

## Rapid Urbanisation Behind Rise In Man-Animal Conflict In Kashmir: Experts

Press Trust Of India

**Srinagar:** Kashmir has witnessed a rise in cases of man-animal conflict in recent times, with experts blaming the interference of humans in wildlife habitats as the main reason for such incidents.

"Human-wildlife conflict has certainly escalated greatly in the past few years in Jammu and Kashmir," regional wildlife warden, Kashmir, Rashid Naqash said.

He said from 2006 till the end of 2022, the man-animal conflict has claimed 242 lives



and 2,940 people have been injured in such incidents. The main reason behind the

conflict is the interference of humans in the wildlife habitats, Naqash said.

### Dept Sounds Alert, Urge People To Follow SOPs

MAJID NABI

**A**mid reports of wild animals moving into human habitations, the department of Wildlife Protection has sounded an alert, urging people living close to forest or grazing areas to follow Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to avoid man-animal conflicts. The advisory comes days after leopards were spotted by the locals in city suburbs, prompting the authorities [More on P6](#)

He said this interaction has been there from time immemorial when the human

population was much and the wild land was plenty. "Conflicts between man and

wildlife have risen significantly due to the changes in the wildlife habitat," Naqash added.

"The human population grew, which builds pressure on wild habitats and spaces where these wild animals used to live. If we talk of the landscape in Kashmir, we see that this land space is a landlocked landscape because on one side we have Western Himalayas, and on the southern side we have Pir Panjal followed by the valley floor," he said.

"This is a landlock, and here any change in land use classification definitely [More on P6](#)

## 1 Dead, 6 Injured In Ramban Landslide

Press Trust Of India

**Jammu:** One person was killed and six others, including two women, were injured when a massive landslide struck the strategic Jammu-Srinagar national highway in Ramban district on Tuesday, officials said.

The landslide hit the 270-km highway at Seri village near Ramban town around 2.30 pm, leaving hundreds of vehicles stranded on both sides, they said.

Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Musarat Islam said the road clearance operation by agencies concerned is in full swing for early restoration of traffic on the highway, the only all weather road linking Kashmir with rest of the country.

"Two landslides hit the highway at the same [More on P6](#)

## Govt Puts Bar On Posts Lying Vacant For Over Two Yrs

Agencies

**Srinagar:** The administration of J&K Union Territory has directed all the departments not to refer posts which have remained vacant for more than two years to the recruiting agencies for filling them.

The Jammu & Kashmir Finance department has directed all the administrative Departments not to refer the posts under direct recruitment quota, which have remained unfilled for more than 2 (two) years, to the recruiting agencies.

"The Departments shall obtain the prior concurrence of the Finance Department for revival of such posts before referring them for recruitment, in unavoidable cases," reads the Finance department's circular.

Reminding the departments of its directions issued on July 15, 2021, the Finance department said that all posts, [More on P6](#)

## Kashmiri Student Stabbed By Auto Driver In Delhi

Press Trust Of India

**New Delhi:** A 22-year-old Kashmiri student was allegedly attacked with a sharp object by an auto-rickshaw driver following an argument over fare in southeast Delhi's New Friends Colony, police said on Tuesday.

The victim has been identified as Mehreen Riyaz, they said.

According to police, the woman took the auto-rickshaw from her paying guest accommodation in Shaheen Bagh's Noor Nagar to CC Market in New Friends Colony on Monday.

"After reaching the market, an altercation took place between her and the auto driver over the issue of fare. The infuriated auto driver then attacked her with a sharp object. She received injuries in her lower abdomen," Deputy Commissioner of Police (southeast) Rajesh Deo said.

The preliminary inquiry has revealed that the incident took place over the mode of payment of fare, a police official said.

The alleged driver demanded cash, while the victim wanted to pay via online mode, however, the investigation is underway, the official said.

On her complaint, a case under sections 324 (voluntarily causing hurt by dangerous weapons or means) and 506 (punishment for criminal intimidation) of the Indian Penal Code was registered at the NFC police station, the DCP said.

Efforts are being made to identify the driver, he said.

According to a statement, Jammu and Kashmir Students Association (JKSA) has requested the Delhi Lieutenant Governor Vinay Saxena's office to look into the matter.

The student is pursuing a medical degree from Holy Family College of Nursing. She was attacked by an auto driver with a sharp object near NFC Delhi, it stated. The Association has also called for the formation of a special task force to deal with such incidents and provide a sense of security to the students.

The association has also appealed to civil society to come forward and condemn such acts of violence against Kashmiri students.

"The incident highlights the need for better sensitization and awareness among people about the diversity of the country and the need for a more inclusive society. It is important to create an environment where people from all parts of the [More on P6](#)



Children light candles at the graves of their relatives at a cemetery in the Zadibal area of the city on the occasion of Shab-e-Bara'at. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

## Our Biggest Asset Is Health Of Citizens: LG

'Around 350 Modern Health Infra Projects Coming Up In J&K'

Observer News Service

**New Delhi:** Asserting that the health of citizens was the biggest asset of his administration, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Tuesday that around 350 modern health infrastructure projects are coming up in Jammu and Kashmir for a resilient health system & strong socio-economic growth.

"Under the guidance of PM Narendra Modi, we are strengthening the health sector to ensure the well being of all. Our biggest asset is the health of the citizens. Around 350 modern health infrastructure projects coming up



in UT for resilient health system & strong socio-economic growth," Sinha said

He made these remarks while virtually addressing the 5th Jan Aushadhi Diwas celebrations under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana at GMC Jammu on Tuesday.

"Along with conventional economic metric like GDP, we should also focus on Gross Health & Happiness of people. Healthy and happy society can enable economic benefits and all-round development," he added

The LG said that [More on P6](#)

### Calls For Eradicating Gender Gap

**L**ieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Tuesday that the International Women's Day is an opportunity to eradicate the gender gap in digital access and make it safer, inclusive and equitable., has extended his greetings and best wishes to all the women on the eve of International Women's Day, which is observed every year on 8th March. In a message on the International Women's Day, which is observed on March 8 every year, the LG [More on P6](#)

## Preparations Afoot For J&K Polls, Amarnath Yatra: CRPF

Press Trust Of India

**Srinagar:** The CRPF is making preparations to provide security for the annual Amarnath Yatra, a senior officer said on Tuesday.

The yatra to the cave shrine of Lord Shiva located at a height of 3,880 metres in the south Kashmir Himalayas is likely to start in June.

"Whether there are elections or the Amarnath Yatra, we have started preparations for whatever arrangements need to be fulfilled," Inspector General, CRPF (Kashmir Operations), M S Bhatia told reporters in Pulwama.

"Our endeavour will be to remain alert whatever the



event is, be it elections or yatra. Stringent arrangements will be made for law and order, and security," he said.

While Bhatia did not mention which elections, panchayat and municipal polls in Jammu and Kashmir are due this year. [More on P6](#)

### LG Greet People On Shab-e-Bara'at

**T**he Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Tuesday extended his greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the auspicious occasion of Shab-e-Bara'at. In a message, the Lt Governor said: "On this sacred occasion, I convey my greetings and best wishes to the people. May the Almighty continue to guide us on the path of selfless service, strengthen the spirit of brotherhood and usher in happiness and prosperity for all."

### Two OGWs Held In Baramulla: Police

**P**olice on Tuesday claimed to have arrested two over-ground workers (OGWs) of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) offshoot in Baramulla district of North Kashmir. Acting on a specific input, police and the personnel of CRPF 176 battalion launched a joint cordon & search operation (CASO) in village Monchkhud, Kunzer area of the district, a police spokesperson said. During the search operation, he said, two suspected persons Khurshid Ahmad Khan and Reyaz Ahmad Khan, both residents of Zandpal were apprehended. [More on P6](#)

### Dry Weather To Continue In J&K

**B**arring "very light rain and thunders at one or two places over the higher reach", the meteorological department here has forecast mainly dry weather for the next 24 hours in Jammu and Kashmir. An official of the MeT department here said that mainly dry weather was expected till March 12. Regarding the minimum temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 3.3°C against 3.5°C on the previous night and it was normal for the summer capital. Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 2.0°C, same as on the [More on P6](#)

### Notice To Teacher Over Unauthorised Joining

**T**he Education Department in Lolab sub-division has issued an explanation notice to a teacher for unauthorised joining the duties at Upper Primary School at Rangwar. "As reported by the teachers of PS Tangdub, a teacher who is presently on rationalization at PS Tangdub has joined UPS Rangwar without any order of deployment/transfer from the higher ups/competent authority. Before taking any strict action under civil service conduct rules, the teacher in question is hereby directed to explain as why he has violated the norms and has [More on P6](#)

### 5 Employees Suspended In Budgam

**F**ive employees have been suspended and an enquiry has been initiated against them over the release of excess payment under MGNREGA in Central Kashmir's Budgam district. The employees identified as Musadiq Nazir (VLW) and Ilyas Ahmad Wani (In-charge Junior Assistant), Owais Mohammad Dar (Technical Assistant), Afameen Ali (Technical Assistant) and Sareer Ahmad Ganie (GRS) of block Snoor Kali-Pora in Budgam have been suspended by Project Officer, Wages Employment (ACD) Budgam, and an enquiry has [More on P6](#)

### 8 Held For Illegal Extraction Of Minerals

**P**olice on Tuesday claimed to have arrested eight people involved in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals in the twin districts of Budgam and Baramulla. In Budgam, a police party of Police Station Budgam at a checkpoint established at Karipora Crossing intercepted 4 vehicles carrying illegally extracted minerals. Consequently, all the vehicles have been seized and drivers have been arrested, a police spokesperson said. He identified them as Mohd Yasin Ganie, Ishfaq Ahmad Ganie, [More on P6](#)

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# Twitter To Soon Let Users Post 10,000 Character Tweets

IANs

Twitter CEO Elon Musk on Monday said that the micro-blogging platform will "soon" extend "longform tweets" to 10,000 characters.

When YouTuberA@ThePrimeagen, who posts videos related to coding, asked Musk, "the dev community and I were wondering if you could add code blocks to tweets?" Musk replied: "As an attachment? How many chars? We are extending longform tweets to 10k soon." Several users expressed their thoughts on Twitter CEO's post.

While one user said, "You're a crazy man lmao," another commented, "!! Wow! That's really good news. Actual microblogging!" Last month, the company had announced that Blue subscribers



in the US can post long tweets of up to 4,000 characters on the platform.

Only Blue subscribers can post longer tweets, but non-subscribers can read, reply, retweet and quote tweet to them.

Earlier, tweets were limited to only

280 characters, which still applies to non-subscribers.

Meanwhile, Musk had said that the micro-blogging platform is "spinning up subscriptions" so that users can "charge" their followers for specific content.

## BEFORE THE HON'BLE COURT OF PRINCIPAL DISTRICT JUDGE SGR.

IN THE CASE OF: 1. Manzoor Ahmad Baghdadi  
S/o Ghulam Qadir Baghdadi  
2. Tariq Manzoor Baghdadi  
S/o Manzoor Ahmad Baghdadi  
3. Muniza Manzoor Baghdadi  
S/o Manzoor Ahmad Baghdadi  
All residents of Nishat Srinagar

Caveators)  
VERSUS  
Public at large  
.....(Non – Caveator)

IN THE MATTER OF: Caveat Application.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

The Caveator submit as under:

1.That the Caveators are the resident of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, as such, have every right to invoke the jurisdiction of this Honble court for the protection & safeguard of their legal rights and interests there of hence this petition.  
2.That the Caveators are the joint owner of a building situated at Gada Bazar Zaina Kadal Srinagar and after obtaining proper permission from municipal authorities have to renovate the said building/ structure.  
3. That the some unknown persons are unnecessarily causing interference into it.  
4. That the Cavetors have every apprehension that the non Caveator may file a civil suit against the Caveators before this Hon'ble court with respect to the said building.  
5.That the Caveators may be given opportunity of being heard before passing any order or direction and no order / direction be passed in ex-parte which will prejudice the rights of the Caveator.

