

## FM Presents Rs 1.18L Crore Budget For J&K



Press Trust Of India

**New Delhi:** Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday presented in the Lok Sabha a Rs 1.18 lakh crore budget for Jammu and Kashmir for the year 2023-24 with a thrust on providing housing in rural areas and water tap connections to 18.36 lakh households.

Union Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary tabled the budget for the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir. The budget assures to double the UT's GDP within five years and has themes of good governance; strengthening grass-root democracy; promoting sustainable agriculture; facilitating investment and industrial growth; employment generation; accelerated development and inclusive growth; and women empowerment and social inclusion.

Sitharaman said Kashmir is likely to be connected to the rest of the country through rail network by the end of 2023 and the government also plans to roll out light metro rail in Jammu and Srinagar during the next financial year.

"The total budget estimates for the fiscal is Rs 1,18,500 crore, of which developmental expenditure is of the order of Rs 41,491 crore," Sitharaman said in the budget speech tabled in the Lok Sabha.

She said the expected revenue receipts are Rs 1,06,061 crore whereas revenue expenditure was expected to be Rs 77,009 crore, thereby making available revenue surplus for capital expenditure to the tune of Rs 29,052 crore.

"The tax/GDP ratio is projected at 8.82 per cent for 2023-24 which is higher than the previous year of 7.77 per cent," Sitharaman said. **More on P6**

**THE FINANCE MINISTER HAS ALLOCATED RS 2,526.74 CRORE TO AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE;** Rs 2,097.53 crore to health and medical education; Rs 4,169.26 crore to rural department; Rs 1,964.90 crore to power sector; Rs 7,161 crore to Jal Shakti; Rs 2,928.04 crore to housing and urban development; Rs 1,521.87 crore to education; and Rs 4,062.87 crore to construction of roads and bridges.

## J&K To Auction Lithium Block Discovered In Feb: Minister



KO Photo | Abid Bhat

Press Trust Of India

**New Delhi:** Jammu and Kashmir will put on sale lithium block discovered last month, Mines Minister Pralhad Joshi said on Monday.

Lithium is a non-ferrous metal and is one of the key components in EV batteries.

"The mineral block will be auctioned as Composite License (CL) by the Government of Union Territory of J&K. The financial viability will be determined

after auctioning by the successful bidder," Joshi said in Rajya Sabha.

The expected date of extraction of lithium will depend upon successful auction of the mineral block.

"GSI (Geological Survey of India) carried out a G3 stage project during Field Season 2020-21 and 2021-22 in Salal-Haimna areas of Reasi district, Jammu & Kashmir and estimated an inferred resource (G3) of 5.9 million tonnes of lithium **More on P6**

## Days Gone When Govt Jobs Were Sold At Shops: LG

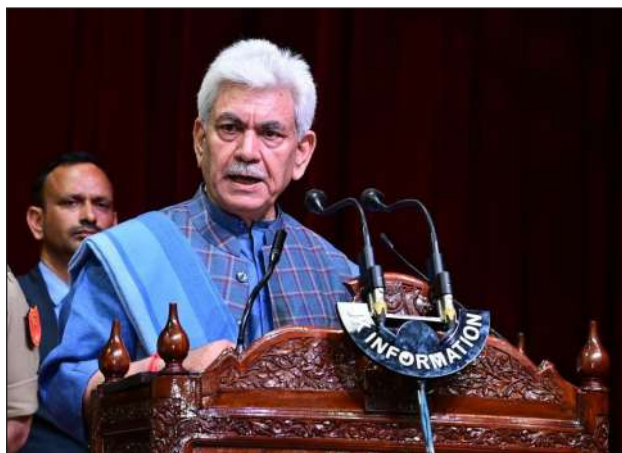
Says Those People Who Gave Jobs To Terrorists, Their Families Have No Right To Raise Fingers At Recruitment Process

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Hitting back at his opponents for launching a tirade against the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB), Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Monday that those people who gave jobs to "terrorists and their families" have no moral ground to raise fingers at the ongoing recruitment process.

"I am assuring you that the recruitment process will be fair and transparent. Those days are gone when jobs were sold in shops or either given on the basis of recommendations," Sinha said.

He made these comments while addressing a function after laying of foundation stones of various projects



related to Jammu Smart City at Jammu Convention Centre.

The LG's reaction comes at a time when thousands of job aspirants are holding protests in the Union Territory against the JKSSB for allegedly hiring

a blacklisted company Aptech for conducting exams. J&K's regional parties have also extended support to the protesting job aspirants and called upon the LG-led dispensation to cancel the exams.

However, taking potshots at his political opponents, the LG said that deliberate attempts were being made to stall the recruitment process.

"In last three years, 30,000 youth were provided government jobs. In 2023, we are planning to fill 12,000 more vacancies. However, some vested interests don't want the recruitment process to go on," he said.

Urging the protesting job aspirants not to fall in the trap of misinformation campaign, the LG said that his administration will not spare anyone found indulging in wrongdoings.

"What will those people say who gave jobs to terrorists and their family members? What moral ground do those people have who **More on P6**

## Govt Okays Land For KP Colonies In Srinagar, Anantnag

Observer News Service

**Jammu:** Jammu and Kashmir administration on Monday approved the proposals of different departments for transfer of land for various purposes including construction of transit accommodations for migrant Kashmiri Pandit employees in the valley.

The J-K Administrative Council, which met here under the chairmanship of Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, decided to transfer land

measuring 80 kanals four marlas in favour of Department of Disaster Management Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (DMRRR) for construction of transit accommodations in Srinagar and Anantnag districts for migrant Kashmiri government employees appointed under Prime Minister's package, an official spokesman said.

He said the Administrative Council also transferred land in favour of the Power Development Department for

augmentation of power supply in different areas of Kashmir.

A 42 kanals 15 marlas land situated at village Pohrupeth in Kupwara was transferred for construction of 315 MVA, 220/132 KV GIS grid substation, land measuring two kanals situated at village Noorpora in Pulwama for construction of new 33/11 KV substation and land measuring one kanal 10 marlas situated at village Odina in Bandipora for construction of 3.15 MVA, 33/11 KV **More on P6**

## BJP To KPs: Ensure Inclusion In Electoral Rolls

Jammu and Kashmir unit of BJP on Monday appealed to the migrant Kashmiri Pandits to ensure that their names are included in the electoral rolls of their respective constituencies in the valley. BJP spokesperson and former Member of Legislative Council Girdhari Lal Raina, himself a migrant Kashmiri Pandit, asked the election commission not **More on P6**

## Shifting Detainees From J&K Issues Of National Security: Centre

Press Trust Of India

**New Delhi:** Issues of "genuine national security" are involved in cases of shifting of over 20 people, detained under the Public Safety Act in Jammu and Kashmir, to jails outside the Union Territory, the Centre told the Supreme Court on Monday.

A bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justices PS Narasimha and JB Pardiwala was hearing a plea filed by Srinagar resident Raja Begum and three others through lawyer Satya Mitra challenging the transfer of detainees to jails outside the UT in alleged violation of the provisions of the law under which they had been detained.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta told the court, "We will take instructions but these are



issues of genuine national security. It may not be as simple as just communication between two people."

Arif Ahmad Sheikh, son of Raja Begum, a resident of Parimpora in Srinagar, was shifted to the central jail in Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh. He was detained under the PSA on April 7 last year.

The plea alleged that over 20 people, detained under the

public safety law, have been shifted out of the union territory prisons to jails in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana. During the hearing, the counsel appearing for the petitioners said their families are unable to communicate with the detainees.

"They have taken immense pain. Some sort of communication needs to be established. Family members are not allowed to communicate. They belong to very poor background and for them travelling to visit him (Sheikh) is impossible," she said.

The top court posted the matter for further hearing on April 5.

On November 4 last year, the top court had sought responses from the Centre, the Jammu and Kashmir **More on P6**

## J&K Raises Ex-Gratia Of Slain CAPF Personnel

Next Of Kin Of Slain CAPF Personnel Will Now Receive Rs 25 Lakh

Observer News Service

**Jammu:** The LG administration on Monday approved enhancement of ex-gratia relief to the families of central forces, killed in the line of duty in Jammu and Kashmir.

The decision raising ex-gratia relief to the next of kin of the central armed paramilitary forces (CAPFs) personnel, who die in the line of duty, was taken by the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha chaired Administrative Council (AC) meet on Monday, an official spokesperson said.

He said that the next of kin of the slain CAPF personnel will now receive Rs 25 lakh as

## India's Engagement With China Complex: MEA

Press Trust Of India

**New Delhi:** India's engagement with China is "complex" and Chinese attempts to unilaterally alter the status quo along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh starting from April-May 2020 seriously disturbed the peace and tranquility in border areas, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said in a report on Monday.

It said these attempts were invariably met with an "appropriate response" from Indian armed forces.

"India's engagement with China is complex. The two sides have agreed that pending the final settlement of the boundary question, maintenance of peace and tranquility in the border areas is an essential basis for the overall development of the bilateral relationship," the MEA's annual report for 2022 said.

"However, starting from April-May 2020, the Chinese side undertook several attempts to unilaterally alter the status quo along the LAC in the Western sector, which seriously disturbed the peace and tranquility along the LAC in the Western sector and impacted the development of the relationship," it said.

The government refers to eastern Ladakh as the Western sector.

The MEA said both sides have agreed to resolve the issues along the LAC in eastern Ladakh through peaceful dialogue and that discussions have continued with the Chinese side to achieve complete disengagement from all friction points and full restoration of peace **More on P6**

## STARTING FROM APRIL-MAY 2020, THE CHINESE SIDE

undertook several attempts to unilaterally alter the status quo along the LAC in the Western sector, which seriously disturbed the peace and tranquility along the LAC in the Western sector and impacted the development of the relationship."

## S H O R T T A K E S

### JKAS Officer Suspended For Absence

The Union Territory government on Tuesday suspended Jammu Kashmir Administrative Officer (JKAS) officer, Abdul Rashid Dass with immediate effect over unauthorized absence. According to an order, Abdul Rashid Dass, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner (Development), Bandipora is hereby placed under suspension with immediate effect for unauthorized absence/ proceeding on leave without approval of the competent Authority. "The said officer shall immediately report to the Secretary in the Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj **More on P6**

### NIA Conducts Raid In Srinagar

A team of National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Monday raided a residential house in Habbakadal area of Srinagar, official sources said. Quoting officials, news agency Kashmir Dot Com reported that a residential house of one Uzair Ahmad, son of Farooq Ahmad of Karfali Mohalla Habbakadal is being searched by a team of national probing agency. The search is being carried out in connection with a case already registered at the police station of NIA, they said, adding that further details will be shared later.

### Arms Cache Recovered From Hideout

The Jammu and Kashmir police on Monday claimed to have busted a militant hideout in Rakh Momin area of South Kashmir's Anantnag district and recovered a huge cache of arms and ammunition. In a statement, a spokesperson said on the intervening night of 12th and 13th of March on the basis of a specific input developed over a period of time by Anantnag Police, a joint CASO along with army's 1RR was launched in Rakh Momin Dangi area Bijbehara. The statement reads search in the area led to busting of a LET hideout and subsequent **More on P6**

### Man Electrocuted To Death



An elderly man died on Monday after receiving electric shock in South Kashmir's Pulwama district. Sixty-year-old Ghulam Hassan Bakhshi was repairing an electric wire at his home in Trichal village of the district on Monday morning when he received an electric shock, reports said. Bakhshi was **More on P6**

### Rape Accused Arrested In Samba

A rape accused who had been on the run for more than seven months was arrested on Monday in the Samba district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said.



A rape case was registered against Manish Sharma at Rakh-Amb Talli police post on July 28 last year, a police spokesperson said. Rape charges had been proved against him by investigating officers, the official added.

### BSF Man Dies Of 'Heart Attack'

An Assistant Sub-inspector (ASI) of Border Security Forces died of a suspected heart attack in Mendhar area of Poonch district on Monday, officials said. B L Jonko, complained of being unwell while he was getting ready for his routine duty, they said. The officer, they said, soon after collapsed and started frothing from mouth. "Upon sensing an emergency, the colleagues evacuated him to SDH Mendhar where despite all possible efforts, the officer couldn't be saved", they said. BMO Mendhar has also confirmed to a local news agency **More on P6**





To place an advertisement

CALL +91-194 2502327

Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)

No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

## WhatsApp Rolling Out ‘Multi-Selection’ Feature For Messages On Windows

IAN S

Meta-owned messaging platform WhatsApp is rolling out a new “multi-selection” feature for messages on Windows beta.

