

Ministry Report Paints Grim Picture Of J&K's Water Bodies 'Over 23% Water Bodies In J&K Have 'Dried Up, Beyond Repair'

Auqib Javeed

Srinagar: The maiden survey released by the Ministry of Jal Shakti has presented a dismal picture of the water bodies in Jammu and Kashmir, revealing that over 23 percent of them have 'dried up and are beyond repair'.

According to the first Census of Water Bodies released by the Ministry, there are over 24 lakh water bodies across the country, and over 9,700 water bodies in J&K, of which over 76



FILE PHOTO

per cent are 'in use'. As per the census, a total of 9,765 water bodies have

0.8% (78), are in urban areas, noting that the majority of the water bodies are ponds.

The water bodies include 5256 ponds, 179 tanks, 37 lakes, 441 reservoirs, 29 water conservation schemes/percolation tanks/ check dams and 3832 others.

"Out of 'in use' water bodies, a major proportion of water bodies are used for domestic/ drinking purposes followed by irrigation purposes," the report says. The report further revealed

that the "state" has reported encroachment in 103 water bodies out of all the enumerated water bodies, out of which 95 are ponds.

Out of all water bodies, 1.2% (122) are covered in the District Irrigation Plan/State Irrigation Plan.

Among these 44.3% (54) are reservoirs, 31.1% (38) are ponds and the remaining 24.6% (30) are tanks and water conservation schemes/percolation tanks/check dams. Out

of 'in use' water bodies, 93.0% (6,968) are benefitting one (01) city/town, 6.8% (510) water bodies are fulfilling requirements of 2-5 cities/ towns and the remaining 0.2% (15) water bodies are benefitting more than five (05) cities/towns.

The census was launched under the centrally sponsored scheme, "Irrigation Census" in convergence with the 6th Minor Irrigation Census in order to have a comprehensive national database of all **More on P6**

NIA Attaches Properties Of Hizb Chief's Sons

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Monday attached a house and two kanals of land belonging to Hizbul Mujahideen chief Syed Salahudeen's two sons in Jammu and Kashmir's Budgam and Srinagar districts, officials said.

A team of NIA officials first attached a house in Ram Bagh area here registered in the name of Syed Ahmed Shakeel, son of Salahudeen, they said.

"The house, registered in the revenue records in the name of Syed Ahmad Shakeel, was attached by the NIA on court orders under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act," an NIA official said.

Later, the team went to Soibugh in Budgam district, the ancestral place of Salahudeen, and attached a plot of agricultural land measuring two kanals (10,880 square feet), the officials said.

The land is registered in the name of Salahudeen's another son, Shahid Yusuf.

Notice boards announcing the attachments were installed at both the premises by the NIA sleuths.

Besides, the NIA also seized six shops in Awantipora area of Pulwama district in a case relating to a 2018 attack on CRPF Group Centre at Lethpora, J&K.

In a statement, the NIA said it attached two properties of the sons of designated terrorist Syed Mohammed Yusuf Shah @ Syed Salahudeen, the self-styled Supreme Commander of Hizb-ul-Mujahideen (HM) and Chairman of United Jihad Council (UJC).

"The immovable properties of Shahid Yusuf and Syed Ahmed Shakeel, located in Kashmir in Soibugh Tehsil, Distt. Budgam and Nursing Garh, Mohalla Ram Bagh, have been attached under section 33(1) of UA(P) Act," the NIA said.

Both Shahid Yusuf and Syed Ahmed Shakeel **More on P6**

POONCH ATTACK AFTERMATH

Over 40 Detained, More Troops Join Search Ops

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Over 40 persons have been detained for questioning as part of a massive operation currently underway to track down the militants involved in the Poonch attack, officials said on Monday.

Additional troops have been inducted to further intensify the cordon-and-search operation (CASO) in Bhata Dhurian-Tota Gali and neighbouring areas. As the operation entered fourth day on Monday with engagement of multiple security agencies, the entire belt is put under cordon, they said.

Five Army personnel were killed and a sixth was seriously injured when their vehicle caught fire during a militant attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch on Thursday.

According to the investigation, the militants likely hid in a culvert on a stretch of the Bhimber Gali-Poonch road before they attacked the truck that was

carrying army jawans, officials said.

A sniper is believed to have targeted the army truck from front before his associates showered bullets and lobbed grenades at it from opposite sides, apparently giving the troops no time to retaliate, they added.

"Militants used steel core bullets that can penetrate an armoured shield," officials said, adding, "before fleeing, the militants also stole soldiers' arms and ammunition."

The armoured vehicle was found riddled with more than 50 bullet marks, they said.

During the search operation, troops came across a few natural cave hideouts in the area, which could possibly have been used by the militants in the past, they said, adding the troops are also looking for any improvised explosive devices (IEDs) militants may have planted in the densely forested areas, **More on P6**



SPRING CARPET: Spring blossoms are at their peak in Kashmir these days with open green spaces and gardens blooming with cheerful white daisies. Here is the Emporium garden in Srinagar as captured by KO lensman Abid Bhat recently.

G-20 SUMMIT

TWG Meeting In J&K Will Be An Important One: Tourism Secy

Says Ministerial Communique To Be Finalised In Srinagar

Press Trust Of India

Jaipur: The third G20 Tourism Working Group meeting to be held in Srinagar in May will be a significant one as the ministerial communique that will be issued after the last TWG meeting in Goa will be finalised there, Union Tourism Secretary Arvind Singh said.

Singh said this during his address at the inaugural ceremony of the three-day Great India Tourism Bazaar in Jaipur on Sunday.

"We are in the middle of India's G20 presidency period and two Tourism Working Group meetings have taken place so far. The first one in the Rann of Kutch, followed by the second one in Siliguri. The third Tourism Working Group meeting will take place next month, from May 22 to 24," he said.

The tourism secretary said this TWG meeting in Jammu and Kashmir will be an important one, because there "we will finalise the Goa declaration", which will be the ministerial



communique that will emerge from the G20 discussions.

"We are hopeful that the G20 tourism ministers' conference in Goa due later this year will focus on sustainable tourism to support the environment and create opportunities for local businesses," he said.

After the last TWG meet, the ministerial meet will take place in Goa in June.

A roadmap and an action plan for tourism as a vehicle for achieving sustainable development goals and a ministerial communique endorsing

it will be released after the last meeting of the G20 Tourism Working Group in Goa in June, a senior tourism ministry official had earlier said.

"There will be two key deliverables. At the end of our working group meetings and the ministerial meeting, we are going to declare a Goa Roadmap and Action Plan for tourism as a vehicle for achieving sustainable development goals (SDGs)," he had said.

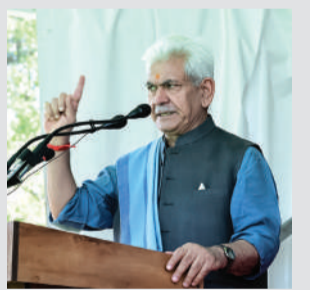
"There are five priorities and building on them, we are going to look at **More on P6**

PM Has Ensured Rapid Development In J&K: LG

- Says Modi Established And Strengthened Three-Tier Grassroots Democracy In J&K
- 'It Is Our Firm Resolve To Make PRIs More Powerful, Efficient And Effective'

Observer News Service

Jammu: Asserting that collective efforts of common man & Panchayats are playing an important role in realizing big dreams of small villages of Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said Monday that by establishing & strengthening three-tier grassroots democracy, Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has ensured rapid & inclusive development of the Union Territory. "As powerful agents of Socio-Economic change and



engines of rural development, Panchayats are making a significant contribution to nation building and empowering the citizens to meet the challenge of **More on P6**

Reviews Implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chaired a review meeting on Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (SBM-G) at Raj Bhawan here, an official spokesperson said Monday. The LG, he said, appraised the district-wise status of ongoing and completed **More on P6**

Gujarat Police Hands Over Fake PMO Official To JKP

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Gujarat police on Monday brought back infamous conman Kiran Bhai Patel to Srinagar and handed over his custody to the Srinagar police for further investigations into the cases registered against him.

Highly placed sources in the police department told Kashmir Observer that a five member team of Gujarat Police handed over conman Kiran Bhai Patel to Srinagar

police on Monday evening, in compliance with the court orders.

The development, sources said, came after Ahmadabad City Crime Branch completed investigations into the property fraud case registered against Patel.

Patel posed as Additional Director (Strategy and Campaigns) Prime Minister's Office, New Delhi, during his trips to the Valley. The court of Chief Judicial Magistrate Srinagar had **More on P6**

SHORT TAKES

Civilian Shot At In Anantnag

Unidentified militants on Monday shot at and injured a civilian in Bijbehara area of South Kashmir's Anantnag district. Aqib Ahmad Dar was shot at and injured by unidentified militants in Marhama village of the district on Monday evening; a local news agency KNO quoted an unnamed official as saying. Aqib, who is running a readymade shop in the locality, was shifted to Sub-district-hospital (SDH) Bijbehara for treatment. **More on P6**

LG Inaugurates Blood Donation Camp

Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Monday inaugurated a blood donation camp organised by Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation at Shastri Nagar here. The Lt Governor appreciated the noble initiative of Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation and stressed on encouraging the life-saving act in society in the form of blood donation. "Blood donation is a great service to humanity. It is a gift of life and I urge all the **More on P6**

Child Drowns To Death

In a tragic accident, a child drowned to death on Monday after falling into a water tub in North Kashmir's Kupwara district. Three-year-old Sudais Altaf fell into a water tub at his home in Muqam Kralgund area of Handwara and died of breathlessness, reports said. His family, however, took him to the nearby hospital, where doctors confirmed him dead. The child's death plunged the village into mourning. A pall of gloom descended **More on P6**

Govt Employee Held For Raping Woman

An employee of the Jal Shakti Department was arrested on Monday for allegedly raping a woman after posing as a "tantrik" with powers to heal skin ailments in Samba district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said. The employee, a resident of the Ramgarh area, was arrested after police registered a rape case against him on the directions of Chief Judicial Magistrate, Samba, a police official said. He said a middle-aged woman had filed an application **More on P6**

Two Fake Black Magicians Arrested

Police on Monday claimed to have arrested two thugs for posing as black magicians and duping a person in this capital city. Akhter Ahmed Shah and Riyaz Ahmed, both residents of Nadihal village in Dangiwaicha in Baramulla district were arrested for claiming to be black magic practitioners and duping a person of Rs 40,000 after giving him lift in their car at Nalabal, a police spokesperson said Monday. He said that a case has been registered against the accused at the police station; **More on P6**

Child Marriage Foiled In Kishtwar

The district authorities here prevented marriage of a minor boy in Drabshalla area, an official spokesperson said Monday. Quoting District Child Protection Officer Kishtwar, Ubair Ahmed, he said that information regarding the marriage of a minor boy belonging to a deprived family in a Panchayat of Drabshalla was received and the same was stopped by acting swiftly. He said Protection Officer- Non Institutional Care, Touseef Iqbal Butt was deputed and with the help of Sarpanch of the **More on P6**



Government of Jammu & Kashmir UT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IRRIGATION AND FLOOD CONTROL DIVISION SRINAGAR
email: exenifcdsrinagar@ifckashmir.com
Fax/Phone: 0194-2470119

Short Notice inviting e-Tender
Fresh e-NIT No.02 of 2023-24 Dated: 23/04/2023

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, e-tenders (in Single Cover System) on item rate basis are invited from approved and eligible contractors for the following works to be received by the Executive Engineer Irrigation and Flood Control Division Srinagar.

S. No	Name of work.	Estt. Cost (.in lakh)	Earnest Money (.in .)	Cost of T/ Doc (.in .)	MH of Account	Time of Completion	Class of contract
01	Supply of men and Machinery, including laying, loading, unloading of sand/ dust filled bags in the jurisdiction of I&FC Sub-Division Sonwar during incessant rains/Floods if any including demolition drive.	7.00	14000/=	700/=	211M & R	April 2023 to March 2024	DCE
02	Supply of men and Machinery, including laying, loading, unloading Division of sand/ dust filled bags in the jurisdiction of I and FC Sub-Division Eidgah during incessant rains/Floods if any including demolition drive.	5.00	10000/=	500/=			
03	Supply of men and Machinery, including laying, loading, unloading Division of sand/ dust filled bags in the jurisdiction of I and FC Sub-Division Harwan during incessant rains/Floods if any including demolition drive.	5.00	10000/=	500			

Position of AAA = Under Process.
Position of TS = Under process.
Position of funds: 100% Budgetary provision
The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of date given below:-

S.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	24.04.2023 FROM 01:00 P.M
1.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	24.04.2023 FROM 01:00 P.M
2.	Bid submission Start Date	24.04.2023 FROM 01:00 P.M
3.	Bid Submission End Date	29-04-2023 upto 4:00 P.M
4.	Date & time of opening of bids	01-05-2023 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer Irr. and Flood control Division Srinagar.
5.	Submission of Performance Security (PS)	The Successful bidder has to provide 3% of Adv. Cost as Performance Security within 7 days after opening of Financial Bid.

