

## Schools Shut As Fresh Quakes Jolt Chenab Valley

Fear, Panic Among Locals As 5 Earthquakes Hit Jammu Region In A Day



Press Trust Of India

**Jammu:** Five earthquakes jolted the Jammu region on Wednesday and triggered panic among residents, a day after a 5.4 magnitude quake hit the Doda district of the Union Territory.

The fresh earthquakes have prompted the administration to shut down educational institutes in twin mountainous districts of Doda and Kishtwar.

Officials said the earthquakes that occurred in the Jammu region on Wednesday caused some damage to property but there were no reports so far of any casualties.

In Kishtwar, a 3.3 magnitude quake was recorded at 8.29 am. Its epicentre was at a depth of five kilometers, according to the National Centre for Seismology (NCS).

Prior to that, tremors of magnitude 3.5 were recorded in Doda at 7.56 am and the epicenter was at a depth of 10 kilometers, data from the NCS showed.

Two more earthquakes were recorded in the early hours of the day as well.

At 2.20 am, a 4.3 magnitude quake was recorded in the Doda district at a depth of 10 kilometers, according to the data.

The other quake, which had a magnitude of 2.8, occurred 74 kilometers east of Katra in Reasi district at 2.43 am, according to the NCS. Its epicentre lay at a

depth of five kilometres.

A magnitude 3.4 earthquake, latest in the series, hit Kishtwar around 4pm on Wednesday. The fifth quake to jolt the Jammu region on Wednesday struck at a depth of 5 km, according to the NCS data.

The five fresh earthquakes hit a day after high-intensity tremors jolted the Doda district.

Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) of Baderwah, Dilmir Chowdhary told PTI that the District Magistrate has directed the closure of all schools to address parental concerns and ensure the safety of the students and subsequently they were shut down.

The ADC appealed to the residents not to panic, as it could exacerbate the situation. Instead, he advised people to take precautionary measures to prevent any untoward incidents.

"In view of aftershocks, we have closed down all the schools in the district. There is nothing to panic about. People should live on ground floors. We expect aftershocks after a big earthquake," Doda Chief Education Officer (CEO) Purushottam Kumar said.

Similarly, officials in Kishtwar also shut down schools in the district as a precautionary measure. Commutatively, six earthquakes including two higher intensity quakes have hit the region causing [More on PIO](#)

## Twin Daughters Of Kulgam Imam Crack NEET

Press Trust Of India

**Srinagar:** The twin daughters of an imam in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district have brought cheer to the family by qualifying in the undergraduate National Eligibility-Cum-Entrance Test (NEET), the results of which were declared on Tuesday.

The girls cracked the test in their first attempt.

Syed Sabiya and Syed Bismah, residents of Watoo village in the Noorabad area of the south Kashmir district, secured 625 and 570 marks respectively in the entrance examination for medical colleges.

Their house has come to life after the results were announced as relatives, neighbours and well-wishers are turning up to congratulate the family on the feat of the twins.



The girls acknowledged the role of their family members, teachers and supportive neighbours behind their success.

"Our parents supported us a lot since our childhood. The people in our area also boosted our morale. Everyone had a role to play in my success," Sabiya told PTI.

Sabiya, who studied in a local Islamic model school

till Class 3 before joining a private school, said throughout her school days, her teachers gave her the confidence that she can do something big in life.

"Thanks to my teachers, I nurtured the dream of becoming a doctor or an IAS (Indian Administrative Service) officer and do something big in life," she said.

Bismah said [More on PIO](#)

## Pulwama Youth, Working As Painter, Clears NEET



**A** 20-year-old youth from Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama district, who works as a painter to support his family, has cracked the medical entrance exam NEET-UG, the results of which were declared on Tuesday.

Umer Ahmad Ganie, a resident of Zagigam village of the south Kashmir district, [More on PIO](#)

## Satellite Images Show Dal, Wular Shrinking

Agencies

**Srinagar:** The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), in a recent announcement, has drawn attention to the worrying state of Wular and Dal lakes.

The satellite imagery has uncovered a disconcerting trend of decline in these vital water bodies over the past few years.

The tweet from NASA featured a captivating image, as per Kashmir News Observer urging viewers to closely examine the photo and differentiate between land and water.

"The lakes, once thriving reservoirs, now face significant challenges that threaten their sustainability and the communities that rely on them."

"Look closely. Can you tell what's land and what's water? Lakes Wular and Dal, surrounded by the high Himalaya Mountains, supply water for drinking and irrigation in northern India, but the lakes have been declining in recent years," tweeted NASA.

Presently, Wular Lake is the largest freshwater lake in India. The lake is situated in Bandipora. Similarly, Dal Lake is a picturesque [More on PIO](#)

**WE MIGHT HAVE ENCOUNTERED** many more difficulties had any of us been alone. We supported each other throughout this journey to achieve this success."

## Overall Arrangements For Amarnath Yatra Upgraded: LG Says Administration Will Take All Possible Steps For Pilgrimage To Be Convenient, Safe And Hassle-Free



Observer News Service

Ganderbal: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Wednesday that overall arrangements for the annual Amarnath yatra have been upgraded and his administration

will take all possible steps for pilgrimage to be convenient, safe and hassle-free.

Sinha made these remarks in a review meeting held at Sonamarg here on Wednesday with officials of his administration, shrine [More on PIO](#)

## Calls Upon Youth To Join Fight Against Drug Abuse

**J**ammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday called upon the youth of the Union Territory to join the campaign against drug addiction and help eradicate the menace from society.

Addressing a camporee of the J&K Bharat Scouts and Guides at the International Youth Hostel in Sonamarg, Sinha said under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, youth are being provided with countless opportunities in various sectors to fulfil their dreams and [More on PIO](#)

## SRINAGAR SHOCKER!

## Teacher Arrested For Molesting Minor Students

Majid Nabi

**Srinagar:** A school teacher at Rawalpura locality in uptown Srinagar has been arrested under stringent sections of Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences (POSCO) Act for allegedly molesting and sexually assaulting two minor girl students in the school, police said on Wednesday.

The accused teacher was arrested following a complaint of molestation and sexually assaulting two minor girl students during school hours. A formal case under POSCO Act, police said, has been filed at Saddar police station in this regard.

The accused, working as Arabic teacher at Holy Faith School, Rawalpura has been identified as Satar Beigh (42) son of Nabar Beigh of Gurez area in north Kashmir's Bandipora district, who was presently putting in a rented accommodation at Hyderpora locality in uptown Srinagar.

Sources told Kashmir Observer that the accused teacher has been lodged at the Saddar police station and will be produced before the court for police remand.

Confirming the arrest, Srinagar police in a tweet said the accused has been arrested in a case of molestation and sexually assaulting two minor girl students of classes 4th and 5th.

"One Arabic teacher in Holy Faith School, Rawalpura namely Satar Beigh S/o Nabar Beigh R/o Gurez Bandipora (A/p) staying at Hyderpora) arrested for molesting and sexually assaulting 2 minor girl students of class 4th and 5th in the school. FIR registered under POSCO act in Saddar PS," reads the police tweet.

Pertinently, the principal of a government school in Srinagar was placed under suspension, hours after he was arrested by the police for allegedly molesting and harassing his students within and outside [More on PIO](#)

**IN VIEW OF AFTERSHOCKS, WE HAVE CLOSED DOWN ALL THE SCHOOLS** in the district. There is nothing to panic about. People should live on ground floors. We expect aftershocks after a big earthquake."

## COURT QUASHES PSA ORDER

## Govt Using PSA In 'Pleasure Than Principal Mode': HC

Recalls Martin Luther King Quote: 'Injustice Anywhere Is A Threat To Justice Everywhere'

M Ahmad

**Srinagar:** Recalling words of American civil rights activist and Nobel Laureate Martin Luther King Jr that "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere," the High Court of J&K and Ladakh on Wednesday quashed a detention order under Public Safety Act against a 43-year-old man from Baramulla.



"This is a writ petition for

seeking quashment of preventive detention order which has resulted in subjecting the petitioner to suffer second time in succession loss of his personal liberty as a citizen of India to whom otherwise the right to life and personal liberty is guaranteed as a fundamental right under Article 21 of the Constitution of India," a bench of Justice Rahul Bharti observed while ultimately quashing the detention order under PSA against the [More on PIO](#)

## NIA Court Rejects Para's Plea To Visit USA

M AHMAD

**N**IA court here has rejected an application by PDP leader Waheed-ur-Rehman Para for visiting USA to allow him pursue the coveted Peace Fellowship programme at the YALE Intentional Leadership Centre from September till ending November 2023. While rejecting [More on PIO](#)

## Lt Gen Ghai Takes Command Of Chinar Corps

Observer News Service

**Srinagar:** Lieutenant General Rajiv Ghai assumed command of the strategic Kashmir based Chinar Corps, a Defence Ministry spokesperson said Wednesday.

On taking over the command, he said, Ghai paid homage at the Chinar Corps Memorial at Badami Bagh Cantonment here.

The General, he said, addressed and interacted with troops of Chinar Corps and exhorted them to continue to work with unflinching dedication and perseverance in 'Pursuit of Peace and Stability in Kashmir'.

On assuming command, Lt Gen Ghai reiterated his commitment to closely work with various instruments of civil



administration and society to further the cause of peace and prosperity in Kashmir.

"He expressed hope at the improved security parameters in the Valley and is optimistic that even the ceasefire agreement along the Line of Control will further [More on PIO](#)

## Rajnath To Attend Security Conclave In Jammu On June 26

Agencies

**Jammu:** Ahead of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will visit Jammu on June 26 to attend a security conclave organized by BJP in run up of party's Maha Jan Sampark Abhiyaan on completion of NDA government's 9 years.

Party sources told a local news agency KNO that Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will visit Jammu on June 26 where he will be addressing an important security conclave in which security experts and media personalities are expected to participate.

"The conclave being organized by the J&K unit of the BJP is a first-of-its-kind initiative and will provide an opportunity



for the speakers to discuss security-related issues of the UT," sources said.

Earlier, BJP president Ravinder Raina informed that senior BJP leader and Union Home Minister Amit Shah will visit Jammu on June 23 and address a grand public rally.

This will be [More on PIO](#)

## SHORT TAKES

### Dulloo Posted In Union Home Ministry

**S**enior IAS officer and Financial Commissioner Agriculture Production Department, Atal Dulloo has been posted as secretary, Department of Border Management in Union Home Ministry, Dulloo will replace Dharmendra Sangwar as secretary, Border Management, who is attaining superannuation on June 30, reads an order [More on PIO](#)

### Police Open Fire, Detain 2 Drunkards

**P**olice on Wednesday fired warning shots and detained two people after finding them in an inebriated state in Central Kashmir's Budgam district. During night patrolling near court complex Budgam, a police party spotted a parked Wagon R vehicle and observed some suspicious activity inside, a police spokesperson said. When the police team approached the [More on PIO](#)

### Toddler Drowns To Death

**A** toddler drowned to death on Wednesday afternoon in Danas area of central Kashmir's Budgam district. Quoting an official, news agency KNO reported that a 2-year-old boy was playing when he drowned in Nallah Sukhnag and soon after the incident locals and officials started a rescue operation. He identified him as Talib Ahmad Ganie son of [More on PIO](#)

### Man Arrested For Sodomising Minor

**P**olice on Wednesday arrested a man on charges of sodomising a minor boy in Kreeeri area of North Kashmir's Baramulla district. The arrest was made by police after receiving a written complaint from a man alleging that on June 12 his six-year-old son was sodomised by the accused and threatened for not disclosing the incident to [More on PIO](#)

### SIU Files Chargesheet Against 3 Militants

**T**he special investigation unit (SIU) of police on Wednesday presented a chargesheet against three militants, one among them dead, in a case registered last year. The chargesheet was produced before the Court of NIA Srinagar in case FIR No 50/2022 under sections 307, 302 IPC, 7/27 IA Act 13, 16, 18, 20 & 38 UA (P) Act of Police Station Soura against 2 active militants and a killed [More on PIO](#)

### SIA Conducts Raids In South Kashmir

**T**he State Investigation Agency (SIA) on Wednesday carried out raids in three districts of South Kashmir in connection with a probe into the killing of ATM guard, Sanjay Kumar Sharma. An official told a local news agency KNO that a team of SIA Kashmir along with police and CRPF was conducting searches in Pulwama, Anantnag and Shopian district. [More on PIO](#)





To place an advertisement  
**CALL +91-194 2502327**  
 Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)  
 No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**Office Of The Executive Engineer Pw (R&B) Division Shopian**  
 e-mail:- rmbdivisionshopian@gmail.com (Phone/Fax No: 01933-26022)

**NOTICE INVITING TENDERS**  
 NIT No: 18/2686-95/SPN/RnB/e-Tendering/2023-24 Dated:- 14-06-2023

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

S. No.	Name of Work	Major Head of Account	Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Earnest Money Deposit	Class of Contractor	Time of Completion (In days)	Cost of T/Doc. (Rs.)	AAA No. Date	TS No. Date
1	Development of Play Field at Higher Secondary School Vehil Shopian	District Capex Budget 2023-24 (Youth Services & Sports)	1.927	3854/-	DEE	20 Days	200/-	213-DDCS of 2023 Dated:-08-06-2023	14-R&B/Spn of 2023-24 Dated 13-06-2023

Position of funds :- Approved Project Authority= DYSSO Shopian

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

S. No.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	From	To
1	14-06-2023	14-06-2023	14-06-2023
2	Document downloading Start Date	15-06-2023	From 10.00 A.M
3	Document Downloading End Date	21-06-2023	upto 2:00 P.M
4	Bid submission Start Date	15-06-2023	From 10.00 A.M
5	Bid Submission End Date	21-06-2023	upto 2:00 P.M
6	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	22-06-2023	at 10:00 A.M

1. Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between the bid start date and the Bid Submission End Date) deposited in M.H. 0059 in the name of Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian (tender inviting authority) as the cost of the tender document.

2. At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian. The successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the Bid cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.

3. Additional Performance Security for Unbalanced Bids will be applicable as per Clause-30 in Chapter-20 of PWD Engineering manual 2020.

Illustration:-

S. No.	Percentage of unbalanced bid viz -a-viz Adv. cost	Additional performance security to be deposited on quoted bid by 1
1	Up to and including 15% below	Nil
2	>15% upto and including 20% below	5%
3	>20% upto and including 25% below	10%
4	>25% upto and including 30% below	15%
5	>30% below	20%

4. The date and time of bid opening shall be notified on the Web Site [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) and automatically communicated to bidders via an e-mail message sent to their e-mail address. Responsive bidders' bids will be opened online on the same Web Site in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian (tender receiving authority).

5. Bids for the work shall be valid for 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids.

6. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

6.1. Bidders are advised to download the bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as the "Bidders Manual Kit" option on the website [www.jktenders.gov](http://www.jktenders.gov) to familiarize themselves with the bid submission process.

6.2. In order to participate in the bidding process, bidders must obtain a Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) under the Information Technology Act of 2000. Any approved Vendor can provide bidders with a digital certificate.

6.3. Bidders must submit their bids in electronic format with a digital signature online. No physical bids will be accepted.

6.4. Bids will be opened online in accordance with the time schedule specified in Para-1.

6.5. Bidders must upload scanned copy of all required documents (within the document upload limits) with their technical bid.

Note:- Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.

7. The department will not be held responsible for any delays in online submission due to unanticipated circumstances.

8. The original Treasury Challan (Cost of tender document) and other Uploaded bid documents shall have to be produced on demand by the successful bidder at the time of contract signing, and in the case of unsuccessful bidders, 2 percent EMD in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian, will be released only after production of Original Treasury Challan of uploaded Scanned copy (Cost of tender document).

9. Bidders are advised not to change the contents of the BOQ (Bill of Quantities). They should never attempt to create similar BOQ manually.

10. Bidders should be fully cognizant that if the documents uploaded/submitted on the basis of which the contract was awarded are later discovered to be fake/not genuine, the contract will be cancelled and the Contractor/bidder will be blacklisted from participating in this Division/Department for a period of three years, in addition to the performance security deposited for the said work being forfeited.

11. Price escalation and all Taxes:- The unit rates and prices shall be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the rates quoted shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work unless otherwise specified. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.

12. Bidders are advised to use the "My Documents" area in their R&B e-Tendering portal user account to store any required documents.

13. All bidders must UPLOAD the following information and documents with their bids, in addition to the qualification criteria / qualification information. (All documents pertaining to the bid must be in English):

- All bidders must submit copies of original documents defining their constitution/legal status, place of registration, and principal place of business, as well as their cell phone number and e-mail address.
- A valid Contractor/Firm Registration Certificate (with latest renewal) issued by a competent authority in accordance with the Contractor Registration Act.
- Treasury Challan / Earnest money Deposit.
- Valid GSTIN Registration.
- Scanned copy of GSTIN registration and most recent clearance certificate FORM GSTR-3B from the previous quarter (January March) or month (April), whichever is applicable.

No: NIT/2686-95  
 DIPK-3425/23 Dt: 14-06-2023

Sd/- sd/- sd/- sd/-  
 Camp Clerk Head Assistant AAO Technical Officer Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Shopian

**OFFICE OF ASHIQ AHMAD MAGRAY (ADVOCATE J&K HIGH SRINAGAR WING)**  
**BEFORE THE HON'BLE HIGH COURT OF J&K SRINAGAR WING AT SRINAGAR.**

In the case of:  
 1 Manzoor Ahmad Bhat  
 2 Mohd Ashraf Bhat  
 3. Abdul Hamid Bhat  
 4. Nazir Ahmad Bhat  
 ALL SONS OF Abdul Ahad Bhat  
 R/O Kandhama Beerwah Budgam  
 V/S  
 PUBLIC AT LARGE (Non-Caveators)

In the matter of: Caveat petition on behalf of above named caveators with the prayer that in the event of presentation of any petition, application or motion by any person against the caveators the caveators may be put to notice before passing any order.

May it please your Lordship, The caveat is most humbly submitted as under:  
 1) That the caveators are Leasee and in possession of landed property measuring approximately 6 kanal falling under survey NO's. 932 and 933 situated at Pinjpora Tehsil kawahama, 2) That the caveators are intending to install a stone crusher under the name and style M/S Bhat Stone Crusher and are raising construction of structures on the said land without any interference 4) That caveators are having apprehension, that any person from general public may jointly or severally file/ present any case, petition or application against the caveators, and by misrepresenting the facts, will get any ex-parte order or direction from this Hon'ble Court, in that eventuality the caveator is praying that before passing any ex-parte order, direction the caveator may be put to notice.

In the premises it is, therefore humbly prayed that in case any petition, case or application is filed against the Caveator by non-caveator or any person, agency, institution etc, the Caveator may be put to notice before passing any ex-parte order or direction, same shall serve the ends of Justice.

nj

**Public Notice**

This is to inform the general public That my child/ward namely Saad Mehboob Bhat is studying in Tyndie Biscoe Schook, Sheikh Bagh Srinagar in Class 5 th section Red under admission no 5549-17B. That I want correction in the spelling of my ward's mother's name from Qurat Ul Ain to Qurat Ul Ayn. Now I want to apply for its correction. That I have already changed/correction spelling of mother's name of my ward in the date of birth certificate which is issued by the SMC under registration No 22188 dated 16-04-2023. If anybody has any objection he/she may contact the concerned department within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained thereafter.

Mohammad Muzaffar Bhat F/o Saad Mehboob Bhat  
 R/o Tengpora Zoonimar Nowsher nj

**Before The Hon'ble Court Of Principal District Judge At Srinagar.**

In the case of:  
 Mst. Kulsuma  
 D/o Late Ghulam Nabi Parray  
 R/o Parraypora, Baghat, Barzulla Srinagar.  
 Versus  
 Caveator

Public at Large Non-Caveators

In the matter of: Caveat Petition.  
 May it please your Honour, The Caveator most respectfully submits as under:  
 1. That the Caveator/ petitioner is permanent resident of J&K Union Territory and has every right to invoke the Jurisdiction of this Hon'ble Court for the redressal of his legal rights.  
 2. That the caveator is having every apprehension that the non-Caveators may file any suit, case or any other proceedings against the caveator and may try to get any order/ direction in ex-parte, as such, the Caveator is filing the instant caveat petition so that the Caveator could be heard before passing any interim order or direction.  
 3. That the Caveator may be given opportunity of being heard before passing any order or direction against caveator.  
 4. That this Caveat is supported by an affidavit duly sworn in by the caveator.

In the premises, it is, therefore, prayed that Hon'ble court may be pleased, that before passing any order or direction against the caveator, the caveator or his counsel may be given opportunity of being heard, the would be in the ends of justice.

nj

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

It is information for the general public that in my service book my Date of Birth was wrongly entered as 23-01-1971, while my actual Date of Birth is 14-01-1967. Now I want its correction, if any body having any objection in this regard may contact District Police Budgam within a period of 7 days. No objection entertained after that.

Bashir Ahmad Bhat  
 S/O Haji Ali Bhat  
 R/O Karpora Budgam Kmr. Cell. 9797784052. mcb

**Public Notice**

I have lost my driving license bearing No JK01 20100027017 (MCWG,LMV) while I was travelling Check Saderbal, Hazratbal, Srinagar to Rainawari area on 12/06/2023 Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same from the Regional Transport Officer, Kashmir if anybody having any objection in this regard may file the same to the concerned authority within a period of 7 days No objection will be entertained after expiry of the stipulated period.