Beta testers can now select multiple messages within a conversation and then choose to delete or forward them all at once on WhatsApp for Windows, reports WABetaInfo.

With the new feature, users can select multiple messages after clicking on “Select” within the context menu of a conversation.

Also, they can click anywhere within a conversation and then the “Select messages” option will appear.

The new feature is useful as earlier users had to select messages one by one and delete or forward them individually.

However, now, by selecting multiple messages at once, users can save their time and effort. The ability to select multiple messages has been released to beta testers after installing the WhatsApp beta for Windows 2.2309.2.0 update available on the Microsoft Store, and is expected to be rolled out to more users over the coming days, the report said.

Meanwhile, last month, it was reported that the messaging platform was rolling out a new “Call Link” feature on Windows beta, which will allow users to create a link to join a call.

## ‘Dimming Lights 3 Hours Before Sleep Could Reduce Risk Of Gestational Diabetes’

Press Trust Of India

Scientists are advising pregnant people to turn off or dim the lights in their homes a few hours before bedtime to reduce the risk of developing gestational diabetes mellitus.

The lights in question also include those coming from computer monitor and smartphone screens, according to the research from Northwestern Medicine, Northwestern University, US.

Women who developed gestational diabetes mellitus in the multi-site study had greater light exposure in the three hours before sleep onset, the study said.

They did not differ in their light exposure during daytime or sleep or in their activity levels compared to those who did not develop it.

“Our study suggests that light exposure before bedtime may be an under-recognized yet easily modifiable risk factor of gestational diabetes,” said lead study author Minjee Kim, assistant professor at Northwestern University.

Growing evidence suggests exposure to light at night before bedtime may be linked to im-



paired glucose regulation in non-pregnant adults.

Bright light exposure prior to sleep can come from bright lights in your home and from devices like TVs, computers and smartphones.

However, little is known about the effect of evening light exposure during pregnancy on the risk of developing gestational diabetes, a common pregnancy complication with significant health implications for both the mother and the offspring.

The study, believed to be one of the first multi-site studies to exam-

ine light exposure before sleep on the risk of developing gestational diabetes, is published in the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology Maternal Fetal Medicine.

“It’s alarming,” Kim said.

“Gestational diabetes is known to increase obstetric complications, and the mother’s risk of diabetes, heart disease and dementia. The offspring also are more likely to have obesity and hypertension as they grow up,” Kim said.

Data show that women who

have gestational diabetes are nearly 10 times more likely to develop type 2 diabetes mellitus compared to those do not have glucose issues during pregnancy, Kim said.

“We don’t think about the potential harm of keeping the environment bright from the moment we wake up until we go to bed,” Kim said.

“But it should be pretty dim for several hours before we go to bed. We probably don’t need that much light for whatever we do routinely in the evening,” Kim said.

Which source of bright light causes the problem is not known yet, but it might all add up, Kim said.

“Try to reduce whatever light is in your environment in those three hours before you go to bed,” Kim said.

“It’s best not to use your computer or phone during this period. But if you have to use them, keep the screens as dim as possible,” Kim said, suggesting people use the night light option and turn off the blue light.

If pregnant persons develop gestational diabetes with the first pregnancy, they are more likely to have it with the next pregnancy.

Pre-sleep light exposure increases heart rate and may lead to abdominal obesity, insulin resistance, increased blood pressure.

Pre-sleep light exposure may also affect glucose metabolism through sympathetic overactivity, meaning the heart rate goes up before bed when it should go down.

“It seems there is inappropriate activation of the fight or flight response when it is time to rest,” Kim said.

Data showed the sympathetic overactivity may lead to cardiometabolic disease, which is a cluster of conditions including abdominal obesity, insulin resistance, increased blood pressure and an imbalance of lipids, all leading to cardiovascular disease.

The study of 741 women in their second trimester was conducted at eight clinical US sites between 2011 and 2013. The participants’ light exposure was measured by an actigraph worn on their wrists.

The women were measured during the second trimester of pregnancy, the time when they receive routine screening for gestational diabetes.

## ‘Maths Anxiety’ Is A Real Thing. Here Are 3 Ways To Help Your Child Cope

The Conversation

From March 15, more than one million young Australians will sit the NAPLAN numeracy test. For most students, this will just be a routine part of the school day (albeit less fun than running around at recess or lunch).

But for others, the prospect of doing a maths test will be downright terrifying. These students may be suffering from maths anxiety.

We are academics in mathematics education. Here’s how to help your child if they are experiencing maths anxiety.

What is maths anxiety?

Maths anxiety is the feeling of tension and worry that interferes with a person’s ability to solve mathematical problems. Researchers consider maths anxiety to be distinct from general anxiety, or test anxiety, though there is some crossover.

Maths anxiety usually develops as a result of poor experiences with maths, which leads to negative thought patterns about your maths potential. These thoughts can manifest in an avoidance of maths and feelings of helplessness when confronted with tests.

Maths anxiety is a common issue for many young people and adults and can be seen in children as young as five.

According to Stanford Univer-



sity mathematics education professor Jo Boaler, as of 2012, up to 50% of adults had maths anxiety. The Victorian Department of Education suggests rates are lower, at between six and 17%. However, the average rate in academic studies tends to be approximately 20%.

That means there are thousands of children who will be dreading the upcoming NAPLAN numeracy test.

So, what can a parent do to help their anxious child achieve their best in the NAPLAN numeracy test and other maths exams? Here are three practical things you can do right away and into the future:

- Focus on successes to build confidence

Most children want to be good at maths. If they are younger,

they will likely understand this is something their teachers and parents think is important. If they are older, they will know it is important for future jobs and careers.

One of the key sources of maths anxiety is despite wanting to be good at maths, students have received consistently negative feedback about their ability. This may just be by comparing themselves to others or more formally through poor results.

To reduce anxiety, it is important to focus on the positive, showing your child times where they have had success in maths. Experiences of success are vital in paving the way to further success in maths.

A practical way to demonstrate success is by getting the child to do an old worksheet, even as far back as two years ago. Stu-

dents in years 5 and above could do a previous NAPLAN test at a lower level. This shows them how they have progressed.

After completing the sheet, focus on areas of strength – such as “you got all the long divisions correct!” – to help build confidence. This experience of success can be used as a base to then tackle more complicated tasks.

- Avoid ‘NAPLAN overload’

Anxiety about NAPLAN and any other assessments can be exacerbated by over-emphasising its importance in the build up. A more constructive approach is to reassure your child there is no judgement in how they perform.

Currently, most schools are working hard to prepare students for NAPLAN and discussions about the test are regularly taking place. Because of this, it can be easy for children with maths anxiety to get “NAPLAN overload”. At home, it is useful to limit your discussion of the upcoming tests to times where the child is doing work to prepare for it.

We recommend trying to make the day an exciting one, rather than a terrifying one. For example, you might have a special NAPLAN breakfast on the day of the test.

- Work alongside your child

During Covid many families felt the strain taking a hands-on role with their children’s education (who

did not take kindly to mum or dad suddenly becoming their “teacher”). So parents may be tempted to leave their children alone to study or do homework. But this won’t help relieve maths anxiety.

A more beneficial approach is for parents to study alongside younger children, and show interest in the work older children are completing. Teenagers may not be open to help when you offer the first time but make it clear that you’re there if they need you and you aren’t seeking to judge them.

This approach shows the child their parent is engaged with their work and positive about their ability to learn.

It cannot be underestimated how much a parents’ approach to learning maths influences their child’s approach. Try and have positive conversations with your child about maths and how we use it everyday. This can be helped by dispelling negative attitudes, such as children thinking, “this is too hard and is just something I need to do at school”. You might want to use maths to work through a “best buy” at the supermarket or use length and area to determine how to arrange the furniture in a room.

As the test day nears, families should not have to stress out about NAPLAN. Preparation focused on celebrating successes and positive experiences can encourage students to simply do their best.

Published Since 1997

KASHMIR

OBSERVER

IS AVAILABLE IN SRIANGAR AT FOLLOWING PLACES

ABDULLAH NEWS AGENCY	AMIRA KADAL	BUDSHAH NEWS AGENCY	AFTAB MARKET
SIKENDER NEWS ANGENCY	AMIRAKADAL	RASHEED GAZALA	LAL CHOWK
GUPKARI NEWS AGENCY	LAL CHOWK	RAFIQ NEWS AGENCY	BATMALOO
KHAN NEWS AGENCY	REGAL CHOWK	MEHRAJ NEWS AGENCY	DALGATE
RASHEED NEWS AGENCY	DALGATE	ASHIQ NEWS AGENCY	GAGRIBAL
IMRAN NEWS AGENCY	KOHNKHAN	SAMA NEWS AGENCY	SHALIMAR
KOHINOOR NEWS AGENCY	NISHAT	WANI NEWS AGENCY	HYDERPORA
SHEIKH NEWS AGENCY	HYDERPORA	AL NOOR NEWS AGENCY	NOWGAM
FAIRDEAL NEWS AGENCY	AIRPORT	BISMILLAH NEWS AGENCY	BAGH E MEHTAB
AL FALAH NEWS AGENCY	NATIPORA	FIDA NEWS AGENCY	RAJ BAGH
FIRDOUS NEWS AGENCY	PIRBAGH	HARMINDER NEWS AGENCY	GOGJI BAGH

TANTRAY NEWS AGENCY	RAJ BAGH	BASHIR NEW AGENCY	NOWHATTA
ARIF NEWS AGENCY	JAWHAR NAGAR	AGA NEWS AGENCY	ALI KADAL
MUSHTAQ KALASH-PURI	KALASHPORA	HABBAKADAL NEWS AGENCY	HAB-BAKADAL
ALTAF NEWS AGENCY	FATEHKADAL	FAROOQ NEW AGENCY	GOJWARA
JEELANI NEW AGENCY	KHAWAJA BAZAR	DAR NEWS AGENCY	QAMAR-WARI
NAZIR NEWS AGENCY	RAINAWARI	CHANDER NEWS AGENCY	BEMINA
KHALID NEWS AGENCY	HAMDANIYA COLONY	JONSON NEWS AGENCY	SEKIDAFAR
BHAT NEWS AGENCY	JAMALLATTA	SHAFAT NEWS AGENCY	HAWAL
BILAL NEWS AGENCY	KAK SARAI	KHALIQ NEWS AGENCY	NOWSHEH-RA
MUZAFFAR ALI NEWS AGENCY	ALAMGIRI BAZAR	BILAL NEWS AGENCY	NOWSHEH-RA
TARIQ NEWS AGENCY	M.K. CHOWK	MUZAMIL NEWS AGENCY	SOURA
GULZAR NEWS AGENCY	SOURA	SUBHAN NEWS AGENCY	SKIMS SOURA
HASAN NEWS AGENCY	SOURA	NISAR NEWS AGENCY	LAL BAZAR
BASHIR NEWS AGENCY	BUCHPORA	BASHIR NEWS AGENCY	HAZRAT BAL
AIJAZ NEWS AGENCY	HAZRAT BAL	YASIR NEWS AGENCY	ZAKOORA
FOR ANY QUERY, CALL CIRCULATION DEPTT. : 0194-2502327			

Court Of The 2Nd Additional Munsiff

JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE 1st CLASS AT

Srinagar

(PROCLAMATION REQUIRING OBJECTION FROM GENERAL PUBLIC

CNR: JKS6030062552023 Date of Filing 06.03.2023

Abdul Qayum S/o Ghulam Mohammad Reshi R/o House No 171

Lane No 6 Sheikh Ul Alam Colony Near Police Station Nowgam

Srinagar

Applicant

Versus

Registrar, Births and Deaths, SMC Srinagar

Non-Applicant

Whereas an application has been made before me that Irtiya

Qayum Rishi D/o Abdul Qayum R/o House No 171 Lane No; 6

Sheikh Ul Alam Colony Near Police Station Nowgam, Srinagar

has born on 19-06-1990 the applicant has sought a direction

from this court for registration of the death particulars, Irtiya

Qayum Rishi, in the concerned register of births and deaths.

