

BAN ON MUHARRAM PROCESSIONS

LG's Meeting With Shia Leaders Ends In Suspense

The Police Want A 'Cap On The Number Of Mourners' Participating In The 8th Muharram Procession

Izhar Nazir Ali

SRINAGAR: Uncertainty looms large over traditional 8th Muharram procession from Guru Bazar to Dalgate in up-town Srinagar, as the meeting between Shia community representatives with the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Monday remained inconclusive.

The second round of talks to break ice over the long-pending demand of Shia community for an end to 34 year old ban on



traditional Muharram processions in Srinagar, was held at the Civil Secretariat here under the chairmanship of LG Sinha.

Besides LG, his Principal Secretary Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Chief Secretary Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Divisional

Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, ADGP Hqrs M.K Sinha and ADGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar and other senior officers of police and administration attended the meeting.

The meeting between the two sides lasted **▶ More On P6**

Muharram Of Utmost Religious Importance For All Of Us: LG

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Monday that the government of India and the Union Territory administration is working with sensitivity and commitment to ensure that all arrangements are made for smooth, safe and hassle-free conduct of Muharram.

He made these remarks while chairing a high level meeting at the Civil Secretariat here to review

arrangements for Muharram. The meeting was attended by heads of religious organisations, eminent members of Shia Community; besides Chief Secretary Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Principal Secretary to LG Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, ADGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar, ADGP Hqrs M.K Sinha, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri; Administrative Secretaries; Deputy **▶ More On P6**

J&K Bank Earns Rs 326 Cr Profit In June Quarter

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Bank on Monday reported a 97 per cent jump in net profit at Rs 326 crore in the June quarter, compared to Rs 165.97 crore recorded for the April-June quarter last financial year.

The Bank announced its Q1 results on Monday after the Bank's Board of Directors approved the quarterly numbers in a meeting held here at the Bank's Corporate Headquarters.

Performance Highlights
The Bank's Net interest income (NII) rose 24% YoY to Rs 1283.30 Cr in the first quarter of CFY, while as, the Net Interest Margin (NIM) improved to 3.98% as compared to 3.46% registered in Q1 of FY 2023 and 3.94% recorded in the last quarter of FY 2023.

Bank witnessed a sharp spike of 38% YoY and reached Rs 528.05 Cr from Rs 381.45 Cr. Besides witnessing rise of 22% YoY and 7% QoQ in its operating income, the Bank's Cost to Income Ratio for the quarter has reduced to 65.07% as against 69.17% recorded Q1 last FY. The Bank's Return on Assets (RoA) for the June quarter was at 0.94%.

Commenting upon the Bank's results, MD & CEO Baldev Prakash said, "With an almost doubled Year-on-Year PAT, our Q1 performance gives us a very encouraging start to meet our annual guidance. Reflecting the gradual but marked improvement in our operations, our core operating profit has jumped 38% YoY while witnessing 17% rise on QoQ basis. With NIM at almost 4% along with 24% YoY increase in Net Interest Income, I see promising **▶ More On P6**

Core operating profit of the

6 "THE POLICE WANT A CAP on the number of mourners participating in the 8th Muharram procession. They want around 200 mourners in the procession. It's practically impossible to limit this procession"

Police Probes 'Blast-Like' Sound In Jammu

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: A blast-like sound was heard in a congested locality in the heart of Jammu city, officials said on Monday. However, there were no reports of any damage.

The sound was reported from the Kachi Chawni area around 10 pm on Sunday, they said.

"... a blast-like sound was reportedly heard from the Kachi Chawni area. Police **▶ More On P6**

Pak Trying To Adopt 'Punjab Model' In J&K: DGP

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir's Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbagh Singh Monday said that the neighbouring country is following the Punjab model to lure J&K's younger generation towards drugs as militancy is on its deathbed.

"When terrorism ended in Punjab, youth and people were lured towards drugs. While terrorism vanished in Punjab, drugs remained there to destroy the generations. Same

model is being followed in J&K by Pakistan. Militancy is on its deathbed in J&K but efforts from across are on to hook youth towards drugs," DGP Singh told reporters after inaugurating the J&K Police Martyrs' Football Tournament in Srinagar.

He said that last year, J&K police, while following the zero tolerance for drugs, destroyed 8000 kgs of drugs and registered 2000 cases. "Some



3000 people were arrested and many of them under NDPS act," the DGP said.

He said conspiracies are being hatched against the J&K youth from across as consignments of drugs continue to infiltrate into this side. "Terrorism incidents are taking place like the appearance of a jinn.

He said a peaceful environment is prevailing in J&K at present as stones lying on the roads are being **▶ More On P6**

4 Slapped With PSA In Bandipora

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Police on Monday booked four people in North Kashmir's Bandipora district under the Public Safety Act (PSA) for their alleged involvement in anti-national and anti-social activities.

According to a police spokesperson, all the four were slapped with PSA after obtaining formal detention orders from the competent authority. **▶ More On P6**

J&K Saw 15 Cloudburst Incidents In 24 Days: Met

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Amid frequent wet spells in the ongoing month, Jammu and Kashmir has reported 15 cloudburst incidents in the month of July while the Meteorological department (MeT) is preparing data to see whether the incidents have witnessed an

upward trend. Jammu and Kashmir has received excess rainfall of 27 per cent since June 01, 2023 to July 19, 2023 as the frequent rainfall has been reported in the Union Territory from last month. Deputy Director MeT, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad told a local news agency KNO that although the **▶ More On P6**



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Children In Food-Insecure Homes At Higher Mental Health Risk: Study

Press Trust Of India

Children and adolescents living in food-insecure households have a 55 per cent higher frequency of visits to a doctor for mental health issues than those with adequate food supplies, according to a study. The research, published recently in the Canadian Medical Association Journal, looked at population health survey data from the Canadian Community Health Survey on 32,321 children and adolescents. Researchers used a validated measurement tool to categorise household food access as food-secure, marginally food-insecure, moderately food-insecure, or severely food-insecure. Of the total, 5,216 (16.1 per cent) were living in food-insecure, 1,952 (6 per cent) in marginally food-insecure, 2,348 (7.3 per cent) in moderately food-insecure and 916 (2.8 per cent) in severely food-insecure

have negative consequences for social, educational and developmental outcomes among children and adolescents," said Kelly Anderson, associate professor at Western University in Canada.

"Taken together, these findings are concerning, and we need strong public policy to support families who face food insecurity," said senior study author Salimah Shariff, staff scientist at Western University.

The researchers note that the data is also almost a decade old, and food insecurity has increased in recent years, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The relationship between food insecurity and mental health issues may be more complicated, studies suggest.

"Given the diverse mental health conditions examined, it is unlikely that the mechanism of harm is lack of specific nutrients or poor diet quality," said Lynn McIntyre, a professor at the University of Calgary, Canada.

"Much more likely is



households. Researchers also found that children and adolescents in food-insecure homes had a 74 per cent higher prevalence of past-year acute care visits, defined as an emergency department visit or hospitalisation for a mental or substance use disorder. The most common visits were for neurodevelopmental disorders, mood and anxiety disorders followed by social problems and other mental health issues.

that food insecurity contributes to mental distress among those living in difficult circumstances, as has been shown in studies of the relationship between severity of household food insecurity and mental health disorders among adults," McIntyre said.

Reducing food insecurity may help alleviate some mental health issues for children and youth, the researchers said.

"Clinicians should advocate as vociferously about the need for income security for families who are food-insecure as they do for solutions to emergency departments being filled with patients who need primary health care.

Office Of The Deputy Director Tourism (M&W) Kashmir, Srinagar

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
 e-NIT No. DT/M and W/K/ 37 of 2023-24, Dated 24.07.2023

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, e-tenders are invited by Deputy Director Tourism (M&W), Kashmir on (Aggregate Percentage Basis) from approved and eligible Civil Contractors registered with J&K UT Govt., PWD, CPWD, Railways and other State/ Central Govt. for the following work:-

S.No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Earnest Money @ 2% of Adv. cost	Cost of T/Doc	Time of Completion	Class of Contract	Major Head of Account
1	Improvement / upgradation of pond at Nagadandi Achabal Anantnag.	6.05	12100	300	30-days	CEE/DEE	PLAN2023-24
2	Development of Temple at Jeewan Sahib at Ladhoo Pulwama.	10.50	21000	600	45-days	BEE/CEE/DEE	PLAN 2023-24
3	Construction of Ganesh Mandir at Dangerpora Hutmurra Anantnag. (Balance work)	6.88	13800	300	30-days	CEE/DEE	PLAN 2023-24
4	Development of Shiva Bhagwati Temple at Akingam Kokernag by way of construction of Yatri Bhawan / Community Hall / 2 No. washrooms & chainlink fencing.	5.80	11600	300	25-days	CEE/DEE	PLAN 2023-24
5	Development of shrine of Syed Moosa Baghdadi Morinder Bagh Harwan. (Balance work)	6.68	13400	300	30-days	CEE/DEE	PLAN 2023-24
6	Construction of Boundary walls chain link fencing and Gate in Aharabal including allied works.	3.06	6200	200	20-days	DEE	PLAN 2023-24
7	Restoration/ Upgradation of Health Club at Kokernag. (Balance work)	6.65	13300	300	30-days	CEE/DEE	PLAN 2023-24
8	Upgradation of Huts at Gulmarg(1,2,3, 4, 77 and 78) incl. electrical works with Fire Fighting equipments & Hamam in hut no.4.	11.88	23800	600	45-days	BEE/CEE/DEE	PLAN 2023-24

Position of AAA/TS: Submitted for Accord.
 Position of Funds: Committed
 Special Conditions
 I. The intending tenderers must have sufficient skilled /unskilled labour force.
 II. All intending Bidders have to upload Scanned copy of Earnest money @ 2% as per the circular issued by Chief Engineer PW(R&B) Department Kashmir, vide No. CE/RBK/HD/32857-92, Dated: 01-01-2022.
 III. If in case bid of the bidder is unbalanced, he/she shall have to upload Scanned copy of Additional Performance Security in shape of CDR/ FDR pledged to Deputy Director Tourism M&W Kashmir sgr as per the break up given below at the time of submission of bid.

S.no	Percentage of unbalanced bid	Additional performance security (CDR/FDR) on Adv Cost.
1	Upto and including 15% below	nil
2	Greater than 15% upto and including 20%	5%
3	Greater than 20% upto and including 25%	10%
4	Greater than 25% upto and including 30%	15%
5	Greater than 30%	20%

IV. Intending bidders shall upload scanned copies of documents of valid Registration card with renewal (2023-24) & Dec. 2023 for Electric card holders, (PAN card, GST registration with clearance of May / June 2023 or 4th. quarter 2022-23/ 1st. quarter 2023-24 and Treasury Receipt (1452-TSM Revenue Head) and CDR or FDR. However successful bidder shall produce the original copies of same within 3 days after opening of tenders.
 V. The successful Bidder has to produce Earnest Money @ 2% of Adv.Cost and Additional Performance Security Deposit (if any as per break up given above vide serial no III) of Advertised cost as performance security in shape of CDR/FDR within 03 days after opening of tenders and same shall be released after expiry of Defect Liability period (DLP)
 VI. The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any tender or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
 VII. The typographical error in the BOQ like unit of item, quantity of item, rate of item etc. if any found during e-NIT or after end date of NIT, shall be rectified as per the estimate in the allotment.
 The Bidding documents 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 www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	24/07/2023
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	24/07/2023 3.00 P.M to 04/07/2023.04.00 P.M
3.	Bid submission Start Date	24/07/2023 From 3.00 P.M.
4.	Bid Submission End Date	04/08/2023 4.00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	05/08/2023 at 11.00 A.M. in the office of Dy. Director Tourism, M&W

General Conditions:
 1. The bidders will provide email ID and complete postal address including cell numbers.
 2. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Website in o/o Dy. Director Tourism, (M&W) Kashmir, Srinagar (Tender Receiving Authority).
 3. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of Bids
 4. The earnest money shall be forfeited, if:-
 a. Any bidder/ tenderer withdraw his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or make any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
 b. Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.
 c. Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 7 days after fixation of contract.
 5. Bidders are advised to visit and examine the site / location of work, its surroundings and familiarize himself with existing facilities / difficulties and environment and collect all other information which he may require for preparing and submitting the bid entering into the contract. Claims and objections due to ignorance of existing conditions are in-adequacy of information will not be considered after submission of the bid and during execution of work.