Note:-
1) :- The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploaded softcopy any short fall if any found in the soft copy the tender shall be rejected
2) As per Circular issued by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Sectt. Finance department vide No.OM No.A/24(2017)-651 dttd. 07-06-2018 which reads as under:-
a) Furnishing of Hard Copies of bids immediately after submission of E-tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the Bidder who's declared list lowest (L-1) after opening of financial bids.
b) The cost of tenders should be collected by uploading a copy of necessary Treasury Challan/Receipt.
1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan/Receipt (Debited to M.H.0701-Rev.Misc) and Earnest Money in the shape of CDR/FDR in favour of Executive Engineer Irrigation and Flood Control Division Srinagar falling which the tender will be rejected out rightly. The Issuing date of CDR/FDR uploaded must be between Issuing date to Bid Submission end date of NIT. CDR/FDR (Earnest money/Bid security) and relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of contract.
2. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer Irr. and F.C. Division Srinagar.
3. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids.
4. The normal deposits to be deducted as per GFR 2017 rules from running bills to be released after total completion of the work.
5. The tender opening authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders or any part of any tender without assigning reason therefor.
6. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendor.
The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
6.1 Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid. Note - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.
Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.
7. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
8. Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan/Receipt (Debited to M.H.0701-Rev.Misc) in favour of Executive Engineer Irrigation and Flood Control Division Srinagar and Earnest Money in the shape of CDR/FDR in favour of Executive Engineer Irrigation and Flood Control Division Srinagar falling which the tender will be rejected out rightly

No. IFCDS/CS/E-NIT-02/628-48
DIPK-647/23 Dated: 24/04/2023.
Sd/-
(Er. Bashir Ahmad)
Executive Engineer
Irrigation and Flood Division Srinagar.

NASA Scientists Identify New Stellar Danger To Planets

Press Trust Of India

Astronomers using data from NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory and other telescopes have identified a new threat to life on planets like Earth: a period during which intense X-rays from exploded stars can affect planets over 100 light-years away.

The finding, published recently in The Astrophysical Journal, has implication for the study of planets outside the solar system and their habitability.

This threat comes from a supernova's blast wave striking dense gas surrounding the exploded star. When this impact occurs it can produce a large dose of X-rays that reaches an Earth-like planet months to years after the explosion and may last for decades, the researchers said.

Such intense exposure may trigger an extinction event on the planet, they said.

The study is based on X-ray observations of 31 supernovae and their aftermath—mostly from NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory,



Swift and NuSTAR missions, and ESA's XMM-Newton—showing that planets can be subjected to lethal doses of radiation located as much as about 160 light-years away.

If a torrent of X-rays sweeps over a nearby planet, the radiation could severely alter the planet's atmospheric chemistry, the researchers said.

For an Earth-like planet, this process could wipe out a significant portion of ozone, which ultimately protects life from the dangerous ultraviolet radiation of its

host star, they said.

It could also lead to the demise of a wide range of organisms, especially marine ones at the foundation of the food chain, leading to an extinction event, according to the study.

After years of lethal X-ray exposure from the supernova's interaction, and the impact of ultraviolet radiation from an Earth-like planet's host star, a large amount of nitrogen dioxide may be produced, causing a brown haze in the atmosphere, the researchers said.

A "de-greening" of land masses could also occur because of damage to plants, they said.

Among the four supernovae, SN 2010jl has produced the most X-rays. The authors estimate it to have delivered a lethal dose of X-rays for Earth-like planets less than about 100 light-years away.

There is strong evidence—including the detection in different locations around the globe of a radioactive type of iron—that supernovae occurred close to Earth between about 2 million and 8 million years ago. Researchers estimate these supernovae were between about 65 and 500 light-years away from Earth.

Although the Earth and the solar system are currently in a safe space in terms of potential supernova explosions, many other planets in the Milky Way are not, according to the researchers.

These high-energy events would effectively shrink the ar-eas within the Milky Way galaxy, known as the Galactic Habitable Zone, where conditions would be conducive for life as we know it, they said.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PW (R&B) DIVISION SHOPIAN

e-mail:-rnbdivisonshopian@gmail.com(Phone/Fax No: 01933-26022)

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
NIT No: 05/557-566 /SPN/RnB/e-Tendering/2023-24 Dated:- 20-04-2023

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor Union Territory of J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on (%age) basis / Item rate basis (As the case may be) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Class of Contractor	Time of Completion (In days)	Cost of T/ Doc (Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.)
1	Internal wiring, control panel necessary switching and accessories to Solid Waste Management Centre at M.C. Shopian	11.08	AAY Electrical	15 Days	600/-	22160/-

Position of funds=Approved
Position of AAA=Accorded
Percentage Rate method requires the bidder to quote a percentage above/below /at par of the schedule of rates applicable/as mentioned in the advertised BOQ
1. The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

S.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	20-04-2023
1	Document Downloading Start Date	21-04-2023 From 10.00 A.M
2	Document Downloading End Date	27-04-2023 Up to 2:00 P.M
3	Bid submission Start Date	27-04-2023 From 10.00 A.M
4	Bid Submission End Date	27-04-2023 Up to 2:00 P.M
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	27-04-2023 at 4:00 P.M

2. Bidders must upload the requisite cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan / Treasury Challan Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian (Tender receiving authority). (Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt) (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian (Tender receiving authority).
3. At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian. The successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the Bid cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.
4. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on website www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the Bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on same web site in the office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian (Tender receiving authority)
5. The earnest money shall be forfeited, if:-
a.) Any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any Modifications in the T&C of the bid.
b.) Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.
c.) Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 10 days after fixation of contract.
6. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
A. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
B. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.
C. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.
D. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
E. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid.
F. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents in terms of soft copies with the technical bid and no documents in terms of Hard copies shall be entertained. However, in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises. The Lowest responsive bidder (L1) must submit the original Treasury Challan (cost of Tender Document) and other relevant bid documents including EMD/Bid Security
G. Scanned copy of EMD/Bid Security in shape of CDR/FDR and cost of tender document in the shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Shopian must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The Original Treasury Challan (Cost of Tender Document) and other relevant Bid documents including EMD/Bid Security shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of the Contract.
Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.
7. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
8. Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of e-challan / Treasury Challan Receipt pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The Lowest responsive bidder (L1) must submit the EMD/Bid Security and e-challan / Treasury Challan Receipt to the tender allotting authority before issuance of LOI/ formal Allotment of contract
9. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the item rate inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains.
10. Price escalation and all Taxes-The unit rates and prices shall be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the rates quoted shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes up to completion of the work unless otherwise specified. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.
11. Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.
12. In case of CRF and any other specified project. The relevant guidelines / standard bidding documents shall be followed.
13. Instructions to Bidder (ITB).
All bidders shall upload the following information and documents along with qualification criteria / qualification information with their bids:-
A. Contractor/Firm Registration Certificate in accordance with Contractor Registration Act as per NIT.
B. Scanned Copy of GSTIN Registration and latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B i.e. latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B of latest quarter (Jan- Mar) / preceding month (March).
C. Scanned copies of EMD and Tender document fee.
D. Verification Certificate cum Renewal from Concerned C.E./S.E as the case may be for Enlistment of registration card.
14.1 The bidders at his own responsibility and risk should visit and examine the site of work and its surroundings before submission of bid.
14.2 Non attendance of pre-bid meeting will not be cause of disqualification of the bidder
14.3 All documents relating to the bid shall be in the English Language.
14.4 No departmental store shall be issued.
15. If the bidder does not quote rate for any item of the rate list / quantity schedule, cost of such item/ items shall be deemed to be part of the overall/ total contract value. No rate shall be allowed for such item / items in the allotment of contract.

No.:- NIT/e-Tendering/RnB/Spn/557-566.
DIPK-628/23 Dated:- 24-04-2023
Sd/- Sd/- Sd/- Sd/- Sd/-
Camp Clerk Head Asst. AAO Technical Officer Executive Engineer

The Court of Judge Small Causes (JMFC) at Srinagar.

In the Case of: Syed Zoha Naqash
D/O Syed Zaid Amin Naqash
R/O S.K. Colony Qamarwari Srinagar.
Through Her Father Applicant.

V/S
Registrar Births & Deaths SMC Srinagar. Non-Applciant...

In the matter of: Objections on behalf of non-applciant Registrar Births & Deaths SMC .

May It Please Your Honour,
The Objections are submitted as under:
1. That the above titled application is pending disposal before this hon'ble court.
2. That the applicant of the application has not registered her birth within stipulated time of one year of its occurrence as per the provisions of The Registration of Births & Deaths Act 1969 & has approached the hon'ble court with a prayer directing the non-applciant to register the date of birth of the applicant namely Syed Zoha Naqash.
3. That the non-applciant of the application in hand has no objection upon strict & thorough verification being carried out by the hon'ble Court of the original documents regarding their correctness that are in support of the application & are being relied upon by the applicant for the purpose of obtaining the certificate of birth from the non-applciant corporation for the purpose of recording the date of birth of aforementioned person.
4. That the applicant has approached this hon'ble court through her father to get her date of birth recorded in the records of the corporation & the corporation would record the date of birth upon satisfaction of the hon'ble court that the applicant has made out his case for obtaining the certificate of birth whereby the non-applciant corporation would record the date of birth in its records & issue the certificate with date of the birth of the child accordingly after paying the prescribed fees.
In the premises it is therefore prayed to decide the application in light of the objections & upon satisfying itself that the applicant has made out her case for obtaining the certificate of birth from the non-applciant corporation. Same would meet the ends of Justice.
Non-Applciant Through Counsel
Basharat Majid, Advocate Standing Counsel
Srinagar Municipal Corporation
nj

The Court of Judge Small Causes (JMFC) at Srinagar.

In the Case of: Syed Mohammad Afnan Naqash
S/O Syed Zaid Amin Naqash R/O S.K. Colony Qamarwari Srinagar.
Through His Father Applicant.

V/S
Registrar Births & Deaths SMC Srinagar. Non-Applciant...

In the matter of: Objections on behalf of non-applciant Registrar Births & Deaths SMC .
May It Please Your Honour,
The Objections are submitted as under:
1. That the above titled application is pending disposal before this hon'ble court.
2. That the applicant of the application has not registered her birth within stipulated time of one year of its occurrence as per the provisions of The Registration of Births & Deaths Act 1969 & has approached the hon'ble court with a prayer directing the non-applciant to register the date of birth of the applicant namely Syed Mohammad Afnan Naqash.
3. That the non-applciant of the application in hand has no objection upon strict & thorough verification being carried out by the hon'ble Court of the original documents regarding their correctness that are in support of the application & are being relied upon by the applicant for the purpose of obtaining the certificate of birth from the non-applciant corporation for the purpose of recording the date of birth of aforementioned person.
4. That the applicant has approached this hon'ble court through her father to get her date of birth recorded in the records of the corporation & the corporation would record the date of birth upon satisfaction of the hon'ble court that the applicant has made out his case for obtaining the certificate of birth whereby the non-applciant corporation would record the date of birth in its records & issue the certificate with date of the birth of the child accordingly after paying the prescribed fees.
In the premises it is therefore prayed to decide the application in light of the objections & upon satisfying itself that the applicant has made out her case for obtaining the certificate of birth from the non-applciant corporation. Same would meet the ends of Justice.
Non-Applciant Through Counsel
Basharat Majid, Advocate Standing Counsel
Srinagar Municipal Corporation
nj

Public Notice

I have lost the Number Plate of the my vehicle bearing Regd No: JK05K0373. 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 police station Tangmarg within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Mr Javid Ahmad Lone
S/O Mr Ghulam Mohammad Lone
R/O Teran Baramulla Tangmarg azk

اتحاد المسلمین جموں و کشمیر
صدر دفتر کرنگر سرینگر کشمیر

ITTIHADUL MUSLIMEEN JAMMU & KASHMIR
Opposite Govt. Medical College gate Karan nagar
Srinagar jammu and kashmir.