Proclamation is hereby made that the any person having

any objection(s) to this application may appear before this

Court (or before me) to file objections within 07 days of this

publication.

Dated, this 6th day of March 2023.

Sd/-

(AHTZAZ AHMED)

2nd Additional (JMJC), Srinagar

NJ

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of Fertilizer Licene for my

business Unit under name & Style New Baba Pesticides and

Fertilizers Heeypora Batagund Kapren Shopian. If anybody

having any objection in this regard he/she may file his the same

in the office of the Chief Agricultural Officer Shopian within a

period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice.

After that no objection shall be entertained.

Shabir Ahmad Baba

S/o Abdul Gani Baba

R/o Heypora Batagund Kapren Shopian

fz

از نیابت سری وار پورہ

درخواست منجانب غلام نبی بت ولد غلام محمد بت سائلہ سری وار پورہ تحصیل پٹن

بمراء EWS سرٹفکیٹ بحق پران فرمان نبی وعارف نبی

اشتہار بمراء آگاہی ہرخاص وعام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر کی نسبت میں پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی

گئی ہے مطابق رپورٹ پٹواری سائل غلام نبی بت ولد غلام محمد بت سائلہ سری

وار پورہ کاسکونت دار ہے سائل مذکورہ کاکنہ 05 افراد پر مشتمل ہے

سائل کی سالانہ آمدنی 134400 روپیہ تک ہے سائل کامکان وجہ کی

پیانٹر 1689.75 مربہ فٹ ہے

سرٹفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کوکوئی عذر یا اعتراض

ہو توہ سات دن کے اندر دفتر بڑا میں پیش کریں معیاد گزرنے بعد کوئی بھی عذر

یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار

fko

از ہلاک ڈیو لپٹ آفسر کنزرو

مضمون درخواست منجانب محمد یاسین بت ولد عبدالقدوس بت سائلہ مضموع

ہرودی کنزرو بمراء عطا گئی DOB certificate بحق پسر رئیس

احمد بت ودختر رضیا یاسین

اشتہار بمراء آگاہی ہرخاص وعام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں دفتر بڈا کو ایک درخواست بابت حصول

تاریخ پیدائش سرٹفکیٹ موصول ہوئی ہیں۔ سائل محمد یاسین بت ولد عبدال

قدوس بت بیان کرتا ہے کہ اسکے پسر ودختر کی تاریخ پیدائش

رئیس احمد بت 10-09-2010 رضیا یاسین: 12-10-2009

کو ہوئی ہے۔ اس نسبت ہرخاص وعام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص یا

اشخاص کوکوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ یوم کے اندر پیش

کریں۔ معیاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہں ہوگا۔

از ہلاک ڈیو لپٹ آفسر کنزرو

az k





## Two-Day National Seminar On “Urban Planning” Begins At KU

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A Two-day National Seminar on ‘Creating Inclusive And Sustainable Urban Spaces: Urbanization And Urban Planning In India With Special Reference To Kashmir’ began on Monday at University of Kashmir, Srinagar.

The Seminar, coordinated by noted author and political scientist Dr. Aijaz Ashraf Wani, is being organized by the Department of Political Science from 13th to 14th March, 2023.

The Seminar is being attended by dozens of Policy makers, Planners, and hundreds of students and scholars.

More than two dozen research papers will be read and deliberated in the two-day seminar which is being sponsored by Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi.

The Inaugural Session was conducted at Gandhi Bhavan, and was presided over by

Prof. Nilofar Khan, the Vice-Chancellor of University of Kashmir. Prof. Debolina Kundu, Professor at the National Institute of Urban Affairs, India, while delivering the keynote address highlighted the challenges of Urban Planning in India and underlined the vision of the Government for the cities in India.

Athar Aamir Khan, Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) and Chief Executive Officer, Srinagar Smart-City Mission, highlighted various measures of Planning and Development of Srinagar as Smart-City.

Dr. Nisar Ahmad Mir, Registrar of the University, emphasized on the Inclusion of the concerns of academic institutions like NIT Srinagar and University of Kashmir in the plans of Smart-City Mission.

Prof. Peerzada Irshad Ahmad Shah formally welcomed the Guests, and Dr Aijaz Ashraf Wani spoke about the Scope of the Seminar.

## DC Conducts Inspection Of Ongoing Works Under NCAP

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In order to have onsite inspection of ongoing works taken up under National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) to improve Air Quality Index in District, the Deputy Commissioner (DC), Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad conducted a whirlwind tour of several City areas here on Monday.

The DC who is the Chairman of the District Level Committee for NCAP accompanied by Chief Planning Officer, Secretary SDA, Chief Sanitation Officer, SMC, Executive Engineers of R&B, Landscaping, SMC and other concerned Departments visited Panthachowk, Haj-House, Bemina, Batamalo, SMHS crossing Kak Sarai near SMHS and other areas.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner took spot inspection of works on construction of water fountains at identified locations being executed under the National Clean Air Programme at important heavy traffic volume intersections including Sonwar, Hazratbal, Batmaloo, Bemina, near JVC, Kak Sarai-SMHS Hospital crossing, main Chowk Soura, Mirza Kamil Chowk Hawal and Dalgate to reduce the environmental pollution in Srinagar City.

On the occasion, the DC was apprised that over 90 percent of works have been completed on installation of fountains at Sonwar, Hazratbal, Batmaloo, Bemina and Kak Sarai-SMHS crossing.

While inspecting the progress of work on fountain at Kak Sarai-SMHS crossing being built in Municipal Park, the DC asked the SMC authorities to complete the

remaining work at the earliest. He also asked them to prepare a DPR for landscaping and beautification of the park around the fountain under the project.

With regard to launching of plantation drive in City to increase green cover to attain better Air Quality Index in years ahead, the DC asked the Executive Engineer Landscape Division to prepare a comprehensive DPR to undertake plantation/green cover in Panthachowk area including Central verge along Pandrathen-Atheajan axis and Panthachowk-Lasjan axis.

He also asked them to take up measure for plantation on hilly area in Zewan-Khonmoh areas particularly in stone quarry/mining affected areas and barren patches of the mountain so that green cover is increased to these affected areas with visible impact.

The DC further asked the officers of Agrostology to conduct and exercise to explore the best methodology for enhancing the green cover on the barren patches on the mountain.

Similarly, at Highway Bemina, the Deputy Commissioner asked the authorities to speed up the process regarding beatification and landscape works on Highway near the premises of the Haj House.

On the occasion, the DC was informed that Rs 1.13 crore project is approved for beautification/landscaping and work shall start shortly.

Meanwhile, the DC also asked the concerned to take measures for restoration of already existing water fountain at Panthachowk crossing, besides landscaping and beautification around the fountain.

## Kashmir Golf Course Running In Losses

Agencies

Srinagar: With Kashmir Golf Course running in losses, authorities have decided to cancel membership of defaulters if they fail to pay their membership fees.

The Kashmir Golf Course (KGC) with its splendid location along Srinagar city's main avenue on Moulana Azad Road is the oldest golf course built in 1887 by the British.

However, over the years, it has witnessed heavy losses. “The KGC is running in heavy losses. We are not even able to generate salaries of employees from its revenue. The maintenance also cost lakhs of rupees annually. There are some members who are not even paying membership fees to the

KGC,” a senior official said.

The golf course flanked by mighty Chinara and poplar trees on all sides is equipped with 18 holes. It is spread over 52 acres of verdant land.

The official said it has been decided that membership of defaulter members will be cancelled if they don't clear their dues immediately.

Administrator KGC Javid Bakshi confirmed that many members of the KGC are defaulters.

“We are dependent on membership fees of our members to run the KGC. It is quite difficult to manage the day-to-day affairs of the KGC as some members are not paying their membership fees. We have sent them notices, if they don't pay then we will terminate their membership,” Javid said. (KINS)



CURRENT AFFAIRS: Months after beautifying Polo View stretch, authorities dismantled tiles to lay underground power lines. KO Photo Syed Mohammad Burhan

## E-Rickshaws To Operate In 55 Additional Routes In City

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A meeting of the Regional Transport Authority (RTA) was held under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz (Chairman Regional Transport Authority) at the Conference Hall of DC Office Complex, here on Monday.

The DC, who is the also Chairman of RTA Srinagar after having a threadbare discussion accorded approval of 55 additional hungry routes for operation of E-Rickshaw services to facilitate general public in Srinagar City, in addition to already approved 18 routes in the District.

The DC stressed that operation of E-Rickshaws be restricted on congested routes and should only ply on hungry and last mile connectivity routes where availability of public transport facility is meagre to ensure that high traffic routes do not get congest-

ed to create a disorganized situation in the city.

The DC was informed that a total of 314 E-Rickshaws are presently operating in Srinagar to facilitate the general public with reliable and cheap transport services particularly on hungry routes including colonies and inner roads.

“It is imperative to accord approval for additional routes for operation of e-Rickshaws to ensure smoother public transport facilities to the people, besides encouraging the local youth to take up this activity to earn their livelihood” Aijaz said.

With regard to identification of space for operation of contract services vehicles, the DC asked the authorities to strictly adhere to the guidelines of the High court and take measures as to comply with the directions in letter and spirit.

Aijaz also directed the concerned Officers to undertake a comprehensive survey to check the feasibility, cost benefit anal-

ysis and identify hungry routes in different parts of the City to facilitate the general public, in addition to the carrying capacity of the e-Rickshaws to avoid unregulated and mushroom operationalization of the services.

Highlighting the advantages of e-Rickshaws, the meeting was informed that e-Rickshaw is a means of easy transport for common people, ensures safe travel for women and reduces pollution that would bring a considerable improvement in the pollution index of the city.

SSP Traffic, Muzaffar Ahmad Shah, Regional Transport Officer, Kashmir, Syed Shahnawaz Bukhari, Additional District Development Commissioner, Zahoor Ahmad Mir, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Syed Shabir Ahmad, Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Yaseen Lone, Executive Engineer R&B, Ashiq Hussain and other concerned were present at the meeting.



# Sabzar Nurseries

## ONE STOP SHOP FOR BEST QUALITY HIGH-DENSITY PLANTS

We have wide variety of Apple, Walnuts, Pear and Almond. We provide M9 T337, M7 roots as well.

There are 20 varieties of apple available with us and some if them are:

1. Gala Schmico Red	8. Buckeye Gala
2. Adams	9. Red Velox
3. Dark Baron Gala	10. Spur Chief
4. King Roast	11. Jeromine
5. Granny Smith	12. Red Love
6. Gala Mema	and many more.
7. Redlum Gala	

All the varieties are grafted on M9 T337 and M7.

For Further Queries Please Feel Free To Contact.

### SABZAR NURSERIES

Ph: 7006523399, 7889380996

- 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
- BUBHERA: 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 21 Shaban 1444	PRAYERS
	FAJR 5:20
	ZUHR 12:40
	ASR 4:55
	Magrib 6:40
	ISHA 8:00

## This Day In History

- 1812 - Congress authorizes war bonds to finance War of 1812
- 1862 - Battle of New Bern NC: General Burnside conquers New Bern
- 1864 - Union troops occupy Fort de Russy, Louisiana
- 1869 - Defeat of Maori leader Titokowaru in New Zealand.
- 1901 1st performance of Anton Bruckner's 6th Symphony in A
- 1901 - Germany's Chancellor von Bulow declares that the agreement Germany signed with Great Britain in October 1900, to restrain foreign aggression and maintain open trade, does not apply to Manchuria
- 1903 - 1st national bird reservation established in Sebastian, FL
- 1913 - South African Supreme Court declares that marriages not celebrated according to Christian rites and/or not registered by the Registrar of Marriages, are invalid; all Muslim and Hindu marriages are therefore declared invalid.
- 1914 - Serbia & Turkey sign peace treaty
- 1915 - German cruiser Dresden scuttled off Más a Tierra, Chile, having been pursued by the Royal Navy after the Battle of the Falkland Islands, with her engines worn out and virtually no coal.
- 1916 - Battle of Verdun - German attack on Mort-Homme ridge, West of Verdun
- 1923 - Allies accepts Vilnius taking East-Galicia in Poland
- 1926 - A train in Costa Rica falls into the Río Virilla, killing 248 and injuring 93.
- 1937 - Battle of the Century: Fred Allen & Jack Benny meet on radio
- 1939 - Nazi Germany dissolves Republic of Czechoslovakia
- 1941 - Nazi occupiers of Holland forbid Jewish owned companies
- 1941 Xavier Cugat & orchestra record “Babalu”
- 1943 - World War II: Kraków Ghetto is “liquidated”
- 1955 - Prince Mahendra becomes king of Nepal.
- 1957 - Indonesian government of Sastroamidjojo resigns
- 1958 - US performs nuclear test at Nevada Test Site
- 1958 - USSR performs atmospheric nuclear test
- 1962 - Disarmament conference opens in Geneva without France
- 1965 - Israeli cabinet approves diplomatic relations with West Germany
- 1971 - South Vietnamese troops flee Laos
- 1979 - A Hawker Siddeley Trident crashes into a factory near Beijing, China, killing at least 200.
- 1980 - Polish airliner crash kills all 87 aboard (22 are US amateur boxers)
- 1983 - OPEC cut oil prices for 1st time in 23 years
- 1986 - European Space Agency's Giotto flies by Halley's Comet (605 km)
- 1987 - Worlds Ladies' Figure Skating Champ in Cincinnati won by Katarina Witt

*From KO Archives*

## Hefty Pay Hike For MLAs

Observer News Service

JAMMU - The Jammu and Kashmir government has decided to hike the emoluments of the legislators by Rs 10,000 each, fulfilling their long-pending demand for a better pay package.

