Incubation Entrepreneurship Development Centre (IIEDC) NIT Srinagar in collaboration with the Indian Army.

Dr. Dinesh Kumar Rajendran and Major BS Shekawat are the Organizing Secretaries of the workshop.

The event was presided over by Director NIT Srinagar Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal and Colonel David was Chief Guest on the occasion. Dr. Tousheef Bhat, CEO Indo Khash Professional was the Guest of Honor at the event.

In his address, Prof. Sehgal said it is an honor to host such conferences on the campus for students of the Valley. At IIEDC NIT Srinagar two startups including seed sowing machine and the Saffron processing machine have already received grants of 15 lakhs each, he said.

"With the help of DST, we have got funding of rupees 5 Crores where we have to provide financial help to at least 20 startups over the 2 years in the region," he said.

Prof. Sehgal said inventions are the new solutions to a technical problems and can be protected through patents. Patents protect the interests

of inventors by ensuring that an inventor can control the commercial use of their inventions, he said.

"NIT Srinagar is also part of many flagship programs of Govt. of India like Skill India, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan. Being regional coordinators of UBA, we have 35 colleges associated with us and each college has adopted 5 schools and some villages," he said.

Prof. Sehgal said they have developed computer labs in adopted schools in far-flung areas of the Valley. Various awareness campaigns were held in many villages to make them aware of water resources," he said.

On the occasion, Col. David said innovation is one of the most important driving forces behind a successful economy. India is currently focusing on AtmaNirbhar Bharat' or Self Reliant India, slogan given by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"I am sure that this workshop will go a long way to support innovations and nurture ideas. Education only gives you an edge and innovation has no boundaries across the globe," he said.

Col. David urged participants to take advantage of such programs. If our students can do that then it will be their biggest contribution to the entire country, he said.

Institute's Registrar, Prof. Syed Kaiser Bukhari urged students to "bring their ideas to reality through the use of technology and knowledge".

Medical Camp For Senior Citizens Held At Chanapora

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar in collaboration with Health Department Kashmir organized a Free Medical Health Camp at "Ahate-e-Waqar" a daycare and recreational facility centre for senior citizens at PHC Chanapora, here.

The Free Medical Health Camp for senior citizens was organized under the insightful directions and patronage of Justice Tashi Rabstan, Executive Chairman JKLSA and radiant guidance of Jawad Ahmad Principal District and Sessions Judge and Chairman DLSA Srinagar.

The Medical Camp was inaugurated by Mushtaq Ahmad Rather, Director Health Services Kashmir (DHSK) in presence of Fozia Paul, Secretary DLSA Srinagar; Arif Shafi, SP Headquarters; Jameel Ahmad Mir, CMO Srinagar and other Doctors and Senior Citizens.

Hundreds of senior citizens availed free screening, examination, consultation including free medicines at the camp.

Fozia Paul Secretary DLSA Srinagar lauded the role of organizers for holding the Free Medical Camp with the aim to take health care services to the Senior Citizens at their doorsteps. She urged all the stakeholders in the society to come forward and serve the society especially senior citizens in all capacities and try to become their voice.

Further, District Legal Services Authorities have been creating mass awareness on drug de-addiction, providing free legal aid to the people through legal aid clinics and making people aware of their rights in every nook and corner of every district.

Moreover, various Medical Stalls were set up by the Health Department including X-Ray, Orthopedics, Immunization, ENT, General Physician etc, including free medicine counters.

DHSK ensured Senior Citizens present there get the best of services in the field of medicine and also at every place in Kashmir. He also interacted with Senior Citizens and solved some of the grievances of Senior Citizens on spot.

Apni Party Holds District Level Meeting In City

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Apni Party held a district level meeting on Wednesday at the party headquarters in Srinagar to assess the performance of the leaders and the party's Srinagar cadre.

The Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari presided over the meeting while the prominent leaders who were present on the occasion included Senior Vice President Ghulam Hassan Mir, Vice President Usman Majid, General Secretary Rafi Ahmad Mir, Provincial President Mohammad Ashraf Mir, District President Srinagar Noor Mohammad Sheikh, Media Advisor Farooq Andrabi, Senior leader and Chairman DDC Srinagar Aftab Malik, State Convenor Haji Parvez, Provincial President for party's Women Wing Dilshada Shaheen, Provincial President of the party's Youth Wing Khalid Rathore, and all the in charges of constituencies in Srinagar, a press note said.

"While taking the feedback from the constituency incharges, the leaders had thorough deliberations over important party matters, and outlined future strategy to strengthen the party," the press note said.

On this occasion, Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari said, "Apni Party has a distinction of being J&K's only political party that earned peoples' trust in a very short span of time after it was established on March 8 in 2020. We are grateful to the people of Jammu and Kashmir for having faith in us and trusting our straightforward and candid agenda even though some miscreants tried their best to spread propaganda against the Apni Party at the beginning. But just three years down the line the same people who tried to spread lies against the Apni Party are now ashamed by seeing that this party is gaining public support and acceptance with each passing day across the J&K."



School children walk towards their school on Wednesday after more than two months of winter vacations. KO Photo Abid Bhat

Div Com Cites Smart City Work For Changed School Timings

Apologizes to students and parents for inconvenience.

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri Wednesday apologized for the 'inconvenience' caused to the students and their parents as a result of the 'change' in school timing.

Div Com appealed to the people to cooperate with the administration till all the ongoing projects under Smart City mission are successfully completed. He said the administration is well aware of the 'difficulties' that people, especially school going children face at the moment in Srinagar.

He assured that things in Srinagar, which is undergoing a major facelift under the Smart City mission will get better soon and sought people's cooperation in this direction.

He said the school timings have slightly been modified as the work under Smart City program is on in Srinagar at the moment. He apologized to the students and their parents for the inconvenience.

"There is a slight modification in school timings and I am extremely sorry for the inconvenience. School timing was changed due to several developmental works being executed under the Smart City mission in Srinagar." He told reporters on the sidelines of a sports event here.

"We hope that children and their parents will cooperate with the administration, we will ensure that people do not face inconvenience anymore as things get better soon," he added.

Pertinently, the administration ordered a change in the school timings in Srinagar from

morning 9am till 2pm in the afternoon. The decision comes a day before reopening of schools in Kashmir after a break of more than two months.

Bidhuri also used the occasion to clarify misconceptions on property tax that is being implemented in urban areas of J&K.

Replying to a media query whether shops with built up area of 100 to 200 square feet are entitled for property tax, he said residential houses having built up area of 1000 square feet will be exempted while the government has already clarified about commercial establishments.

"There is no tax on houses in rural areas, no tax on agricultural land besides shops having a built up area of less than 1000 square feet, it will be levied Rs 500 to 600 per annum so there is nothing much in it," he added.



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HIGHWAY STATUS



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

 HIJRI CALENDAR 09 Shaban 1444	PRAYERS	
	FAJR	5:38
	ZUHR	12:43
	ASR	4:45
	Magrib	6:29
	ISHA	7:49

This Day In History

- 986- Louis V becomes King of the Franks.
- 1657- Great Fire of Meireki destroys 60-70% of the Japanese capital city of Edo, killing an estimated 100,000 people
- 1776 - American troops begin shelling the British in Boston
- 1796- Napoléon Bonaparte is appointed Commander-in-Chief of the French Army in Italy
- 1807- William Cavendish-Bentinck, Duke of Portland becomes British Prime Minister for the second time after the fall of William Grenville's Whig government
- 1815- Signing of Kandyan treaty by British invaders and Sri Lankan King
- 1819 Territory of Arkansas organized
- 1819- US passed its 1st immigration law
- 1855- Aleksandr Romanov becomes tsar of Russia
- 1858- Frederick Cook of New Orleans, patents a cotton-bale metallic tie
- 1865 - British newspaper "Morning Chronicle" begins publishing
- 1968 - USSR launches space probe Zond 4; fails to leave Earth orbit
- 1972 - NASA launches its Pioneer 10 space probe to Jupiter
- 1978 - Soyuz 28 carries 2 cosmonauts (1 Czechoslovakian) to Salyut 6
- 1983 - Compact Disc recordings developed by Phillips & Sony introduced.
- 1984 - Iran offensive against Iraq fails
- 1989-12 European nations agree to ban chlorofluorocarbon production by 2000.
- 1991 NC State Chris Corchiani becomes 1st NCAAer to get 1,000 assists
- 1991 - UN votes in favor of US resolutions for cease fire with Iraq
- 1995 - Space shuttle STS-67 (Endeavour 8), launches
- 1997 - Saudi Arab billionaire Prince al-Waleed bin Talal acquires 5% of Apple
- 1997 - Soyuz TM-24 returns to Earth (Russia)
- 1998 - Data sent from the Galileo spacecraft indicates that Jupiter's moon Europa has a liquid ocean under a thick crust of ice.
- 2002 - U.S. invasion of Afghanistan: US conventional forces first deployed as part of Operation Anaconda
- 2004- War in Iraq: Al Qaeda carries out the Ashoura Massacre in Iraq, killing 170 and wounding over 500
- 2004 - Rosetta space probe is launched by the European Space Agency to study comet
- 2011- One of cricket's great upsets; Kevin O'Brien scores fastest century in World Cup history off 50 balls (ends 113 off 63) to help Ireland beat England by 3 wickets in Bangalore
- 2014 - President Vladimir Putin receives unanimous approval from Russia's parliament to send troops to the Ukraine
- 2016- Longest non-stop scheduled commercial flight by distance, Emirates A380 flies 14,200km (8,824 miles) Dubai to Auckland in 17 hours, 15 minutes
- 2016 - Oldest known land fossil (Tortotubus - 440 million years old) from Gotland, Sweden, revealed by British scientists
- 2016 - US astronauts Scott Kelly and Russian cosmonaut Mikhail Kornienko return to earth after nearly a year (340 days), setting an ISS record

From KO Archives

3 Kids Injured While Fiddling With Explosives

Observer News Service

Srinagar- A left-over explosive device went off today at Gund Rahman, Ganderbal when young boys fiddled with it. It exploded with a bang leaving three kids injured.