NIT No:- DT/M&W/K/ 37/181-85 /TD,
 DIPK-5686/23 Dated: 24/07/2023

Deputy Director Tourism
 (M&W), Srinagar

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PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost the number plate of my motor cycle bearing regd no: JK01V- 3694 from Magam to Harduabooa . Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of Police Station Magam within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
 Mr. Bashir Ahmad Shah
 S/o Mr Abdul Ahad Shah
 R/o Baghat Barzulla Srinagar bmg

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of Death Certificate of my wife namely Ashmi Begum W/O Gh Ahmad Mir who died on 03-01-2011. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the concerned office within a period for seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
 Gh Ahmad Mir
 Husband of Late Ashmi Begum
 R/o Nillah Palpora fko

ابلیہ مرحوم محمد سعید حاجی کا انتقال
 یہ خبر انتہائی دکھ اور غم سے لہریں اٹھاتی ہے کہ ابلیہ مرحوم محمد سعید حاجی ساکن دریا دین کالونی (A) لین (1) گلاب باغ سرینگر کل مورخہ 23 ماہ جولائی بروز اتوار اس دنیا سے رحلت کر گئے۔ مرحوم کی اجتماعی فاتحہ خوانی بروز پیر 26 جولائی بوقت ساڑھے دس بجے صبح ان کے آبائی مقبرہ متصل دارالافتا بیرون باغی روڑہ سرینگر انجام دی جائے گی۔
 (نوٹ) مستورات سے گزارش ہے کہ وہ اپنے ساتھ کسی قسم کا سیوہ وغیرہ ساتھ نہ لائیں۔
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 بیڑ زادہ شہسوار سعید (فرزند)
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 حاجی عبدالوہید (برادر)
 ڈاکٹر بشیر سعید (دختر)
 انجینئر بدر سعید (دختر)
 Cont. No.s: 9419075049, 9419035364

Office Of The Executive Engineer Mechanical Division Baramulla, MED Kashmir

Government of Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir
 Tele fax 01952234426 e-mail, id, executiveengineermdb@gmail.com

Tender Notice Inviting e-Tender
 MDB/TS/2023-24/05/998-1004
 22.07.2023

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division Baramulla, invites online e-bids in Two Cover system on items wise basis from Authorized service providers of OEMs /Registered / Reputed Workshop holders for the below mentioned repair works:

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit	Time of Completion	Administrative Approval	Technical Sanction
01.	Scheduled Repair and Maintenance of Earthmoving machine Back-Hoe Loader CASE 770X Model of FSD Pattan	0.177	200.00	354/-	07 days	Accorded	Accorded
02.	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of CCTV Surveillance System at Tangmarg of FSD Pattan.	1.01	200.00	2020/-	07 days	Accorded	Accorded
03.	Providing and Fitting of various items required for DRR No. 114, 118 and 186 of FSD Pattan.	1.17	200.00	2340/-	07 days	Accorded	Accorded
04.	Providing and Fitting of various items required for different DRRs of FSD Pattan.	1.09	200.00	2180/-	07 days	Accorded	Accorded
05.	Providing and Fitting of various items required for TVR of FSD Pattan.	0.219	200.00	438/-	07 days	Accorded	Accorded

1. Downloading of Bids: The Tender document Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Qs), Set of Terms & Conditions of Contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the Govt. website www.jktenders.gov.in from 22-07-2023 (06.15PM)
 2. Submission of Bids: The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above website from 22-07-2023 (06.30 PM) to 03-08-2023 (06.55 PM) in two covers.
 3. Opening of Bids: The bids uploaded on the website up to due date and time will be opened on 04-08-2023 (13.00 PM) in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division Baramulla.
 4. The bidders are required to submit their offers in two (02) covers.

I	Tender Fee	Rs. 200.00 (Rupees two hundred only) in shape of e-Challan / e-receipt / online Bank transfer acknowledgement excluding mPay or any other mobile banking App., to be uploaded with the each online bid pledged to Executive Engineer Mechanical Division Baramulla. Tender Id to be written also on the voucher. Bank: J&K Bank. Branch: T.P Baramulla. IFSC Code: JAKA0TESHIL Account No.: 0213010200000051.
II	EMD	Scanned copy of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in the shape of CDR/FDR equivalent to 2% of value of the advertised cost pledged to Executive Engineer Mechanical Division Baramulla. EMD of successful bidder shall be released on receipt of 5% Performance Guarantee from (LI) bidder while executing agreement with the Firm.
III	Terms & Conditions	Scanned copy of the Annexure- "A" & "B" duly accepted by the bidder.
IV	Tax Clearance	Registration Certificate of Sales Tax Department quoting GST Number.
V	GST	Scanned copies of PAN Card / GST Registration / Latest GST clearance certificate or acknowledgement of latest returns.
VI	Undertaking	Undertaking as per format at Annexure "C" that the bidder has not been blacklisted or debarred by any Govt / Semi Govt. Department.

Note:- Successful Bidder (LI) needs to furnish original EMD and Fee Receipt to this Division / Department for obtaining Letter of Acceptance / L.O.I from this Division / Department.
 Cover I shall contain: Scanned copies of following documents:
 5. The complete bidding process will be online.
 6. The Financial bid of only qualifying bidders shall be opened online in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division Baramulla after evaluation of the technical bid.
 7. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) content. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the item rate inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains.
 8. The cost of tender document is non-refundable and the tender shall in no case be accepted if submitted by any firm other than the purchaser.
 9. Any tender found to have been submitted by the firm by furnishing false information to the Department shall be cancelled and the firm shall be penalized as and when it comes to the notice of the Department even during the currency of the contract. The tenders should be addressed to the Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division Baramulla.
 10. The Department shall not be responsible for delay in submission of bids due to any reasons, whatsoever.
 11. The Department reserves the right to reject or accept any or all bids in part or in full without assigning any reason thereof.
 12. The successful bidder has to carry out the repair jobs based on allotment order issued by the Department at the rates allotted under this contract from the date of issue of Allotment Order.
 No: - MDB /TS/e-tender-05/ 998-1004
 DIPK-5660/23 Dated: 24-07-2023
 Executive Engineer
 Mechanical Division
 Baramulla

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Ovais Ahmad S/O Mushtaq Ahmad Dar R/O 215, Qasbayar Pulwama want to change my name and fathers name on my driving license bearing number JK-1320110025931 issued by ARTO Pulwama. The current name and father's name on my driving license are Ovais Ah. and Mushtaq Ah. Dar respectively. If anyone has any issue with this, please reach out to office of ARTO Pulwama with 7 days of this publishing.
 sy sh

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my Provisional Cum Character Certificate of class 12th. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Govt Higher Secondary School Magam within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice . After that no objection shall be entertained.
 Jan Javeria D/o Mohammad Yousuf Dar
 R/o Palpora Teh; Khag BMG

Office of Uzair Khan Advocate Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court license number 502/2018

In the case of:
 1. ABDUL AZIZ BANGROO S/O ABDUL REHMAN BANGROO R/O DANA MAZAR AL NOOR COLONY BANGAR MOHALLA SAFA KADAL SRINAGAR
 2. ZUBAIR AHMAD S/O ABDUL AZIZ BANGROO R/O DANA MAZAR AL NOOR COLONY BANGAR MOHALLA SAFA KADAL SRINAGAR
 3. AMIR AZIZ BANGROO S/O ABDUL AZIZ BANGROO R/O DANA MAZAR AL NOOR COLONY BANGAR MOHALLA SAFA KADAL SRINAGAR (Caveators)
 VERSUS
 Public At Large (Non-Caveator's)
 In the Petition in terms of Section 48-A The Caveator has reason to believe that Non-Caveators may file any Application, Petition, Appeal, Suit or any other type of proceeding before the Hon'ble Court and on the ground of distorted facts/misrepresentation and cooked story and may seek in obtaining some relief/order at their back /in exparte against the caveators and in such eventuality the caveators will be put in irreparable loss and inconvenience. It would be proper that caveator be given an opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble court before passing any order.
 Sd/advocate NJ

اعضالت سبب جج میڈیکل کالج سرینگر

با اجلاس مہرین مشتاق
 Shamema Akhter
 سائل اسامہ
 درخواست برون اندراج تاریخ پیدائش
 نام: Najam Ul Nissa
 تاریخ پیدائش: 12-11-1988
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان العددریں سائل ساکنہ نے عدالت ہڈا میں ایک درخواست قبول ملنی بغرض اندراج تاریخ پیدائش
 Najam Ul Nissa D/o Gh Mohd Wani R/o New Colony Umar Colony -A Gousia Colony Lalbazar Srinagar
 مذرا یہاں شہناظ علیہ کیا جائے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی مذرا یا اعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے عدالت اشاعت شہناظ کے اندر میں عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے میا کوئی عدرا یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئندہ عدالت ہڈا میں 26-07-2023 کو مقرر ہے۔
 تحریر العددر
 سبب جج میڈیکل کالج سرینگر nj

از نیابت سرری وار پورہ

درخواست منجانب فیاض احمد پرے ولد مرحوم علی محمد پرے ساکنہ موضع گڈوئی تحصیل پٹن بمراد عطا بیٹی لیگل ہیر سرٹیفیکٹ اشتہار برادر آگاہی ہر خاص و عام
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان العددر کی نسبت میں پنوار علیہ حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے مطابق رپورٹ پنوار سائل فیاض احمد پرے ولد مرحوم علی محمد پرے ساکنہ گڈوئی پٹن کاسکوٹ دارے سائل کا والد مورخہ 06-02-2023 کو فوت ہو چکا ہے علی محمد پرے (متوفی) کا داراغان جائزہ ذیل ہیں۔
 نام عمر پیشہ
 مسما تاج بیگم 60 سال گھریلو کام زوجہ متوفی
 فیاض احمد پرے 40 سال مزدوری پسر
 ریاض احمد پرے 38 سال سرکاری ملازم پسر
 انجاز احمد پرے 35 سال دکانداری پسر
 تسلیمہ 32 سال گھریلو کام دختر متوفی
 اسکے علاوہ اور کوئی افراد کسب نہیں ہے۔ سرٹیفیکٹ زیر بحث اجراء کے میں نے اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کو کوئی عدرا یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر دفتر ہڈا میں پیش کریں معیاد گزرنے بعد کوئی بھی عدرا یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
 نائب تحصیلدار fko

Two Held For Killing Stray Dog In Badamwari

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Police on Monday arrested two persons for allegedly killing a stray dog at Badamwari area in the old city.

A police official told Kashmir Observer that two persons were arrested on charges of meting out cruelty and brutally killing a stray dog in Badamwari, days after purported presence of leopard created panic in the entire area. He said the incident took place on Friday last.

A formal case Fir No. 29 of 2023 under sections 429 of IPC and section 11(1) of PCA act was registered at police station Rainawari in this regard and both the accused

were arrested.

The accused duo has been identified as Gulzar Ahmad Beig of Rehmaniya Colony, Lal Bazar and Adnan Shah of Hawal Badmawari.

Confirming the incident and subsequent arrest of the accused involved in killing of stray dog, Srinagar police in a tweet said "Two people, Gulzar Ahmad Beigh of Rehmaniya colony, Lal Bazar, and Adnan Shah of Hawal Badamwari, were arrested for cruelty and brutally killing a stray dog near Badamwari Rainawari on July 21, 2023." FIR No. 29/2023 U/S 429 IPC & Sec. 11 (1) of PCA Act, registered in PS Rainawari"



POLICE FOILS MAHILA CONGRESS workers protest in Srinagar against Manipur incident on Friday.
KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

Mysterious Blaze Guts 3 Sheds In Dal Lake

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Three sheds adjacent to a deluxe houseboat were gutted in a mysterious blaze at Dal Lake here this evening.

Witnesses told Kashmir Observer that three sheds were gutted in a mysterious fire; however the prompt action of the Fire and Emergency Department brought the devastating blaze under control.

Houseboat Golden Lily, witnesses said belongs to two siblings identified as Mohammad Yusuf and Noor Mohammad Watloo.

"I was at Lal Chowk when one of my clients called me and informed me that sheds adjacent to my houseboat have caught fire, I don't know the cause of fire but investigations

I was at Lal Chowk when one of my clients called me and informed me that sheds adjacent to my houseboat have caught fire, I don't know the cause of fire but investigations are on in the matter," said Mohammad Yusuf.

He also said that property including furniture and other articles worth lakhs of rupees were destroyed in the blaze.

