

## Srinagar Witnesses First Curbs Free Muharram in 34 Years

Observer News Service

Srinagar: With the break of dawn on Thursday tens of thousands of emotionally charged devout marched from all corners towards Gurubazar locality in central Srinagar to join the traditional Alam Sharief procession on the occasion of 8th Muharram allowed after a hiatus of 34 years.

Reciting elegies for the noble family of Prophet Muhammad (Pbuh) slain mercilessly in the plains of Karbala in 680 (CE), mourners marched on traditional routes from Gurubazar towards Imambargah in Dalgate.

Authorities had granted a two-hour window -- from 6 to 8 AM -- for the procession on the route that passes through the Budshah Bridge and then to Maulana Azad Road and TRC Crossing for culmination at Dalgate. However such was the mass outpouring that the procession reached Dalgate at around 10 AM while its tail end was still at Poloview.



Procession with mourners waving flags symbolising various aspects of Imam Hussain's struggle and chanting Labayk Ya Hussain, finally concluded at around 2 PM at Imambargah Dalgate.

In a rare display of unity all prominent Shia leaders,

including Aga Syed Hassan Mosavi Al-Safavi, his son Aga Syed Mujtaba al-Mosavi, Maulana Masroor Abbas Ansari, Molvi Imran Reza Ansari joined the procession. The decision by the LG administration to lift the ban is described as 'historic' by Shia leadership cutting

across political affiliations. "For the last 34 years, we tried to take out 8th Muharram procession through the traditional routes but we were stopped. The successive regimes made lame excuses of security and law and order issues to prevent us from taking out

8th Muharram and Ashura processions. However, today's peaceful procession is an answer to all their excuses and baseless claims," Ittihadul Muslimeen president Maulana Masroor Abbas Ansari said.

Masroor also praised the LG administration for lifting what he described as an unjustified ban and sought an end to the ban imposed on Ashura procession from Abi Guzar to Zadibal and Friday prayers at Jamia Masjid, Srinagar.

He also expressed gratitude to the members of the majority community for setting up refreshment stalls and offering eatables to the mourners on the routes through which the procession passed.

"There was a demand from the Shia community for the past few years that this procession be allowed. After the government took a decision, we made adequate security arrangements for it," Additional Director General of Police, Kashmir, Vijay Kumar More on P10

Shia Bodies Hail Last Minute Government Decision

## Amarnath Yatra Surpasses Last Year's Tally

Over 3.60 Lakh Pilgrims Pay Obeisance At Amarnath Cave Shrine So Far

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: More than 3.60 lakh pilgrims embarked on the Amarnath Yatra this year, surpassing last year's tally with over a month still left before the annual pilgrimage concludes, an official said.

The 62-day annual pilgrimage to the 3,888-metre-high cave shrine in the south Kashmir Himalayas commenced from the twin tracks of Pahalgam in Anantnag district and Baltal in Ganderbal district on July 1.

"The Amarnath Yatra - 2023 has achieved a momentous milestone, surpassing the total number of pilgrims from the previous year," a spokesperson said.

This year's yatra has been distinguished by its seamless arrangements, unwavering services and meticulous management that garnered widespread acclaim and nurtured a sense of harmony among people hailing from diverse backgrounds, he said.

"Today, 9,150 yatis had the privilege of performing darshan at the sacred cave, contributing to the cumulative figure of 369,288 (3.69 lakh). This surpasses last year's total of 365,721 (3.65 lakh), signalling a significant increase in the number of devotees undertaking the pilgrimage," the spokesperson said.

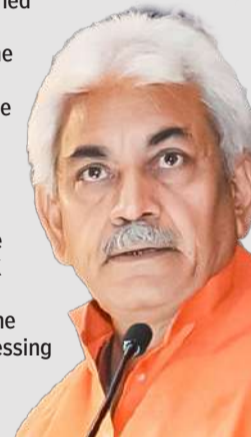
Officials said 40 people -- mostly pilgrims More on P10

## Testimony To Change, Normalcy In J&K: LG

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Thursday assured support to Shia community members in the Valley and said that 8th Muharram procession taken out in Srinagar on Thursday is a testimony to change and normalcy in the Union Territory.

"I bow to the martyrs of Karbala and recall sacrifices of Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) and his ideals. Today is a historic occasion for Shia brethren in Kashmir valley as after 34 years 8th Muharram procession is taking place on the traditional route, from Guru Bazar to Dalgate," the LG said. The 8th Muharram procession used to come out from Guru Bazar and culminate at Imambargah Dalgate before it was banned in 1989. "For 34 years, Muharram procession was banned on the traditional route. We respect the sentiments of Shia brethren and I assure the community that the administration will always stand by them. It is also the testimony to change and normalcy in J&K UT," he said.

Today, Sinha said, the entire world is witnessing the commitment More on P10



## A Historic Day For J&K: Police

Jammu and Kashmir police on Thursday said that the peaceful passage of 8th Muharram procession in Srinagar was another historic day in the continued march towards peace and stability, showing the situation is at par with the days when normalcy was prevailing here. "Keeping in view the sensitivity of the day, when the shadow of terrorism and petty politics of separatism made it impossible to hold such events, the procession was not taken out for the last 33 years", police said in a statement. The statement further said that "today when it was restarted after over three decades, it shows the resolve and commitment to a peaceful and prosperous future." More on P10

## Corporal Punishment Banned In Kashmir Schools

Rs 5 Lakh Fine, 3-Year Jail Term Imposed



Agencies

Srinagar: The School Education Department Thursday ordered blanket ban on corporal punishment and other forms of child abuse in the educational institutes of Kashmir Division.

Director of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) in a circular said, "Distressing Complaints are pouring in regarding corporal punishment to the students in schools as per the report received from IMHANS-K resulting in Mental Health issues in school going children."

DSEK said that the negative consequences of corporal punishment not only hinder the learning and development of the affected children but also create an environment of fear and hostility within the Educational Institutions.

The circular states that the Corporal punishment has an ill effect on the mental health of the child which is the cause of concern for the parents and the department.

"Whenever a child is assaulted, abused, exposed or neglected in a manner to cause physical or mental suffering by any person employed by or managing an organisation, which is entrusted with the care and protection of the child, the punishment would be rigorous imprisonment up to three years and fine up to Rs five lakh," it reads.

"On account of the 'cruelty', if the child is physically incapacitated or develops a mental illness or is rendered mentally unfit to perform regular tasks or has risk to life or limb, then imprisonment may extend up to ten years," DSEK said.

DSEK impressed upon all the School Heads and teaching officials of both private and government institutions to refrain from inflicting the corporal punishment on students in the educational institutions.

"The deviations in this regard will be viewed seriously and the strict punitive measures will be More on P10

## Street Violence In J&K Has Ended: LG

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday said the street violence in Jammu and Kashmir has ended and an era of peace has dawned in the Union Territory.

He said there were elements who would frequently call for strikes in Kashmir, resulting in loss of business and academic opportunities.

"The street violence has ended in Jammu and Kashmir. Those people are not seen anymore who were responsible for the street violence. I understand that they were victims of some people," Sinha said, addressing a conference on Sufism here.

Referring to the Muharram procession which was allowed Thursday here after 33 years, he said, "I am happy to tell you that today the 8th of Muharram procession was taken out after decades and concluded in Srinagar peacefully. It would be wrong to do any politics on religious events."

The Lt Governor said some people often gave calls for a bandh for their personal



benefits.

"Some calls were given from here and some from our neighbours. It would cause huge losses," he said.

He said peace has come now to Jammu and Kashmir and people can venture out late at night for shopping or recreation.

"Now, people go shopping to Polo View market at 10 pm or the kids go for an ice-cream along the Bund of (river) Jhelum while some play guitar or sing a song. I think the wait

of people of Srinagar and rest of Kashmir (for peace) has ended," he said.

Sinha said development cannot happen in a disturbed area. "When there will be peace, we can set new standards of development. There has never been, and never will be, any development in disturbed places. I want to request you all to contribute to this," he said.

Sinha said the youth of Kashmir have started to aspire and dream again.

"They have More on P10

## J&K Most Peaceful Place in World: CS

The Jammu and Kashmir Chief Secretary (CS) Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Thursday said that the Union Territory is a "very safe and peaceful place across the globe." Mehta said this while addressing students at the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) in Budgam on Thursday. He also said that the Valley has a beautiful climate with four different colourful seasons and asked students to cherish all of it during their tenure at NIFT Srinagar. CS further advised the students to use their potential to the best of their capacity and create a niche in Fashion and Designing besides Art and Craft. More on P10



## Army Chief Reviews Preparedness At Siachen

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar- Army chief General Manoj Pande on Thursday visited the Siachen Glacier and reviewed the operational preparedness, besides paying tributes to the soldiers who laid down their lives at the world's highest battlefield.

The COAS interacted with the troops and lauded them for their tenacity and perseverance under the most challenging

conditions. He exhorted them to continue working with same zeal and motivation, the Army said.

"General Manoj Pande #COAS visited frozen frontiers of #Siachen Glacier and reviewed the operational preparedness. #COAS also laid a wreath at #SiachenWarMemorial to honour the #Bravehearts who have made the supreme sacrifice at the World's Highest Battlefield," it said in a tweet.

## KP Group Moves SC Backing Art- 370 Revocation

Social Activist Also Files Intervention Application To Support August 2019 Move

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi: Two separate intervention applications were filed in the Supreme Court on Thursday seeking dismissal of the pleas challenging the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution that bestowed special status on the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

A five-judge constitution bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Sanjiv Khanna, BR Gavai and Surya Kant is slated to hear from August 2 a batch of petitions challenging the repeal of Article 370.

The applications have been filed by 'Youth 4 Panun Kashmir' and social activist

## Sibal To Appear For DPAP During Hearings

Senior lawyer Kapil Sibal will appear on behalf of the DPAP during hearing on a batch of petitions challenging the abrogation of Article 370 in the Supreme Court, the Ghulam Nabi Azad-led party said on Wednesday. The Supreme Court will commence day-to-day hearing from August 2 More on P10

Virinder Kaul. Both applications have been filed through advocate Siddharth Praveen Acharya. "Youth 4 Panun Kashmir", which the plea says is a front-line worldwide movement of Kashmiri Hindu youths, has said Article 370 More on P10

### SHORT TAKES

#### Ashura Holiday Now On July 29

The Union Territory administration on Thursday announced to postpone the holiday on the occasion of 'Ashura' from July 28 to July 29. "In partial modification of Government Order No. 1596-JK(GAD) of 2022 dated 30.12.2022 and Government Order No. 1597-JK(GAD) of 2022, dated 30.12.2022, it is hereby ordered that the holiday on account of 'Ashura' shall now be observed on the 29th of July, 2023 (Saturday) instead of More on P10

#### Patwari Lands In ACB Net

A revenue official on Thursday was arrested by the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) for accepting bribe from a man for issuance of revenue extracts in his favour. The anti-graft body received a complaint from a Magam resident alleging that Showkat Ali, Patwari Halqa Waripora was demanding a bribe of Rs 9000 from him for issuance and processing revenue extract for which he has already applied online, an ACB spokesperson said. The land measuring More on P10

#### Madrassa Teacher Held For Sodomy

A madrassa teacher was arrested on Thursday for allegedly sodomizing a minor boy in Sopore town of North Kashmir's Baramulla district. A police official said that the arrest came following a complaint lodged by a 12-year-old boy (identification withheld), who accused his madrassa teacher (identification withheld) of committing the heinous act. Upon receiving the complaint, the police promptly initiated an investigation, leading to More on P10

#### Teen Dies Of Electric Shock

A teenager died of electrocution while his uncle sustained injuries on Thursday in Pulwama district of South Kashmir. 18-year-old Sehran Ahmad and his uncle Abdul Rashid Dar of Larkipora village of Padgampora were onboard a bulldozer when it came in contact with a transmission wire, reports said. Both of them received serious injuries after receiving electric shock. They were removed to a nearby hospital for treatment. However, Sehran succumbed to More on P10

#### 3 Slapped With PSA In North Kashmir

Three people were booked under the contentious Public Safety Act (PSA) in North Kashmir's Baramulla and Bandipora districts for their involvement in anti-national and anti-social activities, police said Thursday. The trio were slapped with PSA and shifted to jail after obtaining formal detention orders from competent authorities. Tanveer Ahmad Khan son of Abdul Rashid resident of Taripora Sheeri in Baramulla has been More on P10

#### 3,100 Leave For Amarnath Yatra

The 24th batch of Amarnath yatis with over 3,100 pilgrims left the base camp here on Thursday for the holy cave shrine in south Kashmir Himalayas, officials said. Over 3.5 lakh pilgrims have so far paid obeisance at the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine since the commencement of the pilgrimage from the twin tracks of Pahalgam in Anantnag and Baltal in Ganderbal districts on July 1. A total of 3,111 pilgrims including 2,303 men, 750 women, 47 seers and 11 children left More on P10

# Low-Fibre Diet In Pregnancy Could Slow Infant's Brain Growth

**Press Trust Of India**

Low-in-fibre intake in pregnancy could hamper the infant's brain development, according to a new study from Japan.

While animal studies have shown low-fibre diet during pregnancy to impair brain nerve function in offspring, this study is the first one to find the same effects in humans, researchers said.

"Our results provided reinforcing evidence that undernutrition during pregnancy is associated with an increased risk of neurodevelopmental delay in children," said Kunio Miyake, a researcher at the University of Yamaguchi and first author of the study published in the journal Frontiers in Nutrition.

When compared to children of mothers in high-fibre intake groups,

children of mothers in low-fibre intake groups were more likely to exhibit neurodevelopmental delays, Miyake and team found after analysing more than 76,000 mother-infant pairs from the Japan Environment and Children's Study. It is an ongoing project aimed at highlighting how the environment affects children's health.

The team also found undersupply in maternal fibre to impact the children's communication, problem-solving and personal-social skills, in addition to a delayed development in movement and coordination.

The scientists collected the participants' dietary information using a food frequency questionnaire, where the mothers were asked about the diet they consumed in the second and third trimester of their pregnancy.

Children's developmental progress was assessed through another

questionnaire sent to parents upon the offspring turning three years old. Based on the parents' responses, the scientists correlated maternal fibre intake with child brain development.

The recommended daily dietary fibre intake is 18 grams each day in Japan, while it is 28 grams in the US and Canada.

"Our results show that nutritional guidance for pregnant mothers is crucial to reduce the risk of future health problems for their children," said Miyake.

The researchers also pointed to certain limitations of their study.

"Although this study considered the impact of folic acid intake during pregnancy, the possibility of other nutrients having an impact cannot be completely ruled out," Miyake pointed out.

"In addition, dietary fibre intake from supplements could not be investigated," Miyake said.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

I have changed my name on passport bearing no.R4517346 from Moosa Raheel Habib to Moosa Raheel. In future I will be known as Moosa Raheel. If anybody has any objection he/she may contact Passport office Srinagar within seven days from the date of publication of this notice.No objection shall be entertained thereafter.

**Moosa Raheel S/o Raheel Habib** nj  
**R/o House No.11 lane 4 Ibrahim colony Parraypora Sgr**

**Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited**  
 Finance Department  
 Corporate Headquarters  
 M.A. Road, Srinagar 190001

**Online Request For Proposal (e-RFP)**  
 FOR ENGAGEMENT OF ADVISOR/CONSULTANT FOR GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST) COMPLIANCE

RFP Notice along with Complete RFP document outlining the minimum requirements can be downloaded from and Bids can be submitted on the Banks' e-Tendering Portal <https://jkbank.abcpurchase.com> w.e.f. July 28, 2023, 16.00 Hrs. RFP Document can also be downloaded from Bank's Official Website [www.jkbank.com](http://www.jkbank.com). Last date for submission of Bids is **August 18, 2023, 17.00 Hrs.**

e-RFP Ref. No. JKB/CHQ/Finance/Consultant-GST/2023-730  
 Date: 26-07-2023


Registered office: Corporate Headquarters, M.A. Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India  
 CN: L6510JK92855C000048 ; T: +91 (0)194 2481 930-35 ; F: +91 (0)194 248 1928 ; E: info@jkbank.com ; W: www.jkbank.com

**DIPK-NB-2279/23 dated: 27-07-2023**

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

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 10th session Annual Regular 2023 issued by the board of School Education under Below mentioned particulars

**Name: Shazia Rafiq**  
**S/o: Mohammad Rafiq Para**  
**Roll No: 112001065**  
**Year & Session 2023, Annual Regular**




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

**Sd/ Assistant Secretary**  
 Board Of School Education  
 Sub Office Bandipora

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

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 10th session Annual pvt Bi-Annual 2020-21 issued by the board of School Education under Below mentioned particulars

**Name: Amir Ahmad Khan**  
**S/o: Bashir Ahmad Khan**  
**Roll No: 12607435**  
**Year & Session 2020-21 Annual (PVT) Bi-Annual**



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

**Sd/ Assistant Secretary**  
 Board Of School Education  
 Sub Office Bandipora

Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir

## Office of the Executive Engineer PMGSY / JKRRDA Division Kupwara

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**NIT No. EE/PMGSY/KUP/eNIT/2023-24/05** Dated: 26-July-2023

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, e-tenders are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:

S.No	Name of work	Adv. Cost (Lakhs)	Cost of Tender Document. (In Rs)	Earnest Money (Bid security) Rs	Time of completion	M.H. of Account	Class of Contractor
1.	Permanent restoration of Lalpora-Hapatnar road, Package No. JK0899	1.16	600	0.024	15-days	M.H-5054 Sub Head 2181	AAV/BEE/CEE/DEE Class in PWD or Equivalent in PWD / Railways and Other state Governments.
2.	Permanent restoration of Kalaroos-Lashtiyal road, Package No. JK08126	6.36	1100	0.13	15-days		
3.	Permanent restoration of Gonipora-Batpora road, Package No. JK08131	12.22	1600	0.245	15-days		

Position of AAA : Accorded  
 Position of T.S : Accorded  
 Major Head of Account : M.H-5054 Sub Head 2181.

1. The important dates and time are as under:

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date
1.	Date of issue of tender notice	26-07-2023
2.	Bid submission start date	27-07-2023 from 10:00 am
3.	Bid submission end date	02-08-2023 till 4:00 pm
4.	Submission of Hard Copies (DD, EMD / TV etc)	02-08-2023 till 4:00 pm
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	03-08-2023 at 1:00 pm

1. Cost of Bid Form (non-refundable) should be submitted only in form of e-challan/treasury challan/receipt.

2. Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission: The bid documents are available online and bids should be submitted online on website [www.pmgstyendersjk.gov.in](http://www.pmgstyendersjk.gov.in). The bidders are required to register in the website which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in PMGSY may obtain the same from the website: [www.pmgstyendersjk.gov.in](http://www.pmgstyendersjk.gov.in) Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the valid digital signature issued from authorized CAs can use the same in this tender.

3. Bids must be uploaded along with Scanned copy of cost of Tender Document as mentioned in column 4 in shape of e-challan/treasury challan to MH 0059-PWD (Revenue) and scanned copy of Bid Security/Earnest Money both favouring Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Kupwara. The bid security/earnest money in the form of BG/CDR/FDR shall be valid for a period not less than 120 days after the deadline date for bid submission.

