# KASHMIR OBSERVER

25 Ramazan 1444 | Sunday 16 April 2023 | Srinagar | Vol: 26 | Issue: 95 | Pages: 08 | Price: ₹3

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# In Peace Din, Harvesting Begins Along Indo-Pak Border

**Press Trust Of India** 

Golpattan (Jammu): Amid peace prevailing along the Indo-Pakistan border due to year-long ceasefire, wheat harvesting on the zero line along the International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir's Gajansoo belt began on Saturday.

Located bang on zero line, the agriculture department's Seed Multiplication Farm spread on nearly 2,300 acres of land



on two sides of border fencing in the Golpattan-Chinore belt, nearly 55 kilometres from Jammu, saw men and machines getting into action since morning to harvest wheat crop.

The ceasefire along the border between India and Pakistan has been prevailing since last year. This has rekindled hopes for a peaceful future among border residents. who have been living under constant fear of cross-border

shelling, in Jammu & Kashmir. The ceasefire was announced by the two armies through a joint statement issued on February 25 last.

"We have started harvesting the wheat crop on this farm. Our crops are ripe, we will take a few days to complete harvesting in this farm", the Manager of Seed Multiplication Farm, Chinore, Kuldeep Raj told PTI.

He said that harvesting is taking place on More on P6

# Valley Braces For 5-Day Wet Spell Beginning Today

Agencies

**Srinagar:** The weatherman on Saturday said that a fresh Western Disturbance is approaching over north India and predicted light to moderate rain, snowfall over higher reaches in Jammu & Kashmir from Sunday.

The weatherman also said that there is possibility of damage to orchards and abrupt fall in day temperature.

Director Meteorological department (MeT), Sonum Lotus said that a fresh spell of intermittent light to moderate rain and snowfall is expected over higher reaches in &K during April 16-20.

He said that the main activity will be during April 17-18.

During this wet spell, thunderstorms with strong gusty wind reaching (20-30KMPH) and hailstorm are also possible at some places



of Jammu & Kashmir, he said, adding that the wet spell is due to approaching of a fresh Western Disturbance over North India.

In wake of the fresh wet spell, there is a possibility of temporary disruption of surface transportation especially over hilly and snowbound areas.

He further said that the waterlogging in low lying

areas and damage to orchards is also possible. Besides, there would be an abrupt fall in day temperature by 7-8 degree Celsius.

He advised people that prior to embarking on a long journey, confirm road status from the concerned traffic department.

"Stay informed about the weather, as it More on P6

#### Snow **Clearance On Mughal Road In Full Swing**

he snow clearance operation on the Mughal road is likely to be completed next week, officials said on Saturday, as demands grew louder for its opening around the "Eid-ul-Fitr" festival. The road, an alternate link connecting the twin border districts of Poonch and Rajouri in Jammu region with south Kashmir's Shopian, was closed for winter months in January owing to heavy snowfall in the upper reaches, including at Pir Ki Gali. More on P6

#### **Gangster-Turned-Politician Atiq Ahmed, Brother Shot Dead**

**Press Trust Of India** 

Prayagraj: Gangsterturned-politician Ahmad and his brother Ashraf were killed when unidentified assailants opened fire at them near a medical college here on April 15 night.

The shooting was caught on camera as mediapersons were following the duo being escorted to the hospital by the police for a medical checkup. At least two persons were seen firing from close range at Ahmad and his brother who fell to the ground, while the police soon overpowered the attackers.

The bullet-riddled bodies of Ahmad and Ashraf were taken away from the spot as tension gripped the area after the sensational killing Both of them had been



brought here for a court hearing in connection with the 2005 Umesh Pal murder case. Earlier, the last rites of Asad Ahmad were performed at Kasari Masari graveyard here amid heavy police security, with only a few distant relatives and locals present inside the burial ground. The burial

lasted for an hour, police said. Asad and his accomplice Ghulam, both wanted in the Umesh Pal More on P6

#### J&K Logs 85 New **Corona Cases**

Agencies

**Srinagar:** Jammu and Kashmir reported 85 fresh covid-19 cases while there was no death due to the virus during the last 24 hours, officials said on Saturday.

They said that 36 cases were reported from Jammu division and 49 from Kashmir Valley, taking the overall tally to 480831. Among the cases, 174560 are from Jammu division and 306271 from Kashmir Valley.

Providing district

wise details of the cases, they said, 28 cases were reported Jammu district, 13 from Anantnag, nine from Srinagar, eight each from Bandipora and Pulwama, six from Baramulla, five from Udhampur, four from Budgam, and one each from Doda, Poonch, More on P6

#### S H 0 Ε S

#### **PSA of Jailed Bandipora Youth Quashed**

■he High Court of Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh has quashed the detention of a Bandipora youth lodged in Agra jail under the Public Safety Act (PSA). The detainee, Ashiq Hussain Teli, son of Ghulam Nabi, a resident of Watrina Bandipora, presently residing at Khoshal Colony Tulibal Sopore, who is a 'Cook', is presently lodged at Central Jail Agra in the Indian northern state of Uttar Pradesh. He was More on P6

#### **Mortar Shell Defused In Jammu**

rusted mortar shell was found in a forest area on the outskirts of Jammu on Saturday, officials said, adding it was defused by the bomb disposal squad. Special Police Officer Sunil Kumar noticed the mortar shell lying in Shivalikpuram forest area near Janipur Colony and informed the local police station about it, the officials said. A police party rushed to the scene and the mortar More on P6

#### Khadim-ul-Hujaj **Interviews On April 19**

he Jammu and Kashmir Haj committee on Saturday announced dates for conducting interviews of Khadim-ul-Hujaj for this year's annual pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia. In a statement issued here on Saturday, an official spokesperson said that all the candidates who have applied for selection as Khadim-ul-Hujaj for Haj-2023 are hereby More on P6

## **KPDCL Unveils Prepaid Mode For New Power Connections**

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: In a major reform aimed to cut transmission and distribution losses, besides bringing in transparency in the department, the Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) on Saturday announced smart meters with prepaid for the people availing new power connections.

"With this major step towards better reforms, consumers that are applying for new connections

shall be provided smart meters with prepaid functionality for bill payment," an official spokesperson said Saturday.

The move, he said, has been made to keep pace with latest state of art technology coupled with empowering consumers with transparency.

"The consumers applying for new connections have to apply online at the website www.kpdcl.jkpdd.net. The consumer shall deposit the More on P6

## **Airlines, Tour Operators Complicit in Hiking** Airfares: Kashmir Inc

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industry Saturday alleged that some airlines in collusion with bulk ticket booking operators are hiking the airfares at their sweet will in wake of the huge influx of tourists and Non-Resident Kashmiris (NRK).

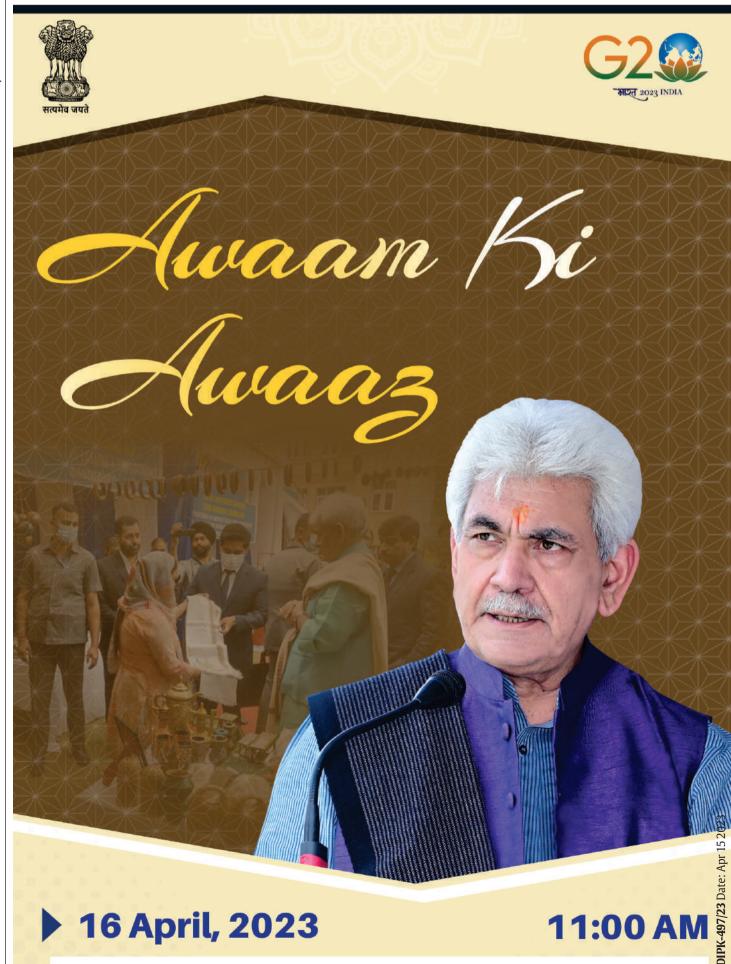
The Chamber said that the feedback received about the tourist inflow to Kashmir Valley by air route indicates that the rush of air travelers to the valley is increasing as besides the tourists, a large number of NRKs, students and patients taking treatment outside of the state are returning home for the celebration of Eid festival.

"It has been learnt that some airlines in collusion with bulk ticket booking operators are hiking the airfares at their sweet will which is not only affecting

the tourist business in Jammu & Kashmir adversely but also overburdens the Non Resident Kashmiris. students studying outside and patients", Kashmir Inc said in a press statement to

Kashmir Observer. Quoting Faiz Ahmad Bakshi, Secretary General, the Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industry the statement said that the business community has already expressed its grave concern about "such ill-advised unwarranted fare hiking practices by the airlines' and the bulk ticket booking operators". He said this practice has been also observed by Department-related Parliamentary Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture, Government of India.

"It appears that the airlines operators on Delhi/ Jammu/Srinagar air route have not taken the clear recommendations of the said More on P6



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

# **Scholarships This Week**

Kashmir Observer in association with Buddy4Study.com presents scholarships available for the meritorious students of Jammu and Kashmir.

Scholarship Name 1: IIHS Urban Fellows Programme 2023-24

Description: IIHS Urban Fellows Programme 2023-24 is an initiative of the Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS) for bachelor's degree holders in any subject or discipline. It is a scholarship-based, nine-month, full-time, interdisciplinary and residential programme, delivered through seven months of in-class teaching at the IIHS City Campus in Bengaluru. This programme is followed by two months of internship placements in locations where a fellow's particular internship organisation

is located. Eligibility: Open for Indian citizens below 30 years of age at the time of the UFP's commencement. The applicants must hold a bachelor's degree in any subject or discipline and have basic proficiency in reading English (Note - There is support available for candidates with limited speaking ability in English)

Prizes & Rewards: Tuition fees and sti-

pend to cover daily living expenses Last Date to Apply: 24-04-2023

Application mode: Online applications and through post to - The Admissions Committee IIHS Bengaluru City Campus, No. 197/36, 2nd Main Road, Sadashivanagar Bengaluru - 560 080

Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/IIHS4

Scholarship Name 2: D. K. Bhave Scholarship

Description: D. K. Bhave Scholarship 2023 is an opportunity offered by the Savitribai Phule Pune University. The purpose of the scheme is to encourage students to return to India after their master's degree and help India to compete in the global economy.

Eligibility: Open for applicants who are Engineering graduates or studying in final year of B.E./B.Tech. degree (any branch) of Savitribai Phule Pune University from the NBA (National Board of Accreditation) accredited institutes. The candidates must have secured merit-based 'confirmed ad-

on next working day.

accepted.

No: DFO/SPN/68-76/L DIPK-486/23



mission' in a master's degree course in Engineering and Technology in any foreign accredited university from USA/Canada/ Germany/England.