In the premises, it is, therefore, prayed that Honble court may be pleased that before passing any order or direction the Caveators or their counsel may be given opportunity of being heard and no order/direction may be passed in ex-parte, the same would be in the ends of justice.  
CAVEATOR THROUGH COUNSEL.  
Dated:-07-03-2023

(Advocate Hamid Shafi Hakim)

## Public Notice from the Sarpanch of Panchayat Halqa Mughama Block Lalpora District Baramulla

It is notified for the information of general public that the PRI members and general public of Village Kreshama/Check narayandas are demanding saperate Halqa from Panchayat Halqa Mughama as the said Halqa has more than 4200 population and is consisting of 4-villages namely Check narayandas, Mirgund, Kreshama, Mughama/Nangerpora.In this connection, any person having any objection may file his/her objections in writing in the office of Block Development Office Lalpora within a period of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice, after expiry of 07 days no objection will be entertained.  
No-Pyt/Mughama/2022-23/413  
Dated:-6/3/2023

Sd/-  
Secretary Panchayat Mughama  
Sarpanch

az k

از بلاک ڈیولپمنٹ آفسر کنٹر

مضمون درخواست منجانب غلام محمد ملول ولد غلام احمد لون ساکنہ مضمون ملپورہ سنگرامہ برادری DOB certificate بحق دختران نورالہ و نازنین

اشتبہ برادر اگاہی ہر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں دفتر بذاکو ایک درخواست بابت حصول تاریخ پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ موصول ہوئی ہیں۔ ساکن غلام محمد ملول ولد غلام احمد لون ساکنہ مضمون ملپورہ سنگرامہ بیان کرتا ہے کہ اسکے دختران کی تاریخ پیدائش

نورالہ: 10-01-2022

12-03-2020 نورالہ: 12-03-2020

کو ہوئی ہے۔ اس نسبت ہر خاص و عام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ یوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

از بلاک ڈیولپمنٹ آفسر کنٹر

az k

از بلاک ڈیولپمنٹ آفسر کنٹر

مضمون درخواست منجانب شبیر احمد ملول ولد غلام احمد لون ساکنہ مضمون فیروز پورہ کنٹرنگ برادری DOB certificate بحق پسر محمد صبر ملول

اشتبہ برادر اگاہی ہر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں دفتر بذاکو ایک درخواست بابت حصول تاریخ پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ موصول ہوئی ہیں۔ ساکن شبیر احمد ملول ولد غلام احمد ملول ساکنہ مضمون فیروز پورہ کنٹرنگ بیان کرتا ہے کہ اسکے پسر کی تاریخ پیدائش

محمد صبر ملول

کو ہوئی ہے۔ اس نسبت ہر خاص و عام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ یوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

بلاک ڈیولپمنٹ آفسر کنٹر

az k

از بلاک ڈیولپمنٹ آفسر وائلو کوالر پورہ

مضمون درخواست منجانب رئیس احمد ولد عبدل احمد بٹ ساکنہ مضمون محمود پورہ برادری DOB certificate بحق دختر صبورہ

اشتبہ برادر اگاہی ہر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں دفتر بذاکو ایک درخواست بابت حصول تاریخ پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ موصول ہوئی ہیں۔ ساکن رئیس احمد بٹ ولد عبدل احمد بٹ ساکنہ مضمون محمود پورہ بیان کرتا ہے کہ اسکے دختر کی تاریخ پیدائش

صبورہ

کو ہوئی ہے۔ اس نسبت ہر خاص و عام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ یوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

بلاک ڈیولپمنٹ آفسر وائلو کوالر پورہ

az k

## Before The Hon'ble Court Of Special Tribunal At Sgr.

IN THE CASE OF: 1. Manzoor Ahmad Baghdadi  
S/o Ghulam Qadir Baghdadi  
2. Tariq Manzoor Baghdadi  
S/o Manzoor Ahmad Baghdadi  
3. Muniza Manzoor Baghdadi  
S/o Manzoor Ahmad Baghdadi  
All residents of Nishat Srinagar

.....(Caveators)

VERSUS  
Public at large  
Non – Caveator)

IN THE MATTER OF: Caveat Application.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

The Caveator submit as under:

1.That the Caveators are the resident of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, as such, have every right to invoke the jurisdiction of this Honble court for the protection & safeguard of their legal rights and interests there of hence this petition.  
2.That the Caveators are the joint owner of a building situated at Gada Bazar Zaina Kadal Srinagar and after obtaining proper permission from municipal authorities have to renovate the said building/ structure.  
3. That the some unknown persons are unnecessarily causing interference into it.  
4. That the Cavetors have every apprehension that the non Caveator may file a civil suit against the Caveators before this Hon'ble court with respect to the said building.  
5.That the Caveators may be given opportunity of being heard before passing any order or direction and no order / direction be passed in ex-parte which will prejudice the rights of the Caveator.  
In the premises, it is, therefore, prayed that Honble court may be pleased that before passing any order or direction the Caveators or their counsel may be given opportunity of being heard and no order/direction may be passed in ex-parte, the same would be in the ends of justice.  
CAVEATOR THROUGH COUNSEL.  
Dated:-07-03-2023

(Advocate Hamid Shafi Hakim)

## PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Mohammad Ashraf Pajwari S/O Mohammad Shaban Pajwari R/O Qamarwari Srinagar have purchased Plot No.280 in Housing Colony Bagh-e-Mehtab from Fayaz Ahmad Mir S/O Ali Mohammad Mir R/O Bagh-e-Mehtab Srinagar originally allotted in favour of Sh.Prem Prakash Gupta S/O Ram Saroop Gupta R/O H No 23-C Extension 1 Gandhi Nagar Jammu. I have applied for transfer of leasehold rights of above said plot in my favour. Objection, if any, may be conveyed to the Managing Director, J&K Housing Board, Green Belt Park, Gandhinagar, Jammu within a period of 15 days from the date of publication of this Notice. However, no objection will be entertained after the expiry of the above said period.  
Name: Mohammad Ashraf Pajwari  
S/O, Mohammad Shaban Pajwari  
R/O Qamarwari Srinagar

nj

## از عدالت سبج میوینل مجسٹریٹ سرینگر با اجلاس مہرین مشتاق

رجسٹرار برٹس اینڈ ڈیپٹس Zahooh Ahmad Tramboo بنام

سائل اسٹائل

درخواست بفرج اندراج تاریخ

ادفات

نام: Abdul Salam Tramboo

تاریخ دفات 18-01-2002

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن سالک نے عدالت بذائیں ایک درخواست بشمول حلفی بغرض اندراج تاریخ / ادفات R/o Lakhrayar Nawakadal Sgr مورخہ 25-02-2023 پیش کی ہے۔ لہذا عوام الناس کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے عذرات اشاعت اشتہار کے اندر دس یوم عدالت میں آکر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے معیاد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئندہ عدالت بذائیں 14-03-2023 کو مقرر ہے۔ تحریر الصدر

سبج میوینل مجسٹریٹ سرینگر

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## از عدالت سبج میوینل مجسٹریٹ سرینگر با اجلاس مہرین مشتاق

رجسٹرار برٹس اینڈ ڈیپٹس Manzoor Ahmad Rather بنام

سائل اسٹائل

درخواست بفرج اندراج تاریخ

ادفات

نام: Mohamad Asgar Rather

تاریخ دفات 03-06-1983

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن سالک نے عدالت بذائیں ایک درخواست بشمول حلفی بغرض اندراج تاریخ / ادفات R/o Sharifabad Bemina مورخہ 04-03-2023 پیش کی ہے۔ لہذا عوام الناس کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے عذرات اشاعت اشتہار کے اندر دس یوم عدالت میں آکر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے معیاد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئندہ عدالت بذائیں 15-03-2023 کو مقرر ہے۔ تحریر الصدر

سبج میوینل مجسٹریٹ سرینگر

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## از عدالت سبج میوینل مجسٹریٹ سرینگر با اجلاس مہرین مشتاق

رجسٹرار برٹس اینڈ ڈیپٹس Muneera Rauf بنام

سائل اسٹائل

درخواست بفرج اندراج تاریخ

نام: Muneera Rauf

تاریخ پیدائش 10-05-1969

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن سالک نے عدالت بذائیں ایک درخواست بشمول حلفی بغرض اندراج تاریخ پیدائش R/o Rather Lane 5 Mominabad Bemina Sgr مورخہ 03-03-2023 پیش کی ہے۔ لہذا عوام الناس کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے عذرات اشاعت اشتہار کے اندر دس یوم عدالت میں آکر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے معیاد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئندہ عدالت بذائیں 14-03-2023 کو مقرر ہے۔ تحریر الصدر

سبج میوینل مجسٹریٹ سرینگر

nj

## Government of Jammu & Kashmir

### OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) CONSTRUCTION DIVISON 2ND, SGR

#### NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

(for Road work/bridges/Buildings)

TWO COVER SYSTEM

(Above Rs. 2.50 crores)

NIT No.226 of R&B/CDII/21719-29 of 2022-23

Dated: 28.02.2023 (E-tendering)

For and on behalf of the President of India, e-tenders are invited on item rate basis/%age basis (as the case may be) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S.No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (Rs. In Lacs)	T.O.C	Class of Contractor
1.	Improvement/upgradation of Gupkar road from UNO Office to Rajbhawan by way of reconstruction of footpath (Part A RD 0 to 2600mtrs from UN Office to Oberio crossing	361.32	5500/-	7.226	45 Days	AAY

Major Head of Account = G-20/Relevant Head of Account  
Position of AAA = Under Process  
Position of T/S = Under Process  
Project Authority = PW (R&B) Department Kashmir

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	28.02.2023
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 01.03.2023 from 10.00 A.M to 11.03.2023 upto 4.00 P.M
3.	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	06.03.2023 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle Srinagar/Budgam
4.	Bid submission Start Date	07.03.2023 From 10.00 A.M
5.	Bid Submission End Date	13.03.2023 upto 4.00 P.M
7.	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	14. 03.2023 at 11.00 AM in the Office of Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle Srinagar/Budgam
8.	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

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

1.1 Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in shape of Treasury challan Receipt (under M.H-0059) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Construction Division 2nd, Srinagar

1.2. At the time of tendering all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority i.e. Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle Srinagar/Budgam. The Date of Earnest money must be between the date of start of bid and bid submission end date). The successful bidder will have to provide Performance security @ 3% of Allotted cost in shape of CDR/FDR/BG before the contract award. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of performance security @ 3% of the Allotted cost which will be released after successful completion of the DLP. The Bank Guarantee should be valid for 45 days beyond bid validity

2. Bidders can resubmit/withdraw the bids as specified.

3. The date and time of opening of Financial-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 Financial-bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online in the Office of Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle Srinagar/Budgam. The date for same shall be intimated separately.

4. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids.

5. The earnest money shall be forfeited, if:-

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

b. Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within specified time period issue of letter on intent.

c. In case contractor fails to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

6. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

6.1. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.

6.2. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.

6.3. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.

6.4. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-2.

6.5. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents mentioned in NIT and SBD with technical bid.

6.6. All bidders shall upload Verification Certificate from concerned Chief Engineer /Superintending Engineer to whom the Enlistment Registration Card was issued.

No. 21719-29

Dated: 07.03.2023

Sd/-

Executive Engineer

R&B Construction Division 2nd, Srinagar

## PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost the document (Sale Letter, Farm 22, Agriculture Certificate, Bill etc) of my tractor New Holland bearing Engine No: 242963DX, Atin Chasis No: \*NHN36305ZJ441738\* Type Approval No: CAED 0165 Model No: 3630 TX. 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 Jehlum Valley Awantipora within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.  
Mohammad Shaban Gojri  
S/o Abdul Wahab Gojri  
R/o Hardu Aboora Tangmarg Baramulla

bmj

## In The Court Of Ist Additional Munsiff Srinagar

Present:- Shafeeq Ahmad Malik

Mohd Akber Tinda F/o Sajid Ali

R/o Tinda Mohalla Mir Behri Dal Rainawari Sgr

Applicant

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 Sajid Ali 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:- Sajid Ali  
Sex:-MALE  
Father's Name:-Mohd Akber Tinda  
Mother's name: Shameema  
DOB: 11-04-2012  
Place of Birth: Tinda Mohalla Mir Behri Dal Rainawari Sgr  
Residence: Tinda Mohalla Mir Behri Dal Rainawari Sgr  
Place Of Birth:-at home

Sd/-

Ist additional munsiff Srinagar

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## Mayor Extends Greetings On The Eve Of Shab-E-Barat

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Mayor of Srinagar, Junaid Azim Mattu today extended a heartfelt greeting to the people on the sacred eve of Shab-e-Barat.

In a message for masses, the Mayor said on this Shab-e-Barat eve, which is also known as the 'Night of Fortune and Forgiveness', May

Allah grant forgiveness to all the Ummah and bestow us all with peace and prosperity.

He wished that on this Shab-e-Barat occasion may mercy, blessing, benefit, pardon and forgiveness descend upon the people of earth.

Requesting the people to remember the poor and needy on this occasion, Junaid wished a blissful Shab-e-Barat to all.

## KU VC flags Off Rally On International Women's Day

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Vice-Chancellor University of Kashmir Prof Nilofer Khan on Tuesday flagged off a rally organised on the eve of International Women's Day, celebrated across the world on March 8.

The rally, which was attended by faculty, research scholars and students, was organised by Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) of the University as part of its day-long awareness-cum-sensitisation programme on 'Prevention of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace'.

Congratulating the ICC for organising regular sensitisation programmes involving students and civil society, Prof Nilofer said such programmes reinforce our institutional commitment to create a congenial work atmosphere in the campus and also reiterate the message of 'zero

tolerance policy' for sexual harassment at workplace.

