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J&K's Policies, Situation Worthy Of Investment: HM

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday said Jammu and Kashmir's policies and law and order situation are worthy of making investment and asked industrialists to pay attention to it.

Addressing an event organised by industry-body Assocham here, he said right policies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi have taken the country forward on the path of progress. "You should choose an area

"You should choose an area considering your market or profitability. I cannot have any suggestion or priority on that. You can invest anywhere in the country.... But I would at least say that both policies and law and order in Jammu and Kashmir are worthy of investment. You must pay attention to this," he said in response to a question asked by an industrialist.

Shah said the government's "allembracing" and "all-inclusive" schemes have led to the multifaceted development of India.

He said the world is dazzled by the country's achievements. "Our ideology has made the



country safe," the minister said. Shah said that through GST (Goods and Services Tax), which was ridiculed as Gabbar Singh Tax, a huge network has been created by connecting the coun-

try - from Jammu and Kashmir

to Kanyakumari.

He said that due to the new education policy brought by the Modi government, companies in the country will not need to bring manpower from else-

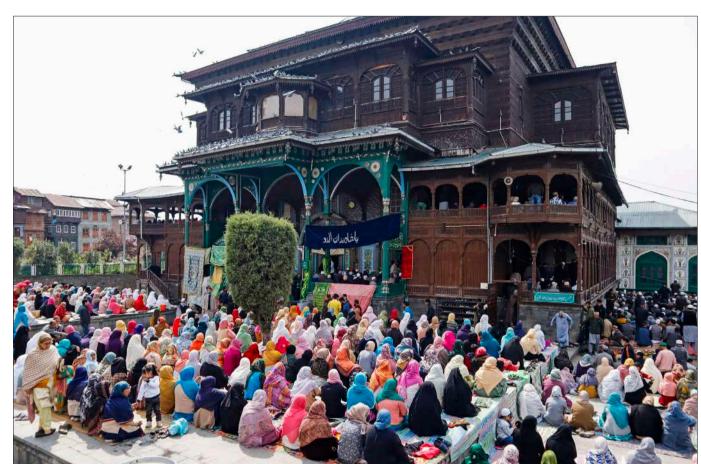
where in the next five years.
"Within five years, the youth
of our country would become
ready to make companies and
businesses successful in the

future," the minister said, addressing the event 'Bharat@100 Paving the way for inclusive and sustainable global growth'.

Citing other achievements in the infrastructure sector through major schemes, Shah said broadband connections were 6.1 crore in 2014 and increased to 82 crore in September 2022.

He said the government is working to bring down logistics cost to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to 7.5 per cent from the current 13 per cent to make exports globally competitive.

Shah said that without the development of More on P6



Devotees offer congregational Zuhr prayers inside the shrine of Mir Sayyid Ali Hamadani popularly known as Shah-e-Hamdan in Khanqah-e-Maula area in the Old City, on the sixth day of holy month of Ramazan on Tuesday: KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Govt Transfers 20 JKAS Officers

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Union Territory government on Tuesday ordered transfer of 20 Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service (JKAS) officers in the interest of administration with immediate effect.

According to a government order, Naresh Kumar, JKAS, Special Secretary to the Government, Tourism Department, has been transferred and posted as Special Secretary to the Government, Youth Services and Sports Department.

Shagun Sharma, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department, has been posted as Special Secretary to the Government, General Administration Department.

Sachin Dev Singh, JKAS, Additional More on P6

JKP Asks Officials To Update ITRs Or Face Action

Auqib Javeed

Srinagar: In a stern warning, the Jammu and Kashmir police on Tuesday asked all drawing and disbursing officers (DDOs) to direct all officials of the department to update their income tax Returns by March 31.

The circular came after complaints of bogus and fraudulent claims by some officers surfaced.

According to a circular, a copy of which lies with Kashmir Observer, the police authorities have warned of action if the officials fail to update their ITR-U by March 31.

date their ITR-U by March 31.
According to the circular, during analyses by Income

Tax Department to the refunds issued in (ITR) FY 2021-22 and 2022-23 in respect of the Income Tax Returns filed by the taxpayers of Jammu & Kashmir, it has been revealed that huge number of individual taxpayers, particularly those who derive income from salaries and which includes many police officers/officials have claimed excessive deductions/refunds under various sections of the Income Tax Act viz. 80C, 80D, 80DD. 80DDB, 80EB, 80E, 80EE, 80G, 80GGC etc. without actually

being eligible for the same.
"The data of every individual taxpayer has been analyzed by the Director General of Income Tax More on P6

Shab-e-Qadr To Be Observed On April 17: Grand Mufti

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: A gathering of leading Muslim clergy of Kashmir valley Tuesday declared that the 27th night (Shab-e-Qadr) will be observed on the 17th of April. The announcement was made by Grand Mufti Nasirul-Islam. Interestingly, the Grand Mufti had declared Friday March 24 as the first day of fasting month.

Nasir-ul-Islam also said that efforts to sight the Shawal (Eid) crescent will be made three days later on April 20. "In case the crescent

"In case the crescent moon is sighted on April 20, then one day ommitted (Qaza) fast will be observed after Eid-ul-Fitr," he said.

The Grand Mufti made this announcement after a marathon meeting of leading clergy at his residence



here on Tuesday which he claimed was convened in order to dispel doubts that had created an atmosphere of discord among Muslim community following divergent views on Ramazan moon sighting this year. The representative gathering included Maulana Rahmatullah Qasmi, Prof Muhammad Tayib Kamili, Mufti Nazir Ahmad Qasmi,

Maulana Syed Rahman Shams

from Mirwaiz Manzil, Maulana Masroor Abbas Ansari, Maulana Ghulam Rasool Hami, Agha Syed Mujtaba Mousavi, Maulana Fayaz Ahmed Rizvi, besides others.

Confusion had prevailed here last week after Kashmir Grand Mufti for the first time disregarded Pakistan's official Ruet-e-Hilal Committee announcement on the beginning of the holy More on P6

Deadline For PAN, Aadhaar Linking Extended

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The government on Tuesday extended the deadline for linking PAN with Aadhaar by three months to June 30 to enable people comply with the mandatory income tax provisions.

The deadline for linking PAN with Aadhaar was ending on March 31. As per the income tax department, failure to link the two unique identities will lead to the unlinked PAN becoming inoperative.

There have been demands, including from political parties, for giving more time to people to link PAN (Permanent Account Number) with their unique 12-digit identification number Aadhaar.

"In order to provide some more time to the taxpayers, the date for linking PAN and Aadhaar has been extended to June 30, 2023, whereby persons can intimate their Aadhaar to the prescribed authority for Aadhaar-PAN linking without facing More on P6

CAG Red Flags J&K Govt's Poor Loan Recovery

Rs 73.77 Cr Loans Disbursed During 2021-22, Recovered Just Rs 1.03 Crore

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The revenue receipts of Jammu and Kashmir in 2021-22 increased by 13 per cent as compared to the previous year but it still fell short of the budget estimates by 39 per cent, the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) said on Tuesday.

Presenting the Union Territories Finances Audit Report for the year ending March 31, 2022 in Parliament, the federal auditor said the Government of Jammu and Kashmir had an outstanding liability of Rs 29,335.41 crore.

Besides, there are outstanding borrowings amounting to Rs 2,122.77 crore of Jammu and Kashmir Infrastructure Development Finance Corporation (JKIDFC) and Rs 10,321.83 crore of J&K Power Corporation Limited.

"During 2021-22, revenue receipts increased by 13 per cent with respect to last year, but it fell short of budget estimates by 39 per cent. The UT's own tax revenue increased by 32 per cent and non-tax revenue increased by 19 per cent with respect to previous year," the CAG stated. It said there was an increase in More on P6

Valley's Lone Children's Hospital Lacks MRI, CT Facilities

Auqib Javeed

Srinagar: The only children's hospital in Kashmir Valley is without much needed infrastructure—forcing doctors to refer the patients to other private hospitals and clinics.

According to reports, 500 bedded Children Hospital here in Bemina area of the city is without Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and computed tomography (CT) as the authorities failed to procure the same even when the hospital was made operational six months ago.

The private clinics charge around Rs 2500-5000 for MRIs while as CT scan goes upto Rs 2000 to 3000. The same can be



done in government hospitals at minimal rates.

A group of attendants told Kashmir Observer that the scan at private diagnostic centres is not affordable for many poor patients and the authorities should have made all the arrangements before making the hospital operational.

Notably, the government shifted the pediatric services of G B Pant Hospital to the Children's Hospital Bemina in September 2022 after missing several deadlines. More on P6

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HC Seeks NIA Response To Watali's Plea Challenging UAPA

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court sought the NIA's response on Tuesday on a plea moved by Kashmiri businessman Zahoor Ahmad Shah Watali, challenging the charges framed against him in a terror-fi-

nancing case.
A bench of Justices
Siddharth Mridul and
Talwant Singh issued
a notice to the National
Investigation Agency
(NIA) and listed the plea for
further hearing on May 3.

A trial court had, in May last year, framed charges against Watali and others in a case related to alleged terrorism and secessionist activities that disturbed Jammu and Kashmir in 2017. Watali was arrested by the NIA in 2017 under various sections of the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). The trial court had ordered

framing of charges against Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) founder Hafiz Saeed, Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) chief Syed Salahuddin and Kashmiri separatist leaders, including Yasin Malik, Shabbir

Shah and Masarat Alam, under various sections of the UAPA and the Indian Penal Code (IPC), including for criminal conspiracy, waging war against the country, unlawful activities and terrorism.

It had also charged Mohammad More on P6

Avalanche Kills JCB Operator

JCB operator died after an avalanche hit Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag district on Tuesday, officials said. The avalanche hit Sinthan Top in Kokernag area of the south Kashmir district in the afternoon, the officials said.

A JCB came under the avalanche, which was about 150-200 ft in length and 15-20 ft high, they said.

A rescue operation was immediately launched and the operator, identified as Javid Ahmad Zagoo, a resident of Dessu Khandipora area of Larnoo in the district, was More on P6

Youth's Death Sparks Protest In Kathua

youth was found dead under mysterious circumstances in ammu and Kashmir's Kathua district, officials said on Tuesday. Keshav Kumar, a resident of Fattu Chack village of Hiranagar, was found unconscious late Monday evening, they said, he was rushed to a hospital where he was declared dead. Kumar had gone on a foot pilgrimage to Mata Bala Sundri shrine in Billawar along with his friends a couple of days back. The officials said the relatives of the deceased blocked the Jammu-Pathankot More on P6

4.3 Magnitude Earthquake Jolts Ladakh

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4.3 magnitude earthquake struck the Union Territory of Ladakh on Tuesday, according to the National Center for Seismology (NCS). The tremor was felt at 10.47 am. So far, there is no report of any damage. The epicentre was 166 kilometres north of Leh town, while the depth was 105 kilometres.

40 Member Sikh Delegation Calls On LG

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Α



40 member Sikh delegation Tuesday called on the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhavan here. The members of the delegation led by S. Ajit Singh, Chairman, All J&K Sikh Coordination Committee More on P6

BSF Shoots At 3 Drones On Indo-Pak Border

he Border Security Force (BSF) brought down a drone and shot at two others, apparently being used to smuggle heroin, near the India-Pakistan border in Punjab, an official said on Tuesday. About 10 kg of heroin, a pistol, a magazine and eight rounds were recovered in the series of incidents. In one case, BSF soldiers opened fire at miscreants who hurled a heroin packet across the border fence in Fazilka district. A BSF spokesperson said the force also apprehended two persons. In Amritsar's Rajatal More on P6

'Conman' Kiran Patel's Wife Held In Cheating Case

he wife of alleged conman Kiran Patel, who was held in Jammu and Kashmir for posing as a top official of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), was arrested on Tuesday for trying to usurp a senior citizen's bungalow here, officials said.

Malini Patel was on the run ever since a first information report (FIR) in this regard was registered against the couple on March 22, weeks after her husband was held in J&K.

She was arrested from a relative's house in Jambusar More on P6

In the case of

namely

in his favor

Kashmir Observer

R/o Kharpora Kunzer Bla

1 Taseem Iqbal Wani 17 years

2. Tawheed Iqbal Wani

Greenhouse Gas Methane Cools Our Planet Even As It Heats: Study

Press Trust Of India

ethane -- a potent greenhouse gas traps a great deal of heat in Earth's atmosphere, but also creates cooling clouds that offset 30 per cent of the heat, a "surprising" new study has found.