Prizes & Rewards: 50% of total cost of one year for a master's degree 20-05-2023 Last Date to Apply:

Application mode: Online applica-

shall be conducted through Forest Division Shopian as per the calendar shown below:-

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Office of the Divisional Forest Officer Forest Division Shopian.

**AUCTION NOTICE** 

An open Auction of Confiscated Horses/Ponies seized at Shopian & Romshi Forest Ranges of Forest Division Shopian

At Forest Range Office Romshi Pulwama on 19-04-2023 at 11:00 a.m.

Note:-In case the auction is not conducted on fixed date and time due to any reason(s), the Auction shall be conducted

**TERMS/CONDITIONS** 

(pledged to DFO: Forest Division Shopian) before participating in the auction. The security deposit in case of unsuccessful bidders shall be returned on

closure of the auction. In case of successful bidder, the security deposit amount in cash/CDR shall be adjusted towards payment of cost of auctioned

horses on the same day. No delay in deposition of cost and delivery of Horses/Ponies shall be allowed. In case any bidder fails to deposit the entire cost

Forest Act. The purchaser shall have to furnish an attested undertaking to this effect. In case of any violation, the purchaser shall be liable for legal

action. In case the auctioned Horses/Ponies were found involved in Forest offence an amount of Rs= 25000/= (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand Only)

No person involved/accused in any Forest offence shall be allowed to participate in the action. All the participants shall affirm their non

The interested bidders shall have to deposit an amount of Rs. 5000/= (Rupees Five Thousand only) as security deposit in cash/CDR

The successful bidder shall have to deposit the entire bid amount on spot against proper receipt before taking delivery of the purchased

The intending bidder shall have to participate personally in the auction and no proxy or Telephonic offer /Internet based offer shall be

The Horses/Ponies purchased through this auction shall not be utilized for any illegal activity including any Act(s) prohibited under J&K

Any other conditions that the auction committee may deem necessary shall be announced on spot before the commencement of auction.

All the persons interested in the Auction of these animals may participate in the open Auction on the following terms and conditions:

or fails to take delivery of the Horses/Ponies on the same day, the auction of the particular Horses/Ponies shall be deemed as cancelled

The intending bidders shall have to prove his /her identity before participation in the auction

The Auction committee may reject any offer without assigning any reason thereof.

No offer after the closure of auction shall be entertained under any circumstances.

shall be imposed as penalty/fine to the bidder. He/she shall also be debarred from participation in the auctions

involvement in any forest offence, otherwise it shall lead to legal action against the person.

Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/DKB3

Scholarship Name 3: Arts University Bournemouth GREAT Scholarships 2023-24

Description: Arts University Bour-nemouth GREAT Scholarships 2023-24 is an opportunity offered by the Arts University Bournemouth in partnership with the British Council and the GREAT Britain Campaign to students applying for a postgraduate course at Arts University Bournemouth.

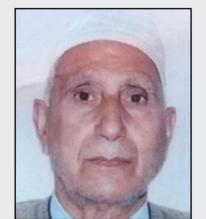
Eligibility: Open for Indian citizens holding a valid passport. The applicants must hold an offer/invitation to study a one-year postgraduate course at the Arts University Bournemouth. They must have a language certificate before or by May 15,

2023 and be overseas fee payers.
Prizes & Rewards: £10,000 discount on the course fee for a year

Last Date to Apply: 30-04-2023 Application mode: Online applica-

Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/GAU6

Office address: Padpawan Shopian email Id: dfoshopian@gmail.com



# **FATEHA KHWANI**

We announce with profound grief the sad demise of Ghulam Mohammad Zaroo (Zargar) originally from Mirza Kamil Sahib, Hawal at his residence 29 Mominabad, Hyderpora on Friday, April 14, 2023.

Fateha Khwani (Rasm e Qul) of the marhoom shall be held at his ancestral graveyard near Mirza Kamil Sahib Chowk Hawal on Monday, 17th April, 2023. Inshallah

### **BEREAVED**

**Abdul Majid Zargar Bashir Ahmad Zargar** Farooq Ahmad Zargar **Mohammad Amin Zargar** 

29 Mominabad, Hyderpora **Near Asif Filling Station** 

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Office of the Joint Director

Fisheries, (South)

**Kashmir Division** 

**PRESSNOTE** 

In order to ensure adequate availability of the fish on the eve of Shabi Qadar and Eid-ul- Fitr, the Depart-

ment of Fisheries has arranged the special sale of fish (Carp /Trout) at their existing sale centers / rear-

Moreover, the special sale outlets will be established at all District Head quarters. As such the general pub-

lic is informed that they can purchase Carp/Trout fish

from the Departmental sale outlets on Govt. rates.

ing units in the Kashmir Division we.f 16/04/2023.

Sub: Availability of Trout /Carp fish on the eve of

Shabi Qadar and Eid-ul -Fitr.

No: JDF/S/K/Sgr/910-26

DIPK-473/23

Dated. 15-04-2023

#### Government of Jammu & Kashmir HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (J&K) SRI PRATAP COLLEGE

NAAC RE-ACCREDITED GRADE-A CLUSTER UNIVERSITY SRINAGAR M.A. ROAD SRINAGAR

#### ADVERTISEMENT FOR JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW (JRF) POST

Applications are invited for the post of Junior Research Fellow (JRF) available in the Department of Biotechnology of this college under Dr. Roohi Mushtaq (Principal Investigator) for sanctioned research project, "Metabolite profiling of Some important Medicinal Plants of J& K" (funded by JKST&IC). Interested applicants should submit their applications written on plain paper along with their brief CV, contact details: self-attested

copies of qualification certificates and copies of other credentials/testimonials in the Office of the Department of Biotechnology, Sri Pratap College, Srinagar, before 30th April, 2023. The Date. Time & Venue of the interview for the said post shall be communicated through e-mail to all the eligible shortlisted candi-

Eligibility & other terms for the post:

> Minimum educational qualification is M.Sc. degree in Biotechnology/Botany, with at least 60% or equivalent marks from a recognized Institution.

> Desirable qualification: Relevant and Recognized Research Experience. > Shortlisted eligible applicants shall produce Original Certificates/Testimonials at the time of interview.

> No TA/DA is permissible for attending the interview.

^The tenure of appointment is till the termination of the project.

> The remuneration for the selected position (JRF) is Rs: 10,000 per month (Consolidated)

DIPK-469/23

Sd/-

Joint Director Fisheries. (South) Kashmir Division.

dated: 15-04-2023

Dated:15-04-2023

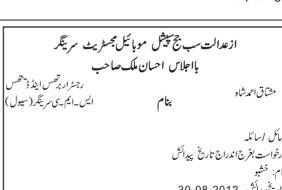
Principal Investigator Sri Pratap College

**DFO: Shopian Forest Division** 

# ازعدالت سب جیسیش موبائیل مجسٹریٹ سرینگر بااجلاس احسان ملک صاحب رجڑار برخس اینڈ ڈیسخس مشاق احمرشاہ بنام ایس۔ایم۔ی سرینگر (سیول)

معامله مندجة عنوان الصدريين سائل سائله نے عدالت مذامين ايک درخواست بشمول حلفی بغرض

اندارج تاریخ پیدائش: صادبید شتاق دختر مشاق احد شاه ساکنه نور باغ باغوان بوره سرینگر مورخہ2023-04-11 پیش کی ہے۔لہذاعوام الناس کوبذر بعداشتہار مطلع کیاجا تا ہے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی عذریااعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے عذرات اشعاعت اشتہار کے اندردس ا یوم عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔بعد گزرنے معیاد کوئی عذریااعتراض قابلِ قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آينده عدالت بذائيل 2023-05- 09



معامله مندجه عنوان الصدر مين سائل سائله نے عدالت بذامين ايك درخواست بشمول حلفي بغرض اندارج تاریخ پیدائش: خشبودختر مشاق احدشاه ساکنه نور باغ باغوان پوره سرینگر مورخہ2023-04- 11 پیش کی ہے۔لہذاعوام الناس کوبذریعاشتہار طلع کیاجا تا ہے کہ نبیت ۔۔۔۔۔۔۔ درخواست کوئی عذر یااعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے عذرات اشعاعت اشتہار کے اندر دی یوم عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے معیاد کوئی عذر مااعتراض قابلِ قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آیندہ عدالت ہذامیں 2023-05-09

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

I have lost my 9th pass discharge certificate somewhere. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Principal Govt Higher Secondary School Palhallan within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Sahina Yusuf

D/o Mohmad Yusuf Mir R/o Palhallan Pattan

fko

#### OFFICE OF THE ADVOCATE RIAZ AHMED BHAT

In the case of:

**Bilal Ahmad Bhat** Mohammad Imran Bhat Both Sons of Late Abdul Hameed Bhat

Toyiba Hameed D/o: Late Abdul Hameed Bhat

Rafiqa W/o: Late Abdul Hameed Bhat All Residents of: Madeen Sahib Botakadal Lal Bazar Srinagar.

Public at Large

(NON-CAVETOR) IN THE MATTER OF:- Caveat petition

That the caveators have reason to believe that the noncaveator(s) may likely approach the Hon'ble Court of Principal District Judge Srinagar with unclean hands and may choose to file any Petition, suit, application or any other legal proceedings against the caveators and may secure interim order(s) by misrepresenting the facts which will cause irreparable loss to the caveators. If the non-caveators choose to file any such case, proceedings against the caveators before the Hon'ble Court of Principal District Judge Srinagar, in that eventuality the caveators may be given prior opportunity of being heard before passing any order (s) against the caveators.

> Riaz Ahmed Bhat Advocate

#### From the office of the Advocate **Peer Majid Hamid and associates**

In the case of: Mrs Rafiqa W/o Lt Mohammad Yousuf Bhat

2 Shabir Ahamd Bhat 3. Umar Yousuf Bhat Ss/o Mohammad Yousuf Bhat

4 Shabana Yousuf 5. Humaira yousuf

Ds/o Mohammad Yousuf Bhat R/o Rawatpora Baghat

(Caveators)

Versus Public at large

(NON-CAVEATOS)

In the Petition in terms of Section 48-A The Caveator has reason to believe that Non-Caveators may file any Application, Petition, Appeal, Suit or any other type of proceeding before the Hob'ble Court and on the ground of distorted facts/misrpresentation and cooked story and may seed in obtaining some relief/order at their back /in exparte against the caveators and in such eventuality the caveators will be put in irreparable loss and inconvenience. It would be proper that caveator be given an opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble court before passing any order.

Sd/advocate

#### The Jammu and Kashmir **State Board Of School Education**

New Campus Bemina Srinagar Notice for General Public

The applicant/ candidate whose photograph is published in this notice and claiming to have lost her qualification certificate/s issued under as per below mentioned details:-

Roll No: 2604260 Class 10th

Year & Session: Annual Regular 2017 Registration: N16460017 Name : Ishrat Lone

Father's Name: Shah Mohammad Lone Mother's Name: Khatija Begum Date of Birth:- 07-08-2002

Residenc:- Shahpora Payeen Gurez



According the candidate concerned has approach to this office for issuance of Duplicate Qualification /Marks Certificate/s, so before the same is processed and provided to the candidate, under rules, anybody having any objection in this regard, shall bring into the notice of Assistant Secretary of Certificate as well as Assistant Secretary Examination Unit I & III KD within the period of 10 & 7 days respectively, from the date of publication of this notice. (Besides the above referred "Qualification Certificate/s" bearing No: 7ARKAM-4010548 be treated as "CANCELLED") No: F(Cer is-I-DQC)B/KD/23 **Assistant Secretary** 

Dated: 13-04-2023 FKO

Certificates, KD.

