

## Human Trafficking In Kashmir Rose By 15.56% In 2021-22

**Srinagar:** The National Commission for Women (NCW) chairperson Rekha Sharma on Thursday said human trafficking increased by 15.56 per cent in Jammu and Kashmir last year as compared to the 2021-22 financial year but it is "just the tip of an iceberg".

"In the last few years, we have seen in Kashmir also that women are getting targeted. The NCRB data shows that it has increased 15.56 per cent last year compared to 2021-22. And this is just the tip of the iceberg

because the data does not give the true picture," Sharma told PTI, ahead of the anti-human trafficking workshop organised by the NCW here.

Sharma said the purpose of holding the workshop in Kashmir was to make people aware of the menace of human trafficking.

"We must now work to save our daughters and our children. This is the main purpose of making it (workshop) happen in Kashmir," she said.

"Human trafficking is a



serious crime and it does not have boundaries whether it is Kashmir or Kanyakumari. This

### J&K Govt Has Zero Tolerance For Crime Against Women: LG

**J**ammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Thursday said that his government has adopted a policy of zero tolerance for crime against women and is committed to punish the criminal networks or individuals behind human trafficking.

"Trafficking in persons is the most heinous form of organized crime which requires holistic

is prevalent everywhere. And sometimes, the victims of the trafficking do not even know

that they are the victims," Sharma said.

"The main problem is due to

lack of awareness. This is our first of its kind programme in Jammu and Kashmir where all the forces -- state commissions, NGOs -- are together to make people aware, especially the students, that nobody is out of reach of this problem," the NCW chief said.

Sharma said the women were being trafficked under the pretext of being provided well-paying jobs.

"They give false promises of jobs here, or elsewhere in India, but they

## Jammu Meet Takes Stock Of Yatra Security

**Jammu:** With annual Amarnath Yatra set to begin from July, a meeting of various security and intelligence agencies was held here on Thursday to discuss security measures and deployment of troops in the Jammu region.

The two-month pilgrimage to the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine in south Kashmir is scheduled to start on July 1 and will continue till August 31.

The journey can be undertaken through two routes -- the traditional 48-km route through Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag and the 14-km shorter but steep Baltal route in Ganderbal district of central Kashmir.

Mukesh Singh, Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Jammu Zone, convened a preparatory meeting in connection with the forthcoming Amarnath Yatra and discussed the various issues including adequate police and security force

## 11 Tourists, Guide Held In Gulmarg With Fake Gondola Tickets

### Agencies

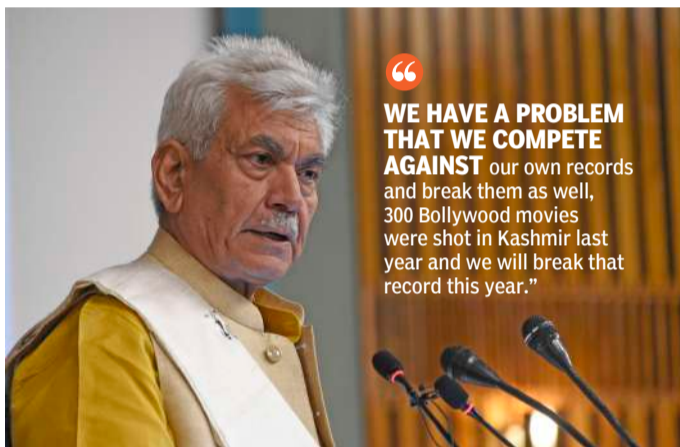
**Srinagar:** The authorities on Thursday caught 11 tourists and a local guide with fake and edited Gondola tickets at the famous ski resort Gulmarg in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

Quoting an official, news agency KNO reported that 11 tourists from Gujarat along with a local guide who had come to board the Gondola from Kongdori to Gulmarg were caught with fake and edited tickets.

He said they had reached Kongdori through ponies and had come to undertake a return journey on fake and edited tickets. "To avoid inconvenience to tourists they were brought to Gulmarg through Gondola for investigation. Our officers Showkat Ahmad Bhat (incharge Project)

## J&K Will Host Record 2 Crore Tourists This Year: LG

Says Golden Era Of 80'S Returning To Kashmir



**“ WE HAVE A PROBLEM THAT WE COMPETE AGAINST our own records and break them as well, 300 Bollywood movies were shot in Kashmir last year and we will break that record this year.”**

KO Photo | Abid Bhat

### Majid Nabi

**Srinagar:** Asserting that the golden era of 80s is making a comeback to Kashmir Valley, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Thursday said that over 300 movies were shot in Jammu and Kashmir last year, while this year over 2 crore tourists are expected to visit the Union Territory by the year end.

"Last year, more than 300 movies were filmed in J&K. More film-makers coming to Jammu Kashmir will strengthen the economy, provide employment and livelihood opportunities to locals and bring prosperity," Sinha said, while speaking to reporters in Bandipora.

The LG's remark on 80's era comes three days after Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan landed in Kashmir to shoot scenes for his upcoming movie

'Dunki', Earlier, the LG inaugurated the newly constructed 224 residential transit accommodations for PM Package employees at Odina village of Bandipora.

Sinha said that sincere efforts are being made to fulfil the commitment of Government of India and to provide residential accommodations to all employees by next year.

Earlier in the day, the LG said that the Union Territory has been breaking its own records in terms of tourism and development, and that the anticipated arrival of over two crore tourists this year will be yet another feather in its cap.

"We have a problem that we compete against our own records and break them as well, 300 Bollywood movies were shot in Kashmir last year and we will break that record this year" Sinha told the media

### Poonch Attack Case

## Man Called For Police Questioning Consumes Poison, Dies

### Press Trust Of India

**Jammu:** A 50-year-old man who allegedly consumed poison on being called by police for questioning in connection with last week's militant attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch died on Thursday, sparking protests by agitated locals, an official said.

Mukhtar Hussain Shah, a resident of Nar village in the district's Mendhar tehsil, was disturbed as he was facing some domestic issues, he said, adding that he was not summoned as a suspect.

However, in a video message which went viral after his death, Shah alleged harassment. He also

called for stern action against the real culprits behind the attack and a united fight against militancy.

Shah allegedly consumed poison on Tuesday evening and was admitted to the Government Medical College, Rajouri, where he died on Thursday morning, the official said.

Shah took the extreme step within hours of being asked to report for questioning in connection with the April 20 ambush by militants in the Bhata Dhurian forest that left five soldiers dead, he said.

The slain soldiers were from a Rashtriya Rifles unit



A boatman ferries school children to their homes inside Srinagar's Dal Lake on a rainy Thursday afternoon. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

## Milli Trust Delhi Forays Into J&K Healthcare Sector

**LG Lays Foundation Of Rs. 525 Crore Kashmir Medical College & Super-Specialty Hospital**

**100-Bedded Hospital, Medical College With 150 MBBS Seats To Provide Employment Opportunity To 2000 Youth**

### Observer News Service

**Srinagar:** Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha laid foundation stone of a private Medical College & Super-Specialty Hospital on Thursday, terming it as one of the biggest private sector investments in the health sector of the Union Territory that will improve efficiency and quality of care.

The foundation stone of New Delhi-based Milli Trust's Kashmir Medical College & Super-Specialty Hospital was laid at the Industrial Estate Sempora, Medicity.

The project worth Rs. 525 Cr will develop a Medical College with 150 MBBS seats to fulfill the aspirations of youth and a 100 bedded hospital will



provide world-class healthcare at affordable rates. The project will provide employment opportunities to 2000 local youth.

Addressing the gathering at the ground breaking ceremony, the LG said that it was a new era for private investments in Jammu and Kashmir and testimony to PM Narendra Modi's commitment to make the Union Territory a leading investment destination for the manufacturing and service sector.

"We have created an enabling environment for the private sector for economic development, employment

and income generation. The administration is deeply and sincerely committed to ease of doing business and ease of living," Sinha said.

Sharing the details of infrastructure being developed in the UT, the LG said that Rs 1.25 lakh crores worth road and highway projects are being completed while necessary institutional structures have also been created for investment.

"The journey from Katra to Delhi will be possible in 6 hours with the completion of the new Katra-Delhi expressway while the journey from Kashmir to Delhi will take only 9 hours," he said.

## Several DCs Among 20 Officers Shifted

### Observer News Service

**Srinagar:** The Union Territory government on Thursday ordered transfer of 20 officers, including several Deputy Commissioners (DCs) in the interest of administration with immediate effect.

According to an order, Baseer-u-Haq Chaudhary, IAS (AGMUT:2015), Deputy Commissioner, Pulwama, has been transferred and posted as Managing Director, Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited.

Sachin Kumar Vaishy, IAS (AGMUT:2015), Deputy Commissioner, Shopian, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur, vice Ms. Kritika Jyotsna, IAS (UP:2014), who has been asked to await further orders of adjustment in the GAD.

Basharat Qayoom, IAS (JH:2016), Deputy Commissioner, Anantnag, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, Pulwama.

Minga Sherpa, IAS (AGMUT:2017), Managing Director, Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Development Corporation, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary in the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat. "He shall hold the charge of the posts of Managing Director,

Corporation Limited, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, Poonch.

Rakesh Minhas, IAS (AGMUT:2016), Managing Director, SIDCO, holding additional charge of Managing Director, SICOP, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, Kathua, vice Rahul Pandey, IAS (UP:2014), who has been asked to await further orders of adjustment in the GAD.

Basharat Qayoom, IAS (JH:2016), Deputy Commissioner, Anantnag, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, Pulwama.

Minga Sherpa, IAS (AGMUT:2017), Managing Director, Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Development Corporation, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary in the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat. "He shall hold the charge of the posts of Managing Director,

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

### Justice Sreedharan Shifted To J&K HC

**T**he President of India on Thursday approved transfer of Justice Atul Sreedharan from Madhya Pradesh High Court to Jammu & Kashmir High Court. In a tweet, Union Minister for Law & Justice Kiren Rijju announced that the President has approved transfer of Justice Atul Sreedharan from MP High Court to J&K High Court. With this development, the number of High Court judges in J&K High Court has reached 16. On March 28, 2023, the Supreme Court collegium has recommended that Justice from

### Teen Killed After Boulder Hits House

**A** teenager was killed after a massive boulder rolled down a hill during a rain-triggered landslide and hit his house in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district early Thursday, officials said. Two people were trapped under the debris of the house. While 19-year-old Arshad was killed in the incident, Rashid (17) was rescued, they said. The officials said the other occupants of the house are safe. The incident took place between 3:30 am and 4 am in the district's Thakuria area.