The Vice-Chancellor said both men and women have to come forward and join hands to achieve gender equality and make the society a better place to live in.

"Our University recently held a Civil20 Working Group Meeting on Gender Equality as part of India's G20 Presidency. The meeting evolved a number of resolutions which are being submitted to the G20 platform for consideration. This shows that academic institutions can play a great role in spreading the message of gender equality," she said.

Dean Research KU Prof Irshad A Nawchoo, Presiding Officer ICC Prof Aneesa Shafi, Director EMRC and Media Advisor Dr Salima Jan, Joint Registrar Asmat Kawoosa and other senior academics, officers and ICC members were present on the occasion.

## Training On Microbiological Methods Commences At SKUAST

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A ten-day training cum workshop on 'Microbiological Methods' was inaugurated on Tuesday at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir's Faculty Outreach Centre, FVSc&AH, Shuhama campus.

The workshop is being organised by the university's Division of Veterinary Microbiology & Immunology,

Faculty of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry, Shuhama under the World Bank-ICAR-funded National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) for the institutional

About 20 participants from various national level universities including the officers of the Animal and Sheep Husbandry Departments of Kashmir Division are participating in the training programme.



A girl lights a candle on a grave on the occasion of Shab-e-Barat in Old city's Alamgari Bazar locality. KO Photo Abid Bhat

## Authorities Snap Electricity In Habba Kadal After Locals Oppose Smart Meter Installation

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Authorities snapped electricity supply in Gadood Bagh and its adjoining localities in Habba kadal area on Tuesday, a day after the locals objected to what was alleged 'unjustified' move to install smart meters in the area.

The power supply in the area was snapped a day after locals staged a protest against smart meter installation, saying they cannot afford hefty monthly electricity bills being 'poor'.

Upset by the move, consumers across the valley have hit the streets to press for the revocation of the order, which they allege is aimed to force people to reel under absolute gloom.

"Being poor, we cannot afford fat monthly bills from smart meters. We literally live from hand to mouth and find it difficult to meet both ends as most of the educated youth in our locality are jobless" said Bilal Ahmad, a local resident.

“Being poor, we cannot afford fat monthly bills from smart meters. We literally live from hand to mouth and find it difficult to meet both ends as most of the educated youth in our locality are jobless

"How far is it genuine to install smart meters when Kashmir's economy has been in shambles for the last 35 years" he questioned.

He said the government recently hiked Rs 50 on domestic Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and it's very difficult for an average person to support his family in such a situation.

"Prices of essential commod-

ities are touching the sky and the government instead of lessening the burden of common masses is overburdening them by introducing back-breaking schemes. How is it possible for a laborer or a roadside vendor to pay huge electricity bills from smart meters," said another local.

Locals living around Gadood Bagh and its adjoining localities said that they took to the roads and staged a protest after a team of Power Development Department (PDD) arrived in their area to install smart power meters.

"We vehemently objected to the move and did not allow smart meters to be installed in our area. Offended by the protest, authorities snapped electricity supply in our area, thus leaving us to reel under complete darkness," Nabla, an elderly woman, told Kashmir Observer.

She appealed to the administration to either revoke the order of installing smart meters in the valley or exempt the poor, given their desperate economic condition.

## DC Chairs NCORD Meeting To Review Control Measures Against Drug Menace

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad on Tuesday chaired the 8th meeting of District Level Committee of Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) here at Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex to take review of the action taken by the concerned Departments with regard to decisions held in last meeting.

The future course of action to uproot the drug men-

ace and narcotic trade from Srinagar District was also formulated during the meeting.

While Zonal Director Narcotics Control Bureau(NCB), Rajesh Kumar participated in the meeting through virtual mode and threw light on various dimensions related to drug abuse and its peddling.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner took detailed feedback from every concerned Department regarding and measures undertaken for

combating illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and its consumption in the District to save youth from the dangerous effects of the drugs.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner said that drug abuse is a serious problem that not only affects individuals, but also families and communities. He stated that it is essential to tackle the issue from multiple perspectives, including deterrence, treatment and enforcement.



**ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**  
AWANTIPORA, KASHMIR.  
Tele: 01933-247954/247955. Website: www.iust.ac.in

**EXTENSION NOTICE**  
**No: IUST/EW/23/EOI/Lifts/01A, Dated: 04-03-2023**  
The date for submission of soft copy of Expression of Interest (EOI) to be emailed to [xen@iust.ac.in](mailto:xen@iust.ac.in), for the execution of the work "Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and maintenance of 02 Number Lifts in Rumi Library at IUST Campus, Awantipora, J&K, issued vide No: IUST/EW/23/EOI/Lifts/01 Dated: 10-02-2023 is hereby extended to **8<sup>th</sup> of March 2023**. The short-listed companies/agencies have to give presentation on **10<sup>th</sup> March 2023** on/off line. The further shortlisted companies/agencies after the presentation shall have to submit their financial bid on the dates to be communicated separately.

**CORRIGENDUM**  
**No: IUST/EW/23/556-A; Dated: 04-03-2023**  
The walk-in-interview for the posts of Technicians to be engaged on need basis for "Operating the 1 MVA Receiving Station and Maintenance of UPS System at IUST, Awantipora" advertised vide No: IUST/EW/23/556 Dated: 02-03-2023 shall be held on **09-03-2023** instead of 06-03-2023. Moreover, the candidates having ITI or Diploma in Electronics & Communication Engineering can also appear in the walk-in-interview for the post of Technician for Maintenance of UPS System at IUST, Awantipora"  

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer IUST Awantipora

DJPK-NB-6732/22 DATED:07-03-2023



**UCO BANK**  
Honours Your Trust

**Branch Office: Zainakadal (1393) Srinagar J&K-190002**  
Email: [zaidal@ucobank.co.in](mailto:zaidal@ucobank.co.in) Ph No.: 0194-2478185

**Notice for Sale of Moveable Property by Inviting Tenders Public Auction**  
Whereas under mentioned borrower has taken loan on the pledge of Gold Jewellery / Jewels from Zainakadal branch of our bank and has failed to release the same or pay Interest thereon Inspite of repeated reminders. Whereas the registered Notice was issued to Borrower recalling entire amount along with Interest/other Charges to which borrower never responded.

**Gold Auction Notice**


Name of the Borrower	Gross Weight of Pledge Item (in Gms)	Overdue Gold Loan A/c No.	Amount (Rs.)	Balance O/s as on 31-12-2022
Javed Ahmad Yatoo S/o Sh Ghulam Mohammad Yatoo	31.8 gm (18K)	13930610012789	Rs.90,000/-	1,09,729/-

The auction will be conducted at the premises of UCO Bank, Zainakadal Branch at Malikpora Market Zainakadal Srinagar J&K - 190002 on 27-03-2023 at 11.00 a.m to 1.00 p.m. Interested parties may contact the Branch Manager in the above address. Participants should attend the auction along with copy of Pan Card, Passport Size Photograph, Valid Identity Proof and address proof on the date of auction.

Terms & Conditions of Auction:- Decision regarding acceptance of an offer for purchase of Jewellery through auction would be that of Bank and the Bank is not bound to accept the highest offer. Bidders are hereby requested to take note of Terms & Conditions of auction stipulated here under in their own interest:

- The Bank does not guarantee the weight or purity of Jewellery /coins either of its gold contents or otherwise.
- The Jewel is available for inspection by the intending bidders on 27-03-2023 between 11.00 a.m to 1.00 p.m.
- The intending purchasers shall make an earnest money deposit of 25% of O/s Price on or before 27-03-2023
- The Jewel will be handed over to the highest bidder on payment of balance amount within 24 hrs or on the next working day of the bank during its working hours.
- If the successful bidders fails to pay the amount. The bidder shall forfeit the earnest money and the Jewel may be resold within 30 days from that date and shortfall did not take delivery of the Jewells against the payment.
- The successful bidder shall be entitled for the refund of the earnest money immediately after the auction is over.
- It shall be lawful for the Bank to stop the auction at any stage without assigning any reason in which case earnest money shall be refunded to whosever makes the deposit
- Gst as applicable to paid by the auction buyer.


**Date:08-03-2023****Place Zainakadal Srinagar****Mr. Aapaarhind Katyal Branch Manager**



**THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**  
Baba Gangnath Marg, Munirka,  
New Delhi-110 067

**NIHFW/WS/37 – 7/2022**  
**NOTICE FOR INVITING TENDER**  
Tender is invited on behalf of Director, NIHFW for the "Functionalization, Operation & Maintenance of Newly Constructed International Hostel and Operation & Maintenance of Existing old Hostel at the NIHFW". The pre-bid meeting for the same will be held on 15/3/2023 at 11:00 AM and the last date & time of receipt of Bid is 27/3/2023, 3:00 PM. For more details, including Hindi version the Institute's website [www.nihfw.org](http://www.nihfw.org) & <https://eprocure.gov.in> may be visited.  
**Director (Additional Charge)**

CBC -17153/12/0014/2223





- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,2452222,2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
- Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

**AIRPORTS**  
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 


**RAILWAYS**

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



**HIGHWAY STATUS**

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



**HIJRI CALENDAR**  
15 Shaban  
1444

**PRAYERS**

FAJR	5:30
ZUHR	12:43
ASR	4:51
Magrib	6:35
ISHA	7:55

## This Day In History

- 1964 - Cassius Clay converts to Islam, and is renamed Muhammad Ali
- 1965 - US begins regular bombing & strafing of N Vietnam
- 1967 - A fire at a restaurant in Montgomery, Alabama kills 25 people.
- 1969 - Al-Fatah-leader Yasser Arafat becomes president of PLO
- 1971 - Switzerland votes for national women's suffrage in a referendum
- 1974 - Grenada gains independence from Britain (National Day)
- 1976 - World's largest telescope (600 cm) begins operation (USSR).
- 1977 - Soyuz 24 launches with 2 cosmonauts
- 1978 - Ethiopian offensive in Ogaden desert
- 1986 - Haiti's President-for-Life Jean-Claude Duvalier flees to France Henri Namphy becomes leader of Haiti
- 1986 - Corazon Aquino defeats incumbent Filipino dictator Ferdinand Marcos but fraudulent returns gave the election to Marcos.
- 1987 - Police in South Korea make hundreds of arrests during protest demonstrations, the country's biggest for 6 years, after a student died in custody.
- 1990 - Karachi police kill 22 anti-nationalistic demonstrators
- 1990 - USSR Communist party agrees to allow opposition political parties

## From KO Archives

Near Total Bandh, Blasts And Grenade Attacks

## Poor Turn Out In Baramulla, Anantnag

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The polling for Lok Sabha constituencies of Anantnag and Baramulla was marked by a series of bomb blasts and poor turn out of voters besides a near total bandh in all major valley townships, in response to a call given by the all-party Hurriyat Conference.

At least three security personnel sustained injuries when they were hit by splinters, following a grenade attack on a vehicle carrying them for election duty in Bijbehara town of Anantnag, this afternoon. 15 others had a narrow escape when a powerful device planted in a girls' school in Pattan exploded with a deafening sound, early morning, causing some damages to school and few adjoining buildings. Grenade attacks were also reported from Marhama, Sarnal and Buchoo villages of south Kashmir district of Anantnag. However no damage was caused by these, reports added.

Normal life in capital Srinagar and other valley towns was paralysed as near total general strike was observed on the call given by Hurriyat Conference, in connection with its poll boycott campaign. The general strike had a substantial impact on the voter turnout, in both Anantnag and Baramulla Lok Sabha constituencies, with lowest percentage recorded in Tral and Pulwama assembly segments of Anantnag constituency.

Chief Electoral Officer S V Bhawe however told news persons this evening that polling passed off "peace-fully", though "minor incidents grenade throwing and bomb blasts" were reported from both the constituencies. Bhawe, however claimed 30-35 percent polling in Anantnag and 40 percent polling in Baramulla. The percentage is lower from what was recorded in 1996 Lok Sabha polls, when Anantnag had 46 percent turnout and Baramulla accounted for 50.6 percent.

The lowest turnout in Anantnag constituency was in Pampore with just 13 percent votes polled while in Baramulla, the town voters responded to boycott call in a big way. In Anantnag, as the reports suggested, the voter turnout was much higher in the places known to be strong holds of senior Congress leader and former home minister Mufti Mohammad Syed. Again at this very few people came to cast their votes, what are otherwise called pockets of ruling National Conference. Same seemed to be the case in Baramulla, where NC strong holds registered a poor turnout even after all possible efforts of the party leaders to mobilise higher turnout.

Unprecedented security measures had been taken by the authorities to face the challenge of the militants to disrupt the poll process. Besides para-military personnel, Army was deployed in strength in both the constituencies.

Those whose fates were sealed in today's polling include former home minister Mufti Mohammed Sayed and minister of state for home Maqbool Dar in Anantnag. Also in the fray, there was Yousuf Taing, former secretary of cultural academy and a political novice, fielded by ruling National Conference.