ازعدالت چیف جوڈیشل مجسٹریٹ سب جج سرینگر بااجلاس راجامجمہ تشکیم (سائل) بااجلاس درجڑار برتھس اینڈڈیشس الیں۔ایم۔سی سرینگر درخواست بمرادا ندراج کرنے تاریخ فو تگی آزاں عبدالرحمان چہلو تاریخ فوتگی 2022-01-14 معامله مندج عنوان الصدرمين سائل اسائله في عدالت بذامين ايك درخواست بشمول حلفي بغرض اندارج کرنے تاریخ فوتکی دائر کی ہے۔ لہذاعوام الناس کو بذریعہ اشتبار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ نبیت درخواست سائل اسائله منظور بونے میں کوئی عذریااعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں عدالت میں آکر مورہ تک یش کرے بعد گزرنے معیادکوئی عذر

DISCLAIMER: KASHMIR OBSERVER MAKES EVERYEFFORT TO ENSURE THATTHE INFORMATION CARRIED IN DISPLAY/CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS, APPEARING IN THE NEWSPAPER IS CORRECT. HOWEVER THE NEWSPAPER TAKES NO RESPONSIBILITY NOR DOES IT

NECESSARILY ENDORSE THE CONTENTS OF THESE ADVERTS. THE READERS ARE THEREFORE REQUESTED TO VERIFY THE CONTENTS BEFORE ACTING THEREUPON. MANAGEMENT

## **Police Arrests Two Bike Borne Thieves For Robbing Tourist**

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: Police on Saturday said they arrested two bike borne thieves who robbed an old aged tourist lady in Bishamber nagar locality of the city on Wednesday.

"During investigation of FIR No 17/23 U/S 392 IPC of Khanyar police station two where an old aged tourist lady was robbed by two bike borne thieves at Bishamber nagar on 12.04.23." Srinagar Police tweeted.

They have been identified as Mohammad Asif

of Shahdara Sharief Rajouri and Mohammad Younis of Thanamandi Rajouri. They have been arrested and stolen property has been recovered from their possession.

In a tweet Srinagar police said, "During investigation of FIR No 17/23 U/S 392 IPC of Khanyar PS where an old aged tourist lady was robbed by 2 Bike borne thieves at Bishamber nagar on 12.04.23 Mohammad Asif of Shahdara Sharief Rajouri & Mohammad Younis of Thanamandi Rajouri arrested, stolen property recovered."

# **Prominent Store AFJAN Opens Outlet In City**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A prominent global store, AFJAN opened its exclusive showroom in the summer capital's Jawahar Nagar area here. Pertinently, the large demand for dates during Ramzan is owing to both dietary and cultural reasons. Opening the Iftar (breaking of fast) with dates is customary as dates, rich in iron and vitamins, can give an instant energy boost.

Chairman of the prominent global brand, AJ-FAN dates, and nuts, Mohamed Kutty Nechikatte, said "At AJFAN, we respect and connect with Mother Nature and earth and we do not do anything that does not go in sync with nature. Hence, dry fruits that we grow at our farm are free of pesticides or insecticides," he said, adding "The cultivation measures that we have been using are purely organic. There is minimal use of machines and we prefer using our hands for our cultivation. We ensure that each pack of our dry fruits is hygienic and does not contain any preservatives. Keeping nature intact and saving the environment is our way of giving back what Mother Nature has given us!"

He said that feasting and fasting go hand-inhand during Ramzan. The sumptuous spread for Iftar may vary but the feasting in the evening begins with dates, a staple all during the season. Right from roadside vendors and fruit stalls to general stores and supermarkets, one can find it everywhere. "Kashmir is a vibrant market and people love good products here. Also, they have good buying power as well. All we are focusing on at the moment is to provide quality services with world-class products."



An Arts exhibition featuring artworks of Dr Jahangir Aslam Makhdoomi was held at Kashmir Arts Emporium on Saturday. KO Photo Abid Bhat.

# Ramazan 2023: People Serve Iftar To **Travelers, Passersby In City Outskirts**

Agencies

Srinagar: As serving Iftar to a Muslim is considered a highly-rewarding act in Islam, Muhammad Ramzan from central Kashmir's Srinagar district ensures he never misses carrying out the good deed in the holy month of Ramazan.

The 52-year-old, after every Asr (later afternoon) prayer along with his family members, prepares hundreds of Iftaar kits and serves them to the travelers and passersby on the Srinagar-Baramulla highway at the time of breaking the fast. Muslims fast from pre-dawn to dusk in the month of Ramazan.

"It is a routine for me in the month of Ramazan to serve Iftaar to anyone traveling on the highway. A few minutes before Iftar time, I start distributing Iftaar kits to passersby on the road," Ramzan said.

For him, serving Iftar is the "happiest and most peaceful moment" for which he spends money from his own earnings. "Serving Iftar to a fellow Muslim has a great reward from the Almighty," Ram-

Normally, an Iftar kit consists of a couple of dates, a mineral water bottle, a banana, muskmelon, watermelon, grapes, slices of other distribution. Another neighbour Ramzan, a 33-year-old Nisar Ahmad also serves Iftaar to travelers on the highway.

"Every Ramazan, I ensure that I make the arrangement of Iftaar for those who are traveling on the

**It is a routine for me** in the month of Ramazan to serve Iftaar to anyone traveling on the highway. A few minutes before Iftar time, I start distributing Iftaar kits to passersby on the road

fruits, etc. It can also be a cooked rice packet, locally known as biryani, and other delicious eatables.

Another person, Nazir Ahmad, also has a practice of serving Iftar, however, not daily but weekly. He serves a glass of 'Babri Byol Treish' (milk mixed with basil seeds) or with the fruit chat.

I prepare around 200 fruit chaat kits and 150 to 175 liters of 'Babri Beol Treish' for Iftar highway. I make around two buckets of milk mixed with basil seeds and use disposable glasses for distribution," he said.

The scenes are not just confined to a single area of Srinagar but many people from across the valley offer Iftaar to passersby.

As the holy month of Ramazan has entered its last phase, more people would make Iftar arrangements for people—(KNO)

#### SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 **RAILWAYS** SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259 ANANTNAG: 01932-228243

CAPD: 18001807011

TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686

Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

4:32

12:32

5:10

7:05

8:31

PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883 PDD: 0194-2450213

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES: 2479488,2452222,2452155

SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081

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

#### **HIGHWAY STATUS**



**AIRPORTS** 

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

#### **PRAYERS FAJR ZUHR** CALENDAR **ASR** Magrib 25 RAMAZAN ISHA 1444

#### This Day In History

- 1799 -- Napoleonic Wars: The Battle of Mount Tabor Napoleon drives Ottoman Turks across the River Jordan near Acre.
- 1865 Battle of Columbus & West Point, GA (Ft Tyler) 1913 - The Bulgarians and the Turks agree to an armistice that will be accepted by the other nations involved
- 1917 Lenin arrives back from exile in Russia at Finland Station, Petrograd to join the Russian Revolution
- 1921 Liberal Freedom League forms in The Hague
- 1922 German-Russian treaty signed in Italy, Soviet Union recognized
- 1922 Rapallo Agreement, between Germany and Russia, is signed
- 1939 Stalin requests British, French & Russian antinazi pact
- 1943 40 NZ bombers attack Haarlem, Netherlands (85 killed)
- 1945 Red Army begins Battle of Berlin
- 1945 US troops enter Nuremberg, Germany
- 1946 1st US launch of captured V-2 rocket, White Sands, NM; 8 km alt 1953 - British royal yacht Britannia launched by Queen
- Elizabeth II
- 1957 USSR performs atmospheric nuclear test 1972 - Two giant pandas arrive in US from China
- 1972 Apollo 16 launched; 5th manned lunar landing (Decartes Highlands)
- 1974 USSR performs nuclear test at Eastern Kazakh/ Semipalitinsk USSR
- 2003 Treaty of Accession is signed in Athens admitting
  - 10 new member states to the European Union

### From KO Archives

# Pervez Visit To Begin With Prayers

India to fire new CBMs At Pak

'ew Delhi - Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf will begin his two day India visit Saturday with prayers at dargah of Sufi saint Khwaja Moinudin Chisti at Ajmer before commencing extensive talks with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on all outstanding issues, including Kashmir,

Seeking to break fresh ground. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh is expected to place new confidence building measures to carry forward the peace process in his talks with Pakistan President. who visits India on his first visit after the failed 2001 Agra Summit.

Singh, who will hold parleys with Musharraf after witnessing the last one-day Indo-Pak cricket match for over an hour in the morning, is likely to suggest opening of additional bus routes and ways to promote tourism in Kashmir to enable people-to-people contacts. A joint statement after the talks is not ruled out.

Official sources said that Musharraf, who will he accompanied by his wife Sebha and a 40-member delegation, has been conveyed Singh's suggestion that providing full security to the Srinagar Muzaffarabad bus service-was the "joint responsibility" of the two countries and signals from that side have been "positive".

On the eve of Musharraf s visit, the Prime Minister told a Chief Ministers' conclave here that "it is the joint responsibility of the Governments of India and Pakistan." to provide full security to

the bus passengers. The two countries should fight the scourge of terrorism in the region, he added.

FIGHTING TERROR TOGETHER:

India and Pakistan can work together in fighting the sources of terrorism in the region making it clear it was their joint responsibility to ensure full security to the passengers of Srinagar-Iuzaffarabad bus service. He said "I do believe that it is the joint responsibility of the

Governments of India and Pakistan, and of the local authorities on both sides of the line of control, to work together in providing full security cover to the bus service which is a service for peace and for promotion of reconciliation." "I sincerely hope we can work together in protecting the lives

of innocent people and in lighting the sources of terrorism in the region." Singh said.

(Kashmir Observer, 16 April, 2005)

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is for the information of general public that I have lost the Certificate of Registration of my scooty bearing No. JK01AQ 5206 while travelling from Soura to Pandach, Srinagar on April 12, 2023 and I have applied for its duplicate from Regional Transport Office, Srinagar.

In case anybody is having any kind of objection can contact the Regional Transport Office, Srinagar within a period of Seven days after which no objection will be entertained.

**Mohammad Rafiq Dar** S/o Ghulam Nabi Dar R/o Pethpora, Pandach, Srinagar, Kashmir

### OFFICE OF THE BLOCK MEDICAL OFFICER ZAINAPORA

TENDER NOTICE NO 02 OF 2023 DATED 13/04/2023

For and on behalf of Liuetanant Governor of J&K, e-tenders are invited from approved and eligible registered suppliers/manufacturers/authorized dealers/partnership firms registered in India under relevant Act for Supply of Drugs/Lab. Regents/X-Ray Films and other material/supplies to Sub District Hospital Zainapora for the

The NIT containing the all details/Terms and conditions can be downloaded from the J&K Govt official web site (www.jktenders.gov.in). The interested bidder may submit their bids online upto the date and time men-

Important Dates and Cost of EMD & Tender fee:-

| S.No. | Event                                   | Date                                 |
|-------|---|--------------------------------------|
|       | Date of Issue of Tender Notice          | 13/04/2023                           |
| 2     | Date of publication of NIT online       | 13/04/2023                           |
| }     | Date for downloading the NIT online     | 13/04/2023                           |
|       | Date for submission of Bid online       | 14/04/2023                           |
| j     | Last date for submission of Bids online | 24/04/2023 (up to 4.00 pm)           |
| )     | Date for opening of bids online         | 25/04/2023                           |
|       | Earnest Money Deposit                   | Rs. 20000/- (Twenty Thousand only)   |
| 3     | Cost of tender documents                | Rs. 500/- (Rupees Five Hundred only) |

Bids must be accompanied with the receipt of cost of Tender document (non-refundable) transferred in A/c No. 0399010200000001 J&K Bank, Branch Zainapora in favour of Block Medical Officer Zainapora and Earnest Money/ Bid Security in the shape of CDR pledged to the Block Medical Officer Zainapora. The Bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on same website in the office Block Medical Officer Zainapora (Tender receiving authority) on the above mentioned date.