This was announced by Minister for Finance and Planning Development Muzaffar Hussain Baig in the legislative assembly on Friday while replying to the debate on budget proposals 2005-06.

Justifying the hike in the emoluments of the legislators, the Minister said the government wants to encourage educated and honest people to come to the legislature and this can be done only through offering them better perks.

He said the expectations of the people with their representatives are growing everyday and it is very difficult for the legislators to reach out to the masses with limited resources at their disposal.

“Although it is a difficult decision which could evoke public criticism, the government has to take care of the lawmakers who are at present drawing a meagre salary of Rs 4000 in addition to paltry allowances,” he said.”

(Kashmir Observer, 14 March, 2005)



KASHMIR OBSERVER

Tuesday | 14-03-2023

Looming Climate  
Catastrophe

Leading climate scientists and diplomats from close to 200 countries have begun meeting in Switzerland for a week to condense nearly a decade's worth of scientific research into a 20 or so page warning about the existential threat of global warming and what to do about it. The synthesis report being prepared under the aegis of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a UN-appointed panel, will be released on March 20. It will also be the most important, because it will provide the crucial science-based guidance that governments need to craft policies and goals to reduce carbon emissions in line with the Paris Agreement.

The Paris Agreement, the landmark 2015 pact aimed at curbing global warming, commits governments to limit the rise in average global temperatures to well below two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, and pursue efforts to cap the increase at 1.5C. The report will provide roadmap for how to meet this goal and the best way to decarbonize the global economy, with some emphasizing the need to rapidly phase out fossil fuel use and reduce consumer demand, and others the potential of technological solutions. It will also provide a stark warning about the consequences of inaction. There are dire projections for health, the global food system, and economic productivity if no pre-emptive action is taken. Even with temperature remaining under 1.8C half of humanity could, by 2100, be exposed to periods of life-threatening climate conditions arising from the coupled impacts of extreme heat and humidity.

The new IPCC report will follow its August 2021 report that warned of the far-reaching effects of climate change if no immediate measures were taken to remedy the damage already done. The world, the UN panel then said, will cross the 1.5 degrees Celsius warming mark in the 2030s, earlier than some past predictions. The report further said that human influence has warmed the climate at a rate that is unprecedented in at least the last 2,000 years. Emissions of greenhouse gases from human activities alone are responsible for approximately 1.1 degrees Celsius of warming since 1850-1900 and the temperatures could continue to rise until 1950. The report revealed that the past decade was most likely hotter than any period in the last 1,25,000 years when sea levels were as much as 10 meters higher. The report caused a global alarm after its release.

There is thus an urgent need for the world to come together and take remedial measures to pre-empt the catastrophe and the COP26 summit did play an important role in this direction. In Kashmir too, climate change has led to considerable changes in weather patterns. Triggering alarm bells is the slowly shrinking glaciers that are the source of the Valley's water bodies. But the factors causing climate change are global in nature and so any effort to reverse the damage has to be backed by the world. And this should be done sooner than later. The time is running out fast.

OTHER OPINION

Safe Harbour at Risk

These Rules themselves had put the onus on social media intermediaries to arbitrate on content on their platforms with regulations that were weighted in favour of the government of the day, and had invited legal appeals as digital news media platforms among others questioned the constitutionality of the Rules. Meanwhile, an amendment in October 2022 provided for government-appointed committees that will adjudicate on an individual user's appeals against moderation decisions of these intermediaries. In January 2023, the IT Ministry proposed an amendment on the take down of social media/news content that has been marked as "fake" or "false" by the Press Information Bureau or any other government agency. These, in sum, had already put the safe harbour protections for intermediaries at much risk.

Regulation of hate speech and disinformation on the Internet is a must and intermediaries, including digital news media and social media platforms, have an accountable role to play. The IT Rules' specifications on giving users prior notice before removing content or disabling access, and for intermediaries to come up with periodic compliance reports are well taken. Social media intermediaries should not shut down users' posts or communications except in the interests of public order and to avoid legal consequences. But care should be taken to ensure that requirements on intermediaries should not become needlessly onerous and punitive, which also vitiate the principle of safe harbour. There is a legitimate concern that the government is keener on regulating or taking down critical opinion or dissent in social media/news platforms than hate speech or disinformation, which in many cases has originated from representatives of the state. Safe harbour provisions, in particular Section 230 of the U.S. Communications Decency Act, 1996, that explicitly provided immunity to online services with respect to user-generated content had gone a long way in catalysing the Net's development. While modern regulations to tackle issues related to misinformation, problematic content and the side effects of the new form of the Internet are a must, they should still retain first principles of safe harbour without whittling down their core.

The Hindu

Pesticides: A Threat to  
Drinking Water Sources

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

With the onset of spring, agricultural activities have started in Kashmir. As the weather has been dry and sunny for over a week now, we see that apple farmers have already busied themselves with spraying pesticides in their orchards. This is an annual activity. However, very little attention is paid to its impact on the environment. Are precautions taken to make sure the water bodies around apple orchards are not getting contaminated with these pesticides? These concerns haven't been talked about enough.

Is the Public Health Engineering (PHE) Jal Shakti Department sensitive about this issue? The national flagship programme Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) which was launched by the Prime Minister Modi on 15th August 2019 aims at providing 'Functional Household Tap Connections' (FHTC) to every rural household in the country by 2024. The Jal Jeevan Mission is based on a community approach to water and is to include extensive information, education and communication (IEC) programmes as a key component of the mission. This programme is aimed at creating a people's movement Jan Andolan for water by making sure people get access to safe drinking water. However, we've failed to ensure a supply of safe and clean drinking water on ground. Not only are water sources infected with solid and liquid waste but they are also heavily polluted by pesticides which run into our streams, small rivers and other water sources. Additionally, excessive riverbed mining (RBM) is also polluting waters making it muddy. This infected and unhygienic water is lifted and supplied to people in many areas especially to the Srinagar civil lines by the PHE Jal Shakti Department. The PHE department isn't to be blamed entirely as our Government officers are also turning a blind eye towards pollution of water bodies with pesticides and riverbed mining.

Pesticides in Water

According to a research article Role of Pesticides in Water Pollution published by Manish Srivastava and others in the Journal of Agriculture Science and Food Research, in India 50% urban and 80% rural population get contaminated water. In many states, water is not safe at all for drinking purposes due to its high concentration of pesticides, metals, bacteria and chemicals. Similarly, in Kashmir as well, the presence of pesticides in drinking water is a matter of very serious concern. Yet, neither the Pollution Control Committee nor the PHE Jal Shakti is taking this as seriously as it needs to be taken.

Pesticide spraying season has begun in Kashmir. Between March to May, Kashmir gets some amount of rainfall as well and these pesticides get washed away into the natural water channels (Khuls) which then enter into streams and rivers. Most of our water supply plants get wa-



“  
While 61% of farmers/farm workers were affected after getting directly exposed to various pesticides in apple farms, almost 39 % were indirectly exposed, which includes intake of contaminated drinking water. Most of the affected districts, as per the study, were Anantnag, Baramulla, Budgam and Shopian

sources with pesticides. PCC has been given a mandate to check water pollution under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. For the last two decades water has been contaminated with pesticides but not one case stands registered by PCC or other government agencies against this.

The Water Act was introduced to prevent and control water pollution and maintain or restore the wholesomeness of water. It also provides for the establishment of boards for the control of water pollution. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) or Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) in Union Territories are guardians of the Water Act.

The erstwhile J&K State Pollution Control Board (JK SPCB) hasn't conducted any study to ascertain the impact of pesticides effluents on drinking water sources or other water bodies. The central pollution control board CPCB needs to take notice of it. It also needs to explore whether drainage of pesticides into rivers and lakes of Kashmir is a violation of the Hazardous Waste Management Rules 2016 with all its four amendments from 2016 to 2019.

Impact on Human Health

It is an established fact that pesticides that contaminate drinking water sources can bioaccumulate in the human body over time. Exposure effects can range from mild skin irritation to birth defects, tumors, genetic changes, blood and nerve disorders, endocrine disruption. Developmental effects have been associated with pesticides. In addition to it cancer, neurotoxicity, kidney and liver damage has been established. Exposure to pesticides can also alter an organism's behaviour, impacting its ability to survive.

High pesticide residues in some fruits and vegetables can reduce the quality of men's semen by up to half, according to a 2015 study done in the United States.

The five-year study, the first of its type, has significant implications for public health, according to the medical journal Human Reproduction, which says attention is more often focused on women's difficulties in giving birth.

A study by Prof Abdul Rashid Bhat, a neurosurgeon, and others from the Sher e Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Srinagar, linked pesticides to brain cancer. The report published in the Indian Journal of Medical and Paediatric Oncology in October 2010 revealed that 389 out of 432 cases of primary malignant brain tumours that were examined by SKIMS during a scientific study in 2010 (excluding metastatic lesions), were those of orchard farm workers.

While 61% of farmers/farm workers were affected after getting directly exposed to various pesticides in apple farms, almost 39 % were indirectly exposed, which includes intake of contaminated drinking water. Most of the affected districts, as per the study, were Anantnag, Baramulla, Budgam and Shopian.

Inputs from health and other experts and studies make it clear that drinking water is not safe in J&K. Governments and scientific institutions need to do many studies on contamination of drinking water sources by pesticides.

Conclusion

The aim of Jal Jeevan Mission -JJM is not merely ensuring tap water or laying of water pipelines. Its main focus has to be on supplying safe drinking water to people. The NGT has already penalised the J & K Government for supplying contaminated drinking water from Doodh Ganga. Rs 35 Crores penalty was imposed on the Govt out of which Rs 3 Crores have already been deposited in Deputy Commissioner Budgam's account by Srinagar Municipal Corporation, District Mineral Officer Geology & Mining Department and Municipal Committees Chadoora and Budgam. The Government had given assurances to NGT that water quality will be made better by setting up Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) on Doodh Ganga but the work is yet to be taken up by the Housing & Urban Development Department.