In Baramulla, the real contest is between National Conference nominee and union minister Saifuddin Soz and a noted jurist Muzaffar Hussain Beigh who is fighting as an independent. There are twenty seven others in the fray including one from Congress and BJP each, but none of them seem to be anywhere in the fray. Beigh, it may be mentioned, was supported by all the opposition parties including the Congress whose senior leaders openly canvassed for the Beigh.

(Kashmir Observer, 08 March, 1998)



KASHMIR OBSERVER  
Wednesday | 08-03-2023

Towards Justice

A military court has sentenced to life in prison to the captain who was involved in the Amshipora fake encounter, in which three youth from the Rajouri region of Jammu and Kashmir were killed on July 18, 2020, and passed off as militants. The court found that Captain Bhoopendra Singh, of the Army's 62 Rashtriya Rifles, then stationed in South Kashmir's Shopian district, "exceeded powers vested under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act" during the encounter. The life sentence for Captain Singh is "subject to confirmation by higher Army officials, and the process involved in such cases is still on, according to army sources."

After the encounter took place in 2020, the police had accused Singh and two associates of planting weapons on the bodies of three labourers. To be fair to Army, even it was quick to blame its own personnel in this incident. Earlier, the Army had claimed to have killed three unidentified militants in the said encounter. But once their pictures were published in newspapers and circulated on social media, three families in Rajouri claimed they were their children and insisted they had had no terror links. According to the families, the trio had gone to Shopian to work as labourers. The Army was quick to order a high-level Court of Inquiry into the encounter and was quick to indict captain Singh which came as a pleasant surprise to people at the time. Army was also quick to confirm that the three youth killed in an encounter at Amshipora were civilians from Rajouri.

As the Amshipora case has once again showed, what matters is the accountability of the personnel responsible for any excesses, not the revocation of the AFSPA per se. Best possible way out is a willingness among the security agencies to act fairly and speedily in cases of rights violations. This is the only pragmatic solution under the circumstances. And Army by acting against its own personnel in Amshipora case has showed that it has zero tolerance for human rights violations. In past there was talk of making necessary modifications to the AFSPA to ensure that security personnel who commit human rights violations are accountable for their actions. But as its action in Amshipora case has once again proved, Army has an inbuilt legal mechanism to punish the erring personnel. And once a wrong has been done, the personnel responsible for it are duly punished.

OTHER OPINION

The Right Way to Women's Day About Muslim Women

Nourhan Elsayed

In most – if not all – the mainstream feminist debates on Muslim women, the hijab serves as a symbol around which to mobilise efforts to emancipate these women. In Sirma Blige's words, it became an over-determined cultural signifier that mainstream feminists in the West associate with, among other things, the subordination of women to Islamic patriarchy and their developing of a false consciousness. The "subordination" argument rests on an assumption that women who wear the hijab were forced by men to wear it.

As for women who contend that wearing the hijab was their own choice, they are described as having developed a "false consciousness". Yet what both of these interpretations have in common is that they dehumanise Muslim women by denying them their agency. This implies that the veiled woman "does not know what is good for her" and that women in the West, by contrast, can teach her how to understand lofty concepts like agency and freedom.

Corollary to this form of Orientalist feminism is that Muslim women's voices are silenced, and their opinions on what the hijab actually means to them go unheard. What most veiled women have to say about the hijab is actually substantially different from the feminist critique. As anthropologists Saba Mahmood and Lila Abu-Lughod point out, the justifications most often given by Muslim women for taking up the hijab relate to modesty, piety and morality.

A person with the most basic knowledge of Islamic thought would not find these claims far-fetched. There is an agreement in the Islamic legal literature on the importance of dressing modestly, and there are rules on how to achieve that for both men and women. Hence, if feminists are to fully comprehend Muslim women's motivations for wearing the hijab, religion must be incorporated into the discussion. Whether these motivations stem from "true agency" or qualify as "free choices" are entirely subjective matters. For the headscarf is a neutral object; it only gains meaning through the symbolism that its wearer attaches to it. So how can feminists in the West (or anyone interested in the issue) understand Muslim women and the hardships they face? The first step, paradoxically, is to stop using the label "Muslim women" in discussions. The label is generic and broad to such an extent that it ceases to be useful or meaningful in any serious, nuanced exploration of the plight of the women it is concerned about.

The second step in understanding the plight of Muslim women – or more accurately, the plight of any group of women – is to adopt what feminist academics call an intersectional approach. Intersectionality involves understanding that women around the world experience different kinds of oppression, and that their experiences are qualitatively different. To gain insight into their experience, one has to understand how different systems of oppression (such as gender, race, ethnicity, class, political conditions, nationality, disability, etc.) intersect to produce a specific experience of oppression that is unique to certain women.

Simply put, the alternative approach that is needed is the development of a more accommodative form of mainstream feminism, one in which women in the West understand their non-Western counterparts in the latter's own terms, and treat them as equal partners, not helpless minors.

LSE blogs

Tania Saeed

Women's day whataboutery will help no one. We need to cultivate an atmosphere where women are heard and their experiences are valued. Kashmir has seen so much promise in women. Day-to-day examples exemplify the many ways we've kept the doors of ease and access open to women. We should take inspiration from this very culture and keep moving forward towards a future which is better and safer for women

On International Women's Day  
Women's Day  
and Whataboutery

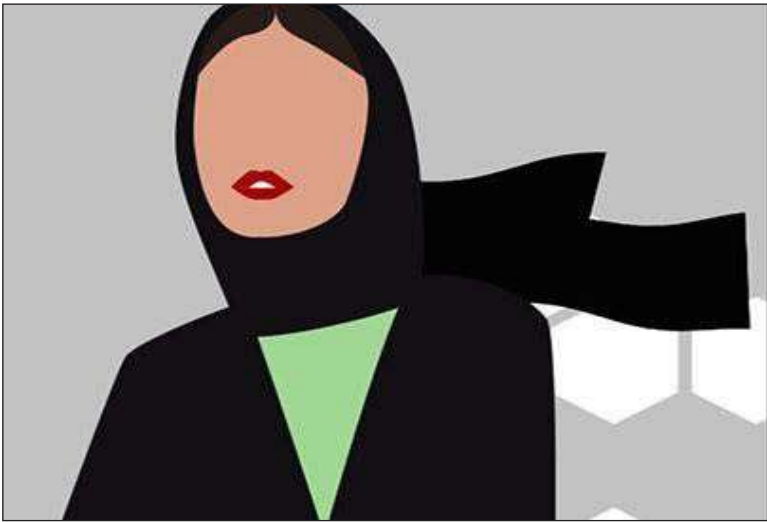
It's International Women's Day. Unsurprisingly, digital and day-light discussions are going to follow the ritualistic whataboutery peculiar to this day. While some will use the day to glorify women insisting that they are "goddesses" others are going to bash women who take such deification seriously and indulge in celebrating themselves. In Kashmir particularly, the discussion has never missed the, "every day is a women's day in Islam" as well as "women are not equal but superior to men". Such comments are stray and often overlooked. However, it is these comments which essentially delineate the mood of how every day discussions on women's issues look like.

Every unnecessary comment has an inherent scope for reform. Each has its own element of truth. However, dominantly, both are deeply entrenched in biases. Women's day is going to come again next year and nothing would have changed. This is because our society has not only failed to move beyond discussions but has also normalised the secondary treatment of women through such whataboutery.

When women's education is being talked about, the naysayers speak of the hijab. It is almost never suggested that women should have more access to religious knowledge and guidance. It is never discussed that in Kashmir, women don't even have access to mosques where they may have felt a sense of communion with the rest of the community. Such public spaces bring along a lot of knowledge, support and more importantly, inspiration. Yet, the Ahmads of the internet will not speak of such issues because the purpose of their whataboutery resides in sexism.

More and more women will come closer to religion, if only men acted as allies and opened up religious spaces and religious knowledge for women. Inadvertently today, a woman's spiritual and religious character is reduced to her sexual morality. While sexual morality is an integral part of one's spiritual character, it is not supposed to be the be-all and end-all for practising Muslimah. Women should be encouraged to move towards and move beyond societal perceptions of "good women" and inspired to move closer to being "believing women" mentioned in Quran.

Additionally, it does no one any good to deify women. Let's be honest, our society does not treat women as goddesses. The implied meaning of such deification should then mean that women should be absolved of all responsibility. They shouldn't have to do anything. Is this the case? No. Should this be the case? No. We all have a set of responsibilities and roles. Those of



Let's be honest, our society does not treat women as goddesses. The implied meaning of such deification should then mean that women should be absolved of all responsibility. They shouldn't have to do anything. Is this the case? No. Should this be the case? No.

us who follow Islam also follow a set of responsibilities which have been entrusted upon each one of us, including women. A more productive way of channelising your enthusiasm for women would be to recognise their labour, assist them and respect them. Women, working or non-working in the modern sense, all do domestic labour. Domestic labour is almost always ill-defined. We do not know the working hours, we do not know the resources used, no one registers the extra-time. This means that women are always at the risk of doing a lot of housework without being credited with anything at all. Instead of fighting about whether or not women need to work or can work or should work, it would help women if you would simply be empathetic enough to always offer your help.

If you truly believe Islam gives rights to women (and it does), show up as believers who have been directed to respect women. It helps no one when women are discouraged. This kind of virtue signalling is almost always restricted to women. Why can we not have haya when we put our point of view online? Why do we become uncouth in our responses to women? Why is it that if a woman verbalises her discomfort, it is almost always met with hate?

You cannot do any good to women or men by being insecure about women's issues. Islam gives rights to women. We have Allah's command and Prophet's (pbuh) guidance. Why are we acting insecure then? Trust that each issue

that a woman raises is an issue that has a solution in our deen. Look for it instead of raising false alarms. Yes, the modern age has a lot of fitnah attached to the question of women's rights but the answer still is empathy. It is becoming increasingly difficult to stay on deen, especially for women. Do not drive women away by painting such an intolerant view of our religion. Our religion is strict but sensible in its approach to women's rights. Have faith and show up as the torchbearers of this spirit of justice in Islam.

Women's day whataboutery will help no one. We need to cultivate an atmosphere where women are heard and their experiences are valued. Kashmir has seen so much promise in women. Day-to-day examples exemplify the many ways we've kept the doors of ease and access open to women. We should take inspiration from this very culture and keep moving forward towards a future which is better and safer for women. The recent incident in Dalgate, where a woman being stalked took to the internet following which the stalkers were arrested, is a positive sign. The support she got, the acceptance and the love will only inspire more women from speaking up. It will create a conducive culture for women to grow and a society where women do not feel like their own are their enemies.

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



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Capacity Building And Training For Women's Safety

THE advancement of women and the achievement of equality between women and men is a matter of human rights and should not be viewed in isolation as a women's issue for social justice. They are the only way to create a sustainable, just, and developed society. However, persistent patriarchal mentality and prejudice against gender equality will lead to poor recognition of women's rights; As it has been behind.

Regarding the deep-seated bias and poor recognition of women's rights in India, the Economic Survey 2018 noted that the desire for a male child has given birth to 21 million "unwanted" girls between 0 and 25 years old in India. According to the latest health index released by the NITI

Aayog, India's sex ratio at birth has declined in 17 of the 21 large states. This indicates a failure in the country's ability to curb female selective abortions after illegal sex disclosure.

As recently as March 2020, there were cases of infanticide in Uslampatti, Tamil Nadu. The deeply ingrained bias ironically suggests that it exists against genuine equality between both men and women. According to PISA test data, the notion that "boys are better at math" is unfounded. Yet this belief still exists. Crimes against women increased from 3,793 per million in 2016 to 3,886 per million in 2017, according to the NCRB report. Uttar Pradesh topped the list with 56,011 cases followed by Maharashtra.

In the corporate world, women

still earn an average of 79 percent of men, who hold only 5 percent of the Fortune 500 CEO positions and represent an average of 17 percent of global board positions. Women lack access to informal networks that provide opportunities to work in high-profile projects, including attending conferences abroad or job opportunities. Early marriage, with or without the consent of the girl, is a form of violence, as it impairs the health and autonomy of millions of girls.