Greenhouse gases like methane create a kind of blanket in the atmosphere, trapping heat from Earth's surface, called longwave energy, and preventing it from radiating out into space. This makes the planet hotter.

The study, published in the journal Nature Geoscience, found that in addition to absorbing longwave energy, methane also absorbs incoming energy from the Sun, known as shortwave energy.

This should warm the planet. But counterintuitively, the shortwave absorption encourages changes in clouds that have a slight cooling effect," said Robert

Allen, an assistant professor at the University of California, Riverside (UCR) in the US, who led the study.

Despite the findings, the researchers noted that methane remains a potent contributor to global warming, and efforts to reduce methane emissions are vital for keeping global warming well below 2 degrees Celsius above preindustrial values.

Though methane generally increases the amount of precipitation, accounting for the absorption of shortwave energy suppresses that increase by 60 per cent, the researchers said.

Both types of energy -- longwave (from Earth) and shortwave (from Sun) -- escape from the atmosphere more than they are absorbed into it, they said.

The atmosphere needs compensation for the escaped energy, which it gets from heat created as water vapour condenses into rain, snow, sleet, or hail, according to the resaerchers.

"Essentially, precipitation acts

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR ESTATES, KASHMIR

Tel/Fax: 0194-2470970, email:-ddestsgr@gmail.com

e-Tender Notice No.: 03 of 2023 dated.28/03/2023

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Director Estates, Kashmir from registered/approved contractors of the following work/job for the year 2023-24. The tender documents alongwith list

of items with specification can be downloaded from the website https://jktenders.gov.inf from 29-03-2023 to 18-04-2023 for which the cost of tender

documents in the shape of DD/Treasury challan/e-challan (under M.H 0216-Housing) of Rs. 2000/- (Rupees two Thousand Only) for each work/job in

favour of Deputy Director Estates, Kashmir is to be uploaded with tender documents. The earnest money in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Deputy

Director Estates, Kashmir is to be uploaded with tender documents. The tenderers should submit the tender form in two parts i.e., Technical bid and

Financial bid separately. The financial bid shall be opened only after the bid documents of intending tenderers are found technically qualified. The

10 shown under caption (Important instructions for e-Tendering process.) The tender (technical/financial bid) shall be opened on 19-04-2023 online

or on any other subsequent date which may be convenient to the Regional Level Purchase/Contract Committee in presence of tenderers willing to be

present in the office chamber of the Undersigned. The tender documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, set of

30-03-2023 (11:00 a.m.)

Further details can be had from the office of Deputy Director Estates, Kashmir at Pratap Park, Srinagar during office hours and on contact Nos. viz:

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of J&K, e-Tenders in double cover system are hereby invited by Deputy

Tender documents should be deposited in electronic format on the website: http://jktenders.gov.in alongwith with documents as per S.No

29-03-2023 (11:00 a.m.) to 18-04-2023 (2.00 p.m.)

18-04-2023 (4.00 p.m.) 19-04-2023 (2.00 p.m.) in the office of Dy. Director Estates, Kashmir.

Amount of earnest money



as a heat source, making sure the atmosphere maintains a balance of energy," said study co-author Ryan Kramer, a researcher at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center and

The researchers found that methane changes this equation.

Sun, methane is introducing heat the atmosphere no longer needs to get from precipitation.

They explained that methane shortwave absorption decreases the amount of solar radiation reaching Earth's surface. This in turn reduces the amount of water that evaporates.

Generally, precipitation and evaporation are equal, so a decrease in evaporation leads to a decrease in precipitation, according to the researchers.

"This has implications for understanding in more detail how methane and perhaps other greenhouses gases can impact the climate system," Allen said.

"Shortwave absorption softens the overall warming and rain-increasing effects but does not eradicate them at all," the researcher said.

The team discovered these findings by creating detailed computer models simulating both longwave and shortwave methane effects.

Going forward, the researchers would like to conduct additional experiments to learn how different concentrations of methane would impact the climate.

They noted that methane emissions are also likely to increase as frozen ground underlying the Arctic begins to thaw.

PUBLIC NOTICE

In the Court of Principal

District Judge Baramulla

Public at large Whereas the petiion for Appointment of Guardian under Guardians and Wards Act 1890 with respect to the minors

Sons of Late Mohammad Igbal Wani R/o Kharpora Kunzer on

dated: 27-03-2023 with the prayer of appointment of Guradian

Hence through the medium of this publication/ pubbc notice

pertaining to this matter may submit it Personally or through

at large is hereby informed that in case of any objections

council before this court date fixed i.e. 06-04-2023 failing

Given under my hand and seal of this court today on 27-03-

2023 with directions for publication in daily english newspaper

13 yers

FARIDA Bano W/o Late Mohammad Igbal Wani

Present Mohammad Yousuf Wani

I have Lost my 7th pass certificate issued by Govt High School Dhobiwan . Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody haiving any objection in this regard he/she may file his/ her objection in the above mentioned office within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost the Route Permit of my vehicle Mahindra Bolero

Bearing Regd No: JK04F-1882 while travelling from Ompora to

Budgam on 10-02-2023. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/

Shahid Wani S/o Mohammad Altaf Wani R/o Utikoo Bangil Tehsil Karhama

which objections cannot be entertained

bmt

Principal

District Judge Baramulla

2. Ghulam Mohammad Dar S/o Late AliMohammad Dar

3. Mehiabeen D/o Ghulam Mohammad Dar

5. Mubeena Bano D/O Ghulam Mohammad Dar

W/oNazir Ahamd Dar

Srinagar 6. Ameena Jan D/o Ghulam Mohammad Dar W/o Javeed Ah-

mad Mir

R/o Lalbazar Srinagar

In the matter of Application for issuance of Succession certificate in favour of

NÓTICE TO PUBLIC AT LARGE Where the petitioners(s) FILED ABOVE TITLED PETITON BEFORE

THIS COURT OF ISSUANCE OF SUCCESSION certificate in favour of Petitioner(s) in respect of Rs 10,00,000 as debits and securities in name of Deceased Namely: Late Ghulam Nabi Dar S/o Ghulam Mohammad Dar R/o Nowpora Cheshmashahi Srinagar who died on 19-08-2020 . The petition is pending disposal before this court and the next date of

drom of this proclamation that at any anyone has any objection for is-suance of succession certificate, he/she / they shall appear before this court either personally or through counsel or any authorized agent and file objections on or before 15-04-2023. Failing which the petition will be

In case, the date fixed is declared as holiday the matter shall be taken on

Jawad Ahmad

Principal District Judge, Srinagar

From The Office Of Advocate Waseem Shamas (J&K Highcourt Srinagar

In the case of:

1.moeen Din Qadri

S/O Late Saif ud Din Qadri R/O Dulla Bagh Soura Srinagar

2.Shahzada

D/O Late Saif Ud Din Qadri R/O Shahi Mohalla Awanta bawan soura Srinagar

> **VERSUS** Public at Large

...Non-Caveator's

.... Caveator

In the matter of: Publication for Caveat.

The caveators apprend that the non-caveator may file any suit or writ or any apeal at the back of the caveators and may manage to get ex parte order, therefore the caveators submit in case of any Writ Petition/Appeal/Suit or such proceedings are filed before this Hon'ble court by the non-Caveator's against the Caveators, the Caveator's or the counsel for the Caveator's may be provided an reasonable opportunity of being heard before passing any of the order in the said Writ Petition/Appeal/Suit or any Proceeding otherwise the Caveator's may suffer such an irreparable loss and injury which cannot be compensated lateron in any manner and same would be an abuse of the process of the court.

Caveators through counsel Adv waseem shamas

Office Of The Executive Engineer, Distribution, KPDCL Division Bijbehara, Kashmir.

Contact No/ Fax: - 01932-234398 E-mail:- exenedbij@yahoo.in

Date Extension-II

In view of the poor response to the NIT floated vide this office NIT No. - EDB/e-tender/92 of 2022-23 Dated: - 20-08-2021 for Complete overhauling of 125 kVA DG set Cummins Make at Divisional Stores Bijbehara including cost on account of providing of fresh lubricants/minor spares for ensuring smooth functioning of DG set during SANJY 2023 the critical dates are extender here as under;

S.No	Description	Date & Time
1	Seek Clarification End Date	10-04-2023 (1400 Hrs)
2	E-bid uploading/submission end date	15-04-2023(1300 Hrs))
3	Tender Opening	17-04-2023 (1300 Hrs)

Executive Engineer, Electric Division Bijbehara

No: EDB- 5336-43 DIPK-NB-7054/22 Dated: - 28/03/2023

she may file his/her objection in the concerned Police Station within a period of seven days from the date of publication of

this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained S/o Mohammad MagbooL Ganie R/o New Colony Karapora Charrisharief Tehsil Charrisharief

مضمون: درخواست منجانب عمران شفیج پرے ولد محد شفیج پرے ساکنه وائلوکرله پوره نسبت Unemployment سرٹھیکیٹ جن خود اشتہار بمرادآ گاہی ہرخاص وعام معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر کے نسبت سائل کے کاغذاٰت زیر بحث دفتر ہذامیں زیرکاروائی ہے۔ بیان رپورٹ پٹواری حلقہ ونمبردارسائل مذکورہ دھ ہذامیں راہائش پذیر نے اور مجھیٰ ترک سکونت اختیار نہیں کی ہے۔ نیز سائل مذکورتا عال کسی بھی سرکاری یاغیرسرکاری محکمہ میں کامنہیں کررہاہے۔

قبل اس کے کہسائل کی درخواست بر مذید کاروائی کی جائے۔اول ہرخاص وعوام کویذربعهاشتهامطلع کیاجا تاہے کہا گراس بارے میں سمشخص بااشخاص کوکوئی مذريااعتراض ہوتوايك ہفتہ كےاندردفترى اوقات ميں اسالتاً ياوكالتاً اپنے عذريا عتراض پیش کریں۔بعد گذرنے میعاد کوئی بھی عذر قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا نخریرالصدر

رو به کاری پاست مزارب غلام نی شخ ولدعبد اغنی شخ ساکنه موضوع تکیه مضمون درخواست منجانب غلام نی شخ ولدعبد اغنی شخ ساکنه موضوع تکیه بثپوره کنزر بمرادعطا یکی دختر اشتہار بمرادآ گاہی ہرخاص وعام معامله مندرجه عنوان الصدر ميس دفتر بذاكوايك درخوست بايت حصول تاريخ پيدائش سرلفيكيك موصول موكى بين سائل غلام نبى فيخ ولدعبدل غنى شیخ بیان کرتاہے کہ اسکی دختر کی تاریخ پیدائش 20-10-2009 یو ہوئی ہے۔ اس نسبت ہر خاص و عام کومطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی تحص یا شخاص کوکوئی عذر یااعتراض ہوتو وہ اپناعذر یااعتراض ساتھ یوم کے اندرپیش| لریں۔میعادگز رنے کے بعد کوئی عذریااعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگاہ۔ از بلاك ڈیولیمنٹآ فسرکنزر

عنوان: درخواست اجرائي دينيذن سرتفيكيك تجق وارثان جائز بوجه فوت شده والدكودغلام

معامله مندرجه عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول ڈیینڈنٹ سرٹفیکیٹ پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروئی ہےاس بارے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے سائل کا والدمور ن3202-03-08 کوفوت ہو چکا ہے متو فی کنیمہ کی کفالت خود کرتا تھا اور مسٹیت لیبر جموں وکشمیر بلڈنگ ویلفیر میں مزدور تھا۔ متوفی کے بسماندگار بذیل ہے 32سال مزدوری پسرمتوفی

قبال حسين شاه 30 سال زير تعليم __ عبازاحدشاه 26سال __ __

57 سال گریلوکام زوجه متوفی ں کےعلاوہ اورکوئی افراد کنہمہ نہیں ہے۔ سرٹفیکیٹ زیر بحث اجراءکرنے میں اگر کی اگر کسی مخض کو

وئى عزرياا عتراض موتؤوه بعدمشتهرا خبارسات دن كےاندراندرآ يينے عذر ياعتراض ودالت هذا كو فِتْرِی ادقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے میعادکویی عذریاعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

the University of Maryland, US.