**Block Medical Officer** 

# FCS&CA Imposes Fine On 43 Erring Traders

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: The Enforcement squad of Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) Department under the supervision of Assistant Director Enforcement, Favaz Ahmad Shah fined 43 erring traders in Srinagar with a sum of Rs. 28900 for violating Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

The action against the erring was taken during a massive market checking drive within the vicinity of Srinagar City i.e. Bota Kadal, Dalgate, Sonwar, Shivpora, Harwan, Shalimar, Nowpora, Baba Demb, Habba Kadal, Kani Kadal, Qamarwari, Parimpora, Batamaloo, Rawalpora, Baghi Mehtab, Chanapora etc.

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# The Unwanted Burden: Why School Bags Need to Get Lighter

Mushtaq Ahmad Rather

chool education is an integral aspect of an individual's life. If we try to visualize school proceedings in the current context, the first thing that strikes our mind is the exhaustive image of a school with an oversized bag hanging down their and the structural layout of the school premises puts additional burden as the bag is to be carried up and down a multi storey school building.

going child with an oversized bag hanging down their and the structural layout of the school premises puts additional burden carried up Recently, the Director Education Kashmir, on Friday night issued guidelines to heads of the institutions asking them to set maximum weights for the school bags besides specifying which subject to be taught from which class as per the new National Educational Policy (NEP). The School Education Department also ordered against any bags for pre-primary students.

This is a positive step in the direction. However, the advocacy around heavy bags is not new. Renowned writer R.K.Narayan had once made a resounding speech in the parliament regarding abolition of heavy school bags for students, which in his words, "hang their arms forward like Chimpanzees and like a pack-mule."

NCF 2005 had drawn insight from the report Learning Without Burden (Yashpal committee report, MHRD,1993) and made significant remarks that heavy school bags are a source of physical discomfort and there is also a curriculum load that students are being subjected to.

A number of research scholars have unanimously concluded that the weight of the school bag should not exceed 10 percent of the child's body weight, based on the fact that it can affect their spinal posture, foot shape and walking style . Kyphotic and balanced body postures dominate during the age of seven to eight years, however, when the child begins to attend school, their time spent in a sitting position is extended, which can result in disorders of posture genesis. Hence this period is called "the first critical period of posture genesis" (Katarzyna Walicka-Cupry, et al.2015). The weight of the school bag carried by school going children is primarily related to the individual's body weight. The forward leaning posture and weary face of the child reflects an expression that the bag is quite heavy for the child to carry along.

School system needs to offer basic required subjects at every stage as per the school bag Policy 2020 direction. More subjects and textbooks at different stages, particularly at the primary stage, creates not only stress of studying but also imposes the additional pressure of carrying those textbooks to school. Once the school system makes transition from text book dominated culture to learner centric competence based culture, the issue of heavy bags will automatically be mitigated.

The National Curricular Framework 2005 and draft policy of National Curricular Framework of School Education 2021-2022 recently released for public feedback has strictly recommended only two subjects: language and mathematics for classes 1st and 2nd. This recommendation was implemented in entirety in Government run institutions of UT of Jammu



The qualitative output of the student should not be determined by the weight of the bag and this ill notion needs to be discarded. We must provide equal space to co-curricular areas and invest in humanistic qualities of the school going child to prepare them for real life challenges

and Kashmir but private schools totally junked this recommendation and instead introduced a chain of other subjects for these classes . The same is the case with classes from 3rd to 5th standard. Beyond the suggested recommendations like language , mathematics and environmental studies , a wide range of other subjects is prescribed by private schools .

How can a 5 year old manage 14 books? It is not merely a matter of the weight of 14 books, note books, lunch packs and water bottles. Such a trend further adds to the miseries of students and has adverse repercussions on their psyche and physical health.

Besides affecting the health of the child, it has far reaching consequences on the economic condition of the family as well, where a parent has no option but to buy these articles at whopping costs.

With the implementation of NEP 2020, the UT government of Jammu and Kashmir made it obligatory via an order that all the schools (including private schools) across the UT shall stick to common curriculum from 6th grade onwards but the unholy nexus of private schools with publishers forces parents to buy a parallel set of books besides the recommended one. In this manner, instead of following the recommendations of school bag policy 2020 to curtail the weight of school bag, private schools have

further aggravated the problem of the school going child by compelling them to bring an additional set of books to school.

The Para 3.15 of School Bag Policy and Para 4.26 of NEP 2020 emphasizes that every school going child will be involved in a fun centric module during grades 6th to 8th. All students will actively take part in a 10-day bag less span in a flexible slot during grades 6-8 where they will be motivated to intern with local vocational experts such as carpenters, potters, gardeners, artists etc. Similar internship opportunities to experience vocational subjects will be made available to students throughout grades 6-12. Bag-less days will be encouraged throughout the year for various types of enrichment activities including arts, quizzes, sports and vocational crafts.

School curriculum has a strong linkage with the weight of the school bag. More number of subjects offered in schools indicates more text books to be carried along and home work on regular basis implies additional weight on tender shoulders

The expert group on National school bag policy 2020 has advocated the implementation of following recommendations for the curtailment of weight of school bag including recommendation on home work and number of subjects offered

The committee has recommended to adhere to universally accepted ratio of weight of school bag as 10 percent of the body of weight of the student from classes ist to 12th .

Weight of the school bag need to be regularly monitored at the school level .

It must be the obligation on the part of the school to provide potable water in sufficient quantity accessible to all the students to avoid carrying water bottle in school bag.

Lockers in every classroom for students with bench mark disabilities for sorting and retrieving books and other stationary items

The school or classroom time table needs to be flexible providing adequate space for sports and physical education and time slot for reading books in school libraries.

For selecting a text book for children, the criterion of weight should be taken into consideration . Weight of each text book may be printed on the text book by the publisher

School bag awareness program needs to be held in the beginning of every academic session, wherein parents and students would be sensitized on the issue.

As per the recommendations of National curricular framework, subjects such as computer studies, Moral education, General knowledge, like skills, Conversation books etc. need to be infused across the core subjects in the school without additional separate books. Students should not be made to carry textbook for these areas.

The issues related to heavy school bag need to be included in the pre-service and inservice teacher education curriculum

Concerted efforts through suitable changes in curriculum and pedagogy by NCERT, SCERTs, schools and educators. In consonance with this National Curricular Framework for School Education (NCFSE 2020-2021) has released its draft report and recommended a practice-based curriculum for grades 6 to 8

Though the National Bag Policy 2020 has been in public domain for a couple of years, its implementation has not seen the light of the day as it faced multiple impediments especially in Jammu and Kashmir.

For a better tomorrow, the recommendations of National Bag Policy 2020 and the guidelines formulated by the School Education department pertaining to weight of school wag need to be followed in spirit at the institutional levels and every stakeholder including parents, school management and concerned citizens have to be on the same page to ensure the wellbeing of our kids.

The qualitative output of the student should not be determined by the weight of the bag and this ill notion needs to be discarded . We must provide equal space to co-curricular areas and invest in humanistic qualities of the school going child to prepare them for real life challenges rather than merely relying on bookish knowledge which has become obsolete. We need to hone 21st century skills like creativity, critical thinking, collaboration and communication among modern learners .

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

The author is an educator

# The Future Of News

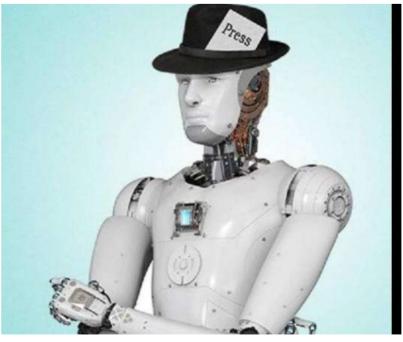
Santosh Kumar Biswal

he popular definition of news attributed to, among others, the former editor of The New York Sun, John B. Bogart, "When a dog bites a man, that is not news, because it happens so often. But if a man bites a dog, that is news", is no longer pertinent in this fast-changing technological world. Traditionally, it was thought that news should be unusual and taken from everyday life. However, with the advent of Artificial Intelligence, the definition and the ecology of news are being redefined. From the printing press to the metaverse, the changing role of technologies has leapfrogged the journey of journalism from a standalone profession to a participatory and plural space. Transmedia storytelling, for instance, is catching the attention of the audience and is providing fodder for judicious deliberations across the globe. However, AI's excessive weaponisation could be a stumbling block in the ecosystem of news media.

the ecosystem of news media. Technology has always been central to journalism. The telegraph, telephone, radio, television and, more recently, AI, blockchain, and the metaverse have transformed the nature and the pace of the profession. Hence, a discussion of the history and the current form of journalism would be incomplete without deliberating on communication technologies.

AI has started influencing several facets of the news media. Powered by AI tools, data journalism is going great guns. Computer-assisted reporting, infographics, data visualisation and interactive visualisation are increasingly being used in newsrooms. Storytelling through computational journalism is ushering in paradigmatic shifts and setting newer trends.

The advent and proliferation of communication technologies have also led to the prioritisation of participatory journalism via the 'citizen journalist'. User-generated content is, in turn, generating social change and inclusive development. The transformation of journalism through AI for change and development has become feasible. AI has initiated and intensified upward communication, which



is a fundamental requirement for participatory journalism. Journalism and activism remain

inseparable. Media activism has in-

tensified thanks to the massive use of technologies, including AI tools, by activists and non-governmental organisations. Emancipatory journalism facilitated by technology is also aiding policy advocacy initiatives and policy reforms.

and policy reforms.

But the AI revolution in journalism is not free of ethical concerns. This technology is going to curtail manpower in newsrooms. It will force existing journalists to be skilled in data science, statistics, designing and other presentation skills. Excessive and inappropriate use of AI tools has also created the notions of 'Good AI' and 'Bad AI' in the news media. None is discussing the dichotomy between the Global South and the Global North when it comes to the use of AI in the production, distribution and consumption of news.

Machine versus man in newsrooms remains the larger talking point. Would AI tools be useful for journalism? Or would they be a superspreader of misinformation?

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 Telegraph India

# From 'Roohdaar' to 'Rooh', Kashmir Story Stays Personal

Saima Shakee

A new Kashmir paperback hitting the bookstands on April 17 is telling another personal history with a soulful narration that reflects the three-decade-old existential anguish of a community.

Actor Manav Kaul's 'Rooh' is a corresponding-chronicle of a roaming pilgrim finding penance in his homeland's mesmeric beauty and his meditative moorings for his lost times in Kashmir.

Many hail Kaul's book as a "deeply intimate and refreshing" voice when Kashmir is seen or heard from the "biased" literary and televised lenses. The novel, originally written in Hindi, is

published by Penguin Random House India. The book is pristine, beautiful, raw and engaging attempt by Kaul who's able to capture "the essence of its being like a reverie".

In this stream-of-consciousness novel, the protagonist, Manav, makes a physical and metaphorical trip to his homeland and relives the past as a part of the present.

Plot thickens when Rooh tells Manav in a

bar in New York that he ought to go to back home to the hills in Kashmir. He's suddenly thrown into the loop of his past: a blue door, white walls, and a house at a cul-de-sac.

Rooh emerges as a deeply touching story of tender but broken people he meets along this journey.

"It's an imaginary world in which a writer sees himself travel," Kaul writes in the book. "The main journey is inwards, of a traveller who is struggling to collect the lived portraits of his childhood."