4. The original documents, viz, the cost of tender document, Bid Security submitted by LI should be same as uploaded online (scanned copies) otherwise the allotment will not be issued. The tenders will be cancelled and the bidder will not be allowed to Participate in any further/future tendering process in PMGSY for a period of one year.

5. Only online submission of bids is permitted, therefore; bids must be submitted online on website [www.pmgstyendersjk.gov.in](http://www.pmgstyendersjk.gov.in).

6. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than 120 days after the deadline date for bid submission.

10. The bids of such bidders shall be out rightly rejected whose record of performance is poor such as abandoning the works, not properly completing the contract, inordinate delays in completion, litigation history or financial failure etc.

11. Any damage caused to the private/public property during execution of works shall be the liability of the contractor and no claim on account of any such restoration to be carried or disposal of mulba / excavated earth to the suitable dumping spot by the contractor shall not be entertained by the department.

13. The Bidder shall quote Percentage rates for the items excluding of GST (18%). The GST of 18% will be added while fixing of contract with the first-lowest (L1) bidder.

14. The Employer shall not be held responsible for any delay due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be responsible for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidder's responsibility to visit the website for the latest information related to the tender.

15. No Engineer of Gazetted rank or other Gazetted officer employed in Engineering or Administrative duties in an Engineering Department of the State Government is allowed to work as a Contractor for a period of two years after his retirement from Government service, without permission of the Government. This contract is liable to be cancelled if either the contractor or any of his employee is found any time to be such a person who had not obtained the permission of the Government as aforesaid before submission of the tender or engagement in the Contractor's Service.

16. The Performance Security (including additional performance security for unbalanced bids) shall be provided to the employer not later than the date specified in the Letter of Acceptance in shape of FDR/CDR/BG, the employer, and denominated in Indian Rupees, failing which the earnest money of the bidder shall be forfeited without giving any notice. The performance Security shall be valid until a date 28 days from the date of expiry of Defects Liability Period and the additional performance security for unbalanced bids shall be valid until a date 28 days from the date of issue of the certificate of completion.

The successful bidder will have to provide performance security @5% in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG at the time of contract award. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a performance security of 5% of the total cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP.

If in any case bid of the bidder is unbalanced, the successful bidder LI shall have to deposit an additional performance security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG before award of contract for which following scale shall apply thereto :-

S.No.	Percentage of unbalanced bid advertised cost	Additional Performance Security
1.	Upto and including 10%	Nil
2.	10% -15% (including) below	10%
3.	15% - 20% (including) below	10%
4.	20% - 25% (including) below	15%
5.	25% - 30% (including) below	15%
6.	More than 30% below	20%

17. Bidders are advised to scan their documents on 100 dpi with Black and White option.

18. Bidders are advised to download Bid Submission manual for the help of Bid Submission process from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on home page of ([www.pmgstyendersjk.gov.in](http://www.pmgstyendersjk.gov.in)).

19. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantity) contents or its name. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded from the site should be used for filling the rates and it should be saved with same name.

20. Presently, scrutiny of the Technical Bid is being done after opening of Technical Bid. Hence, system generated e-mails confirming acceptance of bid are to be ignored.

21. However, the firms have option to submit the supporting documents as required to be submitted along with Technical Bid, either in online mode along with their Technical Bids or in off-line mode in physical form to the office of Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Kupwara. In case supporting documents are to be submitted offline in physical form, then it should be so specified in their Technical Bids & the supporting documents must be deposited in the office of the Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Kupwara after date & time of opening of tenders by successful bidder.

22. Site Visit-The Bidder, at his own cost, responsibility and risk is encouraged to visit, examine and familiarize himself with the site of works and its surroundings including source of earth, water, road aggregates etc. and obtain all information that may be necessary for preparing the Bid and entering into a contract for construction of the works. The costs of visiting the site shall be at the Bidder's own expense. He may contact the Executive Engineer incharge of work for any guidance relating to site visit.

23. Bidding documents can be downloaded against the payment of as specified in the NIT.

24. The bidder is expected to examine carefully all instructions, conditions of contract, terms and specifications, bill of quantities, drawings in the Bid Document. Failure to comply with the requirements of Bidding Documents shall be at the bidder's own risk. Bids which are not substantially responsive to the requirements of the Bidding Documents, shall be rejected.

25. Clarification of Bidding Documents-A prospective bidder requiring any clarification of the bidding documents may notify the Employer in writing or by Facsimile (Fax) at the Employer's address indicated in the Notice Inviting Tenders. The Employer will respond to any request for clarification received earlier than 05 days prior to the deadline for submission of bids. Copies of the employer's response will be forwarded to all purchasers of the bidding documents, including a description of the inquiry, but without identifying its source.

26. Amendment of Bidding Documents-Before the deadline for submission of bids the Employer may modify the bidding documents by issuing addenda.

27. To give prospective bidders reasonable time to take an addendum into account, in preparing their bids the Employer shall extend, as necessary, the deadline for submission of bids.

28. Preparation of Bids-Language of Bid is English

29. DOCUMENTS COMPRISING THE BID-The bid submitted by the Bidder in electronic form shall be in two separate parts:  
**Following documents are to be uploaded by the bidder online:-**

1. Copy of Bid Security
2. The tender cost in the shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt with name of work.
3. Registration card duly renewed online for the financial year Le 2023-24
4. Registration card certificate of bidder issued on the portal JKPWDOMS (<https://jkpwdoms.jk.gov.in/>).
5. PAN Card.
6. GST number duly issued by the Commercial Taxes Department with latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3/GSTR-3B of the preceding Month/Quarter to the issue of NIT.
7. Correspondence address of Bidders with Whatsapp Mobile Number and email ID.
8. The Bidder have to submit affidavit duly attested by 1<sup>st</sup> Class Magistrate, format attached.
9. BoQ with quoted rate.

Note:- Original instrument in respect of cost of Document, Bid Security and relevant attested copies of Technical Bid Documents by the LI must be delivered to the Office of Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Kupwara after opening of financial bid.

The following documents which are not submitted with the bid will be deemed to be part of the bid.

Section	Particulars
1	Notice inviting Tenders
2	Instruction to the bidder
3	Conditions of contract
4	Specifications

30. Bid Prices: The Contract shall be for the whole works based on the rate quoted by the Bidder in above or below% age. All duties taxes, royalties and other levies payable by the contractor under the contract, or for any other cause shall be included in the rates, prices and total Bid price submitted by the Bidder. The rates and prices quoted by the Bidder shall be fixed for the duration of the contract and shall not be subject to adjustment on any account.

31. Currencies of Bid and payment-All payments shall be made in Indian Rupees.

32. Bid Validity  
 Bids shall remain valid for a period of 120 days after the deadline date for bid submission.  
 In exceptional circumstances, prior to expiry of the original time limit, the employer may request the bidder to extend the period of validity for a specified additional period. The request and the bidder's responses shall be made in writing. A bidder may refuse the request without forfeiting his security deposit. A bidder agreeing to the request will not be required or permitted to modify his bid, but will be required to extend the validity of his Security deposit for a period of the extension.

33. Bid Opening  
 The Employer will open the bids received in the presence of the bidders/bidder's representative who choose to attend at the time, date and place. In the event of the specified date for the submission of bid being declared a holiday for the Employer, the Bids will be opened at the appointed time and location on the next working day. At the time of the opening of the "Financial Bid", the names of the bidders whose bids were found responsive will be announced. The financial bids of only these bidders will be opened. The remaining bids will be returned unopened to the bidders. The responsive bidders' names, the Bid prices, the total amount of each bid, and such other details as the Employer may consider appropriate will be announced by the Employer at the time of bid opening.

34. Process to be Confidential  
 Information relating to the examination, clarification, evaluation, and comparison of bids and recommendations for the award of a contract shall not be disclosed to bidders or any other persons not officially concerned with such process until the award to the successful Bidder has been announced. Any attempt by a Bidder to influence the Employer's processing of bids or award decisions may result in the rejection of his Bid.

35. Clarification of Bids and Contacting the Employer  
 No Bidder shall contact the Employer or any matter relating to its bid from the time of the bid opening to the time the contract is awarded.  
 Any attempt by the bidder to influence the Employer's bid evaluation, bid comparison or contract award decision may result in the rejection of his bid.

36. PRICE PREFERENCE  
 There will be no price preference to any bidder  
 h). The work shall be completed by the concerned contractor as per the timeline stipulated in BID document/ agreement, failing which action shall be initiated against contractor for forfeiting security deposit and shall be recommended for blacklisting.

**No: PMGSY / KUP / 548-53**  
**DIPK-5919/23 Dated: 27-July-2023**

**Sd/-**  
**Executive Engineer**  
**PMGSY / JKRRDA Division Kupwara**

**The Jammu and Kashmir State Board Of School Education**  
 New Campus Bemina Srinagar

### Notice for General Public

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

**Roll No: 12607435**  
**Class 10th**  
**Year & Session: Annual Private- Bi-Annual 2020-21**  
**Registration: N12460410057**  
**Name: Amir Ahmad Khan**  
**Father's Name: Bashir Ahmad Khan**  
**Mother's Name: -Shamima Begum**  
**Date of Birth: 15-07-1999**  
**Residence:- Arin Bandipora**

According to the candidate concerned has approach to this office for issuance of Duplicate Qualification /Marks Certificate/s, so before the same is processed and provided to the candidate, under rules, anybody having any objection in this regard, shall bring into the notice of Assistant Secretary of Certificate as well as Assistant Secretary Examination Unit I & III KD within the period of 10 & 7 days respectively, from the date of publication of this notice. (Besides the above referred "Qualification / Marks Certificate/s" bearing No: 21APBI-7011297 be treated as "CANCELLED")

No: F(Cer is-I-DQC)B/KD/23  
 Dated 07-07-2023

**Assistant Secretary**  
**Certificates, KD.**

**Court Of The 2Nd Additional Munsiff JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE 1st CLASS AT SRINAGAR**

(PROCLAMATION REQUIRING OBJECTION FROM GENERAL PUBLIC  
 CNR: JKSG03-022602-2023  
 Date of Filing 22.07.2023)

**Ayaz Ahmad Sheikh S/o Late Bashir Ahmad Sheikh R/o Pamposh Colony Palpora, Sonwar Srinagar** Applicant

Versus  
**Registrar, Births and Deaths, SMC Srinagar** Non-Applciant

WHEREAS an application has been made before me that Ayaz Ahmad Sheikh S/o Late Bashir Ahmad Sheikh R/o Pamposh Colony Palpora, Sonwar Srinagar has born on 02-03-1994 & the applicant has sought a direction from this court for registration of the birth particulars, Ayaz Ahmad Sheikh, in the concerned register of births and deaths. Proclamation is hereby made that the any person having any objection(s) to this application may appear before this Court (or before me) to file objections within 07 days of this publication.

Dated, this 22nd day of July 2023.

**Sd/-**  
**(AHTZAZ AHMED)**

NJ 2nd Additional (JMJC), Srinagar

**Court Of The 2Nd Additional Munsiff JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE 1st CLASS AT SRINAGAR**

(PROCLAMATION REQUIRING OBJECTION FROM GENERAL PUBLIC  
 CNR: JKSG03-022957-2023  
 Date of Filing 25.07.2023)

**Mohammad Rafiq Phaloo S/o Nazir Ahmad Phaloo R/o H. No. 797 Bagh e Mehtab Srinagar Kashmir** Applicant

Versus  
**Registrar, Births and Deaths, SMC Srinagar** Non-Applciant

WHEREAS an application has been made before me that Mohammad Rafiq Phaloo S/o Nazir Ahmad Phaloo R/o H. No. 797 Bagh e Mehtab Srinagar Kashmir has born on 07-03-1973 & the applicant has sought a direction from this court for registration of the birth particulars, Mohammad Rafiq Phaloo, in the concerned register of births and deaths. Proclamation is hereby made that the any person having any objection(s) to this application may appear before this Court (or before me) to file objections within 07 days of this publication.

Dated, this 25th day of July 2023.

**Sd/-**  
**(AHTZAZ AHMED)**

NJ 2nd Additional (JMJC), Srinagar

## Shia Mourners Condemn Quran Burning in Sweden

Observer News Service

**S**rinagar: Amid the historic eight Muharram procession taken out in Srinagar, locals as well as religious leaders carried along the copies of Quran with them to express their love and send out message against the burning of the holy book in Sweden.

Younis Bashir, a Shia mourner who came to participate in the historical Muharram procession, told Kashmir News Observer that mourners condemned the unholy act of torching the Quran which teaches tolerance and brotherhood.

"We have to have respect for every religious book, be it 'Taurat,

Injeel, Zuboor or Quran', but in the case of Sweden I fail to understand what they are doing," he said.

A religious leader, Aga Syed Abid Hussain, said burring of Quran is condemnable, and Muslims should raise their voices against the act. "We should come to the forefront to show our love and support for the Quran," he added.

Similarly, many mourners said they were carrying copy of the holy Quran along with them in the historical rally to send out a message and condemn the burning of the holy book.

In January 2023, the Danish-Swedish far-right politician burned a copy of the Quran outside the Turkish embassy.



**We have to have respect for every religious book, be it 'Taurat, Injeel, Zuboor or Quran', but in the case of Sweden I fail to understand what they are doing**



## Sectarian Harmony on Display Residents, Police Serve Refreshments to Mourners

Observer News Service

**S**rinagar: In a show of sectarian harmony and brotherhood, residents along Gurubazar-Dalgate stretch besides various NGOs and J&K Police had installed stalls serving refreshments to Shia mourners in Srinagar during the massive 8th Muharram procession on Thursday.

The UT administration allowed the 8th Muharram procession through traditional routes of Srinagar for the first time after a

gap of over 34 years.

J&K police had installed a stall where SSP Srinagar Rakesh Bhalwal was seen distributing water and other cold beverages to the mourners.

Asgar Baba, a volunteer with an NGO—"Who Is Hussain" said that the NGO has started saebel from Muharram 1 and it will continue throughout the month.

Many local NGOs, and locals were also seen distributing the water and juices among mourners. "As per our tradition, we have been distributing the drinking

water and other refreshments to mourners every year. Today, it's a golden opportunity as authorities have allowed the procession through traditional routes," said local traders at M A Road, who had erected a stall to serve beverages to mourners.

The Shia mourners expressed their gratitude to the police and others who had erected stalls to serve water and other drinks for them. "We are all one and Hussain (AS) belongs to entire humanity and mankind," they said—With inputs from KNO

## Mayor of Srinagar Joins Alam-e-Sharief Procession

Observer News Service

**S**rinagar: The Mayor of Srinagar, Junaid Azim Mattu today joined the 8th Muharram Alam-e-Sharief procession in Guru Bazar, Srinagar. This significant religious event commemorates the supreme sacrifices made by the martyrs of Karbala.

The Mayor joined thousands of devout participants who gathered to express their heartfelt tributes and remembrance for the martyrs of Karbala.

During the procession, Mattu walked side by side with the participants, upholding the spirit of unity,



compassion, and respect for the rich cultural and religious heritage of Srinagar. His presence symbolized the city administration's commitment to

fostering communal harmony and honoring the traditions that bind the community together.

Mattu said Imam Hussain (A.S), the grandson of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), left us with a powerful message that resonates through the ages. His message was one of unwavering courage, steadfastness, and the pursuit of justice and righteousness. He stood against the oppressive and tyrannical forces of his time, sacrificing his life and the lives of his loved ones to uphold the principles of truth and dignity.

## Omar Demands Release of Mirwaiz

**S**rinagar: The former chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir Omar Abdullah on Thursday welcomed allowing of the 8th Muharram procession after a period of "three decades" but said more needs to be done from lifting "repeated" curbs on Friday prayers at Jamia Masjid Srinagar and releasing Mirwaiz Umar Farooq.

"I won't go into the history but I surely welcome allowing of 8th Muharram proces-

sion after 30-32 years. More steps need to be taken like repeated curbs on Friday prayers at Jamia Masjid and the Eid prayers at Eidgah too should be lifted," Omar said.

"If history has to be spoken, then Mirwaiz Umar Farooq too should be released," the National Conference vice president said, adding, "When the government is claiming normalcy in the situation, they should take these few more steps."

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
E-TENDER NOTICE

Dy.CEE/GSU/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders ([www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)) against below titled Tenders. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only.

Tender No.	Name of work	App. Cost. (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Completion period	Opening of tender	Website Particulars
27-Elect/GSU-T-16-2023-24	Electrical works in c/w/with soft upgradation of the stations under Amrit Bharat Stations Scheme (ABSS) covering various areas viz. Improvement of lighting to traffic circulation, circulating area, entrance porch, Platforms, Platform shelters, existing station building, toilets, foot over bridge and facade lighting including other ancillary works at Muktsar, Firozpur cantt and Moga Railway Station.	24654127.61	273300.00	06 Months	17.08.2023 after 15:00 Hrs.	<a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a>

Open Tender Notice No. NIT-16/2023-24 Dated: 27.07.2023 2325/23

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

**ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**  
AWANTIPORA, KASHMIR.  
Tel: 01933-247955/247955. Website: [www.iust.ac.in](http://www.iust.ac.in)

**NOTICE**

Admission (Selection) Notification No. 01 of 2023 Dated 26-07-2023 for admission to B. Tech. Engineering programmes is available on the University website [www.iust.ac.in](http://www.iust.ac.in). The candidates whose Form Numbers are reflected in the said notification are advised to go through the same and follow the instructions. The last date for completion of admission formalities is **04-08-2023**. The detailed merit list is available on the University website [www.iust.ac.in](http://www.iust.ac.in).

Further, candidates who have applied for other UG programmes are advised to remain in touch with the University website for selection lists and subsequent selection notifications.

**ADMISSION UNDER SELF FINANCING CATEGORY / NRI SPONSORED QUOTA:**  
**FOR SELF-FINANCING CATEGORY:** The eligible candidate(s) whose name is shown in the Merit List and are desirous to apply under Self Financing Category may apply online by clicking on the tab (Apply for SF Seat) in the admission login page on the university website [www.iust.ac.in](http://www.iust.ac.in) and deposit fee of Rs. 500/- (non-refundable) online by or before **04-08-2023**. They need not to submit the hard copies of the Self-Financing Application Form at this point of time, however, the downloaded application form may be required later for admission purposes if the candidate is selected. The candidates who shall apply online under Self-Financing category and fail to deposit the requisite fee shall not be considered under this category.

**FOR NRI SPONSORED QUOTA:** The eligible candidate(s) desirous to apply under NRI Sponsored Quota are advised to submit an application in the Office of the Dean Academic Affairs, IUST Campus Awantipora on any working day by or before **04-08-2023** (except on Saturday & Sunday) alongwith application fee of Rs. 500/- and copy (ies) of required NRI Sponsored documents as mentioned in the University Prospectus 2023. The candidates who have not applied earlier can also apply under this quota. The selection under this quota shall be based on the 12<sup>th</sup> percentage.