### Falling Tree Kills Man in Pulwama

**A** man died on Thursday after coming under a falling tree in Tral area of South Kashmir's Pulwama district. 42-year-old Abdul Salam Yatoo was chopping a tree in Pinglish village in Tral on Thursday afternoon when it came crashing on him, and injured him severely, reports said.

### SIU Files Chargesheet Against Two Militants

**T**he Special Investigation Unit (SIU) of police on Thursday produced chargesheet against an active militant and a hybrid militant in connection with a case of IED recovery in Sopore town of Baramulla district. The SIU presented a chargesheet before the NIA Court in Baramulla against a hybrid militant Waseem Raja Lone and an active Mohammad Umar Mir, associated with Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) outfit, a police spokesperson said Thursday. The chargesheet, he said, was presented in case

### BSF Guns Down Drone Carrying Drugs

**T**roops of the Border Security Force (BSF) shot down a Pakistani drone carrying heroin and opium near the India-Pakistan border here on Thursday morning, officials said. The BSF personnel opened fire after they spotted a drone entering the Indian territory near Dhanoe Kalan village here, according to an official statement. During a search operation in the area, the personnel recovered a partially damaged black drone of DJI Matrice 300 RTK model, it added. The drone

### Lolab Woman Injured In Bear Attack

**A** woman was attacked and injured on Thursday by a black bear in Lolab Valley of North Kashmir's Kupwara district. 39-year-old Shaheena Begum was busy inside her kitchen garden in Gangbugh village of Lolab Valley on Thursday afternoon when a black bear appeared there and attacked her, reports said. Shaheena suffered serious injuries in the surprise beast attack. She was removed by her family and neighbours to the sub-district hospital (SDH) Sogam for treatment. Meanwhile,



# Students Found To Fare Better At Accounting Exams Than ChatGPT

Press Trust Of India

Researchers found students to have fared better at accounting exams than ChatGPT, OpenAI's chatbot product.

Despite this, they said that ChatGPT's performance was "impressive" and that it was a "game changer that will change the way everyone teaches and learns - for the better."

The researchers from Brigham Young University (BYU), US, and 186 other universities wanted to know how OpenAI's technology would fare on accounting exams. They have published their findings in the journal Issues in Accounting Education.

In the researchers' accounting exam, students scored an overall average of 76.7 per cent, compared to ChatGPT's score of 47.4 per cent.

While in 11.3 per cent of the questions, ChatGPT was found to score higher than the student average, doing particularly well on accounting information systems (AIS) and auditing, the AI bot was found to perform worse on tax, financial, and managerial assessments. Researchers think this could possibly



be because ChatGPT struggled with the mathematical processes required for the latter type.

The AI bot, which uses machine learning to generate natural language text, was further found to do better on true/false questions (68.7 per cent correct) and multiple-choice questions (59.5 per cent), but struggled with short-answer questions (between 28.7 and 39.1 per cent).

In general, the researchers said that higher-order questions were harder for ChatGPT to answer. In fact,

sometimes ChatGPT was found to provide authoritative written descriptions for incorrect answers, or answer the same question different ways.

They also found that ChatGPT often provided explanations for its answers, even if they were incorrect. Other times, it went on to select the wrong multiple-choice answer, despite providing accurate descriptions.

Researchers importantly noted that ChatGPT sometimes made up facts. For example, when providing a reference, it generated a real-look-

ing reference that was completely fabricated. The work and sometimes the authors did not even exist.

The bot was seen to also make nonsensical mathematical errors such as adding two numbers in a subtraction problem, or dividing numbers incorrectly.

Wanting to add to the intense ongoing debate about how models like ChatGPT should factor into education, lead study author David Wood, a BYU professor of accounting, decided to recruit as many professors as possible to see how the AI fared against actual university accounting students.

His co-author recruiting pitch on social media exploded: 327 co-authors from 186 educational institutions in 14 countries participated in the research, contributing 25,181 classroom accounting exam questions.

They also recruited undergraduate BYU students to feed another 2,268 textbook test bank questions to ChatGPT. The questions covered AIS, auditing, financial accounting, managerial accounting and tax, and varied in difficulty and type (true/false, multiple choice, short answer).

# Artificial Intelligence Helps Scientists Detect Exoplanet

Press Trust Of India

Researchers used machine learning tools, a kind of artificial intelligence (AI), and now has confirmed evidence of previously unknown exoplanet.

The researchers from University of Georgia (UGA), US, said that their study showed machine learning to correctly determine the presence of exoplanets by looking in protoplanetary disks, the gas around newly formed stars.

They said their findings, published in The Astrophysical Journal, represented a first step toward using machine learning to identify previously overlooked exoplanets.

"We confirmed the planet using traditional techniques, but our models directed us to run those simulations and showed us exactly where the planet might be," said Jason Terry, doctoral student in the UGA Franklin College of Arts and Sciences department of physics and astronomy and lead author on the study.

"When we applied our

models to a set of older observations, they identified a disk that wasn't known to have a planet despite having already been analysed. Like previous discoveries, we ran simulations of the disk and found that a planet could re-create the observation," said Terry.

According to Terry, the models suggested a planet's presence, indicated by several images that strongly highlighted a particular region of the disk that turned out to have the characteristic sign of a planet - an unusual deviation in the velocity of the gas near the planet.

"This is an incredibly exciting proof of concept. We knew from our previous work that we could use machine learning to find known forming exoplanets," said Cassandra Hall, assistant professor of computational astrophysics and principal investigator of the Exoplanet and Planet Formation Research Group at UGA.

"Now, we know for sure that we can use it to make brand new discoveries," said Hall.

**Government of Jammu & Kashmir**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**  
**FLOOD SPILL CHANNEL DIVISION NARBAL**  
PIN No.193401

Fax/Phone: 01951-260223      Notice inviting e-Tender      Email: floodspillchannelnarbal@gmail.com  
e- NIT No. 06 of 2023-24 Dated: 26/04/2023

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

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (In Lacs)	Earnest Money	Cost of T/Doc. (.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	M.H Account
1.	Strengthening and Raising of embankment of Roshanabad on Sukhnag Nallah at Spots.	4.46Lacs	8920/-	300/-	15days	DEE	M&R
2.	Construction of cross bund across FSC at Hokersar Exit to retain water in Hokersar wetland during lean period.	4.22Lacs	8440/-	300/-	15days	DEE	M&R
3.	Construction of Ghat on Sukhnag Nallah near Masjid Sharif Yargund.	3.09Lacs	6180/-	300/-	15days	DEE	M&R
4.	Surface correction of embankment (bund top) on both sides of Flood Spill Channel from RD 6554m to RD 11950m by way of earth filling in the depressions/ wheel tracks.	2.79Lacs	5580/-	300/-	10days	DEE	M&R
5.	Storm water drainage crossing including sluice valve across left side embankment D/S Shariefabad Steel bridge at RD 9900mtrs.	2.48Lacs	4960/-	300/-	10days	DEE	M&R
6.	Clearance of unwanted grass from bed of Flood Spill Channel and embankments and removal of accumulated swayed debris, trees / branches at spots from RD 6554m to RD 8900m.	2.09Lacs	4180/-	300/-	10days	DEE	M&R
07.	Restoration of weakened left embankment of Sukhnag Nallah U/S Goorikhul Gate.	2.06Lacs	4120/-	300/-	10days	DEE	M&R

Position of AAA =Accorded Vide No: SE/Hyd/Bud/DB/AAA/21 of 2023-24 Dated: 19/04/2023 & No. SE/Hyd/Bud/DB/AAA/20 of 2023-24 Dated: 19/04/2023, Position of TS = Sanctioned, Position of funds: (100% Budgetary provision 2023-24)  
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.No.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	26-04-2023
1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	26-04-2023
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	26-04-2023 from 1800 Hrs
3.	Bid submission Start Date	26-04-2023 from 1800 Hrs
4.	Bid Submission End Date	06-05-2023 upto 1600 Hrs
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids	08-05-2023 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal.
6.	Submission of Performance Security (PS)	The 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 dtd. 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 1st 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 Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal failing which the tender will be rejected outright. 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 Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal.  
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 thereof.  
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.  
7.5. 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.  
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 Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal and Earnest Money in the shape of CDR/FDR in favour of Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal failing which the tender will be rejected outright.  
9. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. The BOQ downloaded should be inclusive of all taxes.  
10. Bidders should note that if the documents uploaded/submitted on the basis of which the contract has been awarded are found fake/ not genuine at any time, the contract shall be cancelled and the contractor/bidder shall be blacklisted for participation in this division for a period of One year besides the performance security deposited for the said work shall be forfeited.  
11. Price escalation and Taxes:- The %age quoted by the bidder shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work. 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.  
12. Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on www.jktenders.gov e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.

No. FSCDN/CS/ D1PK-812/23      Dated: 26/04/2023.      Er. Zaffar Mustafa Khan  
Executive Engineer  
Flood Spill Channel Division  
Narbal.

**The Jammu And Kashmir State**  
**Board Of School Education**  
SUB-OFFICE BANDIPORA

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 12th session Annual 2008 issued by the board of School Education under Below mentioned particulars  
**Name : Shaheena Bano**  
**D/O: Mohd Maqbool Bhat**  
**Roll No: 406744**  
**Year & Session : 2008 Annual**



Now the candidate has applied for Duplicate Marks Card. Anybody (if) having any objection may file the same before undersigned with (07) Seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides, the original marks card is teated as cancelled.