Born in Baramulla, on 19 December 1976, Manav moved to Madhya Pradesh with his family in early nineties when his tribe of Kashmiri Pandits migrated from the valley due to violent turmoil.

Over the years, Manav became an admired actor with powerful performances in films like "Tumhari Sulu", "Jolly LLB 2", "Thappad" and Netflix anthology "Ajeeb Daastaans".

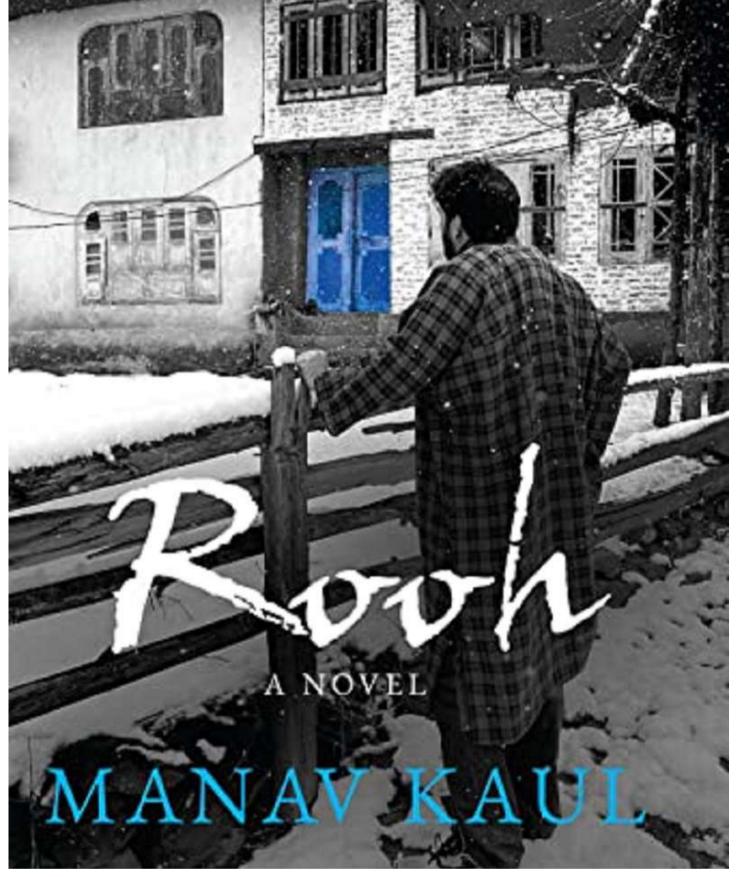
In actor-director Sugandha Garg's Kashmir, Kaul played a middle-aged man who sits in a stark white, oft-dissolving room to come face to face with his deceased father who had to leave Kashmir with his family and couldn't go back for a visit before passing on.

Most of Kaul's books capture this existential anguish in depth and detail. His "Theek Tumhare Peeche" (Right Behind You) and "Prem Kabootar" (Love Pigeon) have been dominating the Neilson bestseller list.

In 'Rooh', Kaul writes about his Cherrapunji sojourn—during pandemic lockdown—when longing for his roots got resuscitated.

"When we go far away, a kind of wait begins," he writes in a deeply moving monologue. "We are looking for something that we can't find in the place we had been living in. We have to leave our homes to touch the old roots on which this tree stands. We are not trees, though we can wander."

When Kashmir had been left behind, Kaul says, he would go back there in his dreams each night. In those dreams, he would take all his recently made friends along too.



"But when I woke up in the morning, I would find myself crying," he writes. "Our

colony in Khwaja Bagh, Baramulla, was deep within me. Mother would ask, "Why do you

cry every morning when you wake up?" I would lie to her and say, "Nightmares." Fa-

IN ACTOR-**DIRECTOR SUGANDHA GARG'S** KASHMIR, **KAUL PLAYED A MIDDLE-AGED** MAN WHO SITS **IN A STARK** WHITE, oftdissolving room to come face to face with his deceased father who had to leave Kashmir with his family and couldn't go back for a visit before passing on

ther was Kashmiri. Whenever I would go to him to talk about my nightmares, I would end up blurting out only one question, 'When will we go back to Kashmir?' "

Before 'Rooh', it was late actor Irrfan Khan's 'Roohdaar' character in Haider movie that had deeply moved Kaul. Both the characters, many reckon, chronicle Kashmir story from a deeply personal perspective.

"When actor Irrfan Khan said 'Roohdaar' in Haider, it gave me goosebumps," Kaul recalls his reaction about the controversial character drawing mixed responses back in the day. "Rooh' follows the same trajectory with a rattling personal effect."

# Post Ramazan Book Recommendations

**Traversing Tradition** 

This list was compiled in the hopes of facilitating a closer connection with Allah , His Book, and aid in perfecting our worship.

#### 1. Concerning Divine Wisdom in the Creation of Man by Abu Hamid Al Ghazali, translated by Dr. Kamran Riaz

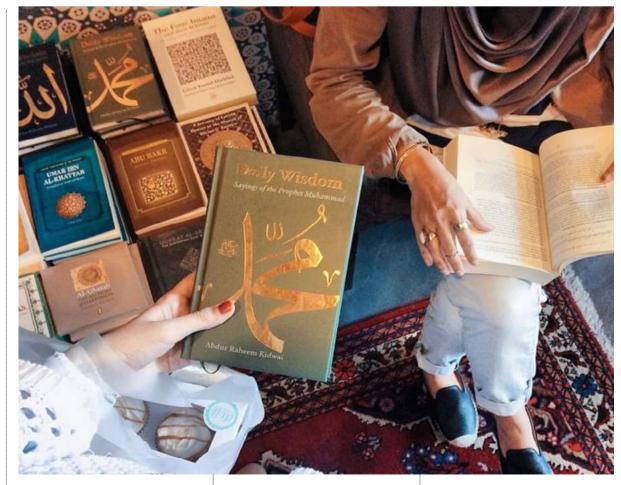
Ghazali, translated by Dr. Kamran Riaz
This wonderful book is crowned
by a sublime introduction written
by Shaykh Amin Kholwadia of Darul
Qasim College, wherein he presents
an excellent primer in understanding the Muslim worldview that so
often leads to the production of such
great works. The introduction alone
is worth buying the book, and the
subsequent sections will allow the
reader to marvel at the creations of
God and the impressive breadth of
knowledge exhibited by our tradition's intellectual luminaries.

#### 2. The Endless Banquet (3 volumes) by Hamza Abdul-Malik

To rectify the dearth of original English works that engage with God's Holy Book, Imam Hamza Abdul-Malik published a reading guide that does away with the difficult phrasing often experienced in translated works. It is divided into chapters based on the 30 ajza' of the Qur'an, and thematically groups passages within the surahs with an emphasis on subtleties that often escape the reader in simple translations of the Qur'an.

#### 3. The Pearled Necklace translated by Nuh Saunders

**Nuh Saunders**Ramazan is the month of the



Qur'an, and by extension, it should be a special time for the haamileen (carriers) of the Qur'an. The Pearled Necklace is a translation by Ustadh Nuh Saunders of a poem on the conditions and etiquettes of memorizing the Qur'ān and the methods of reviewing. It aims to provide a strategy on memorizing and retaining the Qur'an in our hearts, and maintaining the standards of huffaz in our community.

# 4. The Beginning of Guidance by Imam al-Ghazali This is the book for anyone looking

This is the book for anyone looking for a road map to follow a spiritual journey and put Islamic principles and practices into action. The book is divided into three sections: obedience, refraining from disobedience, and the adab of companionship with Allah and His creation. Imam al-Ghazali emphasizes the importance of seeking knowledge, purification of the heart, and perfection in our worship.

#### 5. Al-Ghazali on Disciplining the Soul and on Breaking the Two Desires: Books XXII and XXIII of the Revival of the Religious Sciences

A vital aspect of fasting is abstinence from otherwise permissible actions. The ultimate end is to cultivate Taqwa (God-conscientiousness) in each and every living moment. To attain that, complete avoidance of desires that contravene or are otherwise disliked by the Lawgiver is essential. Imam al-Ghazali, in the 22nd and 23rd books of his magnum opus Ihya Ulum al-Din, advises us on how to discipline our souls so as to refine our character to God's liking and cure the diseases that ail our hearts.

#### 6. The Beneficial Epistle & Decisive Proof on The Science of Divine Unity by Muhammad Salih al-Furfur

This is a condensed but thorough book that summarizes some of the more complex works in the area of mainstream Sunni theology. It has served as the main introductory text for decades. The author outlines and provides proof for the central tenets of faith that every Muslim should hold: Allah \*\* and His attributes, prophethood, the revealed scriptures, angels, predestination, and the Last Day.

#### 7. On Prayers Upon the Prophet (Gems from the Shifa) translated by Talut

A habit that is beloved to Allah and a means of being with His Beloved in the hereafter that every Muslim should cultivate in their daily routine is sending prayers and blessings on the Prophet Because of its vitalness and the reward attained by sending prayers and blessings (salawat) upon our beloved Prophet saws, many scholars have written treatises on the topic. This short treatise by Qadi lyad is the perfect read for the Muslim who wishes to learn the virtues and method of sending salawat.

#### 8. Al-Ghazali on the Ninety-nine Beautiful Names of God

This work, a translation of Huijatul Islam Abu Hamid al-Ghazali's al-Maqsad al-Asna, is a comprehensive commentary on the 99 names of Allah from a theological, cosmological, and moral perspective. Although he delves into technical semantic and logical discussions in certain parts of the text, there is great benefit to be derived by the average Muslim from al-Ghazali's sublime explanations of the many names with which we have been commanded to call upon Allah. Even if not read cover to cover, the book is invaluable as a reference text when one wishes to learn more about our Lord.

Compiled by Abu Zayd AbdurRahman, Wassim Hassan, and Raissa Khalil

# SC Constitution Bench To Hear Pleas Seeking Validation Of Same-Sex Marriages

**New Delhi:** A five-judge Supreme Court constitution bench is scheduled to hear from Tuesday a batch of petitions seeking legal validation of samesex marriages in the country.

A bench of Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and justices S K Kaul, S Ravindra Bhat, P S Narasimha and Hima Kohli will commence the hearing on April 18 on the petitions which were referred to a larger bench for an authoritative pronouncement on March 13 by the CJI-led bench, saying it is "very seminal issue".

The hearing and the consequential outcome will have significant ramifications for the country where common people and political parties hold divergent views on the subject.

The Centre has opposed the petitions seeking legal validation for same-sex marriages, claiming they will cause "complete havoc" with the delicate balance of personal laws and accepted societal values.

The government submitted that despite the decriminalisation of Section 377 of the IPC, which had criminalised consensual gay sex in private, the petitioners cannot claim a fundamental right to same-sex marriage to be recognised under the laws of the country.

"Marriage, as an institution in law, has many statutory and other consequences under various legislative enactments. Therefore, any formal recognition of such a human relationship cannot be regarded as just a privacy issue between two adults," it said.

The Centre said the institution of marriage between two individuals of the same gender is neither recognised nor accepted in uncodified personal laws or codified statutory laws.

Jamiat Ulama-i Hind has also opposed the petitions saying they are an attack on the family system and in complete contravention of all personal laws.

Seeking intervention in the batch of petitions pending before the top court, the organisation also cited Hindu traditions, saying the aim of marriage among Hindus is not merely physical pleasure or procreation but spiritual advancement.

It is one of the 16 'sanskars' in Hindus, the Jamiat said. "This concept of same-sex marriage goes to attack the family system rather than making a family through this process," it said.

However, the Delhi Commission For Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) supported the petition saying the Centre and state governments should take steps to create public awareness that same sex family units are "normal".

It said multiple studies on same-sex parenting have demonstrated that same sex couples can be good parents.