Sajad Hussain Teeli  
 S/O Gh Hussain Teeli  
 R/O Check Saderbal, Hazratbal, Srinagar inf

**Public Notice**

My name has been wrongly written in my aadhaar as Danish Farooq S/O Farooq Ahmad Bhat R/O Lalpora Kunzer while my correct name as per my School records is Danish Farooq Bandh S/O Farooq Ahmad Bandh R/O Lalpora Kunzer which needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the concerned office within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Danish Farooq Bandh  
 S/O Farooq Ahmad Bandh  
 R/O Lalpora Kunzer BMG

Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**Office Of The Executive Engineer, Irrigation Construction Division Pampore**

**Fresh E. NIT No. 08 of 2023-24**

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of UT of J&K e-tenders (Two cover System) are invited by e-tendering mode on percentage basis from established and accredited companies / suppliers / firms for the following work, which should be uploaded on the Procurement web portal <http://jktenders.gov.in>.

S.No.	Name of the work	Amount	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender Document	Head of Account	Tender Receiving Authority
1.	Providing Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) of Real Time Automatic Radar Water Level sensor/Rain gauges And Real Time Data Transmission System for the period of Five Years installed throughout the Kashmir Valley.	20.45 Lacs	40900	2000	M&R (MH 2711)	Executive Engineer Irrigation Construction Division Pampore

**Position of Funds:** Budgetary Provision  
**Major Head of Account:** Maintenance & Repair (MH 2711)

**Position of AA:** **Accorded vide No. SE/Hyd/Spn/DB/11 of 04/2023-24; Dated:- 26-04-2023**  
**Position of TS:** **Accorded vide No. 03-DB of 2023-24; Dated: 02-05-2023, issued vide No. CE/DB/TS/1171-72; Dated: 02-05-2023**

The bidding process shall be completed online in two covers viz:  
**Cover 1st** - Tender fee and Earnest Money details, fulfilment of prequalification criteria, technical specifications and acceptance to terms and conditions of the tender.  
**Cover 2nd** - Financial Bid in the prescribed BOQ.

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 website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per schedule of dates given hereunder:

S. No.	Event	Date & Time
1.	Publishing date of NIT	13-06-2023 (6.00 PM)
2.	Bid Document Downloading Start Date	13-06-2023(6.00 PM)
3.	Bid Submission Start Date	13-06-2023(6.00 PM)
4.	Pre-bid meeting	20-06-2023(11.30 AM)
5.	Last Date & Time for Uploading (Submission) of Bids	23-06-2023(6.00 PM)
6.	Bid Validity Period	90 Days
7.	Deadline for submission of hard copies	30-06-2023
8.	Date of opening of 1 <sup>st</sup> cover	24-06-2023(11.00 AM)

- Bid documents can be downloaded from the website <https://jktenders.gov.in> from the date of document download start date.
- The Bids shall be uploaded on the website <https://jktenders.gov.in> from the date of bid submission date to bid closing date.
- The original copy of EMD, DD, and other documents as specified in tender document must reach the office of the **Executive Engineer Irrigation Construction Division Pampore** through registered / speed post / by hand prior to one day of opening of the 1<sup>st</sup> cover of the tender up to 1400 Hrs. The Department will not be responsible for any delay in delivery of the documents.
- The complete bidding process will be online through <https://jktenders.gov.in>.
- The Cover-1 shall be opened online in the office of **Executive Engineer Irrigation Construction Division Pampore** (Tender Inviting Authority).
- The Financial bids of the bidders shall be opened online in the office of the **Executive Engineer Irrigation Construction Division Pampore** date of which shall be communicated separately.
- Bids must be accompanied with proof of cost of tender document in the shape of Treasury receipt/e-Challan under **M.H.0701-PWD Remittance** in favour of Executive Engineer Irrigation Construction Division Pampore (Tender Inviting Authority). Bid security will have to be in the form of CDR/ FDR of any scheduled bank and shall have to be valid for five years or more after last date of receipt of Bid, to be pledged in favour of **Executive Engineer Irrigation Construction Division Pampore**.

8. The tenderer shall keep his offer valid for acceptance for a minimum period of 90 days from the date of opening of Price Bid. Should Department so require, the tenderer shall revalidate his offer without change of prices and terms for another period of 60 days on expiry of initial validity period of 90 days. If any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the said earnest money shall stand forfeited.

9. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in>.

10. **Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process:**

- The interested bidder can download the NIT/bidding document from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get (DSC) "Digital Signature Certificate" as per Information Technology Act-2000, to participate in online bidding. This certificate will be required for digitally signing the bid. Bidders can get above mentioned digital certificate from any approved vendor. The Bidders, who already possess valid (DSC) Digital Signature Certificates, need not to procure new Digital Signature Certificate.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with Digital Signature. The bids cannot be uploaded without Digital Signature. No Proposal will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule.
- Before submission of online bids, bidders must ensure that scanned copies of all the necessary documents have been attached with bid.
- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission of bids whatsoever reasons may be.
- All the required information for bid must be filled and submitted online.
- Bidders should get ready with the scanned copies of cost of documents & EMD as specified in the tender documents. The original instruments in respect of cost of documents, EMD and relevant documents be submitted to the Tender Inviting Authority by Speed/Registered post/courier as per time schedule specified.
- The details of cost of documents, EMD specified in the tender documents should be the same, as submitted online (scanned copies) otherwise bid will not be accepted.
- Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on [jktenders.gov.in](http://jktenders.gov.in), e-tendering portal to store important documents like Experience certificate, Balance sheet, VAT Certificate, sales Tax Clearance Certificate and other related documents etc., and attach these certificates as non-Statutory documents while submitting their bids.
- Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents or its name. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the net item rate inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same as its contents.
- Unbalanced bid:-**  
 In Case the bid of the bidder is unbalanced, the bidder has to upload additional Performance Security Deposit in the Shape of CDR/ FDR/ BG as per the breakup given below failing which the tender shall be rejected. The date of the CDR/ FDR/ BG should be between the date of start of bid and bid submission end date.

S.No.	Percentage of unbalanced bid Vis-a-Vis Adv. Cost	Additional performance security to be deposited on advertised cost
1	Upto and including 15% below	Nil
2	>15% upto and including 20% below	5%
3	>20% upto and including 25% below	10%
4	>25% upto and including 30% below	15%
5	>30% below	20%

- Bidders are advised to scan their documents at 100 DPI (Dots per Inch) resolutions with Black and White, JPEG Scan properly, convert scanned images to PDF
- The guidelines for submission of bid online can be downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in>

No. PICD/940-53  
 DIPK-3449/23  
 Dated:-14-06-2023

Sd/-  
**Executive Engineer**  
 Irrigation Construction Division  
 Pampore

**از عدالت سب جج میونسپل مجسٹریٹ سرینگر**  
**با اجلاس مہرین مشتاق**

رجسٹرڈ ایڈوکیٹس  
 ایس۔ ایم۔ سی۔ سرینگر (بیول)

سائل اسامہ  
 درخواست بجز اندراج تاریخ پیدائش اوقات  
 نام: **Mohmad Shafi Wani**  
 تاریخ پیدائش: 09-04-1958  
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان (صدر میں سائل) سالکے عدالت ہڈا میں ایک درخواست بشمول حلفی بغرض اندراج تاریخ پیدائش  
**Mohmad Shafi Wani S/O Mohmad Usman Wani**  
 مورخہ R/o Safakadal Sgr  
 پیش کی ہے۔ لہذا عوام الناس کو  
 بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی نذر یا اعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے  
 عدالت اشاعت اشتہار کے اندر ہی ہم عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے میا کوئی نذر یا  
 اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئندہ عدالت ہڈا میں 09-06-2023 کو کرتے۔  
 تحریر الصعدہ 13-06-23 nj

**از عدالت سب جج میونسپل مجسٹریٹ سرینگر**  
**با اجلاس مہرین مشتاق**

رجسٹرڈ ایڈوکیٹس  
 ایس۔ ایم۔ سی۔ سرینگر (بیول)

سائل اسامہ  
 درخواست بجز اندراج تاریخ پیدائش اوقات  
 نام: **Bashir Ahmad Gujree**  
 تاریخ پیدائش: 28-03-1960  
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان (صدر میں سائل) سالکے عدالت ہڈا میں ایک درخواست بشمول حلفی بغرض اندراج تاریخ پیدائش  
**Bashir Ahmad Gujree S/O Abdul Rehman**  
 مورخہ R/o Fateh Kadal Sgr  
 پیش کی ہے۔ لہذا عوام الناس کو  
 بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی نذر یا اعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے  
 عدالت اشاعت اشتہار کے اندر ہی ہم عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے میا کوئی نذر یا  
 اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئندہ عدالت ہڈا میں 07-06-2023 کو کرتے۔  
 تحریر الصعدہ 13-06-23 nj

**از عدالت سب جج میونسپل مجسٹریٹ سرینگر**  
**با اجلاس مہرین مشتاق**

رجسٹرڈ ایڈوکیٹس  
 ایس۔ ایم۔ سی۔ سرینگر (بیول)

سائل اسامہ  
 درخواست بجز اندراج تاریخ پیدائش اوقات  
 نام: **Bashir Ahmad Khan**  
 تاریخ پیدائش: 03-04-1972  
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان (صدر میں سائل) سالکے عدالت ہڈا میں ایک درخواست بشمول حلفی بغرض اندراج تاریخ پیدائش  
**Bashir Ahmad Khan S/O Abdul Gaffar Khan**  
 مورخہ R/o Zaffran Colony  
 پیش کی ہے۔ لہذا عوام الناس کو  
 بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی نذر یا اعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے  
 عدالت اشاعت اشتہار کے اندر ہی ہم عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے میا کوئی نذر یا  
 اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئندہ عدالت ہڈا میں 13-06-2023 کو کرتے۔  
 تحریر الصعدہ 13-06-23 nj



## Doctors, Academics Calls For Mass Awareness On Organ Transplantation At KU

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Eminent doctors and academics Wednesday joined deliberations on organ donation and tissue transplant at an awareness program held at the University of Kashmir.

The day-long program was organized by the varsity's Department of Bioresearches and Institute of Home Sciences in collaboration with J&K State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (SOTTO) and J&K Science Technology and Innovation Council (JKST&IC).

Vice-Chancellor, KU, Prof Nilofer Khan chaired the inaugural session of the event as chief guest, while Shri Saurabh Bhagat, IAS, Commissioner-Secretary, J&K Science and Technology Department was the guest of honour. Director SKIMS Prof Parvaiz A Koul, HOD Urology SKIMS, Prof M Saleem Wani, Registrar KU, Dr Nisar A Mir and Nodal Officer SOTTO, J&K, Dr Elias Sharma, shared the dais.

In her presidential address, Prof Nilofer said such awareness programs are a need of the hour to address a host of emerging health concerns in a collaborative manner.

She exuded confidence that the technical deliberations involving eminent doctors from SKIMS and GMCs in different districts of Kashmir will be a great learning experience for young students.

"The University is conscious of its responsibility to connect with the society through such programs," the VC said, congratulating all the partnering organizers for holding the important program.

In his special address, Saurabh Bhagat said such awareness programs are very important because six to seven lakh people in the country are waiting for kidney transplant, while a similar number is looking for liver transplant or eye transplant. "And while we have a huge donor population but because of certain issues we have not been able to move forward," he said, adding that the hardship that a family undergoes due to organ failure is "extremely terrible. It is not only financial hardship, but emotional and psychological hardship as well."

In his keynote speech, Prof Parvaiz A Koul said "you can save a life while you are alive yourself and that is the general convention for transplantation in the country, and most other countries in the world."



People relaxing under a lit up chinar at newly renovated Polo-View Market in Srinagar. KO Pic Abid Bhat

## Police Books Departmental Store For Selling 'Adulterated' Baby Milk

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Police has registered a case against a departmental store at Sanatnagar locality in uptown Srinagar on Wednesday for allegedly selling sub standard/adulterated baby milk.

Srinagar police, in a tweet said that a case was registered

against 7/11 departmental store, Sanatnagar for selling substandard/adulterated milk for babies, which led to deterioration of the health of a baby.

After receiving a complaint in this regard, an FIR no 48/23 was registered in Sadar police station under sections of 273, 274, 275, 276, 420 of IPC, they said.

It was further said that an inves-

tigation has been taken up into the matter.

"Case registered against 7/11 department store, Sanatnagar for selling substandard / adulterated milk for baby leading to deterioration of the health of baby. FIR no 48/23 under sections 273,274,275,276,420 of IPC registered in Sadar PS & investigation has started," tweeted Srinagar police.

## DC Srinagar Holds Public Grievance Redressal Camp At Theed Harwan

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Continuing its endeavor to bring administration at the doorstep of people and to listen to their developmental demands and ensure on spot resolution of their issues, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad Wednesday held the Block Diwas program at New Theed Harwan under weekly public outreach program.

DDC Member, Theed, Haji Ali, BDC Member Dara, Mohammad Shabaan, other PRI members and people from various areas of Harwan Block including New Theed, Dara, Mulnar, Fakir Gujri were part of the Public Grievance Redressal Camp.

The General Manager, DIC, Chief Planning Officer Srinagar, Chief Agriculture Officer, Assis-

tant Commissioner Development, Chief Horticulture Officer, District Social Welfare Officer, Tehsildar North, BDO Harwan, Executive Engineer R&B, Lead District Manager and other District Officers were also present on the occasion.

On the occasion, local DDC and BDC members, PRI representatives projected various issues and development related demands before the Deputy Commissioner including issues regarding damages caused to Horticulture/Agriculture crops, correction in Revenue records, establishment of SFC Depot in the area, Social Welfare & irrigation related matters, protection from Wild Animals and other development related matters.

The DC interacted with the local people and received first hand

appraisal about the public issues and demands. He gave patient hearing to the people and passed on the spot instructions to the concerned Departments for time-bound redressal of public grievances.

The DC said the District Administration is taking all possible measures to ensure better civic facilities to the people particularly living in remote areas of the District.

On the occasion, the DC directed the concerned to hold a Medical camp at Harwan to facilitate the people particularly the physically challenged at their doorsteps for providing different kinds of Medical certificates. He also asked for providing solar lights to the local farmers so that lights are installed to protect crops from damages caused due to wild animals.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, I Mr. Syed Azaz Abidin Zaidi S/o Mr. Syed Imtiyaz Ahmad Zaidi R/o Sajad Abad, Chattabal, Srinagar, Kashmir intends to apply in the Department of Tourism for registration of my proposed Travel Unit under the name and Style "M/S: Zaidi Tour and Travels" situated at Sajad Abad, Chattabal, Srinagar Kashmir under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12.

Whereas, I will submit State Subject/Domicile Certificate, Qualification Certificate, Pan Card, Experience Certificate (Minimum 05 Years), Character Certificate (Police Department), Bank Statement (Minimum Balance 10000), Site Plan, Affidavit, Rent Deed duly attested by Sub-Registrar, Printing Material (Letter Head/Visiting Card), Photograph of the Unit (Indoor and Outdoor) and Two Passport size photographs to the Department of Tourism as per prescribed checklist prior to registration of my unit as an Excursion Agency.

Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011/12, before my case is processed for registration by the Competent Authority, the matter is hereby notified for information of general Public/Financial Institutions/Bank/Organization, etc. for objection, if any and the same should reach to the Deputy Director Tourism Registration (e-mail id:- ddtregl23@gmail.com) within a period of 7 days from the publication of this notice in leading local newspaper/newspapers of the valley. No objections beyond a period of 7 days shall be entertained.

55

### J&K Power Development Corporation, Srinagar Office Of The Executive Engineer, Gas Turbine Division, Pampore

E-mail: xengtampore@gmail.com

NIT No: GTD/PDC/TS/05 of 2023-24

Dated: 14/06/2023

For and on behalf of the Managing Director J&K Power Development Corporation, sealed bids in two covers (Part-A: Techno-Commercial Bid & Part-B: Price Bid) valid for 180 days accompanied with Earnest Money in the shape of CDR/FDR or Bank Guarantee @ 2% of the Estimated Cost (as specified in para 1 of Tender Notice) amounting to Rs. 46,260/- pledged to Accounts Officer with Chief Engineer Generation Wing Kashmir, are invited from Registered Contractors/Firms of appropriate class having sufficient related experience (as per CVC guidelines) for the following work:

S. No.	Name of the Work	Estimated Cost (in Rs Lacs)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Amount (2%) (Rs)	Cost of tender documents (Rs) (Non-Refundable)	Time of Completion
1	"Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 11kV VCBs along with Panels complete at MHEP, Pahalgam."	23.13	Rs 46,260	Rs 2000	60days

#### CRITICAL DATES

1	Date of issue of Tender Notice	14/06/2023
2	Document download Start Date	15/06/2023 at 9:00 a.m.
3	Document download End Date	01/07/2023 at 12:30 p.m.
4	Bid submission Start Date (Online)	15/06/2023 at 9:00 a.m.
5	Bid submission End Date (Online)	01/07/2023 at 12:30 p.m.
6	Date and Time of Opening of Bids (Online)	03/07/2023 at 11:30 a.m.

1. The entire bidding process shall be online.  
2. The bidding documents consisting of BOQ (Bill of Quantities), set of Terms & Conditions and other details can be seen at & downloaded from the government website www.jktenders.gov.in or the official website of JKPCD www.jkpcd.nic.in. The bidder has to submit the bids (complete in all respects) online.

DIPK-NB-1281/23  
DATED: 14-06-2023

-Sd-  
Executive Engineer,  
Gas Turbine Division Pampore

### Office Of The Executive Engineer Lake Division No.II, STP Hazratbal Srinagar, J&K Lakes Conservation And Management Authority, Srinagar.

(Phone and Fax No.0194-2414194) e mail:xen2lcma@gmail.com,deptt. website:www.lcma.in

Gist of N.I.T No. LD- 2ND/ 05 of 2023-24(e).

For and on behalf of the LT. Governor, Jammu & Kashmir UT, e-tenders on item wise percentage basis are in double cover system are invited from Registered Civil Contractors of PWD/CPWD/MES for the below mentioned work/s:-

Sr. No.	Name of the work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs)	Time of Comp.	Class of contract	Tender fee (Rs)
1.	Construction of R/Wall on U/S Right side of Culvert near the H/O: Mr. Ghulam Rasool Akhoun and Imtiyaz Ahmad Dar and other (L_30.00 M) and on D/S Both sides of Culvert near the H/o: Manzoor Ahmad Wani and others (L_32 mtrs B/S) of Astan Nallah at Pahloo Brein Nishat.	35,29,825.00	70,597	60 days	AAY/BEE	1000.00
2.	Construction of Barbed wire fencing with Angle Iron Posts at Bakhura and Hadoora Catchment.	29,98,139.00	59,963	60 days	AAY/BEE	1000.00
3.	Construction of crate protection work on left side of Asthan Nallah behind Govt. Primary School Pahloo Brein and also construction of Check dams at various spots of Astanpora Pahloo Brein.	14,09,536.00	28,191	35 Days	BEE/CEE/ DEE	700.00
4.	Construction of earthen Check Dams at Bakhura, Hadoora and Dara Catchment.	10,29,805.00	20,596	25 days	BEE/CEE/ DEE	700.00

#### Online bidding schedule:

01.	Date of issue of tender Notice	13.06.2023
02.	Start date for downloading of bidding documents.	14.06.2023 (10.00AM)
03.	Bid submission start date	14.06.2023 (11.00 AM)
04.	Bid submission end date	04.07.2023 (02.00 PM)
05.	Date and time of opening of bids (Technical & Financial) on line.	06.07.2023 (4.30 P.M)
06.	Tender inviting authority.	Executive Engineer Lake Division No: 2nd J&K LCMA Miskeen Bagh Srinagar.
07.	Tender opening/receiving authority.	
09.	EMD to be pledged to	
10.	Tender fee to be drawn in favour of.	Tender fee to be deposited into account No: CDG/0185010200000003, JK Bank Upper Sathu through E-Challan/Treasury receipt / Pay in slip. Note: NIT No. and S.No. of the work shall be mentioned on paying slip while depositing the fee. The fee must be deposited between publishing date of NIT and bid submission end date. No before or after-wards shall be entertained.

#### General Term and conditions:

1. The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, 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 upto said bidding schedule.  
2. The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in upto said bidding schedule.  
3. The complete bidding process will be on line.

No: LD-II/ 1178-1205  
DIPK-NB-1272/23 Dated: 14.06.2023

Executive Engineer,  
Lake Division NO.2nd.