Special thrust must be given to make sure water isn't contaminated with liquid waste, untreated sewage, pesticides and excessive riverbed mining. There has to be proper coordination between Government departments like Horticulture, Agriculture, PHE Jal Shakti, Irrigation, Geology & Mining, Fisheries and Pollution Control Committee. The Deputy Commissioners while taking a review meeting on JJM implementation must also make sure whether the water that is being supplied to people is free from pesticides and other impurities.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer  
Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat  
is a Srinagar based Writer and Activist. He is an Acumen Fellow and Anant Fellow for Climate Action



OBSERVER  
MAIL

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

MAIL YOUR LETTERS

P.O.Box # 337, GPO, Srinagar-190001  
email: editpage.ko@gmail.com

Response to "Alone but Not Lonely"

This is with reference to the well-explained article, "Alone But Not Lonely", published in Kashmir Observer on March 10, 2023. There is a vast difference between 'solitude' and 'loneliness.' While the former being a type of chosen exile, spending peaceful time, the latter is a kind of suffering, yearning for something. 'Solitude' is about preferring to be in isolation, whereas, 'loneliness' is something associated with a glum feeling that weighs in our minds and

bodies. For centuries, humans have always craved times of solitude, and at the same time, wanted to avoid loneliness, which mostly leads to a feeling of affliction and dejection. There is a craving for one and a fear of the other. How can two states of being that appear similar in so many ways elicit different emotional responses? It is a curious thing that you could look at two persons sitting alone. For example, both are staring at the sea. While one is experiencing out-and-out solitude and calm,

while the other is lonely and filled with longing. The basic difference is internal, not external, and you can't discern its presence. Many great writers and thinkers, those who seem to desire solitude mostly, have time and again explored these themes and the feelings which accompany them through their works. Philosophers such as Aristotle, Epictetus and Michel de Montaigne, all observed and wrote about the benefits of solitude. Aristotle once noted that contemplative acts should

be solitary, free from outside influences. It is in our choice to be a troglodyte that we make our judgment, open ourselves up to our imagination and allow our creativity to take charge. In doing so, we open ourselves up to new possibilities, develop stronger problem-solving skills, and learn more intensely about ourselves and the world around us.

Ranganathan Sivakumar



## H3N2 VIRUS KILLS 2 IN INDIA

# What Is This Virus And How Can It Be Prevented From Spreading?

India has recorded deaths of two people, one each in Karnataka and Haryana, due to the Influenza A subtype H3N2 virus, the government said on Friday. It added that around 90 cases of this virus have been reported across the country.

The statement by the authorities has come just days after the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) announced that the recent uptick in the cases of intense cough lasting for over a week coupled with fever, in several parts of India, can be linked to the Influenza A subtype H3N2 virus.

Speaking to The Indian Express, Dr Nikhil Modi, Consultant, Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, Delhi, said, "It is time for resuming COVID-era preventive protocols for we have to increasingly live with evolving viruses". However, he also mentioned that there is no need to panic and one must avoid taking random medication.

#### WHAT IS THE H3N2 VIRUS?

Influenza viruses, which cause the infectious disease known as flu, are of four different types: A, B, C and D. Influenza A is further classified into different subtypes and one of them is the H3N2. According to the United States' Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), H3N2 caused the 1968 flu pandemic that led to the death of around one million people globally and about 100,000 in the US.

A 2020 study, published in the journal Nature Communications, found that the strains of the virus have dramatically evolved in the past five decades as people born in the late 1960s and 1970s got infected by it as children.

#### WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF H3N2?

Its symptoms are similar to that of any other flu. They include cough, fever, body ache and headache, sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose and extreme fatigue. Nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea have been seen in very few cases.

According to the Indian Medical Association (IMA), an infection caused by H3N2 generally lasts for five to seven days and the fever starts going away after three days. However, the coughing can persist for up to three weeks.

#### WHICH AGE GROUP IS MORE VULNERABLE?

As per the IMA, this virus usually preys on individuals below the age of 15 years or above 50 years of age. Children and those with co-morbidities like asthma, diabetes, heart disease, weakened immune systems and neurological or neurodevelopmental conditions are at a higher risk.

#### HOW TO PREVENT IT FROM SPREADING?

Dr Modi told The Indian Express that self-hygiene is the best way to thwart the spread of H3N2. Washing hands before eating or touching your face, nose or mouth, carrying pocket sanitiser, and avoiding people already infected with the virus or any other seasonal flu are some of the steps one can take to make sure they don't fall sick due to the H3N2 infection. Moreover, a healthy diet that includes plenty of fruits and vegetables can also play a significant role in improving immunity. The doctor added that drinking a lot of fluids, and eating home-cooked, low-spice and low-fat food can also help.

*The article was originally published by Indian Express*



**ITS SYMPTOMS ARE SIMILAR TO THAT OF ANY OTHER FLU.** They include cough, fever, body ache and headache, sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose and extreme fatigue. Nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea have been seen in very few cases

# How to Fight ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE



#### Kristofer Wollein Waldetoft

Can washing your hands help stop the evolution of antibiotic resistance? Mathematically, it's possible.

Antibiotics save lives by killing bacteria that cause infections. But antibiotics don't just kill infection-causing bacteria or stay in the area of the body where the infection is occurring. Instead, antibiotics spread across the body and inhibit or kill any sensitive bacteria they encounter.

While bacteria that are more sensitive to the antibiotics are killed off, those that are able to survive will continue to reproduce with less competition. This results in increasing abundance of resistant bacteria that can undermine the effectiveness of the antibiotic.

I am a researcher who studies the evolution of antibiotic resistance. During my medical training, I was taught about the importance of hospital hygiene practices like hand-disinfection. It is well established that good hygiene can help prevent transmission of harmful bacteria from other people or from the environment. I came to wonder how hygiene affects the evolution of antibiotic resistance.

So I teamed up with my colleagues Magnus Aspenberg, Sara Maad Sasane, Fredrik Nilsson and Sam Brown, experts in mathematics, statistics and microbial evolution, to answer this question.

We built a mathematical model of antibiotic resistance evolution. In this model, resistant and sensitive

bacteria compete in the microbial communities living in patients and transmit from one patient to another. We studied the effects of two parameters: hygiene (or use of an alcohol-based hand rub), which limits how much bacteria spreads between patients, and antibiotic use, which selects for resistant bacteria by killing sensitive ones.

We found that hygiene and antibiotic use interact. Antibiotic use had less of an effect on the evolution of antibacterial resistance as hygiene levels increased. This is because evolution toward resistance depends on variation in bacterial sensitivity to antibiotics. By affecting the distribution of resistant and sensitive bacterial strains across patients, hygiene limits the bacterial diversity needed to evolve resistance.

Research on the evolution of antimicrobial resistance has focused more on evolutionary selection than hygiene. Most studies investigate, for example, whether a high or a low dose of a drug is better to prevent resistance. Incorporating hygiene and other interventions into research on antibiotic resistance could help build a more comprehensive understanding of how bacteria evolve to become resistant.

The role of good hygiene in preventing illness is already well accepted in practice. Our findings underscore its importance by highlighting the role it plays in the evolutionary process of bacterial resistance.

*By arrangements with The Conversation*

# Understanding Right to Dignity in Islam

#### Umer Riyaz

HUMAN dignity is recognition that human beings possess a special value intrinsic to their humanity and as such are worthy of respect. It unfolds that a person is inherently and by nature venerable and honorable. None has the right to humiliate, insult and diminish the respect of any human being irrespective of the reasons and circumstances. Human dignity is a fundamental value that elevates a person's feeling of being revered. Everything that diminishes human dignity contradicts the principle of honor and respect such as torture, insult and humiliation. But unfortunately, the world is witnessing a visible violation of human rights in contemporary times. The status of human life as well as its dignity is largely depreciated. However, the Quran says: "And We have certainly honored the children of Adam and carried them on land and sea and provided them with good things and preferred them over many of those whom We have created" (Al-Isra:70). Human dignity is a basic principle upon which not only the principles of human rights are based but also all the principles of the divine religions endorse the same. This dignity is equal for every human being irrespective of his cast, creed and gender.

However, Islam came with the message of equality without affecting differences in livelihoods, ages, colors and races centuries before the formulation of modern human dignity theories. It was a manifestation of the greatness of the Creator and His wisdom in the construction of the universe within a framework of coexistence, cooperation and integration. The Quran explicitly defines this concept in the following verse: "O people, indeed We created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes so that you may know one another. Indeed, the most honorable of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you" (Al- Hujrat:13). In other verse it is mentioned: "And among His signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth and the diversity of your languages and colors. Indeed, in that are signs for those of knowledge" (Al- Rome:22). The quality of life of the corporeal being is depended on food and nourishment while as the souls or ethereal being is depended on honor which diminishes by humiliation, oppression and disrespect. Therefore, the Prophet ﷺ forbade striking on anybody's face because it is a subject of one's dignity. Similarly, Almighty forbade any action which degrades or lowers human dignity by saying: "O you who have believed, let not a people ridicule another people, perhaps they may be better than them, nor let women ridicule other women, perhaps they may be better than them, and do not insult one another and do not call each other by offensive titles. Wretched is the name of disobedience after one's faith. And whoever does not repent then it is those who



are the wrongdoers" (Al- Hujrat:11). The aforementioned verses depict that almighty Allah forbade the believers from making fun of others by mocking them and looking with contempt. Moreover, He forbade cursing anyone with unpleasant words because that becomes a catalyst of hatred and lead people to ignorance. Thus, sarcasm and mockery does not emanate except from a soul polluted with arrogance and it is a tool for destroying human relations. The Almighty states: "And speak kindly to people". (Al- Baqarah:83)

Allah commanded mankind not to be suspicious of any human being including slaves and not to spy on their private lives and follow their shortcomings. Furthermore, He also commanded not to talk ill about them or make backbiting in order to corrupt their image. Allah terms these social evils equivalent to eating the flesh of one's own dead brother. On the contrary, He commanded us to protect ourselves from these reprehensible things and to stamp out the root of these evils. On the authority of Al-Ma'rur bin Suwaid, he said, "I met Abu Dhar who was wearing a cloak and his slave too was wearing a same so I asked him about the reason. He replied: I insulted a man by cursing his mother so the Prophet ﷺ said to me: O Abu Dhar, you still have some characteristics of ignorance. Your slaves are your brothers..." (Bukhari).

Human dignity is a one of the basic spir-its of Islam, it obligated Muslims to observe the human dignity that Almighty Allah bestowed to man with His bounty and mercy in which He did not differentiate between Muslims and non-Muslims. The Prophet ﷺ resoundingly and reverberatory said on farewell pilgrimage: "O people, your Lord is one, your father is one, and there is no superiority for an Arab over a non-Arab, nor for a non-Arab over an Arab, nor for a white over a black, nor for a black over a white except with piety." (Bukhari)

Islam commanded its followers to preserve the dignity of non-Muslims and respect their feelings and sentiments. The Almighty Allah says: "And do not argue

with the People of the Book except in a way that is best, except with those who do wrong among them" (Al Ankabut:46). In Islamic perspective man is honored being regardless of his ethnicity, culture, origin, religious belief and his position and value in the society. Almighty said: "And do not insult those who invoke other than Allah, lest they insult Allah as an enemy without knowledge" (Al-An'am:108). There is an explicit prohibition against harming the gods of the other faiths in order to preserve human dignity, freedom, and to respect their religious sentiments and emotions. While interpreting this verse Imam Al-Qurtubi says, it is not permissible for a Muslim to insult their students, their religion, or their churches and not expose anything that leads to that as it is the way that leads person to sin.

Preserving human dignity is evident to us in the Prophet's ﷺ dealings with non-Muslims even with the dead among them. On the authority of Jabir bin Abdullah, he said: "A funeral passed by us, so the Prophet ﷺ stood up for it, and we also did the same, so we said: O Messenger of God, it is the funeral of a Jew! He said: "If you see the funeral, stand up." (Bukhari). This depicts that Islam is a religion of peace, mercy and justice that seeks to guide people and bring them out of darkness into light.

In numerous hadiths, Prophet ﷺ urged Muslims to uphold the divine morals and to deal others with mercy as Allah is merciful to his servants. In other traditions Messenger ﷺ of Allah says: "Those who are merciful will be shown mercy by the Most Merciful, and have mercy on those on earth and He who is in heaven will have mercy on you" (Tirmidhi). He also says: "He who does not have mercy will not be shown mercy" (Muslim). Thus, Islamic law preserve human dignity and considers all those acts against the spirit of Islam that undermine human dignity.

*The author is Research Scholar, Department of Arabic BGSB University, Rajouri*



## Govt Suspends Drunk School Teacher

Press Trust Of India

**Jammu:** A teacher who was found in an inebriated condition during work hours in a government school in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district has been suspended, an official order said on Monday.

A video of the incident that happened in Chanti Tatra village on Saturday surfaced on social media, prompting authorities to initiate an inquiry against the accused.

"Keeping in view the seriousness of the matter and till pending inquiry, Bikram Singh is hereby placed under suspension with immediate effect .," Chief Education Officer, Doda, Prahlad Bhagat said in his order.

The villagers on Sunday locked down the school, demanding action against the accused teacher. According to the villagers, the accused teacher had asked some students to get a glass for him to have alcohol inside the school. Singh, in an inebriated condition, created a ruckus on being confronted by the villagers, village head Gajoth Panchayat Devinder Kotwal said.