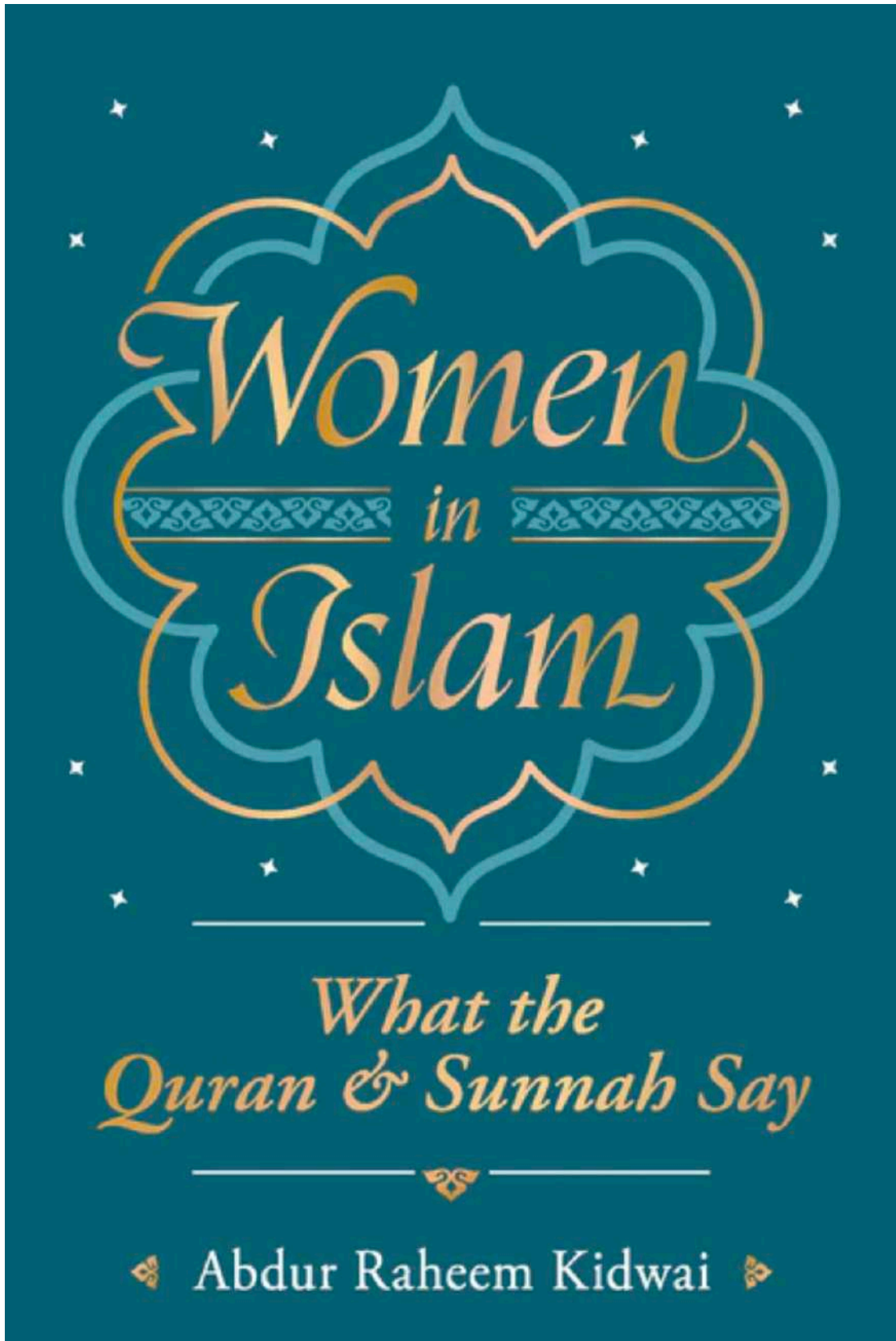
It is important to develop and implement policies that promote gender equality by creating and enforcing laws to protect women, as well as marriage, divorce and custody laws, inheritance laws, and the elimination of discrimination against women in property ownership. For

financial freedom, improving access to paid employment to women and ensuring equal pay for equal work is extremely important.

However, women-centric development plans have been made due to gender-based budgets. The plan for safe cities to improve crime monitoring data collection system on violence against women and use of Nirbhaya Fund for better protection of women. Capacity building and training of service providers and law enforcement officers to handle cases of violence against women is of utmost importance at the nationwide level for women's safety.

Priyanka Saurabh  
[kavitaniketan333@gmail.com](mailto:kavitaniketan333@gmail.com)





International Women's Day

# Defying Misconceptions Regarding Position of Women in Islam

Title: **Women in Islam What the Quran and Sunnah Say**  
Author: **Abdur Raheem Kidwai**  
Publication Details: **Leicestershire, UK: Kube Publishing Ltd., 2020**  
Pages: **190**; ISBN: **9781847741400**; **Hardbound**; Price: **\$ 14.95/-**

Dr Tauseef Ahmad Parray

One of the fiercely debated and discussed topics/ issues in the present times is women in Islam. There are numerous misconceptions and misinterpretations related to their place and position and role and contribution. Numerous works deliberate on this topic, which, nevertheless, appear as never-ending one. A latest addition is *Women in Islam What the Quran and Sunnah Say* (hereinafter *WI*). Written by Professor Abdur Raheem Kidwai (Professor of English and Director of K.A. Nizami Centre for Quranic Studies at *Aligarh Muslim University*), this succinct, slim, and simple Volume demystifies and deconstructs the main misconceptions and misconstructions on this vital but sensitive issue and highlights the rights, status, role, and contribution of Muslim women in its real context.

Published by Kube Publishing (UK) in 2020, *WI* attempts to provide the readers with an opportunity to consider some of the references to women in authentic Islamic sources in order to shape an informed view, with an aim to let readers appreciate the high status that women enjoy in Islam (p. vii)

Divided into three main sections, preceded by a 'Preface (vii-x)' and ending with Index (pp. 170-80), *WI* is a compiation of passages from the Quran and hadith collections which refer to or address women specifically. Engaging the readers in a moment of reflection on the Islamic stance on womanhood: her existence as a creation of Allah, her purpose of life as a slave of Allah, her capacity for attaining self-development and proximity with Allah and her

accomplishments, it brings to the fore that the Quran repeatedly addresses and urges men and women to be active, positive stakeholders in the construction of God-conscious society (p. ix).

In the Preface, the author mentions that certain Islamic practices ... [and] aspects of the faith such as polygamy, divorce, patriarchy, segregation of the sexes etc. have been increasingly taken in isolation, resulting in imposing degradation and suffering upon women; while as, the primary Texts of Islam demonstrate that women in Islam in the capacity of a mother, daughter, and wife are bestowed dignity and exalted status (p. vii). However, he does not overlook the fact that over the centuries, some socio-cultural practices in Muslim societies, past and present, along with patriarchal supremacy snatched this high status from them, which has given place to various prevailing misconceptions on this issue today (p. vii).

In Section-I, *Quranic Verses and Ahadith Addressing and Referring to Women* (pp. 3-136), Kidwai first presents a collection of 76 passages/ quotations from the Quran, which either address men and women collectively or to women specifically, with a brief explanation of many of them demonstrating gender parity. For instance, in the explanation of Q. 4: 32, *Do not be jealous over what God has given more to some [men and women] than others*, he writes: "The Quran is clear in pointing out that men and women will be recompensed alike; there is no distinction between men and women" (p. 6); in the explanation of Q. 55: 60, *Can the reward for goof be anything except good?*, Kidwai stresses that this Divine promise of reward is for everyone,

irrespective of gender, caste, colour, nationality or any other label (p. 21). Similarly, in the explanation of Q. 4: 34, *Men are the protectors and maintainers of women*....one of the highly contested, diversely debated verse and is one of the extremely (mis) interpreted, misconstrued and misunderstood verses Kidwai's explanation provides many clarifications: Since Islam does not lay any financial burden on women, it charges men with the responsibility to support their wife and family and hence his role as the protector. ... Wife-beating or any other form of domestic violence is completely ruled out in Islam and is a serious offence in itself (p. 43).

This is followed by a collection of 102 (numbering 178 in total) *Ahadith/ Prophetic Traditions* from various authentic Hadith books related to different aspects of women in different contexts.

Besides making numerous references to women in different contexts the Quran also portrays some women as role models, and, thus, Section-II, *Women Specifically Mentioned in the Quran* (pp. 137-158) provides an account of these women gleaned from the Quran and other authentic Islamic sources (p. 139). It is divided broadly into two sub-sections: Believing and Disbelieving Women in the Quran (pp. 139-155, 155-158). In former, it refers to Maryam (Mary), Queen of Sheba, Pharaohs Believing Wife, Prophet Moses Mother, Prophet Shuaybs Daughters, and Allahs Response to Some Womens Pleas, respectively, as examples of pious women. Among these, the longest account is dedicated to Maryam (AS), because of certain noticeable reasons: she takes pride of place among all the women mentioned in

the Quran; she is portrayed with enviable appellations like a *saintly woman* (as in Q. 5: 75) or being preferred to *all the women in the world* (as in Q. 3: 42); a whole Surah (Q. 19) is named after her; and she is prominent not only for being mother of Prophet Isa/ Jesus (AS), but the Quran heaps praise on her for her piety, her chastity, and her devotion to Allah (pp. 139, 140).

Among the Disbelieving or wicked women, Kidwai mentions the wives of Prophets Nuh/ Noah (AS) and Lut/Lot (AS), who are censured for their lack of faith (as in Q. 66: 10); Egyptian Potiphars Wife, known as Zulaykhah in popular lore, who appears as a temptress in the account of Prophet Yusuf/ Josephs (AS) account (as in many verses of Surah Yusuf, Q. 12); and Abu Lahabs Wife (as in Q. 111: 1-5) who, along with her husband, were die-hard unbelievers and inveterate enemies of the Prophet (pbuh).

This is followed by Section-III, *Women Hadith Narrators and Teachers* (pp. 159-169), which, as the title clearly reveals, provides a list of some prominent Hadith scholars from early Muslim history with a view to exemplify the dynamic contribution that Muslim women have made to Islamic history (p. ix). These names and data (presented in this Section) are entirely based on Dr M. Akram Nadvis prolegomena to his multi-volume work on female hadith narrators, entitled *al-Muhaddithat: The Women Scholars in Islam* (Oxford, 2007). For example, in this section, it mentions names of the Companions who have narrated hadith on the authority of Aishah, Umm Salmah, Hafsa (RA), etc. It is interesting to add here that as many as 2764 Hadith feature in the six standard collections of Hadith [known

as *Sihah al-Sitta* or *Kutb-e-Sitta*] on the authority of lady Companions, which are not restricted to the personal hygiene and purification of women, but embrace a wide range of topics including prayer, fasting, Zakah, Hajj, food, clothing, business, jihad, marriage and divorce, death, the Hereafter, supplication, morals and manner and the Prophets illustrious life (p. 163).

Thus, highlighting a collection of passages related to women, and women role models, in the Quran and hadith, providing a list of women Hadith narrators, and describing a succinct overview of the Islamic stance on womanhood, Kidwais *Women in Islam* fairly justifies both the title and aim of this volume: providing readers an opportunity to appreciate the high status that women enjoy in Islam.

There are few typos and technical errors in this book: e.g., names of all the Prophets are anglicised followed by the Islamic appellation (*Alayhi Salam*) in Arabic, which is an odd combination; and the number of verses in *Surah al-Lahab* (Q. 111) on page 158 is mentioned wrongly as 15 instead of five (5).

In sum, written lucidly, presented beautifully, and using the Quran and Hadith as the main sources, Kidwais *Women in Islam* portrays the place, role and contribution of women in its real context and defies the misconceptions about Muslim women. It is, indeed, a valuable and welcome addition to the literature on depicting women in Islam in their real and right context.

The author is Assistant Professor, Islamic Studies, at GDC Sogam, Kupwara (J&K).  
Email: tauseefparray21@gmail.com



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# 17 killed, over 100 injured as explosion rocks seven-storey building in Bangladesh's capital city

**Dhaka:** At least 17 people, including two women, were killed and over 100 others injured on Tuesday in a powerful "earthquake-like" explosion at a seven-storey building here in Bangladesh's capital city, police and local residents said.

Eleven firefighting units, comprising 200 firemen, were mobilised at the spot after the blast, which occurred around 4:50 pm (local time) at Old Dhaka's crowded Gulistan area, the fire service control room said.

"Sixteen bodies have been found (so far), but the toll could rise as the rescue operation is underway," a fire service official told reporters.

One person succumbed to his injuries at the hospital, raising the toll to 17.

"Most of the deaths were caused by brain hemorrhage," Health

Minister Zahid Maleque said.

The cause of the explosion could not be known immediately, but local residents suspected chemicals illegally stored inside the building, mostly used as an office and business complex, might have sparked the blast.

Several people have been trapped under the rubble of the building. "We have to cut through the concrete to rescue them. The fire service is working on it," an official said.

"At first, I thought it was an earthquake. The entire Siddik Bazar area was shaken by the blast," eyewitness Safayet Hossain, a local shopkeeper, told The Daily Star newspaper.

"I saw 20-25 people lying in the road in front of a damaged building. They were seriously injured and bleeding. They were crying out for help. Some people

were running around in panic," he said.

He added that the locals were carrying the injured in vans and rickshaws to the hospital.

Alamgir, who was close to the blast site, said, "After the loud noise, people quickly came out of the building. There was panic on everyone's faces. The glass of the building's windows shattered and fell onto the street. Many pedestrians on the street were injured."