Referring to examples of countries that have legalised same-sex marriages, the child rights body said at present more than 50 countries allow same-sex couples to legally adopt children.

While referring the pleas to the constitution bench, the court had said the submissions on the issue involve an interplay between constitutional rights on the one hand and special legislative enactments, including the Special Marriage Act, on the other.

"Having due regard to the broader context of the petitions before this court, the inter-relationship between the statutory regime and constitutional rights, we are of the considered view that it would be appropriate if the issues raised are resolved by a constitution bench of five-judges of this court...," the bench had said while referring to Article 145 (3) of the Constitution and calling it a "very seminal issue".

"We accordingly direct that the hearing of these petitions be placed before a constitution bench," the apex court said while posting the pleas for hearing on April 18.

Article 145(3) of Constitution says there should be at least five judges to hear cases that involve a substantial question of law as to the interpretation of the Constitution, or any reference

under article 143, which deals with the power of the President of India to consult the Supreme Court.

The court said in the batch of pleas, the petitioners have sought recognition of the rights of couple of the same gender to marry, and while relying upon the apex court verdicts on right to privacy and decriminalising section 377 of the Indian Penal Code, they have asserted broader constitutional entitlements arising out of right to life and personal liberty, right to dignity and others.

The bench had said one of the issues raised before it also relates to the rights of transgender couples to marry.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta had told the bench that marriage is not just a contract in case of Hindu law which it is in the Mohammedan law.

"When the question of granting recognition, legal sanction to a relationship is concerned, that is essentially a function of the legislature and for more than one reason," he said.

## Conman Kiran Patel Now Booked For Cheating Event Management Firm Owner

**Press Trust Of India** 

Ahmedabad: Alleged conman Kiran Patel was on Saturday charged of cheating a businessman from Ahmedabad by posing as an official from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), taking the number of FIRs against him to six, police said.

The city crime branch registered a first information report (FIR) against Patel on the complaint of one Kishor Chandarana, who owns an event management firm. Patel allegedly deceived the complainant with the promise of getting him a big project in Jammu and Kashmir.

Patel was first arrested in March by the J&K police for posing as a PMO official and brought to Gujarat on a transfer warrant by the Ahmedabad crime branch on April 8 in connection with another cheating case registered against him, said officials.

According to the crime branch, Patel identified himself as an 'additional director' in the PMO by sending a visiting card to the complainant on WhatsApp and claimed that he had been given the responsibility of the development of Kashmir.

He lured the complainant by promising to offer him the contract for an all-India level medical conference at Pulwama in J&K and made him spend 3.5 lakh, said police.

Chandarana told police that he spent the money on Patel by organising an event in a fivestar hotel in Ahmedabad under the banner of G20 summit and paying for Patel's air travel from Ahmedabad to Srinagar and his stay at a five-star hotel there.

In the latest case, Patel has been booked under Indian Penal Code sections 406 (criminal breach of trust), 420 (cheating), and 170 (pretending to hold office as public servant).

Patel was brought to Ahmedabad in connection with a case related to usurping a bungalow belonging to a senior citizen in a posh locality of the city in which his wife Malini Patel was arrested on March 28 as a co-accused.

#### **CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE**

#### **In Peace Din**

2,290 acres of land spread on two sides of border fencing. "After completion of the harvesting on this side, we will undertake harvesting across the fencing on an area of 280 acres of land with the support of BSF", he said.

BSF troops, who are guarding the International Border (IB), allow farmers and employees of the agriculture department to cultivate and harvest their lands across the border fencing.

"BSF troops go with us during harvesting work. They protect and support us", he said. Jammu and Kashmir government's Seed

Multiplication Farm, is one of the biggest farms in the Jammu region to produce high-yield seeds for distribution to farmers under the 'Holistic Agriculture Development Plan'.

The farm also grows oats on 200 acres of

The men and machines, including harvesters were pressed into services by the department to undertake fact harvesting of the wheat

land, potatoes, mustard and many other crops.

ment to undertake fast harvesting of the wheat crops.

Harvesting usually starts with the festival of

Vaisakhi in Jammu.

The scores of employees in the agriculture department demand risk allowance on the pattern of BSF.

"We are doing cropping activity under the eyes of Pakistan Rangers. There is also a constant fear among us. We don't have bullet jackets and helmets like BSF troops. So the government should grant us risk allowances", an official said. The department is working on a war footing on 29 projects under the "holistic agriculture Development Plan", Additional chief secretary Atal Dulloo said.

He said that HADP is set to be a turning point in the agri-economy of the UT whereby Rs 5,013 crore shall be infused over the next five years through 29 interventions and projects.

"Besides, the 29 interventions are set to create around 19,000 new enterprises in the agriculture sector and an additional 2.8 lakh jobs. This will ultimately increase the GDP of the UT significantly by the next 5 years", he said.

#### **Airlines, Tour Operators**

Department- related Parliamentary Committee on the subject seriously and are instead hiking the fares irrationally which is tantamount to undue profiteering by the Airlines causing a hurdle to the tourist movement," the Chamber said.

The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industry said that it would earnestly request the Minister for Civil Aviation and Director General Civil Aviation Government of India to have the recommendations of said Department-related Parliamentary Committee implemented in letter and spirit without fail.

"The Committee recommends that there should be a mechanism with the ministry such as capping of upper and lower prices to stop

the practice of predatory pricing or the sudden surge in prices even though price buckets are being created as per international aviation norms, a close watch has to be maintained by the DGCA & the ministry and a mechanism should be devised to monitor the websites of various airlines to prevent them from misguiding passengers."

The panel said that in case private airlines do not publish the correct information regarding fares, they should be penalised for it. "The Committee observes that the Ministry of Civil Aviation has a responsibility to the travelling public and the nation at large to ensure that predatory pricing mechanism is not adopted by the airlines under the cloak of free market economy. The committee recommends the ministry should formulate a pricing mechanism for air fares to ensure that passengers are not charged exorbitant prices."

Kashmir Inc said that it also likes to impress upon the airlines operating on Delhi/Jammu/ Srinagar route to operate additional flights to meet the increasing traffic on Srinagar sector.

#### **KPDCL Unveils**

security deposit and first prepaid recharge corresponding to sanctioned load to energize the smart meter," he added.

The LG, the spokesperson said, has already launched the Smart Bill Sahuliyat APP(PWA), SMART BS on February 27 to start the new era of transparency where consumers can check, manage and pay their bills on the same portal.

Giving more details, he said, the consumers can additionally make use of any choice of online payment gateway including "mpay" or can even recharge through JK Bank Branch in the same manner as postpaid bill payment.

"The new smart meter shall be provided and Installed by KPDCL. This latest development will bring more transparency in power sector reforms of Kashmir Valley and provide reliable power supply by demand side management at consumer level," the spokesperson added.

#### **Valley Braces**

is dynamic. Farmers are advised to postpone spraying of orchards, maintain proper drainage of fields during wet weather," he said.

Lotus further appealed tourists and general public to keep warm clothes ready as cold weather may affect your health—(KNO)

#### **Snow Clearance**

"The snow clearance operation by the Mechanical Engineering department is in its final phase and we are expecting its completion next week.

"It will be followed by a joint inspection by civil and traffic police departments before its formal reopening for vehicular traffic," Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE), Public Works department (Mughal road project), Shoukat Ali told PTI.

During his recent two-day tour of inspect

various road projects in Jammu and Kashmir, Union Road, Transport, and Highways minister Nitin Gadkari had announced construction of a Rs 5,000 crore tunnel at Pir Ki Gali to transform Mughal road into an all weather road.

Assistant Engineer, Mechanical Engineering Department, Tariq Mehmood Khan said the road was cleared of accumulated snow about two weeks ago but a fresh spell of snowfall delayed its opening.

"Our men and machinery are on the job and we are expecting to complete the snow clearance operation by next week," he said.

Apni party leader and former minister Choudhary Zulfkar Ali demanded immediate opening of Mughal Road and said it was unfortunate that the concerned authorities who were responsible to keep the historic alternative road to Kashmir operational have failed to do so.

"The Mughal Road was supposed to open in the first week of March but is still closed, causing inconvenience to the people as hundreds of them travel from one region to another on a daily basis for varied reasons including health checkups, employment, education and trade," he said.

Ali said Mughal road passes through breathtaking scenery, having a huge potential for tourism and economic growth.

Mendhar Sumo drivers Union also expressed concern over the delay in the reopening of the Mughal road.

"We are suffering because of the closure of the road over the past several months. We have taken our vehicles on loan from banks and it is very hard to make repayment of the loan due to limited business opportunities," Union officials said.

Youth leader Raqeeq Ahmad Khan also sought the intervention of Lt Governor Manoj Sinha for immediate opening of the road before Eid-ul-Fitr festival.

"Number of employees, students, patients and labourers want to return home to celebrate Eid with their kin. It is unfortunate that the road is still closed in the month of April," he said.

#### J&K Logs 85

Reasi and Kulgam.

There was no death either from Jammu division or Kashmir Valley during the time. So far 4789 people have succumbed to the virus and among them include 2356 from Jammu division and 2433 from the Valley.

Besides, they said, 55 Covid-19 patients recovered during the last 24 hours—10 from Jammu division and 45 from Kashmir Valley. There are now 716 active cases—237 in Jammu and 389 in Kashmir.

#### **PSA** of Jailed

arrested by police in Bandipora in January 2022 where he was working as a cook at a local

restaurant.

Police claimed that he was arrested on charges of stone-pelting.

Advocate Bashir Ahmed Tak argued that the detaining authority has not attributed any specific allegation against the detainee. He contended that the detainee was arrested in old cases and on charges of 'fake' stone-pelting.

The court of Justice Sanjay Dhar accordingly quashed his detention and ordered his release from the Agra Jail. [KNT]

#### **Mortar Shell**

shell was later safely defused by the bomb disposal squad, they said.

#### Gangster-Turned

murder case, were shot dead in an exchange of fire with the Uttar Pradesh Police near Jhansi on

Asad was the third of the five sons of Atiq Ahmad and was absconding since the Umesh Pal murder case. Ghulam's burial took place at a graveyard under the Shivkuti police station area.

Incidently, Atiq Ahmad and his brother Ashraf were being questioned by the Uttar Pradesh Police in the Dhoomanganj police station, around 3 km from the burial yenue.

When asked by reporters to comment on Asad's death, his uncle Ashraf said, "Allah had taken back what belonged to him."

"The last rites of Asad Ahmad have been completed, and it went for an hour. A few distant relatives of Atiq and some people of the locality were allowed to go to the graveyard. This was necessary from the security point of view," Joint Commissioner of Police, Prayagraj, Akash Kulhari told PTI.

He added that the burial of Ghulam took place at a graveyard under Shivkuti police station area.

Earlier, Asad's uncle, Usman, reached the graveyard with the body of his nephew. Media was strictly restricted from entering the

heavily guarded graveyard.

Atiq had on April 14 sought permission from a magistrate to attend the funeral of his son. His lawyer Manish Khanna had told PTI that since Friday (April 14) was a holiday on account of Ambedkar Jayanti, the request had been sent to the remand magistrate.

However, the burial took place before Atiq's application could be presented in the court of Chief

Judicial Magistrate on April 15.

Speaking to reporters here after Asad's burial, one of his distant relatives (grandfather) Hamid Ali, said, "A number of family members took part in the last rites. However, among the very close relatives, only his uncle ('phupha') attended the

Mr. Ali added that initially arrangements were made to give a bath to the body at the ancestral place of Atiq Ahmad, but later it was told that the body will be taken directly to the graveyard.

All the rituals, which are done before the burial of the body, were completed at the graveyard itself, he said.

Mr. Ali also said, "No family members or relatives were stopped from coming to the graveyard, and the rituals pertaining to burial of the body were done properly. We do not have any complaints with the administration, and everything was done in a good manner. Around 100 persons attended the last rites (of Asad)."

