

600 Families To Get Land Compensation Soon

Old Airfield Landowners Get Assurance From DGDE New Delhi



Observer News Service

New Delhi: Over 600 families from Central Kashmir's Budgam district are likely to get compensation for their land acquired by the Defence Estates Department at Srinagar Old Airfield around 10 years ago.

The huge swath of land measuring 3879 kanal was acquired by the Defence Estates Department in 2012. For the last 11 years, around 600 families from Wathoor, Kralpora, Buchroo, Rangreth and other adjoining areas of Budgam district were seeking compensation for the acquired land.

Prior to 2013, the land owners were paid annual rent by the Army through the Defence Estates Department from 1957. In 2012, the government decided to acquire the land which is already in the possession of the Army.

Although Rs 4.80 lakh per kanal was already paid to each family but the rates were enhanced to Rs 18 to 20 lakh per kanal and the payment was not disbursed to the families over these years.

According to reports, a delegation of aggrieved landowners led by social activist Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat had a detailed meeting with senior officers in DG Defence Estates Office in New Delhi on Monday.

President of Zamindar Committee Karewa Damodar, Shabir Ahmad Sofi, Vice President Mohammad Ameen Kuchay along with prominent RTI activist from Budgam Mushtaq Ahmad Lone were part of the delegation.

In a statement issued here, the Zamindaran Committee Karewa Damodar said that meeting was successful as the senior officers of DG Defence Estates Office in New Delhi said that payment to the tune of over Rs 600 Crore had been sanctioned by Govt of India and would be disbursed to the land owners through Defence Estates Officer Srinagar and Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam.

Pertinently the land owners of along with some prominent social activists had also raised the issue with GOC 15 Corps Lt Gen ADC Aujla in Srinagar last year. They had apprised the senior army commander about the problems faced by affected families due to delay in release of the payments.

"The previous GOC 15 Corps Lt Gen ADS Aujla had taken our issue seriously and since then he had been making communication with the Defence Estates Department. Even after this transfer from Srinagar he facilitated the meeting with the top officers in DG Defence Estates Department and we are fully » [More On P10](#)

J&K Clinches Top Spot In Country With 1016 Online Services

This Historic Achievement Is Testimony To Our Commitment To Transform Social Landscape And Enhance Citizen's Satisfaction, Ensure Transparency; Accountability: LG



Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a significant achievement, Jammu and Kashmir has overtaken Madhya Pradesh to clinch top spot in the country by reaching 1016 citizen-centric services being provided in online mode to the people of the Union Territory.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj

Sinha, formally announced the landmark achievement of reaching 1016 citizen centric services being provided in online mode, making J&K first amongst all states and Union Territories in the number of e-services being provided to citizens, an official spokesperson said Tuesday.

Sinha, he said, termed it as a milestone achievement in

tune with the commitment and resolve of the J&K administration to provide ease, convenience and accessibility of services to the common man ushering in a new era of digital governance.

"J&K creates a new benchmark in e-Governance Service Delivery with 1016 services now made available online. Digital transformation » [More On P10](#)

Our Endeavour Is To Strengthen Good Governance: LG

S tating that efficient handling of grievances and needs of people is an instrument of social change and economic growth, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Tuesday that collective efforts have encouraged effective public participation in planning and implementation of projects in Jammu and Kashmir. Interacting with citizens during his monthly live grievance hearing programme at the Civil Secretariat » [More On P10](#)

Over 26,000 'Eye Flu' Cases In J&K

Cases Surging In Kashmir, Declining In Jammu

Agencies

Srinagar: 'Eye flu' cases are on the rise in Jammu and Kashmir as the hospitals across the Union Territory continue to receive patients complaining of irritation, redness, swelling and itching in their eyes.

Doctors from Kashmir and Jammu said that the cases of conjunctivitis, popularly known as 'eye flu', are on the rise in Kashmir division while cases have started declining in Jammu division.