The Rapid Action Battalion's bomb disposal unit was rushed to the spot to inspect the buildings. Later, the Army bomb disposal unit also joined the mission.

"We cannot confirm yet if the blast was the outcome of any sabotage. But our bomb disposal unit along with military and police bomb disposal teams are working," said RAB director

general M Khurshid Hossain.

"Our focus is on the rescue operation. The cause of the fire could be known only after investigations," fire service director general Brigadier General Mohammad Mainuddin told reporters.

Dozens of injured were taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, said DMCH police outpost inspector Bacchu Miah.

He added that all of them were receiving treatment at the hospital's emergency unit.

A huge crowd queued up in front of the DMCH blood bank to donate blood for wounded people responding to a call by the hospital authorities.

The building has several stores for sanitary products on the bottom floor and a branch of BRAC Bank was located in the building adjacent to it.

The blast shattered the glass walls of the bank and also damaged a bus standing on the opposite side of the road, reports said.

The police believe it was an accident not a case of sabotage but said they will investigate that possibility, according to Dhaka Tribune newspaper.

Fire officials said the blast occurred on the ground floor and the first two floors of the building were badly damaged.

The blast occurred two days after another exposition at a building in Dhaka's Science Laboratory area that killed three people and injured several others.

Last week, seven people were killed in an explosion at a private oxygen plant in the south-eastern port city of Chattogram, injuring dozens others.

## HC refuses to advance hearing on plea against stopping namaz in Mughal mosque

Agenceis

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court on Tuesday refused to advance the hearing of a plea by the Managing Committee of the Delhi Waqf Board against the Archaeological Society of India (ASI) stopping namaz at Mughal Mosque in the city's Mehrauli area.

The counsel for the petitioner said the matter was "ripe for final disposal", and in view of the upcoming religious occasions, the hearing scheduled for August 21 should be advanced.

The central government counsel opposed the request and said he would file a response to the rejoinder filed by the petitioner.

"List on date already fixed," said Justice Manoj Kumar Ohri.

The grievance of the petitioner before the high court is that the officials of the ASI completely stopped the offering of namaz in the Mughal mosque on May 13, 2022, in an "absolutely unlawful, arbitrary and precipitous manner", without serving any notice or order.

In its reply to the petition, the Archaeological Survey of India said the mosque comes within the boundary of Qutub Minar and is within the protected area where prayers cannot be permitted.

During the submissions, petitioner's counsel M Sufian Siddiqui emphasised that the Mughal mosque was distinct from the "contentious" Quwatul Islam Mosque which is the subject matter of a suit before a lower court in Saket.

## CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

### Rapid Urbanisation

will have the consequences, and we have witnessed and recorded it scientifically from four decades that there has been a tremendous change in land use classification in the valley," he said.

Before human intervention, all wild lands used to be under forests that are known as grazing land, but, now, it has been taken up for agriculture or horticulture use, he said.

These horticulture landscapes have either been grown on the fringe of the forests or inside them, he added.

The regional wildlife warden said that these changes in the wildlife habitat have invited casualties over the years.

While the conflict has escalated, the casualties came down last year, owing largely to awareness.

According to the statistics, in 2013 and 2014, the total number of deaths was 28, which declined to 10 in 2022.

"In 2013, we had 28 killings and 333 injuries. But, these numbers have gone down to 10 deaths and 89 injuries in 2022. If we correlate the resources available at that time to the present scenario, we did not have training available and the department capacity was also not apt to address such issues. Although the casualty number has gone down, the wildlife appearances have significantly gone up," Naqash added.

However, he pointed out, child lifting cases by leopards in north Kashmir have been reported and were "recurrent".

He said every interaction cannot be termed as conflict and there have been appearances of such animals in human habitation which are categorised under conflict but are not in the real sense.

"When they see passages, these animals often resort to their original corridors without harming any life or property," he said.

Many wild animals such as leopards, black bears, and brown bears have adapted to live in human-dominated landscapes, Naqash said.

"Leopards are not restricted to jungles and have their territory now. These changes have made them often migrate to places where they can find a little shelter and food. Dogs are the main delicacies to them and they have developed a habit to urbanise, they feed and breed," he said.

The department acts as soon as it gets an SOS call, but these conflicts are not restricted to any particular area and so the department cannot set up a team everywhere, he said.

"So, to manage such things and take appropriate steps, the department has established 22 rescue control rooms around the Kashmir landscapes that are available round-the-clock," he added.

Detailing reasons for the escalation in the conflict, Wildlife Warden, Central Division, Altaf Hussain said the buffers between the human habitation and the forest areas have decreased.

"Our habitation areas, like the city here, have spread out and come close to the forests. The buffers have decreased. Food availability in urban or suburban areas has increased. Leopards

get shelter easily in the form of dense vegetation, and abandoned plots, so, with the availability of proper shelter and food, the animal can easily change its areas," he said.

Hussain said the animal does not know about the boundary, so, those who live close to forests, have to take precautions.

"But, they (humans) do not have to take steps themselves, rather call us," he added.

Hussain said the department has round-the-clock station teams in high-conflict areas.

Naqash said with all the resources and training available, actions are prompt by the department to avoid any damages, but these are not long-term.

"Proper research on the changes in the habits of wildlife to further control is important. Strategies to balance this coexistence between humans and wildlife and awareness are equally important," he said.

### Dept Sounds Alert

to constitute teams to capture the wild beast. Wildlife department in its two minute and six second video advisory has said that the man-animal conflict can be easily prevented, if people take SOPs seriously and follow it dutifully.

"If people follow dos and don'ts, there will be less conflict between humans and leopards. Don't let kids play alone outside, put the lights on around your house at night, do not litter around your house as dogs feed on garbage and their number increases day by day," the advisory said, adding littering invites leopards to human habitats.

The advisory asked people not to plant grass around their homes or attend nature's call in the open.

"It's highly recommended to keep an eye on abandoned structures with fencing around and make sure there is no grass or hedge plant grown or any temporary shed erected inside, keep such places neat and clean. Don't roam around a dense forest alone and keep close vigil on cattle and pet animals and keep them in protected and concrete cowsheds," the advisory says.

The department has also asked people to leave the animal being attacked and subsequently killed by leopard 'unattended' so as to avoid further losses.

"Don't chase away or attack leopards. Instead, inform the wildlife protection department immediately. Let's follow the SOPs and save life and property," the advisory adds.

### 1 Dead, 6 Injured

spot within an hour, resulting in the death of a crane driver working at the site, while six members of a family, travelling in a private car, were injured when their vehicle plunged into a gorge after being hit by a rolling boulder," Islam told PTL.

Islam, who supervised the rescue operation, said all the six were rescued in an injured condition and shifted to district hospital Ramban.

Five of them were later referred to the Government Medical College (GMC) hospital Jammu for specialized treatment, he said.

He said two vehicles, an earthmover and a private car were also damaged in the incident.

Earlier, there was apprehension that another vehicle was buried under the debris that was spread over 50 metres but nothing like that was found so far, he said, adding efforts are on to at least clear the road for single carriage by tonight.

Islam said the slide is still active and the traffic will be allowed only after shooting stones are stopped.

Earlier, Senior Superintendent of Police (Ramban) Mohita Sharma identified the deceased as Surjeet Singh of Sumber village. He said the body of the deceased would be handed over to his family for last rites after completion of legal formalities.

Sharma, who is also in-charge SSP Highway, said Mohammad Taj, Hamid, Rubeena Begum, Sakeena Begum, Salma Bani and Amir were rescued from the car by the rescuers.

### Govt Puts Bar

except newly created posts kept in abeyance or remaining vacant for a period of more than 2 years in any department/ attached office/subordinate office/ statutory body, would be considered as 'deemed abolished' unless an exemption has been given at the time of sanctioning the post.

The instructions also state that a post falling into the category of 'deemed abolished', cannot be filled up prior to obtaining its revival, from the Finance Department.

"Revival of posts would be considered in rare and unavoidable circumstances only," the instructions further state—(KNO)

### Kashmiri Student

country feel safe and secure. This incident serves as a reminder of the need for better safety measures and awareness of diversity in our society," Association North India Vice President Sheikh Azhar said.

### Our Biggest

affordable medicines from Jan Aushadhi Kendras have resulted in saving of huge sums for families across the country. He said approximately 32,000 patients are visiting 227 Kendras every day in J&K.

"It is our endeavour to start 75 Jan Aushadhi Kendras in every district to mark Amrit Kaal," he added.

Earlier, congratulating all the stakeholders, the LG emphasized on making collective efforts to popularize generic medicines among the masses and extend the benefits of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana to every nook and corner of J&K.

"Besides extending quality, affordable generic medicines to common people, the scheme is providing excellent opportunity of self-employment to women & youth," he said.

The LG also highlighted the reforms introduced to ensure quality, affordable and accessible healthcare for the people of Jammu Kashmir.

Week-long events have been organized across J&K to commemorate the Jan Aushadhi Diwas.

### Calls For Eradicating

said that it is an opportunity for us to renew our commitment to women empowerment.

"This year's theme DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality, gives us an occasion to celebrate their invaluable contribution in the making of digital society and an opportunity to eradicate gender gap in digital access and make it safer, inclusive and equitable," he said.

Sinha said that the women have made invaluable contributions to the socio-economic development of J&K UT.

"It is our collective responsibility to encourage their participation at all levels in economic development and create an ecosystem that ensures security, honour and respect of women in society," he said.

"Let us resolve to redouble efforts for an equitable digital future and their active participation in nation building," he added.

### Patwari Strike

take serious steps to resolve the issue. It is up to the government to end the strike as soon as possible in the interest of the public," Abdul Majeed said.

He said they have been pressing for their demands like an increase in the grade pay of graduate Patwaris from 2400 to 2800, a ban on direct recruitment of Naib Tehsildars, the creation of Girdawar circles, and rationalizing of Patwar halqas.

"The administration agreed to increase the quote of promotions, as that has been done in UT of Ladakh in last year on a ratio of 75, 25 but till now the mechanism has not been implemented in J&K," he said—(KNO)

### Two OGWs Held

The spokesperson said that two AK-47 Magazines, 15 rounds of AK-47, 20 blank posters of banned LeT (TRF) & other incriminating materials were recovered from their possession.

During preliminary investigation, he said, the arrested suspects revealed that they were working with banned terrorist outfit LeT (TRF).

"It is pertinent to mention here that they have obtained the illegal ammunition with the intent to carry out terrorist activities in Kunzer and adjacent areas," the spokesperson said.

"Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered in Police Station Kunzer and further investigation is in progress," he added.

### Dry Weather

previous night while Pahalgam recorded a low of minus 1.4°C against minus 2.0°C on the previous night.

Kokernag recorded a low of 3.9°C against 3.1°C on the previous night and it was 2.0°C above normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 0.8°C against minus 1.6°C on the previous night and it was 2.7°C above normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 0.4°C against 1.1°C on the previous night and it was 1.4°C above normal for the north

Kashmir area.

Jammu recorded a low of 12.9°C against 12.2°C on the previous night. It was 1.1°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

Banihal, he said, recorded a low of 5.8°C (above normal by 2.8°C), Batote 7.5°C (above normal by 1.6°C), Katra 11.6°C (0.1°C above normal) and Bhadarwah 4.2°C (1.1°C above normal). (GNS)

### Notice To Teacher

joined on his own, without any permission order of the competent authority", reads a communiqué shot by the ZEO Sogam to teacher in question reads.

"Moreover, such kind of act and violation will be reflected on records as well as on APRS", reads the communiqué.

"Moreover, HT UPS Rangwar is also directed to explain (how come) the said teacher was allowed to join in the school without any order from competent authority", the communiqué reads further.

When contacted, Zonal Education Officer Sogam told GNS they have sought a detailed explanation from the teacher and the head-teacher into the matter. "We expect, they will soon come forward with their statements", the ZEO said.

Meanwhile, Chief Education Officer Kupwara has directed the Zonal Education Officer to depute the teacher in question to Primary School Tangdub without any delay, failing which necessary action would be taken. (GNS)

### 5 Employees

been initiated if the excess payment has been released under "MGNREGA" (Labour and material component) in Block SK Pora in Budgam.

All the five officials have been placed under suspension and attached to ACD Office Budgam, he said.

The enquiry committee comprising AD Planning Budgam, Mohammad Ibrahim, BDO SK-Pora Shahbakh Chowdhary, SO Planning of Block Narbal, Irshad Ahmad and JSA Planning of ACD Office Budgam Tanveer Ahmad Lone have been asked to submit the detailed report within weeks' time positively. (KDC)

### 8 Held For Illegal

Parvaiz Ahmad Ganie and Mohd Rafiq Dar.

In Baramulla, the spokesperson said, a police party of PP Mirgund seized two vehicles and arrested two persons at Khanpet Mirgund Pattan for their involvement in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals.