Queries, if any, can be made on EPABX: 01933-247955/247954 Phone: 9858306455 / 9906400789 Email ID: [admissions@iust.ac.in](mailto:admissions@iust.ac.in)

No: IUST/DAA-Acad/23/1480  
Dated: 26-07-2023

Sd/-  
Deputy Registrar, Academics

DIPK-NB-2259/23 dated: 27-07-2023

Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**  
**MECHANICAL HOSPITAL AND CENTRAL HEATING**  
**DIVISION SRINAGAR**  
(Tele-fax No: 019-2496089, e-mail id: [xenmhchdk@yahoo.in](mailto:xenmhchdk@yahoo.in))

Subject: - I. Repairs to 26 Passenger OTIS Lift near Staircase at Govt. Superspeciality Hospital Srinagar  
II. Repairs to 08 passenger (G+3) OTIS make lift at Govt. Superspeciality Hospital Srinagar  
III. Repairs to Vacuum Air Compressor System at Govt. Superspeciality Hospital Srinagar  
IV. Providing and Fitting of Oxygen Connectors with Oxygen Flowmeters in ECT Theatre at Govt. Psychiatric Disease Hospital, Srinagar

Ref : This office e- NIT no: MHCHD/TS/2023-24/51/e-tendering Dated 13.07.2023

EXTENSION

In view of poor/no response, the Critical dates of above subject work(s) tendered vide above referred e-NIT(s) are extended as follows: -

S.No	Description	Date and Time
1.	Last Date of Bid Submission	03.08.2023 (12:00 hrs)
2.	Date of Bid Opening	03.08.2023 (15:00 hrs)

All other Terms and Conditions of the NIT shall remain the same.

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
MHCH Division  
Srinagar.

No. MHCHD/TS/3501-04,  
DIPK-5943/23  
Dt: - 27-07-2023

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

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

**RAILWAYS**  
• SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259  
• ANANTNAG: 01932-228243  
• BARAMULLA: 0194-102029  
• BIJHERA: 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**  
09 Muharram  
1445

**PRAYERS**  
FAJR 4:01  
ZUHR 12:37  
ASR 5:32  
Magrib 7:39  
ISHA 9:13

**This Day In History**

- 388 - Battle at Aquileia: Emperor Theodosius beats emperor Magnus Maximis
- 1148 - Second Crusade: Crusaders abandon their siege of Damascus
- 1330 - Battle of Velbuzd: Serbian forces defeats Bulgarian army
- 1741 C - aptain Vitus Bering discovers Mount St Elias, Alaska
- 1808 - Mahmud II succeeds Mustafa IV as sultan of Turkey
- 1821 - Peru declares independence from Spain (National Day)
- 1851 - Total solar eclipse captured on a daguerreotype photograph
- 1858- Nadar takes 1st airborne photo (in a balloon)
- 1883-Shocks triggered by volcano Epomeo (Isle of Ischia, Italy) destroyed 1,200 houses at Casamicciola killing 2,000
- 1914- Austria-Hungary decides against mediation and declares war on Serbia - first declaration of war of WWI
- 1926- US & Panamanian pact about safeguard of Panama Canal
- 1933- Spain recognizes the USSR
- 1943- Italian Fascist dictator Benito Mussolini resigns
- 1943- World War II: Operation Gomorrah: The British bomb Hamburg causing a firestorm that kills 42,000 German civilians
- 1945- Japanese premier Suzuki disregards US ultimatum to surrender
- 1945- US Senate ratifies United Nations charter 89-2
- 1945- Physicist Raemer Schreiber and Lieutenant Colonel Peer de Silva arrive on the Pacific island of Tinian with the plutonium core used to assemble the Fat Man bomb used in the bombing of

**From KO Archives**

**Azad's Move Against Corruption**

**Politicians Come Under SVO Scanner**

**S**rinagar: After getting the go ahead from the chief minister, the state vigilance organization (SVO) has formally initiated moves to gather details about the assets of Valley politicians. The SVO is planning to put its plan into action very soon.

During a departmental conference of the SVO, the chief minister Ghulam Nabi Azad had indicated that the organisation could extend its reach to politicians, and later it got the formal nod.

The SVO is learnt to have begun compiling details of the incomes of the state's politicians, political functionaries and workers with a view to determine their movable and immovable property.

Sources said that the SVO would try to gather information about the property of these politicians before and after they assumed public office.

The SVO has formulated several teams and put them to work under cover. The teams will gather data about the incomes of politicians holding office in government departments and on the basis of this record the SVO will tighten the ring around wrongdoers.

Speaking on the condition of anonymity, a top officer of the SVO said that though the organization had intended to lay its hands on politicians as well, it was waiting for the green signal from the government.

"And that finally came from the chief minister," he said.

According to reports, several politicians are feeling the ground slipping beneath their feet at the chief minister's decision, and have begun to transfer their property to other names. They have begun the process of shifting valuables and luxurious items to the homes of their relatives.

(Kashmir Observer, 28 July, 2007)

## Lok Sabha Nod To Bill To Repeal 76 Redundant, Obsolete Laws



Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** Lok Sabha on Thursday gave its nod to a bill to repeal 76 redundant and obsolete laws, with the government saying the move is part of its continuing efforts to improve the ease of living and doing business.

So far, the Modi government has repealed 1,486 laws and once the present bill gets parliament's nod, the number of laws removed from statute books will go up to 1,562. Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal said moving the bill for consideration.

In December last year, the government introduced the Repealing and Amending Bill to cull 65 old laws. But the bill could not come up for discussion in subsequent sessions.

Meghwal said he is moving an official amendment to add 11 more bills to the list, bringing the total to 76.

The 11 bills added through the amendment are colonial-era laws, he said.

He said the repealing of old laws is part of the government's efforts to improve "ease of living as well as ease of doing business".

In his brief remarks, the minister took a jibe at the previous UPA government, saying not even a single law, which is not

required in the current scenario, was repealed.

The Repealing and Amending Bill also aims to correct a "patent error" in one of the laws by replacing certain words.

The bill is one of the periodical measures by which enactments that have ceased to be in force or have become obsolete or the retention as a separate Act is unnecessary are repealed. Such bills also correct defects detected in any law.

The bill proposes to repeal the Land Acquisition (Mines) Act, 1885.

It also seeks to repeal the Telegraph Wires (Unlawful Possession) Act, 1950. Under the law, "Whoever is found or is proved to have been in possession of any quantity of telegraph wires shall unless he proves that the telegraph wires came into his possession lawfully, be punishable, for the first offence, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years, or with fine ..."

The bill also seeks to repeal certain Appropriation Acts passed by Parliament in the recent past. Once the principal Act is amended, the amendment laws lose relevance. Their presence in the statute books as independent laws becomes unnecessary and they only clog the system.

## India's Smart Cities Project Hounded By Delays

Agencies

**I**ndia's Smart Cities Mission (SCM) was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in June 2015, identifying 100 cities in order to provide them with core infrastructure, along with a clean and sustainable environment. The government earmarked over \$22 billion (nearly ₹20 billion) for the initiative.

City planners and architects warn that India's metropolises, already crumbling under the massive pressure exerted by continuous migration, could easily descend into urban chaos.

The SCM enabled over 7,800 projects across selected cities with the goal of facilitating economic growth and improving quality of life. So far, 73% of those projects have been completed, according to a government statement issued in response to IndiaSpend news outlet in May. But some of the cities have fared much worse than others.

"This lag in project completion is distributed asymmetrically across the 100 cities, with some cities boasting a good track record, while others fared poorly in execution of projects," said a report from the Centre for Financial Accountability, an independent platform which aims to strengthen and improve financial accountability.

"This asymmetry is also seen in utilization rate of funds for these projects. Some cities have a good track record of percentage of projects completed and yet, the funds utilization rate for these projects has been poor," it said. Organizers initially hoped to conclude SCM by 2020. But with the COVID pandemic



hitting that year, authorities granted an extension to June 2023. Then, with many cities still a long way from the finish line, they issued another extension, pushing the completion date to June 2024. Meanwhile, a number of cities including Mumbai decided to pull out of the project over political disagreements.

What is the project about? The SCM was envisaged as a large-scale urban infrastructure renewal and retrofitting initiative aimed at making urban infrastructure climate resilient and sustainable, providing for affordable housing, adequate electricity and water, and effective waste management.

As many as 232 public-private partnership projects have been taken up across 53 smart cities — both small and big. These projects are multi-sectoral and include infrastructure like multi-modal transport hubs, common mobility cards, multi-level car parking and public bike sharing.

With about 768 initiatives, Karnataka topped the list of states with the most completed projects, followed by Madhya Pradesh (577), Uttar Pradesh (553), and Tamil Nadu (531).

Indore had the highest number of completed projects among all cities, while Shillong had the lowest, having completed just one.

**SCM's performance 'dismal', activist says**

According to SCM guidelines, the central government provides financial support and also requires state governments and urban local bodies (ULBs) to contribute an equal amount for implementation projects. The government is concentrating on encouraging Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) for successful implementation of the SCM.

However, urban planners and policy makers believe not enough thought has been given to infuse technology-based "smart solutions" in these proposed smart cities. This could explain delays in implementation.

Dunu Roy, a political ecologist who runs research outfit Hazards Centre, said the SCM was a sequel to the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), which was also a massive city-modernization scheme with several "smart" reforms at its core. The original project was launched in 2005.

## Centre Issued Directives To Block 635 URLs For Spreading Fake News: Anurag Thakur

Press Trust of India

**T**he government issued directions to block public access to 635 URLs, including 120 YouTube-based news channels, since December 2021 for publishing fake news and content not found to be in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of the country, the Rajya Sabha was informed on Thursday.



2021.

In a written reply, Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur said the websites in question had published content not found to be in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States or public order or for preventing incitement to the commission of any cognizable offence relating to the above, including fake news, in accordance with the provisions of Section 69A of the Information Technology Act.

Thakur said the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has, since December 2021, issued directions for blocking from public access of 635 URLs, including 120 YouTube-based news channels, under the provisions of Part-III of IT Rules, 2021.

In reply to a separate question, Thakur said the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting had issued advisories dated 13.06.2022, 03.10.2022 and 06.04.2023 to print, electronic and digital media to refrain from publishing advertisements of online betting platforms or their surrogate products/services.

He said the government takes appropriate action whenever a specific violation in this regard comes to the notice of the ministry.

Replying to another question, Thakur said the government had also issued an advisory to the media platforms to ensure that the provisions of Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act, 2019 are not contravened either by way of advertisement or any promotion or other campaigns.

## Ram Mandir Trust Invites PM Modi For Idol Consecration In January



Press Trust of India

**AYODHYA:** The Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust has sent a formal invitation to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the consecration of the idol of Lord Rama in the sanctum sanctorum of the Ram Temple January next year, a trust member said on Thursday.

The trust will extend invitations to around 10,000 guests for the ceremony.

The Trust has formally invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi writing him a letter recently and dates between 15 January to 24 January have been given, but the exact date will be decided by the Prime Minister himself, general secretary of Ram Mandir Trust Champat Rai told PTI.

The letter sent to the PM is signed by the president of temple trust Mahant Nitya Gopal Das. If the Prime Minister attends the ceremony then the country's image will boost worldwide, he said.

In August 2020, Modi had performed the "bhoomi puja" of the Supreme Court-mandated Ram temple in Ayodhya.

On November 9, 2019, the Supreme Court settled the fractious issue going back more than a century and backed the construction of a Ram temple by a trust at the disputed site.

Keeping in view the expected attendance, the security agencies have started to design a foolproof and guests-friendly security system for the ceremony.

Apart from the VIPs, the Ayodhya administration is expecting a heavy inflow of common devotees to the temple on the day of the ceremony.

Agencies want to restrict the inflow of devotees on ceremony day as it may disturb the security, a senior official said.

Meanwhile, the trust has increased the numbers of labourers and technicians engaged in the construction of the Ram temple to meet the December deadline, as announced by the trust earlier.

Earlier, 550 workers were working on the construction of the Ram temple, but in the last few weeks the trust has increased this number to around 1,600. The work which used to be done in an 18-hour shift earlier, is now apace round-the-clock.

## HC Reserves Order On ASI Survey Of Gyanvapi Mosque; Verdict On Aug 3



Agencies

**PRAYAGRAJ:** The Allahabad High Court has reserved its order on the ASI survey of the Gyanvapi mosque. The court will announce its verdict on August 3, an official said on Thursday, adding the stay on ASI Survey will continue till then.

The Anjuman Mosque Committee moved the high court on Wednesday, July 26, challenging the order of the Varanasi Court directing the ASI to

survey the mosque premises (except for wuzukhana).

This order was passed on an application filed by four Hindu women worshippers who are party to a suit filed before the District Court seeking year-round access to worship inside mosque premises.

The Anjuman Committee argued in the high court that the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) was never a party to the suit or never notified by the Varanasi Court.

## More Than 66% Of 1.34 Crore NRIs Live In Gulf Countries: RTI Reply

Press Trust of India

**NAGPUR:** Of the estimated 1.34 crore Non-Resident Indians, more than 66 per cent are in the Gulf countries of UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman and Bahrain, the External Affairs Ministry has said in an RTI reply.

The data is as of March 2022, said the ministry.

An NRI is an Indian citizen who is ordinarily residing outside India and holds an Indian passport.

Nagpur-based banker Abhay Kolarkar said he had sought the data pertaining to NRIs and Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) under Right to Information (RTI) a few months ago and the ministry's reply reached him in the last week of June.

In its RTI reply, the ministry said that an estimated 1.34 crore NRIs live in 210 countries. Of these, 88.8 lakh overseas Indians live in six Gulf nations.

While 34.1 lakh NRIs live in the United Arab Emirates, 25.9 lakh live in Saudi Arabia, followed by 10.2 lakh in Kuwait, 7.4 lakh in Qatar, 7.7 lakh in Oman and 3.2 lakh in Bahrain.



Kolarkar said he wanted the data to get a sense of the number of NRIs who might be affected in case of a war or a humanitarian crisis on foreign soil.

As per the RTI reply, 12.8 lakh NRIs live in the US. The number is 3.5 lakh for the UK, 2.4 lakh for Australia, 2.2 lakh for Malaysia, and 1.7 lakh for Canada.

However, the Gulf nations have very few PIOs, while the US has more such persons.

A PIO is a person who or any of whose ancestors was an Indian national and who is presently holding another country's citizenship or nationality i.e. he or she is holding a foreign passport.

At 31 lakh, the US has the most number of PIOs compared to other countries, said the RTI reply. It is followed by 27.6 lakh in Malaysia, 20 lakh in Myanmar, 16 lakh in Sri Lanka and 15.1 lakh in Canada.

### NEWS MAKERS

## SC Extends ED Director's Tenure Till Sep 15

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Thursday granted an extension of tenure to Enforcement Directorate chief Sanjay Kumar Mishra till September 15 but made it clear there will be no further extension.

The Centre was seeking an extension in Mishra's tenure till October 15. A bench of Justices B R Gavai, Vikram Nath and Sanjay Karol said it was granting the extension in "larger public and national interest" but that Mishra will cease to remain ED chief from the midnight of September 15.

During the hearing, the top court questioned the Centre for seeking an extension and asked if the entire department is "full of incompetent people" except the incumbent chief.



The top law officer argued that the continuity of the ED leadership is necessary in view of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) peer review whose rating matters.

Mehta said Mishra is "not

indispensable" but his presence is necessary for the entire peer review exercise. Representing the ED, Additional Solicitor General S V Raju said, "Some neighbouring countries want India to fall into FATF's 'grey list' and therefore, the ED chief's continuity is necessary".

The bench was hearing the Centre's application seeking the continuance of Mishra's tenure till October 15.

The top court had on July 11 held as "illegal" two successive one-year extensions granted to Mishra and said the Centre's orders were in the "breach" of its mandamus in the 2021 verdict that the IRS officer should not be given further term.

It had also curtailed Mishra's extended tenure to July 31 from November.

## Now Chinese Woman Crosses Pak Border To Marry FB Friend

Press Trust of India

**I**n yet another cross-border love story, a Chinese woman has travelled to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province to meet a Pakistani man whom she befriended and fell in love with on social media, police said on Thursday.

The woman, identified by the media as Gao Feng, arrived in Islamabad on Wednesday by road from China via Gilgit on a three-month visit visa. The 21-year-old was picked up by her 18-year-old friend Javed, a resident of Bajaur tribal district bordering Afghanistan, they said. Javed took the woman to his maternal uncle's home in Samarbagh tehsil of Lower Dir District instead of his hometown due to the security situation in Bajaur District bordering Afghanistan.

According to police, both were in contact through Snapchat for the last three years and the friendship developed into a love affair.

District Police Officer of Lower Dir District Ziauddin told the me-

dia that the Chinese woman has been provided full security in the Samarbagh area. However, she is not being provided free movement due to Muharram and security concerns in the area.

The travel documents of the woman are in order, police said, adding that she has not yet performed the 'nikah' with Javed.

The news of the Chinese girl travelling to Pakistan for the pursuit of love came at a time when in a similar incident, a 34-year-old married Indian woman Anju from Rajasthan travelled to the Upper Dir district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to meet her 29-year-old Pakistani friend Nasrulla whom she met on Facebook. Anju later married Nasrulla after converting to Islam and now has a new name, Fatima.

In another similar incident, Seema Ghulam Haider, a 30-year-old Pakistani mother of four, sneaked into India to live with Sachin Meena, a 22-year-old Hindu man she got in touch with while playing PUBG in 2019.

## Yumna Zaidi Spends Muharram In Karbala, Photos Go Viral

Agencies

**HYDERABAD:** Yumna Zaidi is a well-known Pakistani television actress. The Dil Na Umeed To Nahi actress, who rose to prominence following the success of the blockbuster drama Tere Bin, is currently spending Muharram in Iraq.

According to Reviwitt, Yumna Zaidi is a very private person. She is also deeply religious. She went to perform Umrah with her mother a few months ago, but she did not share any photos. She is currently spending the first days of Muharram in Karbala with her mother.

Her photos were shared on social media by a social media influencer who met Yumna Zaidi in Iraq. Yumna Zaidi's mother also shared an Iraqi story. Check out the actress' photos from the shrine of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA)

In the meantime, she will be seen next in the drama Gentleman, alongside the popular Humayun Saaved.



## Jammu Reports Rise In Conjunctivitis, Eye-Flu Cases

Increased Moisture In Atmosphere Main Reason, No Need To Worry, People Must Take Precautions: Doctors

### Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** Hospitals in different parts of Jammu division are witnessing dozens of patients complaining of irritation, redness, swelling and itching in the eyes.

Doctors said that more cases of conjunctivitis and eye flu are on rise but there is need to worry as it goes in around one-two weeks whoever gets affected but people need to take precautions.

They said it is a "self-limiting infection" and each individual immunity will have a role to play in the course of the disease.

"The monsoon's humid and damp conditions provide an ideal breeding ground for the viruses or bacteria responsible for these infections to spread rapidly," they said.

"This flu can infect any person of any age group and to stop the spread of the infection, touching of eyes should be avoided, especially unwashed hands," they added.

They said that symptoms of this flu are watery discharge in the eyes, redness, congestion, photophobia, hemorrhages in the superficial layer of the eye.

Dr Sandeep an eye special-

ist from Jammu said that these cases are being reported in four districts of Jammu from last one week now.