Watloo said fire tenders were immediately arrived to the spot and doused off the flames "I am grateful to the fire and emergency department for their quick response"

Tourism Picking Up In Kashmir, Say Houseboat, Shikara Owners

Urges Govt To Formulate 'Comprehensive Policy' To Keep Industry Alive

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The houseboat and Shikara owners on Monday said they are witnessing a "positive" change and "favorable economic improvements" in their business during the last few years.

Chairman of Kashmir Houseboat Owners Association (KHBOA), Manzoor Ahmad Pakhtoon said that post-Covid-19 pandemic; they are witnessing an upward trend in tourism arrivals in the valley. People's livelihood opportunities have increased in the sector.

Pakhtoon said the last few years have been "positively on the good side" as far as hosting of tourists in houseboats is concerned. However, the stay pattern is not the same as it used to be, he said, adding that the persistence in business has led to an improve-

ment in livelihood.

"The booking pattern is now for a very short phase, but the consistency in the business has made us in a position to generate more employment to offer more and better services to our clients," he said.

President of Shikara Association, Wali Mohammad, said the past few years have been better than the previous times.

"There is no denial that the tourism activities have increased in the valley and it has surely had a positive impact on our work due to which our earnings have increased to a certain level," he said.

Secretary KHBOA, Abdul Rashid, however, said more needs to be done in order to ensure the sustainability of their business. "There is a marginal improvement in livelihood, but it can become good if the visitors

stay for a longer time," he said.

According to the KHBOA, the houseboats have scaled down from thousands to a few hundred only, while many more hundreds are offering to surrender their registrations and seeking "rehabilitation" as they cannot continue with their maintenance due to "inflation".

According to the Shikara Association, more than 3,000 Shikaras are registered with them which are currently in service at Dal, Nageen, Manasbal, and Hazratbal. However, the J & K Tourism Department has mentioned the Shikara numbers as above 4,000.

The tourism stakeholders have demanded sustainability and a comprehensive policy to keep the industry going and to pave the way for generating more employment in the valley.

Market Checking Intensified In Parts Of Srinagar Ahead Of Muharram

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In order to prevent any profiteering and black marketing in Srinagar District during the Holy month of Muharram, the Special Market Checking teams of District Administration Srinagar Monday conducted intensified market checking in various parts of the City District particularly Shia populated areas.

The Drive was conducted on the directions of the Deputy Commis-

sioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad to curb the practice of illegal profiteering in markets and ensure all essential commodities are sold at Government approved rates as per the quality standards with sufficient availability of consumables.

The major drive was conducted by the market checking team headed by Tehsildar Eidgah, Ishfaq Ahmad Khan which inspected number of markets in Zadiabal, Hawal, Alamgari Bazar in the Tehsil Eidgah during which several err-

ing shopkeepers were booked for failing to maintain the quality of food items, not displaying rate lists of essential commodities, selling expiry products, besides indulging in practices of illegal profiteering and sale of underweight products.

Similarly, a team headed by Tehsildar Panthachowk, Rakib Ahmad also undertook a market checking drive in Pandrethan, Zewan and other adjacent areas of the Tehsil and inspected various shops.

• TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
• PCR: 0194-2452092, 2455883
• PDD: 0194-2450213
• FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488, 2452222, 2452155
• CAPD: 1800180701
• SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
• Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS
SHEIK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

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

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

HIJRI CALENDAR
06 Muharram
1445

PRAYERS
FAJR 3:58
ZUHR 12:37
ASR 5:33
Magrib 7:41
ISHA 9:16

This Day In History

- 1261 - Constantinople recaptured by Nicean forces under Alexios Strategopoulos for Emperor Michael VIII, re-establishing Byzantine Empire
- 1570 - Battle of Arny-le-Duc, Burgundy: Huguenot victory forces Charles IX of France to agree to a peace treaty that ends the Third War of Religion
- 1652 - Nikita Minin becomes patriarch of Russian Orthodox Church
- 1670 - Austrian Emperor Leopold I expels 4,000 Jews from Vienna
- 1758 - Seven Years' War: the island battery at Fortress Louisbourg in Nova Scotia is silenced and all French warships are destroyed or taken
- 1759 - British capture Fort Niagara from French (7 Years' War)
- 1799 - French-Egyptian forces under Napoleon I beat Turks at Battle of Abukir
- 1835 - Ibrahim Pasha's army attacks Jewish settlers of Hebron Palestine
- 1837 - The first commercial use of an electric telegraph successfully demonstrated by William Cooke and Charles Wheatstone between Euston and Camden Town in London
- 1848 - 1st battle at Custoza: Austrians under Radetzky beat Italian
- 1850 - Gold discovered in Oregon (Rogue River)
- 1854 - Walter Hunt is awarded the first U.S. patent for a paper shirt collar
- 1898 - 1st US troops land & occupy Puerto Rico, at Guanica Bay
- 1907 - Korea becomes a protectorate of Japan
- 1943 - Benito Mussolini dismissed as Italian Premier and arrested on the authority of King Victor Emmanuel

From KO Archives

Cong Unlikely To Extend Mufti's Tenure

Observer News Service

NEW DELHI - As the date draws nearer for Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed to hand over the baton to a leader from alliance partner Congress, the party today sought to put an end to all speculation by indicating that the PDP leader would not be asked to continue.

Virtually putting at rest speculation that Congress might not be willing to take over the reins of the government after three years in November as per an agreement between the two coalition partners, a senior leader said the party would suffer if it did it.

"It will not go down well in the party," the leader close to J&K affairs said when asked whether the Congress would let Sayeed continue for remaining three years of six year term as has been suggested by some reports.

When the two parties forged post-poll alliance to form government in November 2002, they had agreed that one party would lead the coalition for three years and the other for rest of the term.

Congress, with 20 MLAs in the 87-member Assembly, had then allowed junior partner PDP, with 17 MLAs, to lead the alliance in the first phase. The Deputy Chief Minister was from Congress for the first three years and from PDP for the remaining tenure.

Although some sections in the Congress are believed to be inclined to allow Sayeed to continue, the state unit of the Congress strongly disfavours any reunification move.

The state unit feels it was the much-awaited opportunity for the Congress to have its own Chief Minister and it should not be allowed to fizzle away.

On the question of whether the Congress had an appropriate leader to become Chief Minister, the party leader said there would be no problem on this count. The Congress leader, however dismissed possibility of Mohammad Shafi Qureshi or Saifuddin Soz be given the charge as had been reported in some sections of media.

The disadvantage with Soz's candidature is that he has joined the Congress only three years back after being expelled from National Conference. Qureshi also has been out of the party for a long time.

(Kashmir Observer, 25 July, 2005)

اطلاع عام
میرا بیگ جس میں میری گاڑی زیر نمبر 1K01P-5796 کیسے نمبر 497SPTC36ZY 12479 MAT357251A8C11711 کاغذات تھے، بذکریل سے نو اہان لا لہا زار سب تک نہیں گم ہو گئے۔ اگر کسی شخص نے اٹھایا ہو تو ازراہ انسانیت سنجیدگی سے ہوتے پتہ پر واپس کریں۔ بصورت دیگر ان کے ڈپٹی کیٹ نکالنے مطلوب ہے۔ اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو ایک خط لکھ کر اندر اندر متعلقہ حکام کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ معیاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
المشہر:
Salman Anwar
Transport Incharge
Bilaliya Education Institute

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice
Tender Notice No.- 770-W/169-WA-1/FZR/124-2023-24-ADEN-II-FZR & 125-2023-24-ADEN-II-FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date 18.08.2023 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc are not allowed.

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System	Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time
Open	Works	Single Bid System	20.07.2023	04.08.2023	18.08.2023

S.N.	Tender No.	Details of Tender	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
1	124-2023-24-ADEN-II-FZR	Crossing of 500 mm internal dia Water Supply Pipe Line passing through 700 mm internal dia D.I. encasing pipe K-7 and 900 mm internal dia M.S.Heavy Duty casing pipe under the Railway Track at Km 77/4-5 on FZR-FKA section.	4133565.59	60 Days	04 Months
2	125-2023-24-ADEN-II-FZR	Crossing of 450 mm internal dia Water Supply carrier Pipe Line passing through 700 mm internal dia D.I. encasing pipe K-7 and 900 mm internal dia M.S.Heavy Duty casing pipe under the Railway Track at Km 64/0-1 on FZR-FKA section.	4543641	60 Days	04 Months

Serving Customers With A Smile 2274/2023

From the office of Advocate Ghulam Jeelani Ahmad
In the case of **Mr Mushtaq Ahmad Ahanger S/o Ghulam Mohammad Ahanger R/o Jammal Latta Nawakadal Srinagar S/A Jamma Latta Nawakadal Srinagar** (Caveator)
VS
PUBLIC AT LARGE
In the Petition in terms of Section 148-A
The caveators have reason to believe that Non-Caveator may file any Application, Petition, Appeal, Suit or any other type of proceeding before the Hon'ble Court and on the ground of distorted facts/misrepresentation and cooked story and may seek in obtaining some relief/order at their back/in exparte against the caveators and in such eventuality the caveators will be put in irreparable loss and inconvenience. It would be proper that caveators be given an opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble court before passing any order.
Sd/advocate nj

Office Of The Executive Engineer Electric KPDCCL O&M Division Shopian,
Contact No/ Fax: - 01932-261246 E-mail:- ELECTRICDIVISIONSHOPIAN@GMAIL.COM

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
NIT: - EDS/e-tender/14 of 2023-24 Dated: - 15-07-2023.

For and on behalf of the Managing Director, Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCCL) Executive Engineer, Electric KPDCCL Division-Shopian invites online e-bids from registered A-Class Contractors registered with Inspection Agency of KPDCCL or any other relevant Government agency enlisted with CPWD, MES, Railway, DGBRO of appropriate class for the work namely **Improvement of HT/LT Network at various location under the jurisdiction of KPDCCL Div Shopian under PRI/DDC Grants 2023-24.** (Bidders are advised to get themselves fully aware about the quantities required for individual jobs at different sites enclosed as "ANNEXURE X" in the SBD) as per terms, conditions, technical specifications and schedules forming part of this tender document.

S. No	Particulars	Adv. Cost. (Lacs)	Earnest Money.	Position of Funds.
1.	Improvement of HT/LT Network at various location under the jurisdiction of KPDCCL Div Shopian	15.60	2% of adv. Cost	Approved
2	Cost of e-Bid/ tender document	Rs. 1000.00 (Payable to Executive Engineer ED Shopian vide Treasury Receipt or Echallan Only)		
3	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit @ 2 % of Adv. Cost.	Rs. 31200.00 in the Shape of DD/CDR/FDR/BG		
4	Publishing Date & Time	The Standard Bidding Document can be downloaded Over http://ktenders.gov.in from 15-07-2023 (17.00 Hrs)		
5	Document Download / Sale Start Date & Time	16-07-2023 (10.00 Hrs)		
6	Seek Clarification Start Date & Time	17-07-2023 (11.00 Hrs)		
7	Seek Clarification End Date & Time	17-07-2023 (16.00 Hrs)		
8	Bid Submission Start Date & Time	17-07-2023 (17.00 Hrs)		
9	Bid Submission End Date & Time	31-07-2023 (11.00 Hrs)		
10	Technical Bid Opening date & Time	31-07-2023 (14.00 Hrs)		

Please Read Date & Time Carefully
The rates Quoted shall be Firm, inclusive of all taxes and duties, transportation up to working sites. The rates shall include costs, if any attracted towards mandatory inspections testing by the designated agencies and the department will not be required to pay /reimburse anything over and above the price quoted.

SD
Executive Engineer
KPDCCL Division Shopian
No: -KPDCCL/spn/1169-75
DIPK-NB-2203/23
Dated: 24/07/2023

KASHMIR OBSERVERTM

Tuesday | 25-07-2023

Ethnic Conflict In Manipur

The harrowing sexual assault video from Manipur, India, has shocked the nation and brought attention to the ongoing ethnic conflict in this state. Here are the key points to know about the situation:

The disturbing video, lasting only 26 seconds, shows a mob of men from the Meitei ethnic majority parading two women from the Kuki minority, who are predominantly Christian, naked through a crowd of clothed men. The victims were subjected to sexual assault by groping their private parts. The incident occurred on May 4, during a period of intense violence between the two communities. According to a complaint filed with the police, the attackers stormed the victims' village with guns, and although the women were initially rescued by the police, they were later kidnapped and sexually assaulted by the Meitei mob.