They have been identified as Mushtaq Ahmad Guroo and Mohammad Qasim Dar.

Similarly, the spokesperson said Shahzad Ahmad Dar and Javid Ahmad Lone were arrested at Delina Ghat Baramulla and two involved in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals were seized.

"All the accused persons have been shifted to respective police stations where they remain in custody," he said.

Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered at respective police stations and further investigations have been initiated.

Despite being geographically distant from Kashmir how Kashmiris in West maintain cultural, social, and emotional linkages with their homeland. Tune-in to latest KO podcast

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Violation Of Standard Treatment Guidelines

## H&ME Re-Constitutes Committee To Probe Allegations

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** Health and Medical Education Department has ordered for re-constitution of the inquiry committee to inquire into the allegations regarding violation of Standard Treatment Guidelines (STGs) and related issues.

"In partial modification of Government Order No. 63-JK(HME) of 2023 dated 23.01.2023, sanction is hereby accorded to the re-constitution of committee to enquire into the allegations leveled against doctors of Health and Medical Education Department for

violating Standard Treatment Guidelines (STGs) of the National Health Authority & related issues," reads an order, issued by Secretary Health and Medical Education.

As per order Dr. Yashpal Sharma, Director Coordination, New GMCs, J&K will be chairman of the committee while Sanam Mansoor (JKAS), State Nodal Officer, SHA, J&K will be Member Secretary and Dr. Misbah Samad Medical Officer, SHA, J&K and any other subject specific specialist to be co-opted by the Chairman will be members of the committee—(KNO)

## Pyare Khan Concludes His 3-Day Kashmir Visit

Assures To Invest In Tourism, Waste Management

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Chairman & MD Ashimi Group of companies Pyare Zia Khan who was on a three day visit to Kashmir concluded his visit on Tuesday. While speaking to media persons in Srinagar and Budgam he gave assurance to invest in various sectors especially in tourism trade, waste management, infrastructure and energy. While interacting with entrepreneurs from Kashmir valley at Entrepreneurs Development Institute (EDI) Srinagar during startup leadership conclave on Monday, Pyare Khan appealed to the businessmen and businesswomen to think big and keep trying hard.

Khan told his own life story to the participants and said that he began his career as an orange seller near Nagpur Railway station and then purchased an autorickshaw and finally became owner of 500 trucks within a 15 years period. The conclave was addressed by Principal Secretary Industries and Commerce Prashat Goyal, Director EDI Ajaz Ahmad Bhat and several business leaders of Kashmir.

"There is a huge potential to invest in tourism, waste management and energy sector in Kashmir and the positive thing about Kashmir is that both boys and girls are highly educated here and this is not the case with Muslims living in UP, Maharashtra, Bihar or West Bengal. He said that during the last 35 years there has been no investments in Kashmir and this was the time when other cities and states in India got a huge push with massive investments from MNCs. Kashmiris suffered a lot due to violence and now it was the time to work for devel-



opment and I am ready to act as a bridge between Kashmir and other reputed companies who want to invest in various sectors. I am thinking of investing in around 200 luxury cabs that would be made available for tourists. I would love to treat the waste that is taken out of Dal Lake, Fruit Mandis and Wullar Lake and make useful things out of it. I am thinking of producing organic compost, compressed biogas (CBG) and CNG from the biodegradable waste in Kashmir. There is good potential to set up small hydro-power projects or solar plants and we can explore that as well" said Pyare Khan

Pyare Khan had a detailed meeting with members of Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry, teachers and management of Birla Open Minds School Pampore, Members of Land Owners Welfare Committee Srinagar Ring Road, students of Govt Degree College Beerwah. At Beerwah he assured to give placements to the fresh graduates of the college in Mumbai where Ashimi Group is managing toll posts of NHAI. Chairman DDC Budgam Nazir Ahmad Khan, Social activist Dr Raja Muzaffar and Principal Degree College Beerwah Dr Syed Iffat also spoke during the interactive session held at GDC Beerwah

## HK Hyundai Celebrates International Women's Day

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Women's day is a global holiday celebrated annually on March 8 as a focal point in the women's rights movement, bringing attention to issues such as gender equality, rights, women empowerment, violence and abuse against women.

HK Hyundai has started the celebration of women's day for a week-long time started from 1st March 2023 till 8th March 2023. During the celebration we have provided the offers in both sales and services at our dealership for Women customers and have assured the gift hamper as a token of respect. Starting from the cake cutting ceremony and certificate distributions, even female staff the dealership hailed the management of HK Hyundai for so much respect to the staff.

Every year, March 8 is celebrated as International Women's Day. Our goal is to create awareness about gender-equality, women empowerment. It is about celebrating a woman's success and raising awareness against gender bias and discrimination. Our dealership always remained equal to our staff members. We respect women modesty and privacy to create a feasible and secure work environment for female employees in our organization", said Umar Yaqoob



Mir – Managing Director, HK Hyundai.

Ten values that guide International Women's Day are Justice, Dignity, Hope, Equality, Collaboration, Tenacity, Appreciation and Respect. Hyundai India has started an online campaign on women's day with hashtag #TheDriveWithin with a tagline Celebrating the women that drive India", said Khalid Mustafa, Manager Operations – HK Hyundai

Shakeel Ahmad (Manager Services) said, "Complete dealership of HK Hyundai is covered by decorative balloons and flowers and warm welcome to the female employees was arranged. We cannot be complacent. We all should play our part in bringing gender parity and we wish a very Happy Women's Day to all the ladies out there!



AN ELDERLY MAN RECITES THE QURAN from his mobile phone at the graves of his loved ones at a cemetery in the Zadibal area of the city on the occasion of Shab-e-Bara'at.

KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

RAJOURI ATTACK FALLOUT

## Dhangri Villagers Skip Holi Celebrations

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** Residents of Dhangri village in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district did not celebrate Holi on Tuesday following the killing of seven people by militants early this year.

"We are still in mourning and have decided to stay away from the Holi celebrations this year," local Sarpanch Dheeraj Sharma told PTI.

Militants struck the village on January 1 and targeted several houses of a particular community before fleeing the scene, leaving behind an Improvised Explosive Device (IED).

While five people were killed in the firing, two others died in the IED explosion the next morning. A total of 14 villagers were injured in the twin attacks.

Holi was celebrated in most parts of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday.

Sharma said staying away from Holi celebrations was a moral responsibility for every one in the area.

"The entire village stands with the victims' families. The whole village is paying their respect to the killed innocents who included a father-son duo, two minor cousins, two brothers and an ex-serviceman," he said.

Saroj Bala, who is the only survivor in her house after losing both her sons -- Deepak



Sharma and Prince Sharma -- thanked the villagers for standing with her.

"I have lost my sons but the entire village is with me and everyone has extended the best possible help," Bala said.

She said the attackers are still at large but "I am sure our forces will eliminate them."

Meanwhile, many temples located near the Line of Control (LoC) in Nowshera sector of Rajouri witnessed a special plantation drive with the forest department encouraging people to plant saplings to safeguard the environment.

Divisional Forest Officer, Nowshera Nilima Shah said the main drive was conducted at Shiv Mandir Thandapani in

which a number of devotees and locals planted Rudraksh saplings in the temple premises.

Number of plants were planted by locals and students to celebrate Holi while plants were also distributed among the locals and students, she said.

The temple management lauded the efforts of the forest department for conducting such a drive.

Similar drives were conducted at various other places including Shiv temple Makol and Lamman temple in which members of trust and devotees participated, officials said.

"The objective of J-K Green drive is to reach the maximum number of people to encourage them to plant trees," Shah said.

## 10 Vehicles Blacklisted For Traffic Violations In Sopore

Agencies

**SOPORE:** The Motor Vehicles Department in the Sopore area of north Kashmir's Baramulla district on Tuesday blacklisted around ten vehicles for violating traffic rules. It also issued suspension notices to two vehicles whose documents were also retained.

An official said that a checking drive was launched by the team of the Motor Vehicles Department Baramulla at Chinar Crossing Warpora in Sopore.

He said that during the drive, at least ten vehicles were identified by the checking squad and were blacklisted on the spot. "Documents of some vehicles were retained. Suspension notices were also served to two vehicles," he said.

Inspector Suhail Zamzam said that the basic purpose of such drives is to avoid daily accidents which happened due to traffic violations —(KNO)

## Ahsan Pardesi Greets People On Shab-e-Baraat

**SRINAGAR:** Ahsan Pardesi, the Provincial Vice President of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) and the in-charge of Lal Chowk Constituency, extended his greetings on the occasion of Shab-e-Baraat.

Shab-e-Baraat is a significant Islamic event observed on the night between the 14th and 15th of the Islamic month of Sha'ban. It is a night of forgiveness, blessings, and salvation for Muslims around the world.

In his message, Ahsan Pardesi extended his warmest wishes to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, especially the Muslim community, on the occasion of Shab-e-Baraat. He urged everyone to observe the night with devotion and piety, and to seek forgiveness and mercy from Allah.

He also emphasized the importance of spreading love, compassion, and brotherhood among all communities, regardless of their religion or beliefs. "Shab-e-Baraat is a night of blessings and forgiveness. Let us use this occasion to pray for peace, prosperity, and harmony in our state and in the world," he said.



## Man Posing As Soldier Dupes Baramulla Trader Of Rs 1.35L

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** A man posing as army man looted a shopkeeper of Rs 1.35 lakh in Khasipora Khore village of north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

The shopkeeper Mohammad Rafiq Ahanger claimed a man posing as army man ordered some hardware items worth Rs 42,500 over phone and he prepared the same.

"Then I arranged a vehicle to take those items to local army camp, where the person asked me to come. The man then asked my account details so he could pay the bill. Accordingly,

I disclosed the details to him, however, after accepting the payment request on PhonePe he withdrew the entire money amount to Rs 1.35 lakh from my account," he claimed.

He further said that when he reached the army camp with the hardware material, he came to know that they never called him for this.

"Then I realised I have been cheated by some fraudster who looter all the money from my bank account," he said.

Meanwhile, police have registered a case in this regard and investigation has been set into motion, news agency KNS reported.

## Youth Entrepreneurship Festival In Ganderbal Soon

Observer News Service

**GANDERBAL:** The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir Tuesday chaired a meeting, here on 'Youth Entrepreneurship Festival' to be held in the district.

In the meeting, a presentation was presented by Mahatma Gandhi National Fellow Ganderbal during which the DC was informed that by holding Youth Entrepreneurship Festival Ganderbal the District Skill Committee aims to achieve various objectives viz. developing entrepreneurial zeal among the youth by driving innovation based activities, making skill development an aspiration, thereby promoting Skill Entrepreneurship, Engagement of MSMEs via Skill Competitions, foster teamwork for successful Entrepreneurs in the district.

The meeting was informed that the District Skill Committee (DSC) Ganderbal aims to achieve these objectives by events like Idea Pitching, Idea Hunting Challenges, Employment Fair, Skill Competitions, Art and Craft Competitions, Guest Lecture by Entrepreneurship Experts and Sharing of Success Stories under the banner 'Success Talks'.

Besides these activities, sports events and cultural events shall also be held which will showcase the local crafts and traditions.

The DC directed that mobilisation activities for the festivals should start as soon as possible and instructed all the participants in the meeting to advertise about the activities of the festival at large scale.

The Mobilisation and Counseling Sub-Committee of DSC was directed to hold work-

shops in all the institutions of Ganderbal for the success of the festival. It was further directed that the District Skill Committee shall design the format for accepting the entries for Idea Pitching Challenge and directed all the departments to motivate people for Idea Pitching in the festival for the maximum participation in the festival. The best ideas shall be filtered and trained for idea pitching on the final day of the festival.

Regarding Skill Competitions, the DC directed all the Institutions dealing with Skill Development activities to share the list of trades in which skill training has been imparted, therefore trade specific skill challenges may be organised and maximum participation may be encouraged in the festival. Moreover, an employment fair was also planned to be held as part of the event.

The festival has planned to hold the Entrepreneurship based Games which shall help in developing the affinity for Entrepreneurship in school and college going students. The activity-based learning in the form of games shall help the students to simulate the Entrepreneurship environment.

Indian Institute of Management Jammu, academic partner for Ganderbal Entrepreneurship Festival, was asked to provide expertise to make these activities a success.

The DC fixed the roles and responsibilities among the departments with strict instructions and deadlines. Further, all the departments were directed to work in convergence to make the festival a grand success.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

pcwucma@gmail.com

WULAR CONSERVATION & MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

FOREST COMPLEX RAJBAGH SRINAGAR (NEAR SILK FACTORY) -190001

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

e- NIT NO:- 32 OF 2022-23 DATED: 02-03-2023

For and on behalf of the Hon'ble President of India, e-tenders are invited from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Govt./Central Govt. Organizations (PWD/CPWD) for the following works:-

W. No.	NAME OF WORK	ADV. COST (in lacs.)	CLASS OF CONTRACTOR	Cost of Tender Document. (Rs)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	TIME OF COMPLETION
1	Construction of One (1 No.) Hi-Tech Green House (pinyin 150 sq.m (25m x 6m x 4 m) at Ningle (on turnkey basis) ➤ Detailed specification enclosed with tender document	15.40	"B&C"	Rs. 800/=	Rs. 30800/-	30 calendar days.