اظہار تعزیت
انوار اللہ صاحب

جموں و کشمیر اتحاد المسلمین یونٹ دیور پریہاس پورہ نے تنظیم کے سینئر کارکن اور مرحوم مولانا صاحب کے ساتھیوں میں شہ کئے جانے والے مرحوم علی محمد خواجہ ساکنہ دیور پریہاس پورہ پٹن کے انتقال پر اپنے گہرے رنج و غم کا اظہار کیا ہے۔ اتحاد المسلمین یونٹ دیور نے مرحوم کے خاندان کے تمام افراد و جملہ پسماندگان خصوصاً مرحوم کے برادر تعزیت نامہ کنتا ہے مرحوم علی محمد خواجہ کے برادر غلام محمد خواجہ اور فرزند اکبر محمد خواجہ و مظفر حسین خواجہ کی خدمت میں تعزیت و تسلیت پیش کرتے ہوئے ال کے ساتھ دل ہمدردی کا اظہار کیا ہے اور مرحوم کی جنت نشینی اور جملہ لواحقین و پسماندگان کے لئے صبر جمیل کی دعا کی ہے۔

ترجمان اتحاد المسلمین جموں و کشمیر یونٹ دیور

SFs Launch CASO At Kursoo Padshahi Bagh

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: A joint team of police and security forces launched a Cordon and Search Operation (CASO) at Kursoo Padshahi Bagh area in Srinagar on Monday, following reports of suspicious movement in the area.

Witnesses said that a door to door search, which continued for around three hours, was conducted at Naikpora locality in Padshahi Bagh following inputs

about the suspicious movement in the area.

Joint team of forces comprising police and CRPF arrived in the locality this afternoon and conducted door to door searches besides checking identity cards of the inmates.

A police official, while confirming the searches in the locality, said the CASO was launched following a tip off about the suspicious movement, however no contact was established or none arrested.

IGNOU Regional Centre To Be Shifted To Saida Kadal

Observer News Service

Srinagar: IGNOU Regional Centre Srinagar on Monday informed that it is shifting the office to Saida Kadal area of Srinagar for the benefit of learners and other stakeholders.

Regional director Dr Shah Nawaz Ahmad Dar in a statement said the shifting is being made in the interest of the Learners and other stakeholders.

"The new office is located on the Dalgate-Kashmir University Road and is very well connected. We are confident that this change will allow us to enhance our Student Support Services and meet the expectations of our Learners," he said.

The new office address is; IGNOU Regional Centre Srinagar, Saida Kadal, Dalgate-Kashmir University Road, Srinagar-190003.

He said all the IGNOU Learners and other stakeholders are informed that the shifting

of the office of IGNOU Regional Centre Srinagar will start from tomorrow, 25/04/2023 (Tuesday) so the office will remain closed for routine work from tomorrow and all the communication from 25/04/2023 to 28/04/2023 may be done on the official e-mail of IGNOU Regional Centre Srinagar only.

Dr Shah Nawaz also said that the IGNOU Regional Centre Srinagar will start normal functioning from the new office from 01/05/2023 (Monday) onwards.

"The Learners are informed not to visit the office of the IGNOU Regional Centre Srinagar from 25/04/2023 to 28/04/2023."

He also informed all the stakeholders to update their office records and make necessary changes in the office address of IGNOU Regional Centre Srinagar so as to ensure that all future correspondence is directed/sent to our new office address.

DC Srinagar Inaugurates Programs Under Kissan Sampark Abhiyan

Observer News Service

Srinagar: With an objective of sensitizing farmers about new interventions approved under the Holistic Agriculture Development program and benefits under other Centrally Sponsored Schemes, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad Monday inaugurated programs under Kissan Sampark Abhiyan here at Panchayat Halqa of Fakir Gujri as extensive orientation program for the farmers.

During the Kissan Sampark Abhiyan, capacity building/orientation programs will be held for 3 days in all 21 Panchayats of Srinagar District as per notified schedule to sensitize the farmers and PRI representatives about the recent Government plan to implement 29 projects costing more than Rs 500 crore from this year to increase Agricultural production aimed at holistic development and promotion of Agriculture and allied sectors so that the farmers can get maximum profit and create employment opportunities from the Agriculture sector.

Addressing the inaugural program under Kissan Sampark Abhiyan, the Deputy Commissioner said that the Kissan Sampark Abhiyan is a prestigious program of the Agriculture Produc-

tion Department aimed at the overall welfare of farmers to educate farmers on various issues, including business management, entrepreneurship and Government schemes from April 24. He said the campaign will help farmers to increase their spending in the sector, ultimately leading to an improvement in their productivity and production.

The DC further said with the help of PRIs focusing on farmer's orientation and skilling programs will ensure that the meticulous plan reaches the fields and prepare our farmers to meet new challenges and explore new possibilities, besides making farming accessible and more profitable.

On the occasion, the DC stressed the farmers and PRI representatives to actively participate in the program to ensure the success of the ambitious program. He said resource persons will educate farmers through 48 videos, in addition the pamphlets have also been printed for better understanding of the Kissan Sampark Abhiyan so that farmers are benefited.

The DC also informed that Kissan Sampark Abhiyan will include question and answer sessions for the farmers and will receive education about 19 centrally sponsored schemes that have been designed for their welfare and development in addition to the 29 projects.



Kids bursting fire crackers on the 3rd day of Eid-ul-Fitr amid sunny weather in Srinagar on Monday

Iranian Qari Enthralls Ambiance At Jamia Masjid, Visits Revered Shia, Sunni Shrines

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: After enthralling the audience with his soul-soothing recitation of the holy Quran at central Jamia Masjid in Srinagar, an internationally accredited reciter of the revealed book, Qari Yusef Ghanbari from the Islamic Republic of Iran, visited several revered shrines in the city including Dargah Hazratbal and Dastgeer Sahab (RA) shrine on Monday.

After Zuhr (afternoon) prayers, Qari Yusef left the audience at the revered Jamia Masjid in a state of spirituality by reciting verses from the holy Quran, with worshippers chanting Nara-e-Takbeer, Allahu Akbar (Allah is greatest of all).

Worshippers, after the culmination of Tilawat-e-Kalam Pak (recitation of Quran) at Jamia Masjid, hugged the Islamic scholar and sought his blessings for the Ummah. Talking to the media on the occasion, Qari Yusef said he was overwhelmed by the love and hospitality of people of Kashmir during his stay in Kashmir.

"Besides ahli-Tashee's sacred shrines and sites of devotion in Srinagar and other places, I



Worshippers, after the culmination of Tilawat-e-Kalam Pak (recitation of Quran) at Jamia Masjid, hugged the Islamic scholar and sought his blessings for the Ummah.

visited Jamia Masjid and other revered shrines of Ahle-Sunnat including Dargah Hazratbal, Sultan-ul-Arifeen (RA), ziyarat Mir Syed Ali Hamdani (RA), Khulafa-

e-Rashideen mosque and Dastgeer Sahab (RA) shrine. I am grateful to the Almighty Allah for the love and respect I received in Kashmir," he added.

He claimed that his main objective to travel India was to 'propagate' the teachings of the prophet Muhammad (SAW) and the message of the holy Quran.

"I was fascinated during my interactions with the Kashmiri people. I am grateful to Allah almighty for this wonderful journey," said Qari Yusef.

Pertinent to mention that an internationally acclaimed Quran reciter from the Islamic Republic of Iran, Qari Ehsan Bayat Hamdani had on April 13 mesmerized the audience with his melodious voice, breathe control and engaging tone at the historic Jamia Masjid.

On behalf of the head of Anjuman Auqaf Jamia Masjid Mirwaiz-e-Kashmir Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, the honorable guest and his companions were warmly welcomed by the officials of the Anjuman, Haji Altaf Ahmad Bhat, Mufti Ghulam Rasool Samoon and Maulana M S Rehman Shams. They were honored with Kashmiri traditional shawls.

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir

Jal Shakti Department

Office Of The Executive Engineer Hydraulic Division Uri

Standard Bidding Document For

> Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Pipe network of GI Pipes of different Nominal Bores along with pipe fittings and control valves.

> Construction of Service Reservoirs (SRs), Slow Sand Filtration Plants, Pre-Settling Tanks.

> Execution of ancillary civil works like Spring Covers, Protection Works, staff quarters etc.

at various Water Supply schemes of Hydraulic Division Uri of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

FRESH e-NIT No. 05 OF 2023-24 Dated: 24/04/2023

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Hydraulic Division Uri invites e-tenders from reputed and resourceful Bidders/ Firms/Companies/ of all classes registered in JKPWD/CPWD/Railways or any other state Government for below mentioned works at various Water Supply schemes of Hydraulic Division Uri of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

The bidding process shall be completed online on www.jktenders.gov.in in two covers viz. Cover 1st consisting of General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and Cover 2nd consisting of Financial Bid on overall percentage rate basis, in the prescribed BOQ.

Sr.No	Particulars of the work	Estimated cost in lacs	Tender Fee (in Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit	Bid Validity Period	Time of completion of work (in days)
i	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting GI Pipes of different Nominal Bores along with pipe fittings and control valves.	As per ANNEXURE-I to this bid document.	500/-	02% of the estimated cost	180 days	As per ANNEXURE-I to this bid document.
ii	Construction of Service Reservoirs (SRs), Slow Sand Filtration Plants.					
iii	Execution of ancillary civil works like Spring Covers, Boundary walls, Protection Works etc.					

Position of funds: Approved Under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)

The tender inviting authority is Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Hydraulic Division Uri.

The awarding authority is District Jal Jeevan Mission (DJJM)

Critical Dates

i	Publish Date	24/04/2023, 06:00PM
ii	Document download/ sale start date	24/04/2023, 06:00PM
iii	Pre- Bid meeting date	25/04/2023, 01:00PM
iv	Bid submission start date	26/04/2023, 10:00AM
v	Bid submission end date	01/05/2023, 04:00PM
vi	Date and time of bid opening	02/05/2023, 12:00PM

- Bid documents can be accessed and downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in
- The whole bidding process shall be completed online on tender portal www.jktenders.gov.in. The intending bidders can download the bid document from the tender portal and can submit their bids by uploading them on the tender portal.
- The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Hydraulic Division Uri. Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 4 & 5 of the table.
- The cost of tender documents should be in form of DD/TR/e challan in favour of Executive Engineer Hydraulic Division Uri.
- The hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of TR/e-challan, Earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR/BG and other relevant documents shall be obtained from the bidder who is declared as LI after opening of financial cover.
- The bid shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the last date of submission of bids. If any bidder withdraws his bid before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the same shall be considered to be in violation of bid security declaration and shall be dealt with accordingly and the bid shall be declared non-responsive.
- Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website www.jktenders.gov.in.
- Queries by email if any should be made at urhydrualic@gmail.com.

No. HDU/CC-02/355-66
DIPK-652/23 Dated: 24/04/2023

Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti Department
Hydraulic Division Uri

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

AIRPORTS
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

PRAYERS

FAJR 4:18
ZUHR 12:29
ASR 5:14
Magrib 7:13
ISHA 8:40

HIJRI CALENDAR

04 Shawwal
1444

This Day In History

- 1185 - Sea battle at Dan-no-ura: Minamoto Yoritomo beats Taira-family
- 1507 - German cartographer Martin Waldseemüller first to use the name America on his world map "Universalis Cosmographia"
- 1607 - Battle at Gibraltar: Dutch fleet beats Spanish/Portuguese fleet
- 1626 - Battle at the Dessau bridge: Albrecht von Wallenstein beats Ernst von Mansfeld
- 1678 - French troops conquer Ypres
- 1684 - Patent granted for thimble
- 1684 - Patent granted for thimble
- 1707 - Battle of Almansa; Franco-Spanish forces defeat British and Portuguese1861 - Battle of Lavaca, Texas (US Civil War)
- Jones & Harry Greenbacks musical premieres in London
- 1846 - Thornton Affair: Open conflict begins over the disputed border of Texas, triggering the Mexican-American War.
- 1859 - Ground broken for Suez Canal
- 1861 - Battle of Lavaca, Texas (US Civil War)
- 1898 - Spanish-American War: The United States declares state of war on Spain effective from 21st April.
- 1905 - Whites win right to vote in South Africa
- 1914 - US President Woodrow Wilson is persuaded by Argentina, Brazil, and Chile to accept mediation in the conflict with Mexico
- 1926 - Persian cossack officer Reza Chan crowns himself Shah Palawi
- 1927 - Spain routes 20,000 soldiers to Morocco (uprising Rifkabylen)
- 1941 - Operation Merkur: Hitler orders conquest of Kreta
- 1945 - Allied air raid on Surabaya, Java
- 1945 - British troops reach Grebbe line Neth
- 1945 Red army completely surrounds Berlin
- 1945 - Last Boeing B-17 attack against Nazi Germany
- 1957 - 1st experimental sodium nuclear reactor operated
- 1957 - Ibrahim Hashim forms Jordanian government
- 1959 - Then-bishop Karol Wojtyla's celebrates newly completed Nowa Huta, Poland's first ever Mass at midnight of Christmas morning
- 1960 - 1st submerged circumnavigation of Earth completed (Triton)

From KO Archives

Withdraw Ban On Dance Bars: Farooq

S hillong- National Conference patron, Farooq Abdullah today came out strongly against the government move to ban dance bars in Mumbai and other cities across Maharashtra.