They, however, said there is no need to worry as it goes away in one to two weeks. An official from the Directorate of Health Services Jammu said that 14,412 cases of conjunctivitis were reported in Jammu division including GMC Jammu. Giving further » [More On P10](#)

ARTICLE-370 HEARING

SC Seeks Timeframe To Restore Electoral Democracy In J&K

Union Territory Status Of J&K Is Not A Permanent Thing: Centre

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The five-judge constitution bench of the Supreme Court, hearing a clutch of petitions challenging the abrogation of Article 370, asked the Centre for the first time on Tuesday to specify a time frame for restoration of electoral democracy in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, saying the present arrangement "has to come to an end".

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the Centre, told the bench the union territory status of Jammu and Kashmir is not



a "permanent thing" and that the government will make an elaborate statement on the vexatious political issue in the court on August 31.

The bench, headed by Chief

Justice D Y Chandradhud, which was hearing Mehta's submissions defending the Centre's decision to do away with the special status of the former state » [More On P10](#)



I HAVE TAKEN INSTRUCTIONS AND THE INSTRUCTIONS are that the UT status for Jammu and Kashmir is not a permanent thing. It will remain for Ladakh. However, I will make an elaborate statement on August 31"

■ Solicitor General Tushar Mehta

HC Relief To Disengaged Workers In Psychiatric Disease Hospital

Auqib Javeed

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh on Tuesday asked the government "not to disturb" the present position of at least 26 employees of Psychiatric Disease Hospital here.

A Single Bench of Justice Sanjay Dhar passed the orders after hearing a petition by petitioners, contending that they have been engaged as Data Entry Operators and Multi-Purpose Workers in the Psychiatric Disease Hospital, Srinagar, under the Scheme of NMH and have been discharging their duties for the past several years.

The petitioners submitted that as per the terms of engagement, they are entitled to continue till the operation of the scheme which is coming to



IT IS FOR INFORMATION THAT THERE WILL BE NO INTERRUPTION of services at any facility and IPD, OPD and all other services at Govt."

an end only in 2026. Therefore, they said, their services cannot be disengaged.

While issuing notice to government for response to the

plea within a week's time, the court said: "In the meanwhile, subject to the objections from the other side and till next date of hearing before the Bench, the present position of the petitioners shall not be disturbed."

The government Psychiatric Diseases Hospital recently called a meeting to discuss the fallout of the cessation of services of 26 personnel engaged under National Mental Health Program from 1st September.

The government recently termed as misleading the reports in a section of the media that de-addiction services provided by the Govt. Psychiatric Diseases Hospital, (IMHANS-K) Srinagar have been stopped.

"It is for information that there will be no interruption of services at any facility and » [More On P10](#)

Leopard Mauls Minor To Death In Bandipora

Woman Among 3 Injured By Bear In Kulgam

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In yet another deadly incident of man-animal conflict, a seven-year-old boy on Tuesday was mauled to death by a leopard in Nesbal area of North Kashmir's Bandipora district.

7-year-old Zaid Bashir had gone missing from his native Nesbal village on Monday evening following which a massive search operation was launched by Police, army's 13RR. CRPF with the assistance of the locals, officials said Tuesday.

According to them, blood-stains and clothes of the boy were found near a field, leading them to suspect that a leopard, which had been sighted often in the area, had attacked the boy.

After overnight search, the boy's mutilated body was found in a nearby hillock in Nesbal in the early morning on Tuesday.

After legal-medical formalities, the body was handed over to his family members for last rites.

Meanwhile, three people, including a woman were attacked and injured on Tuesday by a black bear in Damhal Hanjipora area of South Kashmir Kulgam district.

Muhammad Ramzan Malik, Muhammad Shafi Malik and Raja Begum were working in an orchard in their native Nagam village of DH Pora when a bear appeared there and attacked them, reports said. The trio sustained injuries in the surprise bear attack. » [More On P10](#)

Court Grants Bail To 'Conman' Kiran Patel

M AHMAD

Srinagar: Nearly six months after his arrest, Kiran Bhai Patel, the man from Gujarat who allegedly conned the security establishment in Jammu and Kashmir into believing him to be a PMO official, was granted bail by a court here.