Reports said three boys were injured when a device they found near a recent encounter site went off when they were fiddling with it. Profusely bleeding boys were rushed to neighbouring Soura Medical Institute, where condition of two is critical.

Reports said the device had remained unexploded after a fierce, encounter broke-out between the militants and the security forces in the area on February 26. Both sides had hurled explosive devices at each other during the fire fight. One of the devices had not exploded on that day. It was, found by the boys of the locality today. The three injured have been identified as Ghulam Mohammad Magray, Rais Magray and Aijaz Ahmed Dar of the same locality. (Kashmir Observer, 02 March, 2001)

KASHMIR OBSERVER

Thursday | 02-03-2023

Wild Animals
In Srinagar

In recent weeks, some uptown Srinagar suburbs have witnessed wildlife intrusions. The residents of the colonies such as Rawalpora, Wanbal, Bagh-i-Mehtab and Residency Road have spotted leopards and wild feral cats which has triggered a scare. Though the teams of the Department of Wildlife Protection have visited the areas armed with tranquilizer guns and nets, they have so far been unable to capture and disable any wild animal. We can only hope that they do so in the coming days before anyone is harmed. However, a senior official of the department said that, in past, thirteen leopards have been captured from these areas.

At the same time, the wild life straying into residential localities is just a symptom of a wider environmental crisis in Kashmir. The leopards foraying into urban areas reveal the extent of shrinking habitat for wildlife in the valley, which, in turn, deprives them of food. The figures over the years show the alarming nature of the problem. According to the data provided by the wildlife department, the number of deaths from 2006 to March 2021 due to wildlife attacks rose to 224 while 2829 people were injured. In 2020, there were five deaths and 87 injuries.

In 2022, there were at least 131 instances of man-animal conflict in Wildlife Central Division comprising Srinagar, Ganderbal and parts of Pulwama district including Khrew and Pampore. Thirty-five people were injured in the incidents. Seventy-nine animals were rescued and later released in different wildlife sanctuaries.

Similarly, according to a study by the Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura, 76 percent of injuries were caused by bears between 2005 and 2016. Six percent were caused by leopards while two percent and one percent were caused by red fox and monkeys respectively. In 14 percent cases, animals could not be identified. However, the study found that leopard attacks were found to be more deadly with an almost 50 percent fatality rate. And worryingly enough, the wild animals are now foraying deep into the interiors of Srinagar. In September, last year, a female bear and her cubs were spotted roaming around Rajbagh and Jawahar Nagar.

While the wildlife department needs to make every effort to track down stray wild animals to protect people, we also need to have a policy in place to protect the wildlife habitat. This calls for halting growing human intervention and encroachment in forest areas. We need a long-term solution to fix the problem.

OTHER OPINION

Unending Ordeal

The death of Kashmiri Pandit and bank guard Sanjay Sharma at the hands of terrorist gunmen in Pulwama is yet another murder in a series of attacks on the minority community in the Valley. Sharma is the second Pandit to fall to terrorism in the Pulwama area after Janki Nath's death in 1990 at the peak of militancy. While the murder could be a deliberate ploy by terrorists to strike fear into the minority community in the area, it also signals the failure of security agencies to adequately protect the poor residents.

...Last year, militant attacks resulted in the deaths of 29 civilian's including three local Pandits, three other Hindus and eight non-local labourers and also caused the migration of 5,500 Pandit employees from the Valley.

All political parties including the separatists such as Hurriyat Conference, besides civil society organisations have condemned the attacks, but the repeated and brazen nature of the killings, at one level, point to a breakdown of relations between the administration and the citizenry, leading to the inability of the administration to anticipate and prevent such attacks. The fact that areas that were relatively safe for the minority community even during the peak of militancy have now become unsafe suggests that the administration must rethink its security-centric policies in the Valley. The Union Territory administration and the Union government have claimed that hard-edged moves such as the dilution of Article 370 and bifurcating the State in 2019 have helped curb militancy and were necessary to bring back normalcy in the Valley. But the repeated attacks on the minority community suggest otherwise — radical sections have sought to utilise the disaffection in the Valley to foment polarisation. Only an effective government by elected representatives of the people of the Valley can do more to rebuild trust between the administration and the citizenry. This will help isolate the radical sections and ease the workload of the security forces in Kashmir. Restoring statehood to Jammu and Kashmir and working towards the conduct of Assembly elections are now a clear imperative.

The Hindu

M. K. BHADRAKUMAR

The American short-selling firm Hindenburg Research's shocking allegations of stock manipulation and money laundering against the Adani Group of companies rocked India for close to a fortnight. The media hype is, fortunately, waning and serious opposition politicians with mass base are returning to consequential pastures in the upcoming elections.

Hindenburg alleged improper use of offshore tax havens and stock manipulation by the Adani Group. It also raised concerns about high debt and the valuations of seven listed Adani companies. The Adani Group denied the allegations, saying the short-seller's allegation has "no basis" and stems from an ignorance of Indian law. India's market regulator is nonetheless examining the rout in the shares of Adani Group.

The Adani Group has taken a massive hit not only in reputation but also losing over \$110 billion in market value in India's bourse, which forced it to scupper a record \$2.4 billion share sale. "Once the market stabilises, we will review our capital market strategy," Gautam Adani, the founder and chairman of the Adani Group, said.

Fitch Ratings, which has ratings on eight entities within the Adani Group, largely concurred, saying it expected no material changes to the conglomerate's forecast cash flow. Fitch added that there were no significant offshore bonds maturing in the near term, which also reduced refinancing risks and near-term liquidity risks.

The matter has gone to India's Supreme Court via a public interest litigation seeking probe against Hindenburg "for exploiting innocent investors." Interestingly, Hindenburg also holds short positions in Adani companies through US-traded bonds and non-Indian-traded derivative instruments.

Hindenburg's actions have been controversial. The firm's financial model involves identifying "bad" firms, investing to profit from the company's price collapsing, and then publishing a negative report about the company.

Adani has Australian operations. Thus, it is that an Australian academic held the torch light at the legal and ethical questions that needed to be asked about Hindenburg Research's report. Prof Mark Humphery-Jenner at the University of New South Wales Business School draws the analogy of "lay betting" — i.e., betting against a team in a match — to estimate that short-sellers like Hindenburg "might expose fraud. But, they do so to make money. This typically involves having a "short exposure" to the company's stock, which benefits when the stock price falls."

The professor explained that an "activist investor" might take a short position, publish a malicious report, and then "cash out" after spreading what may eventually turn out to be false information — or, "might obtain material non-public information, trade on that information, and then reveal the information after they have traded."

He concluded: "Discovering Enron-scale frauds is a public good... (But) Hindenburg — and its employees — need to eat. And thus, there must be some financial payoff to do this work. These reports would not exist without the payoff and the talent would work elsewhere." Period.

Setting aside the controversy whether Prime Minister Modi had been helpful to Adani Group's phenomenal rise — Modi doesn't hide he's "business-friendly" — historically, this political culture dates back to the early years of independence when successive Congress governments intervened to foster a private sector where none existed when the British colonial rule ended. (I grew up in the 1960s when it was rumoured that a prominent business house in India commanded the loyalty of dozens of MPs.)

This culture became state policy in the 1990s when the Indian government took to the neoliberal ideology and prime ministers began openly promoting business interests of private companies. Today, a Marxist chief minister makes himself available to inaugurate the sales showroom of super luxury Lamborghini sports cars!

There is nothing wrong with that pragmatic mindset. In fact, government should promote Indian companies internationally. That was how Sony, Hyundai, Ali Baba steamed ahead. Recent-

Adani's Eclipse are
Greatly Exaggerated



Adani flagged that the Hindenburg report was a "calculated attack on India, the independence, integrity and quality of Indian institutions, and the growth story and ambition of India." We cannot be dismissive about such a possibility. Indeed, today's reality is that after China brilliantly seized the high ground, the Western countries have turned their back on globalisation

ly, President Biden called Modi — and President Macron held a virtual meeting with Modi — to celebrate the TATA-group owned Air India's deal for 470 Boeing and Airbus aircrafts with an aggregate purchase value of \$115 billion, the largest-ever aircraft order in global aviation history.