By holding on to energy from the

From The Principal District Judge, Srinagar Present: Mr. Jawad Ahmad

Mst Noora Begum W/o Ghulam Mohammad Dar

4. Afrooza D/o Ghulam Mohammad Dar

Petitioners 1 to 5 are all residents of Nowpora Cheshmashahi

V/s Public at Large

the petitioner(s)

hearing is fixed on 15-04-2023 Public Notice is hereby issued, informing all and sundry through the

taken up and appropriate orders will be passed in the same

the next working day. Given under my hand and seal of this court on

The Regional Level Purchase Committee shall reserve the right to reject the tender without assigning any reason thereof. Deputy Director Estates, Kashmir

(Convener) Regional Level Purchase/Contract Committee,

No: DDES/NIT/2023-24/4354-62 DIPK-18958/22 Date: 28/03/2023

intending tenderers should quote rates including GST and other taxes if any.

Pruning of trees including cutting down of dry trees adjacent to

terms and conditions of the contract and job to be executed can be seen/downloaded from the website: https://ikt

Name of work/items

dates given below:

.Date of issue of Tender notice:

Bid Submission start date:

Bid Submission end date:

Period of downloading of tender documents

Date and time of opening of bids (online).

/051/9630/, 94194841/9, /006583/94

District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission Anantnag (South Kashmir)

mailto:dcdrcang121@gmail.com phone 9419043205

NOTICE

It is for the information of all the eligible aspirants/applicants that the advertisement notified vide this office letter No. DCDRC/ Ang/2022-23/110,dated: 06.03.2023 for the post of mediators in the District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission Anantnag is hereby extended up to 03 April 2023. The procedure for selection of the mediators shall remain same as envisaged in Jammu & Kashmir Consumer Protection Mediation Rules. 2023.

No; DCDRC/Ang/2022-23/125 DIPK-18943/22 Dated: 28-03-2023

Government of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory.

Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Baramulla.

CORRIGENDUM

Subject: e-Auction Notice No: - 02 of 2022-23 dated 16.03.2023. 1. Please read the dated for above referred Auction Notice as mentioned below.

3. Please read Para 24 of Terms & Conditions as under instead of what advertised:-

Period of downloading of bidding documents From 17.03.2023 to 03.04.2023 4:00PM Bid submission Start date 03.04.2023 upto 4:00PM 04.04.2023 upto 11:00AM in the office of the Executive Engineer Bid Submission End Date Date and time of Opening of Bids (Online) R&B Division Baramulla

2. Please read Para 5(a) as under instead of what advertised:-

The bidders shall be required to submit a sum as Earnest Money Deposit specified in the tender document for due performance of contract. The bid for work shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder withdraws his/her bid before the said period or makes any modification in the terms and conditions of the bid, the Earnest Money shall be liable to be forfeited in favour of R&B Division Baramulla.

In case of any dispute between the R&B Division Baramulla and the purchaser/successful bidder in respect of any sale covered under this auction notice, the decision of the Chairman Auction Committee shall be final and binding on the both parties. 4. Please read Para 25 of Terms & Conditions as under:-

Any legal dispute subject to jurisdiction of Baramulla Court All other terms and conditions shall remain intact.

No: 15665-78 DIPK-18919/22

Dated: 28.03.2023

Executive Engineer, R&B Division Baramulla

President (0)

NJ

DCDRC Anantnag

Mr Gowher Hussain Mir

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KASHMIR OBSERVER Srinagar | Wednesday | 29-03-2023

In 9 Days, 1, 17,000 Visitors Visit Tulip Garden

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Just nine days after the garden was thrown open for the general public, at least one lakh seventeen thousand (1,17,000) people have visited Asia's second largest Tulip Garden situated on the foothills of Zabarwan Range.

Ikhlas Shayiq, In charge of Tulip garden said that on average; nearly 15,000-17,000 visitors visited the garden in the first week after its opening on April 20, 2023.

He said the rush of the visitors has reduced to 9,000-10,000 now, saying the visitors, especially the tourists, throng the garden every day.

In charge Tulip Garden

further stated that a total of 1, 17, 000 people have witnessed the tulip bloom at the garden this year, adding that compared to last year, the response this year is quite appreciable.

Pertinently, the fountain channel has been extended this year as for the first time, the authorities decided to involve the third terrace of Asia's largest tulip garden in Srinagar where more than 15 lakh tulips are in full bloom to attract the visitors from different parts of the globe.

About 60 gardeners have made hectic efforts to beautify the garden, which is being thrown open for the public in April every year, depending upon the weather conditions.



Observer News Service

Srinagar: To review the functioning of Revenue Department and take Tehsil wise appraisal about Revenue related public services delivery system in the District, a meeting was held today under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC), Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad here at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex.

Besides, Regional Director Survey and Land Records, Nazir Ahmad Khawaja and Additional Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar, Syed Shabir Ahmad the meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioner (Revenue), SDM East, all Tehsildars, All Naib Tehsildars, officers of Regional Directorate Survey and Land Record and other functionaries of Revenue Department.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed review and progress of all Tehsils of the District on various issues including status of Jamabandies, status of mutations, progress on digitization of Jamabandi/ Girdawari, status of migrant offline/online grievances, updation of cases on Revenue Court Cases Monitoring System (RCCMS), Online services delivery system.

During the meeting, Tehsil wise status regarding payment of ex-gratia assistance to families of the deceased due to covid-19 was also reviewed.

While reviewing progress with regard to digitization and updation process of Jamabandies and scanning of revenue records as per the targets, the DC asked all the Tehsildars to

Observer News Service

clear pendencies and ensure proofreading and attestation of all pending Jamabandies within 10 days.

The DC asked the concerned officers of Regional Directorate Land Record Survey to reconcile the updated/corrected copies of the Jamaban dies with the respective Tehsil Offices to ensure presence of up-to-date records.

On the occasion, the DC asked the Assistant Commissioner to monitor the progress on a daily basis so that the process is completed within set timelines.

Similarly, the DC stressed that the cases enlisted in various Revenue Courts of Srinagar need to be exclusively processed on Revenue Court Cases Monitoring System (RC-CMS) by following due procedure. He also emphasized that the proceedings of these court cases should be regularly uploaded, so that functioning of the revenue courts if effectively monitored.

With regard to disposal mechanism of grievances related to Migrant properties filed by the Kashmiri migrants in different categories offline/online, the DC was informed that till date 1895 grievances have been received by the District Administration, out of which 1676 grievances of different nature have been resolved by the Office of District Magistrate with quality disposal.

With regard to upgradation of Tehsil Offices and Nayabat Offices, the DC asked all the Tehsildars to submit estimates for upgradation of facilities at Tehsil Level to ensure better and prompt services to the public.



An elderly man offers Iftari meals to women devotees at revered Khankah shrine in the old city on sixth day of the holy month of Ramazan, KO Pic Abid Bhat

Big Push To Promote Dal 'NADRU'

Govt Extends Value Addition, Facilitates Nadru Export To Int'l Markets

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The farmers, inhabiting the world famous 'Dal Lake'. associated with Lotus Stem (Nadru) got a new lease of life with the Jammu and Kashmir government extending them value addition and handholding services in selling their produce in the international market.

The newly formed and promoted Farmer Producer Organization (FPO), comprising 250 farmers from Dal interiors, has recently exported two consignments to UAE thus making their presence felt in the international market.

The initiative of forming this FPO is in line with the government's commitment towards empowering the farmers to sell and promote their produce in potential national and international markets.

This significant program of the J&K government has recently been mentioned in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's, monthly radio address to the nation 'Mann Ki Baat'.

Addressing the nation in the 99th episode of his Mann Ki Baat program, Prime Minister spoke about Kashmir's Dal Lake which is known for its delicious Lotus stems. "Lotus stems are known as Nadru in Kashmir and demand for Nadru is continuously increasing due to which farmers cultivating Nadru in Dal Lake have formed an FPO with the support of Srinagar district administration", he added.

The Prime Minister took pride in the fact that these farmers recently sent two consignments to the UAE saying that this success has increased the income of hundreds of farmers.

The Kashmiri Lotus stem famously known as Nadru prepared from roots of the lotus flower is a delicacy found on the table of every Kashmiri home. The lotus stem is being cultivated in various lakes of Kashmir valley, the major being Dal Lake of Srinagar.

The farmers in the area of Dal Lake often complained that the price they got for the harvest was not enough due to the lack of market linkages for their produce and meagre individual produce of the farmers.

Considering the uniqueness of Nadroo (Lotus Stem) as a delicacy, the district administration Srinagar met the entrepreneurial farmers and after preparing a blueprint approved the FPO in December 2022. The FPO is being supported by NA-BARD under the 'Central Sector Scheme of formation of FPOs'.

The FPO has been regis tered as 'Dal Lake Lotus Stem Farmers Producer Company Ltd' under Companies Act.

Within a short span of time, the FPO has mobilized a total number of 250 shareholders in the Dal lake area of Hazratbal. The FPO has also registered a company owned registered brand of Nadru involving marketing of hygienically procured and top graded Nadru (Lotus stem).

The FPO having its office in Hazratbal area of Srinagar district is also in the process of expanding its business in the value addition/primary/ secondary processing by establishing value addition units of Nadru in the area.

With support of the department of Agriculture Kashmir, the FPO has recently been able to export two consignments of Nadru to UAE fetching a very high price to the producers, an official said.

The official added that the FPO scheme is an institutional mechanism to reduce cost of production, increase per unit production and facilitate better market linkage so as to enhance the income of farmers.

He said that in the coming days, the FPOs like that of 'Dal Lake Lotus Stem Farmers Producer Company Ltd' will be promoted in the district to provide better backward and forward integration in the marketing of agriculture and horticulture produce.



TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686 PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883 PDD: 0194-2450213 FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES:

Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +919484100200

2479488,2452222,2452155 CAPD: 18001807011 SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081

AIRPORTS

PRAYERS

4:58

12:36

5:02

6:52

8:13

FAJR

ZUHR

ASR

Magrib

ISHA

RAILWAYS



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

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

HIGHWAY STATUS



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



This Day In History

- 1864 Great Britain gives the Ionian Islands back to
- 1864 Union General Steeles troops reach Arkadelphia Arkansas
- 1865 Appomattox campaign, VA, 7582 killed
- 1865 Battle of Quaker Road, VA
- 1897 Japan adopts Gold Standard
- 1901 Edmund Barton is elected Prime Minister in Australia's first parliamentary election
- 1936 10,000 watch the 200-inch mirror blank passing through Indianapolis
- 1936 Nazi propaganda claims 99% of Germans voted for Nazi candidates.
 - 1942 German submarine U-585 sinks
- 1942 The Bombing of Lübeck in World War II was the first major success for the RAF Bomber Command against Germany and a German city.
- 1945 World War II: Last day of V-1 flying bomb attacks on England.
- 1949 Turkey recognizes Israel
- 1961 23rd Amendment to the US Constitution ratified, allowing Washington, D.C. residents to vote in presidential elections 1961 - After a 41/2 year trial Nelson Mandela is
- acquitted of treason in Pretoria
- 1966 Muhammad Ali beats George Chuvalo in 15 for
- heavyweight boxing title
- · 1969 14th Eurovision Song Contest: Salome for Spain ("Vivo cantando"), Lulu of United Kingdom ("Boom Bang-a-Bang"), Lenny Kuhr of Netherlands ("De troubadour"), and Frida Boccara of France ("Un jour, un enfant") all win in Madrid
- 1971 Chile president Allende nationalizes banks/ copper mines
- 1971 Conrad Van Emde Boas becomes West Europe's 1st sexology professor 1971 - Development of a serum hepatitis vaccine for
- children announced • 1973 - US troops leave Vietnam, 9 yrs after Tonkin
- Resolution
- 1974 Mariner 10's, 1st fly-by of Mercury, returns photos
- 1974 Chinese farmers discover the Terracotta Army near Xi'an, 8,000 clay warrior statues buried to guard
- tomb of China's 1st emperor Qin Shi Huang. • 1975 - Only 2nd time Islanders beat Rangers
- · 1979 Last day of Test cricket for Mushtaq
- Mohammad · 1984 - USSR performs nuclear test at Eastern
- Kazakh/ Semipalitinsk USSR. · 1986 - Beatle records officially go on sale in Russia
- 1989 1st Soviet hockey players are permitted to play for the NHL
- 1989 -1st US private commercial rocket makes suborbital test flight (NM)

From KO Archives

Ghost Of '13' Shadows Vajpayee

Observer News Service

rinagar-Digit 13, believed by most of the Westerners, as unlucky, seems to be haunting Atal Bihari Vajpayee, in his race to the Prime Ministership of India. Vajpayee shall have to waddle to South Block by

warding off the unlucky 13, with political astuteness. The digit 13 seems to be shadowing the new Indian Prime Minister as his first ever stint as the country's chief executive lasted for just 13 days, in 1996, when he failed to win confidence vote in the Lok Sabha.