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,245222,2452155
- 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
- BIJBERA: 01932-228243
- PAMPORE: 01933-294132
- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

#### HIGHWAY STATUS

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



**HIJRI CALENDAR**

25 Zil-Qadah  
1444

PRAYERS	
FAJR	3:34
ZUHR	12:31
ASR	5:31
Magrib	7:46
ISHA	9:28

### This Day In History

- 1246 - With the death of Duke Frederick II, the Babenberg dynasty ends in Austria
- 1389 - Battle of Kosovo; Turks defeat Serbs
- 1567 - Battle at Carberry, Scotland: Protestant troops beat Earl Bothwell's army
- 1667 - 1st fully documented human blood transfusion is performed by French physician, Dr. Jean-Baptiste Denys, when a small amount of sheep blood is transfused into a 15-year old boy, who survives the procedure
- 1808 - Joseph Bonaparte becomes King of Spain
- 1826 - Ottoman Sultan Mahmud II abolishes the elite Janissary corps executing thousands for treason to make way for a more modern army
- 1864 - Battle of Petersburg begins as General Ulysses S. Grant assaults the Confederate line at the important Southern rail center of Petersburg
- 1869 - World's 1st plastic Celluloid is patented by John Wesley Hyatt, Albany, NY
- 1876 - Tsunami after earthquake floods NE coast of Japan, kills 28,000
- 1878 - World's first moving pictures caught on camera (used 12 cameras, each taking 1 picture) done to see if all 4 of a horse's hooves leave the ground
- 1888 - Wilhelm II becomes Emperor of Germany
- 1896 - Tsunami strikes Shinto festival on beach at Sanriku, Japan; 27,000 are killed, 9,000 injured and 13,000 houses destroyed
- 1911 - Tabulating Computing Recording Corporation (IBM) is incorporated.
- 1913 - The Battle of Bud Bagsak in the Philippine concludes
- 1916 - Boeing Model 1 [B & W Seaplane], the 1st Boeing product, flies for the 1st time
- 1917 - In order to calm troubled relations with Ireland, the British grant amnesty to the Prisoners taken during the Easter Rising of 1916
- 1924 - Ford Motor Company manufactures its 10 millionth automobile
- 1940 - World War II: France surrenders to NAZI Germany, German troops occupy Paris
- 1940 - Soviet Army occupies Lithuania
- 1943 - Congress of racial Equality (CORE) forms
- 1954 - Great Britain's 2 biggest steel factories nationalized
- 1960 - Argentina complains to UN about Israeli illicit transfer of Eichmann
- 1965 - South Africa begins economic boycott of Dutch products

### From KO Archives

## Torture Victim Awarded Rs 75,000 For Lost Foot

Observer News Service

**S**RINAGAR- The State Human Rights Commission (SHRC) has held the BSF guilty of disabling a Kashmiri civilian in custody and ordered the para-military force to pay Rs 75,000 as compensation to the victim. The Commission has also directed the state government to initiate action under SRO 43 with regard to the case.

Sources said that the SHRC had received a complaint from one Muhammad Qalandar Khatana of Kalaroo, Kupwara, in February 2003, saying that BSF had cut off one of his feet during torture in custody.

The allegation had been confirmed by the then IGP Kashmir through a letter (6110-11 of 28-03-03), and the SP Kupwara, too, had declared the charge as correct. The reports had later been verified by the tehsildar of the victim's native area.

During a hearing today, the SHRC held the BSF responsible for disabling Khatana, and ordered it to pay him a compensation of Rs 75,000. In its ruling, the SHRC also directed the state government to bring the victim within the purview of SRO 43.

(Kashmir Observer, 15 June, 2007)



## 16% Of Elderly Women In India Have Faced Abuse, Says Survey

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** About 16 per cent of elderly women in India have faced abuse, mostly in the form of physical violence followed by disrespect and psychological abuse, a new report published on Wednesday showed.

Published by HelpAge India on the eve of UN-recognised 'World Elder Abuse Awareness Day' on Thursday, the report 'Women & Ageing: Invisible or Empowered?' surveyed 7,911 women in the age group of 60-90 years for one month from May to June.

The non-profit organisation selected its respondents from both rural and urban India across 20 states, two UTs and five metro cities, covering various socio-economic categories.

The report revealed abuse against older women at a rate of 16 per cent. Of those abused, 50 per cent reported physical violence, making it the top form of abuse. It was followed by 46 per cent being disrespected and 40 per cent facing emotional/psychological abuse.

A total of 40 per cent of the surveyed women reported the main perpetrators as their sons, while 31 per cent pointed out their relatives and 27 per cent their daughters-in-law.



These figures are worrisome as they indicate that the abuse extends beyond the immediate family circle, the report said.

The survey also found that despite being abused, most elderly women did not report it to the police, primarily due to fear.

While 18 per cent cited "fear of retaliation or further abuse" as the top reason, 16 per cent said they were unaware of the resources available and 13 per cent thought their concerns would not be taken seriously.

Data from the report suggested about 56 per cent of older women lacked awareness of abuse redressal mechanisms, with only 15 per cent being aware of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act.

A huge percentage of the surveyed women -- 78 per cent -- said they were unaware of any government welfare schemes, the report said.

## Centre's Panel Seeks Public, Religious Bodies' Views On Uniform Civil Code

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** The Law Commission on Wednesday said it has decided to look at the need for a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) afresh and seek the views of various stakeholders, including members of the public and religious organisations.

Earlier, the 21st Law Commission, the term of which ended in August 2018, had examined the issue and solicited the views of all stakeholders on two occasions on the politically sensitive matter of a UCC.

Subsequently, a consultation paper on "Reforms of Family Law" was issued in 2018.

"Since more than three years have lapsed from the date of issuance of the said consultation paper, bearing in mind the relevance and



importance of the subject and also the various court orders on the subject, the 22nd Law Commission of India considered it expedient to deliberate afresh over the subject," the panel said in a statement.

The 22nd Law Commission, which recently got a three-year extension, has accordingly begun examining issues related to UCC on a reference sent by the Ministry of Law

and Justice.

"Accordingly, the 22nd Law Commission of India decided again to solicit views and ideas of the public at large and recognised religious organisations about the Uniform Civil Code," the statement said.

Those who are interested and willing can present their views within a period of 30 days from the date of notice to the Law Commission.

**"ACCORDINGLY, THE 22ND LAW COMMISSION OF INDIA decided again to solicit views and ideas of the public at large and recognised religious organisations about the Uniform Civil Code," the statement said.**

## Army Chief Recalls When Pakistani War Prisoners Praised Indian Officers



Agencies

**NEW DELHI:** Honouring the contributions of legendary officer Lt Gen PS Bhagat, Indian Army chief Gen Manoj Pande on Wednesday said the treatment of Pakistani prisoners of war post-1971 war was so good that they wished that their officers were as good as their Indian counterparts in ensuring the welfare of the troops.

"After the 1971 Indo-Pak War, 90,000 Pakistani Prisoners of War were to be housed in camps in central command (with Lt Gen Bhagat as commander in chief). This entailed urgent construction of shelters, provision of amenities, putting the logistics in place, ensuring security arrangements and coordination," Gen Pande said while addressing a memorial lecture.

He said Lt Gen Bhagat ensured that every amenity that the POWs were entitled to, including canteen stores, postal facilities, and medical cover-

age, was made available in the true spirit of the Geneva Convention.

He said in some cases, Lt Gen Bhagat even ordered an accommodation occupied by his own troops, vacated for the prisoners of war.

"Hence, it was no surprise that Pakistani POWs had only praise for the way they were treated in India, and often remarked that they wished their officers were like Indian officers in the way they took care of their troops," Gen Pande said.

After the crushing defeat in the 1971 war, India had taken 90,000 Pakistan Army troops as prisoners after they surrendered before them.

The defeat of the Pakistan Army led to the creation of Bangladesh, formerly East Pakistan.

Lt Gen Niazi was the senior-most officer to surrender and had stayed in India for many months during which he, along with fellow prisoners of war, were well looked after by the neighbour.

## Raeisi: Iran Turned US Sanctions Into Opportunity

Agencies

**P**resident Ebrahim Raeisi says the Iranian nation has succeeded in turning the United States' sanctions and threats into opportunities.

"The US sought to stop our nation through sanctions and threats, but not only our nation did not give in, it created an opportunity out of threats and sanctions and made progress," Raeisi said after he was officially welcomed by his Nicaraguan counterpart, Daniel Ortega, upon arrival in Managua on Tuesday evening local time.

He argued that the Nicaraguan people's resistance against excessive demands and hegemonic powers led to their victory, adding that the two nations share a common desire for independence, freedom and justice.

He rejected "false" claims by Western powers about their advocacy for democracy and human rights and urged the West, especially the US, to respect the governments that are based on people's votes. "But they do the opposite," he said.

Raeisi compared the US role in creating Daesh to the Islamic Republic's support for the fight against terrorism, saying, "They claim to fight terrorism but they martyred [Iran's] anti-terror hero General Qassem Soleimani."

The Iranian president further noted that Tehran and Managua enjoy "strategic" relations. He expressed the Islamic Republic's readiness to improve mutual ties in various sectors, particularly science and technology.



Ortega, for his part, said the Iranian and Nicaraguan revolutions have deep roots in the fight against the dominance of arrogant powers, especially the United States.

He said imperial powers intrinsically seek to dominate other countries, and they exert pressure on independent countries under the pretext of human rights and democracy.

Nevertheless, he went on, the independent nations continue to firmly stand up to them.

Heading a high-ranking politico-economic delegation, Raeisi arrived in Nicaragua on the second leg of his three-nation tour of Latin America. Earlier, he visited Venezuela and will set off for Cuba later.

Speaking at a joint meeting of the high-ranking delegations of Iran and Venezuela on Monday afternoon local time, the Iranian president said a new world order is being formed in favor of freedom-seeking, independent countries, stressing that resistance against the arrogant powers has led to

significant achievements.

In the presence of Raeisi and his Venezuelan counterpart Nicolas Maduro, the two countries' ministers and other top officials signed a total of 19 cooperation agreements and memorandums of understanding.

The agreements are aimed at expanding cooperation between Tehran and Caracas in many areas, including in the field of petrochemicals, as the two sides move to expand overall cooperation in the oil sector.

Negation of unilateralism, common policy of Iran, Nicaragua: FM Amir-Abdollahian Commenting on President Raeisi's visit to Nicaragua, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian said "negation of unilateralism" is the common policy of both Iran and the Latin American country.

In a Wednesday post on his Twitter account, Amir-Abdollahian said part of the Iranian administration's "balanced foreign policy" is to take into consideration the capacities of Latin American countries.

## Nitin Agrawal Takes Over As New BSF Chief

Agencies

**NEW DELHI:** Recipient of the President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service in 2015, senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Nitin Agrawal on Wednesday took charge as a new Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF), which claims to be the largest border guarding force in the world.

Mr Agrawal, a 1989-batch IPS from Kerala cadre, has held various prominent positions in the Kerala Police as well as serving as Deputy Inspector General in the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), and Inspector General in the Indo-Tibetan Border Police and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).

He took charge from CRPF Director General Sujoy Lal Thaosan, who has



been holding the additional charge of the BSF for the last five months after the retirement of Pankaj Kumar Singh in December 2022.

Prior to assuming the role of Director General of the BSF, Mr Agrawal served as Additional Director General (ADG) Central Zone and as ADG Operations in the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). He was promoted to the rank of ADG in 2014 while serving with the ITBP.

Mr Agrawal holds a B.Tech and an M.Tech degree from IIT Delhi, along with an M.Phil in Social Science from Punjab University.

Acknowledging Mr Agrawal's outstanding contributions to the field of law enforcement, the Central government honoured him Indian Police Medal for Meritorious Service in 2007 and the President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service in 2015.

After lying vacant for five months post the retirement of Pankaj Kumar Singh in December 2022, the country's prestigious BSF got its new chief on Sunday after the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved the Ministry of Home Affairs proposal of appointing Agrawal as the new Director General of the force last week.

## Uk Police Arrest Pakistani Social Media Activist Adil Raja

IANS

**LONDON:** Pakistani social media activist and YouTuber Adil Raja was arrested by British authorities, however, it is unclear on what grounds the arrest was made.

Cases under anti-terrorism provisions are registered in Pakistan against Raja -- a vocal proponent of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), Geo News reported.

The government had earlier filed various complaints against Raja in the UK.

The latest of these was regarding the riots of May 9, which were sparked after the PTI chief was arrested from the Islamabad High Court under a 190 million pounds settlement case.

Raja and other activists raised hateful and anti-



state sentiments via social media, the Pakistani government complained to UK authorities, Geo News reported.

The complaint added that the vocal PTI worker had tried to destabilise the country by spreading fake news.

The London police have not yet released a statement on the matter.

Earlier in April there were reports that police had approached a sessions court

in Rawalpindi for seizure of properties belonging to a former army officer who is in the limelight these days for his anti-establishment vlogs and social media posts, Dawn reported.

Raja went to the UK last year following the ouster of the PTI government in April 2022.

He is active on Twitter and an ardent supporter of former Prime Minister Imran Khan, Dawn reported.

The former army officer has also been very critical of the new government as well as the military establishment accusing them of hatching a conspiracy to remove Khan from power.

Raja was nominated in a case registered by Rawalpindi's Banni police under Section 406 (criminal breach of trust) of the Pakistan Penal Code.



## Agenda Of Big Opposition Meet In Bihar Next Week? It's Not On PM Face

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** The upcoming Opposition meet in Patna scheduled for next week will not discuss a possible prime ministerial candidate and will focus on deciding the common agenda for the parties to work on in the run-up to the Lok Sabha elections.

Sources from the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), which along with Bihar's ruling alliance partner Janata Dal-United (JD-U) is playing host to the meet to be held in state capital Patna, told Press Trust of India that there are no talks on the lines of picking a prime ministerial candidate.

"The meeting is the first step. A common agenda will be finalised," said an RJD leader who did not want to be named.

"Inflation and unemployment are issues which affect everyone, drawing people's attention to the fact that it is government's economic mismanagement, a result of bad decisions like demonetisation and faulty GST, is an important issue. Apart from this, communal harmony, misuse of government agencies and subversion of democracy are important issues," the source said.

The issue of caste-based cen-

sus, which has found support even from BJP leaders in Bihar, is also set to be on the agenda, and the opposition parties are hopeful of garnering larger support over the issue at a national level.

According to the sources, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Sharad Pawar is likely to present a common minimum programme.

However, there will be no talk about a prime ministerial candidate, the source told Press Trust of India.

"There will be no discussion on any prime ministerial candidate, that is not the aim of the meeting. The meeting is for coordination among the Opposition for the next general election, this will be the first step," the source told Press Trust of India.

A leader from another opposition party said that they are likely to discuss the formation of a team of senior leaders who will go to different states, talk to leaders as well as hold meetings and conferences to mobilise support for the Opposition.

While a formal alliance between the opposition parties is unlikely, the idea is to work on a formula of having one winnable Opposition candidate in all seats.

## Amid Rising Dog Attacks, Kerala Government To Move Court For Change In Rules

Press Trust of India

**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM:** In the wake of increasing reports of stray dog attacks on people, including the death of a differently-abled boy in one such instance, in Kerala, the state government on Wednesday said it will move to court seeking changes in the rules on dealing with vagrant canines.

Minister for Local Self-Governments M B Rajesh said the government will also move the court for removing the restriction on Kudumbashree, a poverty eradication and women empowerment programme of the state government, from performing Animal Birth Control (ABC) procedures.

The High Court in December 2021 had directed the state government to immediately restrain Kudumbashree from carrying out ABC procedures.

The directions came while hearing of a PIL initiated by the court on its own in the wake of a gruesome killing of a dog which was tied up and beaten to death by some people on Adimalathura beach on the outskirts of Thiruvananthapuram.

Rajesh, speaking to reporters here, also said people and the media were not acknowledging the measures being taken

by the state government to deal with the menace and were instead focused on blaming the administration.

However, in the wake of several reported incidents of dog attacks from various parts of Kerala in the last few days, the state government has decided to take the legal route for dealing with the stray canine menace.

There were reports of youth being chased and attacked by stray dogs in Fort Kochi a day ago and a three-year-old girl in Kannur barely escaping from being bitten on Wednesday when stray canines entered the front yard of her relative's home where she was playing.

On Tuesday, in Thrissur, a stray dog chased a child while he was riding a cycle and while cycling away in panic, he fell down and suffered injuries on his face and lost several teeth.

The child's father told a TV channel that his son is in ICU and had to undergo plastic surgery.

Prior to these incidents, on June 11, an 11-year-old differently-abled boy was attacked by stray dogs at the Muzhapilangad area of Kannur and died due to the grievous injuries suffered in the incident.

**FROM THE OFFICE OF ADV HAAMID GULZAR & ASSOCIATES DISTRICT COURT COMPLEX SGR.**

In the case of:-

1. Farooq Ahmad Mir S/O Mohammad Sidiq Mir
2. Mst. Shameema W/O Mohammad Farooq Mir

Both Residence of Saderbal, Srinagar (Caveator) V/S Public at Large

**In the matter of: Caveat petition in terms of Section 148A CPC.**

That the caveator has reason to believe/apprehension that the non-caveator(s) may file a suit or other type of proceedings before the Hon'ble High Court, District Court or Special Tribunal, Srinagar on the ground of distorted facts/misrepresentation or cooked up story and may succeed in obtaining some relief/order at their back/exparte against the caveator(s) and in such eventuality the caveator(s) will be put to an irreparable loss & inconvenience. It would be proper that the caveator(s) is given an opportunity of being heard by this Hon'ble Court/Tribunal before passing any order.



## Vaisno Devi Shrine Board Partners With DTDC For Speedy Delivery Of Prasad To Devotees

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Vaisno Devi devotees will now get a "speedy delivery" of prasad boxes to their homes through the DTDC courier service, officials here said on Wednesday.

Acting on a suggestion by Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, the Shri Mata Vaisno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) has partnered with courier service DTDC Express Limited to expedite the delivery of prasad boxes, they added.

The partnership will revolu-

tionise the logistics and delivery of prasad boxes to devotees of Mata Vaisno Devi across the country, SMVDSB Chief Executive Officer Anshul Garg said.

"Undertaken as per the directions of LG Manoj Sinha, this initiative of the board will facilitate speedy receipt of the prasad boxes", Garg said after inaugurating the delivery service in the presence of Manish Jain, sales director at DTDC Express Limited, Katra.

He launched the service with the dispatch of prasad-laden vehicles through the courier service to various destinations.

The 'pooja prasad' home delivery service was launched by the LG in September, 2020, during the pandemic, Garg said.

"Since then, the board has consistently implemented measures to optimise the efficiency of door-to-door prasad delivery, reducing delivery time and providing real-time tracking updates", he added.

Devotees opting for the delivery service can choose from five categories of prasad, ranging from Rs 100 to Rs 2,100, which can be booked through the official website of the shrine board (www.maavaishnodevi.org) or the SMVDSB mobile app, officials said.

The DTDC will provide comprehensive insurance coverage for each consignment, along with digital tracking for the convenience of devotees, the officials said.

The firm guarantees delivery within 48 hours of booking confirmation for devotees residing in north India.

On June 6, a modern prasad-cum-souvenir counter was inaugurated by the LG at the Jammu Airport, further enhancing devotee facilitation.



## MISSING REVENUE MAPS

# Chief Secretary Talks Tough, Calls For Thorough Probe



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Wednesday reviewed the overall implementation of various schemes for development of Agriculture in J&K and exhorted upon the officers to fix the responsibility for misplacing 392 revenue maps (Mussavis) and initiate the process for recreating the same at an earliest.

The meeting was attended by Advisor & Chief Knowledge Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, GoI; ACS, Agriculture Production Department; Commissioner Secretary, IT; Commissioner, Survey & Land Records; Director, Remote Sensing besides other concerned officers.

The Chief Secretary laid emphasis on early implementation of J&K Digital Agriculture Mission (Agristack) and said that the premise of missing of such a significant record is unacceptable and needs to be looked into seriously. He asked for carrying out a thorough investigation into the matter for fixing the responsibility for misplacing these maps. He also directed

that these records be recreated without loss of time.

Regarding the Geo-referencing of cadastral maps of revenue villages, Dr Mehta observed that it should actually make the process of demarcation easy and more accurate. He also advised devising the SOPs/guidelines for resolving any issues or gaps arising from migrating the record from traditional system to modern systems.

He also emphasised on carrying out seasonal Girdawari (crop survey) digitally, capturing the actual record on ground in a more accurate manner. He further noted that in order to create the farmer's registry, a mechanism should be devised to register actual cultivators so that the objective of Agristack is met successfully.

Dr Mehta remarked that the aim of this Agricultural Mission is to provide timely assistance to the farmers. He also said that it should be a means to extend credit facility etc to farmers with minimal human interface.

The ACS, APD, Atal Dulloo informed the meeting that the Agristack is a major initiative

to digitally push Agriculture towards new paradigm. He said that it provides an ecosystem for facilitating delivery of various services to farmers.

He said that with its successful implementation a farmer would get access to the right advice at the right time regarding crop selection, crop health, selling of produce, access to inputs, loans and market besides benefits under different beneficiary oriented schemes for development of the sector.

The Commissioner, Survey & Land Records, Kumar Rajeev Ranjan apprised the meeting that the progress in digitization of land records is satisfactory. He said that the progress in computerization of land records is more than 96%.

Moreover it was given out that Geo-referencing of 72% cadastral maps has been completed till date. It was further revealed that both the scanned and digitized data is available in public domain. The computerized records can be translated into multiple languages as per the requirement of the user, the meeting was apprised.



## Rains Lash J&K, MeT Predicts More

'Weather Not Favourable For Spraying Orchards'

SRINAGAR: Rain lashed Jammu and Kashmir even as weatherman on Wednesday forecast more precipitation till June 17.

Quoting a meteorological department official, news agency GNS reported that in last 24 hours till 0830 hours today, Srinagar received 11.2mm, Qazigund 1.8mm, Pahalgam 23.4mm, Kupwara 1.4mm, Kokernag 1.3mm, Gulmarg 4.6mm, Jammu traces, Banihal 0.2mm, and Katra 41.6mm.

Regarding forecast, he said, a brief spell of rain and thunderstorm was likely at scattered places of towards afternoon and evening today.

From June 15-17, he said, light to moderate rain and thunderstorm was likely at scattered places of Jammu and Kashmir. "Some places in Jammu region like Poonch, Rajouri, Reasi, Samba etc. likely to receive moderate to heavy thundershower during 15-16th (60% chance)," he said.

Importantly, he said, weather is "not" favourable for spraying orchards for the next 4-5 days.

Regarding the temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 15.2°C against 16.7°C on

the previous night and it was above normal by 0.9°C for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 15.0°C against 13.0°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 2.1°C for the gateway town of Kashmir.

Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of 9.8°C against 8.1°C on the previous night and it was 1.6°C above normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 15.2°C against 15.9°C on the previous night and it was 2.6°C above normal for the north Kashmir area.