He had enjoyed five star protocol "brazenly" for a considerable period of time prior to his arrest on March 2 this year.

The court of Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM) Srinagar Raja Mohammad Tasleem granted the bail, Patel's lawyer said.

Earlier the court had rejected two bail applications by Patel, observing that he seemed to be a habitual offender in view of the fact that as many as five FIRs are registered against him in different places including his home State Gujarat. Besides, the court had observed that the nature of the offence against him was very serious as the accused has tried his level best to dupe the Government functionaries and seems to be "habitual in committing such type



of offences".

Kiran Patel, the alleged imposter hailing from Gujarat posed as an additional director (strategy and campaigns) in the Prime Minister's Office and enjoyed many perks, including a bulletproof car and security cover besides other hospitality. Kiran Patel was on his third visit to the Kashmir Valley when he was nabbed by security officials from a five-star hotel in Nishat area of Srinagar on March 2.

As per the police report, Patel forged and » [More On P10](#)

Miss World Venue Not Decided Yet: Organisers

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Miss World Organisation and PME Entertainment on Tuesday said the venue to host Miss World 2023 event in India has not yet been finalised.

"On behalf of the Miss World Organisation, we would like to strongly state that the news picked by a few media houses that the main Miss World 2023 Finale is being held in Kashmir is unfounded and incorrect" said Jamil Saidi, Chairman PME Entertainment in a statement.

He said the venue for the

finale is yet to be finalised and will be announced officially at a later date.

As reported earlier a group of global Beauty Divas visited Kashmir on a day-long trip as a prelude to the Miss World pageant 2023 on Monday. They included Miss World Karolina Bielawska of Poland, Miss World India Sini Shetty, Miss World America Shree Saini and Julia Morley, chairperson and CEO of the Miss World Organisation.

Bielawska's visit to Kashmir, first for an international beauty pageant winner, comes ahead of the 71st edition of the » [More On P10](#)

S H O R T T A K E S

LG Sends Raksha Bandhan Greetings

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has extended his greetings to the people on the eve of Raksha Bandhan. In a message, the Lt Governor said: On the auspicious occasion of Raksha Bandhan, I extend my greetings and good wishes to the people. Raksha Bandhan is the celebration of the unique bond between brothers and sisters. Rakhi symbolizes love, compassion, affection and mutual trust between sisters and brothers. May the spirit of this festival strengthen the familial bond, unity, harmony and brotherhood in the society and usher in peace, prosperity » [More On P10](#)

Missing Engineer Found Dead

Police on Tuesday recovered the body of an engineer, who went missing from his home in Baramulla district of North Kashmir six days ago. Body of Gurmeet Singh, an engineer of Roads and Buildings department was retrieved from a barrage of Lower Jhelum Hydro-electric power project in Gantamulla area of the district on Tuesday morning, an official said. He said that Gurmeet had gone missing from his home around 6 days ago and since then police and other agencies had launched a massive search » [More On P10](#)

Drug Smuggler Shot Dead In Karnah

A narcotics smuggler was shot dead by unidentified gunmen in the border area of Karnah area of North Kashmir's Kupwara district, police said Tuesday. In a statement issued here, a police spokesperson said that during the intervening night of August 28-29, some sounds of gunshots were heard in Haridal area of Police Post Teetwal Karnah around 10pm Monday. Upon hearing the gunshots, he said, a swift search operation was launched by local Police and Army unit in the area during which lifeless body of Mukhtar Ahmad Shah of Panjtaran Karnah » [More On P10](#)

Two JKAS Officers Shifted

The Union Territory government on Tuesday ordered transfer and posting of two Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service (JKAS) officers in the interest of the administration. According to an order issued by the GAD, Angrez Singh, JKAS, Deputy Secretary in the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat, is transferred and posted as Assistant Commissioner (Central) with Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, with immediate effect. Further, the order says that Ajay Bharti, JKAS, Deputy Director, Estates, Jammu, under orders of transfer as Assistant » [More On P10](#)