This time, Vajpayee, who is leading a 13 party alliance, to run the affairs of the government, won the crucial confidence vote, with just a margin of 13.

With many volatile political personalities in his alliance, Vapayee will have to exorcise his government from the ghost of digit 13. by managing support of some more members. May be Faroog Abdullah's National Conference lends him a hand, in raising the 'unlucky" number from 13 to 15.

(Kashmir Observer, 29 March, 1998)



Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited Zonal Office Srinagar

Extension of time

With reference the to tender notice -Dt:-27-02-2023, issued by this office, regarding advertisement for premises for housing CDM at Maisuma Bazar, Amira kadal, Sgr the last date for receipt of the tenders is extended up to 12th of April 2023. The tender documents can be downloaded from the link www.jkbank.com. The parties who have already applied in response to the tender notice -Dt:-27-02-2023 need not apply again.

Other terms and conditions shall remain the same.

No. jkb/zoSgr /Est/23-Dated: -28-03-2023.

Sd/-Zonal Head **Zonal Office Srinagar**

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

DIPK-NB-7075/22 dated: 28-03-2023

Srinagar: Director, Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), Ajaz Ahmad Bhat today presided over the valediction function of the 10-Day Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP) held at Centre

10-Day Women Entrepreneurship

Development Program Concludes

(CWE) in Srinagar. The EDP was organized by JKEDI for aspiring female entrepreneurs. The candidates were apprised about basic business concepts like business plan formulation, marketing plans, accounts management, and many other

for Women Entrepreneurship

topics of relevance While speaking on the occasion, Director JKEDI congratulated the budding entrepreneurs and assured them that the Institute will continue to provide support in the future as well.

"I assure all the budding entrepreneurs present here that our institute will handhold and support anyone in need," said Director, JKEDI.

He also informed the candidates that they should take advantage of technology and social media to expand their business.

"Innovation and technology are vital for any startup, and I am certain that you can strengthen your ventures by adopting new technology."

Women are proving their mettle in every field and entrepreneurship is no exception. They should come forward and avail benefits under different government schemes," he added.

Later in the function, the Director distributed certificates among the successful candidates. A number of the trained female entrepreneurs who participated in the valediction ceremony said that with the training program, they have gained a lot of confidence to embark on their en-

trepreneurial journeys In Charge, CWE presented a vote of thanks and emphasized the need for the participation of females in such schemes and programs to overcome the menace of unemployment in the UT of J&K.

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Wednesday | 29-03-2023

Smart Srinagar

rive anywhere in parts of Srinagar, especial the areas from the airport to Boulevard, roads are being dug up to redevelop the city. The work being undertaken as part of the Srinagar Smart City project has progressed despite facing challenging weather conditions through winter. There has been a race to meet the deadlines and the administration looks on course to do so. The work is in full swing across all proposed sites, including Residency Road, MA Road, Jhelum riverfront, and interconnections such as Polo View, Regal, Jehangir Chowk, and Chunthi Kul

The overall budget for the project is Rs 3000 crore, with Rs 2000 crore allocated to line departments working in collaboration with Smart City Limited on various projects, while Smart City Limited has a budget of around Rs 1000 crore. The project includes several pan-city projects focused on IT-related interventions, enhancing urban mobility, improving certain roads, and upgrading public transport facilities throughout the city.

The Smart City scheme by the Indian government provides Rs 500 crore to a selected city over five years, with an equal amount contributed by the state or union territory within the same period. Srinagar has received funding of approximately Rs 1000 crore from both sources. The remaining projects worth Rs 2000 crore are being undertaken through convergence with line departments that would have carried out the works regardless.

This is transforming Srinagar on a scale never seen before. Changes like the of a large portion of the Jhelum embankment popularly called Bund, are only further enhancing its old-world charm. Bund, a mooring site of the first house boats in the Valley has been a darling of tourists. The ongoing smart city project is in many ways a search for the vintage old Srinagar when all was so serene.

Srinagar's metamorphosis from a physically ravaged city in the nineties is also taking place across the swathe of its markets - some gutted remains of the buildings including the city's oldest cinema hall like Palladium notwithstanding. Over the past four years, many trendy malls have come up together with the renovation and refurbishing of the run-down establishments, issuing forth a new vivacious city. Some term it a physical push towards normalcy. The administration is making every effort to draw the city out of its blood-soaked past and restoring it to its past glory. And it has been successful in ushering in this transformatrion. A peaceful and an aesthetically appealing Srinagar is drawing tourists in thousands which, in turn, is helping the local economy and bringing the lost jobs back. Slowly and steadily, a Naya Srinagar is surfacing and no one is complaining.

OTHER OPINON

Denouncing Submission to Desires

Abid Hussain Rather

VERY living creature on the globe has some basic prerequisites for its existence. There are some basic entities like air, water, food etc. which a living being can't do away with in order to survive on the surface of earth. Such requirements are sine qua nons for survival and viability of living beings. As long as such requirements are available, a living being exists; once these basic requirements are no longer attainable, a living being ceases to exist. For its existence, every living creature has to struggle hard for his basic requirements as the surrounding conditions are not always favourable to him. Human beings, though the noblest creation, aren't exceptions to these principles. They too have some basic prerequisites for their existence. They can't survive without their basic needs. Like other living creatures they too have to struggle hard for their survival. No human being can go against the laws of nature and remain static. Instead every single soul has to be assiduous to earn his livelihood and live comfortably. He has to create new ways and new techniques to adopt himself with the changing environment. Unlike other creatures, human beings don't restrict themselves to attainment of basic needs for their survival, rather their materialistic greed provokes their unending inner desires with no satisfying results. They always remain busy in fulfilling their inner desires which has been an unending process since the dawn of human civilization.

Naturally, every human being has countless desires-desires of wealth, happiness, success, richness, power, fame and many more to count. When channeled appropriately these desires help the human beings to achieve a higher status in life, but uncontrolled desires for more and more materialistic gains lead us astray. When our power of desires surpasses our power of intellect and imagination we fall from the state of 'noblest creation' to the lowest level of creaturehood. As Almighty has mentioned in Quran,

"And who is more astray than one who follows his desires without guidance from Allah? Indeed Allah doesn't guide the wrongdoing people. " (Al Quran 28:50)

Free Will Trumps Determinism In Gulf Politics

M. K. BHADRAKUMAR

hina's mediation to normalise Saudi-Iranian diplomatic ties has been widely welcomed internationally, especially in the West Asian region. A clutch of unhappy states that do not want to see China stealing a march on any front, even if it advances the cause of world peace, mutely watched.

The US led this pack of dead souls. But the US is also on the horns of a dilemma. Can it afford to be a spoiler? Saudi Arabia is not only the fountainhead of petrodollar recycling — and, therefore, a pillar of the western banking system — but also America's number one market for arms exports. Europe is facing energy crisis and the stability of the oil market is an overriding concern.

Saudi Arabia has shown remarkable maturity to maintain that its "Look East" policy and the strategic partnership with China do not mean it is dumping the Americans. Saudis are treading softly.

After all, Jamal Khashoggi was a strategic asset of the US security establishment; the US is a stakeholder in the Saudi succession and it has a consistent record of sponsoring regime changes to create pliable regimes.

Yet, the fact remains that the Saudi-Iranian deal drives a knife into the heart of the US' West Asian strategy. The deal leaves the US and Israel badly isolated. The Jewish lobby may show its unhappiness during President Biden's bid for another term. China has stolen a march on the US with far-reaching consequences, which signifies a foreign policy disaster for Biden.

Washington has not spoken the last word and may be plotting to push back the peace process from becoming mainstream politics of the West Asian region. The American commentators are visualising that the Saudi-Iranian normalisation will be a long haul and the odds are heavily stacked against it.

However, the regional protagonists are already creating firewalls locally to preserve and foster the new spirit of recnciliation. Of course, China (and Russia) too lend a helping hand. China has mooted the idea of a regional summit between Iran and the members of the Gulf Cooperation Council by the end of this year.

An unnamed Saudi official told the establishment daily Asharq Al-Awsat that Chinese President Xi Jinping approached Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Saudi Crown Prince and Prime Minister, last year about Beijing serving as a 'bridge' between the Kingdom and Iran and the latter welcomed it, as Riyadh sees Beijing being in a 'unique' position to wield unmatched 'leverage' in the Gulf.

"For Iran in particular, China is either No 1 or No 2 in terms of its international partners. And so the leverage is important in that regard, and you cannot have an alternative that is equal in importance," the Saudi official added.

The Saudi official said China's role makes it more likely that the terms of the deal will hold. "It (China) is a major stakeholder in the security and stability of the Gulf," he noted. The official also revealed that the talks in Beijing involved "five very extensive" sessions on thorny issues. The most difficult topics were related to Yemen, the media, and China's role, the official said.

Meanwhile, there are positive tidings in the air too — the likelihood of a foreign minister level meeting between Iran and Saudi Arabia in the near future and, more importantly, the reported letter of invitation from King Salman of Saudi Arabia to Iranian President Ebrahim Raeisi to visit Riyadh. Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian remarked on Sunday with reference to the Yemeni crisis that "We [Iran] are working with Saudi Arabia on ensuring the stability of the region. We will not accept any threat against us from neighbouring countries."

To be sure, the regional environment is



improving. Signs of an overall easing of tensions have appeared. For the first visit of its kind in over a decade, the Turkish Foreign Minister was in Cairo and the Egyptian FM has been to Turkey and Syria. Last week, on return from Beijing, Admiral Ali Shamkhani, secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council headed for the UAE where President Sheikh Mohammed received him.

Soon after that, on Sunday, Syrian President Bashar al-Assad arrived in the UAE on an official visit. "Syria has been absent from its brothers for too long, and the time has come for it to return to them and to its Arab surroundings," Sheikh Mohamed told Assad during their historic meeting at the presidential palace.

In an interview with NourNews, Shamkhani described his 5 days' talks in Beijing leading to the deal with Saudi Arabia as "frank, transparent, comprehensive and constructive." He said, "Clearing misunderstandings and looking to the future in Tehran-Riyadh relations will definitely lead to the development of regional stability and security and the increase of cooperation between the countries of the Persian Gulf and the Islamic world to manage the existing challenges."

Evidently, the regional states are tapping the "feel-good" generated by the Saudi-Iranian understanding. Contrary to the western propaganda of an estrangement lately between Saudi Arabia and the UAE, Sheikh Mohammed is identifying closely with the positive trends in the regional environment.

Yet, the fact

remains that the Saudi-Iranian deal drives a knife into the heart of the US' West Asian strategy. The deal leaves the US and Israel badly isolated. The Jewish lobby may show its unhappiness during President Biden's bid for another term. China has stolen a march on the US with far-reaching consequences, which signifies a foreign policy disaster for Biden

This is where China's overarching role fostering dialogue and amity becomes decisive. The regional countries regard China as a benign interlocutor and the concerted attempts by the US and its junior partners to run down China make no impact on the regional states.

China has immense economic interests in the region — especially, expansion of the Silk Road in West Asia. The region's political stability and security, therefore, is of vital interest to Beijing and prompts it to become the sponsor and guarantor of the Saudi-Iranian agreement. Clearly, the durability of the Saudi-Iranian deal should not be underestimated. The Saudi-Iranian agreement will remain West Asia's most important development for a long time.

Fundamentally, both Saudi Arabia and Iran have compulsions to shift the locus of their national strategies to development and economic growth. This has received scant attention. The Western media has deliberately ignored this and instead demonised the Saudi Crown Prince and created a doomsday scenario for Iran's Islamic regime.

That said, the known unknown is the tension building up over Iran's nuclear programme. The issue is among the most prominent points of contention between Tehran and the Kingdom. Also, Israeli threats of attacks on Iran's nuclear facilities are escalating. Significantly, Iran's FM Amirabdollahian is expected to visit Moscow this week.

A Russian-Chinese coordinated effort is needed to forestall the US from raking up the nuclear issue in tandem with Israel and ratchet up tensions, including military tensions, in such a way that a pretext becomes available to destabilise the region and marginalise the Saudi-Iran agreement as the leitmotif of regional politics.

All parties understand only too well that "If the Beijing agreement materialises, the violent and fanatical right-wing Israeli government will be the first to lose out, as respecting the agreement would give rise to a stable and prosperous regional system that sets the course for further normalisations and all the achievements that ensue from them," as a Lebanese columnist wrote today in Asharq Al-Awsat newspaper.