Sd/ Assistant Secretary  
Board Of School Education  
Sub Office Bandipora

bbr

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE HIGH COURT OF**  
**Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh at Srinagar**  
CAVEAT PETITION No./2023

IN THE MATTER OF:-  
Randeep Pal Singh and Ors  
U.T of Jammu & Kashmir

V/S

CAVEATORS/APPLICANTS  
NON-CAVEATOR/ NON-APPLICANT

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Caveators Through Counsel  
(Lawanya Sharma) Advocate

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE HIGH COURT OF**  
**Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh at Srinagar**  
CAVEAT PETITION No./2023

PROVISION OF LAW : CAVEAT PETITION UNDER SECTION 14B-A MATTER PERTAINS TO DISTRICT JAMMU IN THE MATTER OF:-

1. Randeep Pal Singh aged 27 years son of S Anurpal Singh R/o H No 3 Sector 7 Model Town, Gangyal Bahl Bag House, Jammu-180010  
2. Abhishek aged 27 years son of Ashok Dhar R/o H No 28, Lane No. 7, Anand Nagar Bohri, Near J&K Bank Jammu-180002  
3. Jitender Pal Singh aged 28 years son of S Iqbal Singh R/o H No 152 Digiana Model Town, Gangyal Jammu-180010  
4. Tandeep Singh aged 28 years son of S Prith Pal Singh R/o Gole Gulaj Camp, Near Govt Higher Secondary School, Jammu-180002  
5. Ashwin Handoo, aged 28 years son of S Subash Chander Handoo R/o 1988 Lane No 5, Opp Post office Koushalya Niwas New Plots Jammu-180001  
6. Anmol aged 24 years son of Maharai Krishan R/o H No 182, Near Licthi Bagh, Anand Bagh Anand Nagar near Santa North Preet Baba Will Gole, Akalpur, Jammu-180002  
7. Pooja Akhtar aged 29 years D/O Harmil Ullah Bhat R/o Wapora Rohama Baramulla J&K-193301  
8. Neha Raina aged 24 years D/O Bhola Nath Raina R/o 77 Sector 1 Roop Nagar Sarika Vihar Jammu 1800 19  
9. Purni Roshan Kou, aged 26 years D/O Roshan Lal Koul R/o 43/A, Roop Nagar Durga Nagar Bantatlab Jammu-180013  
10. Mohr aged 26 years son of Chunil Lal Pantta, R/o H No. 4 Lane No. 4, Udhewala Road Bohri Hero Showroom Jammu-180018  
11. Rohit Raina age 27 years S/o M.K. Raina R/o H No 15, Lane No. 4A Laxmi Vihar Tomal Bohri, Jammu  
12. Rahul Bhat aged 29 years S/o AK Bhat R/o H No 204 Naseem Nagar Janipur, Jammu  
13. Gurdeep Singh aged 27 years S/o Jarnal Singh R/o H No 322, Preet Nagar Digiana Jammu  
14. Muntaz Rehman age 28 years, S/o Abdul Rehman Zargar R/o Jamiya Qadeem Handwara District Kupwara Srinagar  
15. Vishal Kaul, age 35 years S/o Avtar Krishan Koul, R/o H No 19, Lane No 3 Anand Vihar Bohri Chung Jammu  
16. Sumit Tickoo, age 29 years, S/o Mohan Lal Tickoo, R/o Flat No 19, Block 45, Jagti Colony,  
17. Vimarsh Pandita, age 27 years, S/o Pradman Krishan Pandita, R/o New Uttam Garden Colony, Marwal Pathankot, Punjab  
18. Anku Pandita, age 27 years, S/o Mob Lal Pantta R/o Lane No. 25, Block No.166 Flat No 21, Jagti Nagar,  
19. Surabhi Malta, aged 26 years, D/o Sunder Malta, R/o H. No. 1-121 Janki Vihar Lane, Patoli Mohr, Jannipur, Jammu-180007

V/S

CAVEATORS/APPLICANTS

1. Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir through its Secretary to Government Disaster Management, Relief & Rehabilitation Department, Civil Secretariat Jammu/ Srinagar.  
2. Commissioner/ Secretary to Govt. Public Works (R&B) Department Civil Secretariat, Jammu/ Srinagar.  
3. Commissioner/Secretary to Govt. PHE/IFC Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu/Srinagar  
4. J&K Service Selection Board, Sekhri Bhanwan, Jammu through its Secretary  
5. Chairman, J&K Service Selection Board, Sekhri Bhanwan, Jammu  
6. Public at Large.


NON-CAVEATORS/NON-APPLICANTS

AND  
IN THE MATTER OF:-  
Caveat Petition under section 14B-A of the code of Civil Procedure with respect to the Judgment dated 20/04/2023, passed in the Original Applications bearing O.A No. 12/20,1107/20 & TA No 437/20 titled "Randeep Pal Singh and Ors. Vs. UT of J&K and Ors", "Surabhi Malta Vs. UT of J&K and Ors" and "Rohit Raina and Ors. Vs. UT of J&K and Ors" respectively.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIPS:  
The caveators above named most respectfully submit as under -1. That the caveators have earned the Judgment dated 20.04.2023, passed in the Original Applications bearing O.A. No. 12/20,1107/20 & TA. No. 437/20 titled "Randeep Pal Singh and Ors. Vs. UT of J&K and Ors", "Surabhi Malta Vs. UT of J&K and Ors" and "Rohit Raina and Ors. Vs. UT of J&K and Ors" respectively whereby the J&K Service Selection Board-Sekhri Bhanwan Jammu through its Secretary and Chairman, J&K Service Selection Board, Sekhri Bhanwan Jammu are directed to re-frame the select lists to the post of Junior Engineer (Civil) in PHE Department under O.M category considering the candidature of the applicants in the above titled O.A and recommend the names of the applicants to the Government PHE/IFC department J&K A copy of the Judgment dated 20/04/2023 is enclosed herewith and marked as Annexure-1.  
2. That the caveators have reasonable apprehension that the non-caveators may file any writ petition against the said judgment and by distorting the true and correct facts may try to obtain ex-parte stay of the said judgment.  
3. That since valuable rights of the caveators herein are at stake, therefore, the caveators seek the kind indulgence of this Hon'ble Court to afford them a reasonable opportunity of being heard before passing any order in the writ petition that may be filed by the non-caveators.  
It is, therefore, most respectfully prayed that in view of the submissions made herein above and those to be urged at the time of hearing, the Hon'ble Court may, in the event of filing of any writ petition by the non-caveators against the Judgment dated 20.04.2023, passed in the Original Applications bearing O.A No. 12/20, 1107/20 & TA/437/20 titled "Randeep Pal Singh and Ors. Vs. UT of J&K and Ors. Surabhi MGMT Vs. UT of J&K and Ors and Rohit Raina and Ors Vs. UT of J&K and Ors"; may very graciously be pleased to afford a reasonable opportunity of being heard to the caveators before passing any ex-parte orders in such writ petition. The caveators may kindly be intimated at the following address of his counsel  
CAVEATORS THROUGH COUNSEL LAWANYA SHARMA ADVOCATE

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE  
Lawanya Sharma, Advocate  
High Court of Jammu & Kashmir, Mob. No. 941922799

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ



With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform that Mr Asif Ali S/O Mr Mehboob Ali R/O Mandibal left for his heavenly abode today in USA.

Dated: 27-04-23

SS

**سانحه ارتحال**

یہ اطلاع انتہائی رنج و غم کے ساتھ دی جاتی ہے کہ اہلیہ مرحوم غلام احمد صاحب صاحبہ صاحبہ یار عالی کدل (زیدک آتان عالیہ حضرت اویسی صاحب) مورثہ 27 ماہ اپریل 2023ء بروز جمعرات بمطابق 06 ماہ شوال 1444ھ متحضر علالت کے بعد اس دنیائے فانی سے رحلت کر گئیں۔ (انا لله وانا الیہ راجعون) تعزیت صرف تین دن تک رہے گی اور کوئی اجتماعی فاتحہ خوانی نہیں ہوگی۔

**سوگوار:-** شوکت احمد صاحب

AINF

**اندرا بی خانوادے کو صدمہ جانکاہ**

یہ خبر انتہائی دکھ کے ساتھ دی جا رہی ہے کہ ہماری نور نظر، نیت جگر سید الطیب المعروف سیدہ فاطمہ دختر سید عنایت اللہ رشید اندرانی ساکنہ گوہر پورہ چاؤدرہ بڈنگ 126 اپریل 2023ء بروز بدھ اس دار فانی سے رحلت کر گئیں۔ (انا لله وانا الیہ راجعون) متوفی کی پیم پیدائش 19 مارچ 2010ء اور یوم وفات 126 اپریل 2023ء ہے۔ اس سلسلے میں فاتحہ خوانی آپا پٹی مشہرہ بمقام گوہر پورہ چاؤدرہ 129 اپریل 2023ء بروز سنیچر انجام دی جائے گی۔

نوٹ: ایسی احباب و اقارب سے استدعا ہے کہ وہ اپنے ساتھ کسی قسم کا میوہ یا مشروبات ساتھ نہ لائیں۔

سوگوار خاندان  
سید عنایت اللہ رشید اندرانی (والد)

R.M

**تقریب فاتحہ خوانی**

یہ خبر نہایت دکھ کے ساتھ دی جاتی ہے کہ محترمہ اختر جان اہلیہ غازی مشتاق ساکنہ لونہ پورہ نیوہ پلوامہ بحال بڈنگ 78 شاہ گنجی پورہ اس دنیائے فانی سے رحلت کر گئیں۔ ما کہ حقیقی مرحومہ کو جو رحمت میں جگہ عطا فرمائیں۔ مرحومہ ایک نیک سیرت خاتون تھیں۔ مرحومہ کی فاتحہ خوانی تیس اپریل بروز اتوار نماز فجر کے بعد ان کے آبائی قبرستان لونہ پورہ نیوہ میں منعقد ہوگی۔ بعد ازاں تعزیت پری کی تقریب بھی پورہ میں دن کے ساڑھے تین بجے انجام دی جائے گی۔

سوگوار خاندان

**96225011051**  
**60055919123**  
**9910019394**

SS

## Teenage Girl Injured In Gas Leakage Succumbs In Hospital

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A teenage girl, who was injured in a gas leakage incident in Bemina area of Srinagar last week, succumbed to her injuries at SMHS Hospital here Thursday.

An official said the girl, who was injured in a gas leakage incident at SD colony Bemina last week, succumbed to her injuries at SMHS hospital.

He said Aribina Amin

(17) daughter of Mohammad Amin Haroon and her mother Gulshana were injured due to gas leakage at Bemina on 21 April.

He said that the injured mother daughter duo was shifted to SMHS Srinagar for treatment where Aribina succumbed to injuries today while condition of Gulshana is said to be stable. Police have already taken cognizance of the incident and set the investigation into motion.