Two more liquor bottles were also recovered by the villagers, including the parents of the students, from the possession of the teacher. Bhagat said during the suspension, Singh will remain attached to the office of Additional Deputy Commissioner, Bhaderwah for further duties.

He said the teacher's act is highly objectionable and amounts to wrongdoing, indiscipline and dereliction towards legitimate duty. "Such an act on part of a teacher tarnishes the image of the whole teaching fraternity."

## Pak Engaging In Hostile Propaganda: MEA Report

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: There is no let-up in Pakistan-sponsored cross-border terrorism and Islamabad is yet to show sincerity in delivering justice to the families of the victims of the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said in a report on Monday.

In its annual report for 2022, the MEA also said that Pakistan continues to engage in "hostile and fabricated propaganda" to vilify India and to divert attention from its domestic political and economic failures.

It said India desires normal neighbourly relations with Pakistan and New Delhi's consistent position has been that issues, if any, should be resolved bilaterally and peacefully, in an atmosphere free of terror and violence. At the same time, it said the onus is on Pakistan to create such a conducive environment.

"Pakistan continues to engage in hostile and fabricated propaganda to vilify India, and to divert attention from its domestic political and economic failures," it said.

"India has completely and unequivocally rejected all actions and statements by Pakistan on matters which are completely internal to

India," the MEA said.

It said there is a greater understanding among countries that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India and that the matters related to it are internal to the country.

"Despite India's persistent urging that Pakistan respect its January 2004 commitment of not allowing its soil or territory under its control to be used for terrorism against India, there was no let-up in cross-border terrorism, infiltration and illegal smuggling of arms into India across the Line of Control (LoC) and International Boundary," the MEA said.

"Pakistan is yet to show sincerity in delivering justice to the families of the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks," it said.

The MEA noted that India has consistently stressed the need for Pakistan to take "credible, irreversible and verifiable" action to end cross-border terrorism.

"India consistently raises the issue of Pakistan's continued support to cross-border terrorism and terrorist infiltration in bilateral, regional and multilateral fora. In such outreach, credible inputs regarding the Pakistani origins of the captured terrorists are also shared," it said.

## J&K's Oil Industry To Witness Significant Transformation Under HADP With An Outlay Of Rs 1,290 Cr

Press Trust Of India

**Jammu:** Jammu and Kashmir's oil industry will witness a significant transformation, with the implementation of multifarious initiatives under the Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) by the Agriculture Production Department, a senior government official said on Monday.

The recent release of a final report by an Apex Committee headed by Mangla Rai, former DG ICAR, has charted out the roadmap for the implementation of 29 projects under HADP.

Significantly, among the approved projects, the promotion of oilseed cultivation has been given due consideration. The oil seed project included several interventions aimed at increasing production and productivity, with an estimated annual output worth Rs 1,290 crore, Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture Production Department, Atal Dulloo said.

He said the department will be implementing a multifaceted initiative aimed at promoting oilseed cultivation in the region with a project outlay of Rs 31.00 crore.

"This three-year project is expected to create more job opportunities and contribute towards overall economic growth of the region," he said.



Jammu and Kashmir is known for its diverse agro-climatic conditions that provide a suitable environment for the cultivation of various crops, including oilseeds.

"To promote oilseed cultivation in the region, the J & K government has taken several initiatives under the HADP. The government intends to bring 210 Th Ha under oilseed cultivation from the current 140 Th Ha over the next three years. About 202.50 Th Ha shall be covered under rapeseed and mustard cultivation and 7.50 Th Ha shall be covered under sesame seed cultivation," Dulloo said.

Besides, 70,000 Ha of additional areas shall be covered in potential oilseed districts like Kathua, Samba, Jammu, Udhampur, Rajouri, Reasi, Anantnag, Kulgam, Pulwama, Budgam, and Ganderbal

and districts like Shopian, Bandipora, Ramban, and Doda, by utilising fallow lands, culturable wastelands and leveraging increased cropping intensity apart from promoting intercropping systems, he said.

He said over 50 per cent of the net sown area in the Jammu division is rain-fed. Therefore, this project aims to promote crop diversification by cultivating sesame seeds as a Kharif crop in Kandi and rain-fed areas of the Jammu division.

"The total requirement of edible oils in the UT is 14.20 lakh quintals, whereas the UT produces only 3.36 lakh quintal. Hence, this initiative is crucial for the region's food security and economic growth," he said.

As part of the project, he said, farmers will receive 50 per cent assistance with a subsidy ceiling of Rs 4,000 per quintal for

purchasing high-yielding varieties of mustard and rapeseed.

Similarly, a 50 per cent subsidy with a ceiling of Rs 8,000 per quintal will be provided to beneficiaries for procuring hybrid rapeseed, mustard, and improved varieties of sesame seed, Dulloo said.

Additionally, to improve the seed replacement rate of oil seeds, a 50 per cent subsidy with a ceiling of Rs 2,500 per quintal will be provided for producing foundation and certified seeds to boost productivity and promote area expansion.

To further increase cultivation, 11,200 Ha will be brought under cluster cultivation of oil seeds, with 50 per cent incentives extended up to Rs 5,000 per Ha under cluster demonstrations and up to Rs 7,000 per Ha under front-line demonstrations to meet all input costs for the cultivation of mustard, rapeseed, sesame and linseed, he said.

Additionally, under post-harvest management, a 50 per cent incentive will be provided for the establishment of 70 oil mills with filter press, 30 oilseed extractors, and two branding and marketing units.

The project is expected to lead to a net increase in the return to farmers by 10 to 12 per cent and a reduction in input costs by 15 to 20 per cent, besides creating 7,800 jobs and 300 enterprises, the official said.

### CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

#### FM Presents

She said the debt/GDP ratio for 2023-24 was pegged as 49 per cent and the GDP growth for the Union territory for 2023-24 has been projected at Rs 2,30,727 crore which shows a growth of 10 per cent over the previous year.

All 18.36 lakh households of Jammu and Kashmir will have functional tap connections by 2023-24, Sitharaman said, adding that every household will be provided drinking water with minimum 55 litres per capita per day and of prescribed quality on regular, long term and sustainable basis.

The finance minister has allocated Rs 2,526.74 crore to agriculture and horticulture; Rs 2,097.53 crore to health and medical education; Rs 4,169.26 crore to rural department; Rs 1,964.90 crore to power sector; Rs 7,161 crore to Jal Shakti; Rs 2,928.04 crore to housing and urban development; Rs 1,521.87 crore to education; and Rs 4,062.87 crore to construction of roads and bridges.

#### Days Gone When

filled 1 lakh backdoor vacancies and have the audacity to talk about the ongoing recruitment process," he said.

"Don't get carried away with the instigators. I assure you that there will be no place left for dishonest people in Jammu and Kashmir," he added.

Referring to the cancellation of Sub-Inspector, Financial Account Assistant (FAA) and Junior Engineer recruitment examinations, Sinha said that his administration acted swiftly and handed over the case to CBI for probe.

"Without any delay, those examinations were cancelled. The case was handed over to the CBI for probe. I believe the CBI is an efficient investigative agency in the country," he said.

"CBI has arrested many. Strictest action possible has been taken. And I assure you that no matter how influential any person is, the law will catch up with him and he will be definitely punished," he added.

#### India's Engagement

and tranquility in the India-China border areas at an early date.

"However, the continued unilateral attempts by China to change the status quo have impacted the bilateral relationship since then," it said.

"The two sides continued to make some progress in the resolution of the issues along the LAC in Eastern Ladakh. Continuing with disengagement in Pangong Tso in February 2021 and in the Gogra area in August 2021, this year,

disengagement was achieved in Gogra-Hot Springs (PP-15) in Eastern Ladakh (September 2022)," the MEA said.

It said there are still some outstanding issues that need to be resolved.

"India has maintained its engagement with the Chinese side both through diplomatic and military channels to resolve the remaining issues at the earliest so as to restore peace and tranquility in the border areas," the MEA said.

It said External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar held a meeting with the then Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi during the latter's visit to India on March 25 last year.

"The two ministers exchanged views on the border situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Eastern Ladakh. EAM conveyed to FM Wang Yi that restoration of normalcy will require a restoration of peace and tranquility," the report said.

Apart from this, Jaishankar discussed key issues including the return of Indian students to continue their education in China.

The majority of Indian students had returned home following the COVID-19 pandemic. The report also mentioned the meeting of the two foreign ministers in Bali on July 7 last on the sidelines of a G-20 meeting.

It said during the meeting, Jaishankar called for an early resolution of all the outstanding issues along the LAC in eastern Ladakh and reiterated the need to sustain the momentum to complete disengagement from all the remaining areas.

Jaishankar also highlighted that the India-China relationship is best served by observing the three mutuals - mutual respect, mutual sensitivity, and mutual interest, the report said.

The report also cited the diplomatic and military talks between India and China to resolve the border issue.

"During these diplomatic and military level meetings, the two sides have had a candid and in-depth exchange of views on the situation along the LAC in the India-China border areas," the report said.

"There was agreement to continue discussions through diplomatic and military channels to resolve the remaining issues along the LAC at the earliest," it said.

The report noted that India continues to engage with China on multilateral platforms including BRICS, SCO, G-20, UN, etc.

#### Power Curtailment

curtailment schedule in Kashmir. The authorities had decided to go for eight hour curtailment for non-metered areas and 4.5-hour power cuts in the metered areas.

Meanwhile, a meeting was held under the chairmanship of the Managing Director, KPDCL, regarding the progress of Smart Meter installations in Srinagar.

Initially the chair was apprised by the concerned officials of the KPDCL and TKC's regarding the progress of the smart meter installation progress. Following points were discussed during the meet.

The slow progress of TKC's regarding installation of smart meters was seriously viewed by the chair and directions were issued on spot to increase the workforce to meet the deadline.

Various officials of KPDCL were directed to work in synchronization with the concerned officials of District Administration to minimize the protests against installations of the meters.

TKC's were given strict directions regarding the Non-Communicating Meters and were directed to resolve the issue as soon as possible without any fail.

Damaged meters need to be replaced with new ones and the concerned Turnkey Contractors were given directions to install new ones within least possible time.

The chair also issued directions to TKC's to give wide publicity regarding the advantages of Smart meters.

Instructions were passed on to disconnect all the defaulters, the statement said.

Hoardings will go up across the city centres so as to give wide publicity regarding advantages of Electric Smart meters.

The meeting was attended by Chief Engineer (Distribution), KPDCL, Superintending Engineer Circle 1st, KPDCL, Executive Engineers of O&M Div 1st and 4th, AEE's and Territorial SDO's and officials of Turnkey Contractors (Anvil Cables and Techno Ltd)—(KNO)

#### Govt Okays Land

receiving station for providing electricity to the transit accommodations for PM Package employees, the spokesman said.

#### BJP To KPs: Ensure

to delete the names of the displaced voters from the voting list.

"During the booth sashaktikaran (empowerment) campaign, it has come to our notice that Booth Level Officers of various constituencies are approaching voters from the displaced community and asking them to confirm where their votes are to be entered into the electoral rolls," he said.

"The voters belonging to the displaced community are, for obvious reasons, in a state of uncertainty, indecision and in a tight spot,"

Raina, flanked by the party's Kashmir Displaced District (KDD) unit, told reporters here.

He said a common voter who is away from his territorial constituency for more than three decades finds it difficult to comprehend the importance of remaining integrated into their place of origin.

"We appeal to the community to ensure that their names in the electoral rolls of Kashmir are properly and correctly registered. Its importance is further accentuated and reinforced by the strong resolve and explicit intent to return to places of our origin," he said.

Therefore, the KDD unit of the BJP is appealing to the community to express their decision to remain part of their territorial constituencies in Kashmir, Raina said.

He said the BJP understands the developmental needs of places, where the community resides outside the valley.

"BJP assures the community that just because they are not registered as voters in areas like those falling under the jurisdiction of Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), their developmental needs like construction and repair of lanes, drains and roads will not be allowed to get ignored," he said.

Raina asked the state Election Commission to explore the possibility of allowing these voters to be entered into the electoral list for JMC and other Urban local bodies (ULB) where they presently live.