He said that eye flu is also one of the common problems experienced by people during monsoons, however, this year, more and more moisture in the air may be one of the main reasons behind it.

He said that one must maintain good hygiene which includes washing hands and avoiding touching eyes with bare or unwashed hands and one must also avoid sharing personal belongings like towels, lenses or glasses.

Whosever experiences any symptoms must visit nearest hospitals and take precautions so that it won't spread to others, he said.

Doctors said that in most cases, eye flu is not dangerous and can be easily treated with proper care. There are over-the-counter available eye drops and anti-bacterial medications that can be taken with appropriate dosage for eye flu treatment.

However, if left untreated, severe cases of bacterial conjunctivitis may lead to complications that can affect vision, they said—(KNO)

## 4 Missing Kin Of Soldier Traced In Haridwar

### Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** Four members of an army personnel's family went missing from Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district and were later traced in Uttar Pradesh's Haridwar following a search operation by police, officials said.

All four persons were reunited with the family in Rajouri on Thursday, they said.

A team of police received information that family members of a serving army personnel i.e.

his wife and three children had gone missing from their house in Rajouri on July 23, police said.

A team headed by Deputy Superintendent of Police Munsir Hussain led the search operation, they said.

After registration of a missing report, the police team conducted searches and finally managed to trace the missing family members from Haridwar in UP, they said.

Police said they have now been reunited with the family.

## Flash Floods Damage Khumriyal Bridge In Kupwara



### Agencies

**KUPWARA:** Flash floods triggered by heavy rains washed away a portion of the vital Khumriyal bridge Wednesday evening leaving residents worried.

Khumriyal bridge connects the entire Lolab valley with district headquarters and was damaged due to an increase in the water level. In past weeks, Kupwara received heavy rains leading to flood-like situations in parts of the district.

Talking to news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), people said that last evening with rainfall and an increase in water level in the water body flowing underneath the bridge, it started to increase worrying residents.

Later, a portion of the bridge was washed away due to flash floods

forcing closure of the bridge.

They also said that officials from both civil and police immediately reached the spot and necessary precautions including diversion of traffic and signboards were installed for the safety of commuters.

An official said they have restored one way traffic and have pressed men and machinery into service to restore the bridge. "We will divert the water and start the process for repairing the damaged portion," he said.

The official also said that the overflow of the water from Kalaros cannot be ruled out as well given that many roads have also been damaged there.

Police has also been deployed to regulate the traffic and ensure the safety of everyone there—(KNO)



**SECURITY PERSONNEL STAND ALERT** behind barricades during the traditional 8th Muharram procession that was taken out in Srinagar after a gap of 34 years.

KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

## CS Calls For Grand Celebrations On I-Day

### Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Chief Secretary, DrArun Kumar Mehta on Thursday chaired a high-level meeting of senior civil and security officers to review the final arrangements for the Independence Day 2023 at Civil Secretariat here.

The meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary Home, RK Goyal; Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor, Mandeep Kumar Bhandari; Administrative Secretaries of all Departments, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir/Jammu, ADGP Jammu/Kashmir, Director Information J&K, HoDs of various Departments, Deputy Commissioners and SSPs of all districts, senior officers of Army, CRPF and other security agencies as well as other concerned officers both in person and through video conferencing.

During the meeting, detailed deliberations were held on various aspects of the event, including security measures, traffic management, cultural programs, flag hoisting ceremonies, public engagements and other related arrangements.

Addressing the officers, Dr. Mehta remarked that Independence Day of any nation holds immense significance for its citizens. He observed that the day symbolizes the spirit of freedom and unity and therefore grand celebrations right from Panchayat level should be held with due fervour to mark this grand occasion. He emphasized on the need for meticulous planning and coordination to ensure a seamless and befitting celebration, showcasing the nation's pride and achievements.

While reviewing the preparedness of the main event to be held at Sher-i-Kashmir Cricket Stadium, the Chief Secretary directed the concerned officers to ensure fool proof security in-and-around the main venue. He directed the traffic department to identify space for proper parking of vehicles with due adherence to protocol near the venue.

Calling upon the officers to make the event a festive occasion, the Chief Secretary asked the officers that all government offices, buildings, schools, colleges and universities should hoist the national



flag on August 15 with proper flag code. He asked the DCs that similar kind of celebrations should be organised from in their respective districts. He also asked them to hoist flags near AmritSaravars constructed in different Panchayats.

The Chief Secretary directed the Commissioner Secretary Information Department that the recently inaugurated National Anthem Singing Competition should be organised in collaboration with the education department so that maximum students can participate in it. He directed all DCs to popularise this campaign in their respective districts by keeping synergy with concerned district information offices.

He also asked the Director Information that proper Media Plan should be drafted well in advance to facilitate the media persons at the venue.

Dr Mehta also directed all the officers that the Swachta campaigns should be organised in all government offices. He also asked them to illuminate all government buildings to mark this occasion.

The Chief Secretary enjoined upon all DCs that taking selfie with 'Mitti' of the village or earthen 'Diya' in hand as well as 'VasudhaVandan' under which each Gram Panchayat will replenish mother earth by planting at least 75 plant saplings preferentially around the already established AmritSaravars, should be popularised in their districts so that maximum people participate. He also asked them that 'Mitti-Yatras' from Panchayats should be organized on massive scale.

Dr. Mehta also asked the officers that one person from each block of all districts being sent to New Delhi with

its 'Mitti' for construction of the National Memorial at Kartavya Path should be selected well in advance and preference should be given to youth who have excelled in sports or have been National Awardees or State Awardees.

The Chief Secretary also directed the Culture Department that the programs to be performed by their artists during the event should create patriotic fervor among the audiences and give message of unity and spirit of freedom.

The Chief Secretary directed the officers that that all District Development Council members, participating in the event should be facilitated. He urged that the speeches of public representatives on the I-Day event should emphasize on 'Digital J&K' initiative and highlight government achievements like NashaMukht JK, Jan Baghidari, Apki Zameen Apki Nigrani and other remarkable achievements of Jammu and Kashmir made during the past few years.

Dr. Mehta also asked all the officers that 'HarGharTiranga' campaign should be held on massive scale and all the people should participate in this event quite enthusiastically. He also asked the security agencies to facilitate the movement of people on the day.

He advised the concerned officers that in case of inclement weather, arrangements should be made beforehand so that I-Day celebrations would pass off smoothly.

On the occasion, all the officers gave their inputs and the status of arrangements wherein the Chief Secretary expressed his satisfaction over the arrangements and preparedness for the upcoming Independence Day celebrations.

## HC Directs DC Kupwara To Hold Fresh Enquiry Into Engagement Of ReTs

### Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** The J&K and Ladakh High Court has directed Deputy Commissioner Kupwara to conduct an inquiry into engagement of ReTs for which applications were invited in 2010 and submit a report within eight weeks.

The petitioner submitted in the court that she had applied for the posts of RET for which applications were invited by the ZEO Kupwara for Primary School Wani Mohallah Manzarhar in 2010.

After hearing the counsel for parties, the court as per a local news agency KNO directed the Deputy Commissioner Kupwara to hold an enquiry into the matter and submit report to the court within eight weeks.

In view of the contradictory reports which are on the record of this petition and the fact that the earlier enquiry was conducted by the Principal, GHSS, Kupwara, the respondents cannot be heard saying that Principal, GHSS, Kupwara,

had on his own conducted the enquiry, the court said.

The petition was heard by Justice Sindhu Sharma.

"With a view to test the veracity of the fact, it would be proper to get the enquiry with regard to these facts and circumstances conducted by any independent authority.

Accordingly, Deputy Commissioner Kupwara is directed to hold an enquiry with regard to the fact as to whether the petitioner had applied pursuant to Advertisement Notice dated 21.04.2010, and also with regard to the residence of the petitioner," the court said.

The court said "Deputy Commissioner shall conduct the enquiry after issuing notice to all the parties and provide them an opportunity of hearing. The report in this regard shall be produced before this Court within a period of eight weeks."

The case has been listed for hearing on September 22.

The petitioner contends that though she was eligible and meritorious and had applied for the above post, yet the respondents did not consider her for engagement, purportedly on the ground that she had not applied for the said post.

The chief education officer directed Principal, Girls Higher Secondary School Kupwara to conduct an enquiry in the matter and the Principal, GHSS, Kupwara stated that Incharge ReT engagement Ghulam Nabi Rather has produced original application file of the petitioner along with photocopy of master list containing 16 candidates which includes the name of the petitioner.

The petitioner submitted that no action was taken despite the report against the selected candidate, prompting the petitioner to approach the Court for seeking quashing of selection list. The plea said that the petitioner is more meritorious and entitled to be selected and selection of selected candidate Syed Talib Hussain is a product of fraud.

## JU Launches 4-Year 'Design Your Degree' Programme

### Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** The University of Jammu on Thursday announced the launch of a four-year 'design your degree' undergraduate programme which will begin from the current session.

According to Vice Chancellor Professor Umesh Rai, the programme will transform higher education and revolutionise the way students pursue their academic aspirations.

Under the programme, students will be offered a remarkable opportunity to craft a personalised, interdisciplinary learning experience, the VC said. By allowing students to select courses from diverse fields of study, the 'design your degree' programme will equip them with a well-rounded education that nurtures "critical thinking, creativity, and adaptability - traits essential for thriving in the rapidly evolving global landscape," he added.

The VC said the degree aims to create graduates who are not only experts in their chosen fields but also possess a "holistic understanding of the world, enabling them to make meaningful contributions to society."

## Chopans Protest Against Inclusion Of Paharis Under ST Category

### Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** As the Government of India introduced the bill in Lok Sabha giving Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to Pahadi community in J&K, scores of members from Chopan community on Wednesday protested in Srinagar against the said move.

The protesters who had gathered under the banner of J&K Chopan Welfare Associa-

deserve to be scheduled tribe "said Ghulam Mohiudeen Chopan senior member of Chopan Welfare Association

The Chopan Welfare Association has been fighting for the ST status for Chopans for the last 26 years and got a resolution passed by the Legislative Assembly of J&K in 2000.

The file for grant of Scheduled Tribe status to Chopans was put forward to the Minis-



tion demanded that their community be included under the Scheduled Tribe (ST) category. They appealed PM Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah to look into their issue with human heart

The members of All Jammu & Kashmir Chopan Welfare Association assembled in the Press Enclave on Wednesday and held a peaceful demonstration against granting ST status to Pahadis.

"Members of Chopan Community rear Sheep of farmers. We belong to disadvantaged communities who are educationally and economically backward as well. We are only 2.50 lakh people in J&K having no land at all and our literacy rate is not even 30%. Don't we

try of Tribal affairs Govt of India by the then Chief Minister of J&K through J & K Social welfare department on 10th October 2000 after JK Assembly passed a resolution in favour of granting ST status to Chopans.

"We were shocked when we came to know that Pahadis are being given ST status. Our people are busy grazing sheep at highland pastures and those Syed's, Mirza's, Rajputs and Brahmins who live in posh colonies of Jammu, Srinagar, Rajouri and Poonch are getting ST status. This is unacceptable to us" said Raja Basharat Chopan, another senior leader of Chopan Welfare Association and a member of the National level Youth Pastoralist committee.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my passport as Shakil-ul-Rehman S/o Ghulam Din Ganie while my correct name is Shakil -Ul-Rehman S/o Ghulam -Ud-Din which needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Regional Passport Office Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice.

Shakil -Ul-Rehman  
S/o Ghulam -Ud-Din

BMG

## The Jammu and Kashmir State Board Of School Education Notice for General Public

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

Roll No: 3134209

Class 10th

Year & Session: Annual 2019

Registration: NI1442500010

Name : Muskana Rafiq

Father's Name: Mohammad Rafiq Rather

Mother's Name : Shakeela Begum

Date of Birth:- 19-09-2004

Residenc:- Baramulla

According to the candidate concerned has approach to this office for issuance of Duplicate Qualification /Marks Certificate/s, so before the same is processed and provided to the candidate, under rules, anybody having any objection in this regard, shall bring into the notice of Assistant Secretary of Certificate as well as Assistant Secretary Examination Unit I & III KD within the period of 10 & 7 days respectively, from the date of publication of this notice. (Besides the above referred "Qualification / Marks Certificate/s" bearing No: I9ARKAM- 5017889 be treated as "CANCELLED") No: F(Cer is-I-DQC)/B/KD/23

FKO

Assistant Secretary  
Certificates, KD.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

My DOB has been wrongly written in my school records as 11-05-2014 while my correct DOB is 29-11-2013 which needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the concerned Office within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained

Aamina Ameen  
D/o Bilal Ahmad Shah

BMG

## PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my J&K Bank account as Hafeeza Bano while my correct name as per Aadhaar is Hafeeza Parveen which needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Concerned Bank Branch within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Hafeeza Parveen  
D/o Ali Mohd Wani  
R/o Aripathan Beerwah Budgam

BMG

KASHMIR OBSERVER<sup>TM</sup>

Friday | 28-07-2023

## Cancer Cure?

US President Joe Biden made a stunning assertion during an event at the White House focusing on expanding access to mental health care: Biden was asked what he would do if he could achieve anything at all, to which he responded, "I'd cure cancer. His administration, he said, has effectively "ended cancer as we know it." The claim has been met with a mix of emotions. The President's personal connection to cancer is well-known. Having lost his son, Beau, to brain cancer in 2015, Biden's determination to find a cure has been a driving force behind his efforts. During his 2020 campaign, he pledged to prioritize the fight against cancer and has consistently made it a focus of his administration.

In 2016, during his tenure as Vice President under the Obama administration, Biden spearheaded the "Cancer Moonshot" program. This initiative aimed to accelerate cancer research, foster collaboration among scientists and healthcare institutions, and bring new treatments to patients faster. Although the initial program ended, Biden revived it in 2022 with even more ambitious goals. Under the revived "Cancer Moonshot" program, Biden set an ambitious target to reduce the death rate from cancer by at least 50 percent over the next 25 years. He also pledged to make previously fatal cancers treatable in the future, offering hope to countless families affected by this devastating disease.

Yet, as we celebrate the advancements and breakthroughs made in the fight against cancer, we must also remain cautious and grounded in reality. Cancer is a multifaceted disease with various forms and causes, and it affects individuals differently. Eradicating cancer entirely remains an elusive goal, but the continued efforts and investments in research and treatment are critical to improving outcomes and quality of life for patients.

Last year, scientists discovered a miracle drug dostarlimab that had helped cure twelve patients of rectal cancer. The patients were found without any signs of the tumour after going through a series of medical exams such as physical exam, endoscopy, biopsy, PET scans, and MRI scans. Also, none of the participants reported any severe side-effects either, said the research paper published in the New England Journal of Medicine. The researchers had set out to find whether dostarlimab, followed by standard chemoradiotherapy and standard surgery is an effective treatment for solid tumours. And the result pleasantly surprised the world. However, it would be long before there is a comprehensive cure for the cancer. And until then prevention will remain the best approach to deal with the disease that is responsible for killing millions of people.

### OTHER OPINION

## Dangerous overhaul

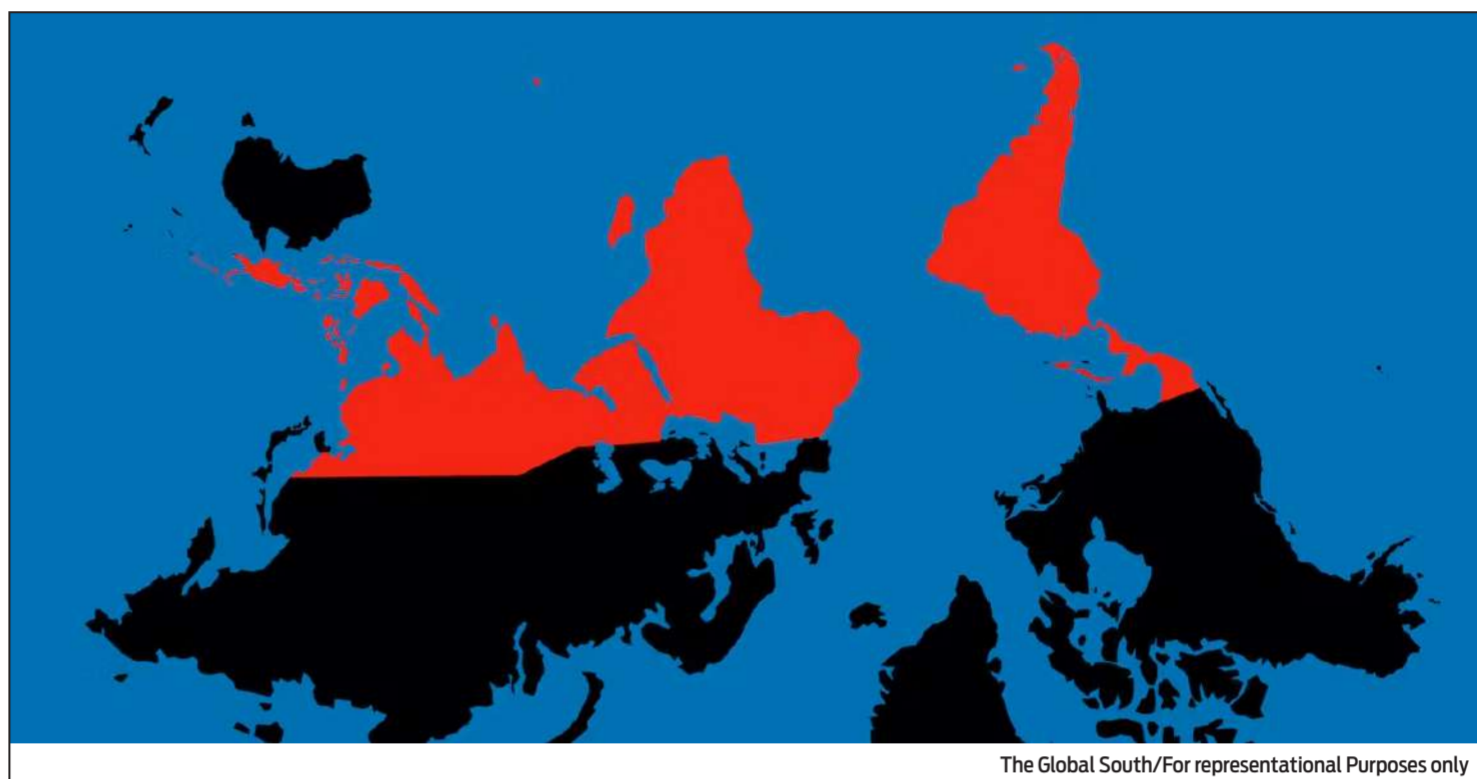
This coalition of right-wing and ultra-orthodox parties says the legislation, which would take away the Supreme Court's ability to review the government's "unreasonable" decisions, is to bring a balance between government and judiciary. Israel's polity has shifted to the right, putting governments, often led by right-wing or centre-right parties with support from far-right parties, at odds with the judiciary. Mr. Netanyahu's allies want to fix this contradiction through the judicial overhaul. But the problem is that bringing the judiciary, the only powerful constitutional check on the government, under government control could cause the existing institutional balance in Israel's polity to deteriorate, especially when far-right parties are on the ascent. This is what triggered the protests by workers, professionals and reservists (the backbone of Israel's military), who accuse Mr. Netanyahu of trying to undermine democracy.