## Altaf Bukhari Condole With Rizvi Brothers On Their Bereavement

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari expressed his condolences to Syed Kifayat Hussain Rizvi, Chairman of Idara Falah-E-Aam in Alamgari Bazar, Srinagar, and Syed Mehmood Rizvi, Trustee of Idara Falah-E-Aam, on the passing away of their sister, who was the wife of Late Syed Naqi Shah resident of Munawar Abad (Presently at Baghwanpora Lalbazar).

In his condolence message, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari extended his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. He said, "I

am deeply saddened to hear about the demise of the beloved sister of Syed Kifayat Hussain Rizvi and Syed Mehmood Rizvi Sahib. May the Almighty Allah rest the departed soul in eternal peace, grant her the highest place in Jannah, and shower His choicest blessings on her grave."

Expressing solidarity with the bereaved family, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari said, "In this hour of grief, I stand in solidarity with the bereaved family, and I pray to the Almighty to give them much-needed strength to bear the pain of this inconsolable and irreparable loss."

## Tug Of War Event Organized At SP College

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Physical Education Department of Sri Pratap College today organized "Tug of war" between students of various groups to kick-start the sports calendar of the academic ses-

sion 2023-24. that will be held from time to time during the academic session. Stressing upon the physical agility, he talked about the importance of physical fitness and significance of games in daily lives.

The event was also attended by Prof Manzoor



Various groups of boys and girls participated in the event. The event was flagged off by Principal SP College, Prof (Dr.) Gh Jee-lani Qurashi.

In his introductory address, he urged upon the students to actively participate in the sports activities

Ahmad Wani, Dr. Khurshid Ahmad Parray, Dr. Ruheena Tabassum, Dr. Nadia Shah, Prof. Zafar Majeed and Mr. Owais Wani.

Prof Manzoor Ahmad Wani, Head Department of Botany addressed the participants and assured them that sports activities shall be a regular feature of the college.



Work under Srinagar Smart City Project on at trendy Residency Road in Srinagar, KO Photo Abid Bhat

## Canine Attack Leaves Woman Dead, Five Others Injured In Srinagar

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: An elderly lady died and five others injured after a pack of stray dogs attacked them in Munawarabad locality in Srinagar a day earlier.

Witnesses told 'Kashmir Observer' that an elderly lady (name withheld) was attacked by a pack of stray dogs outside her residence at Munawarabad locality, while five persons who tried to rescue the victim also suffered injuries in the canine attack.

They said the injured lady was immediately rushed to the hospital where she succumbed to her injuries later, while five others were discharged after necessary treatment.

The incident evoked sharp resentment by the locals against



**We only blame Srinagar Municipal Corporation for the nuisance, in Kashmir human beings are victimized by dogs but face punishment if they react in defense**

Srinagar Municipality for miserably failing to tackle dog menace in the city. Locals living in the vicinity said that authorities never bother to address

such sensitive issues, thus leaving them in dire-straits.

A man was arrested by the police for tying a stray dog to his scooty and dragging it down the road at Shalimar area in the city last evening. He was charged under various sections of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.

The Anti-Rabies Clinic at Sri Maharaja Hari Singh (SMHS) Hospital has received 6,875 cases of dog bites during the past one year.

"We only blame Srinagar Municipal Corporation for the nuisance, in Kashmir human beings are victimized by dogs but face punishment if they react in defense. We appeal to the authorities to look into the issue and take serious measures for making Srinagar a dog free city," A local from Munawarabad said.

## 229 Persons Dies In Srinagar Road Accidents, 551 In Jammu Since 2018 To 2022

Observer News Service

Srinagar: At least 780 persons have died in different road accidents in the past five years in Srinagar and Jammu region falling under the jurisdiction of Traffic Police City Jammu and Srinagar respectively.

Jammu City has witnessed more fatalities as compared to Srinagar from 2018 to 2022.

The Traffic Department has made the data public in reply to the queries raised by the appli-



cant MM Shuja under the Right to Information Act.

The data reveals that 6,585 persons were injured in Jammu for the last five years; the number of road accident injuries in Srinagar stands at 1,776.

As per the data, 229 persons

died in different road accidents from 2018 to 2022 in areas falling under the jurisdiction of Traffic Police City Srinagar. The highest number of casualties was 53 in 2022.

In areas falling under the jurisdiction of Traffic Police City Jammu, 551 persons died in road accidents. The highest number of fatalities recorded in 2021 was 107.

Overall the number of deaths in Jammu and Srinagar cities in the last one year was 780 and 8,151 person's sustained injuries.

## Police Observes "Thana Diwas"

Observer News Service

Srinagar: : As a part of a public outreach program and an initiative by the Government of J&K, Police organized 'Thana Diwas' at various Police establishments across the Kashmir valley including Srinagar.

The programs were chaired by the District/ Zonal heads in their respective jurisdictional areas. These meetings were attended by respectable citizens, DDCs, BDCs, Numberdars, Chowkidars, representatives of Traders Federation, Transporters, Auqaf Committees, Panchs and Sarpanches. Besides, police officers and officials were also present on these occasions.

In these events, the participants highlighted various issues of public importance and they were assured by the chairing officers that their genuine grievances pertaining to police will be resolved on priority and that of civil administration will be taken up with the concerned departments for their early redressal.

## The Jammu And Kashmir State Board Of School Education

SUB-OFFICE BANDIPORA

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 12th session Regular 2016 issued by the board of School Education under Below mentioned particulars  
**Name:** Zaid Manzoor Malla  
**S/o:** Manzoor Ahmad Malla  
**Roll No:** 2608287  
**Year & Session** 2016- Regular



Now the candidate has applied for Duplicate Marks Card. Anybody (if) having any objection may file the same before undersigned with (07) Seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides, the original marks card is teated as cancelled.

bb

Sd/ Assistant Secretary  
Board Of School Education  
Sub Office Bandipora

## The Jammu And Kashmir State Board Of School Education

SUB-OFFICE BANDIPORA


The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 10th session Bi-Annual 2014 issued by the board of School Education under Below mentioned particulars  
**Name:** Zaid Manzoor Malla  
**S/o:** Manzoor Ahmad Malla  
**Roll No:** 2605470  
**Year & Session** 2014- Bi-annual



Now the candidate has applied for Duplicate Marks Card. Anybody (if) having any objection may file the same before undersigned with (07) Seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides, the original marks card is teated as cancelled.

bb

Sd/ Assistant Secretary  
Board Of School Education  
Sub Office Bandipora



Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir (UT)  
**Office of the Principal Govt. Degree College, Langate, 193302**  
Email:gdclangate@gmail.com Phone: +919419030611

No: GDCL/2023/69 Dated:27-04-2023

### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

FOR EMPANELMENT OF BOOK SUPPLIERS

Expression of interest applications are invited from registered book sellers/distributors/ vendors/ suppliers to seek empanelment as authorized vendor for supply of books/periodicals/references on subjects of arts/social science/general studies to the college library. The empanelled vendors shall supply books to the college at a **uniform discount of 22 percent** on all types of books other than government publications/short discount books. The interested suppliers may collect the Application Form from the office of the college in working hours or via email on [gdclangate@gmail.com](mailto:gdclangate@gmail.com) on request. The last date of the submission of the Application Form along with relevant documents (turnover statement of preceding three financial years duly validated by the Chartered Accountant; PAN issued by the Income Tax Department; registration certificate with Federation of Publishers and Booksellers Association of India (FPBAI); undertaking of not having been blacklisted during the last three years by any university/college/research institution for the supply of books) shall be **15 May 2023**. All Vendors shall report to the college on 22 May 2023 at 11:30 am along with all requisite documents in original. The applications shall be reviewed and the decision shall be communicated by 25 May 2023. The undersigned reserves the right to accept/reject any EOI applications without offering any reason. The final decision in all matters shall be taken by the undersigned.

DIPK-833/23 dated: 26-04-2023

Sd/  
PRINCIPAL  
GDC Langate

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


**AIRPORTS**  
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 ✈

**RAILWAYS**

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

**HIGHWAY STATUS**

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



**HIJRI CALENDAR**  
07 Shawwal  
1444

PRAYERS	
FAJR	4:16
ZUHR	12:28
ASR	5:16
Magrib	7:15
ISHA	8:43

## This Day In History

- 1949 - Former Philippine First Lady Aurora Quezon, 61, assassinated while en route to dedicate a hospital in memory of her late husband; her daughter and 10 others also killed
- 1951 - Mohammad Mosaddegh elected Prime Minister of Iran by the Parliament of Iran (Majlis)
- 1952 - WW II Pacific peace treaty takes effect
- 1956 - Last French troops leave Vietnam
- 1958 - Great Britain performs atmospheric nuclear test at Christmas Island
- 1958 - Vanguard TV-5 launched for Earth orbit (failed)
- 1965 - US marines invade Dominican Republic, stay until October 1966
- 1967 - Muhammad Ali refuses induction into army & stripped of boxing title
- 1969 - Charles de Gaulle resigns as president of France 1971 - Samuel Lee Gravelly Jr becomes 1st black admiral in US Navy
- 1972 - Courts award 1968 Kentucky Derby prize money to 2nd place winner due to the winner being given drugs before the race
- 1973 - Over 6000 Mk. 82 500 pound bombs detonate over 18 hrs in a railyard in northern California. 5500 structures damaged, town of Antelope destroyed, with every building reduced to foundations. Leads to Transportation Safety Act (1974)
- 1975 - South-Vietnam Gen Duong Van Minh sworn in as president till April 30
- 1977 - Andreas Baader and members of terrorist group the Red Army Faction (Baader-Meinhof Gang) jailed for life after a trial lasting nearly 2 years in Stuttgart, Germany
- 1977 - The Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure is signed.
- 1983 - Argentine government declares all 15-30,000 missing persons dead
- 1983 - NASA launches Geos-F
- 1986 - Soviet TV news program Vremya announces a nuclear accident at Chernobyl nuclear power station, 2 days after the event
- 1987 - NBA announces expansion to Charlotte NC & Miami Fla in 1988 & Minneapolis Minn & Orlando Fla in 1989
- 1988 - Aloha Airlines Boeing 737 roof tears off in flight; kills stewardess.