"Articles 243K and 243ZA deal with elections to panchayats and municipalities in the states and empowers the State Election Commission with the authority of superintendence, direction and control of preparation of electoral rolls and the conduct of Panchayat and ULB election." "This way the displaced community will continue to be voters of their territorial constituencies of Kashmir for assembly and parliamentary seats," Raina said. -PTI

#### J&K To Auction

ore and the report has been handed over to the Government of Union Territory of J&K," the minister said.

In a separate reply, the minister said that GSI generates baseline geoscience data through mapping, e.g. geological, geochemical, geophysical which is a prerequisite for identifying the potential area for systematic mineral exploration.

Based on the mapping data, GSI carries out systematic mineral exploration activities for various major mineral commodities including lithium.

"In part of Jammu & Kashmir, as a follow up of lithium exploration in Salal-Haimna areas

of Reasi district, GSI has taken up another reconnaissance G4 stage exploration programme on lithium and associated mineral in Panasa Dugga Baldhanun Chakar - Sangarmarg (Saro-da-Bas) area of Reasi district during current field season 2022-23 and the work is in progress," he said.

Based on the mapping outcome more exploration programme on various mineral commodities including lithium will be taken up in future in different parts of the country including Jammu & Kashmir.

#### Shifting Detainees

government and others to the plea. The plea said people detained under the local law cannot be moved out of the Union territory as the statute was applicable to the Union territory only.

The people are in preventive detention under the provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, 1978.

#### J&K Raises

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Chief Secretary Dr Arun Kumar Mehta and Principal Secretary to the LG Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari were also present at the meeting.

#### JKAS Officer Suspended

at Srinagar and remain attached with him during the period of enquiry," the order reads.

#### Arms Cache

recovery of a huge cache of arms, ammunition and other war like stores.

It reads the recovery includes IED's (05 No's) PTD's programmed timer devices and RCIEDs, Detonators (06 No's), Pistols (03 No's), Pistol Magazines (05 No's), Ammunition (09mm rounds = 124 No's), Remote controls (04 No's) and Batteries (13 No's).

"In this regard, Case FIR No. 58/2023 stands registered in PS Bijbehara under relevant sections of law and investigation set into motion," it reads.

#### Man Electrocutd

immediately shifted to district hospital Pulwama, where doctors declared him dead on arrival, he said. Police have taken cognizance of the incident.

#### BSF Man Dies

GNS about the death of the officer at a health facility in Mendhar.

It has been in the meantime learnt that police have initiated investigation into the possible cause of death of the officer.

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

KASHMIR  
OBSERVER

KO PODCAST



## PDP Won't Remain Silent About BJP's Onslaught On Oppn Parties: Mehbooba

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Monday said his party would not remain silent about the alleged onslaught of the BJP on the opposition parties in pursuit of its goal of "making India a BJP Rashtra".

The former chief minister said the gloomy faces of the people speaks about the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, where thousands of youths have been jailed and an atmosphere of fear has been created.

"I want to ask all political parties in the country to wake up as what happened to J&K (after 2019) is finally reaching their necks. You preferred to remain silent or speak in a half-hearted manner but we will not remain silent and will fight not only for ourselves but for you as well," Mehbooba said addressing a public meeting in the border district of Poonch.

The PDP leader, who is currently on a three-day tour of Pir Panjal region, said she was warning that BJP has turned J&K into a laboratory to experiment its policies before their implementation in other parts of the country.

"The opposition parties in the country did not understand what was happening to us. Today when the BJP is trampling democracy by jailing opposition leaders with the help of the Enforcement Directorate and CBI, they have started feeling the

heat," she later told reporters.

She said the abrogation of Article 370 was unconstitutional but majority of the leaders stayed silent. "I am of firm belief that we will get back Article 370 with interest. They will come and ask what else you want."

Referring to the slapping of Public Safety Act (PSA) on political leaders including her and two other former chief ministers, National Conference president Farooq Abdullah and his son Omar Abdullah, Mehbooba said J&K was turned into a jail and an atmosphere of fear was created to silence the people.

Mehbooba said they are not in favour of making India a "Hindu Rashtra" but their policies are aimed at making it a "BJP Rashtra" where everyone who aligns with them will be welcomed.

She also opposed the property tax and hiring of a previously black listed company by the J-K administration to fill vacancies in different government departments and said the youth are the worst sufferers of the policies of the administration.

The PDP chief said from Lt Governor to bureaucrats, everyone has been brought from outside and they (BJP) are claiming to install a chief minister from Jammu.

"Had they been serious, they would have installed a Lt Governor from Jammu or at least one of his advisors but they only believe in hoodwinking the public to get votes," she said.



## Councilor Among 2 Held In Separate NDPS Cases

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** Jammu and Kashmir Police in north Kashmir's Baramulla arrested a Councilor of Municipal Council (MC) Pattan among two drug peddlers in separate NDPS cases, officials said here on Monday.

An official said that a police party of Pattan PS arrested a Councilor of Municipal Council Pattan along with 200 tablets of Spasmodoxyvon and 10 bottles of codeine phosphate at Railway crossing in Pattan.

The arrested Councilor was identified as Barkat Ali Mia son of Mohammad Maqbool Mia, a

resident of Mia Mohalla Pattan. Similarly, in another action at Chakloo area of Baramulla, a suspicious person was apprehended tactfully who upon seeing the police party tried to flee from the spot.

During his personal search, police recovered 36 bottles of Corex from his possession. The man was identified as Umar Yousuf Lone son of Mohammad Yousuf Lone, a resident of Nadihal Rafiabad, official added.

Meanwhile, cases were registered at Police Station Pattan and Baramulla, besides further investigations were set into the motion—(KNO)

## Deeply Hurtful: Omar On BJP Leader's Comments About Azaan

Press Trust Of India

**SRINAGAR:** National Conference vice-president Omar Abdullah Monday termed Karnataka BJP leader K S Eshwarappa's comment about Azaan -- the Muslim call for prayer -- "deeply hurtful".

Senior BJP leader K S Eshwarappa on Monday said loud-speakers used for 'Azaan' disturb people, especially students preparing for examinations and patients in hospitals. He was responding to a query on his comments on

Azaan made during the BJP's Vijay Sankalp Yatra on Sunday at Shantinagar, which has gone viral on social media.

Reacting to Eshwarappa's comments, Abdullah tweeted, "Setting aside the deeply hurtful comments from the BJP for a moment, who will explain to this ignoramus that an Azaan is not a

prayer meant for Allah but is, in fact, a call to prayer meant for people. While Allah hears and sees all, humans alas often don't."



BUDGAM MURDER

## Angry Protesters Demand Capital Punishment For Accused

Agencies

**BUDGAM:** A day after a 30-year-old lady was brutally murdered in the Ompora area of central Kashmir's Budgam district, the people from the neighbouring villages on Monday held a massive protest, demanding capital punishment for the accused involved in the case.

Scores of agitated people on Monday afternoon gathered at the main chowk Ompora and held a strong protest against the accused man who after allegedly killing the

lady, chopped her body into several pieces and disposed of them in various parts of the district.

The people raised slogans of 'Hang the culprit' and 'We want justice', saying such people have no right to live in this society. They demanded capital punishment for the murderer and justice for the victim's family.

"We cannot have such people in our society. Police have already identified the gruesome murderer. Now, we request the LG administration to do a court trial on a

fast-track level and hang the culprit as soon as possible so that justice is delivered," they said, adding, 'Today it was her, tomorrow it will be our sister, mother or wife.'

If the police don't act on a fast-track basis, we will go to the Supreme Court and fight separately, the furious protesters said.

Meanwhile, several political parties, social organisations and Auqaf committees condemned the "inhuman act" and demanded justice for the victim's family—(KNO)

## NC Expresses Outrage Over Brutal Murder

**SRINAGAR:** The National Conference (NC) on Monday condemned the brutal killing of a young woman in Jammu and Kashmir's Budgam district, saying the incident has brought shame to humanity.

The woman was killed and her body chopped into several pieces in the Soibugh area of the central Kashmir district. Police have arrested a man who has confessed to the crime and identified the locations where he had hidden the victim's body parts.

Expressing outrage over the "rising spate of incidents against women" in Kashmir, senior NC leader and a former MLA from Budgam, Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi, said the gut-wrenching incident is a horrible reminder of how distinctly rotten the society has become.

"Words are not enough to condemn this brazen murder of humanity. If these cases

do not shake the conscience of humanity, nothing will. I express my deepest condolences and sympathies with the bereaved household, and pray for fortitude to them at this difficult time," he said.

Demanding exemplary punishment for the perpetrator of the crime, Mehdi said the "lack of accountability of the law-and-order institutions and lack of conviction of the culprits" lead to an increase in the number of such incidents of crime against women.

Police should prepare a watertight case against the assailant so that he gets stringent punishment, he added.

Demanding a speedy trial in the case, the NC leader said the society should also introspect about the recurrence of such shameful incidents.

"Recurrence of such incidents should be a point of concern for all of us. Such in-

cidents were unknown in this part of the world.

"Now, we get to hear about such incidents on an almost daily basis. It is high time that we, as a society, converge our efforts to educate our youth. Police and the judiciary will do what they have to, but we as sensible citizens should unite our efforts and guide our new generation and speak about such injustices at every level," he said.

Meanwhile, NC's central zone president Ali Muhammad Dar led a party delegation to meet the victim's family members.

The delegation also offered "Fatiha" (special prayers) for the victim woman.

Women functionaries of the NC have also expressed outrage over the killing and demanded stern punishment for the perpetrator of the heinous crime.

## Cong March Foiled In Jammu; JKPCC President Detained

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** Scores of Congress activists, including Pradesh Congress Committee president Vikar Rasool Wani, were detained on Monday here after they tried to take out a march to the Raj Bhavan over the Adani issue and alleged anti-people policies of the Jammu and Kashmir administration.

The protesters, including Congress working President Raman Bhalla and former minister Yogesh Sawhney, also chanted slogans in support of restoration of statehood and early assembly elections in the Union Territory.

"We are assembled here to take out a march to the Raj Bhavan to lodge our protest against the BJP for denying a probe into allegations of financial irregularities and market manipulations by the Adani group. The 'Modi-Adani friendship' has destroyed this country," Wani said before leading the protest march from outside the Maharaja Hari Singh Park in the city.

As the marchers reached nearby Vivekanand chowk en route to the Raj Bhavan, police intervened and took many of them into preventive custody. The protesters were boarded into two buses and whisked away to a nearby police installation.

"We are also protesting



against the onslaught of the Lt Governor led administration by imposing 'anti-people' laws since 2019 (when special status of J-K under Article 370 was revoked and the state was bifurcated into two union territories)," the JKPCC president said.

He denounced the J-K administration for imposition of property tax, launching anti-environment drives, growing unemployment, job scams and hiring of a previously blacklisted company to conduct computer-based written tests for filling up various government vacancies.

Bhalla said the protest was planned to press for the setting up of a joint parliamentary committee to probe allegations of fraud against industrialist Gautam Adani, growing infla-

tion, baton charge on peaceful protesters, including students and casual labourers, restoration of statehood and early assembly elections.

Condemning the police action, Congress spokesperson Jahanzaib Sirwal said, "This is the state of affairs in J-K where a peaceful protest is not allowed."

"It (detention of peaceful protesters) is the 'murder' of democracy but such things will not stop us from raising the issues concerning the public and demand for restoration of statehood and early assembly elections," Sirwal told PTI.

The Congress leader said his party will continue to raise the public issues and expose the BJP for trying to "suppress the opposition".

## Low Immunity Behind Spring Spike In Flu Cases: DAK

'H3N2 A Common Seasonal Flu Virus, In Circulation For Last 55 Years'

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** With spring spike of influenza cases in Kashmir valley, Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Monday attributed the surge to lower levels of natural immunity in the population against flu viruses.

"People haven't been exposed to influenza in the past two flu seasons due to Covid restrictions which has led to lower levels of natural immunity within the population," said DAK President and influenza expert Dr Nisar ul Hassan.

Dr Hassan said we see influenza cases every year during winter months.

But the last two seasons witnessed negligible flu cases. The decline was because of Covid precautions such as face masking and social distancing.

"Now that people are out without masks, travelling extensively, business has resumed and children are back to schools, flu has made a comeback," he said.

The DAK President said in typical years a good percentage of the population gets infected with these viruses and builds immunity against the infections.

What we are seeing are

a couple of years where we didn't see infections.