Farooq believes the banning of dance bars would encourage prostitution.

"Where (they dancing girls) will go now for money to buy food, medicine and education expenses of their children? Mumbai, as we know, is a costly city and those dancers were so far eking out a living without selling their bodies," Abdullah told a gathering on spreading awareness of HIV AIDS here Friday.

"With the Maharashtra government banning the dance bars, these women would be forced to go in for prostitution which would in turn spread the dreaded virus of AIDS into the society," the former Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir alleged.

The NC leader also voiced concern over truck drivers 'transporting' the HIV/AIDS while ferrying goods.

Lauding the efforts of Assam Rifles Wives Welfare Association, which organised die campaign today, top spreading the awareness among the jawans' families, the Rajya Sabha member said he was sanctioning Rs 5 lakh to the organisation to start AIDS awareness campaign in local languages in remote areas; of the North East

(Kashmir Observer, 25 April, 2005)

KASHMIR OBSERVERTM

Tuesday | 25-04-2023

Big Push For Opposition Unity

The Opposition unity in India received a fresh push during the Monday meeting between West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, and RJD chief Tejashwi Yadav. In her address to the media, Banerjee emphasized the need for all like-minded parties to come together and fight the ruling BJP unitedly in the upcoming 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

The idea of Opposition unity in India is not just about defeating the BJP, but it is also about offering a viable alternative to the people of India. The BJP, which won a decisive victory in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, has turned out to be politically invincible, with prime minister Narendra Modi at the helm.

Opposition parties in India have always found it challenging to come together due to ideological differences, personal egos, and a lack of trust. However, the recent developments suggest that some parties are now willing to put aside their differences and work towards a common goal. Mamata Banerjee, who in recent past had grown averse to the idea of Opposition unity, is now actively pushing for it, and her recent meetings with other Opposition leaders indicate that she is serious about this.

The meetings between Banerjee, Kumar, and Yadav, are significant as they represent a coming together of parties from different regions and ideological backgrounds. Nitish Kumar, who heads the Janata Dal (United), has been a BJP ally for several years, but his recent statements suggest that he is determined to forge a united opposition front against the BJP. Tejashwi Yadav's RJD is a major player in Bihar, and his support will be crucial for any Opposition alliance in the state.

However, the road ahead for Opposition unity is not going to be easy. The Congress, which is the largest Opposition party in the country, has been accused of being a hindrance to such unity. Several regional parties are wary of joining hands with the Congress, and there is a growing feeling that the Congress needs to take a back-seat and allow other parties to take the lead. The recent meetings between Mamata Banerjee and other regional leaders suggest that there is a growing consensus that the Congress needs to play a supporting role in any Opposition alliance.

Opposition unity is not just about coming together before the elections; it is about building a long-term alliance that can offer a viable alternative to the BJP. It will require a lot of effort and trust-building among parties that have been bitter rivals for years. However, the meeting between Mamata, Kumar, and Yadav, and before this between Kumar and Rahul Gandhi followed by a meeting between Gandhi and Sharad Pawar, offer a glimmer of hope that Opposition unity is possible in India. If Opposition parties can put aside their differences and work towards a common goal, they can offer a better challenge to the otherwise entrenched BJP.

OTHER OPINION

It Is A Welcome Initiative

At a time when stressed aquifers pose difficult ecological, economic and policy challenges — including for the government's flagship scheme of providing drinking water to every household — the significance of this database cannot be overstated. With details on the size, encroachment status and storage capacity of the water bodies, the report could help policymakers arrive at informed decisions on matters as diverse as urban planning and rural employment generation schemes.

The Centre has been conducting a census of minor irrigation structures every five years since 1986. Much of the data indirectly compiled from the population Census by government agencies has also focused on minor irrigation works. The irrigation-centred approach was, to an extent, a fallout of the inclination of successive governments to view tanks, ponds and canals as economic utilities, rather than critical resources for human and ecological well-being. In the past two decades, there have been some attempts at course correction. The UPA government, for instance, launched the Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies scheme in 2005 and MGNREGA works have focussed on reviving traditional water bodies. But the lack of a comprehensive database has meant that these projects have not done sufficient justice to their objectives. The significance of the current study is underscored by the fact that it counted nearly five times the number of repositories enumerated by the last minor irrigation survey in 2013-14. The past studies did not have much data on urban centres. The enumeration of tanks, lakes and other water sources in cities and towns was left, largely, to civil society outfits and academic institutions. Such endeavours did provide valuable insights into the depletion of lakes in cities such as Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Chennai, Srinagar and Bengaluru. The government's entry into the field is sure to make the data richer.

That said, such enumeration initiatives will not do adequate justice to their objectives if they remain top-down affairs. Making panchayats, municipalities and other local bodies the nodal points for future water body surveys as well as roping in civil society groups in the endeavour could help policymakers arrive at a better picture of the water crisis, and frame solutions.

Indian Express

Invest in Sustainable Development for Kashmir

This is the real Investment Govt can do to save our mountain ecosystem, biodiversity & climate

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

Earth Day which was commemorated on April 22nd had a beautiful theme this year – Invest in Our Planet.

In Fact all the international days related to climate, environment, ecology, water, forests have very catchy themes every year but I always wonder are the world bodies, institutions including the UN really serious about protecting the planet earth? The theme Invest in our Planet emphasizes the importance of investing in planet earth for a sustainable future, but are we, especially the governments across the world, really serious about this? Are governments seriously thinking about the future? At a time when our mother earth is facing serious climatic challenges, it demands immediate action as well. In Fact there is a great role of NGOs, individuals, business community and corporates as well, but unless governments don't act seriously, commemorating the days like World Earth Day, World Environment day with some attractive themes are meaningless. My experience and observation is that actions of the Govt bodies are altogether different when it comes to protecting the planet earth from environmental destruction? I have experienced this during the last 10 years while working in the sustainability sector in Kashmir and observing environmental disasters taking place before my eyes. Government's across the world especially in South Asia are more concerned about promoting the corporates rather than ecology or environment. The Govt's in Himalayan states have to be more cautious while building roads, highways, railways and tunnels through high altitude mountains and around the glaciers. While doing this they must think about the mountain ecosystem as well. The recent landslides and shooting stones coming down from mountains around Srinagar Jammu highway should be an eye opener for our construction companies.

Investment in Kashmir

Our planet is facing several challenges like global warming, climate change, loss of biodiversity, deforestation, and pollution. This is more challenging in Himalayan region especially in a place like Kashmir valley which is surrounded by mountains with glaciers, forests and lakes. The best investment in Kashmir is investing for a clean and green Kashmir by ensuring massive plantation drive, strengthening our agriculture and horticulture sector, controlling plastic pollution, undertaking scientific waste management programmes, cleaning up lakes, rivers and streams and not going ahead with massive concrete constructions like making huge highways and roads around high altitude areas and glaciers. This type of investment will have long lasting benefits for Jammu & Kashmir which includes economic, social, and environmental benefits. Investing in sustainable initiatives in J&K and other Himalayan states of India like Himachal, Uttarakhand, Ladakh, North East India will also lead to economic growth, create jobs, and promote social equality. It will also help in conserving natural resources and protecting the ecology and environment of the region. By investing in sustainability sectors like organic agriculture and horticulture practices, renewable energy and ecotourism in J&K and other Himalayan states will lead to economic growth as well. It will create job opportunities in different sectors such as clean energy, green transportation, and sustainable tourism. The growth of this sector will also increase the demand for green jobs and will create opportunities for innovation and entrepreneurship in the sustainability sector. The sustainable agriculture or horticulture practices with least use of pesticides will promote soil health and reduce land degradation. This will also strengthen our biodiversity, wildlife and all our natural ecosystems which are right now under severe threat.

Controlling Riverbed Mining

During the last three to four years the Riverbed Mining (RBM) has destroyed our river ecosystems across J&K. Not only are our rivers targeted but even the small streams are being mined for riverbed material like sand, gravel, boulders etc and for this huge cranes, JCBs are being used which are not at all allowed as per J&K Minor Mineral Concession Rules of 2016 & Specific Condition No. 53 of State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority which provides environmental clearance for riverbed mining. The riverbed

mining rules stress on manual mining and giving jobs to local labourers. The guideline no 53 says JCBs, Hydraulic excavators, L&T excavators cannot be used in river bed mining (RBM) at all. The guideline reads:

"Mining shall be done manually minimally supported by semi-mechanized methods. Heavy machinery like JCBs, Excavators, L&T hydraulic excavators etc should not be allowed. Emphasis should be given to locally available labour force to address socio economic condition of locals"

There is not even a single riverbed mining block across J&K where minerals are extracted manually by labourers. In every river and stream one can see huge hydraulic cranes and JCBs being used for this work. The excavation is done in broad daylight and the Geology and Mining Department, State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) have been unable to put an end to this illegal practice. This author reported these illegal practices several times but have been ignored. In Fact I had to move a petition before the National Green Tribunal (NGT) who banned this work in the Shali Ganga stream in Budgam. The construction company challenged the order in the Supreme Court and I had to fight this battle in the apex court as well. Ironically, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) became party to this case in Supreme Court and supported the stand taken by the construction company NKC Projects Pvt Ltd which is constructing Srinagar Semi Ring Road. I only wanted the company to follow its DPR and Environmental Management Plan (EMP). In fact there is no mention about extracting RBM from Shali Ganga or Doodh Ganga? These

streams are meant for providing riverbed material (RBM) to local population in 2 kms radius and at 50% discount rates, but the material is sold to construction companies which is completely illegal practice.

It has to be understood that these guidelines have actually been proposed by the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEFCC) Govt of India. The Supreme Court of India & National Green Tribunal (NGT) as well have given several orders in this regard. In fact, guideline No.71 says that mineral blocks cannot be sublet to third parties without written approval from state environmental impact assessment authority (SEIAA) but in a majority of the cases the Project Proponents have already sublet the work to 3rd parties in J&K.

Destruction of Karewas

I have written a lot about Karewas in the past. Their destruction is quite visible now in many parts of Pulwama, Budgam and Baramulla districts. We owe a lot to the fortune of Karewas which are the plateau-like landforms that remain tucked away in the folds of the surrounding mountains, particularly the Pir Panjal range of the Himalayas that borders the valley on the southwest. Known as karewa or Wodder in local dialect, these plateaus are 13,000-18,000 metre-thick deposits of alluvial soil and sediments like sandstone and mudstone. This makes them ideal for cultivation of saffron, almonds, apples and several other cash crops.

In the past Karewas were plundered during construction of Qazigund Baramulla rail line. Now again they are targeted as a huge amount of clay is being excavated by construction company NKC for filling the agricultural land, wetlands, Jhelum flood plains enabling construction of 58 kms Srinagar Semi Ring Road project between Pampore to Ganderbal via Budgam, Narbal. There is no clay mining plan for clay mining in J&K's karewas. The excavations are done without obtaining any Environmental Clearance (EC) from J&K State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (JK SEIAA).

Huge poclain cranes, JCB's, L&T Machines are excavating the clay and soil and the same is transported in trucks (tip-pers) & used at construction sites between Pampore and Narbal. This also emits huge dust which causes air pollution and destroys the road surfaces in most of the areas in Budgam. This has also affected the apple, plum and other fruit orchards as huge dust has destroyed the flowers of these fruit trees because dumping of muck and clay during the last one month has affected these trees. The aggrieved farmers need to be compensated. The clay mining mafia has destroyed state land near Karewas and even the proprietary land of people is being targeted in their absence. The Government is not able to even generate any revenue during clay mining on state land. Very recently a large patch of Karewa land (2 acres approx) owned by one Ghulam Hyder who originally hails from Budgam but has been living in Delhi for the last 30 years was raised to ground as illegal clay mining has destroyed his proprietary land during the last 3 to 4 months. He went to the police and administration but he didn't get any help even as the site is just 1 kms away from Police Station Budgam and the District Mineral Office is also located nearby.