Beijing insists that Huawei's rehabilitation in America is a litmus test for the China-US relationship. Brand names like Adani Group are important. It takes much effort to create a brand name globally. And it is so easy to tarnish it.

Adani flagged that the Hindenburg report was a "calculated attack on India, the independence, integrity and quality of Indian institutions, and the growth story and ambition of India." We cannot be dismissive about such a possibility. Indeed, today's reality is that after China brilliantly seized the high ground, the Western countries have turned their back on globalisation.

And they are returning to mercantilist foreign policies. Neo-mercantilist strategies — regime change, sanctions, brigandage, etc. — have roared back to the centerstage. Now, India refuses to be part of the Euro-Atlantic agenda in shaping the 21st century world order. The Euro-Atlantic world is upset about it. Financiers like George Soros feel like beached whales in the Indian conditions because a huge financial market is inaccessible for rapacious exploitation.

The big question, however, remains: Why Adani, why not someone else with a rhyming name? Three things probably make the difference. At the most obvious level, Adani is from Gujarat, Modi's home state — although his rise

began with the liberalisation of foreign trade under Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi (whose father was also, curiously, a Gujarati.)

Thus, Adani becomes what T.S. Eliot would call an "objective co-relative" to attack Modi. The West is well aware that it is foolhardy to engineer a regime change in the fragmented Indian polity and society. But what is possible is to pressure the Modi government to be more cooperative to the agenda to preserve a US-led, western-dominated world order. This is one thing.

Second, Adani very likely became a victim of that "green-eyed monster" — to borrow from Shakespeare — who co-habitates his vicious corporate world.

Third, stemming from the above, Adani's over vaulting ambition brings to mind Icarus from Greek mythology who flew too close to the sun which caused the wax in his wings to melt and fall apart plunging him into the sea. This needs some explaining.

Who else but Adani, a self-made man, would have the audacity to successfully bid for Haifa, Israel's largest port city? Simply put, Adani Group has established a strategic foothold for India in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Adani's concession period in Haifa extends to 2054. His plans are to create a skyline for Haifa city, make it a hub for AI technology, and to expand India's Mediterranean footprint and foray into the European market.

Haifa regularly hosts joint US-Israeli naval drills and visits from American vessels. With the decline of the US Sixth Fleet, US strategic interests demand forward-deployment of US Navy ships in Haifa port. No Indian corporate house every aspired to create an audacious global footprint of this kind.

Make no mistake, Adani is already on a comeback trail. In a critical article, Haaretz newspaper reported, "The United Arab Emirates, which has been a major backer of Adani's for the past several years ... announced immediately after Hindenburg Research released its report that it would pick up a \$400 million stake in a since-cancelled Adani Enterprises' share sale — indicating that the Indian businessman enjoys support for his plans beyond Israel."

The report by Hindenburg appeared on the eve of the formal takeover of Haifa by Adani at a ceremony on January 31. Haifa, Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu predicted optimistically during the handover ceremony, "will become the entry point and exit point for a vast number of goods that will reach the Mediterranean and Europe directly, without having to go around the Arabian peninsula."

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. The article was originally published by India Punchline



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Just as Dangerous

This is with reference to the write-up, "WHO thwarts our perception of e-cigarettes" in Kashmir Observer, dated February 28, 2023. Smokers have a wrong perception that e-cigarettes are the right alternate means for them to quit cigarette smoking. On the contrary, test results have shown

that they could cause potential health problems, including cancer, as they contain chemicals and toxins that are addictive. When you stop using them, you go into withdrawal and feel depressed, and incorrigibly tetchy. Researches have proved that use of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) have not been shown to be ef-

fective in curbing and stopping cigarette smoking. Tobacco related toxins have also been found in the aerosol vapor of ENDS products. Tiny metal particles that are most likely from the casings and heating elements have been found in the aerosols created from this device. There is increasing evidence that inhaled nicotine from

ENDS damages lung tissues and lowers the body's natural resistance to infections and to cancers. It is a matter for concern that youngsters who use e-cigarettes are most likely to develop brain impairment.

Ranganathan Sivakumar
siva19kumar@gmail.com

THE TURKISH ÇOBAN



Kamran Ashraf Bhat

The term "çoban" is a Turkish word that refers to a shepherd or a herdsman. The way in Kashmir we pronounce it as 'Chopan', in Turkey they also call them with same name. The history of Turkish çobans can be traced back to the nomadic Turkic tribes of Central Asia, who relied heavily on livestock for their survival. For centuries, the çobans of Turkey have been responsible for the care and management of sheep, goats, and other domesticated animals. They are known for their intimate knowledge of the animals they look after and their ability to navigate the

wind instrument). Folk dances are also an essential part of the culture, with shepherds performing traditional dances during festivals and other celebrations. The Çoban culture has also influenced Turkish cuisine, with many dishes being based on ingredients that are readily available in the countryside. Examples of traditional dishes include gözleme (a type of savory pastry), keşkek (a slow-cooked meat and grain stew), and mantı (a type of dumpling). The cooking style of the Çoban culture is heavily influenced by the pastoral way of life adopted by Çobans, who prefer to consume simple, wholesome, and nutrient-dense meals made from readily available

that can support the physically demanding lifestyle of shepherds.

HOW TURKISH GOVERNMENT IS HELPING ÇOBANS

Sheep farming has been a crucial part of Turkey's economy and culture for centuries, but in recent years, it has faced various challenges including disease outbreaks, environmental degradation, and economic instability. The Turkish government has implemented several reforms to address these challenges and support shepherds, resulting in significant improvements in sheep farming. One of the key reforms is a subsidy program for sheep breeding, where shepherds receive financial support for each lamb born on their farms. This has helped improve the quality of their flocks and increase their income by enabling them to sell better-quality sheep at higher prices. Additionally, the government has established the General Directorate of Agricultural Research and Policies to promote research and innovation in the agricultural sector, including sheep farming. The organization works with universities, research institutions, and industry experts to develop new breeding techniques, improve animal health, and increase productivity. The government has also introduced programs to improve the welfare of shepherds, including healthcare, education, and social assistance. These measures have reduced poverty and increased opportunities for education and economic development among shepherd families. Moreover, the government has implemented policies to protect the environment and natural resources, such as regulations on land use, water management, and waste disposal, to promote sustainable practices and reduce the environmental impact of sheep farming.

The Turkish government's efforts to enhance the sheep farming industry have had a positive impact on both the well-being of shepherds and the industry's sustainability. Through promoting innovation, improving animal health, supporting low-income families, and safeguarding the environment, the government has facilitated a more profitable and sustainable industry. As a result, sheep farming in Turkey has become a benchmark for other nations to emulate, demonstrating the advantages of governmental aid for agriculture and rural communities. The government acknowledges the crucial role of shepherds in the sheep farming sector and has implemented measures

agement, food safety, modern shepherding techniques, animal welfare, economics, financial management, and marketing. The training helps shepherds operate their farms more efficiently and profitably.

To support Çobans in Turkey, the government has implemented various programs such as a credit program, crop insurance, and infrastructure improvements. The credit program provides low-interest loans to Çobans for purchasing or upgrading their farms, buying livestock and equipment, or investing in other income-generating activities. This has helped many Çobans expand their farms, improve their flocks, and in-



rugged terrain of the Turkish countryside. In addition to tending to their flocks, çobans have also played an important role in Turkish culture and folklore. They are often depicted as brave and hardworking individuals, who possess a deep love and respect for the land and the animals under their care.

Throughout Turkish history, the nomadic lifestyle of the çobans has undergone significant changes. With the rise of urbanization and modernization in the country, many çobans have settled in permanent homes and taken on new occupations. However, the traditions and values of the çoban culture continue to be celebrated and passed down through generations. Today, the çobans of Turkey remain an important part of the country's cultural heritage. Their way of life may have evolved over time, but their role in preserving Turkey's natural resources and agricultural traditions remains as vital as ever.

THE ÇOBAN CULTURE

The Çoban culture refers to a traditional way of life and customs of Çobans in Turkey. The Çoban culture is deeply rooted in the country's rural regions and has a significant impact on the cultural heritage of Turkey. Çobans have been an integral part of Turkey's pastoral landscape for centuries, and their way of life is still preserved in many regions. They are typically nomadic, moving with their flocks from one pasture to another, and living in tents or temporary shelters. The Çoban culture is characterized by its strong emphasis on community, family, and the land. Shepherds often work together in groups, helping each other with tasks like grazing, milking, and shearing. They also have a strong sense of family, with many families passing down the tradition of shepherding from generation to generation.