## From KO Archives

## Sumo-Borne Men Abduct, Beat Cop

Observer News Service

**S**RINAGAR: A traffic police constable was admitted in the hospital in a critical condition after being dropped half dead by some unidentified abductors outside the Batwara gate of the army headquarters in Badambagh cantonment here this afternoon.

According to reports, Ghulam Muhammad (belt No1556), a constable in the traffic control department deployed in the Regal chowk to enforce one way movement stopped a white Sumo from proceeding in the wrong direction. At this, the unidentified persons pounced on the constable and beat him.

Watching the scuffle, some shopkeepers tried to rescue the policeman. But, the Sumo-borne men putted him in and fled away. The incident took place in broad day light at 3:45 p.m. At about 6.30 p.m. the army authorities informed the police about the constable lying at the mail gate of the BB Cantt almost half dead. However, the police refused to pick up the injured constable and instead demanded the inspector general of police or any other senior officer to go to the spot for the purpose. Eventually, it was the superintendent of police traffic, Riyaz Ahmad Bedar, who went to the BB Cantt gate and removed the constable to the SMHS hospital where the doctors attending on him said, late in the evening, that his condition was stable.

(Kashmir Observer, April 28, 2000)

KASHMIR OBSERVER<sup>TM</sup>

Friday | 28-04-2023

## Biden Versus Trump

As the 2024 US presidential election looms, the age of the candidates has once again become a major topic of discussion. On the Democratic side, Joe Biden's decision to seek re-election at the age of 80 has raised concerns about his ability to handle the rigors of the presidency, as well as his electability. Meanwhile, on the Republican side, Donald Trump's advanced age - he will be 77 in two months - has also been an issue. But his age has not received as much public attention as that of Biden. This may be so because Trump looks more active than his rival despite the fact that he would also be in his mid-80s by the end of a potential second term. The Republican leader, on the other hand, gets more media attention because of his legal troubles and questionable fitness for office. He was twice impeached by the House of Representatives.

Biden is already the oldest president in US history, and would be even older by the end of a potential second term. But at the same time, it's hard to deny that he has been an effective president thus far, with significant accomplishments on issues ranging from Covid-19 relief to climate change. Besides, he has been able to rally the West against Russia for its invasion of Ukraine.

But Trump, despite his ongoing legal troubles and divisive rhetoric, remains a popular figure among the rightwing support base in the US. He is viewed as the best hope for reclaiming the White House in 2024. This is where Biden's significance lies. The incumbent president is hailed for defeating Donald Trump in 2020, which is no small feat. He is seen as a "Trump-slayer," and therefore imagined as a more effective candidate for the Democrats.

Other younger democratic aspirants, although capable, don't have the same combination of experience, pragmatism, and electability as Biden. That said, with the US still being the world's pre-eminent superpower, a US president also looms large over the world. His policies and even his personal inclinations shape the geopolitics. For example, Trump during his term was more slanted towards India than Biden - although there has been no major policy shift in so far as US ties with India. Biden, however, has also tried to strike a working relationship with Pakistan in his bid to wean it away from China. However, for now, the upcoming eighteen months promise to be a riveting spectacle of the two chronically old contenders slugging it out in the US presidential race.

OTHER OPINION

## Waiting For Take-off

Hopefully, things should improve. Despite its lofty ambitions, Udan has been waiting to take off even though it is now past the mid-way point of its envisaged 10-year tenure. The strain has been showing for some time. Though over 11.7 million passengers have benefited from low-cost air travel to/from under-served and unserved airports since the scheme was announced in 2016, the number is less than 10% of those who took domestic flights in 2022. The government told the Lok Sabha in March this year that, of the 1,152 valid routes awarded so far, only 474 are operational. Not just that, many routes have registered zero passenger over entire months, as per an analysis of government data. Indeed, with the three-year benefit period for routes awarded in the first and the second phases having ended, passenger volume on a large number of these routes has thinned significantly.

The scheme was supposed to kickstart a viable business model for smaller airlines, with viability gap funding and other support such as tax concessions. The problem is there is hardly any visibility on the business model and profitability once the benefit-period gets over.

Smaller airlines, with smaller wallets, have not been able to take wings. Drop-offs on Udan routes seem to afflict all airlines, though larger carriers have performed better here. While deep but limited-period support from the government does help, sustainability is still under a cloud. Improved network of wide multi-lane national highways, which has dramatically shortened travel time, could also be the reason behind the reluctance of airlines to bid for routes under the Udan scheme. The bigger challenge is improving the financial health of domestic airlines in a high-cost environment. Airlines registered huge losses of Rs 17,500 crore last fiscal as they have no control over costly aviation turbine fuel which accounts for one-third of operating costs. Moreover, when they lease aircraft, they pay rentals in costly US dollars while revenues are in depreciating rupees. Operational issues such as delayed permits, scarcity of suitable aircraft, leasing issues, etc, exacerbate woes.

It is hardly surprising then that many Udan routes are stillborn—Bihar, for instance, was keen to connect Begusarai and Birpur airstrip situated in Supaul district under Udan but no airline submitted bids. The need is to sweeten the deal even further—perhaps beyond Udan 5.0's provisions. States must play a larger role here. Karnataka's reported assurance to carriers on underwriting some seats for a period of time offers a cue. Else, Udan, though well-intended, would wait to take off even in 2026.

Financial Express

# Licensed Clinical Psychologists Vs. Non-Licensed Counselors

## Why Knowing the Difference Matters for Mental Health Care

Mental health is an essential aspect of a person's overall well-being. However, it is not always easy to maintain optimal mental health, and individuals may require professional help to manage their mental health concerns. This is where the distinction between licensed clinical psychologists and non-licensed counselors becomes crucial. In this article, I will discuss why the public needs to know the difference between professional licensed clinical psychologists and non-licensed counselors, and why reaching out to RCI licensed clinical psychologists can be a better decision for better mental health care.

### Who are Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) Licensed Clinical Psychologists?

RCI Licensed Clinical Psychologists are professionals who have undergone extensive training and education to diagnose and treat mental health disorders. They hold an m.phil degree in clinical psychology and are licensed by the regulatory body-RCI to work as clinical psychologists. They are trained to use evidence-based approaches to provide mental health services to individuals, families, and groups. Clinical psychologists can work in a range of settings, including hospitals, clinics, private practice, and research institutions.

### Who are Non-Licensed Counselors?

Non-licensed counselors, on the other hand, are individuals who provide counseling services but do not hold a license to practice. These individuals may have varying degrees of education and training, ranging from a post graduate diploma to a master's degree in counseling or a related field.

### Why is it Important to Know the Difference?

It is important to know the difference between RCI licensed clinical psychologists and non-licensed counselors to ensure that individuals receive appropriate mental health care. While non-licensed counselors may offer valuable support and guidance, they are not held to the same standards as RCI licensed clinical psychologists. Licensed clinical psychologists have undergone extensive education and training in hospital settings during their m.phil training and are bound by professional codes of ethics that ensure that they provide safe, effective, and evidence-based treatment.

Additionally, licensed clinical psychologists are trained to diagnose mental health disorders, which is critical for developing appropriate treatment plans. Licensed practitioners are trained to understand the etymology of various simple as well as complex mental health issues.

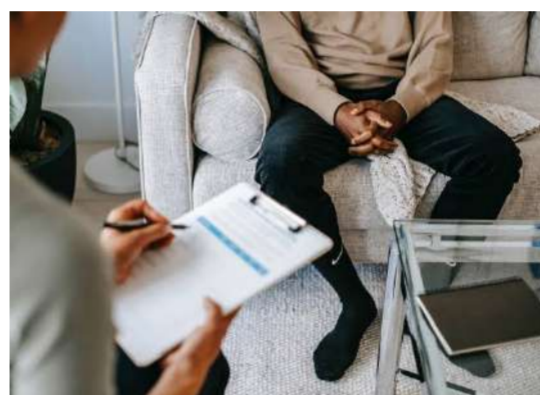
### Why non-licensed counselors can complicate a mental health issue?

Non-licensed counselors, also known as lay counselors, may not have the proper training, education, or expertise to effectively diagnose and treat mental health issues. This lack of qualifications can lead to misdiagnosis, inappropriate treatment, and potential harm to the individual seeking mental health care and hence can complicate an individual's mental health issues. Following are additional reasons why non-licensed counselors can complicate a mental health issue.

1. Non-licensed counselors may not have the knowledge or experience to identify serious mental health conditions, such as bipolar disorder or schizophrenia, which require specialized understanding and treatment from a licensed mental health professional. This can lead to misdiagnosis or inappropriate treatment, which can further worsen the condition.
2. Non-licensed counselors may not be aware of the ethical and legal boundaries of the counseling profession. This



Wasim Kakroo



Non-licensed counselors may not be trained to recognize and respond to potential crises or emergencies that may arise during counseling sessions. This can be particularly problematic in cases where the individual is experiencing suicidal ideation or other severe mental health symptoms

can result in unprofessional or even unethical behavior that can harm the individual seeking help.

3. Non-licensed counselors may not be trained to recognize and respond to potential crises or emergencies that may arise during counseling sessions. This can be particularly problematic in cases where the individual is experiencing suicidal ideation or other severe mental health symptoms.

Overall, seeking treatment from a licensed mental health professional is the best course of action for anyone experiencing mental health issues. Licensed professionals have the training, education, and expertise to provide effective and appropriate treatment, and are held to high ethical and legal standards that protect the individual seeking help.

### What are the Benefits of Receiving Mental Health Care from RCI Licensed Clinical Psychologists?

RCI (Rehabilitation Council of India) is a regulatory body that governs the licensing and registration of rehabilitation professionals in India. The RCI has set standards for the education and training of licensed clinical psychologists, ensuring that they have the necessary knowledge and skills to provide effective mental health care.

Individuals seeking mental health care should consider reaching out to RCI licensed clinical psychologists for following benefits.

1. RCI licensed clinical psychologists have undergone extensive education and training, ensuring that they have the necessary knowledge and skills

to diagnose and treat mental health disorders effectively. They are also bound by professional codes of ethics that ensure that they provide safe, effective, and evidence-based treatment.