Conclusion

The State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority -SEIAA, J&K Pollution Control Committee (PCC), Geology & Mining Department and several other Govt institutions are all well aware about illegal riverbed mining, clay mining in Karewas and other activities in Jammu & Kashmir which are causing destruction of our environment, but they never act and instead become collaborators in these illegal practices. When these environmental bodies, Govt institutions talk about sustainable development or commemorate days like world earth day or world environment day etc, I call it a sheer mockery and a ridiculous activity? When it comes to protecting our ecology and environment the authorities at helm in mountain states have to be more cautious and that is why I say that best investment in Kashmir is to do investment in sustainable development.

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat is an Acumen Fellow. He is also an Anant Fellow for Climate Action



“Our planet is facing several challenges like global warming, climate change, loss of biodiversity, deforestation, and pollution. This is more challenging in Himalayan region especially in a place like Kashmir valley which is surrounded by mountains with glaciers, forests and lakes

Wrath of Climate Change



Bilal Bashir Bhat

As scientific predictions become reality, the emergency is becoming palpable, indisputable, and widespread, with dramatic weather events reported with an ever-increasing frequency. Such patterns have disastrous, far-reaching effects on the natural world, global food supplies, health, infrastructure, and more. The climate disaster is here with soaring heat across Jammu, erratic weather phenomenon with increasing and devastating cloud bursts, and flashfloods in Jammu and Kashmir leading to deaths and damage to property

worth lakhs. Scientific studies indicate that extreme weather events such as heat waves and large storms are likely going to become more frequent or more intense with this human-induced climate change.

J&K is a mountainous area, which is very susceptible to global warming and climate change. Climate change and warming are global trends, and their impact on Jammu and Kashmir is significant. In the last few months, especially in July 2022, we have witnessed increasing cloud bursts and Flash Floods. Devastating cloud bursts hit the Balthal (Songmarag), Doda, Poonch, Kathua, and many other districts in Jammu and



AS CLIMATE CHANGE CONTINUES, IT WILL LIKELY LEAD TO MORE FREQUENT AND SEVERE NATURAL HAZARDS. The impact will be heavy. Climate change causes poverty and food shortages and forces even higher numbers of men, women, and children to flee their homes

Kashmir leading to deaths, injuring many, and damaging property. Erratic rainfall, snowfall patterns, and unusually warm winters are some of the characteristics of climate change in Jammu and Kashmir.

According to a report, the temperature in Jammu and Kashmir has risen

by an average of 1.2 degrees Celsius against a global increase of 0.8 to 0.9 degrees Celsius over the last 100 years. The increasing average temperature has resulted in melting glaciers and greater precipitation, which could lead to disaster in the state. The early snowfall, heat waves

in winters, cloud bursts, and Flash Floods in summers are indicators of Climate change in Jammu and Kashmir and the effects of climate change are already being felt in the Kashmir valley. The 2014 devastating Flood caused by the cloudburst was the first indicator of global warming in Jammu and Kashmir.

According to a report prepared by the State Disaster Management Authority, since 2010, many flash floods and cloudbursts which have hit J&K resulted in the killing of 300 people. In 2022 alone cloud bursts killed almost 40 people and injured many in Jammu and Kashmir. The revenge of Climate change is increasing and we should act

to prevent this increasing wrath.

As climate change continues, it will likely lead to more frequent and severe natural hazards. The impact will be heavy. Climate change causes poverty and food shortages and forces even higher numbers of men, women, and children to flee their homes. The increasing disasters speak for themselves. Policymakers, humanitarian and development organizations alike need to address, prevent and lessen the fatal impact of climate change before it's too late.

The author is an Environmental Specialist, J&K, State Climate Centre J&K (DEERS)

Seven Tips For A Healthier Relationship With Your Phone

Paul Levy

How long do you spend staring at a screen every day? According to one report, the average person spends about seven hours a day on screens connected to the internet. And that figure is going to be even higher if your job is mainly done in front of a computer.

Most of us over-use digital devices, spending too long either working or enjoying being distracted on phones, tablets, laptops or even VR headsets. We are accused of being addicted to tech and warned of the dangers to our physical and mental health.

One significant paradox here is that we often retreat into the digital world to escape the stresses of the physical world, but can end up simply collecting other kinds of digital and physical stress along the way.

As a parent, I became concerned a few years ago about the effect my digital life was having on my work and family. I did some research of my own, changed the way I used my devices and even wrote a book about the dangers of what I call the "digital inferno".

It's only in recent years that longer-term studies have been published on the issue. And taken together, these studies comprise a growing and significant body of knowledge, that is hard to dismiss or ignore: too much tech can cause issues for us humans.

To be clear, digital devices offer significant benefits – think connection, education, entertainment. The danger is when our overuse of them be-

comes toxic to our health.

From a personal perspective, eye strain, neck ache, poor sleep, stress, repetitive strain injuries of all kinds and impaired hand function are just a few of symptoms I've had over the years thanks to my overuse of screens and devices – and research shows I'm far from alone.

If any of these symptoms describe you (or anyone you know), or you just feel too much of your life is taken up with staring at a screen, then you might find my advice on how to regain control of your tech helpful.

How to regain control

1. Practice Putting Down Your Digital Devices Consciously

Keep them out of sight and keep them away when you aren't using them, especially at night. Banish them from the bedroom, get an alarm clock (so you aren't using your phone alarm) and you'll sleep better without the late-night scrolling. And get out of the habit of watching TV with your phone next to you. Just focus on one task at a time without the distraction of another screen.

2. Set Yourself Screen Time Limits

Too much screen time can give you headaches. Be mindful of the way you use your tech and make use of features like voice notes, which allow you to stay up-to-date with communication without staring at a screen for a long time.

3. Stop Allowing Digital



Distractions

Constant interruption can induce physical and mental stress. Turn off notifications and alerts when you want to fully focus on a task. And keep your phone off your desk. Research shows that having your phone nearby, even if it's not

buzzing or ringing and even if the power is off, can hurt your performance.

4. Schedule Proper Digital-Free Time

Depression and anxiety is one result of digital overload. So getting away from

your digital world for a while is important. Take a walk in nature, read a book, go for a bike ride – anything that takes you away from the screens for a while.

5. Make Screens Easier On The Eyes

Screen overuse can strain your eyes and affect our eyesight. Don't squint at tiny screens to do work that would be better done on a larger-screen laptop. Reduce the blue light on devices and make use of all the other helpful accessibility features. Start with that

screen glare. And also make sure the volume doesn't burst your ear drums.

6. Take Control Of The Chaos Of Information Overload

Organise your phone, computer and tablet so you can use them more efficiently. Some apps really do help you take charge of your life and work more calmly and effectively. Time-tracking apps measure how much time you're spending (wasting) on your screen – prepare to be horrified! We regain mastery over our digital devices when we become more proactive in their use.

7. Sit Well When You Are Digitally Engaged

Slouching over a phone or slouching over your laptop will harm your neck and your back. Sit upright, stretch regularly and exercise often – without your phone.

Be A Digital Decider

These seven tips should help you regain a sense of control over your digital life. For me, it's all about sleeping and waking better after leaving my phone downstairs. It's about having dedicated, planned digital time and specific times when the phone has no place in what I'm doing.

Yet it's also about enjoying these tech miracles in a more satisfying way and using them more consciously. I like to think of myself now as a digital decider and not just another digital casualty.

By arrangements with The Conversation

IIM Survey Finds Mann Ki Baat Has Reached 100 Crore Listeners

Observer News Service

New Delhi: Nearly ninety six percent of the population is aware of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's monthly radio programme Mann Ki Baat.

The programme has reached 100 crore people who are aware and have listened to the programme at least once. These statistics were revealed in an exhaustive study commissioned by Prasar Bharati and conducted by Indian Institute of Management, Rohtak. The findings of the study were brought out in a press conference by Gaurav Dwivedi, CEO, Prasar Bharati and Dheeraj P. Sharma, Director, IIM Rohtak.

Sharma, speaking about the findings of the study further said that 23 crore people tune in to the programme regularly while another 41 crore constitute an occasional audience that has the scope of being converted into a regular audience.

The report delves into the reasons behind the popularity of PM's radio broadcast and lists out the most liked characteristics that hook people to the broadcast. A powerful and decisive leadership that speaks to establish an emotional connect with the audience is cited as reason for the following of the programme. The Prime Minister has been credited by the population of the country as knowledgeable and having sympathetic and empathetic approach. Directly engagement with the citizens and guidance is also cited as a reason for the trust the programme has established.

The study has tried to gauge the impact Mann Ki Baat has



had on the population over the 99 editions so far. It states that a majority of listeners have become aware of governments working and 73% are optimistic and feel the country is going to progress. 58% of listeners have responded saying their living conditions have improved while a similar number (59%) have reported increased trust in Government. The general sentiment towards the Government can be gauged from the fact that 63% people have said their approach to the Government has become positive and 60% have shown interest in working for nation building as per the survey.

The study distributes the audience across 3 platforms

with 44.7% people tuning in to the programme on a TV while 37.6% access it on a mobile device. Viewing the programme is favoured over listening to it, as 62% of the respondents between the age of 19 to 34 preferred watching it on a TV.

Hindi grabs a major chunk of listeners of Mann Ki Baat with 65% audience preferring it over any other language while English comes in at second place with 18%.

Speaking about the profile of respondents, Director Dheeraj Sharma informed that the total sample strength of 10003 was polled for this study of which 60% were males while 40% were females. This population was spread over 68

occupations sectors with 64% being from the informal and self-employed sector while students constituted 23% of the studied audience.

Sharma further said that Data was collected from North, South, East, and West regions of India using snowball sampling with approximately 2500 responses per zone, through a psychometrically purified survey instrument.

Gaurav Dwivedi informed the audience that apart from 22 Indian languages and 29 dialects, Mann Ki Baat is broadcast in 11 Foreign languages excluding English namely, French, Chinese, Indonesian, Tibetan, Burmese, Baluchi, Arabic, Pashtu, Persian, Dari and

Swahili. He said the Mann Ki Baat is being broadcast by more than 500 broadcast centers of All India Radio.

Going into the thought process behind commissioning of the study, Dwivedi stated that that from time to time there was a thought that we must get more well-rounded feedback in terms of the overall programme and not for particular episodes only. He further informed that while digital sentiment on Mann Ki Baat is readily available, the same is not in the case with traditional media due to certain limitations. With this perspective, the task of the survey was awarded to IIM Rohtak on 18th April, 2022.

About Mann Ki Baat: The popular program on All India Radio, Prime Minister's Mann Ki Baat was started on 3rd October, 2014 and is broadcast on last Sunday of every month at 11 AM on entire AIR and DD network. The 30 -Minute program is completing 100 episodes on 30th April 2023. Mann Ki Baat is translated by AIR into 22 Indian languages, 29 dialects and 11 Foreign languages, apart from English.

It includes Hindi, Sanskrit, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannad, Marathi, Gujarati, Malayalam, Odiya, Konkani, Nepali, Kashmiri, Dogri, Manipuri, Maithili, Bengali, Assamese, Bodo, Santhali, Urdu, Sindhi. The Dialects include Chhattisgarhi, Gondi, Halbi, Sargujia, Pahari, Sheena, Gojri, Balti, Ladakhi, Karbi, Khasi, Jaintia, Garo, Nagamese, Hmar, Paite, Thadou, Kabui, Mao, Tangkhul, Nyishi, Adi, Monpa, Ao, Angami, Kokborok, Mizo, Lepcha, Sikkimese (Bhutia).

Pakistani-Canadian Journalist Tarek Fatah Passes Away At 73

Agencies

Ottawa: Pakistani-Canadian columnist Tarek Fatah passed away on Monday after a prolonged battle with Cancer, his daughter Natasha Fatah, who herself is a journalist, shared the news.

"Lion of Punjab. Son of Hindustan. Lover of Canada. Speaker of truth. Fighter for justice. Voice of the down-trodden, underdogs, and the oppressed. Tarek Fatah has passed the baton on... his revolution will continue with all who knew and loved him. Will you join us? 1949-2023," Natasha tweeted.

Born in Karachi, Pakistan before emigrating to Canada in 1987, Fatah was an award-winning reporter, columnist, and radio and television commentator, both in Canada and abroad, with a huge social media following, according to Toronto Sun.

Meanwhile, the RSS con-doled the demise of Fatah and said his significant contributions to the media as well as the literary world will be greatly remembered.

In a condolence message posted on Twitter, RSS general secretary Dattatreya Hosabale said Fatah was an eminent thinker, author and commentator.

"His significant contributions to the media and the literary world will be greatly remembered. He remained committed to his principles and beliefs throughout his life and was respected for his courage and conviction," Dattatreya said.

"My thoughts go with his family, friends, and admirers who will be hugely missing him," the RSS leader said, adding, "I express my deepest condolences on his passing away and pray for the 'sadgati' of the departed soul."