Position of Funds: Budgeted

Position of AA/TS: Accorded

The e-NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bills of quantities, (B.O.Q) set of Terms & Conditions of contract (Tender document) and other details can be seen/downloaded from the Website:- [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per schedule of dates given below:-

Date of issue of Tender Notice	02-03-2023
Download Start Date:	02-03-2023 from 11:00 AM
Bid submission Start Date:	02-03-2023 from 11:00 AM
Bid submission End Date:	11-03-2023 Up to 06:00 PM
Date of Opening of Technical Bid Online.	13-03-2023 at 1:00 PM in the office of the Project Coordinator Wular Conservation & Management Authority Rajbagh Srinagar Kashmir
Date of Opening of Financial Bids Online:	Will be notified separately

01.

The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website:- <https://jktenders.gov.in>

02.

The date for opening of Technical & Financial bids online shall be as per time schedule mentioned.

03.

Bids uploaded must be accompanied with Treasury Receipt (cost of tender document) in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Project Coordinator CAT WUCMA as per prescribed format with the tender document (Annexure-A) for the amount shown against each work above to be deposited in Treasury under Account Head 0406- Forest and earnest money/bid security in shape of CDR/FDR for the amount shown against each work above pledged to Project Coordinator CAT Wular Conservation & Management Authority Rajbagh Srinagar Kashmir

04.

The bidder at his own responsibility and risk should visit and examine the site of work and surroundings before submission of bid.

05.

If the bidder does not quote rate for any item of the rate list/quantity schedule, cost of such item/items shall be deemed to be part of the overall/total contract value. No rate shall be allowed for such item/items in the allotment of contract.

06.

The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids.

07.

The successful bidder has to produce a performance security of 3% of the advertized cost in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Project Coordinator CAT WUCMA before issuance of contract allotment and if there are compelling circumstances performance security in excess of 3% may also be demanded.

08.

Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website [jktenders.gov.in](http://jktenders.gov.in)

09.

To participate in bidding process bidders have to get Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) as per Information Technology Act Bidders can get Digital Certificate form approved vendor.

10.

The bidders have to submit their Technical & Financial bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No Technical or financial bid will be accepted in physical/hard form.

11.

Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above.

23.

The Tender Opening Committee however reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

24.

Bidders are advised not make any change in BOQ (Bill of quantities) contents, in no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the item rate inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved in the same name as it contains.

25.

The unit rate and prices shall be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the rate quoted shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto the completion of work physically/financially. The deduction of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill prevailing at the time of recovery.

26.

All other terms and conditions shall remain same as per PWD form 25 (double leaf) and as per the detailed tender document.

NO:- PC/CAT/WUCMA/23/1718-22

Dated:- 02/03/2023

DIPK-NB-6743-22

DT: 07-03-2023

Project Coordinator,

CAT, WUCMA,

Rajbagh Srinagar.



## Bandipora Girl To Play In Int'l Ju-Jitsu Championship



Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** A teenage girl from Bandipora district has brought laurels to J&K as she has carved her way to an international Ju-Jitsu Championship.

Sabkat Malik of remote Viji-hara area of Bandipora despite facing challenges has made it to international level and will represent India in Ju-Jitsu International Federation's World Championship scheduled in Mongolia this year.

She said that she was interested in martial arts since her childhood but she faced many challenges in order to achieve

her dream.

"I came to know about Ju-Jitsu in locality around 11 years ago and started learning it with an aim to become a champion in Ju-Jitsu," she said, adding that choosing a male dominated game at an early age and then practising with negligible infrastructure wasn't an easy thing.

"However, I remained determined and worked very hard to leap the ladder of success starting from district, followed by State, National and now International," she said.

"Playing at international level and to become a champion in Ju-Jitsu martial arts is aim of my life," she added.

Her family members have also said they feel very happy to learn about her selection as according to them, Sabkat has faced many challenges in her life but she remained determined towards goal.

Muzaffar Ahmad, coach of Sabkat while expressing happiness over her selection said that she is very much talented and will definitely prove her mettle whenever she will get opportunity.

"I am very happy that her determination and hard work has paid off and has inspired other girls to take part in martial arts," he said. (KNO)

## Kerala Blasters Face Bengaluru FC Again In Super Cup



Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** Indian Super League Shield winners Mumbai City FC were on Tuesday clubbed along with Chennaiyin FC, North East United FC and an I-League team for the Super Cup tournament to be held at two venues in Kerala from April 3.

Kerala Blasters, who controversially walked out of their ISL match against Bengaluru FC last week, were placed along with the same opponents in Group A which also has newly-crowned I-League champions RoundGlass Punjab FC.

The Super Cup tournament is being held in Kerala for the first time. The draw of the tournament, to be staged in Kozhikode and Manjeri, was held on Tuesday.

Sixteen teams are set to fight it out in the tournament and the winners will get a chance to

play at the continental level. The champions of the Super Cup will fight it out in a play-off against last season's I-League champions Gokulam Kerala FC to determine who will get an entry into the AFC Cup South Zone group.

The tournament will see participation from Indian Super League and I-League teams. The ISL teams and the winners of the I-League get a direct entry into the group stage of the competition.

Seven teams from the I-League (those ranked from second to eighth) will have a set of playoff qualifiers to get into the group stage of the tournament. The teams ranked ninth and tenth will play a qualifying playoff and the winners will get a place in the qualifiers.

The draw for the Super Cup saw the 16 participating teams divided into four groups of four.

## SA To Field Two Spinners In 2nd Test Against West Indies



Agencies

**JOHANNESBURG:** South Africa have recalled middle-order batsman Ryan Rickelton and the spin duo of Simon Harmer and Keshav Maharaj for the second and final test against the West Indies at The Wanderers on Wednesday.

Coach Shukri Conrad has revealed the starting XI and says he had no concerns over the form of newly-installed captain Temba Bavuma, who got a pair of ducks in the 87-run first test victory in Pretoria last week.

Rickelton, 26, was a surprise absentee from the first match given his excellent domestic form that has seen him score 365 runs in five innings at an average of 121.66. He takes over from Keegan Petersen at number five in the batting line-up.

"You want to be consistent with selections and reward performance, but you can only select 11 players," Conrad told reporters on Tuesday.

"Ryan is definitely one that will be a big part of the side going forward.

The Wanderers is usually a wicket for the seamers with pace and bounce, but in recent times has slowed down and that has prompted the home side to pick both Harmer and Maharaj in the place of Senuran Muthusamy and injured fast bowler Anrich Nortje.

Bavuma became only the fourth player in test history to get a pair on their captaincy debut after Mark Taylor (Australia), Rashid Latif (Pakistan) and Habibul Bashar (Bangladesh), but Conrad says there has been no discussion about it.

## Everyone Wants To Qualify For WTC: Rahul Dravid Defends 'Poor' Tracks



Press Trust of India

**AHMEDABAD:** India's head coach Rahul Dravid doesn't regret one bit playing the ongoing Test series against Australia on spinner-friendly tracks as World Test Championship points are at premium and most countries are preparing result-oriented pitches.

While India lead Australia 2-1 in the four-Test series, the "poor" rating of Indore track by ICC match referee Chris Broad has once again raised questions about playing on rank turners, where all the games finished inside three days.

"I won't go too much into it. Match referee is entitled to share his opinion. Doesn't really matter if I agree with his reading or not. Doesn't matter what I think. But sometimes with WTC points at stake, you tend to play on wickets that produce results," Dravid was straightforward in his defence of the three tracks in Nagpur, Delhi and Indore.

However, he didn't forget to mention that data analysis of tracks prepared by home teams in last few years has shown that the 22-yard strips in most places have been challenging.

"It can happen, not only in India but across the world if you see, sometimes it is difficult to get that balance perfectly right for everyone and that can happen not only here but in other places as well," the man with 164 Test matches under his belt said.

Dravid did give a bit of idea as to what has been the trigger behind asking for these kind of raging turners. It was the 2021 Test match in Kanpur against New Zealand where India failed to pick up nine wickets on the final day.

"There is a huge premium on results and if you draw a game like we did in Kanpur versus New Zealand, that sets you back in a home game. When you have 12 for a win and 4 for draw, you want to get a win ahead of a draw," he stated.

There was a hint of sarcasm

as well as irritation when he spoke about the tracks in South Africa where India played three Tests early last year.

"We have played on some challenging wickets when we go overseas also. Played in South Africa recently (2022), where spinners were completely taken out of the game," he said curtly.

"And everyone wants to produce wickets where eventually one wants results. You will probably prepare wickets where the ball holds a bit more sway over the bat and that's necessary and part of the game," Dravid didn't deny the bowlers' advantage.

Someone cheekily asked about the critics, saying that during the head coach's playing days there used to be good batting strips on offer and 550 plus used to be scored.

"No one wants extremes but it can happen. I am not going to divulge personal conversations with my players and everyone wants to win and qualify."

## Sri Lanka Bid To Sweep New Zealand & Reach WTC Final



Agencies

**WELLINGTON:** Sri Lanka will look to strike an early blow against New Zealand in Christchurch this week and hope Australia can thwart India to keep the World Test Championship (WTC) race alive.

With Australia already confirmed in the WTC final, Sri Lanka can join them by sweeping New Zealand in their two-test series if India are denied victory in the fourth test in the subcontinent. The series starts at Hagley Oval on Thursday, the same day India and Australia start their final test at the mega-stadium in Ahmedabad.

Sri Lanka has by far the harder assignment, needing to create history to leapfrog their south Asian rivals. They have never won more than a single test in New Zealand and their last victory was in 2006, when Mahela Jayawardene's team split a 1-1 series with the Stephen Fleming-captained hosts.

"Beating New Zealand in New Zealand is certainly going to be a huge task but last time we played some good cricket over here," veteran all-rounder Angelo Mathews told reporters on Tuesday, referring to their 1-0 defeat on the 2019 tour.

"We have to play fire with fire because they're going to come hard at us."

Sri Lanka have left no stone unturned in their preparations and recently held a training camp at a new facility in the hills south of Kandy to try to simulate New Zealand's cool conditions and bouncy wickets.

With some rain forecast through the Christchurch test, Dimuth Karunaratne's Sri Lanka might do well to follow England's attacking example and seek to move the game on quickly in pursuit of victory.

Anything less than a win before the second test in Wellington will put India into the WTC final. Mathews said Sri Lanka would stick to their style, having won three of their last six series and suffering their only loss to India away.

"Obviously, the English are playing a different brand of cricket," he said. "No pressure at all. We know that we've got to win both the games to be in the final and we have to play really good cricket.

"It's pretty straightforward."



## CL: Bayern To Try To Contain PSG In Last 16

Agencies

**DUSSELDORF:** Bayern Munich coach Julian Nagelsmann wants his team to "get at" Paris Saint-Germain in the Champions League. Kylian Mbappé wants to add more goals to his PSG scoring record.

They will get their chance on Wednesday when Bayern tries to defend its 1-0 lead in the second leg of the round of 16.

Bayern won the first leg in Paris with a goal from former PSG player Kingsley Coman, but the team's approach in the return match will be closely watched.

Under Nagelsmann, Bayern tends to defend one-goal leads by trying to score two or three more. Keeping up the attacking pressure worked in the group stage against Inter Milan and Barcelona, neither of which could score against Bayern, but it could allow PSG opportunities to get back into the game.

"Both we and PSG have enormous pace in attack. We want to get at them when they take possession and be physically present from the first minute," Nagelsmann said Monday.

"What we need in the second leg is to prevent them from using their pace. If you give their attackers too much space and they can unleash their footballing qualities, it's incredibly

difficult to defend."

Either way, one of the two teams will face its earliest Champions League exit since both were eliminated by English opponents in the round of 16 in 2018-19. Bayern and PSG both expect to be in the quarterfinals at the very least, so a loss could affect the future of Nagelsmann or PSG coach Christophe Galtier.

Hiring Nagelsmann on a five-year contract in 2021 was a statement from the Bayern hierarchy that they saw the then-33-year-old German as the architect of a long-term project. He's now facing a tough challenge from PSG and also a tight domestic title race, with Bayern even on points with Borussia Dortmund in the Bundesliga.

Both teams are without key players ahead of Wednesday's game.

Sadio Mané missed the first leg with the leg injury which previously ruled him out of the World Cup, but the Senegal forward has since returned to action and came off the bench in Bayern's last two Bundesliga games.

Still, Bayern remains without goalkeeper Manuel Neuer and defender Lucas Hernández, both long-term absentees, and fullback Noussair Mazraoui is in training but has not played since the World Cup. (AP)

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