On balance, the regional states are acting on free will, increasingly and eschewing their determinism that was wedded to decisions and actions that were thought to be causally inevitable. The realisation has dawned now that it is within the capacity of sovereign states to make decisions or perform actions independently of any prior event or state of the universe

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



OBSERVER MAIL

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

Edify SME's to reduce pollution

mall and medium-sized enterprises (SME's) play an important role in India's economy About 30% of country's GDP is from SME's.These SME's have been identified as a major source of air and water pollution in many source as per apportionment studies. One of the causes of pollution from these sec-

tors is a lack of regulatory practises such as environmental monitoring, guidelines, and best practices, a comprehensive fuel policy, regulatory enforcement, and poor policy implementation on the ground. As a result of the alarming increase in air and water pollution, it is time for regulators to act as an ombudsman, working

on pollution mitigation measures and ensuring effective policy implementation. For better compliance, SME's should be trained by centre and state governments to make understand environmental laws and regulatory strategies. and also to make aware of ambient and stack-based monitoring. These should be trained for pol-

lution load assessment of industrial emission. SME's should be trained for water audit for effective waste water management and also dissemination required for waste management to decrease pollution.

Vijaykumar HK

Help Poor But Keep Your Camera At Home

Aabid Turabi

Right to privacy is protected as intrinsic part of Right to Life and personal liberty under Article 21 and as a part of freedom guaranteed by part third of the Constitution of India. This right holds its importance equally even in these difficult times when Covid -19 has made many people needy to such an extent that they might be compromising their privacy.

Tranquility lies in serving people who are in need and this Covid-19 has made many people time bound needy. The labourers don't beg, they work but in these circumstances they are helpless. Similarly many people with money and assets are bound by the lockdown and have become themselves needy.

themselves needy. In a nation of over a billion population where still 49% depend on primary sector to meet their basic requirements, crisis like Covid-19 makes many vulnerable helpless. In last two to three weeks I have witnessed people helping each other without considering caste, religion or ethnicity. But at the same time social media platforms like Facebook and Instagram were flooded with stories showcasing the brotherhood of mankind. But photos showing helper helping the helpless and then posting such photos for netizens to see and appreciate intrigues me. We need to realise one thing that it is good to help people but it's not necessary to flaunt the philanthropy by posting photos of charity on social media.

Over the past two weeks I saw people of high repute like the top level bureaucrats to the lowest in the hierarchy sharing photos in which they are helping people. I derive two basic assumptions from this:-

- Either these people are trying to incite in us the general feeling of compassion and encourage us to work for humanity, then that is a very noble cause.
- Or they are trying to showing to people that they are helping and getting social media likes and attention; this has the least possibility.

But in both the cases there is a third person who is being helped. He has an equal self esteem and worth but due to some circumstances he isn't able to stand for himself or herself.

There is a little difference between use and abuse of camera; at one moment you might be using it while the next you might be abusing and disturbing someone's personal space and privacy. We should be very careful while using our camera these days. Most of the people who are being helped and whose photos are latter uploaded on social media sites are very poor and unaware of the social issues but the people who have knowledge and are in need don't come to ask for help fearing our smartphones as the Urdu poet puts it;

Khud-dar mera shehar ka, faqoun sai mar gaya

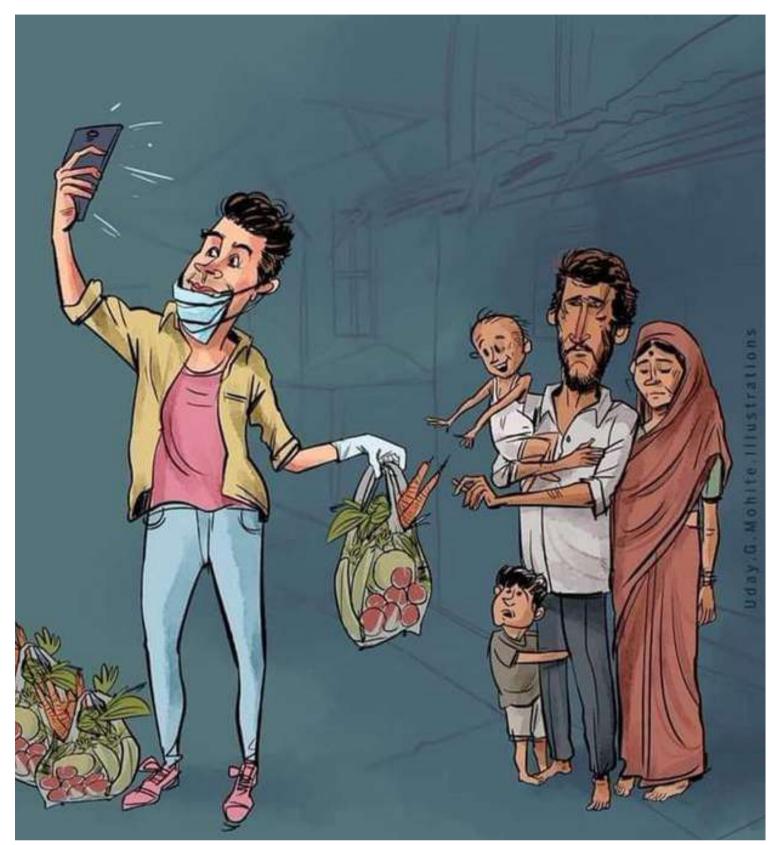
Ration to batt raha tha, woh photo sai dar gaya

There are many needy people who don't ask for help fearing their self esteem and privacy may be at risk. We are still young in the age of social media and we have to learn everything good is not worth sharing. Our smart phones sometimes outsmart us. We can give food to animals and birds and share those on social media. We enjoy a superiority over someone doesn't mean we should be proclaiming sovereignty on social media. It has only been this decade and second half of last that we have started to use social media so as I said we are too young in this field and we have to learn and remind ourselves of the ethical issues related to these things.

By posting our photo in which we are helping others on social media we are not telling our future generation to work rather we are guiding them a thing with which they can pretend they are helping while they are not. The culture we are promoting by this is very poisonous and it'll rust the roots of our ethics and social fabric.

It has a Islamic perspective too. Islam doesn't encourage show off and in matters of giving it tells us to remain extremely confidential.

People working in Public Service Institutions should be highly conscious that these institutions have been brought only to help the general public and it is the duty of everyone to keep to ourselves the information shared by the people. We can't for mere social media at-



traction and Facebook likes ruin someone's prestige.

Some of us may say we take

consent from the person who is in the photo or video, but speak logically while keeping ourselves at their place would we like our photo to be posted on Facebook. I'm sure not. Author works at SKIMS, MCH Bemina. He can be reached at: turabi1294@gmail.com

Is It Possible To Digital Detox Anymore?

Sophia Epstein

t's harder than ever to step away from our devices, which are so entwined in our lives. Is it fruitless to even try?

In February, news broke that Salesforce CEO Marc Benioff had taken a 'digital detox': 10 tech-free days at a French Polynesian resort. For a small group of people, taking a step back from devices is an achievable dream – but for most, it's an impossibility, especially now.

A digital detox requires shelving technology almost entirely: taking a break from screens, social media and video conferences for multiple days. The goals – reducing stress or anxiety, and reconnecting with the physical world – are well-intentioned. And although there aren't scientifically proven benefits from periods of tech abstinence, that hasn't stopped the digital detox from becoming a coveted challenge.

But that challenge has become far harder to accomplish since 2012, when researchers first used the term. Screens were already important then, even with nascent versions of apps and social media. Yet attempting a digital detox in 2012 would have been a cake walk compared to now, when more than ever, our lives are impossible to detangle from technology. We pay with our phones at stores, work on our computers and tablets and maintain relationships through apps. And since the pandemic, our life-tech connection has intensified even further.

A DIGITAL DETOX IN 2023: WHERE WOULD YOU EVEN START?

Short of running to the remote wilderness for a few phone-free days, experts say a digital detox isn't feasible anymore for most people.

"Technology is very much a part of us now. We bank with an app, read restaurant menus on phones and even sweat with exercise instructors through a screen," says Seattle-based consultant Emily Cherkin, who specialises in screen-time management. "It's so embedded in our lives, we're setting ourselves up for failure if we say we're going to go phone-free for a week."

It's so embedded in our lives, we're setting ourselves up for failure if we say we're going to go phone-free for

a week – Emily Cherkin
As people become increasingly interdependent on technology, doing a digital detox no longer seems like a reasonable goal. But there may be a more realistic solution that will lessen our tech obsession, without forcing us to totally disconnect.

SCREENS, SCREENS, SCREENS

As much time as people already spent on their devices, the pandemic intensified screen time. People stared at screens more during lockdown, especially in lieu of other ways to connect. But those habits haven't ended, even as people are free to leave their homes and socialise.

A 2022 University of Leeds study showed that 54% of British adults use screens more often now than they did before the pandemic – half of those surveyed look at screens for 11 hours or more each day. Fifty-one percent are on screens more for leisure than they were pre-pandemic, while 27% have increased screen use at work.

This increase in screen time has also changed how we connect with each other. Critical relationships have become more digitised, as we've built communities in WhatsApp groups, substituted bimonthly family meals for weekly FaceTime calls and more. Covid-19 forced many of our connections into the digital realm, and many of those



continue to exist in these tech environments, like group chats and video calls. That means a digital detox isn't only about getting a breather from mundane Slack chats with your boss – it would also mean cutting ties with your nearest and dearest for a

period of time. As online dating has grown more prevalent – and indeed grew during the pandemic – technology has also become central to making friends. According to Bumble data, seen by BBC Worklife, the dating app's friendship matchmaking spinoff Bumble BFF has seen a substantial increase in traffic since 2020. By the end of 2021, almost 15% of Bumble's 42 million users were also searching for friends on BFF, up from less than 10% a year earlier. And, by the end of 2022, male pursuers were up another 26%.

"A lot of technology right now, for better or worse, is a form of accessibility," says writer Chris Dancy, who monitors his own connected existence with more than 700 sensors, devices and apps. "For many children, for many parents, for many partners, for many friends – I hate to say it, but they've forgotten how to navigate relationships without it."

A SHIFT IN PERSPECTIVE

The combined shift to hybrid work and hybrid relationships makes the traditional idea of digital detox not just outdated, but nearly impossible. Digital detoxes are touted as an anxiety-relieving panacea that will pull people away from distracting screens, and reconnect them with the present moment. But as people's lives and screens are more inextricable than ever, the idealisation of disconnection may end up causing more anxiety when you can't achieve it.

"I can't shut down technology. We are on screens for so many different reasons," says Sina Joneidy, a senior lecturer in digital enterprise at Teesside University, UK. He takes a different approach. "For me, it's more about detoxing from the 'desirous attachment' to technology." Joneidy explains that 'desirous attachment' is a Buddhist concept that describes when a person wants something because they believe it will bring then happiness – when actually, in this case, it's just a blue light dopamine

Rather than cutting out technology altogether, Joneidy practices digital mindfulness. "I make sure my use of technology is purposeful," he says. Digital mindfulness may be more practical for some people, in lieu of a full detox: less worry about cutting tech out entirely, and more focus on being intentional with its use. Instead of being seduced by the addictive, mindless scroll, Joneidy believes digitally mindful users can enhance their lives with tech, rather than feeling like they're tethered to a device.

Digital mindfulness may be more practical for some people, in lieu of a full detox: less worry about cutting tech out entirely, and more focus on being intentional with its use

Even if people can't walk away from screens entirely, paying attention to specific tech-use patterns, say experts, may help them use technology more intentionally. "I started using lots of different tracking tools on my phone," says Oregon-based anthropologist Amber Case. She realised she was clicking on Instagram 80 times a day, so she downloaded One Sec, a plugin that makes users take a deep breath before they can open and access the apps on their phone. It forces the user to take a moment before they log on and helps pull them out of autopilot mode.

Case also recommends getting out of the habit of scrolling through your

phone as a break, and suggests that it can be helpful to leave your phone elsewhere when you don't need it. "People will dip into their phone like they'd dip into a cigarette," says Case. "They're occupying what could be empty time and filling it with other people's ideas." Instead, she says, rest by staring into space, allow yourself to be bored for a minute.

Ultimately, say experts, the goal shouldn't be to cut off technology, full stop – or internalise the pressure to do so. People still need to send an email or dash off a text, but can do so without getting distracted by the various wormholes of online content.

Dancy calls this approach "grey detoxing" - you're not totally immersed or totally cut off from technology. And there isn't just one way to about the practice: his techniques including installing an app or plugin to remove all metrics from social media, or even trading phones with loved ones, so you can use your screens as a way to intentionally connect with each other. "Every weekend I use my husband's phone and he uses mine," says Dancy. They reply to each other's messages, listen to music through each other's accounts. "It's a way of actually becoming immersed in their life," says Dancy. That is to say, their digital, often private, life.