Youth Power Is The Driving Force Of India's Dev: PM

Press Trust Of India

Kochi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said youth power was the driving force of India's development journey as youngsters were instrumental in transforming the country into one of the fastest growing economies in the world.

Modi said that once upon a time India was one of the 'Fragile Five' countries. "However, today India is

known as one of the fastest-growing economies. It's because of the youth, and therefore I strongly believe in the youth of my country. I have faith in them," he said speaking at the Yuvam 2023 conclave here.

Stating that everyone was now saying that the 21st century is India's century and the nation had a treasure of youth power, Modi said that the BJP and the youth of the country shared the same wavelength.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Ministry Report

water bodies. It provides a comprehensive inventory of India's water resources, including natural and man-made water bodies like ponds, tanks, lakes, and more, and to collect data on the encroachment of water bodies.

The census also highlighted disparities between rural and urban areas and varying levels of encroachment and revealed crucial insights into the country's water resources.

The census has cited that out of 2036 ponds that are not in use, 974 are dried up, 21 have turned into construction, 19 because of salinity, 193 are destroyed beyond repair, one each is affected due to industry and salinity, and 827 are others.

The report further reveals that there are 36% (3,519) natural and 64% (6,246) man-made water bodies. Out of 3,519 natural water bodies, 99.5% (3,502) are located in rural areas whereas the remaining 0.5% (17) are located in urban areas.

"Out of 6,246 man-made water bodies, 99% (6,185) water bodies are located in rural areas and the remaining 1% (61) are located in urban areas. Most of the man-made water bodies have original cost of construction up to Rs.50,000," it noted.

As per the census, out of 9765 water bodies, 3519 are natural, and 6246 are man-made.

According to the census, 9209 water bodies in J&K, and Ladakh have never been repaired. Only 115 water bodies were repaired before 2009. In 2009, 11 water bodies were repaired; 51 in 2010; 20 in 2011; 34 in 2012; 71 in 2013; 38 in 2014; 59 in 2015; 24 in 2016; 54 in 2017; 34 in 2018, and 45 were repaired after 2018.

The census further reveals that over 2272 not-in-use water bodies in J&K and Ladakh, including 2026 ponds, 29 tanks, 6 Lakes, 26 reservoirs, 6 water conservation schemes/percolation tanks/ check dams, and 169 others. Further, out of 9765 water bodies, 5016 are public owned, and 4749 are privately owned.

As per the census, 7431 water bodies are in use in rural areas, out of which 718 are used for irrigation, 12 for industrial, 97 for pisciculture, 5935 are for domestic/ drinking, 19 are recreation, 49 are for religious, 129 are for ground-water recharge, 472 are others.

In the urban area, 62 water bodies are in use, one for irrigation, 51 for domestic/drinking, 7 for religious, and 3 for others.

The information on all important aspects of the water bodies including their type, condition, status of encroachments, use, storage capacity, status of filling up of storage, etc was collected. It covered all the water bodies located in rural as well as urban areas that are in-use or not in-use.

The census also took into account all types of uses of water bodies like irrigation, industry, pisciculture, domestic/ drinking, recreation, religion, ground water recharge etc. Census has been successfully completed and the All India and State-wise reports have been published.

NIA Attaches

are lodged in Delhi's Tihar Jail since their arrests in October 2017 and August 2018. They were chargesheeted on April 20, 2018 and November 20, 2018, respectively. The duo had been receiving funds from abroad from the associates of their father and overground workers of HM, it added.

Salahudeen, who had fled to Pakistan in 1993, was designated as an individual terrorist by India in October 2020. He continues to operate from Pakistan, from where he is guiding and instructing Hizbul cadres as well as activists of UJC, also known as Muttahida Jihad Council (MJC) which is a conglomerate of around 13 Pakistan-based Kashmiri terror outfits.

Besides instigating and operationalising militant activities in India, primarily in Kashmir valley, Salahudeen has been raising funds and routing finances to India through hawala channels and international money transfer channels for furthering the militant activities of HM cadres.

The NIA launched investigations in November 2011 into the criminal conspiracy to raise/collect/provide funds to commit militant acts and distribute funds among the groups and their sympathizers in J&K for the purpose of "committing terrorist acts".

The Special Cell of Delhi Police had initially registered a case in January 2011 and the case was subsequently taken over by the NIA. Chargesheets as well as supplementary chargesheets were filed against eight accused in the case, including in 2011 and 2018.

The NIA has launched a crackdown on militant funding machinery in a bid to dismantle the "terrorist financing ecosystem" operating in Jammu and Kashmir with the help of individuals based in Pakistan and other countries.

Over 40 Detained,

especially in deep gorges and caves.

The army truck attacked in Poonch was carrying fruits, vegetables and other items from the Bhimber Gali camp to Sangiote village for Iftar celebration scheduled to be held at 7 pm Thursday, the officials said. The slain soldiers were from a Rashtriya Rifles unit deployed for counter-militancy operations.

The Bhimber Gali-Poonch road, which was closed for vehicular traffic following the militant attack, was reopened for traffic on Sunday.

Army's Northern Commander Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi Sunday said necessary action to nab the militants responsible for the deadly attack is under way.

Experts from various agencies, including the National Security Guard (NSG) and the National Investigation Agency (NIA), have visited the site of the attack in the past two days to probe the incident, the officials said.

Hundreds of people in Kishtwar Sunday took out a candle light march in solidarity with the family of the jawans killed in the attack.

TWG Meeting

the tourism sector's role in accelerating the achievement of SDGs," the official had said, adding that there will be a "ministerial communique" that will be released at the end of the TWG and other deliberations, which will endorse the Goa roadmap.

There are five key priority areas so far as the G20 tourism track meetings are concerned -- greening of the tourism sector, harnessing the power of digitalisation, empowering youngsters with skills, nurturing tourism MSMEs, startups and the private sector, and rethinking the strategic management of destinations, officials said.

In his address at the G20 Tourism Expo earlier on Sunday, Singh said of the more than 200 events to be held across the country during its G20 presidency, about 100 have already taken

place.

Under India's G20 presidency, the tourism sector is providing an "unparalleled opportunity" to highlight the country's tourism offerings and share its success stories on the global stage, he said.

Later, interacting with reporters on the sidelines of the event, Singh shared more details about the third TWG meeting slated to be held in the Kashmir valley.

This will be the first major international event that will be held in Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution in August 2019.

"The Tourism Working Group meeting will be held in Srinagar. A team from the tourism ministry and the G20 secretariat is currently in Jammu and Kashmir to assess the preparedness that will be needed to host the event in May," Singh said.

About 100 international delegates and 50-100 Indian members will take part in the event in Jammu.

"In Srinagar, the delegates will be taken on a shikara ride in the Dal lake and will also be treated to cultural programmes at the Sher-e-Kashmir Convention Centre. Later, they will go to Gulmarg where they will take a gondola ride," Singh said.

In Gulmarg, there will also be a technical session on the promotion of film tourism, he added.

Representatives of various states, the film industry, producers and others will be there and those from the states will share information about their film tourism policies, Singh said.

India is currently chairing the influential bloc and more than 200 meetings will be held across 55 locations, culminating with the annual G20 summit on September 9-10.

PM Has Ensured

sustainable development," Sinha said.

He made these remarks while addressing participants during the celebration of National Panchayati Raj Day at Palli, Samba here on Monday. He also conferred awards to the concerned awardees of UT Level Panchayat Awards.

The LG addressed the Panchayati Raj representatives and highlighted the stories of best performing Panchayats of J&K that have been awarded in three categories at the national-level.

"These Panchayats are inspiring other PRIs for improving delivery of services and public goods," he said.

"Collective efforts of common man and Panchayats are playing an important role in realizing big dreams of small villages of UT. By establishing and strengthening three-tier grassroots democracy in J&K, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has ensured rapid & inclusive development," he added.

Urging all the public representatives to give priority to the underprivileged to realise Mahatma Gandhi's dream of Poorna Swaraj through Gram Swaraj, the LG said that our efforts should also focus on removing developmental imbalances.

"Rural growth is the main pillar of the country's development and to achieve our objectives, Gram Panchayats will have to play a major role in economic empowerment of all the citizens, ensuring benefits reaching the last mile & active participation in grassroots

planning and execution," he said.

Recalling the historic visit of PM Modi to Palli lay the foundation for making panchayats in the UT strong & Atmanirbhar, Sinha said he feels proud that Palli was shining in various sectors and it has emerged as a model of rural development.

The LG also highlighted the major steps taken to strengthen grassroots democracy in Jammu Kashmir.

"Devolution of Funds, Functions & Functionaries and seamless coordination at each of the levels of the three-tier system of Panchayati Raj has given tremendous boost to aspirations of rural society. It is our firm resolve to make PRIs more powerful, efficient and effective," he added.

Sinha also spoke on progressive policies and schemes aimed at increasing farmers' income, enhancing their skills and directly connecting them with various Centrally Sponsored and UT's schemes.

He called upon the elected representatives to complement the government's efforts in implementation of the groundbreaking 29 projects worth Rs. 5013 crore for the holistic development of agriculture & allied sectors.

"I am confident that the success of this Holistic Agriculture development plan will guide the prosperous future of Jammu Kashmir and help in doubling the contribution of agriculture sector in J&K's GDP in the next 5 years," the LG added.

Reviews Implementation

works under Jal Jeevan Mission across J&K UT, and discussed the quarterly action plans for coverage of Household Tap Connections and the community mobilization in implementation of JJM. He said that the chair was briefed on the various important components of the Jal Jeevan Mission including status of tendering/ allotment of works, procurements, financial requirements under JKIDFC & JIM, Water Quality Monitoring & Surveillance, NABL Accreditation of District Level Laboratories, Slow Sand Filtration Plants etc.

"Discussions were also held on SBM-G. The chair was briefed about progress in construction of Community Sanitary Complexes, targets for ODF Plus villages and Solid Waste Management. The Lt Governor observed that community participation is key to speedy implementation and JJM & SBM (G) should become a Jan Andolan with the help of PRIs and Citizens," the spokesperson said.

LG's Advisor Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Union Secretary of Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, (DDWS) in Ministry of Jal Shakti, Vini Mahajan; Principal Secretary, Jal Shakti Department, Shaleen Kabra, along with other officers attended the meeting.

Gujarat Police Hands

rejected Patel's bail petition and remanded him to eight day police custody.

According to sources, the conman will be detained at the Nishat police station, before being transferred to Srinagar Central Jail on Tuesday.

"Since the team arrived in Srinagar late in the evening, it was decided that Kiran Patel will be kept in the concerned police station for a night. Tomorrow, he will be transferred to Srinagar Central Jail. He will be presented before the court soon," they added.

Patel, a resident of the Ghodasar area of

Ahmedabad, was arrested by the Jammu and Kashmir police last month from a five-star hotel in Srinagar for posing as a top official of the Prime Minister Office (PMO) and availing requisite perks, including a bulletproof car and scores of security personnel.

Purported videos of Patel surveying the snow slopes of Gulmarg with a posse of armed security personnel around him and of a convoy of vehicles accompanying him weaving through a Valley town have been circulated widely across social media platforms.

He had even visited the last post at Uri in north Kashmir, posing for pictures at a bridge treated as a Line of Control between India and Pakistan.

Civilian Shot

However, the doctors there referred him to Government Medical College (GMC) Anantnag for advanced treatment, the report said.

Meanwhile, the area has been cordoned off to nab the attackers, it added.

LG Inaugurates

citizens to come forward and donate blood", Sinha said

Child Drowns

in Muqam as neighbors and other villagers reached the home of Altaf Ahmed Baba to express solidarity with him over the tragic death of his son.

Govt Employee Held

in the court of CJM, Samba alleging therein that she was raped by the accused at his house after posing as a 'tantrik' possessing supernatural healing powers effective enough to cure her skin disease.

The victim said she fell into the trap of the accused during a visit to a temple, the official said.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Samba, Benam Tosh said the priority of the police is to curb the crime against women in the district.

Two Fake Black

Lal Bazar and the money have also been recovered from them.

Child Marriage

Panchayat, he persuaded the parents and stopped the marriage which was planned to solemnise today.

"The officials explained to the parents of the boy about the harmful effects of child marriage, the suffering of education of child and health problems and the legalities regarding the offence," the spokesperson said.

He said that the officials persuaded the parents to stop the marriage after explaining to them in detail about the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, which prohibits marriages of boys below 21 years of age and girl prohibits marriages of girls below 18 years of age, the officials said.

Later, the spokesperson said, the parents and the boy were counselled and produced before the Child Welfare Committee Kishtwar as registered as Child in need of Care and Protection, they added.