Ethnic tensions in Manipur have simmered for years, and the recent violence is not an isolated incident. The state is composed of various demographic groups, with the Meiteis, mostly Hindus, dominating the political landscape. The Nagas and Kukis, both predominantly Christian minorities, have long-standing grievances with the Meitei community. The situation escalated in May when the Manipur High Court issued a ruling in favor of Meitei demands for tribal status, which would grant them land rights and other protections. However, the Kukis, who already have tribal status, opposed the court's decision, fearing it would lead to the loss of their land. This sparked widespread protests and retaliatory attacks on homes and villages, further escalating the conflict.

The video has ignited outrage across India. Prime Minister Narendra Modi condemned the attack, describing it as "shameful" and an "insult" to the country. Manipur Chief Minister Biren Singh has promised a thorough investigation and strict action against the perpetrators, potentially even capital punishment. Protesters across the nation have voiced their anger, highlighting the targeting of women during communal clashes as a form of retribution.

The sexual assault video from Manipur has exposed the grim reality of the ongoing ethnic conflict in the state. It is crucial for the authorities to act swiftly, conduct a thorough investigation, and bring the perpetrators to justice. The entire nation must stand united against such heinous acts, and the focus should be on addressing the root causes of the conflict and promoting peace and understanding among the various ethnic groups in Manipur. Only through a united effort can the state move towards healing and reconciliation.

OTHER OPINION

No quick fix

Among the most important pieces of legislation slated to be tabled in the current monsoon session of Parliament is the National Research Foundation (NRF) Bill, 2023. While a draft is not in the public domain, it envisages a new, centralised body to fund research, with a budget of 50,000 crore, over the next five years. The NRF draws on models such as the United States' National Science Foundation whose nearly \$8 billion budget is the major source of funding for college and university research, and the European Research Council, which funds basic and applied research. However, the NRF's plan, going by public statements of administrators, is to draw the bulk of its budget — 36,000 crore — from the private sector. For many years, India's spending on research has lagged between 0.6%-0.8% of GDP, or lower than the 1%-2% spent by countries with an economic base reliant on science and technology. In countries such as China, the U.S. and Israel, the private sector contributed nearly 70% of the research expenditure whereas in India, this was only about 36% of India's total research expenditure — roughly 1.2 lakh crore — in 2019-20. Therefore, the Centre reasons, the way to galvanise university research in India would be to attract more private money. While that is a reasonable expectation, it is unclear how such a proposal can be executed. One of the suggestions is to have the funds private companies allot, as part of their annual corporate social responsibility (CSR) obligations, directed to the NRF. Data from the Ministry of Corporate Affairs show that during FY-2022, companies spent 14,588 crore as part of their CSR obligations. CSR trends suggest that nearly 70% of such funds were spent in education, health care, and sanitation projects. Moreover, many of the companies spend this on initiatives that are located within their own communities, with the government not having a say on how this must be spent. Whether the government can force, or offer tax benefits, to coax some of these funds into the NRF remains to be seen.

The relatively greater contribution of private sector research in many countries is because of sustained government support to universities and research institutions, that have then encouraged individuals to build companies, and institutions that saw value in investing in research and development. The challenge in India is not the absence of such companies but the fact that there are too few of them. Organisations such as the NRF should work to create conditions which incentivise the development of private sector organisations that see value in invention and developing proprietary technology. Philanthropy is unlikely to be the panacea.

The Hindu

Issuing Eviction Notices to Forest Dwellers Violates Apex Court Ruling

Grazing is a Community Forest Right of all the people living near forest areas. This should be respected by Forest Department and subordinate Judiciary

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 also known as Forest Rights Act 2006 or FRA is a historical legislation that recognises the rights of forest dwelling communities across India whether they belong to Scheduled Tribe or Other Traditional Forest Dweller (OTFD) community. The FRA encompasses Rights of Self-cultivation and habitation which are usually regarded as Individual Rights and Community Rights as grazing, fishing and access to water bodies in forests. In addition, the access to the traditional seasonal resource for nomadic and pastoral communities is part of the community forest right (CFR) and community forest resource right (CFRR). The pastoralist communities like Chopans, Gujjars and Bakerwals of J&K give them the right to use the forest land for their livelihood in a sustainable way without causing any harm to the environment and forests. Grazing of cattle and sheep is a part of this right.

Unfortunately, for many years, some local people with vested interest claim rights over the pastureland and demand ransom from grazing communities at high altitudes of J&K. Many such cases have been reported in J&K's Kishtwar and Budgam in the last few months.

The Forest Rights Act (FRA) further enjoins upon the Gram Sabha and rights holders the responsibility of conservation and protection of biodiversity, wildlife, forests, adjoining catchment areas, water sources and other ecologically sensitive areas as well as to stop any destructive practices affecting these resources. The Gram Sabha is an empowered institution under the FRA. The local tribal population and other traditional forest dwellers (non STs living near forests) have a decisive say in the determination of allocation of forest land and pasture land for grazing purpose as part of their community forest right.

The Forest Rights Act 2006 (FRA) acknowledges the fact that the forest-dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers have been residing in forests for generations but their rights could not be recorded, recognized and accorded to them. Historical injustice has been done to the forest-dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers who are integral to the very survival and sustainability of the forest ecosystem since the colonial period as well as in independent India.

FRA is therefore aimed at addressing the long-standing insecurity of tenure and access rights of forest-dwelling tribes and communities, including those who were forced to relocate their dwellings due to development interventions undertaken by the State. The FRA provides a legal framework for recognition of individual and community forest rights. It also provides an opportunity for democratization of forest management.

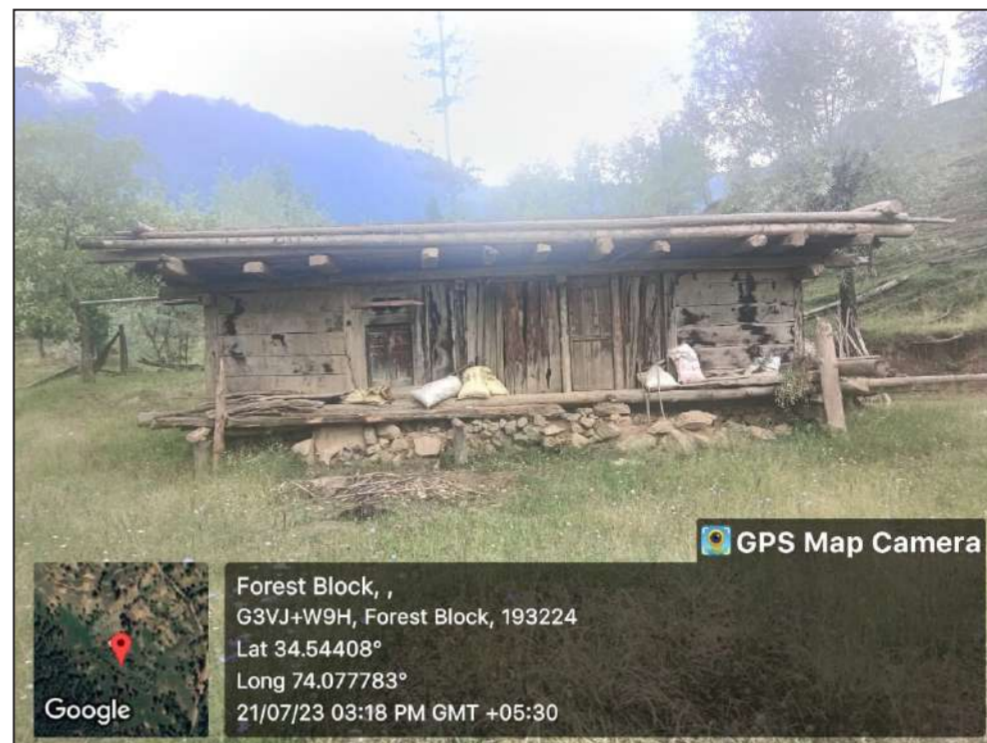
Case Study 1: Meelyal Kupwara

Recently, the Forest Department in Kupwara issued an eviction notice to one Abdul Satar Lohar S/O Abdul Gafar Lohar a resident of village Meelyal Tehsil Kralpora District Kupwara. Abdul Satar Lohar belongs to the disadvantaged Lohar community (blacksmith) and has been living in Meelyal, a forest area, for centuries. Abdul Satar Lohar received a notice from the local Block Forest Officer on 20th July 2023 asking him to vacate the forest land under his occupation within ten days. The letter said that the Forest Department would take legal action against him if he failed to do so.

A copy of the served notice has also been sent to the local police station by the concerned officer. As per the documents submitted in various forums by Abdul Satar Lohar, he is occupying forest land for his survival and grazing purpose and never made any house or commercial complex on it. He has submitted claim form A to the Forest Rights Committee constituted under the Forest Rights Act 2006. The forest department officials say that said claim was rejected, but the aggrieved says that he hasn't received any formal order by Sub Division Level forest committee (SDLC) or District level committee (DLC). To authenticate his claim, Abdul Satar Lohar has provided a photograph of the old Kotha (Mud / Log hut) to the Forest Rights Committee and Forest Department which has been constructed on the land for ages and the same was being used for grazing purposes by the family. Copy of the same is available with this author as well.

Can Forest Deptt issue Eviction Notice ?

In several write-ups of mine, I have made it clear that the Forest Department can't issue notices for the vacation of the forest land to people as the same has been stayed by the Apex Court in the case of Wildlife One v/s Union of India case.



The Mud Hut Kotha of Abdul Sattar Lohar at Meelyal, Kupwara

Until the process of deciding the claims under the FRA are completed by the authorities, eviction notices can't be issued at all.

Action against any claimant of the Forest Rights Act whose forest rights claim is under consideration by any authority (Gram Sabha/SDLC/ DLC) will be considered a violation and liable for penal action under Section 7 of the Act and other Indian Penal Code. Even if the claims have not been filed due to lack of awareness about Forest Rights Act-FRA, the same can be filed at any point of time. Pertinently there is no given time frame for filing claims under the FRA.

Preamble of FRA

Before initiating any action against forest dwellers, the Forest Officials must go through the preamble of FRA. It reads:

"An Act to recognize and vest the forest rights and occupation in forest land in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recorded and whereas the forest rights on ancestral lands and their habitat were not adequately recognized in the consolidation of State forest during the colonial period as in independent India, resulting in historical injustice to the forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers"

FRA is therefore aimed at addressing the long-standing insecurity of tenure and access rights of forest-dwelling tribes and communities, including those who were forced to relocate their dwellings due to development interventions undertaken by the State. The FRA provides a legal framework for recognition of individual and community forest rights. It also provides an opportunity for democratization of forest management

lages soon.

Conclusion

Conclusion

The intent of FRA legislation enacted by the Parliament of India in 2006 is to address the long-standing issue of tenurial security of the forest-dwelling Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers who have been residing or depending on forests & forest land for their survival. Though this law came into force on 31st December 2007, in J&K this law was rolled out with effect from Oct 31st 2019 after article 370 got abrogated. Even after more than 4 years of its enforcement in J&K, the Forest Department officials are still unaware of the provisions of this law. It is better that the Govt makes Tribal Affairs Department as the nodal agency for FRA in J&K. Even at the national level Tribal Affairs Ministry looks after implementation of this law and in other states respective Tribal Welfare Department has been given this work, one fails to understand why Forest Department was made the nodal agency for FRA. Preventing forest dwelling communities from using forest land goes against the Supreme Court ruling in the matter of Wildlife One v/s Union of India.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer
Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat is an Acumen Fellow. He is Founder and Chairman Jammu & Kashmir RTI Movement.

How Poetry Can Save Our World

MUGEES UL KAISAR

The contemporary overarching paradigm that we breathe in today is what some thinkers have referred to as “metaphysics of violence”. It has roots in post-Aristotelian Western philosophy where (organic/holistic/dynamic) Reality is broken down into static fragments/“things” to be arrested by categorical thought in order for the humans to dominate & exploit “nature”. This metaphysics – which sees reality as pulverised static entities/things – in tandem with modern humanism led to metaphysics of violence i.e. human being perceives reality as arrestable resources to “catch”/prey for the sake of human domination. This has manifested in modern scientific exploitation of nature resulting in catastrophic environmental crisis.