Labourer Dies After Slab Falls

A labourer died while another sustained injuries on Tuesday after coming under a concrete slab in Khag area of Central Kashmir's Budgam district. The incident occurred on Tuesday morning at Government Boys Middle School Khag. Eyewitnesses told a local news agency KNT that labourers were busy dismantling the bathroom of the school when the slab collapsed and fell over the two men. They said Mushtaq Ahmed Thokar, a resident of Lohran Khag died on the spot while another labourer identified as » [More On](#)

GOC, DGP Discuss Security Scenario

General Officer Commanding (GOC) Kilo Force Major General Mohit Seth SM, VSM called on the Director General of Police J&K Shri Dilbag Singh at Police Headquarters here on Tuesday. The DGP and the GOC discussed various important aspects pertaining to the prevailing security scenario of Kashmir, a police spokesperson said. During their discussion, he said, strategies for counter insurgency operations, strengthening and augmenting of security measures to counter the tactics of terrorists and conspiracies made from across the border were discussed threadbare. "The DGP appreciated » [More On P10](#)



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2

سادات موسوی کا ایک اور چراغ غل ہوا۔

شریف و نجیب نفس کی مالکہ۔۔ سادہ ویلوٹ زندگی بسر کرنے والی۔۔

مطیع امر خاتون اپنے بزرگوں کی۔۔

با شرم و حیا بیٹی اپنے زمانہ کی شفیق و رفیق حیات اپنے شوہر کی مہر و محبت بھری آغوش اپنے بچوں کی نازوں کی پلی اپنے ماں باپ کی خوش اخلاق و محنت کش بہو اپنے سسرال کی اپنے فرزند اکبر مرزا سجاد اپنی بہو اور اپنی دو پوتیوں کے درد فراق و غم میں سوختہ جگر رکھنے والی راضیہ برضائے پروردگار ناز بردار آغوش

اپنے غیرت مند بچوں مرزا اقبال مرزا مشتاق مرزا جاوید اور اکلوتی چیمپتی بیٹی کی شکر گزار عابدہ اپنے پروردگار کی ایک مدت دراز سے بستر بیماری اور شدت تکلیف میں میں گزارنے والی صابرہ خاتون انشا اللہ بامید شفا عمت نبی تاجدار بروز شمار سیدہ فاطمہ بنت سید نقی شاہ وزوجہ مرحوم مرزا محمد صادق مورخہ 28 اگست 2023ء بروز سوموار 10 بجے صبح اس دنیا سے فانی سے بسوے جاودان کوچ کر گئیں۔ پروردگار بصدقہ رسول مختار اور آل اطہار جوار سرکار میں مدار قرار دے آمین الہ العالمین

منجانب: سادات کاظمی گلشن باغ بوٹہ کدل

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

Office Of The Child Development Project Officer, Poshan Narvaw

Address: NEAR DARUL-ULOOM SHEERI

Subject: Advertisement for Recruitment of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) and Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers) in Anganwadi Centres of POSHAN Project Narvaw.

- Reference: 1. Government order No. 222-JK (SWD) of 2022, Dated: 30.11.2022.
2. Government Order No. 103-JK (SWD) of 2023, Dated: 28.04.2023.
3. Mission Director Poshan J&K vide No.: MD/Poshan/Estt/13281-94, dated: 08-05-2023 .

Applications on prescribed format annexed as (Annexure-A) are hereby invited from the eligible female candidates of the Panch wards/Municipal Wards shown against the below mentioned Panchayat Halqas/Municipal Wards, for the engagement of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) and Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers) for the Anganwadi Centres of POSHAN Project Narvaw on "Honorarium basis" as admissible under rules. The application along with required documents should reach to the office of Child Development Project Officer Narvaw near Dar-ul-Uloom Sheeri within 15 days from the date of publication of the said notice upto 4 P.M. against proper receipt. The application forms shall be available free of cost at Project Headquarter Narvaw Sheeri.