For the far-right parties in the ruling coalition, curtailing the powers of the Supreme Court is the obvious way to expedite Israel's transformation and the subjugation of the Palestinians. Ministers such as Itamar Ben-Gvir and Bezalel Smotrich want more Jewish settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories and a crackdown on the "disloyal" Arab minority of the Jewish state. With the new legislation, the government's actions cannot be nullified by the Supreme Court on the ground that they were "unreasonable". Also, this judicial and political crisis cannot be seen as insulated from the larger one that Israel has been grappling with. Israel, while hailed in the West as "the Middle East's only democracy", has two systems for its citizens and those living in the occupied and annexed regions, the West Bank and East Jerusalem. The judicial overhaul plan has bust the myth that Israel's democratic order would be protected irrespective of its brutal occupation of the Palestinians. It is not a coincidence that the overhaul's greatest supporters are also the greatest defenders of the occupation. The far-right wants to turn Israel into an authoritarian theocracy, with few checks and balances at home and unbridled expansion into the occupied land. But its push has also exposed Israel's faultlines, plunging it into its biggest crisis. Mr. Netanyahu might have pushed the Bill through the Knesset, but he has rendered Israel weaker.

The Hindu

# The Irresistible Rise of the Rest

Even as China and soon India overtake the US in terms of GDP, the West remains "blinded by pre-eminence," as Hugh Peyman puts it, and unwilling to acknowledge its waning power. But, with 90% of the world's population, non-Western countries will no longer accept being excluded from global decision-making.



The Global South/For representational Purposes only

ANDREW SHENG and XIAO GENG



**China and India each have populations four times larger than the US, so their combined GDP would be twice that of the US, even with one-quarter America's per-capita income. As he puts it, "Population numbers dictate that the West is only 10%, the Rest 90%."**

Will the United States be number three in the new world order? In his forthcoming book, former journalist Hugh Peyman argues that it will: China's economy has already surpassed that of the US by some measures, and India's will do the same by mid-century. He also argues that "the Rest" more broadly will pose a growing challenge to the West, which in turn continues to underestimate the challengers.

Peyman is hardly the first to predict the rise of countries that are not included in the geopolitical West (a group that includes Japan).

The British economist Angus Maddison knew back in 2007 that China's GDP would soon overtake that of the US (in purchasing-power-parity terms at constant 1990 US dollar prices), with India at number three. And the OECD estimates that India will overtake the US in GDP by 2050, and that, by 2060, the combined GDP of China, India, and Indonesia will equal \$116.7 trillion – 49% of GDP – making it three times larger than the US economy.

This should not be particularly surprising, not least because non-Western countries are home to far more people. As Peyman points out, China and India each have populations four times larger than the US, so their combined GDP would be twice that of the US, even with one-quarter America's per-capita income. As he puts it, "Population numbers dictate that the West is only 10%, the Rest 90%."

To be sure, when it comes to GDP, the West has often punched well above its demographic weight. In 1950, the West (including Japan) accounted for just 22.4% of the world's population, but 59.9% of global GDP. Meanwhile, Asia (excluding Japan) accounted for just 15.4% of world GDP, despite being home to 51.4% of the world's people.

The Industrial Revolution, which afforded the West major economic advantages, together with colonial exploitation, help explain this discrepancy. In 1820, the shares were far more balanced: Asia (excluding Japan) had accounted for 65.2% of the world's population and 56.4% of global GDP.

By the middle of this century, however, the Rest's population will be 3.8 times larger than that of the West (including Japan), and its GDP will be 1.7 times larger. As Peyman notes, rising investment in the Rest, not least in education, has played an important role in boosting productivity and rebalancing global output and income.

These investments will continue to pay off. The McKinsey Global Institute predicted last year that in the new multipolar world order, "technology may move to the forefront of geopolitical competition." Given that human capital, together with governance, is essential to translate technological progress into productivity growth, Asia has an edge: by 2030, the region will be producing more than 70% of the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) graduates in the G20, with China alone accounting for 35%, and India for 27%.

Moreover, while the Rest may lag in terms of cutting-edge research, they have proved adept at applying Western innovations to consumer products and services. Drawing on his experiences living in Chinese cities and studying Chinese companies, Peyman describes China's transition to modernity, which is being emulated, to varying extents, elsewhere among the Rest. For every warning that China will collapse under the weight of a rapidly aging population, overbearing authoritarianism, a massive debt overhang, and slowing growth, there is an example in Peyman's book of China successfully leveraging scale, entrepreneurship, and innovation to advance its goals and interests.

Unfortunately, Peyman laments, the US remains "blinded by pre-eminence," making it "slow to see its power ebb." In fact, it appears that most Westerners take for granted that the Rest are such a diverse lot that they would not be able to pose a coherent, sustained challenge to countries that have long dominated the world order.

But countries like China, India, Indonesia, Singapore, and South Korea have proven that given the chance, the Rest are at least as com-

petent as many of their Western counterparts in manufacturing, exports, infrastructure investment, and governance. Indian executives are running some of the top companies in the West. Meanwhile, many Western countries are failing to achieve "social harmony, broad prosperity, and public health at home."

Even if the West does recognize its weakening position, Peyman notes, adjusting to it will not be easy. With the vast majority of the world's population living outside the West, the Rest will no longer accept "exclusion from global decision-making." The Rest are not seeking to exclude the West in kind, but they do want to play a leading role in reshaping the global rules of the game – formulated by the West – for the twenty-first century.

Peyman concludes by urging US President Joe Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping – the leaders of the West and the Rest, respectively – to reach a grand bargain, much like the one Richard Nixon struck with Mao Zedong in the early 1970s. Such a bargain would support greater cooperation on the major challenges of our time – beginning with climate change – while reducing the likelihood of devastating conflict.

But a bargain must also be struck between the state, whose power is growing, and market forces, which are becoming increasingly weak. Sudden, unilateral policy changes, such as the imposition or tightening of sanctions, are disrupting private companies' operations and undermining their profitability. To uphold economic dynamism amid geopolitical tensions, the rules governing private-sector trade and investment – including any national-security "red lines" – must be clarified and respected. The country that provides such rules will shape the new global order, even if it does not have the largest GDP or population.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. The article was originally published by Project Syndicate



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## Simple Pleasures

DESPITE living in the digital age, there are some habits which many of us simply cannot give up. Preferring to read a printed book over the online version is one such. There are multiple reasons why a large swathe of Indian readers always prefer hard copy of books to online reading. Psy-

chologically, the 'ownership' factor could be a key reason, besides the nice feeling you get while touching a new book, its fragrance, pleasure of turning the pages, easy portability, leisure reading – all make a physical book comfortably win over an e-book. However splendid the cover image of an e-book may look on screen, it is

still an image rather than a physical thing. Another major disadvantage with an e-book is that you cannot look at more than one page at once. In fact, a study from West Chester University of Pennsylvania reveals that students who read on iPads had lower reading comprehension than when they read traditional printed

books. A good physical book is like a full course of a sumptuous meal, whereas an e-book is just fast food. Said the noted American novelist Harper Lee: "The book to read is not the one that thinks for you, but the one which makes you think."

Ranganathan Sivakumar

Mindful Fridays

# Jinns and Journeys: Dissociative Disorders in Kashmiri Culture

Wasim Kakroo

Dissociative disorders are a group of psychological conditions characterized by disruptions in a person's memory, identity, awareness, perception, and/or sense of self. These disorders can significantly impact an individual's daily life, affecting their relationships, work, and overall well-being. In today's article, we will try to provide an overview of the different types of dissociative disorders, their potential causes, and available treatment options. Furthermore, we will also delve into the cultural aspect specific to Kashmir, where dissociative disorders are often misunderstood and mistaken for possession by a jinn, leading individuals to seek help from faith healers, resulting in potential harm and abuse.

## I. Types of Dissociative Disorders

- 1. Dissociative Amnesia:** In this condition, a person experiences significant memory loss due to traumatic or stressful events, leading to an inability to recall important personal information and experiences.
- 2. Depersonalization-Derealization Disorder:** Individuals with this disorder feel disconnected from themselves and the world around them, experiencing a sense of detachment or unreality.
- 3. Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID):** Formerly known as multiple personality disorder, DID involves the presence of two or more distinct identities or personality states, each with its own memories and behaviors.

## II. Causes of Dissociative Disorders

- 1. Trauma and Abuse:** Severe trauma experienced during childhood, such as physical, sexual, or emotional abuse, can trigger dissociative disorders as a coping mechanism to protect the individual from overwhelming pain of reality.
- 2. Genetics and Neurobiology:** There may be a genetic predisposition to developing dissociative disorders. Neurobiological factors, such as alterations in brain structure and function, may also contribute to the development of these disorders.
- 3. Coping Mechanism:** Dissociation can be seen as a defense mechanism to cope with intolerable stress or overwhelming situations.



## III. Treatment of Dissociative Disorders

- 1. Psychotherapy:** The primary treatment for dissociative disorders is psychotherapy, specifically, specialized approaches such as Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) and eye movement desensitization and reprocessing (EMDR) that focus on trauma processing and integration of dissociated experiences. Psychodynamic psychotherapy can also be a very good option to understand the links with past abuse.
- 2. Medication:** While there is no specific medication to treat dissociative disorders, antidepressants, anti-anxiety, and antipsy-

chotic medications might be prescribed to manage accompanying symptoms like depression, anxiety, and hallucinations.

**3. Self-Help Strategies:** Patients can learn grounding techniques and coping strategies to manage dissociation when it occurs.

## IV. Dissociative Disorders and Kashmiri Culture

The culturally rich region of Kashmir is a place where deep-rooted beliefs and practices play a significant role in shaping the perception and treatment of mental health issues, including dissociative disorders. As one delves into the unique cultural context,

it becomes apparent that traditional beliefs in jinns, supernatural spirits, and black magic exert considerable influence on mental health attitudes and practices within the community. This interplay between cultural beliefs and mental health presents both challenges and opportunities for the well-being of the people living in this region.

One of the primary challenges arises from the confusion between mental health issues and jinn possession. The lack of awareness and education about mental health conditions can lead to individuals experiencing dissociative symptoms being misunderstood and wrongly attributed to being possessed by jinns. This misconception may result in delays in seek-

ing appropriate mental health care, as people may turn to religious or spiritual interventions instead of seeking professional help. Addressing this challenge requires efforts to promote mental health literacy and awareness, encouraging open discussions about mental health within the community.

Within the cultural context of Kashmir, faith healers, commonly known as "pirs" or "fakirs," hold significant influence and are often sought after for help with psychological problems. While some faith healers may have good intentions, the lack of proper psychological training can lead to misdiagnoses and the employment of harmful practices. Individuals with mental health issues may be subjected to rituals and treatments that do not address the root causes of their conditions, potentially exacerbating their suffering. Combating stigma associated with mental health and fostering collaborations between mental health professionals and faith healers could bridge the gap between traditional beliefs and modern mental health care.

However, the prevalence of unregulated faith healers in the region also presents a darker side to this issue. Some self-proclaimed faith healers exploit the vulnerability of individuals seeking help, subjecting them to emotional, physical, or even sexual abuse under the guise of healing rituals. The lack of proper regulation and oversight in this domain contributes to the perpetuation of such abuses. Therefore, establishing mechanisms to ensure accountability and protect the well-being of those seeking help from faith healers is crucial.

Addressing mental health challenges in Kashmir calls for a comprehensive approach that respects the cultural heritage while also embracing evidence-based mental health practices. Engaging local leaders, community influencers, and religious figures in mental health advocacy could facilitate positive change. It is essential to create safe spaces for open discussions about mental health, where traditional beliefs and modern science can coexist harmoniously.

The author is a licensed clinical psychologist (alumni of Govt. Medical College Srinagar) and works as a Child, Adolescent and Family therapist at Centre for Mental Health Services (CMHS) at Rambagh Srinagar. He can be reached at 8825067196

# What Karbala Taught Me About Collective Grief

THE ROGUE MUSLIM

My condolences to you on the Martyrdom of the grandson of the Holy Prophet (SAW), his family, and companions.

Muharram marks the first month in the Islamic Lunar Calendar. Unlike the Gregorian Calendar, the Muslim New Year begins, for many, with commemorating a tragedy where both the strength and weaknesses of humanity were tested. It begins with the commemoration of the deaths of the grandson of the Holy Prophet (SAW) – Imam Hussain (AS), along with his family and companions. It begins with death for the sake of Islam.

And with death, comes grief. As we know, grief is universal. We all experience grief in some capacity. Whether that's the loss of a loved one, the loss of cultures, of nations, of a collective of peoples, the loss of healthy systems, a loss of dreams and expectations, a loss of world possessions, a loss of lifestyle, a loss of environmental safety, a loss of spiritual connection – grief meets us all at one stage or another. It is guaranteed.

"And We will surely test you with something of fear and hunger and a loss of wealth and lives and fruits but give good tidings to the patient." [2:155]

And in today's globalised world, our grief is not only individual or local, it is collective and the rituals of grief have transcended borders. Our grief rituals have experienced innovation, a loss in and of themselves, or new-found expressions.

But grief, whatever form it takes, gives space to collective mourning and collective witnessing. In today's climate where there is so much injustice, it can be difficult to mourn collectively, and grieve in ways that lead to healing, change, and sustained remembrance. It feels so often that we are grieving so much, all the time, and have no time to sit with the grief.

For guidance on how to grieve, and what rituals we must maintain, I look to, and am guided by the collective grief I learnt from the events of Karbala. As well, from the collective witnessing carried through by the Ladies of Karbala after the Tragedy that occurred on the 10th of Muharram.

Here is what Karbala taught me about collective witnessing and grief:

## 1. Finding Meaning

One of the primary things Karbala has taught me about participating in collective grief is that we need to find meaning within the grief. The grief, when attached to a higher purpose offers healing and action.

In the case of our collective grief over Karbala, we find meaning in God through it. We find meaning in bettering ourselves to be the companions of Imam Mahdi (AS) today, and to work to distance ourselves from that which displeases Allah (SWT).

What is unique to Karbala are the meanings we ascertain to that event, they are the gifts that keep on giving. We will continue to find new meanings and we will continue to find God through this tragedy till the day of Judgement. Why? Because we collectively acknowledge and face it. Karbala gives no room for suppression of grief. It demands it.

## 2. Spaces for Grief

We need collective spaces for grief. Spaces where we do not need to explain our grief. Spaces where our grief is not invalidated. Spaces where we know why we are grieving. The space gives way to our mourning, and in that space, we validate the grief of one another verbally and non-verbally. In that space, God validates our grief. Our grief over the hijacking of His Islam, and over the suffering inflicted on the best of humanity. We need spaces where our grieving in this temporal reality bridges our efforts for the space we will permanently reside in.

## 3. Grief is Re-Witnessing

Karbala has taught me that grief is a form of re-witnessing. Karbala is an event that has not been lost to the speed of time. To the confines of time. Every year we collectively re-witness what the worst of humanity looks like. We collectively re-witness what truth should look like in our souls and what characteristics we need to embody the truth and to act in just ways consciously and daily. Grief allows for re-witnessing what we must strive to never witness again. We witness the Witnesses of



Karbala. We strive to embody their akhlaq and connection with Allah (SWT), as individuals and communities. We understand the negative witnessing of tyranny and the result of sealing our hearts from Allah (SWT). Yet, we also have a positive witnessing of Love for the Sake of Allah, of Submission for the Sake of Allah (SWT), and the power of submitting to His will. We witness as physical beings and spiritual beings.

## 4. Naming and Claiming

In re-witnessing the truth every year, we also continue to name and claim our grief. Our grief is not something to be ashamed of. Our grief is not to be hidden. Our grief has power and meaning. We claim our grief is a witness of the tests in this world and a witness of "there is no God but Allah (SWT)". We name our griefs in all of their complexities. We name our grief

through the identities that were oppressed and martyred. We name our grief by remembering who they were and what they represented. We name our grief by identifying what we need to do to embody their spirit. In naming and claiming our grief, we are naming and claiming what it means to trust in the Will of Allah (SWT), and the peace that can come with that submission.

## 5. Lessons in Grief

In participating in collective grief, we must seek out what lessons we can learn from this grief. Whether that be lessons regarding our nafs, the actions of the ummah, or the actions of those outside of the ummah. Whether that be lessons that we learn and teach about God, the Prophet (SAW), the Imams (AS). Without actively seeking these lessons, our grief remains temporal and limited within time and space. With it, our grief transcends the boundaries of time and space. Our grief reminds us of and guides us to:

"Verily we belong to Allah (SWT), and verily to Him are we returning." So now, how can our grief aid our current injustices in humanity?

## 6. Sacred Rituals

Karbala has also taught me the power of having rituals rooted in God and faith. Every test we are tried with is a means of turning back to God. Every success we are blessed with is a means of attaining Taqwa. In grieving, the rituals we have in place must also be tied to God. The rituals tied to knowing God, as shared by the Progeny of the Holy Prophet (SAW) are the rituals that are boundless and timeless. They are rituals that last. These sacred rituals continue to validate our grief and give momentum to it. They offer ways for our grief to be a movement, and not a response. Our remembrance then becomes a grounding tool in a transient world – and connects our spiritual selves to our permanent abode.

## 7. Different Expressions

Karbala has taught me that when grief is not bound by space and time, the grief is subject to different expressions of remembering and mourning. It is okay for the grief to differ in

different spaces and time. So long as the grief relates back to God and centres Him, and what guidelines He presents through Islam. It is okay for grief to look and feel different. It is okay for grief to be quiet or loud. It is okay for it to evolve with time.

The grief is boundless and so the expressions are boundless.

## 8. Emotions are Valid

Karbala has taught me that the range of emotions we have been gifted from God matter. They are valid. Whether the grief comes in the form of anger, tears, hurt, pain, kindness, love etc. What is beautiful here is that we have guidelines for how to channel this grief, so it serves a higher purpose – worshipping Allah (SWT). Our grief shouldn't propel us to act outside of Islamic principles, and that is when the Sunnah of the Prophet (SAW) and the lantern of light of the Ahlul-Bayt (AS) guides our grief to increase our Taqwa.

## 9. Sense of Hope

Finally, Karbala has taught me that our grief, when connected to knowing Allah (SWT), can provide us with a sense of hope. It can provide us with hope for inner and outer change. Inner and outer justice. Inner and outer expressions of love. Our grief can provide us with hope that we will individually, collectively and actively strive to become closer to Allah (SWT). Our grief can provide us with a hope of bettering ourselves in this world so that we can achieve the best of places in the permanent world of the hereafter.

I pray we are granted more opportunities to re-witness the event of Karbala. I pray we are granted more opportunities to grieve for all we have lost in this world and will continue to lose. I pray that we never lose hope in Allah (SWT), and that all of this is for us to submit to His will and find peace in it in this world and the hereafter. After all, we strive to be those who, when calamity befalls them, say:

"Verily, unto God do we belong and, verily, unto Him we shall return" [2:156].