Modern humanism perceives humans to be ontologically disjointed from nature rather than being grounded in it and sustained by it. In Heidegger's terms, technology is not mere “technique” but rather a proper ontology (worldview, to use a popular word) under which Reality is revealed through the category/lens of “resources”. Everything is reduced down to a mere resource/“use”. Human beings cannot live without some ontological posture under which Reality reveals or unconceals itself through one category or the other. A tree, for example, reveals/unconceals itself to a scientific laboratory through a particular category i.e. resources, chemicals, atoms, etc whereas the same tree reveals itself totally differently within the ontology of a poet – constituting realities such as wonder, mystery, beauty, life, etc.

The popularized version of objective scientific reductionism which is often posited at such an occasion, although may be problematized by Philosophy of Science and Sociology of Science, nevertheless becomes irrelevant if we take the scientific reductionism to its logical end conclusion. If someone says that colours, sounds, perceptions, emotions or experience in general is nothing but chemical reactions then one may proceed and ask as to what these chemicals are; if we say that the chemicals are nothing but atoms and molecules reacting with each other, we may consistently continue our reductionism and ask further as to what these molecules

and atoms are? The expected reply would be that the atoms are nothing but sub-atomic particles which in turn are waves of possibilities. We may continue our reductionism and ask further as to what these waves are? If we say that they are manifestations of physical fields or energy, the question doesn't stop there as per the logic of reductionism. One may continue further and ask as to what these fields are or what this energy is in its essence? Finally, at the end, one inevitably arrives at the dead end of mystery anyway. Science, particularly contemporary physics, therefore, arrives at “mystery” which the poet fundamentally registers at the very beginning in his very first step.

Moreover, reductionism is yet another feature of the same metaphysical posture that we have pointed out above i.e. reducing complex qualitative systems/wholes down to quantitative simplicities such that “control” becomes easy. Capitalism also finds itself at home within this contemporary dominant paradigm because it too is obsessed with “numbers” such that manipulating/controlling customers becomes easy in order to churn out more & more profit.

Coming back to our main subject matter, Reality reveals itself through multiple categories. In our



of forcefully channelizing reality through the filter of “resource”) can redeem both us & our world.

The contemporary paradigm of “resource” gives rise to “instrumentalist” mentality which gradually creeps into our own personal lives and the larger cultural milieu as potentially argued by the Frankfurt school.

of instrumentalist ontology and register deeper mystery of the magic of experience/existence per se, we instantly drop the attitude of exploitation of nature.

Objects of experience become existential ruptures to “sublime”/Transcendent which escapes reductive language. Scientific reductions of experience into objects/matter/atoms/things do not take anything away from the sublime/mystery. Materialist reductionism is anyway a scientifically false paradigm because phenomenal reality is nothing but a “process” & the abstract (mathematical) “things-in-themselves” are there in the universe as understood by classical physics but dynamic processes which are in relationship to each other. Their essence/origin/source (what we may call Godhead or zaat) ultimately remains a mystery to individualistic dualistic Cartesian cogito.

Art/poetry always has this remainder which escapes “exploitative” thought. The aim of “thought” is to essentialize/capture/define/arrest/locate in order to create a certain controllable “use”. Art has no instrumental use. Art is, instrumentally, useless. Art attends to the mystery/sublime aspect of anything and everything which is its real essence. Let us look at few insights from Heidegger on art to substantiate our point.

Heidegger once referred to Von

Gogh's painting of an old pair of tattered shoes of a peasant woman to make his point on art. Please note that there has been a heated discussion on this painting amongst Heidegger, Meyer Schapiro & Derrida which is beyond the scope of this article. We will primarily be focussing on Heidegger's take here. For better comprehension, readers might consider looking at the painting by searching it online before reading the article further.

The first feature of art is that it de-contextualizes a “thing” such that its absolutely unique irreducible “Being” is revealed without the mediation of any instrumentality. Within normal perception, for example, any pair of shoes is not even registered. We use shoes to walk and that's it. This mundane unreflective attitude towards the world wherein things are reduced down to mere instruments to be used – inevitably creates a dehumanized posture towards the world. By plucking out a pair of shoes from its mundane overarching/overshadowing context, Van Gogh is able to show the deep meaning of otherwise unsubstantial pair of shoes. The painting of an old pair of tattered shoes tells a whole story of its own. It is brought to life on its own. The painting lays bare the day to day suffering of an old lady; the immediacy and concreteness of daily struggle. Heidegger writes in The Origin of the Work of Art, “From the dark opening of the worn inside

of the shoes the toilsome tread of the worker stares forth. In the stiffly rugged heaviness of the shoes there is the accumulated tenacity of her slow trudge through the far-spreading and ever-uniform furrows of the field swept by a raw wind”.

Art brings out the pure irreducible “thingliness” (Being) of a thing which otherwise we fail to see in “things” from an instrumentalist mentality. By de-contextualizing things from their contexts where things are “concealed”/overshadowed, art unconceals the Being/“thingliness” of things. Art is a ground which is open to the rupture of Being such that unconcealment happens. Being “happens” in art. Art, therefore, is a rupture of Being. It, therefore, presents the actual nature of reality in itself wherein Being/existence ruptures (or comes) into being from behind/mystery/void. This is the important alternative vision of Reality as an “event” (that happens) as opposed to a “present at hand” static things/material to be captured by static categorical thought.

Art, therefore, teaches us to remain open to Reality/revelation which happens. This is why “thinking”, for (later) Heidegger, means waiting for reality to reveal itself rather than calculating its arrest through prior manipulations. This poetic attitude can de-fang our technology-based-culture which cannot now be materially reversed by turning back the wheel. It is the “poetic” attitude – which does not reduce Being to “things”/resources – that can save us. One recalls here, Heidegger's student, Gadamer's pertinent message to the world by which we conclude, “I would say that it will remain a task for humanity to see the limitations of the great legacy of our scientific culture. Because otherwise, we will surely kill ourselves one day ... we cannot eliminate the risks which lie in misuse. And yet, I believe that we have to run the risk that the power that has been placed in the hand of mankind will become increasingly strong, increasingly great, and therefore, increasingly dangerous for self-destruction. This is a monumental task if humanity is to be able to survive; and this will only be possible if we overcome this one-sidedness of the will to dominate and mastery of doing by cultivating other powers, such as that involving suffering & compassion, or to speak with a poet, if we learn to honor again the human soul's ability to dream”.



THE FIRST FEATURE OF ART IS THAT IT DE-CONTEXTUALIZES A “THING” such that its absolutely unique irreducible “Being” is revealed without the mediation of any instrumentality

times, the dominant category is “resource”. To paraphrase Iain Mcgilchrist's words, the contemporary scientific worldview is dominated by left (brain) hemisphere perspective wherein “detail” is of primary importance to get hold of specifics while as larger background context is largely missed or ignored which is the job of the right hemisphere. Poetry can help us redeem the mystery and larger/wider complexity of the world at hand. This richer lens which unconceals/reveals reality in a more organic/natural way (instead

Everything becomes an “instrument” of use. Human relations begin to be eaten away by instrumentalism. Every affair becomes transactional. This is what capitalism then feeds upon. An old pen of school days belonging to oneself or one's grandparent, for example, or an old cup or an old photograph or an old garment is not a mere object. There is always a “remainder” beyond use. This poetic interface with the world in which we all participate every now and then when we look at an old cup or a pen or a photograph i.e. when we come

Is The Net-Zero Transition Endangering The Asian Century?

Masyita Crystallin
Marthe M. Hinojales

Asian countries' ability to thrive in the world economy over the next few decades hinges on their capacity to sustain their competitive advantages through continuous innovation. But to meet their commitments under the 2015 Paris climate agreement, the region's economies must overhaul their production, consumption, and resource-allocation strategies, potentially postponing the long-anticipated “Asian century.”

With the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report showing that global warming is on track to rise 1.5° Celsius above pre-industrial levels within the next decade, the urgent need to accelerate efforts to mitigate climate change has moved to the forefront of the international policy debate.

In March, shortly after the United Nations warned that the “climate time bomb is ticking,” a gathering of central bank governors from member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) underscored the importance of aligning national policies to support the green transition. Two weeks later, the Spring Meetings of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund focused on the need to reform global institutions to address the climate threat. And at the end of April, more than 100 central bankers and regulators convened in Singapore to explore ways to reach the annual target of \$9.2 trillion in green investments required to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.



Amid conflicting domestic and global priorities, varying levels of climate-risk awareness, and a dearth of comprehensive climate data, the policy debate has been shaped by countries that are better equipped to manage the effects of climate change. Consequently, while the scientific and policy consensus is that cutting greenhouse-gas emissions is the only way to avert climate catastrophe, the impact of emission cuts on Asia's economies remains uncertain.

There are two main approaches to cutting emissions: reducing economic activity to lower energy demand and implementing industry-specific measures to mitigate

emissions. It is easy to see why the first option, which means accepting slower economic growth, is a non-starter for many emerging and developing economies. But with fossil fuels accounting for more than 80 per cent of energy use in China, Japan, South Korea, and Asean countries – collectively known as Asean+3 – the second path would have profound economic implications as well.

The most likely shock would be an increase in the cost of living. To discourage the use of fossil fuels, governments must make them more expensive, starting with the elimination of the energy subsidies that played a crucial role in supporting consumer spending across the re-

gion during the energy price shocks of early 2022.

But even if Asean+3 policymakers resist domestic calls to impose a carbon tax, they may be compelled to act, owing to rapidly shifting climate policies elsewhere, such as the European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, which imposes tariffs on carbon-intensive imports. Either way, Asian exporters will face higher production costs and could be at risk of losing their long-established positions in global trade and supply chains.

Moreover, reducing greenhouse-gas emissions would require the retirement of many of the region's coal-fired power plants well be-

fore they reach even half of their projected lifespan. On average, coal power plants have an operating life of roughly 55 years. While early retirement may not present significant challenges in Europe and the United States, where the average age of a coal-fired plant is about 34 and 41 years, respectively, the average coal plant in Asean+3 countries is just 11 years old.

In addition to its significant costs, retiring coal-fired power plants could disrupt livelihoods and communities across the region. To mitigate the adverse socioeconomic effects of this shift, Asian policymakers must ensure a just transition that considers the impact on affected communities. But, given the potential impact of the net-zero transition on Asean+3 countries' finances, energy prices, and exports, the region will most likely face a period of challenging economic conditions before experiencing any improvements.

Still, the net-zero transition is an unavoidable necessity. By taking proactive measures and facilitating the allocation of public and private funding to where it is needed most, Asean+3 policymakers could allay the potential impact and sustain the region's economic prosperity without undermining global climate-mitigation efforts.

To be sure, in recent years Asean+3 governments have made significant progress in promoting sustainable and green finance. But the lack of adequate transparency, incentives, and data impedes policymakers' ability to establish a “greenium” that investors would be willing to pay for the perceived advantages of investing in environmentally friendly instruments.

The lack of a unified global approach to transition financing, which aims to help “brown” (carbon-intensive) sectors become greener, poses another challenge for policymakers. For example, an emissions-reduction project that meets the criteria for a bank loan in Asean+3 countries might not qualify for a similar loan in Europe. In the absence of a global transition taxonomy, many foreign investors are understandably reluctant to bear the risk of policy uncertainty and reputational harm associated with funding the region's “brown” sectors, despite their economic significance.

With the window for decisive climate action rapidly closing, some may question whether the “Asian century” is already passé. But while the shift away from fossil fuels may impede Asean+3 countries' progress toward achieving long-term economic prosperity, the net-zero transition is also a unique opportunity for Asian economies to boost growth and job creation. Countries such as China, with its flourishing electric-vehicle industry, and Vietnam, with its expanding solar capacity, are already capitalizing on growing demand for green energy.

Mobilising capital is crucial to achieving net-zero emissions. As William Shakespeare reminds us, “If money go before, all ways do lie open.” To create a greener and more resilient region, we must reimagine climate finance in a way that aligns with the unique characteristics of Asean+3 economies and unlocks their tremendous potential.

The article was originally published by *Khalcey Times*

Anju Will Return To India On August 20; No Plan To Marry Her: Pak Man

Press Trust of India

PESHAWAR: A married Indian woman who travelled legally to a remote village in Pakistan to meet her Facebook friend will return to India on August 20 when her visa expires, her Pakistani friend said on Monday, dismissing reports of any love affair between them.

Nasrulla, 29, said that he has no plan of marrying 34-year-old Anju, who was born in Kailor village in Uttar Pradesh and lived in the Alwar district of Rajasthan.

Nasrulla and Anju became friends on Facebook in 2019. "Anju is on a visit to Pakistan and we have no plan to marry," Narulla told PTI over the phone from village Kulsho in the district, some 300 km from Peshawar.