Kokernag recorded a low of 7.5°C against 10.2°C on previous night and it was below normal by 1.4°C for the popular skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

Jammu recorded a low of 25.9°C against 27.9°C on the previous night and it was 0.2°C above normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

## BJP Ready For J&K Polls; ECI To Take Final Call: Andrabi

Agencies

KUPWARA: Stating that the situation in Jammu and Kashmir is conducive, J&K Waqf Board chairperson Darakshan Andrabi Wednesday said that the BJP is ready for the elections and that there is an excitement among the workers. She, however, said that the Election Commission of India (ECI) has to take a final call on polls.

She was speaking to media men on the sidelines of a party function in north Kashmir's Kupwara. Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) is organizing youth engagement programs across Jammu and Kashmir mainly in the valley as part of the 9 Saal Bemisaal campaign of BJP to mark the completion of nine years of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi government.

A motorbike rally was organised in north Kashmir today from Baramulla to Kupwara. This was part of the continuous youth engagement program.

Andrabi said that their aim is not to organize events across the Kashmir valley only but also to appreciate the work done in the past nine years under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi led government.

"Every central government scheme, benefit and other things reached deserving individuals and families on the ground level," she said. "Schemes have reached the ground level and the same was verified from the administration and party affiliates as well." On holding elections in J&K and whether BJP was ready for

the same, Andrabi said that "It depends on Election Commission of India. ECI has to take a final call on polls in J&K. BJP is ready for the elections. We are waiting for the announcements. Whenever elections take place BJP is ready to contest."

She said that "We have put a report card of nine years of progress achieved by the Modi-led central government before the people. We have successfully achieved the target of reaching out to the poorest individuals across Jammu and Kashmir".

Referring to the Ayushman Bharat scheme, the Waqf Chairperson said that every individual now is availing free treatment without any worry. "Every patient is receiving the benefits."

Andrabi said that more than two lakh houses shall be given to those homeless in Jammu and Kashmir.

Jammu and Kashmir, she said, will be made the hub of the industrial revolution. "Economy of the region will be developed by encouraging the industrial revolution. It will end the joblessness in the region," she said while expressing the plans of the BJP.

Replying to a question, Andrabi said that the opposition is there to make comments at their will. "They must look into their eyes to see the level of corruption that took place earlier. Our government is strictly against corruption and whenever any official is found indulging in such practices timely actions are initiated against them. We will never tolerate corruption at any cost," she said. —(KNO)

## BJP Will Not Find Its Address In Kashmir: Omar

'How Is It That They Can Hold Parliament And ULB Elections, But Not Assembly Elections'

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: National Conference leader Omar Abdullah on Wednesday demanded early assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir, saying if Lok Sabha and local body elections can be conducted why not assembly polls.

On the allegations of former Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey that the government pressure the social media company during the farmers' protest, Abdullah said he does not know the "truth".

"He (Dorsey) has a feud with our minister. He (Dorsey) put out a tweet and our minister put out 10 tweets against it," he told reporters at Magam in central Kashmir's Budgam district.

Abdullah hit out at Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board chairperson and BJP leader Darakshan Andrabi for advising him to "wait" for assembly elections in the Union territory.

"Why should I wait for elections? Madamji (Andrabi) will be happy. She does not want elections to take place as her party will be wiped out. They won't have an address here."

"I know her very well. I am not saying anything because she is a lady and I respect that. But she should not talk rubbish. Parliament elections are going to be held. Let them hold Assembly elections as well. How is it that they can hold parliament elections and ULB polls but not assembly elections," he said.

Abdullah said movies like '72 Hoorain' were part of a conspiracy, but added, "Are we so weak that one or two movies will harm our religion?"

"This is a well thought out conspiracy and as the parliament elections draw closer, you will see more such activities. We will have to be careful and act wisely to defeat this conspiracy," he added.

## No Benefit In Oppn Unity Ahead Of 2024 LS Polls: Azad

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) chief Ghulam Nabi Azad on Wednesday said he sees no benefit coming out of "opposition unity" ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

Asked about a meeting of opposition parties called by Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, Azad said he has not been invited to it.

"Opposition unity will benefit only when there is something for both sides. There may be a difference in the share of benefits for the two -- it can be 50-50 or 60-40 -- but in this case, both sides have nothing to offer to the other," he said.

Referring to West Bengal, Azad pointed out that the Congress and the Communist Party of India (Marxist) have no MLA in the state and wondered that just in case the two parties forge an alliance with the Mamata Banerjee-led Trinamool Congress (TMC), what does the latter stand to gain?

"Why would Banerjee enter into an alliance? What benefit will she get out of it? Similarly, the TMC has no MLA in Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. What would the Congress give her in these states? Nothing," he said.

Similarly, the Congress does not have a single legislator in Andhra Pradesh, the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister pointed out, adding that the ruling YSRCP in the southern state, led by Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy, has no MLA anywhere else.

"What will the Congress give to him (Reddy) and what will he give to the Congress party?" he wondered while asserting that "opposition unity" is nothing but a "good photo opportunity".

The former Union minister, however, clarified that he wants the opposition to unite to defeat the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in next year's general election.

"But unfortunately, each opposition party has nothing in other states than their own. It would have been beneficial

if two-three parties had formed governments (in an alliance) in the states.

"There will be no difference whether there is a pre-poll or a post-poll alliance. They will get the same number of seats in a pre-poll alliance as well as in a post-poll alliance. I see higher chances of an alliance in the post-election scenario," he said.

The ground situation is such that if the opposition parties win 300 seats in a pre-poll alliance, they would get the same number of seats even if there was no alliance, the former Congress leader added.

He credited the leadership of the Congress in various states for the party's recent electoral triumphs.

"I have said the Congress has suffered losses at the Centre, not in the states. Wherever there is a strong state leadership, the party is bouncing back. The only difference is that previously, the central leadership used to run the states and now, the state leadership runs the central leadership.

Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir

### OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION SUMBAL

#### NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

**NIT No.21 of 2023-24 /R&B Sumbal Division (Single Cover System)**

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S.No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)	Time of Completion	M.H of Account	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Upgradation of inner links of Jaffery Mohalla Madwan by way of Construction of Katcha Drain.	2.50	200/-	5000/-	10-Days	3054-M&R 2023-24	DEE
2	Restoration of road near FCI Shilvath leading to Khyber Milk Product including Kacha Drain.	2.00	200/-	4000/-	10-Days	3054-M&R 2023-24	DEE
3	Development Of berms for Markundal Naidkhai by way of Supply and filling of Khak Bajree. (L=3.6 Kms)	5.00	300/-	10000/-	4-Days	3054-M&R 2023-24	DEE/CEE
	Providing/laying RCC Spun pipes of different dia's for various roads of R&B Division Sumbal	4.45	200/-	8900/-	15-Days	3054-M&R 2023-24	DEE

Position of AAA: - Accorded  
Position of Funds: - Available

- The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per schedule of dates given below:-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	14.06.2023 from 3.00 P.M
3	Bid submission Start Date	14.06.2023 from 3.00 P.M.
4	Bid Submission End Date	23.06.2023 upto 4.00 P.M.
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	24.06.2023 at 11.00 A.M in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal (tender inviting authority) (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date) pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal (tender receiving authority).
- The successful Bidder has to produce Performance Security Deposit @3% of contract value in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG within 02 days after opening of Bids which shall be released after successful completion of work with DLP. This will replace the EMD @ 2% of the Advertised cost uploaded by the Bidder.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://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 R&B Division Sumbal (tender receiving authority).
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids
- 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](http://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 bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the technical bid.

Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.

- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
- Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal (The date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date) pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The original Treasury Challan (cost of tender document), and other relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of contract.
- Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. 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.
- Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.
- In case of CRF and any other specified project, the relevant guidelines / standard bidding document shall be followed.
- Instructions to Bidder (ITB)
- All bidders shall upload the following information and documents along with qualification criteria / qualification information with their bids:-

  - All bidders shall upload Copies of original documents defining constitution/ legal status, place of registration and principal place of Business with Cell No. and Correspondence address.
  - Scanned copy of Registration Card with latest renewal on JKPWDOMS portal.
  - All bidders shall upload Treasury Challan.
  - All bidders shall upload CDR/FDR/BG@ 2% of advertised Cost pledged to opening authority.
  - All bidders shall upload Valid Registration card front and renewal Side (Latest), Valid GSTIN No. & PAN No.
  - All bidders shall upload Scanned Copy of GSTIN Registration and latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B i.e. latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B and read circular issued by finance dept. Wide his No: FD-CODE/371/2021-02, Dated: 24-02-2023

- The bidder at his own responsibility and risk should visit and examine the site of work and its surroundings before submission of bid.
- All documents relating to the bid shall be in the English Language.
- Bidder must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including tender documents fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid. No document (s) which has / have not been uploaded shall be entertained in the form of hard copy. However, in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises
- The tender / bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in NIT.
- All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form) and detailed NIT issued.
- Treasury Challan should indicate tender document cost deposit in-between commencement date and end date of NIT. For the authentication of Treasury Challan it is mandatory to record on it either/any one among the following. Name of the work with S.No of NIT/Adv. Cost/NIT No and also address to tender inviting authority.
- For drawing of agreement of the contract and memorandum of agreement relating to sake of bill of exchange one rupee for Rs.10,000/- or part thereof shall have to be realized/deposited by the Contractor at his own to revenue Head of Accts.0030/Stamps of Deputy Commissioner Stamps J&K UT.

No.R&B/Sbl/23/1119-25.  
Dated:-14-06-2023.

**DIPK-3439-23**  
**DT: 14/06/2023**

Sd./  
Executive Engineer,  
(R&B Division Sumbal)



KASHMIR OBSERVER<sup>TM</sup>

Thursday | 15-06-2023

## Surge In Miscarriages

**K**ashmir has witnessed a rise in miscarriages in recent years and there is little awareness about the issue, a report carried by this newspaper has revealed. According to the National Family Health Survey for 2019-21, 8 percent of foetuses are lost because of abortion, miscarriage, or stillbirth, while 92 percent of pregnancies result in live births. In a simple yes or no poll carried out by Yakjut, a Facebook group only for Kashmiri women, 18 out of 23 women who took part reported having suffered from a miscarriage or an abortion. Miscarriages account for 5 percent of all pregnancies in the region, and globally, about 1 in 10 women experience a miscarriage over their lifetime.

But miscarriages remain a hushed topic in the Valley. The silence perpetuates the misconception that it is a private matter not to be openly discussed. This societal attitude creates an atmosphere of shame and prevents women from seeking the support they desperately need. Moreover, women who experience miscarriage often face unjust blame and accusations, adding to their emotional distress and isolation.

Miscarriage is a deeply personal and emotionally devastating experience, affecting a significant number of women worldwide. According to a survey in *The Lancet*, an estimated 23 million miscarriages occur every year, translating to 44 pregnancy losses each minute. While there is a need to take remedial measures to address the health issue, cultural beliefs and societal attitudes around this naturally occurring event also need to change. They contribute to the stigma surrounding this loss.

In another survey that is connected to the one about miscarriages, J&K has the lowest fertility rate in the country, with a 0.6 percent decrease in the fertility rate from the last survey in 2015-16, according to the National Family Health Survey for 2019-21. This only aggravates the problem of miscarriages. Successive miscarriages would mean that the women experiencing it won't be able to bear a child. And this can be devastating in a society where childbearing is viewed as central to women's role and identity.

Miscarriages, as a result, can have deep psychological consequences and also be damaging to a woman's sense of self-worth. This is why there is an urgent need for steps to improve the situation. And to begin with, we need to create more awareness about the issue through news media and also call into question the negative societal attitudes towards it. There is not much we can do to prevent the occurrence of miscarriages, but we can together help ameliorate the social and psychological factors that trigger them on a large scale.

### OTHER OPINION

## Sweet death

**I**ndia's 'strong performance' on registers of disease burdens is a matter of persistent concern. The country's reputation as the 'diabetes capital of the world' is a case in point. A recent study conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research and published in *The Lancet Diabetes and Endocrinology* has revealed the sinister extent of the crisis. It shows that India has more than 101 million people with diabetes — an increase of 44% compared to 2019. That is not all. The survey also found that 15.3% of the population is pre-diabetic and belongs to the high-risk group. The data further revealed massive anomalies between the states. Goa — India's party capital — recorded the highest prevalence, followed by Puducherry and Kerala. Even though Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar recorded the lowest prevalence of diabetes, their pre-diabetes numbers were higher than the national average. This implies that a large segment of the population is vulnerable to diabetes. Also discernible is a wide rural-urban disparity: while urban areas had a higher incidence, rural areas recorded an uneven distribution. What is concerning is that there is not much of a difference between rural and urban areas with respect to prediabetes prevalence. This suggests that diabetes is no longer the proverbial rich man's disease: it is spreading its tentacles among all segments of the populace.

The high incidence of diabetes in India, in turn, underlines its crippling burden of non-communicable diseases. The World Health Organization last year reported that NCDs contribute to about 66% of India's mortalities. In fact, the ICMR survey has found that 35.5% of the population had hypertension, 81.2% had high cholesterol, and about 40% were obese. Exacerbating this crisis are wily market forces promoting junk food and sweetened beverages. These, combined with poor lifestyle, minimal exercise, tobacco and alcohol consumption, worsening pollution and sedentary work culture are making matters worse. Notably, NCDs not only limit productivity but also require maximum out-of-pocket expenditure. The health ministry's ambitious initiative to put 75 million people with NCD under standard care by 2025 is laudable. But this must be backed by grassroots-level policy-making, the heightening of awareness about diet and plugging gaps such as excluding tobacco regulation from the response plan. The looming lifestyle crisis must be dealt with. There is no sugarcoating the bitter pill.

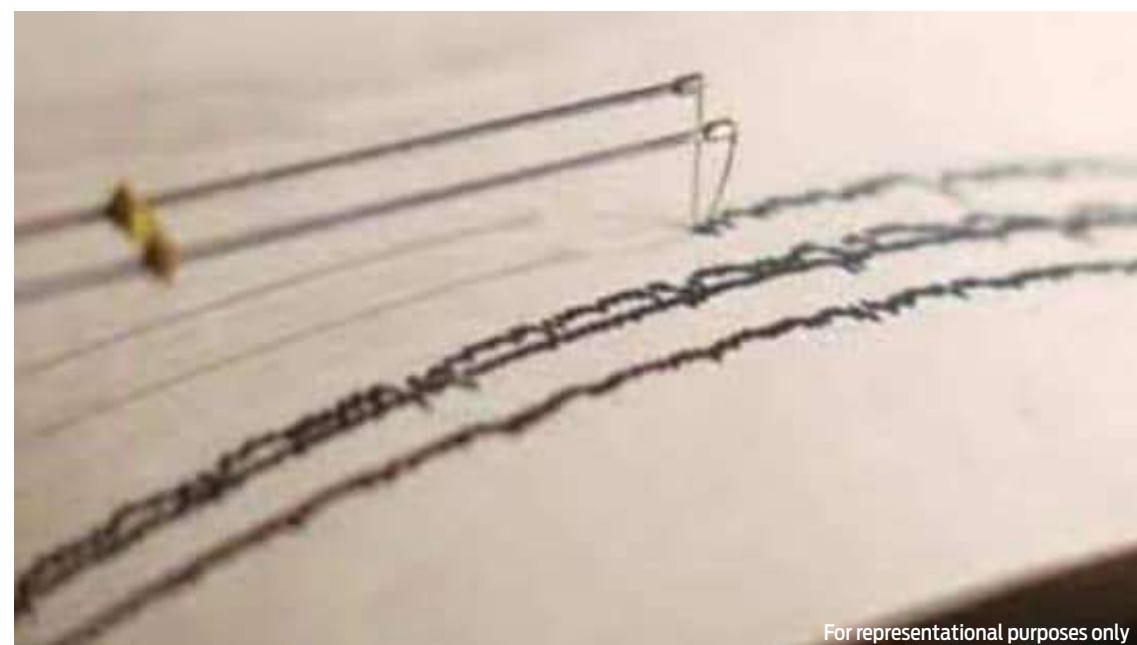
Telegraph India

# Earthquake Hazards in Kashmir

## Timely Interference Can Save Lives

Dr. Afroz Ahmad Shah

“**The megathrust fault threatens all these countries, which means they all share the burden of the hazards associated with the fault. Ideally, these countries should collaborate to minimize the risks to save lives and assets in future earthquake events. Such a large-scale collaboration is not in place, often because of political issues, which makes people more vulnerable to hazards**”



For representational purposes only

**T**he geological wisdom achieved over two centuries makes it apparent that earthquake hazards in South Asia are genetic to the structural and tectonic setting of the region, which means the remedies are also possible only if the structural and tectonic framework is understood. The state-of-the-art on earthquake hazards makes it clear that prediction is impossible, but forecasting is available. It is the science of forecasting earthquakes that we know what to expect in a region and how to deal with it.

Before I tell you more about the earthquakes, I would like to remind you that the beautiful valley of the Kashmir region is ornamented with mountains and rivers, which are part of the tectonic journey of India towards Eurasia. It tells us that beauty comes at the cost of the risk of earthquakes and floods. If we genuinely want to enjoy the beauty and majesty of the Himalayan region, we have to put our heart into learning how the area has grown in the womb of tectonic plates interacting and forming the gushing rivers, majestic mountains, valleys, glaciers, and so on. The mountains surrounding and guarding us in the valley on all sides were born by earthquakes, which are still jolting this region to finalize its structural framework. The earthquakes are not our enemies in that sense because quakes have made the place what it is today. Therefore, the Switzerland of Asia title cannot be earned without risks of dealing with the hazards of living in areas where tectonic plates interact, grow, and develop into mature mountains.

The recent earthquake of Magnitude 5.0 occurred some 21 km Northeast of Baderwah, according to the information provided by the United States Geological Survey (USGS). The quake originated at a shallow depth of 10 km, which could turn deadly

if the earthquake was larger than magnitude five (5.0) and closer to seven (7.0) and above. Our team and other geologists have worked in the region, and we know that magnitude seven and above is possible. The internal fault system near Baderwah probably caused the Baderwah trembling that we named the Baderwah Fault. Quake has caused some severe damage, which authorities are still examining.

The earthquake hazards in Kashmir and contiguous regions are either occurring on the frontal fault system or in the interior areas, posing a severe risk to millions of people living in those risky and tectonically active areas. The Main Himalayan Thrust (MHT) fault is the primary earthquake-causing fault that connects most South Asian regions, such as Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, India, and Pakistan. The megathrust fault threatens all these countries, which means they all share the burden of the hazards associated with the fault. Ideally, these countries should collaborate to minimize the risks to save lives and assets in future earthquake events. Such a large-scale collaboration is not in place, often because of political issues, which makes people more vulnerable to hazards.

The lessons we should learn from the recent Baderwah earthquake are many. It shows that earthquake faults are active, alive, and threatening. They are not dead; they are on their mission to rupture, which could, unfortunately, rupture our dreams if we do not understand the language of hazards and what to expect in the future. Earthquakes cause shaking of the foundations we live on, and we must know how to strengthen that foundation to withstand any incoming earthquake-induced shaking.

We have to face the challenge and reality, which is this: we are

not prepared to face even a small earthquake of magnitude 6.5, and we expect that quakes on the active faults that shoulder the entire Kashmir region could be much more dangerous and ferocious because of the extent of unplanned urbanization.

It is critical to understand what recently happened in a medium to a developed country like Turkey, which lost more than 50,000 people during the February 2023 quake. We live in a developing country where things can worsen, requiring the administration of Kashmir and other regions to map the seismic vulnerability of buildings etc. and to inform people of what to expect and how to improve so earthquakes do not become disasters. We must do the vulnerability mapping because we don't have time to wait.

Reviewing buildings should be prioritized to decide the need for reinforcement and rebuilding, which could involve shifting people to safer locations. The construction of new buildings should be adequately monitored to follow the standard seismic building codes. The entire exercise will take longer if not initiated at the earliest; waiting for more means less time for earthquake hazards to turn into catastrophic events. Therefore, building people's resilience against risks is urgently needed by strengthening the buildings and foundations to face severe earthquake shaking. We still have time, but we do not know how much, which should worry us more.

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

*The author is a Sr. Assistant Professor, Structural Geology, Department of Geosciences, Faculty of Science, Universiti Brunei Darussalam*



OBSERVER  
MAIL

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

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email: [editpage.ko@gmail.com](mailto:editpage.ko@gmail.com)

## Concerns Regarding Electricity Curtailment in Various Parts of Kashmir

**I**am writing to express my deep concern regarding the electricity curtailment that has been plaguing various parts of Kashmir in the past week. This issue has caused significant inconvenience and hardship for the residents, adversely affecting their daily lives and essential services.

It is disheartening to witness the frequent power outages that have become a routine occurrence in our region. The inadequate and unreliable

power supply has not only disrupted domestic activities but also caused setbacks for local businesses, educational institutions, and healthcare facilities. The power shortages have particularly escalated during the scorching summer months when the demand for electricity surges due to the increased use of cooling appliances and fans. Families, especially the elderly and children, are left without relief from the sweltering heat, putting their health and well-being

at risk. Additionally, the absence of electricity has hindered the storage of perishable goods, leading to food spoilage and financial losses for many households.

Given the strategic importance of electricity for the overall development and prosperity of any region, it is crucial that the concerned authorities take immediate action to address this issue. The government must prioritize the upgrading and maintenance of the power infrastructure,

ensuring an uninterrupted power supply to all parts of Kashmir.

Additionally, it is essential to improve the transparency and communication regarding power curtailment schedules. The residents of Kashmir deserve to be informed in advance about any planned power cuts, allowing them to make necessary arrangements and minimize the inconvenience caused.