Music is an important part of the Çoban culture, with Çobans often playing traditional instruments such as the bağlama (a stringed instrument) or the zurna (a wood-

ingredients. Some of the traditional dishes prepared by the Çoban people include Gözleme, which is a savory pastry that is made by rolling out thin sheets of dough and stuffing them with ingredients such as spinach, feta cheese, potatoes, or ground meat. Kavurma, on the other hand, is a meat dish prepared by slow-cooking diced lamb or beef with onions, garlic, and peppers until the meat is tender and bursting with flavor. It is typically served with rice, bread, or salad. Manti is yet another dish that involves dumplings filled with spiced ground meat and onions. The dumplings are boiled until they are cooked and then topped with a garlic and tomato sauce and served with yogurt. Tandır kebabı is a kebab that is marinated in a blend of spices and yogurt before being cooked in a traditional clay oven known as a tandır. The meat is cooked until it is tender and served with bread or rice. Ayran is a refreshing and healthy beverage made by whisking together yogurt, water,



Çoban Pie

and salt until it is frothy. It is frequently consumed with meals as a cooling and hydrating drink. The cooking style of the Çoban culture is known for being uncomplicated, reliant on local ingredients, and focused on providing nourishing and satisfying meals



Çoban Salad

to support them. One of the critical reforms is the establishment of Shepherd Training Centers, which offer vocational education and training to shepherds. These centers equip them with the necessary skills and knowledge in animal husbandry, farm man-



Turkish Çoban Kangal Dog

crease their income, ultimately improving their quality of life. The crop insurance program protects shepherds from financial losses due to natural disasters, disease outbreaks, or unforeseen events, enabling them to maintain a stable income.

Sheep farming is a significant source of income for many rural households in Turkey, contributing around 15% to total rural household income. The sector has undergone significant changes over the years, with a shift from traditional grazing systems to more intensive production methods. This has led to an increase in productivity, efficiency, and profitability, making it an attractive business for many farmers. Turkey is one of the world's leading producers of wool, and the sheep farming sector is a significant contributor to the country's textile industry, as demonstrated by the export of over 30,000 tons of raw wool with a value of over \$70 million in 2020.

In summary, Animal Husbandry is a crucial and established industry in Turkey's economy that sustains the livelihoods of numerous individuals. Although the sector has transitioned to more intensive production techniques and has government backing, it still confronts difficulties due to changing weather patterns and market demands. Nevertheless, by persistently addressing these challenges, Turkey's animal farming sector can endure and foster the country's financial progress.

Kamran Ashraf Bhat is a Film and Cinema Researcher at Bahcesehir University's department of Cinema and television, Istanbul and former Joint Editor of Daily Inside Kashmir. Kamran Ashraf Bhat writes on geopolitical, geostrategic, environmental and social issues

Court Orders Brawl Case Convict To Plant Trees, Offer Namaz 5 Times Daily Instead Of Imprisonment

Press Trust Of India

Mumbai: A court at Malegaon in Maharashtra's Nashik district has convicted a Muslim man in a case of road accident brawl but instead of imprisonment, it has ordered him to plant two trees and offer namaz (prayers) five times a day for 21 days.

Magistrate Tejwant Singh Sandhu in the order passed on February 27 noted that provisions of the Probation of Offenders Act granted powers to a magistrate to release a convict after admonition or appropriate warning to ensure he or she does not repeat the offence.

The court said in the present case, mere warning would not be sufficient and it is important the convict remembers his conviction so that he does not



repeat it.

"According to me, giving appropriate warning means, to give an understanding that the crime had been committed, the accused has been proven guilty and he remembers the same so that he does not repeat the offence," the order said.

The 30-year-old convict, Rauf Khan, was booked in a 2010 case

for allegedly assaulting a man and hurting him over a road accident brawl.

The court while convicting him in the case noted that during trial, Khan had said he was not offering regular namaz.

In view of this, the court ordered him to offer namaz five times a day for 21 days starting from February 28, plant two trees in the Sonapura Masjid premises and also care for the trees.

Khan was booked under Indian Penal Code Sections 323 (voluntarily causing hurt), 325 (voluntarily causing grievous hurt), 504 (intentional insult to provoke breach of peace) and 506 (criminal intimidation).

The court held Khan guilty under IPC Section 323 and acquitted him of the other charges.

IRCTC Partners With HDFC Bank To Launch India's Most Rewarding Co-Branded Travel Credit Card

Srinagar: Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC), the public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Railways, and HDFC Bank announced a partnership to launch one of India's most rewarding co-branded travel credit cards. Known as the IRCTC HDFC Bank Credit Card, the newly launched co-branded card is in a single variant and is available exclusively on NPCI's Rupay network.

It will provide exclusive benefits and maximum savings on bookings of train tickets booked through the IRCTC's ticketing website and through IRCTC Rail Connect app. Additionally, IRCTC HDFC Bank Credit cardholders will enjoy an attractive joining bonus, discounts on bookings and access to the several executive lounges at railway stations across the country.

The card combines the



strength of two leading Indian brands to deliver superior value and an enhanced customer experience to travellers.

The credit card was launched by Ms. Rajni Hasija, Chairman & Managing Director, IRCTC, Mr. Parag Rao, Group Head – Payments, Consumer Finance, Digital Banking and IT, HDFC Bank and Ms. Praveena Rai, COO, NPCI at a launch ceremony held at New Delhi.

Ms. Rajni Hasija, Chairman & Managing Director, IRCTC said, "HDFC Bank is among the

largest and most trusted banks in the country. We are delighted to partner with them for this initiative. The co-branded card offers exclusive access to newly opened state-of-the-art lounges available at most of the major railway stations. The credit card will help to streamline online transactions and at the same time offer best-in-class benefits as well as experience to our customers."

Parag Rao, Group Head – Payments, Consumer Finance, Digital Banking and IT, HDFC Bank said, "HDFC Bank is committed to providing best-in-class banking services to the nation. The IRCTC HDFC Bank Credit Card will enable us to offer our card to millions of Indians across the country. Indian Railways is one of the biggest public sector enterprises in the country and we are delighted to be the first private sector bank to partner

with IRCTC to enhance customer experience for train travellers, right from the time of booking their tickets. As the largest card issuer in the country, it is our endeavour consistently to find new ways to nurture and support the payments ecosystem in India."

Ms. Praveena Rai, Chief Operating Officer – National Payments Corporation of India said, "At RuPay, we have customers at the heart of all our offerings & innovations. We are happy to partner with IRCTC & HDFC Bank for a co-branded credit card which will offer seamless payment convenience and appealing benefits to customers for rail travel as well as their shopping needs. With RuPay Credit Cards now enabled on UPI for payments, this co-branded card will provide impetus to further adoption and reach of digital payments across India."

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Rs 66,000 Cr Investment

Jammu and Kashmir," he added.

Reiterating the government's commitment to develop more land for industries, the LG said that every facility will be extended to 18 industrial estates in the future.

"I want more people from J&K to set up industries and avail benefit of industrial development scheme," he added.

Earlier, the LG called for achieving the target of 100% GST tax coverage and asked every taxpayer to come forward and contribute towards nation building.

"GST realized the dream of One Nation, One Tax and guaranteed revenue flow to the states. I express my heartfelt gratitude to the business community and citizens of Jammu Kashmir for their cooperation & invaluable contribution in the development of J&K," he said.

"It is imperative to ensure that economic growth through stabilization of the tax revenues is ensured at all levels. At the same time it should also be ensured that habit gets inculcated in every business enterprise & consumers to pay taxes with pride," he added.

Observing that increased business activities are required for long term economic development and strengthening food security & generating employment opportunities, the LG highlighted the effective steps taken by the administration for improving Ease of Doing Business, facilitating the expansion of the existing units & setting up of new industries & businesses and extending the benefits of amnesty schemes.

"The reason for buoyancy in the revenue is due to several measures taken by the State Taxes Department like establishment of GST Facilitation Centers (GST Suvidha Kendras), District Level Awareness Programmes for the Stakeholders across the UT of J&K, Coordination Meetings between Central GST and UT GST authorities etc. The State Taxes Department has adopted a promotional approach rather than a regulatory one and is continuously focusing on capacity building," Sinha said.

He said that systematic approach by the State Taxes Department to simplify the regulatory compliances has led to revenue augmentation and improved ease of doing business for the stakeholders.

"Such symposium and awareness drive will further stimulate the rate of compliance & productive capacity," he said.

"We are following the Prime Minister's mantra of Transform, Reform & Perform to build a prosperous & Atmanirbhar J&K. It is the collective responsibility of citizens and business enterprises to unlock potential and drive J&K's economic growth," he added.

Maintaining that the reforms and policies focus on protection and empowerment of the common man, the LG said that his administration's long-term economic development policies are aimed at reducing inequalities for the welfare of society.

"Robust growth in business sectors will benefit society as a whole," he added.

Responding to the demand of The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India for land for centre of excellence, the LG announced that the land will be allotted for the said purpose.

He further shared the vision of the UT Government for accelerating growth in various sectors.

"We are working with an integrated approach for development of all sectors," Sinha added.