S. No.	Name of The District	Name of the Poshan Project	Name of the Posts	Number of Posts
1	BARAMULLA	Narvaw	AWW	05
			AWH	09

05 Posts of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers)

S. No	Name of District	Name of the Poshan Project	Name of the Panchayat Halqa/ Municipi-	Details of Vacancies of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers)
				Name & No. of the Panch Ward Location
1	BARAMULLA	Narvaw	Chakloo	06 Mir Mohalla Chakloo
2	BARAMULLA	Narvaw	Singhbagh	20 Singhbagh
3	BARAMULLA	Narvaw	Fatehpura	05 Fatehpura
4	BARAMULLA	Narvaw	Shutloo	04 Mirpora Shutloo
5	BARAMULLA	Narvaw	Nadihal C	04 Nadihal-A

Criteria for selection of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers).

- The candidate must be domicile of the UT of J&K.
- Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years shall be eligible. (Age calculated as on 1st January 2023).
- The candidate should be a resident of the electoral ward where Anganwadi Centre is situated. Name in the voter list for the ward shall be considered as the proof of residence of the candidate.
- In case the name of the candidate appears in the voter list along with her parents, then she must provide certificate of being unmarried issued by the concerned Tehsildar. Wherever, there is any dispute as to residence for any reason, then a residence proof certifying the ward of residence from the concerned SDM/ACR shall be considered.
- Minimum Education qualification should be 10+2 pass and maximum graduation.
- Weightage shall be given on the basis of marks obtained in 10+2 and selection shall be done purely on merit basis and no other criteria is to be considered.
- In case of tie in merit of the eligible candidate, candidate with higher age will be preferred.
- Candidate with qualification higher than graduation shall not be considered.
- In case eligible candidate is available within the family of retiring AWW, the said candidate shall qualify for additional 2% points.

NOTE:- NAME OF THE CANDIDATE MUST BE PRESENT IN THE PANCHAYAT/ MUNICIPAL VOTER LIST, AND THE CANDIDATE MUST SUBMIT IT ALONGWITH OTHER REQUISITE DOCUMENTS. IN CASE OF DISPUTE WITH REGARDS TO THE RESIDENCE OF A CANDIDATE, SHE MUST PROVIDE A RESIDENCE PROOF CERTIFYING THE WARD DULY ATTESTED BY CONCERNED ACR/SDM. ONLY FORMS COMPLETE IN ALL RESPECTS WITH ALL REQUISITE DOCUMENTS SHALL BE ACCEPTED. FORMS INCOMPLETE IN ANY RESPECT SHALL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Self-attested copies of documents to be attached with the application form.

- Panch ward certificate issued by BDO concerned, as per format annexed with the application form.
- Domicile Certificate issued by Tehsildar concerned.
- Date of Birth Certificate.
- Academic Qualification with marks card of 10+2.
- Self-addressed envelope with postage stamp of Rs. 5/=
- Unmarried certificate by concerned Tehsildar wherever required.
- Panchayat/ Municipality VOTER list of the Panchayat/ Municipal Ward applied for.
- Affidavit/undertaking as per format annexed with the application form.

09 Posts of Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helper)

S. No.	Name of District	Name of the Poshan Project	Name of the Panchayat Halqa	Details of Vacancies of Sanginis (Anganwadi Helpers)
				Name & No. of the Panch Ward Location
1	BARAMULLA	Narvaw	Khawajabagh	20 Dar Mohalla Khawajabagh
2	BARAMULLA	Narvaw	Sweeper Colony Khawajabagh	20 Sweeper Colony Khawajabagh
3	BARAMULLA	Narvaw	Badmulah	07 Pahlharan
4	BARAMULLA	Narvaw	Deewanbagh	13 Rather Mohalla Dewanbagh
5	BARAMULLA	Narvaw	Audoora	07 Astanpora Audoor
6	BARAMULLA	Narvaw	Dangerpora	04 Dangerpora A
7	BARAMULLA	Narvaw	Nardari	06 Nardari
8	BARAMULLA	Narvaw	Binner-B	07 Jamia Mohalla Binner
9	BARAMULLA	Narvaw	Naidihal	07 Bunpora Naidihal

Criteria for selection of Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helper).