Mohsin Shah



## HER STORY ON THE MOVE

# Rediscovering Ladies Special Buses In The Smart City Narrative

Asma Majid

The early morning air hangs delicately above the road, infused with the promise of a new day. As the first rays of light start painting the sky in soft hues, the road is awakening from its slumber, pulsating with life.

Amidst the rhythmic symphony of shuffling feet and clacking heels, Areeba stands along the pavement where the road meets the sidewalk - her presence a singular figure amidst the sea of commuters. As she waits for a public bus, she witnesses people navigating the narrow roads created for the New Smart City; some eagerly hopping onto buses and vans, hoping to secure a spot for their journey, while others briskly walking, determined to keep up with the fast pace of the city life. Amidst this mundane street strife, memories of a cherished service resurface in Areeba's mind, a service which was there for her kind. Once her trusted ally, and a steadfast presence in her life, she recalls her former chariot of transit—the Ladies Special Service Bus.

Once regarded as a promising and inclusive form of transportation for women, the Ladies Special Service Bus faced a disheartening fate when it found no place within the New Smart City framework of Srinagar. While an emphasis was placed on creating separate cycling paths, little attention was given to cultivating a cycling culture among the people of Srinagar. The narrowing down of existing roads to accommodate cycling paths has further limited the available space for special vehicles like the Ladies Special Service Bus which has deprived women of a dedicated service that could have empowered and enhanced their commuting experience in the evolving urban landscape.

Areeba, a student at the University of Kashmir has become well-acquainted with the ebb and flow of the bustling road - her constant companion on the academic quest. Yet everyday, reminiscing her dalliance with the Ladies Special Service Bus, she hankers for the short lived sisterhood of shared dreams and aspirations with fellow commuters.

"Each morning, like clockwork, the bus would arrive at a specific time, its vibrant exterior adorned with the emblem of convenience and empowerment", she says.

As the doors of the bus would open, Areeba would step inside, welcomed by a warm atmosphere. The bus, a sanctuary of female empowerment, buzzed with conversations, laughter, and an exchange of ideas.

"It was a microcosm of diverse experiences, a fusion of voices and perspectives that enriched my journey", Areeba adds.

The introduction of the Ladies Special Bus Service had come about as a much-needed respite for the women of the region in the year 2016. Among a fleet of five buses, three traversed the bustling streets of Srinagar, while one graced the town of Baramulla (North), and another journeyed through Anantnag (South). This thoughtful initiative breathed a new life into the daily commute of women, particularly the college and university students, who had long endured the trials of public transportation.

The advent of the Ladies Special Service brought with it a promise of decline in



**IN THE TAPESTRY OF HER LIFE, THE LADIES SPECIAL service bus had once been an integral thread, weaving convenience, connectivity, and empowerment into her daily routine. It had served as a testament to the indomitable spirit of women like her, propelling them forward on their unique paths, both on and off the road."**



instances of harassment, instilling a newfound sense of safety for women traveling to-and-from their workplaces and educational institutions. Parents, too, found solace in the presence of this segregated mode of transport.

Like Areeba, Nasreen, an employee in a private firm, found herself embarking on a new chapter in her daily commute.

"After enduring the chaos and unpredictability of the local transport with no segregation of men and women, it was here that I discovered solace", she says.

In the realm of transportation, Nasreen's experiences had been riddled with tumultuous journeys. The local buses with their unruly blend of noise and clamor, had subjected her to hours of discomfort and inconvenience. Packed like sardines, passengers jostled for space, the air heavy with perspiration and the collective signs of exhaustion. It was a scene akin to a chaotic market, with its cacophony of voices and frenetic energy.

A particularly repulsive incident on the public bus had left Nasreen deeply disgusted and made her develop a strong aversion towards using the shared public transportation.

She recalls an incident when she boarded the crowded public bus on a sunny afternoon, hoping for a peaceful journey back home after a long day at work. Finding an empty seat near the back, she settled in, sighing with relief as the bus started moving. Little did she know that this seemingly ordinary bus ride would soon turn into a harrowing incident that would leave her in shock. As the bus filled up, more passengers squeezed in, and Nasreen suddenly found herself pressed against the window, unable to move. Among the throng of people, she noticed a man standing uncomfortably close to her, invading her personal space. Nasreen shifted uncomfortably, hoping he would realize his intrusion and move away, but the man seemed oblivious to her discomfort. As the bus jostled along, Nasreen mustered the courage to speak up. She firmly asked the man to back off and leave her alone, hoping her assertiveness would put an end to the harassment. However, her warnings went unheeded as the man quickly grew crude and nasty. Just then an old man noticed her distress and stepped in to confront the harasser, defending Nasreen and putting an end to the ordeal.

Nasreen's traumatic experience on the bus had left her shaken and disheartened. But oh! the transformation that occurred when she boarded the ladies special bus!

"It was like stepping into a realm of tranquility, I found myself enveloped in a haven of comfort and convenience."

The bus, specially designed to cater to the needs of women, boasted spacious seating, ample legroom, and an ambience of serenity. No longer did Nasreen fear the maddening rush and jostling of bodies. Here, in the sanctuary of the ladies special bus, she found respite from the daily battle of finding a place to stand, let alone sit. The journey, once a tedious ordeal, had transformed into a pleasant diversion. But it was not just the physical comforts that endeared Nasreen to the ladies special bus. It was the intangible sense of empowerment that filled the air in it. Surrounded by fellow women from diverse walks of life, she felt a surge of inspiration. Their conversations ranged from the profound to the mundane, but all

shared an undercurrent of camaraderie and strength.

Alas! As time unfolded, the anticipated progression and expansion of women-centric transportation took an unexpected turn, veering away from the optimistic trajectory initially envisioned.

When Nasreen got to know that the ladies special bus she had come to rely upon would no more be plying, the news reached her ears like a thunderclap. The very foundation of her newfound comfort crumbled before her eyes, leaving her stranded in a sea of uncertainty.

The absence of the ladies special bus was felt keenly by Nasreen. She stood at the proverbial crossroads, pondering her options with a furrowed brow. A cab service emerged as the apparent solution, beckoning her with its promises of convenience and comfort. But alas! the price tag that accompanied this luxury struck her like a slap across the face. It demanded nearly more than half of her hard-earned salary, rendering the notion of affordability a distant dream.

The introduction of these cab services had once unfolded a new chapter in the realm of transportation as, exemplified by the advent of Novo Cabs that made their debut in the winter of January 2021 in the picturesque landscapes of Kashmir. This development had stirred a palpable sense of anticipation among the populace, kindling a belief that traversing the region would be endowed with a fresh wave of convenience and ease. With the arrival of Novo and its counterparts, a wave of optimism swept through the hearts and minds of the people. The prospect of embarking on journeys with the click of a button ignited a flicker of hope, promising a departure from the traditional norms of transportation. But the soaring prices of cab services have cast a shadow over their once-promising appeal, rendering them a privilege seemingly reserved for the affluent few.

On one hand, the Cab Service Providers assert that they are performing well in the market. According to Muneeb, manager, Hala Cabs Kashmir, which began operating in the valley in March 2022, they receive approx. 400 requests for ride bookings daily, 80% of which come from female passengers. While acknowledging that their rates have evolved over time, Muneeb claims that this has not had any impact on the volume of reservations and that they continue to flow in each and every day.

On the other hand, Nasreen's perspective offers a different narrative altogether.

"Cab services are a luxury. People mistakenly believe that they have provided relief from the congested public transport. This is not the case. The cost of cab services is so exorbitant that an average person would rather walk than use them", says Nasreen.

"They want hundreds of rupees for trips between two to three kilometres. Additionally, they charge up to 20,000 rupees if you reserve them for one month of back and forth service", she adds.

With a gradual shift in the tides of time, the ladies special bus, which had long served as a haven for women commuters, faced a fate both unforeseen and unfortunate. Slowly but surely, its presence diminished on the roads, with each passing day witnessing its dwindling numbers.

But it was not solely the decline in its frequency that caused consternation among

the women populace but the very essence of its identity that suffered a blow, leaving its commuters perplexed and disoriented. The once-proud buses that bore the moniker "ladies special" underwent a curious alteration.

Now, as they roam the streets, these vehicles appear merely as "special service buses." The word "ladies" has vanished from their tags, erased from the public eye as if it were an inconsequential afterthought. And with its absence, an intangible yet palpable void lingers among its commuters from the student and the working community, leaving a question mark in their hearts and minds.

Riyaz Ahmad Khan, Traffic Manager, City Services Srinagar, sheds light on the reasons behind the disappearance of the Ladies Special Service buses. He attributes their decline to the emergence of more luxurious and dependable E-buses introduced as part of the Smart City Programme, which even offer reserved seating for women. According to Khan, this shift in preference towards E-buses has played a significant role in the diminishing popularity of the Ladies Special Service.

"Our pollution-free E-buses, launched in 2019, operate on rechargeable batteries, eliminating the need for fuel. These comfortable B56 buses significantly reduce pollution. The first 10 seats on the 30-seater E-bus are designated exclusively for female passengers. As a result, the Ladies special buses began experiencing fewer passengers, affecting revenue which the corporation needs to keep them running."

Khan believes that the aforementioned transition reflects a positive shift towards enhancing the overall commuting experience for women while embracing the benefits of electric transportation.

"With the availability of 20 E-buses, women's transportation needs have been catered to, rendering any requests for the resumption of the Ladies special buses unnecessary", he says.

Parvez Abdullah, Kashmir's General Manager of District Services, on the other hand, brings forth an alternative viewpoint by highlighting the requests he has received for the resumption of the ladies special buses. These requests indicate that E-buses may not be fully catering to the specific needs of women, despite their portrayal as a suitable solution. Abdullah's perspective suggests that there are certain aspects and considerations unique to the ladies' special buses that are yet to be adequately addressed by the current E-bus system.

He even assures that the ladies' special bus services have not been entirely terminated.

"The Divisional Commissioner of Srinagar has instructed the Regional Transport Office (RTO) to consider the reinstatement of these services, prompted by numerous requests", says Abdullah.

He further announces a forthcoming meeting with his team to discuss the possibility of introducing a ladies special bus on the Lal Chowk to Soura route which would cover places like Dargah Hazratbal to serve the requirements of the college and university students.

"However, an issue plagues the ladies' special buses", he adds.

As Abdullah continues, he delves into the contributing factors that have led to the decline of the ladies' special buses. He emphasizes how certain aspects have played a



**THE PROSPECT OF EMBARKING ON JOURNEYS** with the click of a button ignited a flicker of hope, promising a departure from the traditional norms of transportation. But the soaring prices of cab services have cast a shadow over their once-promising appeal, rendering them a privilege seemingly reserved for the affluent few."

role in its diminishing popularity and usage.

"Despite their capacity of around 20 seats, only a handful of women, typically 5 to 6 or at the most 10 to 12, would occupy these buses. Consequently, a sense of monotony permeated the atmosphere. Furthermore, in this fast-paced era, where time is scarce, women are unwilling to wait for the ladies' special buses that adhere to specific schedules. Instead, they are prepared to board any available bus to reach their destinations promptly", he says.

When questioned about the adherence to the 33% reservation quota for women in the E-buses, Abdullah assures, "No complaints have been received thus far. I have shared my personal number to address any instances where managers, employees, or crew members (drivers and conductors) fail to comply. Immediate action will be taken in the event of violation of rules."

He also brings attention to a concern that emerged in the Budgam District, where the women reservation quota in the E-buses was not being followed. However, he assures that swift action was taken to rectify the situation post which no new complaints were received.

Bashir Ahmad, an orderly in the Secretariat and a former conductor to one of the ladies special buses plying in Srinagar recalls how ladies' special bus had become a beacon of hope and comfort for women.

"The bus served not only as a means of transportation but also as a hub of connectivity. Women would strike up conversations with fellow passengers, forging friendships and expanding their social network. They would discuss their studies, share insights and experiences, and sometimes even engage in spirited debates on the topics that captivated their minds", Bashir says.

He passionately emphasizes that all the women who relied on the bus he operated were deeply disheartened upon learning that the service would no longer be accessible.

"They pleaded for some action to be taken, but as employees at the lowest echelon, we were powerless to intervene", he adds.

Areeba reminisces about the days when she eagerly awaited the arrival of the ladies special service bus, appreciating its unwavering commitment to punctuality. The bus, a testament to reliability, honored the precious time of its passengers and ensured they reached their destinations promptly. In the tapestry of her life, the ladies special service bus had once been an integral thread, weaving convenience, connectivity, and empowerment into her daily routine. It had served as a testament to the indomitable spirit of women like her, propelling them forward on their unique paths, both on and off the road.

Standing along the pavement and engrossed in the nostalgic recollections of the ladies special bus, Areeba is suddenly jolted by the blaring horn of the arriving public bus, overwhelmed with an excess of passengers. Startled from her reverie, she casts a wistful glance at the bustling vehicle, inhaling a sigh that carries the weight of unspoken longing. Stealing herself to join the throng, she steps forward to embark upon her journey.

The author can be reached at asma.majid786@yahoo.com



## Jammu & Kashmir Haj Committee

Under Department of Haj & Umrah, Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir  
(Ph. No. 0194-249556, 0194-249557, www.hajcommittee.org, mail: hajcommittee@gmail.com)

### Notification: Flight Schedule of Haj Pilgrims/Reporting time at Haj House Bema, Srinagar.

In continuation to this office notification dated: 12-06-2023, the flight schedule for 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 is hereby published for information of the concerned Haj pilgrims.

Reporting time of pilgrims at Haj House Srinagar as per their respective flights is notified as under:

Sno	Flight No.	Date of Departure	Reporting time at Haj House
1	SG-5815	15-06-2023	09:00 AM
2	SG-5715	15-06-2023	11:45 AM

The pilgrims are advised to report on time at Haj House, Bema, Srinagar. It may be noted that only standard baggage without any banned item shall be accepted as check-in-luggage by the Airlines at Haj House, Srinagar.

The flight schedule for remaining pilgrims shall be notified separately.

Sd/-  
Dr. Shujaat Ahmad Qureshi (JKAS)  
Executive Officer.

No:Haj/2023/CS/274/28

Dated:13-06-2023

### JAMMU AND KASHMIR HAJ COMMITTEE FLIGHT ALLOTMENT FOR HAJ 1444 (H) - 2023

Sno	Cover No	Name of Pilgrim (s)	Flight Date	Flight No.
1	JKF-1-2-0	ZEENA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
2	JKF-1-2-0	BASHIR AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
3	JKF-30-2-0	ZENA	15-06-2023	SG-5815
4	JKF-30-2-0	ABDUL RASHID	15-06-2023	SG-5815
5	KHJF-109-1-0	JAVED AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
6	JKF-259-2-0	ZAIBA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
7	JKF-259-2-0	ABDUL AHAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
8	JKF-369-2-0	AB LATEEF SHAH	15-06-2023	SG-5815
9	JKF-369-2-0	FAREEDA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
10	JKF-508-2-0	GHULAM QADIR	15-06-2023	SG-5815
11	JKF-508-2-0	SALIMA	15-06-2023	SG-5815
12	JKF-527-3-0	ABDUL RASHID	15-06-2023	SG-5815
13	JKF-527-3-0	RUKHSANA QADIR	15-06-2023	SG-5815
14	JKF-527-3-0	ATHAR ALI	15-06-2023	SG-5815
15	JKF-627-1-0	GULZAR AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
16	JKR-677-2-0	GHULAM MOHAMMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
17	JKR-677-2-0	GULSHAN BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
18	JKF-758-2-0	MOHD AFZAL	15-06-2023	SG-5815
19	JKF-758-2-0	TAJIA	15-06-2023	SG-5815
20	JKF-758-2-0	JANA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
21	JKF-758-2-0	MOHD RAMZAN	15-06-2023	SG-5815
22	JKF-834-4-0	SAKINA BANOO	15-06-2023	SG-5815
23	JKF-834-4-0	KHURSHID AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
24	JKF-834-4-0	AB RASHID	15-06-2023	SG-5815
25	JKF-834-4-0	SARWA BANOO	15-06-2023	SG-5815
26	JKR-844-2-0	NOOR MOHAMMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
27	JKR-844-2-0	AISHA	15-06-2023	SG-5815
28	JKF-867-2-0	JAVAI HUSSAIN	15-06-2023	SG-5815
29	JKF-867-2-0	SHAMEEMA AKHTER	15-06-2023	SG-5815
30	JKF-1049-2-0	RAJA BANO	15-06-2023	SG-5815
31	JKF-1049-2-0	MOHD MUSHTAK	15-06-2023	SG-5815
32	JKF-1142-2-0	SHAREEFA BANO	15-06-2023	SG-5815
33	JKF-1142-2-0	ATHER HUSSAIN	15-06-2023	SG-5815
34	JKF-1343-1-0	HABIB ULLAH	15-06-2023	SG-5815
35	JKF-1374-2-0	RAJA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
36	JKF-1374-2-0	GH MOHD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
37	JKF-1422-2-0	MOHAMMAD SYEED	15-06-2023	SG-5815
38	JKF-1422-2-0	MISRA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
39	JKF-1513-2-0	FATIMA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
40	JKF-1513-2-0	MOHD JAMAL	15-06-2023	SG-5815
41	JKF-1521-4-0	SULEMAN	15-06-2023	SG-5815
42	JKF-1521-4-0	MUBINA	15-06-2023	SG-5815
43	JKF-1521-4-0	SALLEEMA	15-06-2023	SG-5815
44	JKF-1521-4-0	MOHAMMAD ALTAF	15-06-2023	SG-5815
45	JKF-1575-2-0	FAYAZA	15-06-2023	SG-5815
46	JKF-1575-2-0	MEERUK AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
47	JKF-1579-2-0	HALEEMA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
48	JKF-1579-2-0	GHULAM NABI	15-06-2023	SG-5815
49	JKF-1708-2-0	AFROZA AKHTER	15-06-2023	SG-5815
50	JKF-1708-2-0	MOHD ISHAQ	15-06-2023	SG-5815
51	JKF-1758-2-0	MOHD AKBAR	15-06-2023	SG-5815
52	JKF-1758-2-0	HANIFA BEGAM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
53	JKF-1769-3-0	GHULAM NABI	15-06-2023	SG-5815
54	JKF-1769-3-0	GHULAM HASSAN	15-06-2023	SG-5815
55	JKF-1769-3-0	FATIMA BANOO	15-06-2023	SG-5815
56	JKF-1790-1-0	ABDUL SALAM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
57	JKF-1841-3-0	PARVEENA AKHTER	15-06-2023	SG-5815
58	JKF-1841-3-0	MANZOOR AHMED	15-06-2023	SG-5815
59	JKF-1841-3-0	FAYIZ MANZOOR	15-06-2023	SG-5815
60	JKF-1854-2-0	ALI MOHAMMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
61	JKF-1854-2-0	JALI BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
62	JKF-1884-2-0	ABDUL GANI	15-06-2023	SG-5815
63	JKF-1884-2-0	SAJIA BANOO	15-06-2023	SG-5815
64	JKF-1908-2-0	ALTAF HUSSAIN	15-06-2023	SG-5815
65	JKF-1908-2-0	KHALIDA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
66	JKF-1931-4-0	AZI BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
67	JKF-1931-4-0	FATIMA BAIGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
68	JKF-1931-4-0	ALI MOHD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
69	JKF-1931-4-0	MOHD ABDULLAH	15-06-2023	SG-5815
70	JKF-1940-3-0	HAJRA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
71	JKF-1940-3-0	GH MOHAMMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
72	JKF-1940-3-0	ALI MOHAMMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
73	JKF-1949-2-0	RUBEENA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
74	JKF-1949-2-0	MOHD RAMZAN	15-06-2023	SG-5815
75	JKR-2124-2-0	GH AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
76	JKR-2124-2-0	RAFIQA	15-06-2023	SG-5815
77	JKF-2153-2-0	MOHD YASSAIN	15-06-2023	SG-5815
78	JKF-2153-2-0	MISRA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
79	JKF-2174-2-0	HAJRA BAGAM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
80	JKF-2174-2-0	AB MAJEED	15-06-2023	SG-5815
81	JKF-2190-2-0	MOHD ABDULLA	15-06-2023	SG-5815
82	JKF-2190-2-0	SAJA BANOO	15-06-2023	SG-5815
83	JKF-2193-2-0	ABDUL GAFFAR	15-06-2023	SG-5815
84	JKR-2193-2-0	RAJA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
85	JKF-2196-2-0	ABDUL RASHID	15-06-2023	SG-5815
86	JKF-2196-2-0	SHAMEEMA BANOO	15-06-2023	SG-5815
87	JKR-2359-2-0	ZAINAB BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
88	JKR-2359-2-0	ABDUL GANI	15-06-2023	SG-5815
89	JKF-2364-2-0	MOHD YOUSUF	15-06-2023	SG-5815
90	JKF-2364-2-0	SAEEDA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
91	JKF-2520-4-0	ABDUL RAZAQ	15-06-2023	SG-5815
92	JKF-2520-4-0	RAJA	15-06-2023	SG-5815
93	JKF-2520-4-0	SHAHEENA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
94	JKF-2520-4-0	ABDUL RASHID	15-06-2023	SG-5815
95	JKF-2559-2-0	JAHANARA	15-06-2023	SG-5815
96	JKF-2559-2-0	MANZOOR AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
97	JKF-2632-2-0	NAZIR AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
98	JKF-2632-2-0	SALEEMA	15-06-2023	SG-5815
99	JKF-2633-1-0	AB SALAM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
100	JKF-2646-2-0	RUQIYA GOWHER	15-06-2023	SG-5815
101	JKF-2646-2-0	MOHD YOUSUF	15-06-2023	SG-5815
102	JKF-2649-2-0	RUBEENA	15-06-2023	SG-5815
103	JKF-2649-2-0	FAYAZ AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
104	JKF-2676-2-0	GHULAM MOHD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
105	JKF-2676-2-0	JANA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
106	JKF-2691-2-0	RAFEQA BANO	15-06-2023	SG-5815
107	JKF-2691-2-0	AB RASHID	15-06-2023	SG-5815
108	JKR-2707-2-0	SARA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
109	JKR-2707-2-0	HABIBULLAH	15-06-2023	SG-5815
110	JKR-2784-2-0	NASRINA AKHTAR	15-06-2023	SG-5815
111	JKR-2784-2-0	BASHIR AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
112	JKF-2789-2-0	SHAMEEMA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
113	JKF-2789-2-0	MUDASIR RASHID	15-06-2023	SG-5815
114	JKF-2813-2-0	MUSHTAQ AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
115	JKF-2813-2-0	AISHA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
116	JKF-2838-2-0	ABDUL GANI	15-06-2023	SG-5815
117	JKF-2838-2-0	HALEEMA	15-06-2023	SG-5815
118	JKF-2898-3-0	MISRA BANOO	15-06-2023	SG-5815
119	JKF-2898-3-0	AB RASHIED	15-06-2023	SG-5815
120	JKF-2898-3-0	HALIMA AKHTER	15-06-2023	SG-5815
121	JKF-2975-2-0	SHAMEEMA AKHTER	15-06-2023	SG-5815
122	JKF-2975-2-0	UMAR ASHRAF	15-06-2023	SG-5815
123	JKF-2996-2-0	MOHD ISHAQ	15-06-2023	SG-5815
124	JKF-2996-2-0	SHAQUIFTA ABDULLAH	15-06-2023	SG-5815
125	JKF-3010-2-0	GH HASSAN	15-06-2023	SG-5815
126	JKF-3010-2-0	GULSHANA AKHTER	15-06-2023	SG-5815
127	JKF-3082-2-0	AFROZA AKHTAR	15-06-2023	SG-5815
128	JKF-3082-2-0	SHAKEEL AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
129	JKF-3133-2-0	NASEEMA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
130	JKF-3133-2-0	MOHD SULTAN	15-06-2023	SG-5815
131	JKF-3157-2-0	SHAKEELA BANO	15-06-2023	SG-5815
132	JKF-3157-2-0	FEROZ AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
133	JKF-3185-2-0	NASEEMA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
134	JKF-3185-2-0	IRSHAD AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815