2. RCI licensed clinical psychologists are trained to use evidence-based approaches to provide mental health care. Evidence-based approaches are based on scientific research and have been shown to be effective in treating mental health disorders. This means that individuals who seek mental health care from RCI licensed clinical psychologists can be confident that they are receiving the most effective treatment available.
3. RCI licensed clinical psychologists are trained to work with individuals, families, and groups, providing a range of mental health services. They can work with individuals to address specific mental health concerns, such as anxiety or depression, and can also provide support to families and groups affected by mental health disorders.
4. Seeking mental health care from RCI licensed clinical psychologists ensures that individuals receive appropriate care and treatment. RCI licensed clinical psychologists are held to high standards, ensuring that they provide safe and effective treatment. This can help individuals to manage their mental health concerns and improve their overall well-being.
5. RCI licensed clinical psychologists can provide a range of therapeutic interventions, including cognitive-behavioral therapy, interpersonal therapy, and psychodynamic therapy, among others. These interventions have been shown to be effective in treating a range of mental health disorders, including depression, anxiety, and PTSD.

### How to Find an RCI Licensed Clinical Psychologist?

Finding an RCI licensed clinical psychologist can be challenging, particularly if you are not familiar with the mental health care system in India. However, there are several ways to find an RCI licensed clinical psychologist.

1. You can search for RCI licensed clinical psychologists on the RCI website. The RCI maintains a database of RCI licensed clinical psychologists. You can search for licensed clinical psychologists in your area and find contact information for their practice.
2. You can ask your primary care physician or another healthcare provider for a referral. They may be able to recommend an RCI licensed clinical psychologist who has experience working with individuals with your specific mental health concerns.
3. You can search for licensed clinical psychologists over online social media handles, such as LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram or Google itself.
4. You can ask for recommendations from friends or family members who have received mental health care from a licensed clinical psychologist. They may be able to recommend an RCI licensed clinical psychologist who has provided effective treatment.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. The author is an RCI licensed clinical psychologist (alumni of Govt. Medical College Srinagar) and works as a consultant clinical psychologist at Centre for Mental Health Services (CMHS) at Rambagh Srinagar. He can be reached at 8825067196



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### MAIL YOUR LETTERS

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## E-cigarettes are Harmful

THIS is with reference to the write-up, "WHO thwarts our perception of e-cigarettes" in Kashmir Observer, dated February 28, 2023. Smokers have a wrong perception that e-cigarettes are the right alternate means for them to quit cigarette smoking. On the contrary, test results have shown that they could cause po-

tential health problems, including cancer, as they contain chemicals and toxins that are addictive. When you stop using them, you go into withdrawal and feel depressed, and incorrigibly tetchy. Researches have proved that use of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) have not been shown to be effective in curbing and stopping cigarette

smoking. Tobacco related toxins have also been found in the aerosol vapor of ENDS products. Tiny metal particles that are most likely from the casings and heating elements have been found in the aerosols created from this device. There is increasing evidence that inhaled nicotine from ENDS damages lung tissues and lowers the body's natu-

ral resistance to infections and to cancers. It is a matter for concern that youngsters who use e-cigarettes are most likely to develop brain impairment.

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# Navigating Challenges of Middle School: A Guide for Parents, Educators and Students

Iqbal Ali

Middle school can be a time of tremendous growth and development for young people. It is a period when they are beginning to explore their identities and forge new relationships with their peers. However, this time can also be fraught with challenges and difficulties, including bullying, academic pressure, peer pressure, substance abuse, and the influence of social media.

Bullying is a serious issue that affects many students in middle school. It can take many forms, including physical violence, verbal abuse, and cyberbullying. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, approximately one in five students between the ages of 12 and 18 experience bullying at some point during their school career. The effects of bullying can be long-lasting and severe, leading to low self-esteem, depression, and even suicide.

To combat bullying in middle schools, it is essential for parents, teachers, and school administrators to work together to create a safe and supportive environment where bullying is not tolerated. This can be accomplished through the implementation of anti-bullying policies, increased teacher and staff awareness, and training programs that focus on positive behavior.

Peer pressure is another challenge that many students in middle school encounter. Adolescents are trying to figure out who they are and where they fit in, and this can lead to pressure to conform to certain social norms, engage in risky behaviors, or make choices that go against their better judgment.

Parents and educators can help students navigate these challenges by teaching them how to say no, encouraging them to make independent decisions, and providing them with positive role models. Additionally, it is important to create an environment that encourages students to be themselves and



**MIDDLE SCHOOL CAN BE A CHALLENGING TIME FOR STUDENTS. HOWEVER, WITH THE SUPPORT OF PARENTS, educators, and peers, they can navigate these challenges and emerge stronger and more resilient**

celebrates diversity.

Academic pressure is also a common issue for students in middle school. As they prepare for high

school and beyond, they may feel pressure to excel in their classes, participate in extracurricular activities, and maintain a high GPA. While

these goals are admirable, they can also lead to stress and anxiety.

To help students manage academic pressure, it is important to teach

them time management skills, encourage them to prioritize self-care, and provide them with resources such as tutoring or counseling. It

is also important to celebrate the achievements of all students, not just those who excel academically.

Social media has become an integral part of modern life, and middle schoolers are no exception. While social media can be a valuable tool for communication and self-expression, it can also be a source of trouble. Adolescents may feel pressure to present a curated and idealized version of themselves online, leading to feelings of inadequacy and anxiety.

Additionally, they may be exposed to cyberbullying, inappropriate content, and online predators. To help students navigate the complexities of social media, parents and educators can teach them about online safety, monitor their online activity, and encourage them to use social media in a positive and healthy way.

Substance abuse is a serious issue that can have long-lasting effects on young people. Middle school is a time when students may begin experimenting with drugs and alcohol. While these substances may seem appealing to some adolescents, they can lead to serious health and social problems.

To prevent substance abuse, parents and educators can educate students about the risks and consequences of drug and alcohol use, provide them with positive role models, and create a supportive and drug-free environment. Additionally, it is important to provide students with healthy alternatives to drug and alcohol use, such as sports, music, or art.

In conclusion, middle school can be a challenging time for students. However, with the support of parents, educators, and peers, they can navigate these challenges and emerge stronger and more resilient. By addressing the types of trouble discussed in this article, we can create a safe and supportive environment in middle school.

*The author is a Teacher, School Education Department*

# The Social Media Trap

Matthew Pittman

## The big idea

Social media can be mentally draining. And when mentally drained, you are more likely to be influenced by a high number of likes on posts – even to the point of clicking on ads for products you don't need or want – according to our recent experiments on how social media affects behavior.

As a professor of advertising, I have studied social media behavior for years. In late 2022, my colleague Eric Haley and I conducted three online studies on Americans aged 18-65 to test how people under various mental loads respond to ads differently.

The control group in each study was given no introductory task – we just had them look at an ad. A second group had to memorize a nine-digit number and then look at the ad. The third group scrolled through their Instagram feed for 30 seconds and then looked at the ad. The first study used an ad for a meal prep service, the second was for ice cream and the third was for coffee beans.

The ad photo and caption were the same for everyone in each group, with only the number of likes manipulated. Participants randomly saw an ad with a few hundred likes or tens of thousands of likes. After viewing the ad, each participant rated how willing they would be to buy the product, and how much mental effort it took to think about the information. The group that used Instagram first were the most likely to want to buy the featured product when there were lots of likes or comments, and they also reported using the most mental effort to assess the ad.

In one study we asked people to explain why they wanted to buy a product, and those in the control group gave simple, rational answers for their choice: "I was thinking of the ice cream flavors and how they would taste." Or, "I like the ad. It is simple and clean. It gets straight to the point..."

However, those who had just scrolled social media for 30 seconds often gave answers that made no



sense. For example, some gave one-word answers like "food" or "plate." Others explicitly told us it was difficult to process: "It had too many words and options in the picture."

## Why it matters

Researchers refer to this mentally exhausted state as "cognitive overload." Using social media puts you in this state because you are constantly evaluating different types of text, photo and video posts from so many different people. In the span of several seconds you can see a text from your spouse, a photo from a

co-worker, a video from a celebrity and a meme from your brother. All of this scrolling and evaluating leaves us feeling frazzled and scattered.

Imagine asking your roommate if they want to go get pizza. Under normal conditions, the roommate might consider several factors such as cost, hunger, timing or their schedule. Now imagine asking your roommate the same question while they are on the phone with a sick relative after having stepped in dog poop and they also just got a text from their ex while remembering they were late for work. They no longer have the

mental energy or resources to logically consider whether pizza for dinner is a good idea. They might just yell "Yeah, sure!" while running inside to clean their shoes.

The one exception to this is when a person has a lot of experience, history or knowledge with the particular product or idea. When this is the case, they are able to think about whether they will actually benefit from buying the advertised item. We confirmed this in the experiment with the ad for coffee beans. In general, coffee lovers will carefully consider many factors – type of bean,

roast level, country of origin and more. So even when these people were in a mental fog, they were not persuaded by ads with high metrics.

By understanding how they might be influenced by social media in unconscious ways, consumers can be more thoughtful and deliberate in regulating their use – and hopefully not buy yet another water bottle they don't need.

## What still isn't known

We don't yet know which social media platforms are the most draining.

**THE AD PHOTO AND CAPTION WERE THE SAME FOR EVERYONE IN EACH GROUP, WITH ONLY THE NUMBER OF LIKES MANIPULATED.** Participants randomly saw an ad with a few hundred likes or tens of thousands of likes. After viewing the ad, each participant rated how willing they would be to buy the product, and how much mental effort it took to think about the information

Media-rich environments like TikTok, Instagram Reels and YouTube are presumably the most mentally taxing because they have text, photos, videos, animations and sound – often all at once and overlapping. These platforms are also where advertisers spend a lot of money, as they offer a high return on investment for brands.

*By arrangements with The Conversation*



India Tells Pak At UN

## 'No Amount Of Rhetoric Will Change K Status'

Press Trust Of India

**UNITED NATIONS:** India tore into Pakistan after its UN envoy raised the Kashmir issue here, saying no amount of rhetoric and propaganda can change the fact that the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh are and will always be an "inalienable" part of the country.

Counsellor in India's Permanent Mission to the UN Pratik Mathur's remarks came after Pakistan's Permanent Representative at the UN Munir Akram spoke about Jammu and Kashmir in his statement at the UNGA meeting.

"The Union Territories of

Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh were, are and will always be an integral and inalienable part of India. No amount of misinformation, rhetoric or propaganda from any country can change that fact," Mathur said at the UN General Assembly plenary on 'Use of the veto' on Wednesday.