"She will go back to her country on August 20 after her visa expires. Anju is living in a separate room of his home with the other female members of my family," he said.

Anju has travelled to the Upper Dir district of Pakistan's tribal Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province on a valid Pakistani visa of Pakistan's to meet Nasrulla.

According to an official document of the Ministry of Interior sent to Pakistan's High Commission in New Delhi, the chancery was informed that it had been decided to grant a 30-day visa to Anju, valid for Upper Dir only.

Nasrullah, a science graduate from a University in Sheringal, is the youngest among five brothers.

He has given an affidavit to local authorities, stating that there is no love angle to their friendship, and Anju will return to India on August 20.

The affidavit also states that she will not move out of the Upper Dir district.

"She will definitely go back on August 20 as per her visa documents," said Upper Dir District Police Officer (DPO) Mushtaq Khan.

Khan interviewed Anju in his office on Sunday and checked her travel documents on the basis of which a no-objection certificate was issued to her.

While Nasrullah has rejected any love angle to his friendship with Anju, police officer Khan said she came to Pakistan "for the sake of love".

"Anju has come to Pakistan from New Delhi for the sake of love and is living happily here," Khan was quoted as saying by Geo News.

He said the investigations into Anju's arrival in Pakistan have been completed.

"She travelled to Pakistan on a month-long visit visa and all her travel documents are valid and complete. Locals are presenting gifts to Anju, she is happy here," he said.

The DPO also stated that Anju does not want to interact with the media for any interview.

According to the report, Anju told local journalists her friendship with Nasrullah began on Facebook and later blossomed into a love affair.

She said she loved Nasrullah which prompted her to travel to Pakistan. Nasrullah said they have been provided adequate security by the district administration and Anju is safe and sound with his family.

The villagers, mostly Pashtuns who are very religious people, want Anju to return safely to India as they do not want any bad name for their community due to this incident.

Anju's husband Arvind, who is in Rajasthan, is hopeful that his wife will return soon.

They have a 15-year-old daughter and a six-year-old son.

Anju's incident is similar to Seema Ghulam Haider's case. Seema, a Pakistani mother of four, sneaked into India to live with Sachin Meena, a Hindu man she got in touch with while playing PUBG in 2019.

Seema, 30, and Sachin, 22, live in the Rabupura area of Greater Noida, near Delhi, where he runs a provision store, according to Uttar Pradesh Police.

Logjam In Parliament As Shah Urges Oppn To Allow Truth To Come Out On Manipur Issue; AAP MP Sanjay Singh Suspended

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: As the logjam in Parliament persisted for the third day, Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday asked the opposition to allow a debate on the Manipur issue to begin but both sides stood rigid on their stand while AAP MP Sanjay Singh was suspended during uproar in the Upper House for the rest of the monsoon session.

Relentless protests from opposition members, who insisted on a statement from Prime Minister Narendra Modi before any debate, marred the proceedings in both Houses while charges and counter-charges flew thick and fast outside Parliament.

The Congress alleged that the prime minister was "scared" of a discussion in Parliament, but the BJP claimed the opposition was running away as it does not want certain facts to come to the fore.

Aam Aadmi Party MP Sanjay Singh, one of the more vocal voices in Rajya Sabha, was suspended for repeatedly "violating" the directives of the Chair after he rushed to the well of the House and pointed at the Chair during protest by opposition members on the Manipur issue.

Moving a motion for Singh's suspension that was adopted by voice vote, Leader of the House Piyush Goyal said such behaviour was not acceptable as the member was disturbing the House and was disregarding its ethics and rules. Prior to that, Rajya Sabha chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar named Singh for his "unruly behaviour" and cautioned him.

Opposition parties condemned the action against Singh and accused the government of trying to throttle their voice.

Sanjay Singh, however, remained inside the Rajya Sabha chamber as a mark of protest, and moved out after the house was adjourned for the day. He then sat on a protest before the Gandhi statue along with other opposition MPs.

Leaders of various parties urged the chairman to reconsider his decision and revoke the suspension.

The RS Chairman later met the Leader of the Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge and discussed the way forward to break the deadlock on both sides.

Protests ruled the day inside both Houses despite attempts by Dhankhar and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to end the impasse. Since the session began on July 20, little work has been done in Parliament.

Opposition members have seized on the viral video of two women stripped and paraded by a mob from another community in the violence-hit state to corner the government.

While the government has expressed its willingness to a debate on the situation in the BJP-ruled state, the opposition has made a statement from the Chair after he rushed to the well of the House and pointed at the Chair during protest by opposition members on the Manipur issue.

As slogan-shouting by opposition members in Lok Sabha, many of whom were in the well of House, continued, Shah spoke briefly, questioning their intent despite his willingness to debate.

The government has said that the Home Minister will reply to any such debate on the Manipur issue.

"I am willing for discussion in Lok Sabha on the situation in Manipur but do not know why the opposition does not want it," Shah said.

He said opposition leaders should allow a debate, saying it was important for the truth

to come out before the country on the Manipur issue.

As opposition members continued their protest, Speaker Om Birla adjourned the proceedings for the day.

The MPs of the BJP as well as the Opposition staged protests near the Mahatma Gandhi statue to highlight their demands.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP headquarters here, Union Minister Smriti Irani said, "When the Home Minister is asking them to come and discuss, what are the facts of Manipur violence that the Congress wants to hide."

"What is it that the opposition doesn't want the country to know? Why is the opposition running away from the truth of Manipur?" she added.

Congress leaders Shaktisinh Gohil and Gaurav Gogoi accused the BJP of "shielding" the prime minister from speaking inside Parliament and treating the Manipur crisis as an ordinary law-and-order issue.

"We want a substantive and exhaustive debate on Manipur in Parliament. The prime minister is running away from scrutiny by members of opposition parties and is scared of a debate on Manipur in Parliament," Gogoi told reporters.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge accused Modi of insulting Parliament by choosing to speak on the Manipur issue not inside the House but outside.

Party leader Jairam Ramesh said parliament did not function for the third day because of the "continued refusal of the Modi Government to accept the demand of INDIA parties for a comprehensive statement by the Prime Minister in the House on the post-May 3rd situation in Manipur to be followed by a discussion".

Yamuna Floodwater Yet To Recede, Despair Grips Farmers At Relief Camps



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Puja Devi (47) visited the area along the Yamuna river multiple times in the past 15 days in the hope that the water that inundated her home will have receded. But every time her hopes are dashed and she returns to the relief camp dejected.

Now, she fears that she will not be able to return to her humble home after officials told them that their shanties were "illegal".

They will not be allowed to return even after the water recedes, they were told.

While living under constant fear of losing their home, the abysmal conditions at the relief camp are causing further hardship for the family of 14.

Puja Devi has been living at the relief camp since July 11. "The meals we get are half-cooked most of the time. It would be better if the government provided us with ration instead of half-cooked food," Puja Devi alleged.

She had been living along the Yamuna's bank for decades with her 10 children, husband and mother-in-law, dependent on the agricultural land for sustenance.

The family was forced to vacate the area when water entered her home and destroyed the small agricultural land where she cultivated vegetables.

At 208.66 metres on July 13, the Yamuna surpassed its previous record of 207.49 metres set in September 1978 by a

significant margin. It breached embankments and penetrated deeper into the city than it has in more than four decades.

The consequences of the floods have been devastating, with more than 27,000 people evacuated from their homes. The losses incurred in terms of property, businesses and earnings have run into crores.

The Yamuna in Delhi flowed more than a metre above the danger mark of 205.33 metres on Monday morning.

Puja Devi and her family are not the only ones suffering.

Kali Charan, a 44-year-old daily-wage worker, said his wife Sandhya Devi fell while being evacuated and is now suffering from a severe pain in her leg.

"The medicines that we are getting are not working properly. I don't have the money to provide proper treatment to my wife," he added.

Om Prakash, a 30-year-old father of three, said, "There are no jobs, I have no clue how I will earn my livelihood."

He also mentioned that the food and water at the camps are not regular and sometimes they have to sleep on an empty stomach. His children are unable to attend school as their books, bags and uniforms were washed away in the flood.

"I am not sure if I will get my land back but I request the government to let us stay here. We are poor people and we have nowhere to go. At least by farming here, we earn some amount to feed our families," he said.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

LG's Meeting

for over an hour, during which various issues, including the prevailing security situation, were discussed.

Host of Shia leaders and representatives including Molvi Imran Raza Ansari and Agha Syed Mujtaba al-Musavi attended the meeting.

However Imran Ansari walked out from the meeting in protest after he reportedly entered into an argument with the Chief Secretary.

"The meeting with LG did not end in a deadlock. In fact, it was fruitful. We got a positive signal from the Lieutenant Governor. He assured us that his administration is seriously considering the issue of banned Muharram processions," Aga Syed Mujtaba told Kashmir Observer.

However, Mujtaba, the Vice-President of J&K Anjuman-e-Sharie Shaiyan, Darul Mustafa Budgam, quickly added that the LG told the representatives that his administration will try to allow the procession after taking a complete security review and feedback from the law enforcement agencies.

Besides Mujtaba, representatives of Anjuman-e-Sharie Shaiyan, Shariatabad, Budgam, Shia Association and newly launched Community Development and Employment Foundation Hawal, attended the meeting.

Interestingly, Ithihaad-ul-Muslimeen, which has traditionally been leading the 8th Muharram procession, was not invited to the meeting.

When asked if the discussion with the administration was held only on Muharram 8th procession, the Agha Mujtaba said that the two banned processions from Guru Bazar to Dalgate and 10th Muharram procession from Abi Guzar to Zadibal always remain on the agenda of his organization.

"We sought permission for both the traditional processions that remain banned from the last 34 years," he said.

"We also told the LG that since you claim the security scenario in Kashmir has completely changed with recent G20 meet and ongoing Amarnath yatra going ahead peacefully, then why is the ban on Muharram processions not being lifted," he added.

Expressing satisfaction over today's meeting with the LG, Anjuman-e-Sharie leader said that the approach shown by LG Sinha and Chief Secretary has given him a hope that this year Muharram processions will be allowed.

"This issue was never addressed as it was addressed today," he said.

However, he quickly added that his party will register a peaceful protest if the government does not allow the processions.

Meanwhile, later in the day, a meeting was held at the Police Control Room (PCR) Srinagar between senior police officers with the representatives of Shia organisations.

"The police want a cap on the number of mourners participating in the 8th Muharram procession. They want around 200 mourners in the procession. It's practically impossible to limit this procession, if taken out after 34 years," said a Shia representative, wishing not to be named.

Last week, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri held a meeting with the leaders of the Shia community at the Police Control Room (PCR) here to reach a consensus on these processions.

The two major processions of 8th and 10th Muharram were banned in 1989 by the then Governor administration fearing the processions may be used to propagate separatist sentiments. Ever since, only small mourning processions are allowed in Shia dominated areas of interiors of the Srinagar city.

However, every year, mourners defy government curbs and attempt to take out processions from the city, which are often met with force.

Muharram Of Utmost

Commissioners; Heads of Departments and other senior officers of UT administration.

"This is the occasion of utmost religious importance for all of us. The UT administration and Government of India is working with sensitivity and commitment to ensure that all arrangements are made for smooth, safe and hassle-free conduct of Muharram," Sinha said.

He directed the Deputy Commissioners to ensure improved connectivity to Imambaras, power supply, availability of extra ration, water and basic amenities, regular market inspection, cleanliness, traffic management, best possible medical facilities to the people.

He also sought valuable inputs from the eminent representatives of Shia Community on the Muharram arrangements.

Sinha assured prompt and appropriate steps to address the issues and demands raised during the interaction. Deputy Commissioners briefed the meeting on the preparations and arrangements made in their respective districts for Muharram.

Police Probes

and forensic teams, along with technical experts, visited the spot and the matter is

being investigated," Senior Superintendent of Police (Jammu) Chandan Kohli said.

Shiv Sena (Hindustan) chief Rajesh Kesari said he heard a deafening noise in a narrow lane outside his home and immediately informed the local police station.

"A police party reached the site and started a probe. They took away CCTV footage and samples from the scene," he said.

Pak Trying

used for the construction of buildings and streets. "Stones are no longer used to bruise or hurt anyone," the DGP said.

Replying to a query about Yatra, the DGP said that pilgrimage is going on smoothly and so far more than 3 lakh pilgrims have performed darshan. "The pilgrims are coming to Srinagar as well and visiting other places of Kashmir to enjoy the beauty of the Valley," he said.