135	JKF-3286-2-0	RAZIA TABASUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
136	JKF-3286-2-0	MUSHTAQ AHMED	15-06-2023	SG-5815
137	JKF-3311-2-0	AB MAJID	15-06-2023	SG-5815
138	JKF-3311-2-0	HAMEEDA BANOO	15-06-2023	SG-5815
139	JKF-3345-2-0	ZAREEFA BANOO	15-06-2023	SG-5815
140	JKF-3345-2-0	ABDUL RASHID	15-06-2023	SG-5815
141	JKF-3378-2-0	SHAFIQ AHMED	15-06-2023	SG-5815
142	JKF-3378-2-0	ZAKIA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
143	JKF-3431-1-0	GH MOHD DIN	15-06-2023	SG-5815
144	JKF-3436-2-0	BASHIR AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
145	JKF-3436-2-0	GULSHAN AKHTER	15-06-2023	SG-5815
146	JKF-3462-2-0	MUZAFFER ALI	15-06-2023	SG-5815
147	JKF-3462-2-0	RASHIDA AKHTER	15-06-2023	SG-5815
148	JKF-3480-2-0	SARA BANO	15-06-2023	SG-5815
149	JKF-3480-2-0	MOHAMMAD YOUSUF	15-06-2023	SG-5815
150	JKF-3486-2-0	GH NABI	15-06-2023	SG-5815
151	JKF-3486-2-0	HAJRA BANU	15-06-2023	SG-5815
152	JKF-3486-2-0	GULSHAN ARA	15-06-2023	SG-5815
153	JKF-3498-2-0	BASHIR AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
154	JKF-3518-2-0	AB AZIZ	15-06-2023	SG-5815
155	JKF-3518-2-0	JAWHARA BANO	15-06-2023	SG-5815
156	JKF-3544-2-0	KALIM AKHTER	15-06-2023	SG-5815
157	JKF-3544-2-0	MOHMUD AYAZ	15-06-2023	SG-5815
158	JKF-3683-2-0	NASEEMA AKHTER	15-06-2023	SG-5815
159	JKF-3683-2-0	JOHN MOHD MUZAFAR	15-06-2023	SG-5815
160	JKF-3689-2-0	MOHD AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
161	JKF-3710-2-0	SYED ANJUM ARA	15-06-2023	SG-5815
162	JKF-3710-2-0	ISHTIYAQ AH	15-06-2023	SG-5815
163	JKF-3719-2-0	MONIS AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
164	JKF-3719-2-0	NIGHAT MAJEED	15-06-2023	SG-5815
165	JKF-3739-2-0	ABDUL MAJEED	15-06-2023	SG-5815
166	JKF-3739-2-0	HASEENA	15-06-2023	SG-5815
167	JKF-3766-1-0	GH MOHD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
168	JKF-3815-2-0	NUSRAT	15-06-2023	SG-5815
169	JKF-3815-2-0	IMTIYAZ	15-06-2023	SG-5815
170	JKF-3853-2-0	FAROOQ AHMAD	15-06-2023	SG-5815
171	JKF-3853-2-0	HALEEMA BEGUM	15-06-2023	SG-5815
172	JKF-3861-2-0	NISAR HUSSAIN	15-06-2023	SG-5815
173	JKF-3888-2-0	GHULAM QADIR	15-06-2023	SG-5815
174	JKF-3888-2-0	RAFIQA AKHTER	15-06-2023	SG-5815
175	JKF-3909-2-0	MATINA BANO	15-06-2023	SG-5815
176				



## India Set To See More Exodus Of Millionaires In 2023: Report

Agencies

**NEW DELHI:** India is expected to see an estimated 6,500 high-net-worth individuals (HNWIs) – or millionaires and billionaires – moving out of the country in 2023, a new report said.

The projection, however, indicates that the anticipated outflow of HNWIs is slightly lower than last year's exit of 7,500 millionaires. India follows China, which will likely lose 13,500 HNWIs this year, according to the Henley Private Wealth Migration Report 2023 which tracks wealth and investment migration trends worldwide.

The report said that given India's capacity to generate new millionaires, the outflow is not particularly concerning.

According to the report, India's HNWI population is projected to experience a remarkable 80 per cent increase by 2031, positioning India as one of the world's fastest-growing wealth markets during this period.

This growth will be primarily fuelled by thriving financial services, healthcare, and technology sectors within the country.

It has also observed a trend of affluent individuals returning to India, and as the standard of living continues to improve, it anticipates a significant influx of wealthy individuals moving back to India in greater numbers.

The report cited New World Wealth, a firm tracking global wealth migration trends for over a decade, as saying that the UK

will have 3,200 millionaires, and Russia will have 3,000 HNWIs.

Dominic Volek, group head of private clients for the company, said the recent and persistent turmoil has caused a shift where more investors are considering relocating their families for a range of reasons, from safety and security, to education and healthcare, to climate change resilience and even crypto-friendliness.

"Nine of the top 10 countries for forecast net HNWI inflows in 2023 host formal residence by investment programs that encourage foreign direct investment in return for the right to reside, which can also lead to citizenship in some cases. Investors see the clear value of diversifying their domicile portfolios as the ultimate hedge against both regional and global volatility, now and in the future," Volek said.

Prohibitive tax legislation, coupled with convoluted, complex rules relating to outbound remittances that are open to misinterpretation and abuse are cited as among the issues that triggered the trend of investment migration from India.

Dubai and Singapore remain preferred destinations for wealthy Indian families, with the Gulf city – also known as the '5th City of India' – particularly attractive for its government-administered global investor Golden Visa programme, favorable tax environment, robust business ecosystem and safe, peaceful environment.

## May WPI Inflation Hits Over 7-Year Low Of (-) 3.48%

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** The wholesale price-based inflation rate fell to a seven-and-a-half-year low of (-) 3.48 per cent in May on easing prices of food, fuel and manufactured items, strengthening the case for the RBI to continue with the rate hike pause in the current fiscal.

This is the second straight month when WPI has been in the negative zone, mainly due to a higher base and falling prices of fuel and manufactured goods. Food prices also eased during May.

A negative WPI inflation, technically termed as deflation, means that overall wholesale prices have been falling year-on-year.

The wholesale price index (WPI) comes within days after the government data showed retail inflation, closely tracked by the RBI to decide on monetary policy, dipped to a 25-month low of 4.25 per cent in May.

The decline in the WPI-based inflation rate is usually reflected in the retail inflation data with a time lag.

"Decline in the rate of inflation in May 2023 is primarily contributed by fall in prices of mineral oils, basic metals, food products, textiles, non-food articles, crude petroleum & natural gas and chemical & chemical products," the com-



merce and industry ministry said on Wednesday.

This is the lowest WPI inflation print since November 2015, when it was (-) 3.7 per cent.

In May 2022, WPI inflation was at 16.63 per cent. Last month, it was (-) 0.92 per cent. Inflation in food articles eased to 1.51 per cent in May from 3.54 per cent in April.

Vegetables saw a decline in inflation at (-) 20.12 per cent, while the same in potato and onion was (-) 18.71 per cent and (-) 7.25 per cent, respectively. However, inflation in pulses saw a sharp uptick at 5.76 per cent, and in wheat, it was 6.15 per cent.

Fuel and power basket inflation eased to (-) 9.17 per cent in May against 0.93 per cent in April.

"Indeed, India has doubled its imports of low-cost Russian oil over the past year.

This has helped keep the cost of energy manageable and helped to tame its high inflation," Moody's Analytics Chief APAC Economist Steve Cochrane said.

"In manufactured products, the inflation rate was (-) 2.97 per cent in the month under review against (-) 2.42 per cent in April. Assocham Secretary General Deepak Sood said the negative trajectory in wholesale prices should help the overall input cost in the value chain.

"While we expect the trend to continue, we need to watch out how monsoon plays out as food prices are influenced a lot more by rains than manufactured goods," Sood said.

Icra, in a note, said the WPI deflation is likely to print at 2.5-3.5 per cent in June 2023, supported by an elevated base in the year-ago month.



## Dubai's Most Expensive House Is For Sale: Indian Among Interested Buyers

Bloomberg

**DUBAI:** A mansion evocative of Versailles is for sale in Dubai for 750 million dirhams (\$204 million), making it the most expensive house on the market in a city where luxury property is red-hot.

The home in the desirable Emirates Hills neighborhood has 60,000 square feet of indoor space though only five bedrooms: At 4,000 square feet, the primary bedroom is bigger than most homes. The ground floor has rooms for dining and entertaining. Other amenities include a 15-car garage, 19 bathrooms, indoor and outdoor pools, two domes, an 80,000-liter (21,000-gallon) coral reef aquarium, a power substation and panic rooms. It sits on a 70,000-square-foot lot in a gated community overlooking a golf course.

The property-nicknamed the "Marble Palace" by the selling agents-was built using an estimated 80 million dirhams to 100 million dirhams in marble Italian stone. Construction took nearly 12 years and was com-

pleted in 2018, according to Luxhabitat Sotheby's International Realty, which is selling the property. Tasks included the application of 700,000 sheets of gold leaf by 70 skilled workers toiling more than nine months, the brokerage says.

The home is currently decorated with about 400 pieces from the owner's personal art collection, primarily 19th century and 20th century statues and paintings; the owner is prepared to negotiate about including them and furnishings in the purchase.

The owner, a local property developer, declined to be named.

"It's not everybody's taste or style," Luxhabitat Sotheby's broker Kunal Singh says, well aware that buyers will either love it or hate it.

The Dubai property market has been on a tear since late 2020, an uplift that has lasted much longer than other global property booms during the Covid-19 pandemic. The rally is partially a correction after a market decline of about six years.

## To Be Rich In America, You Need Over \$2 Million



Bloomberg

**T**o be wealthy in America, you need at least \$2.2 million.

That's according to Charles Schwab's 2023 Modern Wealth Survey released Tuesday, which asked a nationally representative sample of Americans to estimate the average net worth required to reach the ranks of the rich.

Despite that lofty sum, 48% of respondents said they already feel wealthy today, with an average net worth of just \$560,000. And counter to the narrative that young people are struggling with money, feeling wealthy was most common among millennials and Gen Z, with 57% and 46% respectively reporting that they feel rich compared to just 41% of Gen X and 40% of baby boomers.

The counterintuitive findings demonstrate the difficulties in determining what wealth in America means. With housing prices skyrocketing and inflation pushing up the prices of everyday goods, it takes more money than ever to feel financially secure, especially in cities with a high cost of living. The purchasing power of a six-figure salary goes much further in certain areas of the country

than others, while individual circumstances like household size, homeownership and debt can drastically affect feelings of financial health.

"There's this paradox of people defining wealth differently for themselves versus others," said Rob Williams, managing director of financial planning and wealth management at Charles Schwab. "When you ask someone for a dollar amount, they don't put it in the context of the rest of their life and financial health."

How wealthy people feel is also influenced by their peers. Almost half of survey respondents said being able to afford a similar lifestyle to their friends makes them feel rich, and more than a third of those who use social media say they compare their lifestyles to what their family and friends post online. That's especially true for millennials and Gen Z.

Still, wealth goes beyond net worth for many Americans. Nearly two-thirds of survey respondents said that having healthy relationships with their loved ones describes wealth to them better than simply having a lot of money. And 70% said that wealth is more about not having to worry about money than having a large bank account.

## Agri Deptt Kashmir Celebrates (Thaejkaad) 'Paddy Transplanting Day'

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Agriculture Department Kashmir Wednesday celebrated (thaejkaad) Paddy transplanting day across the valley.

The campaign was kick-started by Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhary Mohammad Iqbal from the central Kashmir's Ganderbal district. He also participated in the paddy transplantation activities in the farmer's field at various places in the district.

While interacting with the farmers of different areas of the valley, Director Agriculture said that paddy is a staple crop of the valley and paddy transplantation has its cultural importance in the valley of Kashmir. He said people of Kashmir celebrate paddy transplanting day as they celebrate other religious and cultural festivals.

Chowdhary Iqbal marked various initiatives taken by the department for the development of the farming community of the valley. He said the department is working not only to ensure high yielding varieties of agriculture crops including paddy reaches the farming community but to preserve and promote the cultivation of traditional varieties viz. muskbudji, zagg, meetha-chawal etc. also in the region.

Director Agriculture appreciated the role of the farming community in preserving the traditional varieties of paddy and other agriculture crops.

He said that besides the latest high yielding varieties our local paddy varieties like muskbudji, zagg, meetha-chawal etc. are finding new markets. He said the department is working to facilitate the concerned farmers so that they could fetch good returns for their produce.

Director agriculture reiterated the importance of transferring the latest technologies, interventions to the farmers on field. He impressed upon the officers to ensure that modern techniques and practices in the cultivation of agriculture crops including paddy reaches the farmers.

## Nexa Hyderabad Launches Maruti Suzuki's Highly Anticipated Off-Roader Jimny

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** India most awaited off-roader, Jimny was unveiled on Wednesday at Nexa dealership of Jamkash Vehicleads (Kashmir) Pvt. Ltd. Hyderabad.

The chief guest on the occasion was Sunny Kanwar (Regional Manager NEXA-N2). The occasion was graced by the presence Managing Director of Jamkash Vehicleads (Kashmir) Pvt. Ltd., Irfan Ahmad Narwaroo, CEO, Aawan Ahmad Narwaroo, .Gaurav Dave (Area Manager Nexa) and the dignitaries from State Bank of India, Mahindra Finance, HDFC Bank, Cholamandalam Finance and J&K Bank.

Managing Director of Jamkash Vehicleads (Kashmir) Pvt. Ltd., Irfan Ahmad Narwaroo and CEO, Aawan Ahmad Narwaroo



unveiled the car while senior management of Jamkash Vehicleads Kashmir were present during the occasion which witnessed presence of a large gathering of auto lovers and customers who had been waiting for the launch of the JIMNY.

General Manger Nexa Jamkash Hyderabad, Erfaan Gul while speaking on the occasion stated that the highly anticipated off-roader Jimny will aim

at young trailblazers who want to stand out and set the trend with their unique choices.

The Jimny (5-door) will be available in Zeta and Alpha variants with Automatic and Manual transmission choices targeted to excite passionate and professional SUV enthusiasts. Taking forward NEXA's design philosophy of 'Crafted Futurism', the Jimny further accentuates a new design character in NEXA's

SUV portfolio. It also bolsters the three key pillars of NEXpression, NEXtech and NEXperience.

With its timeless design and exceptional off-road capabilities powered by Suzuki's ALLGRIP PRO (4WD) technology, the Jimny has been breaking stereotypes for over 5 decades since its global debut in 1970. The launch of Jimny (5-door) marks an exhilarating milestone in our SUV portfolio and will play an important role in our goal of becoming the country's largest SUV maker. We are delighted with the response it has received from both prospective customers and critics alike. We are confident that Jimny will empower customers to explore uncharted territories and power through all obstacles with a #NeverTurn-Back attitude."

**Government of Jammu & Kashmir UT**

### OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER FLOOD SPILL CHANNEL DIVISION NARBAL

PIN No.193401      Email: floodspillchannelnarbal@gmail.com

Fax/Phone: 01951-260223

#### SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER

**e-NIT No: 13 of 2023-24 (e-Tendering)**

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir e-tenders (in Single Cover) on item rate basis are invited for below mentioned job/ work from registered Tour and Travel (with Union Territory of J&K Govt.) / Drivers cum Vehicle Owners/agencies for Financial year of 2023-24.

S.No	Particulars / Name of work	Qty	Unit	Amount of CDR (in Rs)	e-NIT/ Tender fee
01	Engagement / Hiring of Commercial vehicle (Mahindra Scorpio/ Toyota Innova) of 2014 or above make/model with J&K Registration only for use of Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal having jurisdiction in District Budgam, Srinagar, Baramulla & Bandipora along with the driver (must available for 24x7) for the year 2023-24 (excluding fuel but including the day-to-day maintenance charges of the vehicle)	1.00	Day & Night (24hours)	1000.00	Rs. 200/-

- The Bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, set of terms and conditions and other details can be seen/ downloaded on e-procurement Portal www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:
 

01 Publishing Date	14-06-2023	from 1800 Hrs
02 Download Date Start	14-06-2023	from 1800 Hrs
03 Bid submission Date Start	14-06-2023	from 1800 Hrs
04 Bid submission Date End	19-06-2023	from 1600 Hrs
05 Bid opening Date	20-06-2023 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal.	
- The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in
- The bids uploaded on the Web site up to due date and time will be opened on 20-06-2023 at (11.00 A.M) in the Office of the Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal in presence of the bidders who wish to attend. In case of Holidays or office happening to be closed on the date of opening of the bids, the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue. The complete bidding process will be online.
- Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document (Non- Refundable/ Non- transferrable) to be deposited under MH: 0701-Rev. Misc. in shape of Treasury Challan / receipt or e-Challan (mentioning therein e-NIT No and Serial No of Work) to be pledged in favour of the Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal and earnest money/ bid security in shape of CDR/ FDR pledged to the Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal, besides the dates on the instruments must not be prior to date of issuance of this Notice. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of Price bids.
- The e-NIT must be accompanied/ uploaded with:
 

01 Earnest Money in shape of CDR / FDR for an amount of Rs.1000/- pledged in favour of the Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal.	Scanned Copy
02 Treasury Receipt (T.R) deposited to MH: 0701 as cost of tender document for an amount of Rs.200/- pledged in favour of the Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal	Scanned Copy
03 Printed letter head of the Regd. Agency / e-bidder etc. duly authenticated with seal and signature	Scanned Copy
04 GST Clearance/Pan card along with Self Attested WhatsApp Number and email ID of the agency/ driver in case of registered Tour & Travels / agencies only. Not required for driver cum vehicle owner. However, in case of driver cum vehicle owner necessary GST / details pan card etc shall have to be provided to this office before issuance of formal allotment order in his favour.	Scanned Copy
05 HMV/LMV License of the driver	Scanned Copy

**GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

- The 1st Lowest bidder has to produce CDR / FDR for an amount of Rs.1000/- (Earnest Money), Treasury Challan of Rs.200/- (Tender Fee) in original within one day after the generation of comparative chart and the same shall be released after successful completion of job.
- Bidders must ensure to upload their e-bids in single cover.
- Rates are to be quoted per day basis for the categories of vehicle (excluded fuel).
- Deduction on account of taxes/levies, etc shall be made from the bills of the agency/ driver on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at that time.
- The bidder must upload scanned copy of Registration / permit/ LMV/ HMV License/ Ownership/ Pan Card/ Similar nature of work not less than 02 years
- The bidder must submit consumption certificate from the competent authority for such type of vehicle.
- The bidder shall be given hire charges rates as per the rate quoted but not more than the rates approved by the Government.
- The Bidder shall ensure that the vehicle/ driver should not be changed frequently. Any such change(s) should be informed to the authority well in advance.
- In case of any breakdown/ emergency, the bidder/ driver shall arrange the alternate vehicle/ driver so that the departmental work doesn't suffer.
- The successful bidder shall submit invoice in triplicate in the office of undersigned duly accompanied by log-book verified by the concerned officer/official.
- The e-NIT shall be uploaded in electronic format on the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in
- The Earnest Money Deposit shall be forfeited if:
  - Any Tenderer withdraws his e-NIT/ tender during the period of e-NIT validity or makes any modification in terms and conditions of the e-NIT.
  - The tenderer shall have to execute the agreement within 07-days after fixation of the contract.
  - The vehicle must be in a fit & fine condition and having valid manufacturing/Registration No. not before the year 2014. The vehicle having manufacturing date before the said year shall not be accepted in any case.