The article was originally published by Amaliah

# Gliding, Not Searching

Here's How To Reset Your View Of ChatGPT To Steer It To Better Results

## The Conversation

ChatGPT has exploded in popularity, and people are using it to write articles and essays, generate marketing copy and computer code, or simply as a learning or research tool.

However, most people don't understand how it works or what it can do, so they are either not happy with its results or not using it in a way that can draw out its best capabilities.

I'm a human factors engineer. A core principle in my field is never blame the user.

Unfortunately, the ChatGPT search-box interface elicits the wrong mental model and leads users to believe that entering a simple question should lead to a comprehensive result, but that's not how ChatGPT works.

Unlike a search engine, with static and stored results, ChatGPT never copies, retrieves or looks up information from anywhere.

Rather, it generates every word anew. You send it a prompt, and based on its machine-learning training on massive amounts of text, it creates an original answer.

Most importantly, each chat retains context during a conversation, meaning that questions asked and answers provided earlier in the conversation will inform responses it generates later.

The answers, therefore, are malleable, and the user needs to participate in an iterative process to shape them into something useful.

Your mental model of a machine how you conceive of it is important for using it effectively.

To understand how to shape a productive session with ChatGPT, think of it as a glider that takes you on journeys through knowledge and

possibilities.

## Dimensions of knowledge

You can begin by thinking of a specific dimension or space in a topic that intrigues you. If the topic were chocolate, for example, you might ask it to write a tragic love story about Hershey's Kisses.

The glider has been trained on essentially everything ever written about Kisses, and similarly it knows how to glide through all kinds of story spaces - so it will confidently take you on a flight through Hershey's Kisses space to produce the desired story.

You might instead ask it to explain five ways in which chocolate is healthy and give the response in the style of Dr. Seuss.

Your requests will launch the glider through different knowledge spaces chocolate and health toward a different destination a story in a specific style.To unlock ChatGPT's full potential, you can learn to fly the glider through transversal spaces areas that cross multiple domains of knowledge.

By guiding it through these domains, ChatGPT will learn both the scope and angle of your interest and will begin to adjust its response to provide better answers. For example, consider this prompt: Can you give me advice on getting healthy. In that query, ChatGPT does not know who the you is, nor who me is, nor what you mean by getting healthy.

Instead, try this: Pretend you are a medical doctor, a nutritionist and a personal coach. Prepare a two-week food and exercise plan for a 56-year-old man to increase heart health.

With this, you have given the glider a more specific flight plan spanning areas of medicine, nutrition and motivation.

If you want something more precise, then you can activate a few more dimensions. For example, add

in: And I want to lose some weight and build muscle, and I want to spend 20 minutes a day on exercise, and I cannot do pull-ups and I hate tofu.

ChatGPT will provide output taking into account all of your activated dimensions. Each dimension can be presented together or in sequence.

## Flight plan

The dimensions you add through prompts can be informed by answers ChatGPT has given along the way. Here's an example: Pretend you are an expert in cancer, nutrition and behaviour change.

Propose 8 behaviour-change interventions to reduce cancer rates in rural communities. ChatGPT will dutifully present eight interventions.

Let's say three of the ideas look the most promising. You can follow up with a prompt to encourage more details and start putting it in a format that could be used for public messaging: Combine concepts from ideas 4, 6 and 7 to create 4 new possibilities give each a tagline, and outline the details.

Now let's say intervention 2 seems promising. You can prompt ChatGPT to make it even better: Offer six critiques of intervention 2 and then redesign it to address the critiques.

ChatGPT does better if you first focus on and highlight dimensions you think are particularly important.

For example, if you really care about the behaviour-change aspect of the rural cancer rates scenario, you could force ChatGPT to get more nuanced and add more weight and depth to that dimension before you go down the path of interventions.

You could do this by first prompting: Classify behaviour-change techniques into 6 named categories. Within each, describe three approaches and name two important researchers in the category.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

## Office Of The Executive Engineer Anantnag PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal

NIT NO 72 OF R&B/Khanabal/2023-24 /E-TENDERING/9060-69

DATED 26-07-2023

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

S.No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (in Rs)	Earnest Money (in Rs)	Time of Completion	Major Head of Account	Position Of AA	Class of Contractor
1.	Repairment/Fixing of ceiling at PHC Sirhama.	18.00 Lacs Contract Price exclusive of GST: 15.28 + (18% GST Amount 2.72)	800	36000	25 Days	PMKKKY	Accorded Vide Order No. 83 – CMOA Of 2023, Dated 13.02.2023	BEE & CEE Class Only
2.	Repairs/Renovation/Upgradation of the DC Residence Khanabal.	6.50 Lacs Contract Price exclusive of GST: 5.52 + (18% GST Amount 0.98)	300	13000	20 Days	NFB Grants	Accorded Vide Order No. 2 - SE(R&B)/Plg Of 2023, Dated 30.05.2023	CEE & DEE Class Only

Project Authority: Chief Medical Officer Anantnag.

1. The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms- and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:  
2.

S.No.	Particulars	Dated
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	26-07-2023
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 26-07-2023 (04:00PM) To 02-08-2023 (04:30PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 26-07-2023 (04:00PM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To 02-08-2023 (04:30PM)
5	Date and time of opening of bid (online)	03-08-2023 (11:00AM)

3. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / E-Challan( Under MH- 0059 PWD) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Khanabal [Tender Inviting Authority] (NIT No. Name of Work/Item No. to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt)(Refer Govt. order No. O.M No. A/24 (2017)-651 Dt 07-06-2018 (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) and EMD (2% of advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal (Tender receiving Authority).  
4. All the Bidders have to submit Earnest Money/Bid Security (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG. Non submission of Earnest Money/Bid Security shall render the bidder as No-responsive.

5. The 1st lowest responsive (Successful) Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Khanabal (Tender receiving authority) within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of Defect Liability Period(DLP) of the work.Failure to produce Performance Security shall render the LI as non-responsive and case for debarring of the Contractor be forwarded to Higher Authorities for a period of 01 Year.

6. The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG of the successful Bidder shall be released after receiving Performance security @5% of the allotted cost in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG and same shall be released after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work.  
7. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Khanabal  
8. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical Bid

9. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.  
a. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.  
b. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.

c. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No Financial bid will be accepted in physical form.  
d. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.  
e. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid.  
f. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents including tender document fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid.

DIPK-5955/23  
dated: 27-07-2023

(Er Rubeeena Kousar)  
Executive Engineer,  
R&B Division Khanabal

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

## Office Of The Executive Engineer Speical Sub Division Tangdar

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

NIT No.82 –SSD/TDR /of 2023-24 e-tendering Endtt. No:2181-91DATED:26.07.2023

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

S. No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In rupees)	Earnest Money (In rupees)	Time of Completion in days	Class of Contract	Major Head of Account
01.	Up-gradation of building of sale and Service cooperative Society Ltd Tangdar	39.75	1100	79500	60 days	AAY/BEE	Capex Budget

Position of AAATS: Accorded

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

Sr.	Particulars	Dated
01.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	26.07.2023
02.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	26.07.2023
03.	Bid submission start date	26.07.2023
04.	Bid submission end date	07.08.2023
05.	Date & time of opening Bids (on line)	08.08.2023 at (10.AM) in the Office of the Executive Engineer Spl Sub Div Tangdar

### Terms and Conditions :-

1. The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploading softcopy any short fall found in the soft copy the tender shall be rejected.  
2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape Treasury Challan (Under Account Head 0059) (Treasury Challan) must be written boldly the Name of Work, Name of Contract along with Cell No, NIT No. & Sr. No of NIT) in favour Executive Engineer Spl Sub Div Tangdar (tender inviting authority) and Earnest money/Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer Spl Sub Div Tangdar

3. At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer Spl Sub Div Tangdar. The successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @3% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 3% of the total cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.

4. No bid shall be accepted if enlistment card is not found in JKPWDOMS online of those departments which have been serving the said portal as per circular instruction issued by development Commissioner works vide No.PW/DCW/DB/668-72 DT.10-06-2022

5. 1<sup>st</sup> lowest bidder will submit the CDR/FDR within two days after opening of tender failing which 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest will be approached. Besides 1<sup>st</sup> lowest will be debarred from participating in tendering process for one year in this division.

6. The date and time of bid opening shall be notified on the Web Site [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) and automatically communicated to bidders via an e-mail message sent to their e-mail address. Responsive bidders' bids will be opened online on the same Web Site in the Office of the Executive Engineer Spl Sub Div Tangdar (tender receiving authority).  
7. Bids for the work shall be valid for 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids.

8. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.  
9. Bidders are advised to download the bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as the "Bidders Manual Kit" option on the website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint themselves with the bid submission process.

10. In order to participate in the bidding process, bidders must obtain a "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" under the Information Technology Act of 2000. Any approved vendor can provide bidders with a digital certificate.  
11. Bidders must submit their bids in electronic format with a digital signature online. No physical bids will be accepted.

12. Bids will be opened online in accordance with the time schedule specified in Para-1.  
13. Bidders must upload online scanned copy of all required documents (within the document upload limits) with their technical bid.  
14. Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.

15. The department will not be held responsible for any delays in online submission due to unanticipated circumstances.  
16. The original Treasury Challan (Cost of tender document) and other Uploaded bid documents shall have to be produced on demand by the successful bidder at the time of contract signing, and in the case of unsuccessful bidders, 2 percent EMD in the form of CDR/FDR pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer Spl Sub Div Tangdar, will be released only after production of Original Treasury Challan of uploaded Scanned copy (Cost of tender document).  
17. Bidders are advised not to change the contents of the BOQ (Bill of Quantities). They should never attempt to create similar BOQ manually.  
18. Bidders should be fully cognizant that if the documents uploaded/submitted on the basis of which the contract was awarded are later discovered to be fake/not genuine, the contract will be cancelled and the Contract/Bidder will be blacklisted from participating in this Division/Department for a period of three years, in addition to the performance security deposited for the said work being forfeited.

19. Price escalation and Taxes:- The bidder's percentage shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes up to the completion of the work. Taxes shall be deducted from the Contractor's bills on the gross amount of the bill at the time of recovery at the rates in effect at the time of recovery.  
20. Bidders are advised to use the "My Documents" area in their R&B e-Tendering portal user account to store any required documents.

21. All bidders must UPLOAD the following information and documents with their bids, in addition to the qualification criteria / qualification information. (All documents pertaining to the bid must be in English):  
• All bidders must submit copies of original documents defining their constitution/legal status, place of registration, and principal place of business, as well as their cell phone number and e-mail address.  
• A valid Contract/Firm Registration Certificate issued by a competent authority in accordance with the Contract Registration Act.  
• Treasury Challan & Earnest money  
• Valid PAN Card  
• A Civil Contract who does not own HMP and is bidding for Bitumen Macadam Works is required to upload an MoU with HMP, from whom the material/machinery for the subject work will be procured. The Memorandum of Understanding must be registered and duly executed in the Hon'ble Court of 1st Class Magistrate, specifying clearly that failure on the part of the HMPO shall be deemed failure on the part of the bidder, and vice versa

22. Scanned copy of GSTIN registration and most recent clearance certificate FORM GSTR-3B from the previous quarter or month, whichever is applicable.  
23. Bidder shall upload a Self-Certified Performance declaration (Annexed format) in support of performance in respect of Bitumen Macadam Works executed by the agency during the year 2022-23.

24. Bidders are expected to submit technical bids along with scanned copies of all required documents. No document (s) that have not been uploaded will be accepted in hard copy for evaluation consideration. However, if need arises, Hard copies of any specific supporting documents, on the other hand, may be required on demand in support of documents posted online for clarification during technical evaluation.

25. The bidder should visit and examine the site of work and its surroundings before submitting a bid, and no claim based on constrained site conditions will be entertained after the bid is accepted.

26. Special Conditions regarding Specifications and Quality control for Machine laid B.T. Works:  
• All work components shall be executed strictly in accordance with the specifications laid out in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways publication "Specifications for Road and Bridge Works" and any amendments made up to the date of issuance of N.I.T.  
• A periodic sieve analysis of each type of aggregate, as well as a periodic check of aggregates at the gradation control unit, shall be performed to ensure that the specified proportion of aggregates is complied.  
• Conducting mandatory quality control tests in the lab and/or field for various components of the advertised work, such as thickness tests, impact value tests, stripping, flakiness, gradation of aggregates, determination of Binder content in bituminous mix, density tests, Viscosity test, and other tests as prescribed in MORTH at the frequency recommended therein, will be the sole responsibility of the Contractor, as will the correct execution of the work.  
• The location of the Hot mix plant of adequate capacity capable of yielding a mix of proper and uniform quality, from which bituminous macadam is to be transported to the site in clean, tarpaulin covered vehicles/Tippers, and shall be placed in such a way that the manufacturing laying/spreading and rolling temperatures are kept within the specified limits.

27. CC  
28. HD

29. Executive Engineer  
Spl Sub Div Tangdar

DIPK-5893/23 dated: 27-07-2023

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir

## JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT

## Office of the Executive Engineer FBI Division Tangmarg

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Fresh e-NIT No.12 OF 2023-24 Dated: -26-07-2023

JJM

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

Sr. No	Particulars of the work	Estimated cost in lacs	Tender Fee (in Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit	Bid Validity Period	Time of completion of work (in days)
1	> Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bores along with pipe fittings and control valves. > Construction of Ground Service Reservoirs (GSRs), Slow Sand Filtration Plants. > Execution of ancillary civil works like Spring Covers, Boundary walls, Protection Works etc. at various Water Supply schemes of FBI Division Tangmarg of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)	As per ANNEXURE-I to this bid document.	500/-	02% of the estimated cost	90 days	As per ANNEXURE-I to this bid document.

The bidding process shall be completed online on [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) in two covers viz. Cover I consisting of General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and Cover 2nd consisting of Financial Bid on overall percentage rate basis, in the prescribed BOQ.

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

The tender inviting authority is Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (FBI) Division Tangmarg.

The awarding authority is District Jal Jeevan Mission (DJJM)

Superintending Engineer Hyd. Circle Sopore's No.SE/Hyd/4033-34 Dated:- 10-07-2023.

### ANNEXURE I

#### SCHEME WISE LIST OF WORKS

S.No	Name of Water Supply Scheme	Description of work	Jal Shakti (FBI) Division	Estimated cost (In Lacs)	Time of completion (Days)	Class of Contractor
1.	WSS Shajimarg Qazipora	WSS Shajimarg Qazipora by way of laying Raw Water Main Supply Main Sub main and distribution system at various spots including Construction 0.30 Lac Gallon SR Clear Water Sump Construction of chain link fencing around various structures Construction of retaining wall at spots, Construction of Approach road, Construction of Intake works, Construction of Sluice Chambers, Construction of Anchor blocks/Saddle Blocks, Construction Chowikdar Quarter, Construction of Generator Shed / Chemical Shed/ Transformer bed under JJM	Tangmarg	248.36	180 days	AAY

#### Critical Dates

Sr.	Particulars	Dated
i.	Publish Date	26-07-2023
ii.	Document Download Start Date	26-07-2023
iii.	Clarification Start date	27-07-2023 from 10: AM
iv.	Clarification End date	31-07-2023 up to 6: P.M
v.	Bid submission Start date	01-08-2023 from 10: AM
vi.	Bid submission End date	07-08-2023 at 4:00 P.M.
vii.	Date of Bid opening	08-08-2023 at 12:00 P.M.

No.-FBID/CC/2479-89

DIPK-5954/23

Dated:-27-07-2023

sd/-

Executive Engineer

Jal Shakti Department FBI Division Tangmarg



## Seven Airlines Closed Down In Five Years; 16 Carriers Operational Now: Govt Data



Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** A total of seven airlines, including Heritage Aviation and Air Odisha Aviation, have been closed down in the last five years, the government said on Thursday.

Currently, there are 11 scheduled operators and 5 scheduled commuter operators in the country, according to data provided by Minister of State for Civil Aviation VK Singh in a written reply to the Lok Sabha.

As per the data, seven airlines have been shut down in the last five years till July 21, 2023. Two airlines—Heritage Aviation Pvt Ltd and Turbo Megha Airways Pvt Ltd—were shuttered in 2022. Three carriers—Zexus Air Services Pvt Ltd, Deccan Charters Pvt Ltd and Air Odisha Aviation Pvt Ltd—were shut down in 2020.

In 2019, Jet Airways (India) Ltd and Jet Lite (India) Ltd were closed down, as per the data. Jet Airways, which was is-

sued an Air Operator Certificate (AOC) on February 13, 2022, stopped flying on April 17, 2019, due to a financial crunch.

"After closure, Jet Airways (India) Ltd. had undergone insolvency proceedings at NCLT, Mumbai.

"The AOC has been re-issued on 20.05.2022, however, the airline did not start its operations and AOC expired on 19.05.2023," as per the reply.

In another written reply, the minister said that A320 neo aircraft fitted with PW1100G-JM engines made by Pratt & Whitney (P&W) are operated by IndiGo and Go First Airlines.

"Many of these aircraft are grounded due to supply chain issues of PW1100G-JM engines. As intimated by DGCA, the situation is due to lack of hardware to get the engines repaired and overhauled and is a global issue impacting all customers of P&W," he added.

DGCA is the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

## Govt Taking Decisions In Interest Of Farmers For 9 Years, Will Not Allow Them To Suffer: PM

Press Trust Of India

**SIKAR (RAJASTHAN)-** The Centre has taken decisions in the interest of farmers for nine years and created arrangements from seed to market for them, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Thursday and dedicated 1.25 lakh PM Kisan Samridhi Kendras to the nation.

Addressing a rally in this Rajasthan town, he described the Kendras as one-stop centres for farmers that would pave the way for their prosperity.

India, he said, could only develop when its villages do and his government was working to provide in villages every facility that is available in cities.

"Our government will not allow farmers to suffer due to the price of urea," Modi said.

Farmers in India, he elaborated, get a sack of urea for Rs 266. This is available in Pakistan for about Rs 800, for Rs 720 in Bangladesh and Rs



2,100 in China.

Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot was supposed to attend the programme but could not due to problems in his feet, he said.

"He has been ill for a few days. I pray for his good health," the prime minister said about the Congress leader.

Earlier in the day, Gehlot alleged that the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) had cancelled his speech at the SIKAR event. The Prime Minister's

Office (PMO), however, said it was informed by Gehlot's office that he will not be able to attend the programme. It also said he was "most welcome" to join the programme.

Modi will inaugurate and lay the foundation stone of various development projects in SIKAR on Thursday, according to an official statement.

The prime minister said at the rally that creating modern infrastructure in Rajasthan is a government's priority.

## Par Panel Asks FinMin To Expeditiously Come Out With Common ITR Form

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** A parliamentary panel on Thursday asked the finance ministry to expeditiously come out with a common ITR form to ease I-T return filing for individuals and non-business taxpayers.

The ministry had in November last year proposed to come out with a user-friendly common income tax return form for all taxpayers, except trusts and non-profit organisations. It had invited stakeholder comments on the same.

The Standing Committee on Finance, chaired by BJP MP Jayant Sinha, had earlier flagged difficulties being faced by people in filing Income Tax returns and urged the tax department to make the process simpler and more taxpayer friendly.