Pakistan consistently rakes up the issue of Jammu and Kashmir at various UN platforms, irrespective of the agenda and topic of discussion at the meetings.

New Delhi has repeatedly emphasised that Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh were, are and will always be an integral and inalienable part of India.

## Cong Questions Govt's 'Silence' On Poonch Attack

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** The Congress on Thursday questioned the Modi government's "silence" on the Poonch attack and cited several terror assaults in Jammu and Kashmir recently to accuse the Centre of endangering national security.

Five Army personnel were killed and another was seriously injured on April 20 after their vehicle caught fire following a terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch.

Addressing a press conference at the AICC headquarters here, Congress' media department head Pawan Khera said seven days have passed, but Prime Minister Narendra Modi has "not uttered a single word" of condolence on the Poonch terror attack for the five Indian Army soldiers but was seen cracking a rather crude joke about a "suicide of a girl" at a media event on Thursday.

"PM Modi has not come out with any reaction condemning the terror attack, even as reports indicate a Taliban link in the same," Khera said.

He said multiple media reports indicate that the highly penetrative and ricocheting 'steel core' bullets used by terrorists was left behind by US troops in Afghanistan, after they departed the country in August 2021.

He claimed that the bullets were obtained by terrorist groups such as Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) from the Taliban.

"The Chinese made 'steel core' bullets capable of piercing an armoured shield, were used by NATO forces during the Afghanistan war and these bullets are part of ammunitions NATO forces have abandoned after leaving Afghanistan," Khera said.

"Interestingly, the latest report by US' SIGAR (Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction), released

on February 28, says, "Taliban could sell a portion of the captured arms and equipment to augment its revenue flow. Alternatively, the Taliban may not have control over the entire Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) arsenal, which could mean that equipment could be acquired by smugglers or gun dealers and sold on the open market," he said.

Khera also cited that the New York Times, to claim US-made equipment, including US-made pistols, rifles, grenades, binoculars, and night-vision goggles, has found its way into the hands of Afghan gun dealers.

"In this context, it is important to note that, belying India's previous foreign policy stances, the Modi government has started engaging with the Taliban. In 2023 Budget, the Modi government announced a Rs 200 crore aid for Afghanistan," he said.

He also listed the recent terror attacks in Poonch and Rajouri.

Khera asserted that the Congress stands united with the nation in fighting terrorism.

Posing questions to the government, the Congress leader asked why is the Modi government "silent" on the Poonch terror attack.

Is it not true that at least 18 previous major terror attacks have taken place on security installations that include CRPF camps, Army camps, Air Force station and military stations in which scores of our precious lives have been lost, he asked.

"Given that the Poonch attack has Taliban links, is it appropriate for Modi government to start its diplomatic outreach and engagement with Taliban?" Khera said.

Is it not true that Modi government has endangered national security, even as 1,249 terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir, in which, 350 civilians and died and 569 jawans have been martyred, he asked.

## Harvesting Begins Along IB In Kathua Sector Amid Prevailing Peace



Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** Amid peace, farmers backed by BSF troops and administration on Thursday began harvesting wheat on the 251 acres of land along zero line on International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district.

The harvesting began with the inauguration of the process by deputy commissioner Rahul Pandey along with officers of BSF and civilian administration alongside IB in the Hiranagar sector.

"These are the results of J&K administration and agriculture department on the ground as harvesting has begun on target areas of land after 22 years. The process will continue to cover the left-out area under cultivation," Pandey told reporters here.

Sixty-six farmers started harvesting wheat crops along the International Border in the Hiranagar sector after the district administration and BSF extended full support to them.

After the restoration of peace on the International border, border farmers are glad to see the high yield of the wheat crop, cultivated on 251 acres of land across the fence on Zero line, officials said.

Sanjeev Rai Gupta, Chief Agriculture Officer, Kathua, said that a total of 251 acres of land was brought under wheat cultivation during the year 2022-23 alongside IB, with the participation of 66 local farmers from various villages of the border belt. Thirty-six farmers cultivated 141 acres of area in 2021-22, he said.



**HEAVY RAINFALL IN KASHMIR VALLEY**, including Srinagar threw life out of gear on Thursday, besides dipping day temperature sharply. KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

## J&K To Witness Erratic Weather Till May 4: MeT

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The meteorological department on Thursday predicted erratic weather conditions in Jammu and Kashmir till May 4, even as heavy rainfall lashed the Valley, raising level of several water bodies besides dipping day temperature sharply.

According to a meteorological department official, from April 27-28, intermittent rain, thunderstorm and snowfall (over higher reaches) was very likely at most places of J&K. However, he said, there is no forecast of major snowfall.

From April 29-3, he said, weather is likely to be partly to generally cloudy with possibility of intermittent rain, thunderstorm at scattered places.

"Overall, weather is very likely to remain erratic from April 27-May 4 in J&K," he said. Also, the department has urged farmers to postpone spraying of orchards till May 4.

Here in Srinagar, heavy overnight rainfall also caused water logging in many areas.

Meanwhile, a meteorological department official said that in last 24 hours till 8:30 a.m. this morning, Srinagar recorded 39.7mm of rain, Qazigund 20.8mm, Pahalgam 19.3mm, Kupwara 21.0mm,



Kokernag 31.6mm, Gulmarg 43.6mm, Jammu 3.8mm, Banihal 21.8mm, Batote 32.6mm, Katra 16.2mm, Bhandarwah 43.2mm and Kathua 3.8mm.

Regarding temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 7.0°C against 7.9°C on the previous night and it was 2.3°C below normal for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 6.6°C against 5.2°C on the previous night and it was 1.2°C below normal for the gateway town of Kashmir.

Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of 3.5°C against 2.6°C on the previous night and it was 0.9°C below normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Kokernag recorded a low of 5.2°C against 3.0°C on the previous night and it was 2.9°C below normal for the place,

the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 0.5°C against 3.2°C on previous night and it was 4.7°C below normal for the famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 3.4°C against 5.2°C on the previous night and it was 4.4°C below normal for the north Kashmir area.

Jammu recorded a low of 19.1°C against 18.5°C on the previous night. It was 2.8°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

Banihal, he said, recorded a low of 7.2°C (2.5°C below normal), Batote 7.0°C (5.0°C below normal), Katra 14.5°C (4.4°C below normal) and Bhandarwah 6.8°C (2.3°C below normal). Ladakh's Leh and Kargil recorded a low of 2.6°C and minus 3.5°C respectively, the official said.

## Frustration, Anger Of Youth Being Exploited: India

Asks Y20 Delegates To Give Solutions To Stop Youth From Falling Prey To Extremist Groups

Press Trust Of India

**LEH:** Foreign delegates at the Y20 Pre-summit here have been urged to give "substantive recommendations" on stopping youth from falling into the trap of extremist groups and also find a solution to "disturbing aspects of youth health", especially in countries ravaged by wars and "pandemic trauma".w

The three-day Y20 Pre-summit in scenic Leh is attracting global attention as more than 100 young delegates from 30 countries have gathered here to find solutions to some of the most vexing issues confronting the world, including climate change, health in post-Covid era and the crises arising from the political and territorial instability in several parts of the world.

With India getting the G20 presidency -- an intergovernmental forum comprising 19 countries and the EU, which works to address major issues related to global economy -- this year, the onus is on the country to find solutions to some of the most challenging issues facing the world.

The Y20 (Youth20) is a forum within the G20, which gives inputs and suggestions on several issues being faced by the world.

In his address to the delegates before they entered the "deliberation" and "negotiation" phase on Thursday, senior bureaucrat and joint secretary, G20, Nagaraj N Kakanur said that extremist groups exploit the frustration and anger of the youth, and that the delegates gathered here should find ways to ensure they do not get excluded



### Army Will Ensure Safety Of Nation: Ladakh LG

**LEH:** The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh BD Mishra said on Thursday that the Indian Army will continue to protect the borders of the country.

"The Indian Army in Ladakh ensures the safety and security of the nation. They also very effectively protect India's territorial integrity, besides also engaging in several peoples' initiatives such as Sadbhavna Missions. "They promote development and trust building among the locals, which includes infrastructure, health-care, education, professional training of youth and promoting the region's growth."

"I salute the Indian Army for their courage, commitment and spirit to sacrifice in protecting the sovereignty of India," he added.

from the mainstream and become easy preys of terror groups.

"Young people continue to face significant challenges stemming from globalisation, violence, demographic shifts, inequality-forced displacements, shrinking civil space, changing labour market and climate change," said Nagaraj.

"This situation is fuelling a decline in confidence in political establishments and institutions and is keenly felt by the young people in two ways: first is the participation gap, a result of which young people find themselves out of the decision-making process and, second, the opportunity gap, which is manifested by steeply-rising youth unemployment.

"The marginalisation of young people foments political distrust and hopelessness and challenges the systems and structures and adds to national, regional and global insecurity.

"When such a cycle takes hold, it is all too easy for certain extremist groups to exploit the frustration and anger of the youth that stems from exclusion. To create a peaceful, sustainable and prosperous world, young people need to be involved. "I hope, your (Y20 delegates) deliberations here on peace building will make progress and the Y20 (will) put forward substantive recommendations in this regard," hoped Nagaraj.

Secretary, Youth Affairs and Sports, Meeta Rajivlochan, said that the Covid-19 pandemic had brought forth the pressing need to come together and "collaborate" as this is the only way to fight global crises in future.

## Secy. Tourism Holds Consultations With Stakeholders

Stresses On Close Coordination, Assures Ease Of Regulatory Processes; Says Committed To Take J&K Tourism To New Heights

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** As part of his stakeholder consultations, Secretary, Tourism & Culture, Syed Abid Rasheed Shah on Thursday held a marathon interactive session with representatives of various segments of the local tourism industry represented by KHARA-KHAROF coordination committee here.

Complimenting the stakeholders on the beginning of a good tourism season, the Tourism Secretary hoped that it would lead to a bumper season of tourist arrivals breaking all previous records. He said this would be achieved only through a synergized approach between the Department and the stakeholders, stressing on close coordination between the two.

Secretary Tourism said Government has accorded top priority to further develop the tourism sector in the UT and it would be his endeavour to see it scaling new heights. He said all requisite measures would be taken for the purpose.