"So more people are susceptible to these viruses that is causing spike in cases in this season," he said.

Dr Nisar said flu viruses have a tendency to mutate. Small changes keep on happening. And that could be another reason that we have severe and prolonged flu cases in unusual time of this year's flu season.

He said H3N2 flu virus is not new. It is the commonest seasonal flu virus and is in circulation for the last 55 years.

The 1968 flu pandemic was caused by H3N2. The pandemic was over in two years, but the virus became a seasonal affair, peaks in every winter causing milder illness.

"Though H3N2 virus is dominant, H1N1 popularly called swine flu has been reported in significant number of influenza cases in Kashmir," he added.

General Secretary DAK Dr Arshad Ali said people who develop flu symptoms like cough, fever, runny nose and sore throat should isolate themselves till their symptoms resolve.

"Doctors should prescribe antiviral medicines instead of antibiotics to flu patients," he said.

SMOKING AT PUBLIC PLACES

## Rs 15L Fine Recovered, 20000 Challans Produced In Last 4 Years

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** As the government has taken slew of measures to decrease the percentage of tobacco consumption in the UT, authorities have produced over 20,000 challans and collected over Rs 15 lakh from violators for smoking in public places in Kashmir division.

As per the data accessed by a local news agency KNO around 20,002 challans were produced and Rs 152 1552 were collected from violators in the valley in the last four years.

Data reveals that in year 2019-20, 791 challans were produced under section 4 and Rs 85,390 were collected, Rs 250 collected from 5 challans under section 6(a), Rs 5600 collected from 25 challans under section 6 (B), Rs 750 collected from 9 violators under section 5 and 200 collected from 2 violators under section 7.

It reveals that in year 2020-21, 5,944 challans were produced under section 4 and Rs 615,210 were collected, Rs 300 collected from 6 challans under section 6(a), Rs 300 collected from 06 challans under section 6 (B), Rs 950 collected from 19 violators under section 5 and 150 collected from 3 violators under section 7.

It also reveals that in year 2021-22, 5,435 challans were produced under section 4 and Rs 572,080 were collected, Rs 200 collected from 4 challans under section 6(a), Rs 300 collected from 06 challans under section 6 (B), Rs 650 collected from 12 violators under section 5 and 50 collected from one violator under section 7.

Data adds that in year 2022-



23, 7,707 challans were produced under section 4 and Rs 265,572 were collected, Rs 150 collected from 3 challans under section 6(a), Rs 350 collected from 7 violators under section 5 and 100 collected from 2 violators under section 7.

Notably, about 1200 persons quit smoking in Kashmir in the last four years.

Pertinently, as per GATS 2 Data 35.2% Men & 5.1% women & 20.8% of all Adults currently smoke Tobacco in J&K

6.8% Men & 1.5% women and 4.3% of all adults currently use smokeless Tobacco, 39.7% Men & 6.2 % women & 23.7% of all adults either smoke tobacco or use smokeless Tobacco.

The National Health and Family Survey-5 (NHFS-5) data reveals nearly one-third (32%) of men, but only 1 percent of women, aged 15-49 use some form of tobacco.

"Tobacco products mostly used by men are cigarettes (27%), bidis (4%), hookah and cigars or pipe (2% each). Among women and men, the use of any form of tobacco is slightly higher in rural areas (1.4% for women and 35% for men) than in urban areas (0.7% for women and 24% for men)," the data adds—(KNO)

## New Delhi Too Encouraged Dynasty Rule In J&K: Bukhari

Says Politicians Kept People Engaged With Emotional Slogans And Unachievable Goals Over The Years

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari on Monday alleged that New Delhi too was responsible for encouraging dynasty politics in Jammu and Kashmir in the past.

He was addressing a workers' convention at Qamaria Ground in central Kashmir's Ganderbal, wherein people and party cadre gave him a rousing reception on his arrival at the venue.

According to a press release issued here, Bukhari blamed conventional mainstream political parties for creating a mess in Jammu and Kashmir over the years, by setting unachievable

goals for the people.

"Over the past more than 70 years, the traditional political parties belonging to certain families have been playing with the emotions of the common people to maintain a hold on power here. The power-hungry politicians also kept changing their narratives with the passage of time. First, they befooled people on the name of the so-called plebiscite front for more than two decades, and later, buried the same 'movement' for the sake of power in 1975. Then, they vowed that they will get things like autonomy and self-rule for Jammu and Kashmir. Later, they started harping that they are protectors of things like



Article 370 and 35A. Now the same politicians are trying to exploit people and gain electoral benefits by saying that they will get the abrogated Article 370 back," he said.

He added, "These ruthless politicians never meant what they said. They only wanted to get a

hold on power and create riches for their families. And, even now, their only goal is to attain power."

"Why did they bury the so-called plebiscite movement, if they were sincere about it; why did they not try to get promised 'autonomy' for J&K even after having a two-thirds majority in

the Assembly in the 1996 elections; why did they not raise their voice against August 5, 2019 occurrences even after holding all the three parliament seats from the Valley; and why didn't they do anything to get abrogated Article 370 and 35A back even after creating a so-called alliance

—PAGD — three years ago?" He asked.

Reiterating Apni Party's narrative, Bukhari said, "Unlike traditional politicians, we are not hypocrites. We always speak our hearts out whether in Srinagar, in Jammu, or in Delhi. We don't change or modify our narrative in changing scenarios."

"Apni Party believes the Jammu and Kashmir is destined to remain with India as the leader of that time had decided it in 1947. We are not Indian because we have Indian Army here. We are Indian because we have chosen to be," he added.

On this occasion, the party's Senior Vice President Ghulam

Hassan Mir taking a dig at the traditional political parties, said, "These parties made innocent people sacrifice and suffer for years in the name of unachievable goals and emotional slogans. We got lakhs of people either jailed or buried in the graveyards over the years only because of the misleading politics of the traditional parties and their leaders."

Urging people to use their vote wisely in the forthcoming elections, Ghulam Hassan Mir said, "You must understand that those who have been deceiving you for years and decades cannot be your well-wishers. You must elect the representatives who are among you."





J&K Civil Services Defeat  
Uttarakhand By 24 Runs

**Observer News Service**

**MOHALI:** Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services team led by G Prasanna Ramaswamy, Secretary Transport defeated Uttarakhand Civil Services by 24 runs on Monday in the ongoing All India Civil Services Cricket Tournament (Men) 2022-23.

After winning the toss, J&K team scored 162. Waseem Baba (Assembly) 45 (24), Samiullah Beigh (XEN PHE) 35 (23) and the contributing role of Nadeem Dar (Deputy Director), Akhil Slathia (Directorate of Animal Husbandry), Abhinav (Directorate of Health Services), Naseer (Directorate of Animal Husbandry) and Aamir Ashraf (Rural development department).

In their chase, Uttarakhand team put up a great fight but fell short of the target.

Abdul Qayoom (Education Department) and Kapil (Rural Development Department) both managed to take 2 wickets while Nadeem Dar and Samiullah Beigh took 1 wicket each to restrict the Uttarakhand team to 138 runs.

It is the first time that the officers of J&K Civil Services are participating in this prestigious apex tournament for civil servants.

The J&K team will face Punjab Civil Services team in their next match to be held on March 15.

District Ganderbal Cycling  
Championship Concludes



**Observer News Service**

**GANDERBAL:** The District Ganderbal Cycling Association organised District Ganderbal Cycling Championship on Sunday covering about 14kms in 8laps.

The event saw the participation of 36 cyclists under different age groups. In U/23 category Ajaz Mushtaq won the Gold Medal, Zameer Ahmad Silver and Mubashir clinched the Bronze. In the U/14 age group Zeeshan Mushtaq clinched the Gold, Muneeb Mehraj and Shahid Bashir Silver Medal and Bronze Medal respectively. In U/17 category, Mohsin Manzoor came first and won the Gold Medal, while Mr. Munazim Mushtaq won Silver and Wajid Mir won Bronze Medal. In Girls department Soliha Zahoor won the Gold.

"The chief guest of the occasion was Basharat Qureshi and the guests of honour were Naseer Mushtaq Rather (ReK teacher GHSS Nunner) President Ganderbal Cycling Association Muhammad Amin Lone, General Secretary Ganderbal Cycling Association Fayaz Ahmad Rather," the association said in a press release.



**YOUNG BOYS PLAY** cricket as some of Srinagar city's most historic places loom in the foreground.

Abid Bhat/KO

India Qualify For WTC Final

**Press Trust of India**

**AHMEDABAD:** On an uneventful day of cricket, India qualified for the World Test Championship (WTC) final and clinched the Border-Gavaskar Trophy for the fourth successive time after the fourth and final match against Australia ended in a draw, here on Monday.

India's spot in the WTC final against Australia was locked before the post-lunch session when Sri Lanka lost the Christchurch Test to New Zealand by two wickets as Kane Williamson's magnificent hundred steered his side to one of the most thrilling wins in Test cricket.

Australia were 175 for 2 in 78.1 overs in their second innings with a lead of 84 runs when the two teams agreed to settle for a draw. India have now beaten Australia by an identical 2-1 margin in the last four series -- 2017 (home), 2018-19 (away), 2020-21 (away) and now 2023 at home.

It was a 'Memorable Monday' for India as a country in both performing arts and sports with 'RRR's' song 'Natu Natu' getting the Oscar for the best song and Elephant Whisperers winning the 'Best Documentary Award'. By the afternoon, cricket added to the list of global accomplishments and now Rohit Sharma would love to break the decade-long ICC Trophy jinx.



Downtown Heroes Suffer Added  
Time Defeat In I-League 2

**Observer News Service**

**SRINAGAR:** The Downtown Heroes FC fell to a 1-0 loss to Jagat Singh Palahi to the Group Stage of Football Academy (JSPFA) in 2nd Division League (also known as I-League 2) Group Stage opener on Monday.

The match was played at Hargobind Stadium in Punjab was seemingly on its way to a draw when JSPFA managed to score the winning goal through Madan Bhattarai in 90+3 minute of added time.

The Heroes would be hard done by the loss, as the team will feel they deserved something from the game. Head Coach Hilal Rasool Parray has led the team to the competition and would now want his team to look forward to the next match.

Downtown Heroes next play on March 17. They take on Delhi Football Club at Minerva Academy Ground in Punjab.

The Hero 2nd Division League is the third tier professional football league in India. The winners of the league are promoted to the I-League.



14 Matches Played On All India  
Police Football C'ship Day 2



**Observer News Service**

**SRINAGAR:** The Day 2 of the 71st B.N. Mullik Memorial All India Police Football Tournament saw 28 teams (14 matches) compete at four different venues, including Synthetic Turf Ground, Polo Ground, Bakshi Stadium and Kashmir University.

At Synthetic Turf Ground DySP Sports APHQ Kuldeep Hundoo was the chief guest. West Bengal Police defeated Chandigarh Police 3-0. The match between J&K Police and Bihar Police was won by J&K Police with a score of 2-0. CRPF beat Chhattisgarh Police 11-0. Meghalaya Police defeated Assam Rifled 1-0.

At Polo Ground Dy, Commandant IRP 8th Bn was the chief guest. Odisha Police vs ITBP ended in a draw as both the teams could not score any goal. In other matches, Punjab Police beat Telangana Police 4-1, Jharkhand Police defeated Madhya Pradesh Police with a scoreline of 2-0, while Delhi Police beat Harayana Police 5-1.

At Bakshi Stadium, Manager J&K Sports Council Mushtaq Ahmad Zargar was chief guest. The match between CISF Vs Maharashtra Police ended with 2-2. Assam Police also drew 0-0 with Goa.

At Kashmir University Ground, SSP Srinagar Rakesh Balwal was the chief guest. SSB and Sikkim Police played a 1-1 draw. The match between Kerala Police and Arunachal Pradesh was won by Kerala Police with a score of 2-0. Mizoram Police defeated Gujarat Police with a massive score of 9-1. The match between Tamil Nadu and Manipur Police ended in a 1-1 draw.

Meals on the Go...

NOW ON **BOULEVARD**  
INTRODUCING FISH & CHIPS

**Bun Maska** Chai

Who Says Healthy Food Can't Taste Good?

**BRING YOUR KIDS ALONG**

JK BANK LAWNS, NEAR GHAT 6, BOULEVARD-SRINAGAR