The digital detox of 2012 may be outdated if you're not a billionaire, but that doesn't mean we are doomed to mindlessly scroll through the rest of our lives. Instead of causing ourselves more anxiety by attempting to live without our phones for a week, we can approach unavoidable screen time in a way that feels right for our individual lives – no Polynesian retreat necessary.

The article was originally published

Scientists At SKUAST Working On Gene Editing To Increase Yield Of Pashmina Wool

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Twelve years after cloning the first Pashmina goat Noorie', the scientists from Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST) are now working on gene editing technology that can increase the yield of famed cashmere wool.

Noorie died earlier this month after living a life span of a normal Pashmina goat. However, the cloning team at SKUAST has not stopped its work on improving the quality of animals.

"We recently submitted a few projects to the ICAR. Currently, we are running a project on gene editing of the same Pashmina goats in which we were able to produce the edited cloned embryos of these goats," Shah told PTI.

The aim is to create a cloned Pashmina goat with an edited

"Once we are able to transfer the edited genes to the recipients and produce an offspring out of it, that will be the cloned edited goat. Our aim is to just increase the Pashmina (wool) production and so we have targeted a gene with which we can achieve this," Shah added.

Giving the background of the cloning project, Shah said the process in India started with buffaloes at the National Dairy Institute of Karnal.

"I was working for the PhD

research program at Karnal where we were able to clone Buffalo, which was the first clone produced in India, in any livestock species. Later on, once I moved back to my native department, we had one project from ICAR and the main aim of that project was to produce

The Pashmina goat is native to the Ladakh region and it lives at high altitudes with low oxygen, he said.

clones of Pashmina goats," he

"It took us almost 3 years to standardise the technique and ultimately we were able to produce 'Noorie'," Shah added.

Being the first major animal cloning success at the SKUAST, the team of scientists was attached to Noorie but they are content that it paved the way for further research in the field.

"Noorie's death was very emotional because this department got recognition and funding because of her. The Noorie project generated the platform for further research like this one (gene editing). Primarily, the objective was to generate the value chain on cloned production," said Abrar Malik, a PhD student.

Malik was an undergraduate student when Noorie came to life. "Noorie was produced in

2012, under the leadership of Dr Riyaz. I was pursuing my UG at that time and it was fascinating for me. It pumped me to join

Biotechnology," Malik said.

"Noorie recently passed away at age of 10 which is normal. She had lost her teeth and she was not eating properly. So, it was a kind of natural death," the research scholar said.

On being asked if cloning can be used to save endangered species like Hangul (Kashmir stag), Shah said, "We haven't undertaken it yet because for rare species we need a recipient where we can transfer the embryos. For those recipients, we rely on the wildlife department."

"Species like Hangul are not available with them. Otherwise, we could have tried in that area also but the main focus is livestock species," Shah said.

DC Budgam Chairs Nagar Diwas At Humhama

Observer News Service

Budgam: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, S F Hamid on Tuesday chaired a Nagar Diwas programme at a local park in Humhama. Representatives from trade unions, respected elders and general public from Humhama areas participated in the programme and gave their inputs regarding the development plans.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said that the main purpose of the Nagar Diwas is to have detailed discussion with all stakeholders to finalize the "Town Beautification Plans and development plans for other urban parts of the District".

During the programme, the DC took detailed stock of the ongoing developmental works

related to PHE, Power, Health, Education and other facilities.

He stressed on speedy work execution on the ongoing Humhama- Budgam road project to ensure smooth to and fro traffic movement along this important route. After a detailed discussion, the DC assured the people of the area that all suggestions projected by them will be incorporated on priority. He also gave on the spot directions to the concerned officers for time bound redressal of the public issues raised by the public on the spot.

At the outset, the DC stressed on beautification of urban areas and proper maintenance of public parks, functioning of street lights and robust functioning of drainage networks in these areas.

CONTD. FROM FRONT **PAGE**

J&K's Policies

the country's infrastructure and reduction of logistics costs, development was not possible. The government is investing Rs 100 lakh crore in infrastructure which will be instrumental in

reducing logistics costs, he added. **Shab-e-Qadr To Be**

month of Ramazan. The split triggered overnight confusion but the majority of Kashmiris began fasting from Thursday itself as per past practice of following neighbouring country in the matters of moon sighting.

Grand Mufti's decision also triggered a storm on social media platforms like Twitter and Facebook where he was trolled and labeled as a 'traitor' by some netizens.

"My Allah is witness to what I did and with what intentions. I cannot even think of betraying my own people on sensitive religious matters being a religious jurist. It's my religious duty to guide people through the right path. Hardly any witnesses regarding sighting of the crescent moon were received that evening," Mufti said during his emotional speech at Ulema's conference

He said the crescent moon was sighted in FATA (Federally Administered Tribal Areas) in Pakistan, which is some 2,000km from here and geographically far off.

Grand Mufti said being shot by an arrow would not have been worse for him than being labeled as a "traitor and an agency man".

Defending himself, Grand Mufti said he was among the few people, who challenged in the apex court of India, center's August 5, 2019 decision on Jammu and Kashmir and was the only one to pay tributes to the senior separatist leader, late Syed Ali Shah Geelani when he died

"I was among few who challenged abrogation of Article 370 and 35A in the Supreme Court of India. I was barred from moving to Canada while my wife was detained at Delhi Airport after the August 5, 2019 decision, but trolling me on social media and making insulting remarks against me hurt me most," he

He further said that there will be no confusion with regard to the sighting of the crescent moon in the future and that all the decisions in this direction will be taken after due consultations with the heads of religious bodies.

A body of leading Ulema from all schools of thought has been constituted for the purpose and their decision will be final and binding, he said.

Later talking to Kashmir Observer, Grand Mufti said Waqf Board has no bearing on religious matters and that all decisions in this direction will be taken after due consultation with the heads of religious bodies.

Echoing similar views, Maulana Rehmatullah Qasmi criticized the Waqf Board's decision to set up the Ruet-e-Hilal Committee in J&K, saying the people sitting at the helm of administrative affairs have no rights whatsoever to "poke their nose in the religious matters".

"I respectfully want to suggest to my sister (Waqf chairperson Darkhshan Andrabi) to concentrate on administrative matters instead of interfering in religious matters. Decisions on religious matters are the prerogative of Ulema. Confusions have prevailed in the past as well and we have to make sure no such confusion is created in the future," he said.

Deadline For

repercussions," the finance ministry said in a statement on Tuesday.

Earlier also, the government had extended the deadline several times.

The government had imposed a fee of Rs 500 on linking of PAN with Aadhaar from April 1, 2022 and the amount was later increased to Rs 1,000 from July 1, 2022.

So far, more than 51 crore PANs have been linked with Aadhaar.

Under the provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961, every person who has been allotted a PAN as on July 1, 2017 and eligible to obtain Aadhaar Number, was required to intimate his or her Aadhaar to the prescribed authority on or before March 31, 2023, on payment of a prescribed fee.

Failure to do so would have attracted certain repercussions under the Act from April 1, 2023

repercussions under the Act from April 1, 2023.

"The date for intimating Aadhaar to the prescribed authority for the purpose of linking PAN and Aadhaar has now been extended to

June 30, 2023," the statement said. From July 1, 2023, PAN of taxpayers who have failed to intimate their Aadhaar shall be-

come inoperative.

Once the PAN becomes inoperative, the tax payer concerned will not be able to claim tax refund nor interest on it. Also, TDS and TCS will

be deducted /collected at a higher rate from

"PAN can be made operative again in 30 days, upon intimation of Aadhaar to the prescribed authority after payment of fee of Rs 1,000," the ministry said.

Those persons who have been exempted from PAN-Aadhaar linking will not be liable to face action.

This category includes those residing in specified states, a non-resident as per the Income Tax Act, an individual who is not a citizen of India or individuals of the age of eighty years or more at any time during the previous year.

Last week, Congress leader in Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi urging him to extend the deadline by six months for linking PAN with Aadhaar and remove the Rs 1,000 fee.

Govt Transfers

Deputy Commissioner, Rajouri, holding additional charge of Registrar, District Rajouri, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Tourism Department.

Sajid Yehaya Naqash, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in GAD, has been posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Tral. "He shall also hold the charge of the post of Sub-Registrar, Tral, in addition to his own A duties, till further orders," reads the order.

Parvez Sajad Ganai, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in GAD, has been posted as Joint Director, Handicrafts, Kashmir, against an available vacancy.

Shabir Ahmad Raina, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Tral, holding additional charge of Sub-Registrar, Tral, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Sopore.

Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Magray, JKAS, General Manager, DIC, Pulwama, has been transferred and posted as Director, Land Management, Srinagar Development Authority, against an available vacancy.

Fayaz Ahmad Fayaz, Director, JKAS, Joint Director, Industries and Commerce (Development), Srinagar, holding additional charge of Joint Director, Industries and Commerce (M8&P), Srinagar, has been transferred and posted as Joint Director, Hospitality and Protocol, Kashmir, against an available vacancy. Deepika Rana, JKAS, Chief Executive Officer, Jammu Urban Development Agency, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Kathua, against an available vacancy.

Mohammad Syed Khan, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, School Education Department.

Inderjeet Singh, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Chatroo, holding additional charge of Sub-Registrar, Chatroo, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Kishtwar, vice Kishori Lal, who has been asked to await further orders of adjustment in GAD.

Waseem Raja, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Bandipore, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Youth Services and Sports Department.

Garbi Rashid, JKAS, Additional Secretary to the Government, Youth Services and Sports Department, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Floriculture, Parks and Gardens Department.

Joginder Singh Jasrotia, JKAS, Programme Officer, ICDS Project, Samba, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur.

Umar Shafi Pandit, JKAS, Deputy Director, J&K IMPA&RD, Kashmir, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Bandipore.

Raiery Kumar Khajuria, JKAS, awaiting or-

Rajeev Kumar Khajuria, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the GAD, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Rajouri.

Ramkesh Sharma, KAS, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Ghagwal, holding additional charge of Sub-Registrar, Ghagwal, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Hospitality and Protocol Department.

Waseem Raja, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner in the State Taxes Department, Kashmir, has been transferred and posted as Joint Director, Youth Services and Sports, Kashmir.

Alyaz Ahmad Naisroo, JKAS, Deputy Director, Tourism, Kashmir, is transferred and posted as Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Development Authority, Sonamarg, vice Mushtaq Ahmad Rather JKAS, who has been asked to await fur

ther orders of adjustment in GAD.

Ajay Bharti, JKAS, Deputy Secretary in the

Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Director, Estates, Jammu, vice Girdhari Lal, JKAS, who has been asked to await further orders of adjustment in GAD.

JKP Asks Officials

(Systems) and cases of fraudulent claims/ bogus refunds have been selected for scrutiny from which fraudulent claims of deductions/ refunds under the IT Act have come to light," it reads

It added that the Income Tax Department has a list of all persons who have claimed excessive/bogus deductions and refunds on TDS made by their DDOs. It is a matter of grave concern that a large number of employees belonging to JKP also figure in the list.

"Such cases of bogus refunds may lead to selection of their cases for scrutiny and recoveries with be made by IT Department besides levy of penalty under section 270A of the Income Tax, which would be 200% of the tax levied. The cases of such employees may also be taken up for prosecution under section 276C of the IT Act."

It reads however, the Income Tax Act provides a limited window in the shape of ITR-U under section 139(8A) which provides that the taxpayers can update their returns of income by paying their actual due tax along with penalty which is @50% of additional tax + interest tor F.Y.2019-20 (A.Y.2020-21) and @25% for F.Y.7020-21 (A.Y.2021-22), if the ITR-U are filed before 3r.03.2023.

"Keeping in view the sensitivity and urgency of the matter, all the DDOs of J&K Police are enjoined to direct all the officers/officials under their charge to update their Income Tax Returns (ITR-U) on or before March 31, 2023, if they have claimed any bogus deductions and refunds failing which action under rules as mentioned above shall be taken against them by IT Department," it reads.

CAG Red Flags

revenue receipts by Rs 6,742 crore and increase in revenue expenditure by Rs 6,635 crore with respect to previous year which resulted in reduction of revenue deficit to Rs 31 crore from Rs 138 crore the year before.

"The increase in capital expenditure by Rs 589 crore was major contributor in increase of fiscal deficit. The government could not keep its fiscal deficit and primary deficit within the projections estimated in the budget. Against projection of revenue surplus of Rs 28,337 crore in budget there was revenue deficit of Rs 31 crore during 2021-22," the report stated.