'Schools, Colleges;

"There are around 5, 20,000 houses in cities of J&K. Out of these, 2,06,000 houses are less than 1000 sq ft and no tax is being imposed on them. No tax on 40% of the people living in cities, in rural and on religious places. 2,03,600 houses are less than 1500 sq ft and 80% of these households will have to pay less than Rs 600 per annum. This amount is one-tenth of the tax amount being paid in Shimla, Ambala and Dehradun," he said.

"46,000 out of 1, 01, 000 shops in city areas are less than 100 sq ft and they will have to pay upto Rs 700 per annum. Out of these 46,000 shops, 80% will have to pay a meager Rs 600 per annum/ Rs 50 per month. 30,000 shops will have to pay taxes below Rs 2000 per annum and out of these, 20,000 will have to pay less than Rs 1500 which is also one-tenth of the amount being paid in Shimla, Ambala and Dehradun," he added.

The LG maintained that the revenue generated through property tax will directly go to the accounts of municipalities and corporations.

This step, he said, has been taken to make the cities an engine of growth.

Sinha also invited suggestions from all sections of the society with regard to better arrangement in property tax.

"Our doors are open. Everyone must come forward in making J&K a dynamic and developed region of the country," he added.

'30000 Govt Jobs

"More than 30000 vacant government posts have been filled in the last three years. And wherever any wrong was found, a CBI inquiry has been initiated. The recruitment for another 20,000 posts in administration will be advertised in 3-4 months," he said.

The Union Territory administration, the LG said, wants to saturate self employment in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Youth were identified from every panchayat and town of the UT, and in a single day, 75000 youth were provided more than Rs 939 cr financial assistance. More than 6 lakh women have been connected with NRLM," he added.

Gulmarg Receives

he said, the mercury settled at 4.2°C against 2.8°C on the previous night and it was 4.2°C above normal for the north Kashmir area.

Jammu recorded a low of 14.2°C against 13.1°C on the previous night. It was 2.6°C above normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

Banihal, he said, recorded a low of 5.6°C (above normal by 3.4°C), Batote 6.8°C (above normal by 3.3°C), Katra 12.5°C (3.0°C above normal) and Bhadarwah 5.6°C (4.8°C above normal).

Ladakh's Leh and Kargil recorded a low of minus 5.6°C and 3.6°C respectively, the official added.

LPG Gets Costlier

would be Rs 903 per cylinder.

State-owned fuel retailers are supposed to revise rates on a monthly basis in line with cost but they have not done so since 2020 and were in October last year given a one-time grant of Rs 22,000 crore to make up for losses they incurred between June 2020 and June 2022.

They last revised domestic LPG price on July 4, 2022.

With the latest increase, LPG now costs Rs 1,102.50 per 14.2-kg cylinder in Mumbai, Rs 1,129 in Kolkata and Rs 1,118.50 in Chennai.

Rates differ from state to state depending on local taxes.

Parallely, oil firms also hiked the price of commercial LPG, used in hotels and restaurants, by Rs 350.5 to Rs 2,119.5 per 19-kg cylinder.

Commercial LPG rates have more or less moved in tandem with cost which soared in the aftermath of Russia's invasion of Ukraine a year back.

Rates of commercial LPG were last hiked by Rs 25 per cylinder in January.

The Opposition criticised the government for raising the fuel rates, particularly of domestic LPG ahead of Holi.

In a tweet, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said the common man is suffering from backbreaking inflation under the Modi government.

Priyanka Chaturvedi of Shiv Sena-Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray said this was Modi government's Holi gift.

Separately, ATF price was cut by 4 per cent in line with softening international rates of the fuel.

Accordingly, jet fuel rates were reduced by Rs 4,606.50 per kilolitre to Rs 1,07,750.27 per kl in Delhi.

This reverses the hike in rates effected by an equal measure last month.

ATF price is revised on the 1st of every month based on the average rate of international benchmark and foreign exchange rates.

Petrol and diesel prices, however, continued to remain on freeze for a record 11th month in a row. Petrol costs Rs 96.72 per litre in the national capital and diesel comes for Rs 89.62.

State-owned fuel retailers are supposed to revise petrol and diesel prices daily based on a 15-day rolling average of benchmark international fuel prices but they haven't done that since April 6, 2022.

Prices were last changed on May 22 when the government cut excise duty to give relief to consumers from a spike in retail rates that followed a surge in international oil prices.

Back To Schools

meeting my them after such a long time,"

she said. A teacher by profession, Arfa Iftikhar said she is eager to get back to work.

"Though the weather is wet, we are happy that the children are back to school. The hustle and bustle of life is back again," Iftikhar added. Schools in Kashmir closed in December last year for their winter break as the temperature usually falls several degrees below the freezing point during this time. The Valley also experiences frequent snowfall or rains during the December-January period.

However, there was some criticism of the administration for opening the schools early in the morning as the weather is still cold in Kashmir. Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, V K Bhiduri said the timings were advanced due to construction works going on in the city.

"Today schools are reopening after the winter vacations. Due to development works for the Smart City project and the G20 meeting, there can be some disturbance in the movement but it is only a matter of a few weeks. That is why we have pre-poned the school timing," Bhiduri added.

Kupwara Family's

his disappearance, National Conference (NC) Member Parliament Hasnain Masoodi took up the matter with union defence minister Rajnath Singh in New Delhi.

Singh, according to reports, assured the NC leader that he would look into the matter

However, as the days passed by, the Dar family staged repeated protests in Srinagar demanding the whereabouts of their son. Their search ended on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, the police spokesperson said that cognisance of the matter has been taken for further investigations.

Dr Farooq Pitches

guarded, he said. Tamil Nadu's ruling party has done well on nurturing Opposition and national unity, Abdullah added.

Addressing a mega public meeting here organised by the DMK to celebrate the party chief's birthday, he said: "Stalin, it is time to move on. Come to the national scene. Come to the nation and build the nation as you have built this State. Nation needs people who can work together and to Kharge ji also I will say Let us forget who is going to become the Prime Minister. Let us first win the election (2024 Lok Sabha polls), then think who is going to become the Prime Minister."

It is not the Prime Minister that matters but it is the nation that matters and if the country is saved, then its 140 crore people are protected, the senior political leader said. All the opposition leaders need to work together and that is the need of the hour, he further said.

"Wake up, unite," he said and work for the nation where all people could live in peace with honour and dignity. Peace could emerge only when people are happy. Citing factors like unemployment and price rise, he said in such a scenario the nation cannot be strong.

"It is people of India that make the nation. It is not the Army, the Air Force or the Navy. It is the people of India that make India strong. So, let us stick together."

Municipalities Passing

other areas falling under master plan are also exempted," he said, while appealing people not to pay heed over the sayings, but they should calculate on their own.

"Tax is not being imposed on any individual but it is being levied on a property and people having property on less than 1000 sq ft are already exempted," he said while replying to a query.

He further said that out of total 5.20 lakh residential houses, 40% among them have been exempted as the properties have come up on less than 1000 sq ft. "The tax amount is different in different areas and districts and is being decided as per the circle rate," he said.

He also said that after the decision was taken in this regard, the municipalities have started passing the resolution to adopt the decision.

He added that the tax amount will be used only for the developmental purpose in the respective municipalities. He added that the tax will have to remain the same for three years and will be reviewed after three years as per the circle rate.

The property tax will ensure resources for the development and better facilities to the people and will also bring a sense of ownership among them, he told a local news agency KNO.

He added that there is a transparency system in J&K and there is no comparison with J&K's transparency system with any part of the

country. "The transparency system in J&K cannot be found anywhere in the country where even the photos of developmental works are being uploaded," he said.

Asked about a complete shift to online mode, the Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, said that the process has already been done and every work is being done through online mode now.

About the smart city project works, he said that the deadline has been squeezed to April and the works are going on at a rapid pace during day as well as night. "The people will face inconvenience, but the works will be completed on April 15 while carpeting and other related things will be done by April 30th," he said.

Asked about the encroachment drive, he said that retrieving encroached land is their regular activity and the government is responsible for it. "We are duty bound to carry out our encroachment drive for the people. We are re-strategizing it at present, but the poor will not be touched," he said.

Asked about the completion of installation of smart meters across Kashmir, he said that the process will be completed in net two years.

Socialism 'Bogus'

Ram Rajya. Uttar Pradesh is the land of Ram Rajya. This concept of Ram Rajya can bring prosperity in the life of every citizen by creating economic prosperity, development oriented society, political integrity in the country and the state. Uttar Pradesh is the birthplace of Ram, Krishna. Here is the oldest city of the world, Kashi. The world's largest cultural event Kumbh is held here in Prayagraj. Naimisharanya, the land of Vedic tradition, is here. We have Shaktipeeths like Vindhyavasani, Pateshwari, Shakambhari", CM Yogi remarked.

Govt mapping every family in the state

Yogi discussed One Family, One Card (OFOC) in the assembly and said that the work of giving family ID cards to every family in the state is going on.

"We are completing the mapping work quickly in order to connect one member of every family with employment. Its outcomes will be released shortly."