It had said that any person with income from various sources, like salary, rent and business income, cannot file ITR on his own and has to seek advice of either a chartered accountant or a person having adequate knowledge and expertise in filing ITR.

In reply to the recommendations of the committee, the



ministry has stated that in order to make tax compliance more convenient, pre-filled details of certain income, like salary, are being provided to individual taxpayers.

The scope of information for pre-filing is being further expanded by including information such as house property income, bank interest, dividends, the tax department said.

Further, it is proposed to introduce a common ITR form in tandem with international best practices, by merging all existing forms except ITR-7.

It is expected that the proposed ITR form brings ease of filing returns to individuals and non-business type taxpayers considerably.

"The committee, therefore, would expect the ministry to expedite the process and introduce the new format at the earliest," it added.

## GST Officers Arrest 3 For Fraudulent ITC Claims Of Rs 557 Crore, Creating 246 Fake Firms

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** GST officers have unearthed two fake billing rackets involving 246 shell/fake entities involved in fraudulently passing input tax credit (ITC) of Rs 557 crore and arrested three key operatives.

Forensic examination of seized laptops and mobile phones of the two masterminds led to the retrieval of ledgers, invoices, e-way bills, etc. Apart from this, WhatsApp chats/ voice messages evidencing the transactions of fake GST bills and illegal cash flow have also been retrieved.

An initial probe by GST officers has also indicated the involvement of bank officials in opening bank accounts in the name of fake firms, the finance ministry said.

"The Meerut Zonal Unit of Directorate General of GST Intelligence (DGGI) unearthed two major fake billing rackets involving 246 shell/fake entities, which have passed on fraudulent ITC of Rs 557 crore," a finance ministry statement said.

One of the rackets had

close nexus with fake firms unearthed by Noida Police in June 2023, it added.

The finance ministry said two syndicates, being operated by masterminds Anand Kumar and Ajay Kumar, involved in creating



and operating fake shell entities have been busted.

Several documents related to fake firms like forged stamps, debit/credit cards, chequebooks, Aadhaar cards, PAN cards, etc. were recovered from the secret offices of the two masterminds at Adhyapak Nagar and Paschimpur, Delhi.

"This indicates the close nexus of these masterminds with brokers/agents

which specialise in procuring IDs of poor, needy and susceptible people in lieu of petty monetary benefits. Both the masterminds have been arrested," the ministry added.

These two syndicates

have issued invoices having taxable turnover of Rs 3,142 crore involving ITC of Rs 557 crore through 246 fake firms to more than 1,500 beneficiary firms.

"Major beneficiary firms are located in Delhi and others are spread across 26 other states. Vikram Jain, Proprietor of one such beneficiary firm, has also been arrested during the investigation," the ministry added.

## India GDP To Grow 6-6.3 Pct In FY24, Economic Prospects Brighten: Deloitte India

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** India is likely to grow 6-6.3 per cent in the current fiscal year ending March 31, 2024, Deloitte India said in its economic outlook, forecasting growth surpassing 7 per cent over the next two years if global uncertainties recede.

With the probability associated with a recession in major industrial countries this year trimming, several economic indicators such as the tight labour markets and reduced risk spreads post the US banking crisis suggest that downside risks to global growth are subsiding.

Yet, there remain significant uncertainties around the actions of the central banks of major economies and the oil price movements, the economic outlook said.

"Amid continuing global uncertainties, India continues to see strong economic activity," it said. "Keeping in view the resilience shown by the economy, Deloitte is optimistic about the outlook and has put out its expectation for this year and the next. Deloitte expects India to grow between 6 per cent and 6.3 per cent in FY 2023-24, and have a stronger outlook thereafter."

If global uncertainties recede, growth is expected to surpass 7 per cent over the next two years, it said.

"India enjoys a Goldilocks

moment currently. Our growth forecasts for FY 2023-24 remain similar to our April forecast, except that higher-than-expected growth in FY2022-23 has raised our base for comparison. That said, we have raised our lower limit of the range given the buoyancy in the economy," said Rumki Majumdar, Economist, Deloitte India.

Urban demand conditions have remained resilient as evidenced by the sales of mid-to-high-end segments of automobiles, the number of UPI transactions, and domestic air passenger traffic data. Rural demand, which was lagging, has also been rising lately as seen in the sales of tractors, IIP non-durable goods, and MGNREGA data.

Investment is also showing traction. The credit-deposit ratio has continued to improve strongly from the lows of the pandemic despite the rising interest rates. "Most of the lending is happening in the industry and services sector. This points to improving investment, which means that the supply side is gearing up to meet the rising demand," Majumdar added.

Inflation in the first quarter was 4.5 per cent, the lowest since the quarter of September 2019. GST collections remain strong, suggesting that revenue buoyancy will aid in improving the budgeted fiscal deficit ratio to GDP.

## Tanishq Presents 'The Autumn Edit'

The brand is offering up to 20% off on diamond jewellery value

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Tanishq, India's largest jewellery retail brand from the house of Tata presents a grand showcase of the most extensive assortment of Diamond Jewellery ever.

This exquisite range showcases a luminous world of diamonds, celebrating the diverse styles adorned by women. From rings, earrings to pendants, necklaces, bracelets and bangles, 'The Autumn Edit' offers 5 new and refreshing curation, exclusively crafted for elevating the style quotient in every occasion.

Tanishq diamonds perfectly celebrate a woman's extraordinary life story, with her radiance adding a special sparkle to these precious gems. During this Festival of Diamonds, customers can shop for di-

verse looks specially tailored by Tanishq for everyday work, brunch, grand affairs like wedding occasions and anniversaries, evening soirees and even for gifting. With the shimmering Autumn Edit, a harmonious symphony unfolds.

Discover Tanishq's Elevated Work Wear range, Grand Affairs range for gala dinners, Showstoppers range for soirees and Fusion Fashion range for Indo-Western outfits. Experience the delight of making special memories with our unique Sparkling Memories gift assortment, perfect for birthdays, marking milestones and other special occasions. It's truly a Festival of Diamonds this season at Tanishq and to make it even more attractive, Tanishq is now offering Up To 20% off on Diamond jewellery value.

## Amazon India Onboards First Floating 'I Have Space' Store On Dal Lake

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI-** Amazon India on Thursday said it has onboarded the first ever floating 'I Have Space' store on Dal Lake in Srinagar.

Murtaza Khan Kashi, owner of houseboat Selec Town, will deliver packages every day to customers at the doorstep of their houseboats as part of the onboarding, according to a release.

Amazon Logistics, India, Director Karuna Shankar Pande said this will provide faster and reliable deliveries to customers across Srinagar, opportunities for small businesses and strengthen Amazon's delivery network.

Launched in 2015, the 'I Have Space'



programme has 28,000 neighbourhoods and kirana partners in about 420 towns and cities in India. It part-

ners with local stores and small businesses for delivering products within a 2 to 4 kilometres radius.

## FICCI FLO Members Visit CaratLane Jammu

Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** In a glittering affair, members of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) FLO division (the esteemed women's business wing) visited the CaratLane Jammu store to experience the 'Aadaa by CaratLane' collection.



The Collection is conceptualised and designed to celebrate the woman who loves to be unique and stand out in a crowd of millions. It is intricately designed with motifs of nature like birds and dragonflies, and skillfully handcrafted in 14kt

yellow gold and studded with radiant diamonds over a period of 1500 hours by the artisans. What makes Aadaa absolutely unforgettable is the detailed layers in every design, and the striking hand painted enamel, which has been shaded meticulously in smaller areas of

each piece. Speaking at the event, Mrs. Varuna Anand, Chairperson FICCI FLO Jammu-Kashmir & Ladakh, expressed her admiration for CaratLane's commitment to blending artistry with the essence of nature. She emphasised how the entire

collection at CaratLane is affordable, everyday jewellery that harmoniously marries style and practicality.

The members of FICCI FLO Jammu-Kashmir & Ladakh present at the event included Varuna Anand, Ruchika Gupta, Aarti Chowdhary, Pooja Gandotra Mona Saraf & Chandni Kapoor from the Core team and Tania Kukreja, Sonia Rohmetra, Renu Modi, Neha Mahajan, Gitanjali Nagpal, Pooja Puri, Punica Chahal, Tanisha Pallan, Nandita Bajaj, Purnima Chowdhary, Nidhi Naaz, Sapna Jain, Sanah Malhotra, Esha Modi, Shalalu Jain & Ridhima Dewan.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER SPL SUB DIV. TANGDAR**  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
(REW) TenderNotice No. 79SSD Tangdar of 2023-24Endt No. 2131-41  
E-tendering DATED: 26.07.2023

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders (in Single Cover System) are invited on percentage % basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Panchayat	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In rupees)	E/Money (in Rs)	Time of Completion in days	Class of Contractor	Major Head of Account
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Constt f tile path from g road with wall to sadpura public park ward no 1 at sadpura	Sadpura	2.84	200	5680	15 days	DEE/DDC	ADF(PRI)
2	Constt of footpath with wall form link road to othila with branches ward no 3 at Sadpura	Sadpura	2.85	200	5700	15 days	DEE/DDC	ADF(PRI)
3	Constt of tile path g road to bagh middle school ward no 4 at Sadpura	Sadpura	2.82	200	5640	15 days	DEE/DDC	ADF(PRI)
4	Constt of tile path form G road to HO walijan and others ward no 5 at Sadpura	Sadpura	2.82	200	5640	15 days	DEE/DDC	ADF(PRI)
5	Constt of path form G road to maneerhamad via middle school ward no 6 at Sadpura	Sadpura	2.82	200	5640	15 days	DEE/DDC	ADF(PRI)
6	Constt of tile path form lad of mohdusyft to masjid sharif ward no 7 at Sadpura	Sadpura	2.72	200	5440	15 days	DEE/DDC	ADF(PRI)

Position of AA: TS: Accorded.

- The Bidding documents consisting of detailing information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:
- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of E Challan /Treasury receipt in favour of Executive Engineer Spl Sub Div Tangdar (tender inviting authority) and Earnest money /Bid security in shape of CDR/ FDR pledged to Executive Engineer Spl Sub Div Tangdar (Tender receiving authority). The Successful Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% additional performance security deposit of the allotted cost. The same shall be released after the successful completion of the defect liability period of the work. The EMD of 2% successful bidders shall be released after receipt of 3% Performance Security.

01. Date of issue of Tender Notice	26.07.2023
02. Period of downloading of bidding documents	26.07.2023
03. Bid submission start date	26.07.2023
04. Bid submission end date	04.08.2023 upto 4: pm
05. Date & time of opening Bids (on line)	05.08.2023 at 10 am in the office of the Executive Engineer Spl Sub Div Tangdar

- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same web site in the office of the Executive Engineer Spl Sub Div Tangdar (Tender receiving authority).
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids.

- Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his/ her/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any Modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
- Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.
- Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.
- Failure of submission of Tender document fee by the bidder using the site shall entail him for blacklisting.

- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

DIPK-5979-23  
DT: 27/07/2023

Executive Engineer  
Spl Sub Div Tangdar

## Army Fire Kills A 14-Year-Old, Palestinians Say, As An Israeli Minister Visits Flashpoint Holy Site

### AGENCIES

JERUSALEM: Israeli military fire killed a 14-year-old Palestinian boy in the occupied West Bank, Palestinian health officials said Thursday, as an ultranationalist Israeli Cabinet minister visited a sensitive Jerusalem holy site that has been a frequent flashpoint for violence between Israel and the Palestinians.

Itamar Ben-Gvir's visit to the disputed hilltop compound comes as Israel and the Palestinians are locked in a year-and-a-half long bout of fighting and could enflame already surging tensions. It also drew condemnation from neighboring Jordan, from Saudi Arabia and from Palestinians who view such visits as provocative. The site is revered by Jews and Muslims, and the competing claims lie at the heart of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Early Thursday, the Palestinian Health Ministry said 14-year-old Fares Sharhabil Abu Samra was killed by Israeli fire in the

West Bank town of Qalqilya. The Israeli military said Palestinians threw rocks and firebombs at troops, who responded by firing into the air. It said the incident was being reviewed.

Ben-Gvir joined hundreds of Jews visiting the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound to mark the Jewish holiday of Tisha B'Av, a day of mourning and repentance when Jews reflect on the destruction of the First and Second Temples, key events in Jewish history.

"This is the most important place for the people of Israel which we must return to and show our rule," Ben-Gvir said in a video released by his office, with the golden Dome of the Rock in the background.

The Palestinian Authority's Jerusalem Affairs Ministry warned that the government and extremists like Ben-Gvir would "push things toward religious war" by "provoking the feelings of Muslims all over the world." The Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs said it considered Ben-Gvir's visit to the sacred compound as an attempt

to impose Israeli sovereignty over the site.

Jordan, which acts as a custodian over the site and has a peace agreement with Israel, said such visits along with other Israeli steps in Jerusalem "threaten to trigger new cycles of violence." Saudi Arabia, a country with which Israel is hoping to normalize ties, said it was "a provocation of the feelings of Muslims around the world."

Ben-Gvir, a former West Bank settler leader and far-right activist who years ago was convicted of incitement and supporting a Jewish terror group, now serves as Israel's national security minister, overseeing the country's police force.

Thursday was Ben-Gvir's third known visit to the contested site since becoming a minister in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's far-right government. The site, known to Jews as the Temple Mount, is the holiest site in Judaism, where the biblical Temples once stood. Today, it is home to the Al-Aqsa Mosque, the third-holiest site in Islam.

## ITC Releases An Exclusive Postal Stamp On Millets In Collaboration With India Post

New Delhi: ITC Limited, one of India's leading multi-business enterprises, in collaboration with Department of Post, Ministry of Communication, released a special postal stamp, today in New Delhi. As part of ITC's Mission Millets initiative commemorating International Year of Millets, the exclusive postal stamp celebrates the Shree Anna and the nationwide efforts to raise awareness on millets. The exclusive stamp was released today by Shri Kailash Choudhary, Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare of India, in the presence of Sushri Manju Kumar, Chief Post Master General, Department of Post, Ministry of Communication and Shri S. Sivakumar, Group Head - Agri Business/ITC Limited in New Delhi. ITC remains committed to Help India Eat Better and raise awareness on millets, a movement spearheaded by the Hon'ble Prime Minister.

Stamps have globally been a symbol of honour which immortalize people, moments or movements of great



cultural value. The ITC Mission Millets Stamp released by the Department of Post, Ministry of Communication, celebrates Shree Anna and marks a milestone in ITC's journey to educate, empower and encourage millet farming and consumption in India.

The exclusive ITC Mission Millets postal stamp acknowledges the significant role of farmers and connects sustainable farming to nutritious food products and delicious millet-based recipes and dishes. The representation is a unique

sketch illustration that depicts the collective and synergistic effort by ITC's Agri Business Division, Foods Business Division and ITC Hotels to not only develop sustainable millet farming but also help consumers acquire a taste for healthy millets. ITC has developed a range of millet-based products in traditional and modern formats for all meal occasions including ready to eat food products, cookies, noodles, vermicelli, chocosticks, snacks and staples such as Multi Millet Mix and Ragi Flour. ITC Hotels has

also crafted and included special millet based cuisines in their buffets. The stamp captures the journey of millets from the farms to ITC's food production factories, and ultimately their incorporation into nutritious dishes prepared by chefs from ITC Hotels. The earthy colours combined with the sketch illustration celebrates Shree Anna and its myriad benefits.

The event also witnessed the launch of ITC's initiative to encourage consumers to become millet advocates through its limited-edition digital collectible stamps. Stamps today are a part of heritage memorabilia with immense collectible value. Through this Digital stamp, ITC is providing an opportunity to consumers to spread awareness on millets through their active participation. Its climate resilient attributes as well its nutrient-dense properties can help address micronutrient deficiency in developing countries. The digital collectible stamp also enables consumers to actively pledge their support to adopt millets in their everyday meals and snacks.

### CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

#### Srinagar Witnesses

told reporters adding a three-tier security arrangement was provided for the procession. National Conference leader Omar Abdullah welcomed the government's decision to allow the Muharram procession.

"We welcome this decision. At the same time, we hope that the government takes other steps as well. Mirwaiz Umar Farooq is a religious leader and he should be released. Prayers should be allowed at Jamia Masjid without any curbs and Eid prayer should be allowed at Eidgah," Abdullah told PTI.

Abdullah had to walk from his residence on Gupkar Road to his office at Nawa-i-Subah due to massive traffic snarls in the city caused by the early morning Muharram procession.

Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) Chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad also welcomed the allowing of 8th Muharram procession on Srinagar streets and asked administration to continue the practice on Ashura.

In a statement, Azad said that allowing the 8th Muharram procession in Srinagar after a pause of three decades is a welcome step.

"I welcome allowing this procession today and urge administration to continue the practice on Ashura," Azad said. "I urge people to maintain the centuries-old brotherhood and communal harmony," he added.

#### Testimony To

and determination of the government to ensure a peaceful environment, freedom, love, compassion and harmony in society.

"It is an occasion to reaffirm our commitment to peace and dedicate ourselves to the progress and prosperity of J&K UT. Several historic decisions have seen the light of the day in a few years and a peaceful J&K has emerged on the horizon. Let's further strengthen our bonds and unity," he added.

#### Amarnath Yatra

-- have died due to various causes during this year's pilgrimage.

The yatra has also witnessed a significant increase in the number of foreign pilgrims visiting the shrine. The pilgrimage's allure extends beyond national boundaries, drawing people from across the world to partake in the experience, the spokesperson said.

The pilgrims have also lauded the administration's efforts in ensuring a smooth and hassle-free journey. The organisation has provided them with a sense of comfort and security, fostering an environment of gratitude and admiration, he said.

The yatra coincided with the commemoration of Kargil Diwas, which marks India's victory in the 1999 war, at all base camps.

The event witnessed participation from the Army, Central Reserve Police Force, police, National Disaster Response Force, State Disaster Response Force, civil administration and yatris, strengthening the bond between the armed forces and the civilian population, the spokesperson said.

The yatra served as an opportunity to pay tribute to the valiant soldiers who sacrificed their lives in defence of the nation, he said. It is scheduled to conclude on August 31.

#### A Historic

"The procession started at 6 am and culminated at 11 am. Our forces were on ground since 4 am, while Naka and cut off points were placed by 5 am. Before people started the procession traffic management remained excellent since morning."

It further reads that the gathering of more than 25000 people in the form of procession was fully disciplined and peaceful and well coordinated and is certainly another historic day for our people.

#### Corporal Punishment

taken against the violator as per the intensity of the abuse," reads the circular.

DSEK instructed CEOs, Cluster Heads, Zonal Education Officers, Headmasters of High Schools, Headmasters of Middle and Primary Schools of both government and Private, coordinators of recognised private tuition centres to ensure the blanket ban on the corporal

punishment and other forms of abuse as envisaged in Guidelines for Eliminating Corporal Punishment in Schools by NCPDR in all the private and government schools in their respective domains.

Excerpts issued by DSEK Physical punishment

Causing physical harm to children by hitting, kicking, scratching, pinching, biting, pulling the hair, boxing ears, smacking, slapping, spanking or with any implement cane, stick, shoe, chalk, dusters, belt, whip, giving electric shock etcetera.