It said Rs 42,690.77 crore grants-in-aid from the central government constituted 72.07 per cent of the total revenue receipts of Rs 59,238.50 crore for 2021-22.

The total committed expenditure accounted for 75.93 per cent of revenue expenditure during 2021-22, the report said.

It said there was revenue deficit of Rs 30.83 crore in the accounts of Jammu and Kashmir for the year 2021-22 which was understated by Rs 200.29 crore due to misclassification of revenue expenditure as capital expenditure, non-payment of interest on state compensa-

tory afforestation fund and deposit.
"There was fiscal deficit of Rs 11,150.61 crore during 2021-22 which was understated by Rs 41.53 crore due to non-payment of interest on state compensatory afforestation fund and state compensatory afforestation deposit," it said.

Red flagging poor loan recovery, the CAG said that during 2021-22, the Jammu and Kashmir government disbursed loans and advances of Rs 73.77 crore and recovered loans and advances amounting to Rs 1.03 crore.

"Out of total loans disbursed during 2021-22, loans amounting Rs 40 crore was disbursed to J&K Road Transport Corporation (JKRTC) Limited which already had outstanding loans of Rs 439.23 crore ending 31 March, 2021 (Rs 383.73 crore received from erstwhile State and Rs 55.50 crore from UT of J&K)," it said.

According to the last audited accounts for the year 2018-19, the report said JKRTC booked losses of Rs 117.62 crore.

The report said the total accumulated bal-

ance of J&K at the end of 31 March 2022 in reserve funds was Rs 920.13 crore.

"There is cumulative aggregate balance

"There is cumulative aggregate balance in these funds at the end of 30 October 2019 amounting Rs 2,806 crore of erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir which is yet to be bifurcated between two successor UTs (J&K and Ladakh)." it said.

On budgetary management, the report stated that an amount of Rs 21,646.17 crore was incurred under 33 schemes/subheads in 10 grants without budgetary provisions during 2021-22.

"During 2021-22, a sum of Rs 158.76 crore of revenue expenditure was disbursed under Capital Major Heads of expenditure, thereby, resulting in overstatement of Capital Expenditure and understatement of Revenue Expenditure and Revenue deficit to the extent of Rs 158.76 crore," it said.

The report said supplementary provisions aggregating Rs 3,919.78 crore obtained in 22 cases, involving Rs 50 lakh or more in each case during the year proved unnecessary as the expenditure did not come up to the level of the original provisions.

The CAG said there were huge savings of Rs 100 crore and above by the departments under Capital Section in 22 grants amounting to Rs 18,723.63 crore.

The report said 3,089 number of Utilisation

The report said 3,089 number of Utilisation Certificates (UC) for grants paid up to 30 October 2019 amounting to Rs 8,158.32 crore by the erstwhile state and 770 number of UCs for grants paid by the UT of Jammu and Kashmir amounting to Rs 3,137.11 crore were outstanding up to 31 March last year.

Valley's Lone

"My baby was suggested for an MRI scan by a doctor today. He asked us to get it done at either SMHS hospital or any private clinic. I am a labourer; I can't afford the cost of a private diagnostic lab," said Rashid Ahmad, an attendant from South Kashmir's Anantnag.

Ahmad further said that he also went to the SMHS hospital with the prescription, but was told to come after a month.

"Where will we go? My baby will die by then," he added.

Sources told Kashmir Observer that the hospital doesn't have enough ventilators too. Amid the ongoing flu, the CT scans have assumed much significance as the imaging of the chest gives a clear picture of lungs to doctors for

proper diagnosis and treatment.

The hospital receives patients from all over Kashmir. The patients said that the people come here from far-off villages with the hope of receiving better and affordable treatment.

"This is very unfortunate, such facilities should have been here," said Ghulam Nabi, a resident of Kupwara.

The attendants have requested the con-

cerned authorities to make arrangements for the much needed facility at the hospital. Talking to Kashmir Observer, Medical

Superintendent, Children Hospital Dr Nazir Chaudhary agreed that the hospital sans CT scan and MRI facilities. "The CT scan will be shifted from Defence Research and Development Organisation

(DRDO) hospital, at Khonmoh while we are in

process of procuring the MRI from a corpora-

tion. It will be done soon" he added. **HC Seeks NIA**

Yusuf Shah, Aftab Ahmad Shah, Altaf Ahmad Shah, Nayeem Khan, Farooq Ahmad Dar, Mohammad Akbar Khanday, Raja Mehrajuddin Kalwal, Bashir Ahmad Bhat, Watali, Shabir Ahmad Shah, Masarat Alam, Abdul Rashid

Sheikh and Naval Kishore Kapoor in the case. Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) chief Mohammad Yasin Malik had pleaded guilty to the charges, including those under the UAPA. He was convicted and sentenced to life

imprisonment.

According to the NIA, various terrorist organisations, such as the LeT, HM, JKLF, Jaishe-Muhammed (JeM), with the support of Pakistan's ISI, perpetrated violence in the valley by attacking civilians and security forces.

It was further alleged that in 1993, the All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) was formed to give a political front to secessionist activities.

The NIA chargesheet submitted to the trial court said the Centre received credible information that Hafiz Muhammad Saeed, the chief or "amir" of Jamaat-ud-Dawah, and the secessionist and separatist leaders, including members of the Hurriyat Conference, were acting in connivance with active terrorists of proscribed organisations, such as the HM and the LeT, for raising, receiving and collecting funds domestically and abroad through various illegal channels, including "hawala".

The premier investigating agency also alleged that this was done for funding separatist and terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir and as such, they had entered into a larger conspiracy for causing disruption in the valley by way of pelting stones on security forces, systematically burning schools, damaging public property and waging war against India.

Avalanche Kills

rescued, they said. Zagoo was rushed to a hospital where doctors declared him brought dead, they added.

Youth's Death

highway for over half an hour outside Government Medical College (GMC) hospital Kathua during the postmortem on Tuesday, demanding an investigation into the matter.

The police assured them that they have already initiated inquest proceedings and are awaiting a post-mortem report to take further action, the officials said.

40 Member Sikh

discussed various issues of the community. The Lt Governor assured the members of the delegation of appropriate redressal of the concerns and demands put forth by them.

BSF Shoots At 3

village, the movement of a Pakistani drone was detected at around 8:30 pm on Monday and the BSF personnel fired at it, the official.

During the search of the area on Tuesday, the force recovered a black coloured drone (a DJI Matrice quadcopter). A packet of heroin weighing 2.6 kg, wrapped with yellow adhesive tape, was found inside a bag attached to the drone, the spokesperson said.

In Amritsar's Bachiwind village, the BSF shot down another drone entering the village from the Pakistan side on Monday night.

Three kg of heroin, concealed inside three packets, was recovered from a polyester bag during the search, the spokesperson said, adding two people were also apprehended.

In Hardo Rattan village in Amritsar, the BSF opened fire at another Pakistani drone and later recovered two packets of heroin weighing 2 kg during a search of the area.

In Fazilka district, the BSF personnel opened

fire at some miscreants after they heard the

thumping sound of something being thrown

over the border fence near village Natha Singh Wala early Tuesday morning.

The miscreants managed to flee, the spokesperson said, adding that two packets of heroin weighing 2 kg and a China-made pistol along with a magazine and eight rounds were recov-

ered during the search of the area. **'Conman' Kiran**

town of Bharuch district and brought here, said a release by the Ahmedabad city crime

While Malini was arrested in 2017 in a case of cheating and criminal conspiracy registered against her at Naroda police station of the city, Kiran also faces at least four such cases in Gujarat and was also arrested in the past, said

Ghodasar area of the city, was arrested by the Jammu and Kashmir police from a five-star hotel in Srinagar after the authorities grew suspicious about his activities.

Later on March 22, the Ahmedabad city crime branch registered a case under Indian

Penal Code sections 420 (cheating), 406 (crimi-

nal breach of trust), 120-b (criminal conspir-

Earlier this month, Kiran, a resident of the

acy) and 170 (personating a public servant) against the couple.

Since Kiran is in judicial custody in J&K, the crime branch had said he would be brought

here soon through a transfer warrant.

In the latest FIR, it was alleged that Kiran tried to grab a bungalow in a posh locality in Ahmedabad by winning the trust of its owner through false claims of being a "Class 1 officer in the PMO" and having close relations with

politicians.

The complainant, Jagdish Chavda (63), owns a bungalow in the Shilaj area but wanted to sell it because of personal reasons. Kiran approached Chavda in February 2022, claiming to be a real estate agent, and told the owner his property would fetch a good price if it was renovated.

To win Chavda's trust, Kiran then identified himself as a "Class-1 officer in the PMO" as well as a partner in a cafe chain.

When Chavda agreed for the bungalow's renovation, Kiran, Malini and an interior designer started the work and took Rs 35 lakh in intelligent from him the FIR said.

instalments from him, the FIR said.

As the renovation was underway, Chavda shifted to his friend's residence in the Shela area. After some time, Chavda learnt that Kiran and his wife had put their own nameplate outside the bungalow and also did a house-warming ritual as if they were the owners.

When confronted, the Patel couple left the bungalow without finishing the renovation, following which Chavda and his family moved back into the house, according to the police. In August 2022, Chavda learnt through a court

In August 2022, Chavda learnt through a court notice that Kiran had filed a civil suit claiming the ownership of the property using photographs of his nameplate and invitation card for the house-warming ceremony, said the FIR.

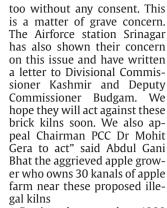
Fresh Brick Kilns **Coming Up In Chadoora**

Violation Of Environmental Laws, Air Force Guidelines: Farmers

Observer News Service

BUDGAM: Several apple farmers in Rangeen Kultreh village of Chadoora district Budgam have alleged that some illegal brick kilns are being constructed in their village on agriculture / horticulture land which not only violates the environmental laws but is also clear violation of Airforce guidelines wherein no brick kiln can be set up around 8 kms aerial distance from airport area. The locals have appealed Chairman Pollution Control Committee, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir and DC Budgam to intervene.

Pertinently J&K Pollution Control Committee earlier gave



almond trees have been axed on the karewa land in Rangeen Kultreh in Budgam last year by some land owners who want



its consent to set up two brick kilns namely Mughloo Brick Kiln and Rangeen Brick Kiln in Rangeen Kultreh village of Chadoora in Budgam. The said consent order was challenged in the High Court and notice was issued to Chairman PCC by the court.

The aggrieved apple farmers namely Abdul Gani Bhat and others had moved to High Court to seek judicial intervention against the order of the Member Secretary Pollution Control Committee who gave consent for the establishment of a brick kiln in favour of M/S Mughloo Brick Kiln and Rangeen Brick Kiln.

The petitioners Abdul Gani Bhat and others challenged the consent order dated 24.11.2022 before High Court saying that Pollution Control Committee District officer Budgam on 12th March 2022 had refused to issue the consent order and other departments had also raised their serious concern over this issue.

High Court Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal on March 2nd 2023 while hearing the case issued notices to the Member Secretary Pollution Control Committee, DC Budgam, District Officer Pollution Control Committee Budgam and Tehsildar Chadoora to explain their position.

'We have been fighting the legal battle against issuance of consent order in favour of the two brick kilns and now a third one is also coming up and that

Prison Tag

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The administra-

tion of J&K Union Territory has

removed the prison tag from

MLA hostel Srinagar, where

Kashmir's mainstream leaders

were lodged after their deten-

has de-notified MLA hostel Sri-

nagar as subsidiary jail. It was

conferred by clause (b) of Sec-

tion 2 of the Prisoners Act,

1900(Act. No 10 of 1987, the

building with the premises de-

clared and notified as "subsid-

iary jail" vide notification S.O.

09 dated 14.11.2019 is hereby

de-notified with immediate

still a prison on papers.

The UT's Home department

"In exercise of the powers

tion in 2019.