The J&K police chief said that they have made elaborate arrangements to facilitate the Muharram procession of the Shia community. "There shouldn't be any sectarian rift as all festivals and religious obligations are equally important and sacred. We are cooperating with the Shia community and will ensure peaceful Muharram processions," he said.

He said that almost 46 teams will participate in the J&K police martyrs football tournament. "For the first time, four women teams will participate in the tournament. These events help display the skills and also help teams exchange their culture and thoughts," the DGP said—(KNO)

4 Slapped

The police identified them as Abdul Hameed Khan, Danish Ahmad Shah, Assadullah Parry and Hilal Ahmad Ganie.

A resident of Watrina village, Khan, according to a police spokesperson, was earlier a stone pelted and was now involved in cheating and drug peddling related cases.

Shah, he said, was an active terrorist associate of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), while Parry was a member of APHC & terrorist associate and involved in 14 criminal cases.

"His persistent involvement in anti-social and anti-national activities is posing a severe threat to maintenance of public order and security of the state," he added.

Ganie, the spokesperson said, was a repeated offender, and involved in a number of cheque bounce cases besides two other criminal cases.

All the accused persons, he said, have been booked under PSA for their continuous involvement in anti-national, anti-social activities after obtaining formal

detention orders from the competent authority and have been lodged in Central Jail Kot Bhalwal Jammu.

J&K Bank

top-line growth unfolding in coming quarters."

"For the last six quarters we have continued to strengthen and stabilize key operational parameters. The idea is to keep strengthening the core to ensure continuous and sustainable growth going forward", he added.

Asset Quality

The bank's gross non-performing assets (GNPA) have reduced to 5.77% YoY as against 9.09 % recorded last year. In sequential terms GNPA has declined by 27 bps from 6.04% recorded in March quarter of last FY. The net NPA for the Q1 also improved to 1.39% as against 3.02% registered in Q1 of last financial year and 1.62% recorded in March quarter of FY 2023.

NPA Coverage Ratio for Q1 improved to 87.55% when compared to 81.21% recorded last year and 86.20% as on March 31, 2023.

Regarding asset quality, Prakash said, "The trend in asset quality continues to be very encouraging. With vigorous recovery pursuits and expected resolution of good number of accounts, we are well on course to achieve the asset-quality as per our guidance which is to contain our GNPA figure between 4 and 4.5% by the end of current fiscal."

On NPA slippages, MD & CEO said that the slippages have been addressed to a great extent with the slippage ratio being below 1.5% (annualized). "We are also aiming at an NPA Coverage Ratio of around 90% in coming quarters", he added.

Business Growth

Advances of the bank grew over 17% YoY and stood at Rs 84475.63 Cr when compared to Rs 71926.56 Cr in the corresponding quarter a year ago. The deposits increased by 8% to Rs 121297.49 Cr as against Rs 112145.18 Cr recorded last year.

However, YoY growth of advances and deposits' portfolios in the UT of J&K is at 11% and 8% respectively, while as in Rest of India, Deposits have increased by 11% and Advances grown by 26%. During the quarter, the Bank's CASA Ratio remains well above 53%.

Commenting upon the business numbers, MD & CEO said, "Increase in advances is quite healthy at over 17% YoY and with strategies in place we will maintain the growth momentum."

"However, on liability side there is slight de-growth on QoQ basis. Although this has

been trend with J&K Bank due to the movement of Govt. funds which usually peak during March quarter but we have initiated aggressive deposit campaigns for mobilization of CASA with digital on-boarding of new-to-business customers. And a good number of accounts have already been opened which shall, over-time, accumulate sizable balances," he said.

Capital Position

The bank's Capital Adequacy Ratio stood at 14.83% as against 13.02% recorded last year.

Elaborating upon capital position, the MD & CEO said, "After achieving the target of 15% CRAR during the last year, we are looking at a capital adequacy ratio of about 16% by the end of this fiscal. Even though we expect major accretions from internal accruals but plans are in place to raise capital from the market, if required."

Pertinently, the Bank has an enabling board approval for raising of capital towards the end of current fiscal (Q3/Q4).

J&K Saw 15

complete data has not been prepared but so far in this month, a total of 15 cloudburst incidents have been reported in July alone.

"It will be premature to speak whether such incidents have witnessed an upward trend as the data has not been finalized yet, which would help in comparing the figures of this year with previous years," he said.

Several areas of J&K a few days ago were hit by flash floods triggered by the cloudburst incidents, which led to the damage of roads, some walls of the Government run schools in Kulgam and minor damage to the roads in Zirhama village in Kupwara.

A few cloudburst incidents were also reported in Katra recently leading to the cloudburst.

Moreover, the weatherman has predicted more rains in J&K till July 28, saying that the weather would remain partly to generally cloudy from July 25-July 28.

On July 25, MeT Deputy Director said that there is a possibility of light rain, thunderstorm during late night and early morning.

He added that from July 26-July 28, the weather would remain partly to generally cloudy during daytime while there is a possibility of light to moderate thunderstorm at many places with isolated heavy rainfall especially during late night and early morning.

In an advisory, the MeT has predicted risk of flash flood, mudslide, landslide during the period and advise people to remain cautious and stay away from Streams, Rivers and other vulnerable spots during the period.

JKPC Leader Alleges 'Humiliation' By Bureaucrat In Muharram Meeting

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir People's Conference on Monday alleged that senior party leader and influential Shia cleric Imran Ansari was "humiliated" by the administration during a meeting chaired by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Muharram arrangements.

The party said Jammu and Kashmir is administered in a "new hybrid model", in which some bureaucrats have donned the hats of politicians and these politico-bureaucrat "rogue variant" of the bureaucracy feel that it is their divine duty to humiliate the political class.

"JKPC strongly condemns the behaviour displayed by the state administration towards Imran Ansari, an eminent religious leader of the Shia community. We express deep concern over this dangerous precedent being set by the administration. It started the humiliation of political leaders, and now they are moving on into the domain of humiliating religious leaders," a spokesman of the party said.

He said it certainly does not behove the head of the state administration, even if "he is regrettably selected and not elected", to preside over and voluntarily facilitate the humiliation of a religious leader, who was invited cordially.

According to sources close to Ansari, the Shia leader had



taken exception to the administration setting a cap of only 100 persons for taking part in the Muharram processions on traditional routes in Srinagar, which have been banned for the past three decades.

Ansari had highlighted while the entire administration and locals of Kashmir were welcoming the lakhs of Amarnath pilgrims, there was no justification for setting the limit on number of persons in the Muharram procession, the sources said.

They said a senior bureaucrat, who was present in the meeting, objected to Ansari hinting at sectarian discrimination by the administration which led to exchange of words between the two. Ansari later walked out of the meeting, the sources said.

When contacted, Ansari said it pained him to see "this daily dose of humiliation for Kashmiris".

Peaceful J&K Biggest Achievement Of Last 4 Years: LG

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Days before the fourth anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370 and 35(A), Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said that end of street violence & strike calls and citizens living their life in a free environment are the biggest achievements in last four years in the Union Territory of J&K.

In an interview with DD News, the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha enumerated several achievements on security and developmental fronts and said under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, the Government of India took a bold decision on August 5, 2019 which abrogated Article 370 and 35(A).

"During last four years the J&K has seen a massive reformation at grassroots level. Street violence by few elements has ended; strike calls by separatists, terrorists and Pakistan is a passé. Besides a common man is living his life in a free environment. These are the major achievements of last four years," LG Sinha said.

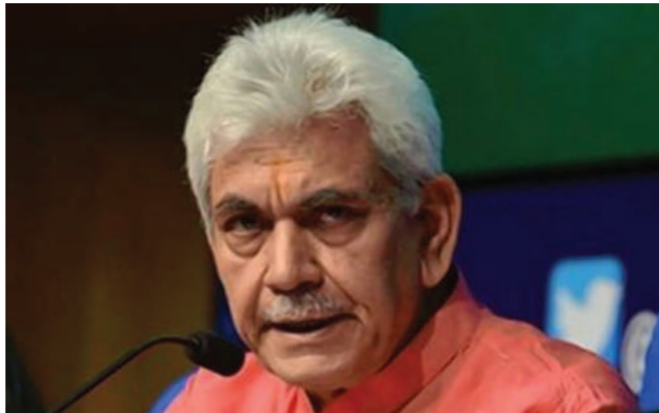
Moreover LG said during this period, "two AIIMS, two cancer hospitals, seven medical colleges, IIT, IIM, NIIFT, highway's and tunnel projects worth 1.50 lac crore rupees have been executed".

LG Sinha further said, "There was a time when people were rushing home before sunset due to fear of terrorists however today shops remain open till late hours, youth enjoy music and elders take a stroll on the banks of Jhelum. This all has restored the con-

fidence of common masses on the government".

When asked how UT administration ensured the change, LG Sinha said that changes happened due to better coordination among security agencies. "The UT administration set a goal that peace will be established not bought". He said poorer sections were the worst hit of terrorism who suffered a lot in past years.

less than any UT or State across the country. J&K is No. 1 at UT level on E-Governance. We have put over 450 services online. Public Service Guarantee Act has been implemented with an aim the common man to avail facilities of schemes on time," he said and added, "When I resumed office there were 9229 projects done but today we have completed 92600 projects



On the increase in tourist footfall in the UT, the LG Sinha said 1 crore 88 lac tourists visited J&K last year, resulting in opening of avenues of livelihood for hotels, taxi wala's, shikara wala's, etc. This gave a boost to J&K economy however few mischievous elements were trying to run parallel economy in part to nurture militancy and separatism which however wouldn't be allowed today.

which means there is 10 times more improvement on developmental front".

"Three-tier Panchayati Raj System has been implemented. Recently G20 Tourism Working Group meeting was held with massive participation of delegates and common people. Post meeting, foreign countries have decided to lift ban on Kashmir travel. 32 to 33 thousand elected representatives are deciding and supervising developmental works. Today payment of works is not being done by treasuries till photographs of works done are not sent to the concerned desk," LG Sinha said.

J&K Mahila Cong Protests Over Manipur Issue

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Mahila Congress on Monday protested at the party headquarters here against the Centre's handling of the Manipur situation.

"Today we are protesting against the violence in Manipur. (Prime Minister) Narendra Modi had shown us the dreams of 'new India', but now incidents of crime against women have come to the fore," Shameem Raina told reporters here.

More than 160 people have lost their lives and several have been injured since ethnic violence broke out in Manipur on May 3, when a "Tribal Solidarity March" was organised in the hill districts to protest against the Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status.

Tension further mounted last week after a video purportedly shot on May 4 surfaced online, showing two women from one of the warring communities being paraded naked by a group of men from the other side.

Raina said 165 people have lost their lives and 65,000 people have been rendered homeless in the strife-torn north eastern state.

"It is shameful that after 63 days, an FIR was lodged against the crime... Where is (Union Women and Child Welfare Minister) Smriti Irani? God forbid, if this would have happened with the daughters of ministers, will they remain silent in the same manner?" she asked.

The Mahila Congress workers had planned to hold a march from the Lal Chowk office to Raj Bhawan but were stopped by police from leaving the premises.

"We planned to march till the Raj Bhawan to protest against the Manipur violence and to make them realise that the government in power cannot protect women and give them justice. India now has a woman president. Why is she silent about this situation? The chief minister of Manipur should resign and the state should be put under President's rule," Raina added.

Amarnath Yatra

Over 3,800 Pilgrims Leave Jammu For Cave Shrine

Press Trust Of India

Jammu- Amid tight security, the 22nd batch of 3,898 pilgrims left the base camp for the Amarnath Yatra here on Monday for the twin base camps of the cave shrine in the south Kashmir Himalayas, officials said.

More than 3.25 lakh pilgrims have so far paid obeisance at the cave shrine located at a height of 3,888 metres since the commencement of the annual pilgrimage from the twin tracks of Pahalgam in Anantnag and Baltal in Ganderbal districts on July 1.

A total of 3,898 pilgrims — 2,898 males, 898 females, 90 seers and 12 children — left the Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas here in the morning in a convoy of 149 vehicles amid heavy security of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), the officials said.

They said 1,292 pilgrims heading for Baltal were the first to leave the Bhagwati Nagar camp in 50 vehicles, followed by a second convoy of 99 vehicles carrying 2,606 pilgrims for Pahalgam.

J&K Leads Country By Holding Over 1.5 Lakh Events Under AKAM

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Monday chaired a meeting to take stock of the preparations to be made for grand celebration of the finale of Azadika Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM), going on from last more than one year.