The Chief Minister stated that mapping each family would not only reveal the status of the government's schemes but also which families are covered by which schemes and which schemes they require.

He said that every scheme of development of the government benefits the public without any discrimination based on caste, creed, religion, or creed. He said that very close monitoring of each sector is being done. Everyone's target is fixed.

S 1 Trillion Economy

CM Yogi launched a massive attack on the opposition on the ongoing debate regarding caste census and law and order in the state and said that during the pandemic, the government did not provide the facility of free tests, vaccines and rations by looking at anyone's caste.

"We took the benefits of the schemes and development to everyone, but the opposition kept talking only about caste all the while. Only yesterday, the pictures of the conspirator of the Prayagraj incident went viral. Now, you cannot run away from it. You are shaking hands with them and the symbol of your party is clearly seen in the background. How can you turn your face away now?", he remarked in a point by point rebuttal to the Samajwadi Party Chief Akhilesh Yadav's comments during the discussion on budget.

He added: "Did Umesh Pal and Sandeep Nishad have no caste? Did Raju Pal who became an MLA on his own strength and was murdered, have no caste too. Who was the patron of mafia when Raju Pal was murdered? Tell me, have you taken the contract of caste? That you will get a poor and backward killed by giving protection to professional criminals, make a spectacle, and then retract. This is really strange."

CM Yogi said that Uttar Pradesh has come a long way in the journey of progress from where the opposition had left it to be in. "You laugh when we talk about development, infrastructure and making UP's economy dollar one trillion. But, UP has gone much ahead in its journey of progress and will definitely become a dollar one trillion economy."

Leading economy in five years

CM Yogi said: "I am happy to say that our state UP is a revenue surplus state today. The increased revenue that we have today is becoming the basis of public welfare. The basis for the welfare of the poor, farmers, mothers and daughters is being formed. It is becoming the basis for developing world class infrastructure. UP, which was made Bimaru by you people, today it has recovered from the disease and is emerging as a big economy of the country. I can say that let our first ground breaking happen UP will emerge as number two economy and in five years it will be the leading economy of the country."

The CM further said that no additional tax was imposed on the public in the last five years. "The price of petrol diesel is the lowest in UP, compared to the neighbouring states. The business class is eager to give GST in UP. More than 26 lakh traders have registered for GST and are continuously doing so. The government has made available a security insurance cover of Rs 10 lakh to every trader", he pointed out.

Accidental Fire

weapon, no damage/injury reported."

"Case registered in Batmaloo PS against rash & negligent driving", the tweet reads further.

Cash, Mobiles

and three mobile phones, he said, an amount of Rs 4,440 was also seized from the gamblers.

The accused have been identified as Zahoor Ahmad Ganie, Manzoor Ahmad Lone and Zahoor Ahmad Lone.

Accordingly, the spokesperson said, a case vide FIR No. 27/2023 under relevant sections of law has been registered in Police station Qazigund and further investigation has been initiated.

Avalanche Warning

of a 'medium' danger level 2500 metres above sea level is likely to occur in Bandipora district.

People living in these areas have been advised to take precautions and avoid venturing in the avalanche prone areas till further orders.

Two Burglars

Ghar at Hygam, Sopore and stole solar batteries.

Accordingly, he said, a case vide FIR No. 12/2023 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Tarzoo and investigation was initiated.

During the course of investigation, the spokesperson said, two suspected persons Ishfaq Ahmad Dar of Palhallan and Muneer Ahmad Dar of Haritar Rakh Hygam were zeroed on and subsequently called for questioning.

"After thorough questioning, officers learnt about their involvement in the commission of crime. Stolen property was also recovered from their possession," he said.

The accused, he said, were arrested and shifted to the police station.

WhatsApp Bans

our platform.

"As captured in the latest Monthly Report, WhatsApp banned over 2.9 million accounts in the month of January," a WhatsApp spokesperson said.

Between January 1 and January 31, 2023, as many as 2,918,000 WhatsApp accounts were banned, the report said adding 1,038,000 of these accounts were proactively banned, before any reports from users.

An Indian account is identified via a +91 phone number.

"In addition to responding to and acting on user complaints through the grievance channel, WhatsApp also deploys tools and resources to prevent harmful behavior on the platform. We are particularly focused on prevention because we believe it is much better to stop harmful activity from happening in the first place than to detect it after harm has occurred," the report mentioned.

Daily Wager Dies

who was working as a helper in the mechanical wing Irrigation and Flood Control Department suffered life-threatening injuries while dredging in Wular Lake near Watlab Sopore.

He was shifted to District Hospital Sopore where doctors declared him dead.

Police after taking cognizance of the incident handed over the body to his legal heirs for last rites.

Maj Gen Bajaj Assumes Charge Of GOC 71 Sub Area At Northern Hqs

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Major General Hartej Singh Bajaj on Wednesday assumed the appointment of General Officer Commanding, 71 Sub Area, at Udhampur-based northern command in Jammu and Kashmir, a defence spokesman said.

The 71 Sub Area is responsible for providing pivotal logistics support for formations of northern command and also security of the Udhampur garrison. The formation is also actively involved in the welfare of ex-servicemen and aid to civil authority in Udhampur.

A second-generation officer and alumni of the National Defence Academy, Maj Gen Bajaj was commissioned into the Corps of Engineers, Bombay Sappers on December 14, 1991, the spokesman said.

He is a graduate of DSSC Wellington and attended the Higher Defence Management Course (HDMC) at the College of Defence Management (CDM) Secunderabad and the presti-

gious National Defence College, New Delhi.

The officer has rich operational experience and has participated in Operation RAKSHAK, Operation VIJAY, Operation PARAKRAM and Operation MEGHDOOT, the spokesman said, adding he has commanded an Engineer Regiment in 14 Corps and an Infantry Brigade in the Western Sector.

The spokesman said he has held numerous staff and Instructional appointments to include GSO-1 of Infantry Brigade and PP ORSA at Army Headquarters, Instructor and Head of Training Team at College of Military Engineering, Pune and Directing Staff at Senior Command Wing, Army War College, Mhow and was Brig AoN at Capability Development Directorate in Army Headquarters prior to assuming the present appointment.

He has served in the United Nations Mission in Rwanda and was the first Defence Attaché at the Embassy of India, Turkmenistan, the spokesman said.



JKPSC Cancels Paper-II Of PO Preliminary Exams

Announces Fresh Date Of Examination On March 16

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission (JKPSC) on Wednesday cancelled the Paper-II (Qualifying) of J&K Prosecuting officer (Preliminary) Examination held on 29 January, 2023 and announced that fresh examination to be held on 16th March, 2023.

According to an order, the JKPSC said that examination held earlier was cancelled after the complaints were received that the examination of the Qualifying Paper II of preliminary examination was of a standard higher than the level prescribed in the notification.

"The J&K PSC conducted the Preliminary Examination for filling up the posts of Prosecuting Officers in Home Department on 29.01.2022 in two shifts. The Examination comprised of two MCQ based papers conducted in two sessions on the said day. The Provisional Answer Keys for Paper- I & Paper-II (Qualifying) were notified seeking objections from the candidates within the stipulated period," it added.

"Along with the objections,

various representations were received from the candidates through the J&K High Court Bar Association, Jammu and others, registering their grievance that the Examination of the Qualifying Paper II of the said Preliminary Examination was of a standard higher than the level prescribed in the notification and majority of them could not qualify the same," it added.

"It was requested to either re-conduct the Examination or allow all the aspirants to appear in the Mains Examination and the matter was examined in Commission and the Commission decided to conduct the Prosecuting Officer (Preliminary) Examination, Paper-II afresh," the order reads.

The JKPSC said that in view of the above stated facts and circumstances; it is ordered that the Paper-II (Qualifying) of J&K Prosecuting officer (Preliminary) Examination which was held on 29-01-2023 is cancelled ab-initio.

"The fresh examination for the said paper shall be conducted on 16th March, 2023 at the centres to be notified separately," the order added—(KNO)

DC Shopian Presides Over Block Diwas At Chitragam

Observer News Service

SHOPIAN: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Shopian, Sachin Kumar Vaishya on Wednesday presided over a Mega Block Diwas at Chitragam, here.

People of the concerned area flagged-off various developmental issues, grievances pertaining to drinking water availability, uninterrupted power supply, road connectivity and other rural development works and public welfare measures during the Block Diwas.

The DDC listened to all public issues and demands and issued directions to the concerned officers for resolving and meet-

ing the demands on priority basis. Certain issues of emergent nature were redressed on the spot.

Speaking on the occasion, DDC said that the potable tap water facility will be provided to each and every household of the district in a time-bound manner.

The DDC laid focus on proper implementation of MGNREGA works and timely execution of UT Capex works for providing early benefits to the general public.

Among others, BDC Chairperson, Suneeta Koul; SDM Zainapora, Mushtaq Ahmad; district officers, PRIs, and other Officers and officials attended the public interaction programme along with general public and youth.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE WORKS

Govt Directs Admin Departments To Pull Up Socks

Agencies

SRINAGAR: In a significant move, the Jammu & Kashmir Government has directed to expedite the progress under the Union Territory's capital expenditure budget and ensure 100% physical achievement against the set targets.