**Instructions to Tenderer(s) regarding e-Tendering process:-**

- Tenderers are advised to download Tender submission manual from the "downloads" option as well as from Tenderers manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in acquaint e-NIT submission process.
- To participate in tendering process tenderers have to get digital signature certificate (DSC) as per information technology act. 2000 Tenderers can get digital certificate from approved vendor.
- The Tenderer has to upload his e-NIT online in electronic format with digital signature. No financial Tender will be accepted in physical form.
- Tenderers must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents like, similar experience certificate (mentioned above), CDR, Treasury challan/ receipt, PAN Card, GST Clearance, etc. in respect of the work as mentioned in the Terms & Conditions.
- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reason.
- The date of start of the work shall be reckoned within one day from the date of issuance of L.O.I./Contract allotment as the case may be.
- Time extension: Suitable time extension shall be granted in case of increase in scope of Work and in the event of delay beyond control of agency/ driver to be determined by the department.
- Advance Payments: - No mobilization advance/ equipment advance shall be paid.
- The tender receiving authority reserves the right to accept or reject the bids of the e-NIT without assigning any reason therefor.
- The tender/ bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in e-NIT.

All other terms and conditions as laid down in the PWD Form 25 Double shall also remain in force.

No. FSCDN/CS/ 1989-2013  
Dated: 14/06/2023  
DIPK-3443-23  
DT: 14/06/2023

Sd/-  
Er. Zaffar Mustafa Khan  
Executive Engineer  
Flood Spill Channel Division  
Narbal.



## Israeli military closes investigation into killing of Palestinian toddler without charges

Jerusalem: The Israeli military said on Wednesday it closed an investigation into its shooting and killing of a Palestinian toddler in the occupied West Bank earlier this month.

In a rare admission of wrongdoing, the military said the 2-year-old boy was killed unintentionally when a soldier mistook him and his father for militants on the run.

The military said it would reprimand one of the officers involved in the incident, but there would be no criminal charges filed and no further discipline.

Rights groups contend the Israeli military does too little to investigate and punish its soldiers for the killing of Palestinians in the occupied West Bank, creating a pattern of impunity.

The death of the toddler, Mohammed al-Tamimi, after he was wounded by Israeli gunfire near his village of Nebi Saleh set off an outpouring of grief and anger.

His 44-year-old father, Haitham al-Tamimi, dismissed the Israeli military investigation as a "cover-up". The results, he said, added insult to injury.

"Of course we were not expecting justice, but this report feels to us like a crime on top of the original crime," he said.

"This is all they have to say when my son is killed in cold blood, when his life is cut off before I could discover what kind of person he'd become."

In announcing the results of

the probe on Tuesday, the Israeli military described a scene of considerable confusion following a suspected Palestinian shooting attack near a Jewish settlement.

The military said that soldiers stationed at a lookout near the Palestinian village of Nebi Saleh heard a burst of gunfire but didn't know where it came from. At the sight of a "suspicious" car, a commander assisting the search fired several times into the air, the military said, in violation of army orders.

The sound of gunfire carried to a nearby guard post, the military said, surprising a soldier who claimed he thought the shots were fired by two people getting into a car just down the road.

Believing that car to be the source of the gunfire and those passengers to be the fleeing militants, the soldier followed orders and opened fire toward the vehicle, it said. Inside were 2-year-old Mohammed and his father al-Tamimi.

Al-Tamimi, a chef in the Palestinian city of Ramallah, said he had just buckled up his son for a ride to visit his uncle when the bullets struck.

He was also shot and treated at a Palestinian hospital for moderate shoulder wounds. Mohammed died of his wounds in an Israeli hospital four days later.

The family is still in shock, al-Tamimi said. His only other son, 7-year-old Osama, wakes up with nightmares about his younger brother's killing nearly

every night.

The Israeli military said it reprimanded the commander who initially sparked the confusion by firing into the air against army orders.

The officer was not demoted, but a reprimand remains on a soldier's personal record and can affect chances of promotion. The other soldiers involved faced no disciplinary action.

Recent military investigations including into the high-profile deaths of prominent Palestinian-American Al Jazeera correspondent Shireen Abu Akleh and elderly Palestinian-American Omar Assad did not result in criminal prosecutions.

Israel says that it thoroughly investigates all claims of wrongdoing and does its best to prevent civilian deaths.

"I express my sorrow for the harm that was caused to civilians and the death of the toddler," said Maj. Gen. Yehuda Fox, the commander overseeing the West Bank region. "We will continue to learn and improve."

Surging Israeli-Palestinian fighting in the occupied West Bank this year has killed 123 Palestinians in 2023 alone, according to a tally by The Associated Press. Nearly half of them are affiliated with militant groups, though the Israeli military says that number is much higher.

Palestinian attacks on Israelis during the same period have killed 21 people.

## Indian-origin woman, Indian national stabbed to death in separate incidents in UK

London: An Indian-origin woman and an Indian woman from Hyderabad were stabbed to death in separate incidents in Britain, police said on Wednesday.

Grace O'Malley Kumar, 19, was reportedly with fellow University of Nottingham student cricketer friend - Barnaby Webber, also 19 - when the as-yet-unnamed attacker is said to have fatally stabbed the duo in the early hours of Tuesday on the streets of Nottingham, central England.

Nottinghamshire Police said the 31-year-old suspect, who remains in custody, then went on to stab a man in his 60s to death and also attempted to run over three people - still in hospital - with a van stolen from that man.

"I know the whole house will want to thank the emergency services for their ongoing response to the shocking incident in Nottingham yesterday. Our thoughts are with those injured and with the families of those who lost their lives," said British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak at the start of the House of Commons session on Wednesday.

Home Secretary Suella Braverman later made a statement to update Parliament on the "horrific events" and confirmed that it is not being treated as a terrorist attack at this stage.

"I can tell the House that the police are working flat out to establish the full facts and provide support to everyone

affected. They are currently keeping an open mind as to the motives behind these attacks but I can confirm Nottinghamshire police are being assisted in their inquiries by counter-terror police. Though, this does not mean that it is currently being treated as a terrorist attack," said Braverman.

Tracing some of the details, the minister said a knife was used in the attacks, two of the victims were students at Nottingham University and the third victim a local school caretaker Ian Coates in his 60s was the owner of the van that police believe the suspect stole and was used to run down three pedestrians who remain in hospital.

"We are keeping an open mind" and are working alongside Counter Terrorism Policing to establish the facts as we would normally do in these types of circumstances," Kate Meynell, Chief Constable of Nottinghamshire Police, said in a statement.

"A dedicated team of detectives is investigating the circumstances surrounding these incidents and will continue to gather evidence over the coming days," she said.

Grace Kumar is the daughter of a London-based doctor of Indian origin, Dr Sanjay Kumar. He is being dubbed as a "hero" doctor who saved the lives of some teenage stab victims in his local surgery back in 2009.

Tributes have been pouring

in for Grace, who played for the England under-18s hockey team and was also a cricketer.

"We are all deeply saddened by the news of the tragic death of Grace Kumar in Nottingham on Tuesday," England Hockey, the sport's governing body, said in its tribute.

In a separate incident, a 27-year-old Indian woman from Hyderabad was stabbed to death on Tuesday at a residential property in Neeld Crescent, Wembley in north London.

Scotland Yard on Wednesday said that two men have been arrested in connection with the murder of Tejaswini Kontham from Hyderabad in India.

"An investigation was launched after police were called at 09:59hrs on Tuesday, 13 June to reports of a stabbing at a residential property in Neeld Crescent, Wembley. Officers attended along with the London Ambulance Service and found Tejaswini and another woman, aged 28, suffering from knife injuries," the Metropolitan Police said in a statement.

"Despite the efforts of emergency services, Tejaswini sadly died at the scene," it said.

Her family has been informed, it said.

The results of a post-mortem examination scheduled at Northwick Park mortuary in London are expected to confirm the cause of death, which occurred on at a flat in Wembley area of London on

Tuesday.

"We came to know about the incident today morning. We don't know when it happened. We got the information that she is serious and in hospital," Tejaswini's father told a news channel in India on Wednesday.

She had gone to London three years ago and had completed her MS course there, he said.

She came to Hyderabad in August last year and returned to London the next month. She was supposed to fly down here in May this year, he said.

"We were planning to conduct her marriage. She said she will return after the alliance is finalised. She had resigned from her temporary job and said she will come back after working for another month," he said.

The victim's uncle requested the government to make necessary arrangements to bring her body from the UK to Hyderabad.

The Metropolitan Police had earlier released an image of Brazilian national Keven Antonio Lourenco De Morais to seek the public's help in tracing the suspect behind the attack on Tuesday morning.

The 23-year-old has now been arrested from Harrow, near the crime scene.

A second woman, aged 28 and also unnamed, was taken to hospital with stab injuries that were later assessed as not life-threatening.

## CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

### Schools Shut

cracks in dozens of buildings since Tuesday.

The fresh earthquakes not only triggered panic among people but also brought back fear psychosis of 2013, when the entire region in general and Baderwah Valley in particular was exposed to a series of earthquakes that continued to rock the hilly region for 70 days.

Tuesday's quake damaged several buildings in the twin mountainous districts of Doda and Kishtwar. Five people, including two schoolchildren, suffered injuries, while schools were shut as a precautionary measure by the administration.

The earthquake was widely felt in the Jammu and Kashmir region and neighbouring states.

According to the NCS, an analysis of the past five years shows minor earthquakes in the close vicinity of the Doda region are usual seismic activity.

### Twin Daughters

both the sisters were nervous ahead of the declaration of the NEET results. "We are very happy that the results are good. We thank God for it. Our entire family is happy," she said.

Bismah said they used to help each other a lot during their studies.

"We might have encountered many more difficulties had any of us been alone. We supported each other throughout this journey to achieve this success," she said.

Sabiya said the sisters were overwhelmed that both of them have qualified in the NEET.

"I want both of us to become good doctors and serve our people," she said.

Their father, Sajad Hussain, the imam (priest) at the local Jamia Masjid, said he considers both religious and worldly education important for children.

"I thank God. I am extremely pleased with their achievement. Both religious teachings and worldly education are important. I taught my daughters about Islam, prayers, the Quran and gave them school education as well," he said.

The siblings said one needs to be extremely focused to qualify in the NEET. "Identify your weaknesses and then take help to overcome those," they said.

### Pulwama Youth,

secured 601 marks. Belonging to a poor family, Ganie's achievements have made the whole area proud.

"For the past two years, I have been working as a labourer during the day and then studying in the night. I also work as a painter. I vowed to study hard and qualify NEET and by the grace of God, I have achieved success," Ganie told PTL.

He said he mostly relied on self-study for the undergraduate National Eligibility-Cum-Entrance Test (NEET), but also took some online classes as well.

Ganie said students need not worry about lack of resources and should focus on working hard.

"Even if you do not have money, a lot of study material is available

online. I want to tell everyone to work hard," he added.

Ganie's home has become a centre of celebrations as jubilant relatives and neighbours were making a bee-line to congratulate the family for the accomplishment.

Ganie's neighbour, Abdul Ahad, said it is a matter of immense happiness and pride that he cleared the prestigious exam.

### Satellite Images

body of water nestled in Srinagar, the esteemed summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir. As an urban lake, it boasts the distinction of being the second largest lake in the region while holding the title of the most frequented destination in Srinagar among both tourists and locals alike.

### Overall Arrangements

board members, and senior officers of police, army and central armed police forces (CAPFs), an official spokesperson said.

The LG, he said, also held on-site inspection of arrangements being made for the pilgrims through the Baltal route.

Sinha, he said, took appraisal of the arrangements put in place for healthcare, electricity, communication, water supply and sanitation, weather forecasting, disaster management, security grid and all other basic necessities for the pilgrims.

According to the spokesperson, the LG directed the officials to ensure yatra Base Camp has an adequate number of doctors, staff, equipment, medicines and oxygen cylinders. He said that BRO was instructed to mobilize resources and finish all works before commencement of the yatra.

"Since yatra is in difficult terrain at an altitude where the oxygen levels are low, healthcare facilities, care around the clock must be ensured," Sinha said.

Impressing upon the officials to ensure communication services on yatra route and night air services, the LG, the spokesperson said, also directed for fitting tented accommodations with fire extinguishing equipment.

"Overall arrangements for the yatra have been upgraded. All the concerned departments must take necessary steps for making the pilgrimage convenient, safe and hassle-free," the LG said.

At yatra Base Camp in Baltal, the LG inspected the ongoing work at DRDO's Hospital and other facilities for the pilgrims.

It was informed that the hospital will be made functional by 17th June, the spokesperson said.

Among other officials who attended the meeting included Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, CEO, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board; Mandeep Kaur, Commissioner/Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj; Vijay Kumar, ADGP Kashmir; Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, Secretary Tourism Department; Dr Raghuvar Langer, Secretary Planning, Development and Monitoring Department and Shyambir, Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal and senior officials of Shrine Board, Civil

Administration, Police, CAPFs and Army.

### Calls Upon Youth

become responsible citizens. "Youth power is an infinite source of energy that is always ready to serve, always ready to make a difference, always ready to embark on adventurous pursuits, always ready to innovate, invent and always ready to transform the society for the greater good," he said.

Young scouts and guides through community services and scout movement can assist the panchayat raj institutions (PRIs) and urban local bodies (ULBs) in making Jammu and Kashmir "drug-free", he added.

"Our youth, scouts and guides are always aspiring to give birth to new consciousness to the society so that no one is left behind in the journey of development and prosperity," he said.

The century-old rich legacy of scouts and guides has become the symbol of discipline, selfless service, social harmony, courage and duty. By following the ideals of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, they are shaping the future of the country, Sinha said.

Youth is the energy that is creating a new path for the development of modern society with ecological and economic sustainability. Industry 4.0 technologies and new tools of artificial intelligence are empowering the younger generation and enabling them to contribute to nation-building, he added.

At the Campore, the Lt Governor lauded the Scout and Guides for displaying exemplary courage during Covid Pandemic. He also acknowledged their contribution to the smooth conduct of the Mata Kheer Bhawani Mela held last month.

With the spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam and Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat, Scouts and Guides are playing a stellar role during community service and social empowerment in far-flung areas, he added.

### Teacher Arrested

the school earlier this month. Principal Boy's Higher Secondary School Gund Hassibhat on the city outskirts was arrested by the police on the charges of molesting girl students.

A formal case FIR No 31 under IPC sections 354D (stalking), 294 (obscene acts in a public place) and 506 (criminal intimidation) stands registered at police station Shalteng in this regard.

Police have identified the accused principal as Shabir Ahmad Mir son of Ghulam Rasool Mir of Zadibal Srinagar. Sources said the accused besides forcing the girl students to indulge in adult talks on phone during the night, was touching them inappropriately during the school hours.

### Govt Using PSA

Baramulla resident, Manzoor Ahmad Lone alias Munaa.

A father of six minor daughters, Lone had been earlier booked under PSA also and the same was quashed by the court on 16 November 2021, the bench observed.

For the purpose of securing his "lost fundamental right", the court said,

Lone through this father, has made present petition a bearer of his "SOS call to restore his snatched personal liberty by invoking habeas corpus writ jurisdiction of this Court."

"Nothing can be more pricking to the sensitivity and spirit of the fundamental right to life and personal liberty coded in Article 21 of the Constitution of India than the mechanical mindset exhibited in the present case on the part of the District Police Baramulla, the District Magistrate Baramulla and last on the part of the Govt. of UT of J&K in using the public detention jurisdiction more on a pleasure mode than on the principle mode," the court said, adding, "An unwarranted and misconceived preventive detention order issued by the Govt., or its authorized officials leave the person (detenue) and the populace at same page going by the words of Martin Luther King "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

In the second detention order and in the first one, the court said, there is a common factor which is FIR no. 51/2020 "but to the utter amazement of the Court, the District Police Baramulla acted as if unaware, deliberately or incidentally, about the fact that with similar FIR reference the previous detention order no.14-DMK/PSA of 2020 dated 30.12.2020, which had made the petitioner to suffer loss of personal liberty for an almost one year, had come to be quashed by this High Court in its judgement dated 16.11.2021."

"This Court is at loss to figure out how even the Govt. afforded itself to act as a rubber stamp to lend approval vide its Order no. Home/PB-V/1819 of 2022 dated 08.08.2022 to the action on the part of the District Police Baramulla and the decision on the part of the District Magistrate Baramulla in dish- out a detention order in a manner so casual that even a routine issuance of a summons by a judicial authority asking a person to appear before it is issued with a more informed application of mind," the court said and quashed the detention order (No. 52/DMB/PSA/2022) dated 25 June 2022.

"The petitioner is directed to be released by the concerned Incharge of the Jail in which the petitioner is lodged," the court added.

### NIA Court Rejects

the application, the Special Judge designated under NIA Act Srinagar, Sandeep Gandotra, observed that there are "genuine apprehensions" of him fleeing from the country and trying to disrupt the collection of evidence in the USA for which MLAT request has been sent through government of India. Para, presently released on bail, is facing trial before the court in connection with the case (FIR No. 31/2020 of P/S CIK Srinagar) for offences under Sections 13, 17, 18, 38, 39, 40 of UAP Act and under Sections 120-B, 121, 121-A, 124-A of IPC. The next date has been fixed for prosecution evidence.

The court said the allegations against Para are that he is having close links with foreign and local militants as well as that he is funding, aiding and supporting militant activities and militant organizations.

"It is pertinent to mention here that Investigating Agency has already taken up the matter with Ministry of Home Affairs Govt. of India and a formal request for assistance (MLAT) has been forwarded to the USA," the court said in an order passed on May 31, adding, "One cannot lose sight of the fact that the applicant (Para) has filed this application seeking permission to go to that country only i.e. the USA for pursuing Peace Fellowship 2023 to which MLAT request has been forwarded." As such, the court said, the argument of the Additional Public Prosecutor that there are chances of Para fleeing from the country and trying to influence the collection of evidence in the USA "merits consideration". Consequently, the court rejected the application by Para.

### Lt Gen Ghai Takes

enable improvement of the overall security situation," the spokesperson said.

Ghai, he said, called for civil society to come forward and jointly work with security forces to address the scourge of terrorism.

"Together with the support of all community members, Kashmir will move a step closer to its glorious past while leaping forward in the development barometers," the Lt Gen said, as per the spokesperson.

He encouraged all ranks to take additional steps required to connect with citizens in order to jointly work towards peace & development.

An alumnus of the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun, Ghai was commissioned in December 1989 into the Kumaon Regiment and has had an illustrious military career spanning 33 years during which he has held varied prestigious command, staff and instructional appointments.

As Colonel General Staff, he has served in the Division deployed for Counter Insurgency Operations in J&K and Brigadier at Military Operations Directorate in Army Headquarters. In his command tenures, he has commanded a Battalion in the Western Sector followed by command of a Brigade and a Division on the Northern Borders.

He is a postgraduate from Defence Services Staff College, Wellington (Tamil Nadu), Higher Command Course, Army War College, Mhow & National Defence College, New Delhi. Prior to this appointment, Lieutenant General Rajiv Ghai held an important appointment in Northern Command as Major General General Staff.

### Rajinath To Attend

Rajinath Singh's second visit in less than two months. The Defence Minister had visited the border Rajouri district on May 6, a day after a terror attack in the Kandi area in which five Army soldiers were killed.

Prior to the Kandi attack, five more soldiers were killed at Mendhar in neighbouring Poonch district on April 20.

Under BJP's Maha Jan Sampark Abhiyaan, several Union Ministers lived up their programmes in Jammu and Kashmir.

Earlier, Union Minister Smriti Irani, Hardeep Singh Puri, Ajay Bhatt, Arjun

Ram Meghwal and others visited various areas of Jammu and addressed public rallies.

### Dullo Posted

issued by the Government of India.

### Police Open Fire,

vehicle, he said, the individuals attempted to flee and the patrolling team fired warning shots in air

Later, he said, it was determined that both the individuals were inebriated.

"The duo has been detained for medico-legal formalities while the cognizance has been taken in this regard," police said.

### Toddler Drowns

Khursheed Ahmad Ganie of Danas Budgam.

The official said that his body was later recovered by the locals from the stream.

### Man Arrested For

anyone, a police spokesperson said Wednesday.

Due to the threat, he said, the family did not report to the Police Station.

The spokesperson said that an FIR under sections of IPC & POCOA Act was registered in Police Station Kreeri and investigation started."

"Acting swiftly, a police team led by SI Ehsan Ahmad, Officiating SHO PS Kreeri under the supervision of Khalid Ashraf, SDPO Kreeri arrested the accused involved in the crime and he was taken into custody immediately," he said, adding further investigation is in process.

### SIU Files Chargesheet

one, a police spokesperson said. He said that on 24 May 2022, unknown militants fired upon one police personnel namely Saifulah Qadri son of Muhammad Syed Qadri and his minor daughter Safa Qadri resident of Malik Shab Saura Srinagar, in which police personnel got killed and his minor daughter was injured.

During the course of investigation, three militants identified as Basit Ahmed Dar son of Abdul Rashid Dar resident of Redwani Qaimou Kulgam, Momin Gulzar Mir son of Gulzar Ahmed Mir resident of Firdous Colony Eidgah Srinagar and Adil Ahmed Parray son of Habibullah Parray resident of Badergund Ganderbal were found involved in the case, he said. Besides, a scooter bearing registration number JKO2CB-1268 used in the attack was also seized.