The meeting was attended by all the Administrative Secretaries, ADGP Kashmir/Jammu; Divisional Commissioner Kashmir/Jammu; Deputy Commissioners and Districts SPs besides other concerned officers.

The Chief Secretary took this occasion to applaud the Divisional and District Administration for their untiring efforts during all these months to make the UT reach to top of the table by organising more events than other states/UTs under AKAM program.

Dr Mehta impressed upon the officers that the celebrations of the culmination of this nationwide festival should be made at each level right from the Panchayats. He



made out that each office, school or college should hoist the National Flag on 15th of August besides taking special measures for the sanitation and upkeep of their premises.

He enjoined upon all the officers to take part in all the events themselves besides encouraging others for the same. He also advised the District Administration to monitor the performance of the Panchayats in their jurisdiction.

He asked the Forest Department to make arrangements for providing at least 75 plant saplings to each Panchayat for planting as part of

these celebrations. He asked for taking measures for protection of all of such plantations through the institutions where these are planted.

The Chief Secretary maintained that each celebration should be befitting in its grace and decorum befitting for the occasion involving the 'Panchayat Prabharis' in it. He advised that all the 'Veers' to be chosen for felicitation and remembrance by the Panchayats should be well-known having unquestionable contribution in nation building or sacrifice to protect it.

Centre Likely To Reserve 3 Seats For Kashmiri Migrants, PoJK Refugees In J&K Assembly

Agencies

Srinagar: The Central government is mulling to amend the Jammu & Kashmir Reorganisation Act to reserve three seats in the Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly for Kashmiri migrants and refugees from the Pakistan occupied Jammu & Kashmir (PoJK).

Sources said that the Centre is planning to bring "The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2023, in Parliament to reserve two seats for Kashmiri migrants and one for refugees from PoJK. These members will be nominated by the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory, they said.

According to sources, the bill states that Jammu & Kashmir's Lieutenant Governor may nominate not more than two members, one of whom shall be a woman, from the community of Kashmiri migrants, to the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly.

It further states that LG may nominate one member from displaced persons from Pakistan occupied Jammu and Kashmir to the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly.

The bill is aimed at "preserving political rights of the migrants and refugee communities as well as for their social and economic development".

It is worthwhile to mention that the delimitation commission headed by former Supreme Court judge Justice (retd.) Ranjana Desai had recommended to

The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2023, in Parliament to reserve two seats for Kashmiri migrants and one for refugees from PoJK. These members will be nominated by the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory

the Government of India to make a legal provision for nomination of at least two members (one of them must be female) from the community of Kashmiri Migrants in the Legislative Assembly.

It had also recommended that the Government may consider giving some representation to refugees from PoJK in the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, by way of nomination of representatives of the displaced persons from PoJK. Meanwhile, JK BJP spokesman Altaf Thakur also tweeted: "Stage set for another historic moment: Re organisation bill to be tabled in the parliament's moonsoon session: Kashmiri pandits to get two seats. KPs were forced to leave their home land and live a miserable life. One seat will be given to PoJK people who rejected two nation theory and stood with Indian union. Later JK LG to nominate three members for KPs and PoJK people in the Parliament. Indeed a great gesture by PM Modi led government."—(KNO)

**Office Of The Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti Department
Public Health Engineering Division, Bijbehara**
e-mail: phebijbehara230@gmail.com

Bid Document
For
"Construction, Testing and Commissioning of 02 No. OHTs (depending on safe bearing capacity, staging height and storage capacity) of PHE Division Bijbehara under JJM."

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER:- 44of2023-24 Dated: 22-07-2023

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Bijbehara, invite tenders from reputed and resourceful Bidders / Firms / Companies / Joint Ventures / Consortiums between bidder/firm and Financier of all classes registered in JKPWD/CPWD/Railways/MSME or any other state Government for "Construction, Testing and Commissioning of various OHTs (depending on safe bearing capacity, staging height and storage capacity) of PHE Division Bijbehara, under JJM" as per the Annexure A.

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

Table: 1. General Details

SrNo	Particulars of the Work	Estimated Cost (Lacs)	Tender fee (INRs)	Earnest money Deposit	Bid Validity	Time of Completion of work (days)
1	Construction, Testing and Commissioning of OHTs (depending on safe bearing capacity, staging height and storage capacity) of PHE Division Bijbehara, under JJM as per the Annexure A.	Work/ Scheme wise details given in Annexure I of tender document	As per Table: 2	2% of Tentative Advertised Cost	180 days	120 days

Position of funds: Approved Under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)
The tender inviting authority is Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Bijbehara.

Table 1.2: Critical Dates

SrNo	Event	Date
i	Publish Date	24-07-2023
ii	Document Download/Sale start Date	24-07-2023
iii	Date of Pre-bid meeting (Optional) on specific request intending bidders only and may not be exercised.	25-07-2023
iv	Bid submission start date	24-07-2023
vi	Bid submission end date	29-07-2023 at 04:00 P.M
vii	Date and time of Bid opening	31-07-2023 at 11:00 A.M

- Bid documents can be accessed and downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in
- The pre-bid meeting will be held in the office chamber of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Bijbehara, through virtual/online mode. (If required).
- The whole bidding process shall be completed online on tender portal www.jktenders.gov.in. The intending bidders can download the bid document from the tender portal and can submit their bids by uploading the month the tender portal.
- The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Bijbehara.
- Bids must be accompanied by bid security/EMD and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 4 & 5 of the table: 1. General Details and shall be payable at Srinagar.
- Bid Security for an amount as specified in Column 5 of the Table 1.1 of the tentative advertised cost of the works, in the shape of FDR/CDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Bijbehara will have to be uploaded on the tender portal www.jktenders.gov.in.
- The cost of tender documents should be in form of DD/TR/e challan in favour of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Bijbehara. The bidder shall deposit tender fee as per table 1.3.
- The hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of DD/TR/e-challan, Earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR/BG and other relevant documents shall be obtained from the bidder who is declared as successful after opening of financial cover.
- The bid shall remain valid for a period of 180 days from the last date of submission of bids. If any bidder withdraws his bid before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the said earnest money shall stand forfeited and the bid shall be declared non-responsive.
- Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website www.jktenders.gov.in.

Queries by email if any should be made at phebijbehara230@gmail.com

**Annexure A:
List of Works.**

S.No	Division	Name of Work/WSS	Cost in (Lacs)
1	PHE Division Bijbehara	Construction/Testing/Commissioning of 0.75 lac gallons Capacity OHT of Shell type with staging height of 18 mtrs WSS Sangamesh the Under JJM	89.60
2	PHE Division Bibebara	Construction/Testing/Commissioning of 0.50 lac gallons Capacity OHT of Shell type with staging height of 18 mtrs at Hassanpora Bagh WSS Hassanporabagh Under JJM	80.37
Total			169.97

Executive Engineer,
Jal Shakti (PHE) Division
Bijbehara

No: PHE/BJI/5680-92
DIPK-5681/23 Date: 24-07-2023



DGP Declares Open 19th J&K Police Martyrs Memorial

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Director General of Police, J&K, Dilbag Singh on Monday declared open the 19th J&K Police Martyrs Memorial Football Tournament at Synthetic Turf TRC. The tournament is being organised by Jammu and Kashmir Police under its Civic Action Programme and in collaboration with J&K Football Association.

The DGP was the Chief Guest at the inaugural function, which saw numerous dignitaries from J&K Police, JKFA and J&K Sports Council present on the occasion.

Speaking to the media, DGP Singh said that the event is the 19th edition of the tournament and more teams are participating than its previous editions. He said that players from all districts of Jammu and Kashmir are participating. He said that it's a moment of pride that four women teams are taking part in this edition for the first time and congratulated the women players.

This is 3rd such big event being organised in Srinagar this year by J&K Police, he added. A total of 46 teams from across J&K including four Women's teams are participating in the tournament.

YSS Srinagar Organises Inter School Martial Arts Competitions

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Department of Youth Sports & Service Srinagar on Monday organised Inter School District Level competitions in the disciplines of Judo, Taekwondo, Wushu, Sqay and Thang-Ta for all age group boys and girls.

On Monday, at least 200 U-14 girls hailing from various Govt./Private schools participated in these competitions at Indoor Sports Hall Polo View.

An Inter School Zonal Level competition in football for U-14 boys was held by Zone Balmaloo at MET Bhaghat. A total of 50 footballers participated in the competition. GMS Rampora Chattabal and IMI Bemina have qualified for the final.

Zone Rainawari conducted Kho-Kho and Volleyball competitions for U-17 Girls at GHSS Rainawari, in which 100 girls hailing from Govt./Private schools of Zone Rainawari participated.

WI v IND: Heavy Rains Delay Fifth Day's Play

Press Trust of India

PORT OF SPAIN: Torrential rain delayed the start of the fifth day's play in the second and final Test between India and the West Indies here on Monday.

A rain-marred fourth day saw India pick two wickets to leave West Indies at 76 for two in their second innings, having set an imposing target of 365 runs to win the match and level the two-match series, which is part of the World Test Championship (WTC) cycle.

As and when the match starts, a stronger India will fancy their chances of winning the game and completing a 2-0 whitewash of the hosts.

Jermaine Blackwood (20)



and Tegenarine Chanderpaul (24) were out in the middle at the close of fourth day's play.

To make worse at the Queen's Park Oval, it rained overnight.

On the fourth and penultimate day, India had given themselves the best chance to win the Test with an ultra-

aggressive batting approach after lead pacer Mohammed Siraj produced career-best figures of 5/60.

Siraj's five-wicket haul in the morning session allowed India to bowl out the West Indies for 255 in their first innings after the hosts started day four at 229 for five.

Ashes 2023: England Name Unchanged Squad For Oval Test

Agencies

LONDON: England and Australia will lock horns one final time in the English summer in the fifth Ashes Test that will be played at Kennington Oval in London.

The Ashes scoreline is currently 2-1 in favour of Australia with a game left. Pat Cummins' men retained the coveted Ashes urn after the fourth Test in Manchester ended in a draw. England had to settle for the heartbreaking



end to the must-win tie as rain played spoilsport on the last two days of the Test match.

The fifth and final Test will be played between July 27-31. England squad for Oval Test: Ben

Stokes (capt), Moeen Ali, James Anderson, Jonny Bairstow, Stuart Broad, Harry Brook, Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Dan Lawrence, Ollie Robinson, Joe Root, Josh Tongue, Chris Woakes, Mark Wood.

Saudi Club Al-Hilal Bids \$332 Million For Kylian Mbappe

Agencies

SYDNEY: After missing out on Lionel Messi, Saudi Arabian soccer team Al-Hilal made a record 300 million euro (\$332 million) bid for Kylian Mbappe on Monday, an offer which could see the France striker join Cristiano Ronaldo in the oil-rich kingdom.

Paris Saint-Germain confirmed the offer for its player and has given Al-Hilal permission to open negotiations directly with Mbappe.

The 2018 World Cup winner is in a contract standoff with PSG after his decision not to take up the option of a 12-month extension on his deal. Instead, he plans to walk away as a free agent at the end of the upcoming



season when he is widely expected to join Real Madrid.

PSG cut Mbappe from its pre-season tour of Japan on Saturday, with the French club determined to sell him unless he can be convinced to sign a new contract.

A new deal now looks highly unlikely with relations between the 24-year-old Mbappe and PSG becoming increasingly tense. (AP)

Pakistan In Charge, Bowlers Rout Sri Lanka In 2nd Test

Agencies

COLOMBO: Pakistan's new aggressive approach paid rich dividends as it bowled out Sri Lanka for 166 before racing to 2-145 in reply on day one of the second cricket Test on Monday.

Pakistan, 1-0 up in the two-match series, is in complete control despite losing the toss and having to field first at the Sinhalese Sports Club.

At one stage on Monday the tourists were scoring at 6.5 runs an over, with the 50 coming up in 50 balls and the 100 arriving in 101 deliveries.

Shafique needed only 49 deliveries to reach his fifth test half-century while Shan Masood raced to his seventh half-century in just 44 balls.



Earlier, leg-spinner Abrar Ahmed took 4-69 and fast bowler Naseem Shah claimed 3-41 as Sri Lanka was skittled out by a Pakistan side bowling with aggressive fields.

Quick eats for busy people

Bun Maska
& Chai

Chicken Crispy
Burger

JK BANK LAWNS, NEAR GHAT 6, BOULEVARD-SRINAGAR