The Finance department has directed the departments to expedite the progress under the capital expenditure budget after finding that overall cumulative progress is only 46.92 percent by the end of January 2023.

"... On the basis of the progress reports submitted by the Administrative Departments for the month of ending January 2023, it has been observed that the over-

all cumulative physical progress is only 46.92% which is apparently on the lower side considering the fact that we are in the last quarter of the current financial year," reads a government circular.

This is the second time in the past two months that the government has directed the departments to expedite the capital expenditure budget works in J&K.

On January 25, 2023, J&K's chief secretary Arun Kumar Mehta had directed the administrative secretaries to expedite the progress of completion of works/projects under UT's capital expenditure budget so as to fully achieve the targets set for the current financial year 2022-23—(KNO)



A STUDENT JOINED BY HIS CLASSMATES drags his bag while on his way to the school that reopened after three-month winter break on Wednesday.

KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

LG Calls For Removing 'Burden Of Textbooks' From Students

Says Under PM's Guidance, Jammu Kashmir Has Emerged As Hub Of Education In The Country

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Wednesday called for removing the burden of textbooks and instill in young students the urge for new discoveries.

He made these remarks while addressing the foundation day celebration of Cluster University, Jammu at Padma Shri Padma Sachdev Government PG College for Women, Gandhi Nagar here.

Congratulating the Cluster University for achieving excellence in quality education, the Lt Governor said that the University, established on 1st March 2017 with five Constituent Colleges, is playing its role of a change agent, with focus on skill development and to transform the vibrant institutions as the centers of new ideas and discoveries.

The Lt Governor highlighted the important role of college campuses & class rooms in enriching the society, creating and nurturing the best talents and stressed upon the necessary changes in sync with the National Education Policy.

"In a new era, the education system & role of a teacher needs to adapt to a fast-changing world. Teacher is not just a disseminator of knowledge. A teacher is the one who imparts different skill sets, ignites creativity, innovation in the young generation to live a better life," said the Lt Governor.

The new invention will not be born out of memories of the past or books, but from a free



mind, from a young mind full of curiosity. To make the curiosity, innovation, invention, lifeblood of academic institutions, we must implement recommendations of national education policy, the Lt Governor added.

Observing that innovation will be a major contributor to India's 5 trillion economy, the Lt Governor asked the educational institutions to keep pace with digitalization and future technologies.

"We must remove the burden of textbooks and instill in young students the urge for new discoveries. We must give them courage & strength to explore the unknown and not just syllabus. We should provide them with academic freedom so they get to know themselves and respect their own uniqueness," the Lt Governor said.

Under the guidance of the Prime Minister, Jammu Kashmir has emerged as the hub of education in the country. Our agriculture Universities are also going global. We must enable universities to contribute to India's knowledge economy, the Lt Governor observed.

All the educational institutions will have to keep pace with the evolving world, he added.

The Lt Governor also spoke on the growth registered in various sectors including tourism, industries, livelihood genera-

tion, sports and the measures taken to improve services for the people.

Entire J&K administration is working towards the welfare of common man. The time has gone when J&K's administration was running at the whims and fancies of some handful of people with vested interests, said the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor said 20,000 vacant posts in administration will be filled soon. He also assured strict punishment to the culprits who are behind the rigging of recruitment exams.

Speaking on the anti-encroachment drive, the Lt Governor said that the anti-encroachment drive only retrieved the land from the big and influential land grabbers who had illegally occupied large chunks of state land and if any poor person was affected by anti encroachment drive, strict action will be taken against the concerned officers.

The Lt Governor asked the educational institutions and students to collectively participate in the conduct of G20 meeting in J&K. Be the socio-cultural ambassadors of J&K and make the world aware of the diversity of Jammu and Kashmir, he added.

Educational institutions should also dedicate themselves to actively provide solutions to local problems, the Lt Governor said.

ROW OVER PROPERTY TAX

NC, PDP And CPI (M) Stages Protest In Jammu

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: National Conference, People's Democratic Party and CPI(M) on Wednesday staged separate protests here against the imposition of property tax and demanded immediate roll back of the decision.

Members of the National Conference (NC) led by their provincial president Rattan Lal Gupta took to the streets outside the party's headquarters at Residency Road and raised slogans against the Jammu and Kashmir administration for imposing the tax.

Terming the implementation of the property tax in absence of an elected government in the Union Territory as "arbitrary and undemocratic", he said the administration is taking decisions without consulting even the 30,000 elected public representatives of Jammu and Kashmir.

"The proxy BJP government has been thrusting only anti-people policies. Instead of giving some relief to the people in J&K where the unemployment rate is highest among the states and union territories across the nation. The property tax will put more burden on the people," Gupta said.

Former minister and central zonal president of the NC, Babu Rampal, claimed that nearly 80 per cent of the population, residing in urban areas, will be directly affected by the tax.

"Today the people of Jammu and Kashmir are feeling betrayed by the abrogation of Article 370 as the situation has turned from bad to worse post abrogation. Every section of society stands adversely affected by the anti-people policies of the BJP government," he said.

PDP activists held a demonstration at Purani Mandi in the city against the property tax and alleged failure of the BJP to provide security to minority community members in the Kashmir Valley where a Kashmiri Pandit was recently shot dead in Pulwama district.

"Imposition of property tax is to further weaken the people economically. We request the Lt Governor to revoke the order as the public is not in a position to pay property tax," PDP spokesperson Varinder Singh Sonu said.

He said all sections of society, whether businessmen, farmers or a youngster looking for a job, are distressed due to the "wrong policies" of the administration.

Sonu also sought adequate compensation to the family of Kashmiri Pandit Sanjay Sharma who was shot dead by terrorists in south Kashmir's Pulwama district on Sunday and said his killing exposed the government claims of normalcy.

CPI(M) activists led by senior leader Om Prakash took to the streets outside the Maharaja Hari Singh park in the city against imposition of property tax.

"The people are fed up with the implementation of black laws by the Lt Governor led administration to harass the public," he said, adding the party will stage a protest outside Parliament next month if the property tax notification was not revoked.

Meanwhile, Apni party provincial president and former minister S Manjit Singh also criticised the government for imposing "unilateral decisions" regarding property tax despite massive resentment among the people.

"Government is working against the wishes of the people and imposing decisions without consultation with the elected representatives in urban local bodies and other sectors," he said addressing party workers at Vijaypur in Samba district.

NC, CPI (M) Decry Move To Strip SKIMS Autonomy

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has stripped the valley's premier tertiary care health institute 'Sher-e-Kashmir Institute of Medical Science (SKIMS)' of its autonomous status, triggering criticism from political parties.

"The administration of SKIMS has been assigned to Health and Medical Education Department," read a letter to the director of SKIMS by the under secretary of the General Administration department.

"Accordingly, I am directed to intimate you that henceforth all matters/proposals/case files may be submitted for consideration/ approval of the Competent Authority (HLG) through Health and Medical Education Department," it added.

Political parties in the Valley decried the move and demanded an immediate rollback of the decision.

National Conference (NC) chief spokesperson Tanvir Sadiq said the premier health-care institution was conceptualised four decades back by NC founder Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, who was popularly known as 'Sher-e-Kashmir'.

Undermining its autonomy by bringing it under the administrative control of the health department runs opposite to the government's minimum gov-

ernment and maximum governance slogan, he added.

The institution has been met with step-motherly treatment under the current set up, Sadiq said.

"The present dispensation has gone a step further by snatching its financial and operational autonomy. SKIMS is a deemed university and has been actively involved in imparting quality education and training to aspirants of the highest standard in different disciplines of medicine, surgery, non-clinical and laboratory fields. So how can it be treated at par with government medical colleges," he asked.

Demanding an immediate rollback of the decision, Sadiq said such "stark irreverence" of the incumbent government towards SKIMS is unacceptable.

"The government should stop toying with the institutional integrity and autonomy of the premier institute," he added.

CPI(M) leader M Y Tarigami said SKIMS has over the years provided patient care much better than other facilities in the region.

"Stripping what little autonomy this top-tier institution had will have an adverse impact on both its patient care and research," he said.

Tarigami said the move will also affect its decision-making process and inter-departmental coordination.

DAK Condemns Councilor's Misbehaviour With Doctor

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Wednesday condemned in strongest words the misbehaviour of Pulwama councillor with a doctor.

The councillor has used demeaning, abusive and unparliamentary language with the doctor while he was discharging his duties.

"Such behavior is simply unacceptable," said DAK President Dr Nisar ul Hassan.

Dr Hassan said on Monday evening, the councillor entered into district hospital Pulwama and threatened and abused the doctor on duty which resulted in disruption of medical services.

"Such acts of intimidation against medical staff who provide help to sick and wounded is shocking," he said.