Making children assume an uncomfortable position like standing on bench, standing against the wall in a chair-like position, standing with schoolbag on head, holding ears through legs vern; kaanpakdi, kneeling etc.

Forced Ingestion of anything (for example: washing soap, mud, chalk, hot spices etc.

Detention in the classroom, library, toilet or any closed space in the school.

Mental harassment:

Sarcasm that hurts or lowers the child's dignity.

Calling names and scolding using humiliating adjectives, intimidation.

Using derogatory remarks for the child, including pinning of slogans;

Ridiculing the child with regard to his/her background or status or parental occupation or caste; Ridiculing the child with regard to his/her health status or that of the family especially HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis; Belittling a child in the classroom due to his or her inability to meet the teacher's expectations of academic achievement.

Ridiculing a child with developmental problems such as learning difficulty or a speech disorder, such as, stammering or speech articulation disorder.

Punishing or disciplining a child not recognizing that most children who perform poorly in academics are actually children with special needs. Such children could have conditions like learning disability, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, mild developmental delay etc.

Using punitive measures to correct a child and even labelling him or her as difficult; such as a child with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder who may not only fair poorly in academics, but also pose a problem in management of classroom behaviours; 'Shaming' the child to motivate the child to improve his performance; Ridiculing a child with developmental problems such as learning difficulty or a speech disorder, such as, stammering or speech articulation disorder.

'Sexual Abuse' of any kind corporal punishment of any nature is not acceptable under any circumstances.

Brutal treatment to students in the name of reforming can never be accepted as an excuse, as it can never inculcate good discipline and good habits in them.

On the contrary, indulgence in violence by teachers is bound to set a very bad example before the students. So, preventive measures need to be applied

Preventive Measures issued by DSEK Emphasising importance of Rules: Students should be given clear idea about importance of rules again and again. They should be made aware about the existing rules. There should be no violation in this regard.

Positive recognition: It includes rewarding good behaviour and curtailing negative behaviours. Some rewards can be verbal while some can be symbolic recognitions.

Recognise that child needs, help and no punishment: This fact should be applied in all critical situations. Unwanted behaviour on the part of a student is an indication that the student needs guidance (and not punishment).

Healthy Relationships: Healthy relationships should be promoted among students, teachers and staff.

To stop all types of negative behaviours towards the students inside or outside the class. Even under inevitable and unprecedented circumstances, positive engagement or preventive measures are to be adopted instead of use of force to discipline the students--(KNO)

#### Street Violence

proved themselves not only locally and nationally but at the global level as well," he

added.

In his address, the LG also highlighted the influence of Sufism in the culture and traditions of Jammu Kashmir.

"J&K is the land of Rishis and Sufis. It is the land which respects all spiritual and religious streams. Those who had created trouble in this paradise have been decimated, and supporters of terrorism and separatism have been neutralized to establish peace and harmony in the society," he said.

He shared the transformational journey of UT of J&K towards peace, prosperity and inclusive development.

Governor of Kerala Arif Mohammed Khan, who presided over the conference organised by Cluster University of Srinagar in collaboration with J&K Academy of Arts, Culture and Languages, in his address, remembered the invaluable contributions of Lal Ded, Nund Rishi, Sufis and Saints from Jammu & Kashmir in strengthening the spirit of unity and oneness.

"Their teachings and writings will continue to be the beacon of light for humanity," he said.

"Our ancient heritage teaches us peace, love and humanity. The people of all religions, all sects are one family. The continuity of our culture, values, traditions is the biggest power of India that empowers our great nation to flourish," he added.

J&K LG extended his gratitude to the Governor of Kerala for gracing the occasion and blessing the participants with his words of wisdom.

Sinha congratulated the Cluster University of Srinagar and the J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages for their endeavour to promote the Sufi traditions.

He also called upon the people to embrace the Rishi-Sufi traditions and eliminate all traces of communal divide to strengthen unity. (With PTI inputs)

#### J&K Most Peaceful

"Be a good human being first, and then you can become the best designer. Serve society with your talents," he advised the students.

He also praised UT for its leading role in organizing Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav events, celebrating 75 years of Independence. The government's commendable achievements in e-governance were acknowledged as well.

Mehta expressed hope that no effort would be spared to elevate NIFT campus to a top-notch institute of fashion and design, aligning with the emerging spirit.

#### KP Group Moves

and Article 35-A of the Constitution had "violated" the basic structure of the Constitution as it never recognised the supremacy of the Indian Constitution.

Kaul, a Kashmiri Pandit, has said in his application that Article 370 was "discriminatory" as it created two classes of citizens -- one for the erstwhile state of Jammu & Kashmir and other for the rest of India -- and its abrogation has removed this discrimination.

Article 35-A, which was incorporated in the Constitution by a 1954 Presidential Order, accorded special rights and privileges to the citizens of Jammu and Kashmir and barred people from outside the state from acquiring any immovable property in the state.

It also denied property rights to a woman who married a person from outside the state.

On August 5, 2019, the Centre decided to strip the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir of its special status and bifurcate it into two union territories.

Several petitions challenging the Centre's action of abrogating the provisions of Article 370 and the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, which split the erstwhile state into two union territories - Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh- were referred to a Constitution bench in 2019.

By abrogating Article 370, the central government had revoked the special status of Jammu and Kashmir.

In its application, 'Youth 4 Panun Kashmir' has said, "Article 370 and Article 35-A of the Constitution had violated the basic structure of the Constitution as it never recognised the supremacy of the Indian Constitution. It was an attack on the unity and sovereignty of India."

The organisation said both Article 370 and Article 35-A were by nature discriminatory against the Kashmiri Pandits and rest of the minorities in the erstwhile state and were in absolute violation of the pillars of the Constitution -- Articles 14 (equality before law), 19 (protection of certain rights regarding freedom of speech etc.) and Article 21 (protection of life and personal liberty).

In his application, Kaul has said, "Article 370 and the issue of autonomy were designed to be manipulated in such a way that a virtual 'Sheikdom or Sultanate' or mini Pakistan was nurtured with the Indian tax payer's money".

The application said keeping Article 370 in force perpetuated a feeling of separateness and furthered Pakistani propaganda that the erstwhile state was a disputed territory.

Both the applications have sought dismissal of the petitions challenging the vires of the abrogation of Article 370 and Article 35-A of the Constitution.

On July 11, the apex court had said it will commence day-to-day hearing from August 2 on a batch of petitions challenging abrogation of Article 370.

It had fixed July 27 as the deadline for filing of written submissions and convenience compilations by different parties.

The bench had said hearing on the pleas will be held on a day-to-day basis except on Mondays and Fridays, which are days for hearing miscellaneous matters in the apex court. Only fresh petitions are taken up on these days for admission hearing and regular matters are not heard.

Defending the abrogation of Article 370, the Centre had on July 10 told the apex court that the entire region of Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed an "unprecedented" era of peace, progress and prosperity, with street violence, orchestrated by terrorists and secessionist networks, becoming "a thing of the past."

#### Sibal To Appear

on a batch of petitions challenging the abrogation of Article 370 that bestowed special status on the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

A five-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud fixed July 27 as the deadline for filing of written submissions and convenience compilations by different parties.

"We requested senior lawyer Kapil Sibal to appear for the hearings on Article 370 and he has graciously agreed," said Salman Nizami, the chief spokesperson of the Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP).

"Nothing has changed after the revocation of Article 370. Kudos to Ghulam Nabi Azad for his unwavering dedication in raising this important issue," he added.

In 2019, the Centre stripped Jammu and Kashmir of its special status and bifurcated it into Union Territories. Several petitions challenging the action of abrogating the provisions of Article 370 and the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, have been filed in the top court.

The DPAP also expressed its resentment against power outages and the installation of smart meters and demanded a reduction in power tariffs.

GM Saroori, the party's vice-president, said the poor have to bear the brunt of anti-people policies.

"Prices of essential commodities are touching the sky, power tariffs are breaking the back of the poor. We have several power projects in Jammu and Kashmir that have the capacity to generate power for other parts of the country. We even have power projects in Ladakh. The country is getting its power supply from Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

"It was promised that consumers in Jammu and Kashmir would get power at lower rates than the rest of the country because of these projects," he said.

Saroori claimed that the monthly power bills have gone up from Rs 1,000 to Rs 10,000.

Prolonged unsheduled power cuts -- lasting between eight and 10 hours a day -- are causing suffering for the people.

"We demand that smart meters should not be installed and the tariff be reduced," he said.

#### Ashura Holiday

28th July, 2023 (Friday)," reads an order.

It is pertinent to mention here that the decision has been taken after the Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board requested the Government of Jammu and Kashmir to postpone the holiday on the occasion of Ashura, in the backdrop of a communiqué received from Grand Mufti, J&K, Mufti Nasir-ul-Islam. (GNS)

#### Patwari Lands

10 marla under survey No. 786 situated at Pinjora, he said, had been purchased by the complainant and his brother. He further said that the land was under possession of the complainant after an agreement was signed between him and the seller.

According to the spokesperson, the Patwari demanded Rs 10,000 bribe when the complainant approached him for issuance of revenue extract

"The complainant requested the Patwari that he is a poor man and cannot pay this amount but he told him to pay Rs 9000 otherwise the work will not be done," he said, adding that Patwari told the complainant to bring Rs 5000 as first installment on July 26.

Under these circumstances, the spokesperson said, the complainant approached ACB, stating that he doesn't want to pay a bribe and requested legal action against the Patwari concerned.

"As the contents of complaint prima facie disclosed the commission of offence punishable U/S 7 of the PC Act 1988 (as amended in 2018) by accused, a case FIR No. 07/2023 was registered at Police Station Anti Corruption Bureau, Baramulla U/S 7 of the P.C Act 1988 against him," he said.

He further added that during the course of investigation a trap team was constituted which laid a successful trap and caught the accused red-handed while demanding and accepting the bribe amount of Rs 5,000.

"He was arrested on the spot after completing all legal formalities. Further investigation in the case is going on," the spokesperson added.

#### Madrassa Teacher

the arrest of the accused madrasa teacher on charges of sodomy.

A senior police officer, while confirming the incident said that a case under Section 377 of the law has been registered in this connection while further investigation is underway. (KS)

#### Teen Dies

his injuries. Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance of the incident."

#### 3 Slapped With

booked under PSA for his involvement in anti-national activities after obtaining formal detention orders from the competent authority, a police spokesperson said. Khan, he said, has been detained and subsequently lodged in District Jail Kathua.

In Bandipora, the spokesperson said, police have also booked two persons under PSA for their involvement in anti-national/anti-social activities after obtaining formal detention orders from the competent authority.

He identified them as Hilal Ahmad Parray and Ab Hameed Parray of Hajin. Both have been detained and subsequently lodged in Central Jail Kot Bawal Jammu.

"It is pertinent to mention here that many cases were registered against them and were involved in anti-national/anti-social activities. Despite their involvement in many FIRs, they did not mend their anti-national/anti-social activities and were again involved in such type of activities," the spokesperson said.

#### 3,100 Leave

Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas here in a convoy of 124 vehicles amid heavy security of the Central Reserve Police Force on Thursday morning, the officials said.

They added that 957 pilgrims heading for Baltal were the first to leave the Bhagwati Nagar camp in 41 vehicles followed by the second convoy of 83 vehicles carrying 2,154 pilgrims for Pahalgam.

Over 1.33 lakh pilgrims have left the Bhagwati Nagar camp for the Valley since June 29, the day the first batch of pilgrims was flagged off by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha.

**Tens of thousands of Shia mourners thronged streets of central Srinagar after a hiatus of 34 years on Thursday after authorities here lifted ban on traditional 8th Muharram procession.**



# Warriors and little jinn commemorate Ashura in Iran

Once a year, in central Iran's city of Noosh Abad, men don warrior costumes and children portray supernatural beings to usher in one of the holiest commemorations in Shia Islam.

Ashura falls on the tenth day of the Islamic month of Muharram, and commemorates martyrdom of Imam Hussain, a grandson of the Prophet Muhammed (pbuh), in Karbala in modern-day Iraq.

In Noosh Abad, Iranian devotees stage a parade called the "Caravan", when they march through the streets two days ahead of Ashura.

On Wednesday, performers kept the tradition their city has marked for more than a century, wearing colourful embroidered costumes to signify Arab clothing worn at the time of Imam Hussein.

Some portrayed cavalrymen, daggers and swords at their belts, as children with their faces painted black or red played supernatural



spirits or jinn, some wearing white and others with pink wings.

Tradition says that these djinn appeared in Karbala and offered to help Imam Hussain, who refused, saying his destiny was to die on the battlefield.

"I've been taking part in this event for 10 years," said 56-year-old performer Ali Ebadi, who played the role of a slave to the "Shimr", the man who martyred Imam by beheading.

Hundreds of men in black clothes and chador-clad women watched as

include dramatic rituals such as chest beating with bare hands and chains.

Sometimes in other countries the rites see bloody self-flagellation or whipping using sharp-edged chains which is now frowned upon by the majority following a series of edicts by top clergy.

Many "people believe that prophets, angels, and djinn came to help Imam Hussain" who refused their aid, saying "it was his destiny", 52-year-old Mohammad Mashhadi Noosh Abadi said at the procession.

It was all part of the Taazieh, or mourning, theatre rituals which some believe have roots that go back to ancient Persia, Noosh Abadi said.

In Noosh Abad, the "Caravan" parade and the Taazieh are essential for keeping the rituals alive.

"Generations learn from these rituals and performances which are a significant part of Islamic history," said Mahdi Moslem, professor of Islamic philosophy at Kashan university.

Wednesday's procession passed under black flags and banners bearing white inscriptions praising Imam Hussain and his family.

The troupe later re-enacted events leading up to the massacre of Imam Hussain and his companions who refused to give the pledge to caliph Yazid to the title of commander of the faithful (Ameer-al-Momineen).

Shia Muslims the world over view Imam Hussain's martyrdom as a symbol of the struggle against injustice.

Mourning his death can

# 1-Year Maternity Leave, 1-Month Paternity Leave For Govt Employees In Sikkim

Agencis

Gangtok: Sikkim Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang on Wednesday said his government would give 12-month maternity leave and one-month paternity leave to its employees.

Addressing the annual general meeting of the Sikkim State Civil Service Officers' Association here, he said changes would be made in the service rules to provide the



benefit.

The benefit would help government employees to take better care of their children and families, he said. The details would be notified soon, he added.

According to the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961, a working woman is entitled to paid maternity leave of six months or 26 weeks.

The Himalayan state has the lowest population in India at around 6.32 lakh.



## CANCER SOCIETY OF KASHMIR

کینسر سوسائٹی آف کشمیر

4-BAGH-I-ISLAM COLONY LAL NAGAR, CHANAPORA SRINAGAR 190 015 TELEFAX 0194-3500478-79 / 2441899  
Website: www.cancersocietykashmir.org E-mail: cancersocietyofkashmir@gmail.com  
Ref. No. CSK/ELECTION-40/2023-24/2384 Dated: 22-07-2023

### ELECTION NOTICE

All the founder & life members of the Cancer Society of Kashmir are informed that the election for the following honorary Office-Bearers of the Cancer Society of Kashmir are scheduled to be held on **19-AUG-2023** at the office of the society 4-Bagh-i-Islam Colony Lal Nagar, Chanapora Srinagar: -

- |                             |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 1. <b>Chairman</b>          | <b>One.</b> |
| 2. <b>Vice-Chairmen</b>     | <b>Two.</b> |
| 3. <b>General Secretary</b> | <b>One.</b> |
| 4. <b>Joint-Secretary</b>   | <b>One.</b> |
| 5. <b>Treasurer</b>         | <b>One.</b> |

The dates for process of elections have been fixed as under: -

- |   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. <b>Filling of Nominations Papers</b>                       | <b>:- 02-08-2023-07-08-2023</b>  |
| 2. <b>Scrutiny of Nominations Papers</b>                      | <b>:- 09-08-2023.</b>            |
| 3. <b>Last date for withdrawal of nominations</b>             | <b>:- 11-08-2023</b>             |
| 4. <b>Issue of Notification for final list of contestants</b> | <b>:- 14-08-2023.</b>            |
| 5. <b>Date of Voting (From 9.30 AM to 4.30 PM)</b>            | <b>:- 19-08-2023.</b>            |
| 6. <b>Counting of votes and declaration of results</b>        | <b>:- (Same Day) 19-08-2023.</b> |

--SD--  
Justice (Retd.) M.Y. Kawoosa.  
Election Authority

Genuine Ads | 9419031137

# UFO hearing: Whistleblower testifies, claims US has possession of 'non-human' spacecraft

AGENCIES

Washington: The US is concealing a longstanding programme that retrieves and reverse-engineers unidentified flying objects, a former Air Force intelligence officer testified on Wednesday to Congress.

The Pentagon has denied his claims. Retired Maj David Grusch's highly anticipated testimony before a House Oversight subcommittee was Congress's latest foray into the world of UAPs — or "unidentified aerial phenomena," which is the official term the US government uses instead of UFOs.

While the study of mysterious aircraft or objects often evokes talk of aliens and "little green men", Democrats and Republicans in recent years have pushed for more research as a national security matter due to concerns that sightings observed by pilots may be tied to US adversaries.

Grusch said he was asked in 2019 by the head of a government task force on UAPs to identify all highly classified programs relating to the task force's

mission. At the time, Grusch was detailed to the National Reconnaissance Office, the agency that operates US spy satellites.

"I was informed in the course of my official duties of a multi-decade UAP crash retrieval and reverse-engineering program to which I was denied access," he said.

Asked whether the US government had information about extraterrestrial life, Grusch said the US likely has been aware of "non-human" activity since the 1930s.

The Pentagon has denied Grusch's claims of a coverup. In a statement, Defence Department spokeswoman Sue Gough said investigators have not discovered "any verifiable information to substantiate claims that any programs regarding the possession or reverse-engineering of extraterrestrial materials have existed in the past or exist currently." The statement did not address UFOs that are not suspected of being extraterrestrial objects.

Grusch says he became a government whistleblower after his discovery

and has faced retaliation for coming forward. He declined to be more specific about the retaliatory tactics, citing an ongoing investigation.

"It was very brutal and very unfortunate, some of the tactics they used to hurt me both professionally and personally," he said.

Rep Glenn Grothman, R-Wis., chaired the panel's hearing and joked to a packed audience, "Welcome to the most exciting subcommittee in Congress this week." But members of both parties asked Grusch about his study of UFOs and the consequences he faced.

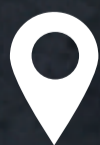
"I take it that you're arguing what we need is real transparency and reporting systems so we can get some clarity on what's going on out there," said Rep Jamie Raskin, D-Md.

Some lawmakers criticized the Pentagon for not providing more details in a classified briefing or releasing images that could be shown to the public. In previous hearings, Pentagon officials showed a video taken from an F-18 military plane that showed an image of one balloon-like shape.

# Bun Maska



Famous Irani Chai of Bombay now in Srinagar



JK Bank Lawns,  
Opp Ghat 6 Boulevard,  
Srinagar