"The minor was handed over to his father through the Child Welfare Committee Kishtwar and PO-NIC was directed to produce the parents of the girl child before CWC Kishtwar for follow up," he added.

Nothing Wrong In Dr Farooq's Remarks On Poonch Attack: JKPCC Chief

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: There was nothing wrong in the remarks of National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on the recent militant attack on an Army vehicle in Poonch, Jammu and Kashmir Congress chief Vikar Rasool Wani said on Monday.

He also said former J-K governor Satya Pal Malik's recent disclosures, especially with regard to the 2019 Pulwama suicide attack, exposed the BJP's "fake nationalism" and demanded an inquiry.

"I don't think Farooq (Abdullah) Sahib has said anything wrong. The casualties of the security forces are the outcome of security lapse. First it was said that lightning struck the (Army) vehicle (in Poonch) and later it was confirmed that a militant attack had taken place," Wani told reporters at the party headquarters here.

He was responding to a question about BJP's criticism of Abdullah over his statement that top security officials should look into the lapses that led to the killing of five soldiers in the militant attack.

"The area (where the attack took place) is closer to the border. There must be a security issue which they need to check. There has been a mistake somewhere, they should look into it. They have started operations in Poonch and should not harass or arrest innocent people," Abdullah had said.

The BJP reacted angrily to Abdullah's statement with its senior leader and former deputy chief minister Kavinder Gupta saying that "Abdullah accused investigation agencies of harassing common people in the name of the Poonch terror attack probe. He should not mislead the people and rather ask them to join the probe to punish the culprits as soon as possible."

Wani said after Malik's recent sensational disclosures on Pulwama suicide attack that claimed the lives of 40 CRPF personnel in February 2019, people are thinking who was behind the deadly incident which might have been done for election benefit.

"There should be an inquiry to make things clear," the J-K Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) president said, ruing the silence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the matter.

Wani said the Congress condemned the Poonch attack in strongest terms. "We lost five soldiers...I am living in Banihal along the Jammu-Srinagar national highway and if we stop conducting searches or road opening patrol duties, anything can happen."

"When tight security protection is in place, many attempts by terrorists to carry out blasts on the highway were thwarted with timely detections of explosive devices. So when there is information about movement (of terrorists), it is the duty of the government to ensure security," he added.

Wani also said the Gandhi-Nehru family was the worst victim of terrorism with two former prime ministers, Indira Gandhi and her son Rajiv Gandhi, losing their lives to the menace, while hundreds of Congress, National Conference and PDP workers were killed by the party headquarters here.

"If they (BJP) blame us for terrorism, it is their frustration. We have faced terrorism and will continue our fight against it," he said.

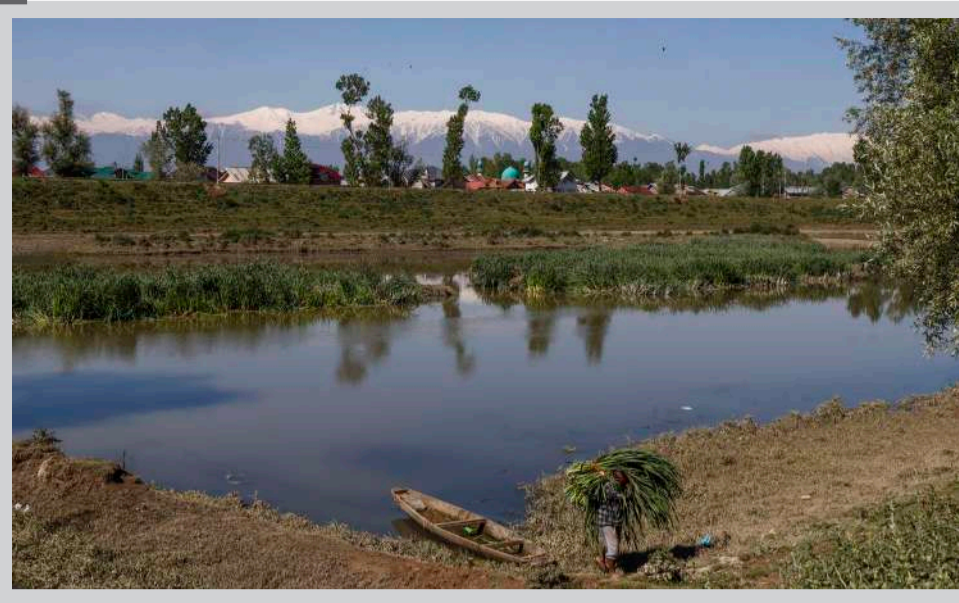
The Congress leader accused the BJP of deceiving people in the name of nationalism over the past nine years and said Malik's disclosures about the Pulwama terror attack exposed the "fake nationalism" of the saffron party.

"He (Malik) is telling the truth and people now understand the BJP very well. The day is not far when the Congress will emerge strong once again across the country. We will sweep upcoming assembly elections in Karnataka and will also emerge number one in J-K," he said.

Meanwhile, District Development Council (DDC) member, Kulgam, Anayatullah Rather returned to the Congress fold after leaving the Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) led by Gulam Nabi Azad.

"Rather, a former general secretary of JKPCC, had joined Azad as a founding member of his new party under his influence. All of those who have joined him are returning because they have secular ideology," Wani said.

He alleged that the DPAP is internally linked to the BJP, asserting it was quite evident when Azad recently showered praises on Modi and opposed Rahul Gandhi at the behest of the RSS and the BJP.



A BOATMAN CARRIES GREEN GRASS for domestic cattle on his shoulders on a bright sunny day Monday in the outskirts of Srinagar city. KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

Meteorological Dept Predicts Warmer Days In J&K

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Amid forecast for mainly "warmer days" till April 25, night temperature continued to hover below normal.

Quoting a meteorological department official, news agency GNS reported that generally cloudy weather was expected from April 26 to 28.

He said there was a possibility of rain and snow over upper reaches at some places during the time.

Regarding temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 5.1°C and it was 3.8°C below

normal for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 3.6°C and it was 3.9°C below normal for the gateway town of Kashmir.

Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of 0.5°C and it was 3.5°C below normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district. Koker-nag recorded a low of 6.2°C and it was 1.2°C below normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 3.2°C and it was 0.1°C below normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 3.7°C and it was 3.9°C below normal for the north Kashmir area.

Jammu recorded a low of 17.6°C. It was 3.4°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

Banihal, he said, recorded a low of 5.4°C (below normal by 4.0°C), Batote 9.0°C (below normal by 3.0°C), Katra 14.2°C (3.9°C below normal) and Bhabarwah 6.6°C (1.8°C below normal). Ladakh's Leh and Kargil recorded a low of minus 0.4°C and 1.6°C respectively, the officials added.

Nomads Continue Annual Migration To Kashmir's Upper Reaches

Agencies

QAZIGUND: Keeping their centuries old tradition alive and with rise in daily temperature, the bi-annual seasonal migration of Gujjars and Bakerwals from Jammu's forest plains to Kashmir's high pastures is in full swing.

Every year, lakhs of people from nomadic tribes, mainly the Gujjars and Bakerwals, migrate to the Valley when temperatures soar in the plains of Jammu in April-May before returning ahead of the onset of winter.

Liyakat Ali, a tribal on seasonal migration to Kashmir said that their family has started to shift towards highland pastures Kashmir which is their centuries old tradition.

He said that they used to face a lot of problems during their journey. The government has now provided them with transport facilities which he described as a positive measure for his community.

"We are thankful to LG Manoj Sinha-led administration for introducing transport services for tribal people which reduced 300 kilometers on-foot journey of four weeks to just 1-2 days", he said.

The government introduced

the transportation service for migratory tribal families, covering the journey on National Highway, Mughal Road and other major roads.

"More than 16,000 migratory tribal families benefitted last year after spending summer months in Kashmir pastures and being brought back in trucks to their destination in various districts of the Jammu division", an official said.

He said the transportation system put in place by the Tribal Affairs Department has reduced the travel time from 20-30 days on foot to 1-2 days while it has also helped in smooth traffic management.

Musheer Ahmed Mirza, Director, Tribal Affairs department said they have kept vehicles available for nomadic community but tribal people prefer journey on foot as they have using pastures enroute for fodder of their animals.

He said it is an old traditional and seasonal practice and it takes them around one month to reach their respective places.

"We have been contacting J&K Road Transport Corporation to provide vehicles so as to take them from one place to another

whosoever contacts us", he said.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests for J&K, Mohit Gera said that the forest department is the nodal department under forest right act for tribal communities.

"We have our forest for fodder programme under which fodder production is being increased besides that forest product and some medicinal plants are being gathered by tribal people," he said.

Last year the government had sanctioned a policy for sustainable collection and utilization of non-timber forest products under which tribal people will get benefit, he said.

He said that the forest department along with other departments are working together for the welfare of tribal communities and their claims are being looked into by the Deputy Commissioner concerned and grass production is being increased in forests and routes used by tribal communities.

"We have been providing grass and seeds for non forest areas as well while units are being established in forests," he said, adding that land is specially kept for grass where they are getting this grass," he said—(KNO)

Two-Day Sinthan Snow Festival From April 29-30

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Directorate of Tourism Jammu in association with District Administration Kishtwar, Kishtwar Development Authority, JKAACL and Indian Army are celebrating Sinthan Snow Festival on 29th & 30th April, 2023.

The Sinthan Top is a highest motorable mountain pass that connects Kishtwar district with Anantnag District of Jammu and Kashmir and is 12, 414 ft above the sea level.

This pass is the highest mountain pass in J&K followed by Zojila Pass in the Himalayas i.e., 11, 500 ft in Kargil, Ladakh Union Territory.

One of the most well liked tourist destinations, Sinthan Top offers a 360o view of both Jammu and Kashmir regions. The neighboring Sinthan Maidan where the festival is being organized is becoming a significant hub for skiers, trekkers etc.

Live performances of famous local as well as celebrity singers shall be one of the main attractions of the said festival. Kishtwar Idol Finale and Inter College Group Dance Competition shall also be held at the Festival. Elaborate arrangements have been made for conduct of snow activities like skiing, sledging, snow kayaking, snow scooter etc.

Further a trekking expedition shall be organized from Pathramorh to Sinthan Maidan

jointly with the Forest Department. Besides, horse riding, treasure hunt game, volleyball, marathon, tug of war will be other attractions.

Vivekananda Rai, Director Tourism, Jammu, while addressing the media said that it is for the first time a Snow Festival is being organized at Sinthan Maidan in association with District Administration Kishtwar. "The festival is likely to bring this wonderful Tourist Spot, with stunning natural surroundings, in the limelight and capture the attention of visitors" he added.

Sunaina Sharma Mehta, Joint Director Tourism, Jammu, while speaking to the media said that Kishtwar has tremendous potential to emerge as one of the most attractive tourist destinations.

"Locals as well as tourists are upbeat over the event which shall feature musical performances, adventure activities, various competitions like Kishtwar Idol Finale, Inter College Group Dance Competition etc. at Sinthan Maidan amidst snow capped mountains and mesmerizing views" she added.

Abdul Jabbar, Deputy Director Tourism, Publicity, while inviting the media personnel said that the Department expects enthusiastic participations of locals as well as tourists from all across the nation and this event has already evoked tremendous response from every one.

Advisor Bhatnagar Reviews Performance Of SIDCO, SICOP

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar on Monday chaired a meeting to review performance and functioning of SIDCO and SICOP at Civil Secretariat here.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Industries and Commerce department, Prashant Goel, Managing Director, SIDCO/SICOP, senior officers of both the Corporations and other concerned officers both in person and through video conferencing.

Addressing the officers during the meeting, Advisor Bhatnagar emphasized upon the management of both the Corporations to focus on creating a well established ecosystem for accelerated development of industrial sector across Jammu and Kashmir. This will generate employment avenues for the youth here, he added.

Advisor further asked the management of both the Corporations to intensify their efforts for revival of non-functional Industrial Estates and draft a suitable plan for the same. He remarked that revival of these units will generate employment opportunities for large number of youth in the region.

While reviewing conditions and facilities of existing industrial estates, Advisor Bhatnagar delved upon the officers that the roads leading to these industrial

estates should be upgraded besides other utilities on modern lines should be put in place. He also directed the officers to develop roads and other facilities in the newly designated industrial estates on priority so that new allotments to industrial unit holders are operationalized early.

Regarding establishment of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) in industrial estates, the Advisor directed the officers to ensure that the CETPs are made essential by the industrial units besides making all completed CETPs operational at the earliest.