One of the accused Adil Ahmed Parray was killed in an encounter with Police Srinagar at Sangam area of Srinagar on 12 June 2022. While as, the other two involved are still active and linked with LeT/TRF, he said.

However, the investigation shall continue under section 173 (8) CrPC, he added.

### SIA Conducts Raids

He said that raids are being conducted in connection with the investigation of Bank ATM guard Sanjay Kumar Sharma's killing.

The first round of raids were conducted last month at nine locations across Kashmir, he said





2023 SRINAGAR PREMIER LEAGUE

## Real Kashmir, Downtown Heroes In Action Today

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Real Kashmir FC and Downtown Heroes FC are both playing today, Thursday, June 15, in the 2023 Srinagar Premier League. Real Kashmir is scheduled to take on STFC Natipora at 3:00 PM, while Downtown Heroes will face Maharaja FC at 7:00 PM. Both matches will be played at Synthetic Turf TRC.

In Wednesday's matches, Kashmir Avengers FC played a 1-1 draw with Sports Council Football Academy (SCFA). In the second game of the day, FC1 dominated Jhelum FC to win with a 3-0 scoreline. The 2023 Srinagar Premier League is being organised by DFA Srinagar in collaboration with J&K Football Association and J&K Sports Council.

## Inter School Football C'chip Begins In Srinagar



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The 1st Inter-School Football Championship kicked off on Wednesday at Synthetic Turf TRC. A total of 12 schools and football academies are participating in the competition, which is sponsored by Arise International Academy and Jammu & Kashmir Sports Council, among others. In the first match, JK Public

School played a 0-0 draw with Doon International School. In the other match, Sancturum Public School thumped Islamic International School 4-0. Two more matches are scheduled to be played today, Thursday, June 15. Arise International Academy will take on Shah-e-Hamdan Educational Institute at 10:00 AM. In the second match of the day, Junior Muslim FA are set to face Bagh-e-Hamda FA at 11:30 PM.

## DYSS Organises Sports Activities In Anantnag



Observer News Service

**ANANTNAG:** The Department of Youth Services & Sports conducted various Zonal Level tournaments on Wednesday at Zone Ashmuqam. The department organised Kho-Kho, Volleyball and Kabaddi tournaments for boys at Sports Stadium Latroo under the Age Group of 14 in which 230 students took an active part. At Zone Shangus, competitions in Kho-Kho, Kabaddi and

Volleyball were held at HSS Shangus Under-14 boys, with a total participation of 492 student-athletes. In another event, Zone Anantnag also conducted Kho-Kho, Volleyball and Kabaddi tournaments for Girls of Under 14 Age Group with 368 participants at the Sports Stadium Anantnag. In Zone Verinag, U-14 and U-17 Kho-Kho tournaments were held at GDC Verinag and HS Chowgund with a participation of 144 students.

## WTC: India Set To Play WI, AUS, ENG



Press Trust of India

**BANGALORE:** India will begin the 2023-2025 ICC World Test Championship (WTC) cycle with the upcoming tour to the West Indies in July and over the next two-year period will play some high-profile bilateral series against Australia and England among others. India will travel to West Indies next month to play two Test matches in Dominica (July 12-16) and Trinidad (July 20-24). India have been finalists in the first two editions of the WTC, losing to New Zealand (2021) and to Australia (2023) in the final. The WTC 2023-25 cycle will begin with the Ashes, when England face Australia in Birmingham on Friday. After the tour to Windies, India's next WTC assignment will be on away shores against South Africa between December 2023 and January 2024. Followed by that, India will host England for a five-match Test series in January-February 2024. They will then lock horns with Bangladesh in September-October 2024. At home and immediately after that New Zealand will visit the sub-continent for a three-match Test series in October-November 2024. After those two relatively easy home schedules, India will travel to Australia for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, a five-match series, against

## BCCI Invites Tender For Lead Sponsor Rights

Agencies

**NEW DELHI:** The BCCI invited tender applications from interested business houses for national cricket team's lead sponsorship rights after Ed-Tech major BYJU'S left the scene at the end of the last financial year. BYJU'S, which had cut down on its branding, had a US\$35 million deal for the most visible space on the Indian men's team jersey -- the front. "The BCCI invites bids from reputed entities for acquiring the National Team

Lead Sponsor rights," BCCI secretary Jay Shah said in a release. The bid document can be bought for a non-refundable fee of Rs 5 lakh and last date of purchase of will be June 26. "Any interested party wishing to submit a bid is required to purchase the ITT. However, only those satisfying the eligibility criteria set out in the ITT and subject to the other terms and conditions set out therein, shall be eligible to bid. It is clarified that merely purchasing the ITT does not entitle any person to bid," Shah stated.

Australia between November 2024 and January 2025, which also marks the end of India's WTC engagements. Wasim Khan, ICC's General Manager of Cricket said: "This championship has invigorated Test match cricket, bringing context for players and fans, and a high level of competitiveness as teams battle it out to be crowned World Test Champions at the end of the two-year cycle. "The big turnout out at The Oval over the five days and the

incredible viewership levels across the globe for the final is testimony to the continued popularity of Test cricket." The structure of the nine-team WTC remains intact with each side playing three home and as many away series over a two-year period culminating in the final of a one-off Test. The points percentage system used in the previous edition will determine the leaderboard with teams getting 12 points for a win, 6 for a tie and 4 for a draw.

## England Name Squad For 1st Ashes Test Against Australia

Press Trust of India

**BIRMINGHAM:** England favoured Stuart Broad's experience over Mark Wood's raw pace for the first Ashes test at Edgbaston after naming its team two days early in a show of confidence on Wednesday. With James Anderson and Ollie Robinson healthy enough to return to the team after resting injury niggles in the recent one-off test against Ireland at Lord's, there was just one spot left in the seam attack for the series opener against Australia on Friday. Wood, England's quickest bowler, was edged out by Broad, who led the attack impressively against the Irish and whose record of 162 caps and 582 wickets is bettered only by Anderson. Broad's selection guarantees



another chapter in his rivalry with Australia opener David Warner, who was dismissed by Broad seven times in 10 innings in the 2019 Ashes. Moeen Ali will slot straight in at No. 8 and as the spin option after coming out of retirement following an injury to Jack Leach. Opener Ben Duckett and No. 5 Harry Brook are the only

players in the England team to be making their Ashes debuts in Birmingham, while Broad and Anderson have both taken the field 35 times against Australia. **England team:** Ben Duckett, Zak Crawley, Ollie Pope, Joe Root, Harry Brook, Ben Stokes (captain), Jonathan Bairstow, Moeen Ali, Stuart Broad, Ollie Robinson, James Anderson.



## Real Madrid Signs Jude Bellingham From Dortmund

Agencies

**MADRID:** Describing him as one of the "biggest talents in world football" Real Madrid on Wednesday confirmed the signing of England midfielder Jude Bellingham from Borussia Dortmund. At 19, Bellingham had already established himself among the most sought-after players in soccer, with Manchester United, Manchester City, Liverpool and Paris Saint-Germain among his admirers. But he has chosen to join 14-time European champion Madrid on a six-year contract. "Thank you everyone associated with BVB and the fans for everything over the last three years," Bellingham said in a statement on Dortmund's website. "It was an honor to wear your jersey so many times whether it was in the high or low moments. "While I'm happy about my next destination I will never forget the journey I went on to get there." Madrid did not confirm the transfer fee, but Dortmund said in a statement to the stock exchange last week that it could

reach more than \$139 million. The German club said the fixed fee was \$110 million, plus variables that could reach more than \$32 million over the next six seasons. Bellingham becomes the second biggest sale by a German club, following Ousmane Dembélé move from Dortmund to Barcelona in 2017 for up to \$173 million. Bellingham is a statement signing for Madrid after relinquishing its Champions League and Spanish league titles last season. Madrid is entering a period of transition and needs to sign a new striker after Karim Benzema left for Saudi Arabian team Al-Ittihad. Eden Hazard, Marco Asensio and Mariano Diaz are also leaving. Long-term target Kylian Mbappe has told PSG he will not extend his current contract beyond next season, meaning he could be put up for sale this summer. Tottenham's Harry Kane has also been linked with a move to Madrid. Coach Carlo Ancelotti said attack was an area Madrid needed to address.

## Bangladesh Reach 362/5 On Day 1 Against Afghanistan



Agencies

**MIRPUR:** Najmul Hossain hit his third century as Bangladesh dominated Afghanistan's bowlers to reach 362-5 on the opening day of their one-off test on Wednesday. Najmul scored 146 off 175 balls, hitting 23 fours and two sixes, and added 212 runs with opener Mahmudul Hasan for the second wicket to disrupt Afghanistan's plan on a hot and humid day. Mahmudul missed out his ton, being out on 76 after a knock that included nine fours. At stumps, Mehdi Hasan was batting on 43 with Mushfiqur Rahim on 41, after sharing 72 runs for the sixth wicket. Afghanistan captain Hashmatullah Shahidi chose to bowl first after winning the toss. The decision appeared to be correct before Najmul kept them at bay as Bangladesh scored above 4.5 runs per over to rack up its third

highest total on day one. Pace bowler Nijatullah Masood had Zakir Hasan caught by wicket-keeper Afsar Zazai for 1, making him the first Afghan bowler to claim a wicket in his first delivery of his debut test -- and 22nd overall. Najmul counterattacked, epitomizing Bangladesh's ambition to play an aggressive brand of cricket, and it paid off. He punished anything short and raised his fourth test fifty off 58 balls, pulling a short delivery off the left-arm wrist spinner behind backward square leg for four. Mahmudul, playing his first test since June last year, was patient compared to his partner as he brought up his third fifty off 102 balls when an overthrow gave him five runs. Najmul frustrated the Afghan bowlers more to bring up his century off 118 balls and looked untroubled against a lackluster bowling attack.

## Kylian Mbappe, Harry Kane Could Be Football's Biggest Transfer Stories This Summer

Agencies

**MANCHESTER:** Kylian Mbappe's decision not to take up the option of a 12-month extension on his Paris Saint-Germain contract could spark a bidding war for the French superstar this summer. PSG is adamant he will not be allowed to leave as a free agent when his current deal runs out at the end of next season, meaning he could be put up for sale during this transfer window if a resolution over his future is not agreed. Real Madrid has coveted Mbappe for a number of years and in 2021 unsuccessfully launched a bid of \$190 million to take him to the Bernabeu. The Spanish giant would appear to be the likeliest destination for the World Cup-winning forward -- especially at a time when it needs to find a replacement for Karim Benzema, who has joined Saudi Arabian team

Al-Ittihad. But Mbappe has this week described reports claiming he wants to move to Madrid this summer as "lies." "I have already said that I will continue next season at PSG where I am very happy," he tweeted. PSG will be put in a difficult position if Mbappe sticks to his current stance that he will not leave this summer and also will not sign a new contract. Here's a look at other star players who could be on the move. **HARRY KANE (TOTTENHAM)** England's all-time leading goal-scorer is entering the final year of his contract and continues to be linked with moves to Manchester United and Madrid. Tottenham has resisted all previous attempts to lure its iconic striker away, but faces the risk of losing him for nothing if he refuses to extend his current deal.



Kane has never won a major trophy and turns 30 before the start of next season. Spurs also know this summer may be the last chance to command a big fee for Kane, and reportedly value him at \$123 million. **ILKAY GUNDOGAN (MANCHESTER CITY)** Fresh from lifting the Champions League trophy in Istanbul, City's inspirational captain is set to become a free agent,

unless a new contract can be agreed soon. Gundogan has repeatedly been linked with a move to Barcelona, but City manager Pep Guardiola has made it clear that he wants the 32-year-old midfielder to stay. Having completed the treble -- including the Premier League title and FA Cup -- this season, it might be the perfect time for the Germany international to wsay farewell.

**DECLAN RICE (WEST HAM)** After seeing his England midfield partner Jude Bellingham sign for Madrid, Rice is also expected to be on the move this summer. Arsenal appears to be leading the race for his signature, despite the midfielder also being linked with Manchester United, Chelsea and Bayern Munich. An all-action midfielder, Rice would be a statement signing for Arsenal after the London club's Premier League title challenge collapsed in the final weeks of the season. **VICTOR OSIMHEN (NAPOLI)** The free-scoring forward has established himself as one of the most exciting strikers in the world and has picked up many admirers as a result. Manchester United has been linked most heavily, given Erik ten Hag's need to bring in a top-class replacement for Cristiano Ronaldo, who left in November.

Khvicha Kvaratskhelia was outstanding last season, while defender Kim Min-jae is another player who has been linked with United. **JOSKO Gvardiol (RB LEIPZIG)** One of the stars of the World Cup, the Croatia defender has been linked with a move to Manchester City. However, Leipzig is expected to demand a world-record fee for a defender if it is to sell Gvardiol. United paid £80 million (then \$97 million) for Harry Maguire in 2019, which saw it beat City to the signing of the England international.

Cup and finished third in the Premier League last season. **RANDAI KOLO MUANI (EINTRACHT FRANKFURT)** The France striker impressed at the World Cup but was only in the squad as a late injury replacement before seizing his chance to shine. He's long been seen as a target for Bayern Munich as the German champion has looked short of a center-forward since Robert Lewandowski left last year, but PSG and Manchester United have also been reported to be interested. **MOISES CAICEDO (BRIGHTON)** Perhaps if Arsenal had been successful in its attempts to land Caicedo in January, it would not have fallen away so dramatically during the title run-in. The midfielder has established himself as a stellar talent and looks certain to leave Brighton this summer.



## UAE, Saudi Arabia bans release of Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse



### Agenceis

Riyadh: The latest "Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse" movie will not be released in theaters in Saudi Arabia. Saudi Cinema, which is managed by the General Commission for Audiovisual Media reported on Tuesday that the highly-anticipated movie will not hit screens in the Kingdom.

The authority said that the movie "contradicts the content controls in force," and added that unless parts of the movie's scenes were amended, it would not play in theaters locally.

"Out of our keenness on the safety of the content shown in cinemas, and our responsibility towards the viewers, we would like to point out that we will not permit or license any film that contradicts the content controls in force in the media system... and its implementing regulations, unless the production companies commit to implementing the required amendments," the social media statement said.

Many Reddit and Twitter users in the Gulf country speculated that the movie might not be released locally. Meanwhile, tickets for the screening are no longer available to pre-book at local cinemas.

Empire Entertainment, which owns the exclusive theatrical distribution rights for Sony Pictures in the Middle East has been contacted for a comment on the status of the release. On Empire's website, the show is still marked under 'Coming Soon' with a June

22 release date.

Al Arabiya English has also contacted Vox Cinemas for a comment on the movie's expected release.

In US and Canadian theaters, "Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse" opened with a massive \$120.5 million, more than tripling the debut of the 2018 animated original and showing the kind of movie-to-movie box-office growth that would be the envy of even the mightiest of Hollywood franchises. The Associated Press reported on June 4.

Early in 2022, the UAE and other GCC countries banned Walt Disney-Pixar's animated feature film "Lightyear" from screening in cinemas because it featured characters in a same-sex relationship.

Same-sex relationships are criminalized in many Muslim-majority countries, and films featuring such relationships have in the past been banned by regulators in those countries, while others with profanity or illicit drug use are sometimes censored.

"The Media Regulatory Office announced that the animated film Lightyear, which is scheduled for release on 16th June, is not licensed for public screening in all cinemas in the UAE, due to its violation of the country's media content standards," the UAE authority said in a statement at the time.

Later in the year, many of these countries also demanded streaming giant Netflix censor or remove content that could be perceived as offensive to the religion and culture of the Gulf states.

## 105 Universities Introducing 4-Year UG Courses From New Session

### Agenceis

New Delhi: A total of 105 universities across the country including 19 central universities are going to start the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUGP) from the upcoming academic session, according to the University Grants Commission (UGC).

The Central universities opting for the four-year UG courses are -- Delhi University, Aligarh Muslim University, Viswa Bharti university, Assam University, Tezpur University Central University of Jammu, Sikkim University, National Sanskrit University and Maulana Azad National Urdu University.

The Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri National Sanskrit University, English And Foreign Languages University, Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Rajiv Gandhi University and central universities of Haryana, South Bihar and Tamil Nadu have also joined the list.

The other universities include over 40 deemed-to-be universities, 18 state private universities and 22 state universities.

The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, had recommended that the undergraduate degree be of either three- or four-year duration, with multiple exit options within this period, with appropriate certifications -- a UG certificate after completing one year in a discipline or field including vocational and professional areas, or a UG diploma after two years of study, or a Bachelor's degree after a three-year programme.

The four-year multidisciplinary Bachelor's programme, however, shall be the preferred option since it allows the opportunity to experience the full range of holistic and multidisciplinary education in addition to a focus



on the chosen major and minors as per the choices of the students, the policy had recommended.

In accordance with the NEP 2020, the UGC had formulated a new student-centric "Curriculum and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programmes (CCFUP)" incorporating a flexible Choice-based Credit System (CBCS), multidisciplinary approach, and multiple entry and exit options.

"The existing CBCS though provides a flexibility for students to choose from a range of disciplines, it lacks multi or inter-disciplinary flavour. In its efforts to revise the CBCS, the UGC has developed 'Curricular Framework and Credit System for FYUGP' by taking into account all relevant policy recommendations of NEP, 2020," UGC Chairman Jagadeesh Kumar told Press Trust of India.

The FYUGP seeks to equip students with the capacities in fields across arts, humanities, languages, natural sciences, social sciences; ethics of social engagement; soft skills such as complex problem solving, critical thinking, communication skills, along with rigorous specialisation in a chosen disciplinary or interdisciplinary major and minor.

"Students pursuing four-year undergraduate programmes are required to demonstrate a general understanding of the natural

sciences, social sciences, humanities, interdisciplinary studies, and vocational education as well as in-depth study of at least one subject area," he said.

The framework suggests a credit range of 20-22 credits per semester. Semester 1, 2 and 3 seek to develop an understanding of all major areas of learning such as natural sciences, social sciences the humanities, mathematical and computational thinking and analysis, and vocational education.

Students will choose a disciplinary or an interdisciplinary area of learning for specialisation as major and minor in semesters 4, 5 and 6.

In semester 7 and 8, they will take up research project along with advanced disciplinary and interdisciplinary courses. The framework specifies curriculum components of FYUGP along with the credit apportionment.

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"A suggestive credit structure for FYUGP with 160 credits is also given in the framework. The curricular framework and credit system developed by the UGC for undergraduate programmes emulating the limitless learnings existed in the ancient India will throw infinite opportunities to students, we hope," Mr Kumar said.

## Delhi University Admission Process Begins, Classes From August 16

### Agenceis

New Delhi: Delhi University today kick-started the admission process for 78 undergraduate programmes for the academic year 2023-24 by launching a portal for registration.

The classes for the upcoming academic session are likely to start on August 16, DU Vice Chancellor Yogesh Singh announced. This is likely to bring the academic calendar, which has been disrupted for the last three years due to the Covid pandemic, back on track.

Mr Singh launched the Common Seat Allocation System portal for registration.

"The University has now launched its Common Seat Allocation System (CSAS/UG) -2023 document that elaborates on the procedures that will be adopted for admissions. Admission to all these programmes and colleges is based on the merit score obtained from the Common University Entrance Test (CUET (UG)- 2023," the varsity said in the statement.

The registration fees are 250/- for UR, OBC-NCL and EWS candidates, while it is 100 for SC/ST/ and PwBD candidates.

The university offers 78 undergraduate programmes and 198 B.A. programme combinations through its 68 colleges, Vice Chancellor Singh announced.

There are close to 71,000 seats offered in the colleges. About 1,550 unique programmes and other college combinations are offered by the University of Delhi.

Singh also announced that the three new B. Tech programmes have also been introduced this year, with students to be admitted based on their JEE Mains 2023 score.

Singh said that so far, B.Com (Hons) has emerged as the most sought-after UG course with around 1.3 lakh students showing their interest in it during CUET UG, followed by B.Com (Pass) with 1.26 lakh students expressing their interest in the course.

MA (Political Science) is the

most sought-after PG course. The CSAS (UG) registration is divided into two phases. The first phase, launched on Wednesday, is a registration process wherein the candidates will have to fill in their personal details and academic scores obtained in Class XII.

The second phase of the CSAS (UG) process will commence with the declaration of the CUET (UG) results in the second week of July. To participate in the second phase, the candidates will have to log in to their CSAS dashboard and complete the Preference-Filling.

Along with this, he also launched the portal of undergraduate admissions of the School of Open Learning (SOL) and NCWEB.

From the academic year 2023-24, admission to the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in the College of Art will also be made through the CSAS platform of the University.

The eligibility for this program includes scores obtained in CUET and a Practical-based test to be conducted by the College of Art. Delhi University Dean of Admission Haneet Gandhi said that the University has taken umpteen steps to make the CSAS portal student-friendly. "A provision to seek clarification, if any, has been incorporated into the system through which the Colleges can interact with the candidates.

During the online approval process, if a college wishes to seek more clarity/information from the candidate, it may raise a query to the Candidate," she said. The University of Delhi has identified 26 Games/Sports under its Sports Supernumerary Quota and 14 categories (including NSS and NCC) under the Extra Curricular Activities supernumerary quota.

It has been decided that 5 per cent of the total sanctioned strength of the College shall be allocated for ECA and Sports supernumerary quota. The College can allocate between 1 per cent to 4 per cent to ECA and Sports, subject to a maximum of 5 percent intake of the College, Singh said.

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