Facing flak over the brazen killing of Umesh Pal, a prime witness in the 2005 case of a BSP MLA's murder, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had on February 25 accused the Samajwadi Party of patronising mafias and vowed to destroy them.

"The mafioso whose name is emerging ... is it not true that the Samajwadi Party had made him an MP... He was a mafioso nurtured by the SP. Our government is working to break their back. 'Mitti me mila denge'," Mr. Adityanath had thundered in the UP Legislative Assembly.

Among Atiq's other sons, the eldest son Umar is lodged in the Lucknow jail, while the second son Ali is lodged in Naini Central Jail in separate cases.

The fourth son Ahjam and the youngest son Aban are housed in a juvenile home in Prayagraj.

Atiq's parents' remains are also buried in the

same graveyard (Kasari Masari), according to Janu Khan, who claimed to have dug the grave of Asad. Atiq is presently serving life imprisonment in the 2006 Umesh Pal kidnapping case.

Asad was caught on CCTV when Umesh Pal was killed and had been on the run for the past about 50 days, police said.

On April 13, police said an STF team led by

On April 13, police said an STF team led by two deputy superintendents of police reached Badagaon area in Jhansi district after getting information about the presence of gangsters.

Asad and Ghulam, who were carrying a reward of 5 lakh each, tried to flee on a motorcycle, police had said.

They opened fire at the STE team when it sur-

They opened fire at the STF team when it surrounded them and the policemen retaliated, they said, adding the two men were killed in the exchange of fire.

Chief Medical Officer of Jhansi Dr Sudhakar Pandey, when contacted refused to divulge the details of the post-mortem report of Asad and Ghulam.

#### Khadim-ul-Hujaj

informed that the interview of eligible candidates for selection as Khadim-ul-Hujaj shall be held at Haj House, Bemina, Srinagar.

The interview of eligible candidates from Srinagar, Shopian, Kupwara, Kulgam, Baramulla, Bandipora and Anantnag shall be held on 19-04-2023 from 09.00 a.m. and for those from Budgam, Ganderbal, Pulwama, Doda, Jammu Rajouri and Poonch shall be held on 20-04-2023 from 09.00 a.m.

"The list of eligible candidates will be made available on the official website www.jkshc. org on 17-04-2023 during office hours," the spokesperson said.

Further, he said, the candidates are asked to bring along original documents viz N.O.C (if not submitted already), Passport, Identity Card and



# **Jammu's Bicycle-Sharing System Records 2.89 Lakh Rides**

**Press Trust Of India** 

JAMMU: The public bicyclesharing system, introduced for the first time by the Jammu Smart City Limited last May to boost eco-friendly mobility, has



recorded over 2.89 lakh rides, an official said on Saturday.

More than 23,000 people have used the service since its launch, he added.

The system allows users to rent out a bicycle from designated automatic docking stations and deposit it at another located close to their destination.

The first-of-its kind public bicycle-sharing system recorded 2,89,032 (2.89 lakh) rides by 23,710 users between May 1 and April 13. The riders covered a rides of 30 minutes each over.

total distance of 65,341 kilometres, saving an estimated 16,335 kilogrammes of carbon (emission)," the official told PTI here.

The Jammu Smart City Limited, a special-purpose vehicle constituted in August 2017 by the Jammu and Kashmir government for the implementation of smart city development projects, has set up a network of docking stations across the city.

It has installed 120 docking stations for 720 mechanical bicycles and 80 pedal-assisted electric bicycles in prominent locations, including Jammu University, Jammu bus stand, Indira Chowk, the exit gate of the Government Medical College, Super Speciality Hospital, Parade Chowk, the entrance gate of the Jammu airport and the Ragunath Temple, the official said.

The users can rent a bicycle through the 'Yaana Bikes' mobile app, which is available on both Android and iOS, the official added. The minimum membership fee is Rs 50 for five 30-minute rides a day. The highest fee is Rs 1,500 for 1,500

## **Process Starts For Lithium Extraction In Reasi**

**Chairman DDC Budgam** 

Visits Gurdwara Beerwah

**Press Trust Of India** 

**JAMMU:** The process has been initiated for lithium extraction in the Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir. an official said assuring that the government would take all possible steps to make the discovery a reality soon.

Mining Secretary Amit Sharma visited the lithium reserve site located in Salal-Haimna area and also held a review meeting on the extraction of the metal.

The UT administration led by Lt Governor (Manoj Sinha) and Chief Secretary (A K Mehta) are looking forward to taking the next steps for lithium extraction at the earliest.

The process has already been initiated under their visionary directions towards appointing a transaction advisor and auction platform to carry forward the extraction process for this potentially rich reserves of lithium to the tune of 5.9 million tonnes, second highest in the

**Observer News Service** 

**BUDGAM:** The Chairman, Dis-

trict Development Council (DDC)

Budgam, Nazir Ahmad Khan vis-

ited Gurdwara Beerwah on the

The visit was aimed at ex-

auspicious occasion of Baisakhi.

tending his greetings and good

wishes to the Sikh community

on this joyous occasion. Chair-

man DDC was welcomed by

the members of the Gurdwara

management committee and

was accompanied by a team of

DDC interacted with the devo-

tees. He also took a tour of the

premises and inspected the ar-

rangements made by the man-

agement for the smooth con-

Speaking on the occasion,

Chairman DDC extended his

During his visit, Chairman

district officials.

duct of the festival.

world," the secretary said.

He assured that the government shall take all possible steps and measures to make this lithium discovery a reality soon and meet the decided timelines for extraction of the same, with total support from the Union Government.

During the site visit, the officers informed that the demarcation work on the lithium reserves site has been completed a few days back which is spread in an area of around three square kilometres, an official spokesman said.

Accordingly, he said the revenue department has also completed the task of creating lists of habitations, plantations and other assets falling within these demarcated limits.

People of the area requested the secretary to ensure that fair compensation is paid to the persons whose assets are coming within the zone of lithium

warmest wishes to the Sikh

community on the occasion of

Baisakhi. This festival symbol-

izes the spirit of brotherhood,

unity and compassion, and re-

inforces the bond of communal

harmony and peace in the soci-

He further said that the Dis-

trict Administration is commit-

ted to ensuring that all com-

munities can celebrate their

festivals in a peaceful and con-

ducive environment. We have

made all necessary arrange-

ments for the smooth conduct

of the festival, and I urge every-

one to celebrate it with joy and

The Chairman's visit to Gu-

rudwara Beerwah was highly

appreciated by the members of

the Sikh community, who ex-

pressed their gratitude for his

harmony, he added.

kind gesture.

ety, he added

# **DEVOTEES OFFERING ZUHR** (afternoon) prayers inside a lush green park in Srinagar on KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT Saturday. **Div Com Kashmir Reviews Qadr, Eid-Ul-Fitr Arrangements**

Asks People To Observe CAB During Congregation Prayers As Precautionary Measure



**Observer News Service** 

**SRINAGAR:** In order to ensure appropriate and necessary arrangements to facilitate general public to observe forthcoming religious festivals of Shab-e-Qadr, Jumat ul Vida and Eid ul Fitr, the Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri Saturday chaired a meeting of officers to review facilities put in place by District Administrations and line departments.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioners, Commissioner SMC, officers of Waqf Board, FCS&CA, PHE, PDD, R&B, Animal Husbandry, Husbandry, Health, Sheep Traffic Police, Metrology and other line departments.

During the meeting, the Div Com reviewed the availability of essential items, Ration, mutton and poultry in markets

for the celebration of festivals. He was briefed that there is abundance of all the essential items in the market and people would be facilitated through the arrangements of sale points of poultry on all the three occasions.

Div Com directed for the constitution of Joint Enforcement and Market Checking teams to check the quality of food items and illegal profiteering by traders, besides he instructed concerned to inspect the hygiene of workshops of Bakers & Confectioners.

The meeting was briefed about the availability of electricity and drinking water across the Kashmir valley.

With special focus on prime religious places where people throng in large numbers for congregational prayers, Div Com directed concerned officers to ensure availability of power back up, water tankers and sanitation at the Hazratbal Shrine and other mosques and shrines.

He also directed for publication of Traffic routes leading to Hazratbal Shrine and availabilitv of RTC buses for the convenience of devotees.

Additionally, he directed SMC to conduct sanitation drives at Shrines and Mosques besides conducting cleanliness drives of roads to ensure dust free Eid.

The concerned officer of the Health Department was instructed to establish medical camps at Hazratbal Shrine and other places besides educating people regarding Covid Appropriate Behavior.

Bidhuri also appealed to people to adopt Covid Appropriate Behavior (CAB) during congregation prayers on the auspicious occasions as a precautionary measure to avoid

# **Waqf Issues Guidelines For Reformative Measures For Its Schools**

Says No Homework For Upto Class 2nd, No School Bags For Nursery And UKG

**Agencies** 

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board has issued guidelines for schools falling under its jurisdiction in order to take reformative measures under National Education Policy 2020. The Board stated that there shall be no homework for upto class 2nd and no school bags for nursery and UKG.

According to a circular, the Waqf Board has issued the instructions for daily, monthly and annual timetable and schedule of activities to be undertaken by the schools.

As per the circular daily timetable shall have 6 periods (time slots) of 30 minutes each for teaching subjects. "05 periods for compulsory subjects, like English, Maths, Science, Social Science and Urdu and 6th period to be utilized for teaching of optional subjects, like Computers, Kashmiri, Arabic, Islamiyat, Sufi Saints Literature: on rotational basis."

It reads schools should have compulsorily one hour reserved every day for Extracurricular activities, that shall

minutes each in the first and second half of the day. It reads house system to be established in every school for

be split into two parts of 30

intra-school co-curricular and sports Competitions. "To inculcate a sense of belongingness & healthy competition among students, all the school heads are instructed to

divide the students into four houses: senior boys, senior girls, junior Boys and junior Girls, on the names of following famous Sufi Saints Hazrat Sheikh Noor-ud-din Noorani (R.A), Hazrat Sheikh Abdul Qadir Jeelani (R.A), Hazrat Sheikh Hamzah Makhdoom (R.A) and Hazrat Shah-e-Hamadan (R.A) It added sports calendar for

the year shall include competitions in sports activities. "Similarly, competitions shall also be held round the year in co-curricular activities. Three days in a month shall be reserved completely for sports & co-curricular competitions. No Academic activities shall be

carried out on those days." It reads school authorities shall allocate at least one period of thirty minutes per month for the House Meetings, so that the House Committee Members can interact, motivate and plan the house activities under guidance of respective House Masters.

"In the months of September and October, Inter Waqf School Competitions shall be carriedout and the winners shall be rewarded. Morning Assembly, after brief Prayers, shall consist of News Headlines, Thought for the day/A brief Talent show of individual or a group of students/ Amazing facts/Personality of the Day/Volunteer for a Minute & similar other exciting stuff. Lectures by teachers during the Morning Assembly shall be avoided."

It also reads there shall be no school bag for classes nursery to UKG and no homework for classes from nursery to 2nd. "School Bag Policy & NEP-2020 guidelines in this regard shall be followed strictly. Orientation Programme for School Heads regarding the execution of proposed changes shall be held separately," it added—(KNO)

# Health Dept Starts Scan, **Share OPD Registration** In 5 Hospitals

Such Facilities To Be Made Available At All Tertiary Care, District Hospitals: MD NHM

**Agencies** 

SRINAGAR: The health care facilities in Jammu and Kashmir have got another fillip as scan and share OPD registration facilities have started at five tertiary care hospitals.

A top health official said Saturday that scan and share OPD registration facilities have been started at five healthcare institutions so far while the department is planning to start such facilities at more healthcare facilities in coming weeks.