The DAK President said medical personnel put in their blood and sweat to save lives in extremely difficult conditions and instead of apprecia-

tion get abuses.

"The act of hooliganism from a public representative has generated fear and anxiety among health care workers," he said.

Dr Nisar said under such circumstances doctors cannot deliver their services efficiently which adversely affects patient care.

"It is difficult for doctors to work under such hostile conditions," he said adding "such atrocious attitude towards doctors has forced many to migrate and this is the main reason of brain drain."

General Secretary DAK Dr Arshad Ali said such maltreatment with a doctor on duty will not only set a bad precedence but will also demoralize the medical staff who are discharging their duties in toughest circumstances.

"There has to be an end to this mad pattern of atrocities against medical staff which has become a routine," he added.

Block Diwas Changing Rural Life Significantly: DC Pulwama

Observer News Service

PULWAMA: Youmi Block/Block Diwas is significantly changing rural lives and marking a shift towards good governance, stated Baseer Ul Haq Choudhary, District Development Commissioner (DDC) Pulwama, while addressing a huge gathering of people at Brarainadi, Karamulla in Tral Pulwama.

The DDC said that the permanent nature of Block Diwas is reaffirming the commitment of the Government for an accessible administration.

The Block Diwas witnessed participation of thousands of

establishment of Veterinary centre/ Sheep centre, problems of internet connectivity, establishment of basic health care centre, improvement of education facilities and empowerment of tribal women besides providing of employment to the youth in the area.

The DDC gave patient hearing to the grievances raised and redressed hundreds of grievances on the spot. He gave on spot directions for redressal of many issues of urgent nature as per the competence of concerned department and also assured quality disposal of other genuine issues in a time bound manner.



people along with PRIs and beneficiaries of various Government sponsored schemes. They put forth developmental requirements and issues relating to their areas before the chair.

The issues and demands flagged-off included basic amenities and different services like construction of main road towards the Karamulla village, SRTC bus service from Tral to Karmulla, issues of electricity in various villages, drinking water issues and establishment of filtration plant, upgradation of Primary School,

He ordered the establishment of a training school of Handicrafts and Handloom Department for the local girls.

The DDC stressed upon the people to make their representatives, PRIs, and officers/officials of Government Departments accountable for the development of their area, as a huge amount of money is being provided by the Government for Rural Development.

The DDC also ordered the establishment of a model classroom in the existing school in their village.



Real Kashmir Take On Mumbai Kenkre At TRC Today

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Real Kashmir FC is all set to take on Mumbai Kenkre FC in I-League today, Thursday, March 2, at Synthetic Turf TRC here. The match will kick off at 2:00 PM and will be the Srinagar-based football club's final home match of the 2022-23 season.

Real Kashmir come into the home tie undefeated in last five games and would hope to solidify their position in the top half of the I-League table. Mumbai Kenkre, on the other hand, are on a winless streak in six matches and lie toward the bottom half of the table.

The change in Real Kashmir's recent fortune is down to the newly appointed technical di-

rector Gifton Noel-Williams. The Englishman has turned the Snow Leopards' season around and knows his side face a tough opponent in Mumbai Kenkre.

"Even though Kenkre are one of the bottom sides, they have many good players and play good football. If we are not at our best, they can beat us. We will play our game, move the ball around and make things difficult for Kenkre," Noel-Williams told AIFF.

The head coach also had a message for the fans:

"I hope we will get many fans in the stadium tomorrow. It is our last home game of the season and the players will give their hundred percent to win it for all the supporters."

J&K Carrom Association To Hold Selection Trials

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The J&K Carrom Association on Wednesday said that it is going to conduct selection trials and screening for both men and women players on March 4, 2023 at Sher-i-Kashmir Indoor Sports Complex, Srinagar at 10:30 AM.

The selection trials are for the upcoming 27th All India Federation Cup Carrom Tournament 2022-23, which will be held from 26th March to 29th March 2023 at Jeevan Deep Educational Institute, Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh). The Championship is being organised by the All India Carrom Federation and hosted by Uttar

Pradesh Carrom Association.

"All the interested player, schools, institutions, clubs and district units of J&K Carrom Association are advised to report to the association and register their players before March 3, 2023 on email: jkcarrom@gmail.com for the said trials in the below format: Name, Parentage, DOB, Address, District, College/Institute and for further information Contact Adil Shah on 9070-000-093 or Arif Sultan on 9906-767-529," the association said in a press release.

"No on spot entries will be accepted for the screening and entries shall be accepted with valid legal Identity Card and Covid vaccination certificate," it added.

IND vs AUS: Indore Pitch Draws Criticism After Spin 'Mayhem'



Agencies

INDORE: The pitch India rolled out for the third test against Australia drew widespread criticism after 14 wickets, including their 10, tumbled on the opening day of the contest on Wednesday. Milking 'home advantage' is commonplace in international cricket and India have never shied away from preparing pitches that would suit their spinners.

The first two matches of the four-test series were played on turning tracks and India wrapped up victory inside three days both in Nagpur and Delhi to make sure they will retain the Border-Gavaskar Trophy.

But India got a taste of their own medicine on Wednesday when they were bundled out for 109 on a minefield of a pitch, where the ball spun sharply from the morning session and often kept low.

India's star-studded lineup lasted 33.2 overs with only Virat Kohli, their top-scorer with 22, facing more than 50 deliveries. For Australia, left-arm spinner Matt Kuhnemann (5-16), who was introduced into the attack as early as in the sixth over, claimed his first five-wicket haul in just his second test.

"It was mayhem," former Australia test batsman Mark Waugh said on Fox Sports. "The pitch was not up to test standard, I think that's a fair thing to say."

"Balls going through the top (layer) in the first 20 minutes of a test match, that's not good enough." His former team mate Matthew Hayden said the pitch was overly bias towards the spinner.

"It shouldn't be a spin bowler's paradise necessarily, it shouldn't be keeping low and turning a mile on day one," he said.

"You're allowed to have a four or five day test match! Otherwise just call it as it is, we'll just play three-dayers."

Former Australia spinner Brad Hogg quipped on Twitter: "One day test match anyone?"

The match was moved to Indore only last month following concerns about the newly-laid outfield in the original venue in Dharamsala.

Australia finished the day on 156-4, riding on Usman Khawaja's fluent 60. Khawaja would only call the pitch "spin-friendly" and does not expect it to get any better.

"It was spinning in the morning, spinning this afternoon, I think it's a pretty spin-friendly wicket out there," the opener told the broadcasters.

"I guess we'll know tomorrow. It's always hard to tell (on) day one. If I'm gonna be honest, it felt pretty tough out there the whole time I was out there."

"I don't expect it to get any better, if I can put it that way."



Asia's Longest Cycle Race Kicks Off From Kashmir

Press Trust of India

SRINAGAR: Asia's longest cycle race began here on Wednesday as 29 cyclists, including one woman, set off for the first-of-its-kind 3,655 kilometre event.

"We have had people cycling from Kashmir to Kanyakumari earlier but this is the first-of-its-kind race not only in India but in Asia, which will cover a distance of 3655 kilometres," director of the ultra cycling project, Jitendra Nayak, told PTI here. The race has been accorded the status of Asian Ultracycling Championship by the World Ultracycling Association (WUCA), Nayak said.

"The cyclists who complete this race will automatically qualify for the World event," he added.

While the organisers have set a time of 12 to 14 days for the cyclists to complete the race, most participants have set a target of completing in nine to 11 days.

Among the participants is specially-abled cyclist Geeta Rao, who is also the only woman contestant.

"I am very excited and (want) to spread a positive message to all women. If I can dream of it and achieve it, everyone can do it. My one leg is inactive, I would be cycling with only one leg," Rao said.

"I always do what I dream of and I just take one step to achieve it. For the rest of the things, like failures, everything is part of the journey. That's how I take every adventure in my life and that's how I achieve what I dream," she added.

Nayak said there are 13 time stations along the route which will be manned by the marshals. All riders are tracked using GPS devices.

Admin To Construct 56 Stadiums, Centers Across J&K

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The administration in Jammu and Kashmir will construct as many as 56 sports stadiums and centers in all twenty districts to tap the sports potential of the youth from the region.

Barring three districts, three sports stadiums/centers will be constructed in all the remaining districts in which UT-level competitions can also be held.

The Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council has issued notification for the construction of a sports ground under Khelwandia District Level Centers under Sports Authority of India vide 70/KI/SKIC-Slamall-J&K/2020-21 Maharhra 08 February 2023.

Stadiums for football, hockey and gymnastics will be constructed in the Srinagar district. Cycling, Wushu and Kabaddi in Budgam, Badminton, Volleyball and Thang Ta in Ganderbal, Hockey, Football and Boxing in Bandipora, Badminton, Table Tennis and Hockey in Baramulla, Volleyball, Khokho in Anantnag, Kabaddi and Volleyball in Kulgam. Wrestling, Hockey, Table Tennis and Skating in Pulwama, Volleyball and Taekwondo in Shopian, and Football, Khokhu and Kabaddi in Kupwara. (ANI)

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