Advisor Bhatnagar, during the meeting, also highlighted the need for continuous improvement and innovation in functioning of the industrial estates across Jammu and Kashmir. He urged upon both the Corporations to focus on creating an enabling environment for SMEs to thrive and grow by providing them with timely and effective support in areas such as finance, marketing, and technology.

While reviewing the performance of SICOP, the Advisor directed the management of the Corporation for timely completion of all the projects. He further impressed upon them to recover the outstanding amount pending with different departments of J&K and effective utilization of same for betterment of corporation.

Conductor Dead In Dumper, Truck Collision

SRINAGAR: A conductor died and a driver was injured when two vehicles crashed into each other on Jammu-Srinagar national highway in Udhampur district last night, officials said.

Quoting officials, news agency KNO reported that a dumper crashed into a truck inside Cha-

nani-Nashri tunnel in Udhampur last night.

He said in the incident the conductor of the dumper died on spot while its driver was injured.

The deceased was identified as Balbir Chand of Samba.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance of the accident.

Farmers Turn Bhabarwah Town Into 'Capital Of Lavender'

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: A 33-year-old resident of Bhabarwah town in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir claims to have helped at least 2,500 farmers in Chenab region to increase their income manifold by switching from traditional maize and paddy farming to lucrative lavender cultivation.

Touqeer Bagban, a resident of Mohalla Vasuki Dhera in Bhabarwah town, belongs to a farmer's family and owns a cedar wood extraction oil unit.

"I always wanted to utilise local available natural resources to create jobs and provide profitable livelihood avenues for the small and marginal farmers," Bagban said.

Touqeer, a class 12 dropout, got inspiration from a workshop organised by IIM (Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine) in 2014 and convinced his family to switch from traditional farming of growing maize and paddy to cultivation of aromatic plants.



His 74-year-old father Gaffar Bagban is well aware of the medical and aromatic plants grown widely in high altitude Himalayan mountain. Gaffar also encouraged his son to engage locals in lavender farming.

Inspired by his father's ideas and subsequent IIM workshop, Touqeer started motivating and encouraging other farmers to start cultivating aromatic and medicinal plants.

"Initially, I found no taker for my ideas and it seem a herculean task to make it possible from switching to the new way of farming," Touqeer said.

He travelled extensively in the lengths and breadths of the region to promote his ideas and convince farmers to switch to the new crops.

"I even offered and assured farmers that I will bear all the losses if they don't find growing of aromatic and medicinal plants profitable in comparison to their traditional crops," Touqeer added.

The farmers gradually began to switch from traditional crops.

In 2016, the Ministry of Sciences and Technology along with CSIR-IIM started Aroma Mission and the initiative started gaining momentum.

As a result, presently 2,500 families are growing exotic lavender and Bhabarwah has become the leading producer of lavender in India.

After seeing the interest and success story of the farmers, he said Bhabar-

wah was not only named as the capital of lavender in India but the Union government also included lavender under the 'One District One Product' for promoting the crop in Doda district.

Union minister for science and technology Jitendra Singh installed 11 lavender distillation units in Bhabarwah.

Touqeer, after resounding success of bringing purple revolution and becoming instrumental in making Bhabarwah the capital of lavender in India, has ventured in value addition of locally grown aromatic plants.

"We have been getting rave reviews for our products from the word of mouth as lavender soap, rosemary soap, balm, incense sticks, hair oils and sanitizers are selling like hot cakes," he added.

Touqeer's venture has also helped more than 100 women find livelihood by working in lavender fields and nurseries.

Lavender flowers grow in temperate areas and are drought-resistant.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir UT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MUFFASIL (R&B) DIVISION BUDGAM
ENGINEERING COMPLEX BUDGAM PIN NO.191111
E-mail:- xenmbdivbud@gmail.com, Phone-FAX:- 01951-255208

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
E-tendering NIT No. 04-MDB of 2023-24/565-85 DATED:-24-04-2023.

For and on behalf of the President of India, e-tenders are being invited on percentage basis (as applicable) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with the J&K Government, CPWD, Railways, and other State/Central Governments for the following works:

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest money CDR/ FDR/ (Rs)	Time of Completion (days)	Class of Contractor	Major Head of account
1	Improvements /Upgradation of Bemina Budgam road by way of Providing and Laying of 75mm thick compacted wet mix, 50mm thick compacted bituminous macadam and bituminous concrete 40mm thick.	64.37	1600.00	128740/-	20	AAY	C&T
2	Improvements/Upgradation of Inner links of Budgam Head Quarter viz Chan Mohalla Girls Higher Secondary School Link Balance portion of Fund Office Bund link Zakir Tasaduq Link and Agha link road by way of Providing and Laying of WBM G-II, 75mm thick compacted wet mix, 50mm thick compacted bituminous macadam and 25mm thick compacted semidense with 6mm thick seal coat.	69.36	1600.00	138720/-	20	AAY	C&T
3	Improvements/Upgradation of Inner links of Peace Avenue at Sheikhpora Budgam by way of Providing and Laying of WBM G-II, 75mm thick compacted wet mix, 50mm thick compacted bituminous macadam and 25mm thick compacted semidense with 6mm thick seal coat.	34.67	1100.00	69340/-	15	AAY	C&T
4	Improvements/Upgradation of Bohu Colony at Razwan and Link taking off from KM 1st Budgam Choon Road LHS by way of Providing and Laying of GSB, WBM G-II, 75mm thick compacted wet mix, 50mm thick compacted bituminous macadam and 25mm thick compacted semidense with 6mm thick seal coat.	19.80	800.00	39600/-	15	"AAY" "BEE"	C&T
5	Improvements/Upgradation of Lane at Alnoor colony Narkara by way of Providing and Laying of WBM G-II, 75mm thick compacted wet mix, 50mm thick compacted bituminous macadam and 25mm thick compacted semidense with 6mm thick seal coat.	9.90	600.00	19800/-	10	"AAY" "BEE"	C&T

Project Authority: Chief Engineer, PWD (R&B) Kashmir
Position of AAA: Accorded Position of TS: Accorded

The bidding documents, which would include qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications/drawings, a bill of quantities (B.O.Q), a set of contract terms and conditions, and other details, can be viewed/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in on the dates listed below:-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	24/04/2023
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	24/04/2023
3	Bid submission Start Date	24/04/2023
4	Bid Submission End Date	01/05/2023 upto 4.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online) (Tech. Bids)	02/05/2023 11.00 AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Budgam

No: EE/ MDB/ 565-85
DATED:-24-04-2023
DIPK-663-23
DT: 24/04/2023

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Muffasil (R&B) Division
Budgam.

Wrestlers Spend Night On Footpath; Seek National Backing

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The protesting wrestlers on Monday threatened to approach the top court of the country if an FIR is not lodged against WFI President Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh and also sought to mobilise nationwide support by appealing to 'khaps', 'panchayats' and several other organisations to back their cause. On a day when the sports ministry stalled the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) election on May 7 and asked the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) to form an ad-hoc committee to run day-to-day affairs of the federation, the protesting wres-

mediator now, we won't let anyone deceive us," said Vinesh.

"All we want is that the police files an FIR and investigates the matter. We are citizens of independent India and there are numerous channels to get justice. Won't we get it (justice) from anywhere?," she questioned.

The wrestlers have claimed that they went to Connaught Place Police Station to lodge an FIR against the WFI president but the cops refused to entertain their plea.

While Sakshi said they were manipulated, Bajrang also said that they want 'khaps' and other organisations to support their stir.

When wrestlers had began



ters said they have nothing to do with the polls and would continue to press for a proper investigation into the allegations that Singh sexually harassed women athletes.

Admitting that they made a mistake by ending their protest three months back, the wrestlers, led by Olympians Vinesh Phogat, Bajrang Punia and Sakshi Malik, said they were "manipulated" by certain people.

"We are not going to listen to anyone now. We will be the face of the protest but we will now be guided by our 'gurujans' (elderly) and 'coach-khalifas' (mentors). It was a mistake to end the protest the last time around. We will not accept any

their protest in January, former wrestler and now BJP affiliate Babita Phogat had mediated between the aggrieved wrestlers and the government.

However it seems that wrestlers are not happy with the way Babita, who was part of the government's oversight panel, conducted herself.

"Maybe she loves politics more than the wrestling now," Vinesh said, while taking a jibe at her cousin sister. Sakshi said their legal team was contemplating approaching the apex court.

"We will go to the Supreme Court. If we are wrong in levelling the allegations, then a counter FIR should be filed against us," she said.

IPL 2023: MI Take On GT



Press Trust of India

AHMEDABAD: Their three-game winning streak snapped after a loss to Punjab Kings, five-time champions Mumbai Indians will look to address their poor death over bowling when they take on a resurgent Gujarat Titans in their IPL match here on Tuesday.

After a familiar poor start, MI enjoyed a hat-trick of wins but their impressive run was cut short by Punjab Kings with a 13-run win on Saturday.

MI's batting unit has looked formidable with the top and middle order being among runs.

While Rohit Sharma and Ishan Kishan have given a good start to the team on most occasions, Suryakumar Yadav's return to form is a big positive for MI, who have been served well by the overseas duo of Cameron Green and Tim David.

In fact, Green and Suryakumar had almost won them the match against Punjab Kings

with a 36-ball 75-run stand before being done in by Arshdeep Singh's magical overs at the death.

Things are not going to be any easier for the MI batters as the Titans too possess a strong bowling attack.

Criticised for not being able to defend totals this season, GT showed how to do it with a master class at the death overs to strangle Lucknow Super Giants' chase in their previous match.

The star of GT bowling was comeback man Mohit Sharma, who walked away with the player of the match award after using his variations to telling effect against the Lucknow side.

GT were in a dire situation with LSG cruising at 105 for 1 in 14 overs while chasing 136 but the bowlers, led by Mohit, denied them as he defended 12 runs in the final over.

While Mohit has been a revelation, veteran Mohammed Shami too has been among the wickets. However, skipper Har-

dik Pandya hasn't really fired with the ball, having picked up only one wicket so far.

Led by Rashid Khan, Gujarat's spin department looks potent with fellow Afghan wrist spinner Noor Ahmad and Jayant Thakur delivering under pressure against LSG.

GT batters have chased down totals but they have been sometimes guilty of not being able to push the score in middle overs.

While Wriddhiman Saha and Shubman Gill have scored runs at the top and Hardik top-scored in their last match, GT were about 10-15 runs short against LSG, mainly due to their slow batting in middle overs, something the team will need to address.

Also, GT might need to give their top overseas batter David Miller more time in the middle by promoting him up the order.

Match starts at 7:30 pm (IST).

Man United's Ten Hag Faces Ultimate Test Against Neighbours City

Agencies

MANCHESTER: Year-end exams don't come much tougher than the one facing Erik ten Hag and Manchester United.

The Dutch manager was hired to return the storied club to its former glories after a decade of decline. Against Manchester City in the FA Cup final he will get the chance to show how far United has come in his first season in charge.

While a one-off match cannot judge an entire campaign, the contrast in emotions for United's fans will be stark depending on the outcome.

A win on June 3 would not only secure a second trophy for Ten Hag — after the League Cup — but also serve as a statement of intent that he is building a team ready to go head-to-head with City, perhaps as soon as next season.

Defeat wouldn't necessarily

directly block City's attempt to emulate that feat will likely be an extra incentive.

"I understand, of course, the feelings from the Man United fans about it," Ten Hag said Sunday.

United beat Brighton 7-6 on penalty kicks after the FA Cup semifinal match at Wembley ended 0-0 through extra time.

On Saturday, City made light work of second-division Sheffield United in a 3-0 win, also at the national stadium.

This will be the first time the Manchester rivals have played each other in the FA Cup final, but there are parallels to be drawn with the semifinals match between them in the same competition in 2011.

While the former Ajax coach has had his own difficulties in his first season at Old Trafford, he has sparked hope that the good times could be on their way back. United is on course



alter that, but it would be painful confirmation of Guardiola's ongoing dominance of English soccer.

The potential that City could also be in contention for a treble of trophies — the FA Cup, the Premier League and the Champions League — provides added spice to the occasion.

United remains the only English team to have won those three major trophies in one season, in 1999. The chance to

to qualify for the Champions League and also in contention to win a second cup.

"We are on the right track. One trophy, another final and fighting for the top four," goalkeeper David de Gea said. "It's not enough but it's a big step from last season."

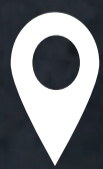
After losing 6-3 to City in Ten Hag's first Manchester derby in October, United won 2-1 in January, in what the manager described as the "perfect game."

Bun Maska



Chai

Famous Irani Chai of Bombay now in Srinagar



JK Bank Lawns,
Opp Ghat 6 Boulevard,
Srinagar