Responding to the issues raised by various stakeholders,

Syed Abid Rasheed said he has already directed easing of various processes related to regulation of tourism services and the same would be monitored in days to come. He said an annual calendar of activities is being framed by the Department for giving the tourists ample and varied experiences.

The issues raised by the representatives of stakeholders included ease of doing business, establishment of common STPs, consideration of power tariff under MSME, periodic and regular promotion of J&K tourism in the country's domestic market and abroad, determining hotel tariffs and other issues.

Secretary Tourism assured the stakeholder that the issues would be given a considerate thought by the Government and would be sympathetically looked into.

Earlier, Director, Tourism, Kashmir, Fazlul Haseeb briefed the meeting about various measures being taken by the Department for the betterment of tourism scenario and stakeholders.

## Ganderbal Gets One More J&K Bank ATM

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Extending automated banking services to people belonging to rural areas, J&K Bank today dedicated an Automated Teller Machine (ATM) for public at district hospital Ganderbal taking the total number of such machines in the district to 36.

DDC Ganderbal Shyambir Singh inaugurated the cash dispensing terminal today in presence of Bank's Zonal Head (Budgam/Ganderbal) Saadut Hussain, Tehsildar (Ganderbal) Tariq Ahmad, LDM Mian Farhat Manzoor amid a good gathering of valuable customers, residents and attendants

of patients besides other Bank officials.

Speaking on the occasion, DC Ganderbal thanked the Bank for providing hi-tech banking facility to the general public visiting the hospital besides the hospital staff. He also urged people to avail different financial schemes tailored to meet their economic and social security needs.

"To enhance public convenience further, the Bank is in the process of expanding its infrastructure both in physical and digital domains of banking", said the Zonal Head at the function.

Hailing the Bank's efforts, those present on the occasion expressed their gratitude to the Bank's management.

## Landslide Hits Truck Along Highway, 2 Persons Injured

Traffic Suspended On Thoroughfare Till Further Directions

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** A truck carrying poultry chicken came under a massive landslide along Jammu-Srinagar highway this afternoon leaving two occupants injured, officials said.

They told a local news agency GNS that a poultry chicken truck on the way from Jammu towards Srinagar came under a massive landslide at Shabanbas area. "Soon after the incident, a rescue operation was launched at the site by a police team alongside NGO 'Banihal Vol-

unteers', during which all two truck occupants were rescued in injured conditions", they said adding both the persons were taken to SDH Banihal for immediate treatment. They have been identified as Jawsant Raj (35) son of Sardarilal and Narinder Singh (46) son of Gagedesh Singh, Both from Pathankot Punjab

"Given the accumulation of landslide debris, the thoroughfare has been suspended for any vehicular movement till any further directions from the authorities", they further said.

## DC Shopian Reviews Action Plan For Harvesting Rain Water

Observer News Service

**SHOPIAN:** The District Development Commissioner (DDC), Shopian, Sachin Kumar Vaidya today chaired a meeting of officers to review & discuss the action plan for promotion of the "Catch the Rain, Save the Water" initiative for its conservation.

DDC held discussions regarding the implementation of the Jal Shakti Abhiyan and reviewed progress and achievements of targets made by the line departments under Jal Shakti Abhiyan.

Concerned were directed to rejuvenate all water bodies in the district under the ongoing Amrit Sarovar project and to make dedicated efforts to conserve and preserve water for the present and future generations.

The DDC instructed concerned officers to visit water sources including springs and tube wells which are source to various drinking water schemes and to find out the requisite interventions to be done for sustainability of these water resources and to formulate a comprehensive Plan for their preservation.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my Passport bearing no; L3235737 somewhere. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the of the Regional Passport Office Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Ishfaq Hussain Haji  
S/o Gh Rasool Haji Mother's Name Fatima Begum  
R/o Putushay Bandipora

## SP College Holds Tug Of War Event For Students

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Physical Education Department of SP College organised a "Tug of War" competition between students of various groups on Thursday to kick-start the sports calendar of the academic session 2023-24. Various groups of boys and girls participated in the event. The event was flagged off by Principal, SP College, Prof (Dr.)

Gh Jeelani Qurashi. In his introductory address, he urged upon the students to actively participate in the sports activities that will be held from time to time during the academic session. The event was also attended by Prof Manzoor Ahmad Wani, Dr. Khurshid Ahmad Parray, Dr. Ruheena Tabassum, Dr. Nadia Shah, Prof. Zafar Majeed and Mr. Owais Wani.

## Inter School Sports Competitions Organised At Two Districts



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Department of Youth Services and Sports kick-started inter-school zonal level sports competitions in carrom and other games at Ganderbal and Bandipora districts of Kashmir Valley.

In the sports zone of Tulmulla, Ganderbal, sports activities were organized in Carrom for the age group of U-14 and U-17 at Girls High School, Kondabal. Scores of student players participated with enthusiasm. Later on, meritorious players were awarded with medals by

the Headmaster of HS Kondabal, Qudsiya Rubani. Similarly in Bandipora district of the Kashmir division, Inter school competitions were played in chess, carrom, and table tennis. The position holders in all the sports disciplines were encouraged with medals and certificates. In a recent meeting of the YSS Department chaired by Joint Director Kashmir Waseem Raja all the field officers and officials were directed to ensure the proper implementation of the Annual Sports Calendar in every sports zone.

## IPL 2023: LSG Face PBKS In Crucial Mid-Table Clash



Press Trust of India

**MOHALI:** Lucknow Super Giants would be looking to move on from an inexplicable batting performance when they take on Punjab Kings in a crucial mid-table clash in the Indian Premier League in Mohali on Friday.

Halfway into the competition, both teams have four wins from seven games and would be aiming to find consistency in the tight race to the IPL play-offs.

Though Lucknow pitch has not been ideal for batting, skipper K L Rahul's strike rate became the talking point again as his team failed on Saturday last to chase down 136 against Gujarat Titans from a commanding position.

Rahul has a strike rate of 113.91 so far in the competition and can surely do better on that front. Though 200 has not yet been scored at the PCA Stadium in the season so far, the pitch here should be friendlier for the batter compared to the 22 yards in Lucknow.

The absence of pacer Mark Wood, who has not played since April 15 due to illness, has weakened the LSG attack considerably and the team would be wishing for his early return.

Wood still remains the leading wicket taker for them despite missing three games.

Punjab Kings, on the other hand, would look to return to winning ways at home after a couple of losses. Full time captain Shikhar Dhawan has missed the last three games due to a shoulder injury, but could return for the LSG fixture.

"He is recovering well and could be in action tomorrow," said a team source.

Punjab Kings, who have been guilty of throwing it away in the past, are making a conscious effort to raise their game as the tournament progresses.

The top-order comprising Prabhsimran Singh and Matthew Short need to stay longer in the middle while the dangerous Liam Livingstone is yet to come into his own after two games.

Stand in captain Sam Curran showed against Mumbai Indians why Punjab paid Rs 18.5 crore for his services and his contribution with both bat and ball holds key for the team.

Arshdeep Singh has been brilliant both with new and old ball while the team will need to take a tough call in choosing between Nathan Ellis and Kagiso

Rabada, who has played only a couple of games so far.

A lot more is expected from leggie Rahul Chahar in the middle overs as he has managed to take only two wickets in seven games.

Match starts 7.30 pm IST.

**The Teams (From):**

**Punjab Kings:** Shikhar Dhawan (c), Arshdeep Singh, Baltej Singh, Rahul Chahar, Sam Curran, Rishi Dhawan, Nathan Ellis, Gurnoor Brar, Harpreet Brar, Harpreet Singh, Vidwath Kaverappa, Liam Livingstone, Mohit Rathee, Prabhsimran Singh, Kagiso Rabada, Bhanuka Rajapaksa, M Shahrulkh Khan, Jitesh Sharma (wk), Shivam Singh, Matthew Short, Sikandar Raza, Atharva Taide.

**Lucknow Super Giants:** KL Rahul (c), Kyle Mayers, Deepak Hooda, Krunal Pandya, Amit Mishra, Nicholas Pooran (wk), Naveen ul Haq, Ayush Badoni, Avesh Khan, Karan Sharma, Yuvraj Chahal, Yash Thakur, Romario Shepherd, Mark Wood, Swapnil Singh, Manan Vohra, Daniel Sams, Prerak Mankad, Krishnappa Gowtham, Jaydev Unadkat, Marcus Stoinis, Ravi Bishnoi and Mayank Yadav.

## Brazilian Dictionary Adds Pelé As Adjective, Synonym Of Best

Agencies

**SAO PAULO:** A Brazilian dictionary has added "Pelé" as an adjective to use when describing someone who is "exceptional, incomparable, unique." The announcement by the Michaelis dictionary on Wednesday is part of a campaign that gathered more than 125,000 signatures to honour the late soccer great's impact beyond his sport.

The three-time World Cup champion died in December at age 82 after a fight against colon cancer.

The dictionary entry reads: "The one that is extraordinary, or who because of his quality, value or superiority cannot be matched to anything or anyone, just like Pelé; nickname of Edson Arantes do Nascimento (1940-2022), considered the best athlete of all time; exceptional, incomparable, unique. Examples: He is the Pelé of basketball, she is the Pelé of tennis, she is the Pelé of Brazilian theatre, he is the Pelé of medicine."



The Pelé Foundation, Santos FC — where he played most of his career — and many Brazilians celebrated the decision by the publishers of one of the country's most popular dictionaries.

Pelé spent nearly two decades enchanting fans and dazzling opponents as the game's most prolific scorer with Brazilian club Santos and the Brazil national team. In the conversation about soccer's greatest, only the late Diego Maradona, Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo are mentioned alongside.

## Napoli On Verge Of First Serie A Title In 33 Years

Agencies

**R**unaway Serie A leaders Napoli could seal their third Scudetto in record fashion this weekend if they beat lowly visitors Salernitana and second-placed Lazio drop points at Inter Milan.

Victory on Saturday would move Luciano Spalletti's side to 81 points and they will become the first team to win the title with six matches remaining unless Lazio earn their first win away

to Inter in more than four years on Sunday.

Spalletti urged his Napoli players not to get ahead of themselves despite being tantalisingly close to ending the city's 33-year wait for the Serie A title since Diego Maradona led the team to two championships in 1987 and 1990.

"I don't like to celebrate in advance," he said. "If we all do it together there will be twice as much joy."





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