J&K's MLA Hostel Sheds

Home Department De-Notifies It As Subsidiary Jail

Pertinently more than 1000



to lease out their land for brick kilns as they claim that almond trees were not fetching them good revenue and brick kilns give them Rs 30,000 per year for a kanal of land

We fail to understand that when the Pollution Control Committee field staff of Budgam in March last year didn't give NOC for brick kilns and wrote an adverse report which we have produced before the High Court, what prompted the Member Secretary to issue two consent orders, one within 9 months and another one after 15 months ? We have developed apple, plum and pear orchards in the area and we can't allow this disaster to happen. There are already two dozen brick kilns in the area and more brick kilns will destroy only the environment but it will be a threat to air traffic also as the airport and air force base is located nearby which comes within 3 to 4 kms aerial distance " Abdul Gani added

When contacted counsel for the petitioners Advocate M Ashraf Wani said that setting up of brick kilns in Rangeen Kultreh Chadoora is violation of High Court division bench order

"We will go for contempt proceedings as the court in an order has categorically said that no brick should be set up around 8 kms of the airport. Rangeen Kultreh is less than 5 kms aerial distance from the

effect," reads a notification is-

sued by the Home department.

mainstream leader's including

Peoples Conference president

Sajad Gani Lone, bureaucrat-

turned-politician Shah Faesal

and NC general secretary Ali Mu-

hammad Sagar were lodged in

MLA hostel. They were shifted

to MLA hostel due to escalating

cost of their lodging at SKICC.

Three days before their shifting.

on November 14, 2019, the MLA

hostel was notified as a subsid-

iary jail under the Prisoners Act-

1900 which became applicable

Hilal Akbar Lone, son of NC MP

Muhammad Akbar Lone was the

last person released from MLA

hostel in March 2021–(KNO)

to J&K from October 31, 2019.

On November 14, 2019, 34

DEVOTEES FOLD THEIR HANDS in supplication while offering prayers inside the shrine of Mir Sayyid Ali Hamadani popularly known as Shah-e-Hamdan in Khanqah-e-Maula in downtown Srinagar on Tuesday. KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

COVID RESURGENCE IN J&K

Secretary Health Reviews Situation With Stakeholders

Asks For Increased Testing Of All Severe Acute Respiratory Illness, Influenza Like Illness Cases

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Secretary, Health & Medical Education Department, Bhupinder Kumar, on Tuesday convened a meeting to review current COVID-19 situation besides assessing preparedness for tackling the pandemic with all the stakeholders of Health & Medical Department.

Mission Director NHM J&K, Ayushi Sudan, gave a brief presentation regarding status of COVID-19 in J&K besides presenting a snapshot of COVID cases, testing and vaccination scenario in the Union Territory.

It was informed that country wide there is an upward trend in daily positive cases being reported including the Union territory of J&K where the active positive cases have gone up in last 2 weeks.

Secretary directed all the officers to remain vigilant and prepare themselves for the emerging situation. He asked all the Chief Medical Officers and Principals of GMCs for operationalization of separate flu

clinics in health facilities and focus on increased testing of all Severe Acute Respiratory Illness (SARI) and Influenza like Illness (ILI) cases with instructions to send all the RT-PCR Positive test samples for Genome Sequencing to SKIMS, Soura. He further directed Principal GMC Jammu and Srinagar to ensure early operationalization of Genome

tories in both the medical colleges. Secretary impressed upon all the administrators to undertake

Sequencing Labora-

Mock Drill across all Health Facilities uniformly across the UT on 10th April 2023 to ensure Operational Readiness

for management of COVID in all identified dedicated facilities including GMCs, DHs and CHCs with specific focus on Oxygen Plants (LMO/ PSA/ Manifold), Ventilators, Logistics and Human Resources. Further, directions were is-

sued to all the Principals of Government Medical Colleges and Director Health Services Jammu and Kashmir to ensure availability of Testing Kits, Drugs and Supplies in coordination with J&K Medical Supplies Corporation Limited. Further Directorate of Family Welfare was asked to ensure availability of COVID vaccination as per the requirements of districts to vaccinate the eligible population in all districts.

In order to limit transmission of disease, he exhorted upon the need for enforcement of COVID Appropriate Behavior including wearing of masks in hospital

> health professionals and health workers. He also exhorted upon the comorbid and elderly persons to avoid overcrowded and poorly ventilated places.

premises by patients,

The meeting was attended by Director, SKIMS, Soura, Srinagar, all Principals of Government Medical Colleges along with HoDs of Medicine, Microbiology, and PSM, SKIMS Bemina, Srinagar, Director General Family Welfare, MCH and Immunization, Director Health Services Kashmir and Jammu, Director (Coordination) New GMCs, Managing Director J&K Medical Supplies Corporation, Joint Director Planning, H&ME, State Surveillance Officers Kashmir and Jammu, and Chief Medical

MeT Predicts Wet Spell From

March 30-April 5 **Agencies**

SRINAGAR: Weather department on Tuesday forecast mainly dry with possibility of a brief spell of rain and thunderstorm towards evening at some places in Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday.

"Intermittent Rain/thunderstorm with snowfall over higher reaches is very likely at most places of J&K with possibility of hailstorm in plains from March 30 to April 5," a meteorological department official here said, adding, "Thunderstorm may be accompanied by strong gusty winds."

Meanwhile the minimum temperatures recorded an increase with mercury settling below normal in J&K barring Gulmarg.

The official said that Sri-

nagar recorded a low of 4.7°C against 3.0°C on the previous night and it was 1.4°C below

normal for the summer capital. Oazigund, he said, recorded a low of 3.5°C against 2.1°C on the previous night and it was 1.2°C below normal for the gateway town of Kashmir.

Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of minus 0.6°C against minus 1.8°C on the previous night and it was 2.2°C below normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Kokernag recorded a low of 4.2°C against 3.1°C on the previous night and it was 0.5°C below normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 0.5°C against minus 1.9°C on the previous night and it was 1.3°C above normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 3.2°C against 1.6°C on the previous night and it was 1.3°C below normal for the north Kashmir area.

Jammu recorded a low of 14.7°C against 12.5°C on the previous night. It was 1.9°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

Banihal, he said, recorded a low of 5.4°C (below normal by 1.1°C), Batote 7.3°C (below normal by 1.1°C), Katra 13.0°C (0.8°C below normal) and Bhadarwah 4.6°C (0.8°C below normal). Ladakh's Leh and Kargil recorded a low of minus 5.0°C and minus 0.5°C respectively. The weather department has forecast mainly weather in J&K for the next 24 hours. (GNS)

Pulwama Health Centres Win Kayakalp Awards-2023

DC Says Unending Efforts Of District Administration, Health Workers Bearing Fruits

Observer News Service

PULWAMA: After the strenuous efforts to reform and upgrade health sector of the district by Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, Baseer ul Haq Chaudhary, the results of action are bearing fruits as same are acknowledged at national level as the district receives back to back recognition for TB free & Kayakalp Awards.

It has been a proud movement and pleasure for the district administration and whole district, as the Kayakalp "Award to Public Health Facilities" 2022-2023, results were announced.

In Pulwama one Community Health Centre Pampore, 05 PHC's, 01 NTPHC, & 04 HWC's have qualified for awards under Kayakalp.

Kayakalp Award Scheme was launched on May 15, 2015 as an extension of 'Swachh Bharat Mission', an initiative to improve and promote the cleanliness, hygiene, waste management and infection control practices in public health care facilities and incentivize the of India Narendra Modi Ji".

exemplary performing Public

Health Care Facility. Under Kayakalp Health Care Facilities undergo 3-tier assessment and the final assessment

decides the winner for Health

Facility. Among Community Health Centre's in UT of J&K CHC Pampore has received a Commendation Award while five other PHCs including NTPHC earned commendation awards of which PHC Khrew was named the winner among them.

Besides, four other HWC's earned commendation awards while HWC Poshwan Block Tral was named the winner among them.

District Development Commissioner Pulwama while showering praise on the concerned officers & officials of District Health Department said, "the unending efforts of the Health Care Workers including NHM Management Unit have brought laurels after laurels as few days back the District was also awarded as TB Free District by Prime Minister

DC Ganderbal Asks Pvt Schools To Follow Standing Rules



Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: A meeting of all leading recognized private educational institutions of District Ganderbal was convened Tuesday by the Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Shyambir in the VC Room of Mini Secretariat Ganderbal.

The meeting was attended by Chief Education Officer Ganderbal, Deputy Chief Education Officer, Principals of various Govt. schools besides heads of Private Institutions of district Ganderbal.

During the meeting a detailed discussion was held about the various rules set by the Government to run private annual charges, basic facilities erated at any cost.

The DC conveyed directions for strict adherence to the time to time for running the vate school in the district.

private recognized educational nstitutions.

The DC directed all private schools that no admission fee be charged at all and in case the tuition fee exceeds Rs 1000 and annual fee exceeds Rs 6000 then prior permission from the Fee Fixation Committee must be obtained, failing which strict and stern action will be initiated against the violators.

While interacting with the heads of Private Institutions present in the meeting, the DC said that there is no doubt that private schools play an extremely important role in imparting education but violation of rules and norms set by schools including tuition fee, the government can not be tol-

people to bring into the notice of district administration if any standing rules and norms set violation to the standing rules forth by the Government from and norms is found by any pri-

J&K Bank Commissions CRM In Kulgam

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In line with extending convenient banking services to the people at their nearest location, J&K Bank on Tuesday commissioned a Cash Recycler Machine (CRM), which is housed in the premises of Bank's Kulgam branch.

District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kulgamm Dr Bilal Mohi-ud-Din inaugurated the CRM in presence of J&K Bank Zonal Head Anantnag, Tasaduq Ahmad Dar, Cluster Head Mohammad Shafi Bhat and other officials of the Bank amid a gathering of valuable customers and local residents.

While commending its role in the socio-economic development of J&K, DDC Kulgam thanked the Bank and urged the people to avail services of the CRM.

Speaking on the occasion, Zonal Head said, "Being the first of its kind in Kulgam district, the CRM will make banking services like cash deposit and cash payment more convenient for the public. These services will be available beyond working hours and all days of week including holidays."

People of the area hailed the commissioning of CRM and thanked the Bank for making cash management easier for them.

Govt To Launch AAM Dashboard To Address Issues Of Agri-Startups, Farmers

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration is all set to launch a technology-driven agriculture apex monitoring dashboard (AAMD) that will offer a one-stop solution to farmers and agri-startups for registration, monitoring and funding of

various projects. A roadmap for the AAM dashboard in J&K is aimed at governing the 29 projects that were approved by the Jammu and Kashmir administration. These projects were recommended by a committee for holistic development of agriculture and allied sectors worth over Rs 5,000 crore.

"We are formulating state of

the holistic agriculture development programme. The state-ofart technology-driven agriculture apex monitoring dashboard (AAMD) is a one-stop solution for agri-startups allied projects to farmers from registration to education", Additional Chief Secretary Agriculture Production Department, Atul Dulloo told PTI in an interview here.

He said that anyone aspiring to move to the farm sector can apply online. "Their applications will be processed online. Our officers will visit their doorsteps to conduct any verification or process", Dulloo said.

Initially, 29 projects of agriculture and allied sectors under the recently launched Rs 5,000 art dashboard to implement crore holistic agriculture devel-



opment programme, which is aimed at transforming the agriculture profile from subsistence type into a sustainable and commercially viable entity, would be brought under the ambit of

the high-tech system.

"The dashboard will be a one-stop platform to deal with all the issues of farmers, agristartups, industries and allied sectors", he said.

The aspiring agri-startups and agri- entrepreneurs will get all support through online mode from registration, approval, banking and financial support, central schemes integration, advice, education, skilling and rectification on the dashboard.

Dulloo said, "In case, they need financial assistance, the application will be sent to banks through the dashboard. In the central schemes, his application will be integrated into those schemes for the benefit of getting incentives. It will also be online. It is based on OTP-driven setup".

He said that at each stage from applying online, dashboard will send him an SMS about the progress of the case. "The dashboard will give all the informa-

tion about areas and the suitable agriculture or Horticulture activity in the belts", he said. The dashboard will be based

on artificial intelligence to cater to all needs of users from registration to education.

'There will artificial intelligence-based chatbot, which will guide farmers on all information. It will have a learning management system in which 59 courses and 57 courses have been identified in Kashmir and Jammu provinces. We will offer certificate courses online from

universities", Dulloo said. He said that dashboard will have online videos on various subjects and online material in four languages.

The 29 projects envisaging

transformation of agriculture and allied sectors in J&K will include development of seed and seed multiplication chain, promotion of niche crops in J&K, promotion of vegetables and exotic vegetables under open and projected cultivation, strengthening of agriculture marketing, promotion of bee keeping and nutri cereals (Millets). The official said that those

who apply for this holistic agriculture development programme will be linked to skilling through hybrid mode.

"Those farmers and Startups or agri-entrepreneurs or anyone else will get their certificates from universities through this dashboard, which will serve as an education and skill development platform as well", Dulloo said.



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