He said that the QR codebased rapid OPD registration service is being implemented by the National Health Authority (NHA) under its flagship scheme Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM).

This facility is ensuring quick and queue less registration of the patients and saving time of patients as well, he said.

He said that the patients can scan the QR code using any health application of their choice (such as ABHA, Aarogya Setu, EkaCare) and share their ABHA profile (demographic information like name, age, gender, and ABHA number) with the Health Management Information system (HMIS) of the hospital.

"This enables paperless registration and thereby instant token generation. The patient saves time and the health facility is able to optimise the need of resources deployed for registration," he said.

'The patient's health records also get digitally linked to their ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account) which they can manage and access from their phone anytime anywhere," he added.

"With increased adoption, patient registrations can be made effortless, seamless and accurate. Our focus is to work closely with the stakeholders to maximise the impact of ABDM-enabled digital health services," he said.

Managing Director National Health Mission Ayushi Sudan who is holding charge of Chief Executive Officer, Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna said that scan and share facilities are available at five hospitals viz-a-viz GMC Jammu, SMGS Jammu, Gandy Nagar Hospital Jammu, SMHS Srinagar and LD hospital Srinagar.

"Several more are in the pipeline and we shall be including all tertiary care hospitals and District hospitals where such facilities will be made available," Sudan said.

She said that it is expected to pick up in the future.

"In SMHS Srinagar, we have the best response so far. We believe it will pick up once more and more people are made aware about the Scan and Share facility," she said—(KNO)

## **DC Ganderbal Discusses Development Of** Kullan-Baltal Road



**Observer News Service** 

**GANDERBAL:** The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir on Saturday chaired a meeting to review the beatification and other development the rate list of various services Sonamarg tourist destination.

During the meeting, a detailed discussion was held on various works including repairing of roads, installations of street light along Sonamarg market, drainage, augmentation of water supply, underground power cabling through Z-morh tunnel and works to be taken under CSR by executing agencies of Z-morh (APCO) and

Zojila (MEIL) tunnel projects. The DC took a comprehensive review of development of road from Kullan to Baltal and fixed timeline for carrying necessary patch working and repairing of the said road wherever road has got damaged and both executing agencies of tunnel projects were directed that chain mounted machines shall not ply on macadamized road.

Executive Engineer Jal Shakti was directed that underground power cabling shall be completed by 30 May, 2023.

Beautification plan Sonamarg market was also discussed and CEO Sonamarg Development Authority was asked to finalize the design of lights that are to be installed throughout the market besides

MEIL was directed to complete the laying down of water pipes through the market upto 20 May, 2023.

The CEO was also directed to install signage and publicize besides a dedicated Complaint Cell shall also be established for the convenience of tourists.

The meeting also discussed rehabilitation of affected inhabitants of Rezan village due to landslide, corporate Social Responsibility related issues, compensation to NOKs of dead laborers, muck dumping, disposal of solid waste, adherence to pollution norms, etc.

While discussing the compensation to affected inhabitants of Rezan village, GM NHIDCL was asked to submit a report within 3 days.

A detailed report submitted by District Officer, Pollution Control Board, Ganderbal regarding adherence to Pollution Control Board norms by the executing agencies of both the projects and DC gave necessary instructions to both the Projects Managers for ensuring rules and regulations of Pollution Control Board are followed in letter and spirit so that flora and fauna of adjoining surrounding is protected.

He directed them to install sufficient sedimentation tanks, bio-digester for kitchen waste besides muck shall be dumped only at identified locations.

### India Is All Set To Lead Diabetes Research In World: Jitendra Singh systems of medicine including

**Observer News Service** 

**NEW DELHI:** Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh on Saturday said that In times to come, India is all set to lead the Diabetes re-

search in the world. Delivering inaugural address at the 3-day World Diabetes Meet organised by the coveted professional organisation "Diabetes India" here today, Dr Jitendra Singh, who is also a re-

nowned Diabetologist, said that India has a huge resource pool of patients with different manifestations of diseases at different stages and at the same time there is no dearth of calibre, capacity and acumen on the part of our researchers. It is therefore the right time to generate as much Indian data as possible because the goal should be to develop Indian treatment regimens for Indian patients, Indian solutions for Indian problems. He said this is also important because the Indian phenotype is different from the westerners and the genetic preponderance is also quite different. As a re-

sult, the pathogenesis and progress of Type 2 diabetes mellitus and other related metabolic disorders is not the same as in the western populations, he added. Citing research evidence, Dr

Jitendra Singh said it has now been proven beyond doubt that Indian origin diaspora living in European countries for several generations still continue to have higher preponderance to develop Type 2 diabetes mellitus even though they were no longer living in India and the environmental conditions they are living in is different.

Referring to some of the important risk factors prevalent in Indians, Dr Jitendra Singh said that our central obesity profile is also different from others. For example, in India, prevalence of central obesity is high and almost equal in both males and females whereas in the western population, the individual may be apparently looking obese but

has general visceral fat, he said. Lauding Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the high priority

given to healthcare, the Minister said that it was because of the personal interest and intervention of Prime Minister Modi that within two years, India not only managed the Covid pandemic successfully better than much smaller countries, but also succeeded in coming out with a DNA vaccine and providing it to the other countries as well.

Referring to Prime Minister Modi's support to indigenous medical research, Dr Jitendra Singh said that time has come to integrate the traditional Indian knowledge with the modern scientific inferences and also to seek a synergy of different Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy for optimum and maximum benefits in the control and prevention of diabetes. Dr Jitendra Singh concluded

by saying that prevention of diabetes is not only our duty towards healthcare but also our duty towards nation building because this is a country with 70% population below the age of 40 and the youth of today are going to be the prime citizens of India@2047. We cannot afford to let their energy go waste in incapacitating complications occurring as a result of Type 2 diabetes and other related disorders.



# T-20 Cricket Tourney By Gandhi College Concludes

**Observer News Service** 

**SRINAGAR:** The Physical Education Department of Gandhi Memorial College, Srinagar successfully concluded its T-20 Intramural cricket tournament.

As many as six teams participated in the said tournament. The final was played on April 13th at Chinkral Mohalla Sports Stadium, Baba Demb, between Green and Red teams in which the Red team

emerged as winners. Chasing a target of 176 runs, the Red team won the match by four wickets.

The Principal, Prof (Dr) G M Lone presided over the award distribution function. In his remarks, Prof (Dr) Lone applauded the efforts of players and appreciated their sportsmanship spirit.

He also congratulated the Physical Education Department for giving students a platform to

## **ZPEO Zone Bijbehara Holds Inter School Yoga Competitions**



**Observer News Service** 

**BIJBEHARA:** The Department of Youth Services and Sports Zone Bijbehara organised Inter School Zonal Level Yoga Competitions at Dara Shikow Garden, Bijbehara on Saturday.

The Yoga Competitions were held among Under-14 Boys and Girls and Under-17 Boys and Girls of different school students of Zone Bijbehara. In the programme all students and field officials of ZPEO Zone Bi-

jbehara participated with great zeal and zest.

Almost 250 students of various schools of Bijbehara participated in the competitions.. In the Yoga Session the following Yoga Asana were performed by the participants:

Sitting Asanas: 1.Padmaasana 2.Vajra Asana 3.Govmukh Asana Lying Asanas: 1.Navasana 2.Bhujang Asana 3.Dhanurasana

Standing Asanas: 1.Tadasana 2.Virkshasana 3.Trikonasana and Savasana for Relaxation.

# IPL2023: MI, KKR Battle To Regain Lost Ground



Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: Mumbai Indians face an uphill task against the firepower of Kolkata Knight Riders batters when the teams clash in Mumbai on Sunday in the Indian Premier League, with both former champions looking to get their campaigns back on track.

While Mumbai Indians were able to break their winless streak in their last game against Delhi Capitals, Kolkata Knight Riders went down fighting on Friday night to Sunrisers Hyderabad in a highscoring contest at the Eden Gardens.

However, despite winning the previous game, Mumbai Indians, the most successful IPL team, will be under added pressure at the Wankhede stadium as they haven't been able to harness their potential so far in IPL 2023.

With two wins and as many defeats, KKR have had their share of highs and lows and are placed fourth on the points table with a good net run-rate (0.711) as compared to Mum-

bai Indians, who are ninth after two points and a NRR of -0.879.

Rohit Sharma scored a match-winning 65 against Delhi Capitals but the challenge for the captain is attaining consistency, especially when the other senior, Suryakumar Yadav, is going through a lean patch.

Mumbai Indians are likely to be without ace pacer Jofra Archer, who is sidelined by fresh elbow trouble post his appearance in the first match of the season.

Jason Behrendorff and Riley Meredith will have to shoulder the responsibility in the fast-bowling department, while Piyush Chawla is expected to carry forward his form from the previous game where he took 3/22.

Mumbai Indians will bank on young guns Tim David, Cameron Green, Tilak Varma and Ishan Kishan to fire, given that KKR have shown incredible fight right till the end to pull off a stunning win against Gujarat Titans, and fight till the last ball against SRH.

le last ball against SRH.

Rinku Singh will be the bigMatch starts: 3:30 PM IST

gest threat with the bat for

MI, since the left-hander has

smacked an unbeaten 48 and

58 in his last two outings bat-

Besides, skipper Nitish Rana, Venkatesh Iyer, Rah-

manullah Gurbaz and Shardul

Thakur have been among runs

for KKR, which indicates MI will have to be at their best in

KKR have some concerns

too in the form of all-rounder

Andre Russell, who has struggled with the bat in this IPL.

Russell could not complete his

quota of overs against SRH in

Kolkata on Friday night as he

suffered cramps, but his three

wickets did keep KKR in the

It remains to be seen if KKR

will try out explosive Eng-

lish batter Jason Roy at the

top, given that Gurbaz has

performed his role at the top

with flair. Sunil Narine and

Varun Chakravarthy have been

amongst the wickets for KKR,

who also have Bangladesh

wicketkeeper-batter

ting at No 7.

all departments.

game for long.

# **IPL:** RCB Beat DC



**Press Trust of India** 

**BENGALURU:** Royal Challengers Bangalore defeated Delhi Capitals by 23 runs in their IPL match here on Saturday.

Invited to bat, RCB posted 174 for 6 with Virat Kohli top-scoring with a 34-ball 50, while Mahipal Lomror and Glenn Maxwell chipped in with 26 and 24 respectively. For DC, Mitchell Marsh and Kuldeep Yadav took two wickets apiece.

In reply, DC lost three quick wickets to be reduced to 2 for 3

at one stage and the team never recovered from the setback, eventually finishing at 151 for nine in their 20 overs.

It was Delhi's fifth loss on the trot, leaving them with the task of winning eight of their next nine games to have any hopes of making it to the knockout stage.

Brief Scores: Royal Challengers Bangalore: 174 for 6 in 20 overs (Virat Kohli 50; Mitchell Marsh 2/18, Kuldeep Yadav 2/23). Delhi Capitals: 151 for 9 in 20 overs (Manish Pandey 50; Vijaykumar Vyshak 3/20).

# PL: Woeful Chelsea Lose 2-1 To Brighton



Agencies

**LONDON:** Frank Lampard's disappointing start to his second spell as Chelsea manager continued as the team lost 2-1 at home to Brighton in the Premier League on Saturday.

Julio Enciso's 69th-minute, longrange piledriver secured victory for the visitors, who outplayed Chelsea as Lampard rang the changes for a match taking place between his team's home-and-away games against Real Madrid in the Champions League quarterfinals.

Lampard has taken charge of three games since coming in as interim manager following the firing of Graham Potter, and he's lost all of them. First there was a 1-0 loss at Wolverhampton last weekend before a 2-0 defeat at Madrid on Wednesday.