- The candidate must be a domicile of the UT of J&K.
- Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years shall be eligible. (Age calculated as on 1st January 2023).
- The candidate should be a resident of the Electoral Ward where AWC is situated. Name in the voter list for the ward shall be considered as the proof of residence of the candidate. In case the name of the candidate appears in voter list along with her parents, then she must provide certificate of being unmarried issued by the concerned Tehsildar. Wherever, there is

any dispute as to residence for any reason, then a residence proof certifying the ward of residence from the concerned SDM/ACR shall be considered.

- Minimum qualification for Anganwadi Helper shall be matriculation.
- Weightage shall be given on the basis of marks obtained in Class 10th. The committee shall select the meritorious married women of the ward as Anganwadi Helper from amongst those who fulfill the qualification criteria. In rarest of rare cases where selection committee finds a widow headed household with no income source or a completely destitute lady with zero source of income, in such cases preference may be given if other things are equal. In case no married candidate is available, unmarried may be considered.
- In case eligible candidate is available within the family of retiring AWH, the said candidate shall qualify for additional 2% points.

Self-attested copies of documents to be attached with the application form.

- Panch ward certificate issued by BDO concerned, as per format annexed with the application form.
- Domicile Certificate issued by Tehsildar concerned.
- Date of Birth Certificate.
- Academic Qualification Certificate. (10th Pass)
- Self-addressed envelope with postage stamp of Rs. 5/=
- Unmarried certificate by concerned Tehsildar wherever required.
- Panchayat/ Municipality VOTER list of the Panchayat/ Municipal Ward applied for.
- Affidavit/undertaking as per format annexed with the application form.

NOTE:- NAME OF THE CANDIDATE MUST BE PRESENT IN THE PANCHAYAT/ MUNICIPAL VOTER LIST, AND THE CANDIDATE MUST SUBMIT IT ALONGWITH OTHER REQUISITE DOCUMENTS. IN CASE OF DISPUTE WITH REGARDS TO THE RESIDENCE OF A CANDIDATE, SHE MUST PROVIDE A RESIDENCE PROOF CERTIFYING THE WARD DULY ATTESTED BY CONCERNED ACR/SDM. ONLY FORMS COMPLETE IN ALL RESPECTS WITH ALL REQUISITE DOCUMENTS SHALL BE ACCEPTED. FORMS INCOMPLETE IN ANY RESPECT SHALL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

DIPK-7915/23
dated: 29-08-2023

Sd/-
Child Development Project Officer
Poshan Narvaw

Application form for the post of Sanginis (Anganwadi Worker) / Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helper)
ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE NO:- DATED:-

1. Name of the Poshan Project	
2. Name of the Anganwadi Centre	
3. Name of the Post applied for	
4. Name of the Candidate	
5. Father's Name	
6. Husband's Name (if married)	
7. Permanent Residence	
8. Name of Panchayat Halqa	
9. Name & Number of Panch Ward	
10. Address for Correspondence	
11. Contact / Mobile Number	
12. Date of Birth	
13. Age as on 01-01-2023	
14. Academic Qualification:	

S.No	Examination Passed	Board/University	Year of Passing	Marks Obtained	Total Marks	Percentage

15. Does the Candidate belong to the Retiring AWW/AWH (Yes/No)_____. (If yes, Attach necessary proof.)

16. Details of Documents Attached ;

- a. _____
b. _____
c. _____
d. _____
e. _____
Any other _____

Signature of the Candidate
Date:- _____

ANNEXURE "A" ; Format for Panch Ward Certificate

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
This is to certify that the candidate Namely _____ D/O, W/O _____
_____ R/O, _____ is residing in Panch ward _____ of Panchayat Halqa _____

It is further certified that her name is enlisted in Electoral / Voter list of the panch ward at Serial No. _____

No: _____
Dated: _____

Seal & Signature of BDO concerned.

ANNEXURE "A" ; Affidavit
I _____ D/O, W/O _____
R/O, _____ Aadhar No _____ do hereby undertake as under ;

- That all documents submitted are correct without any mismatch, scanning, duplicate or fallacious in nature. If found incorrect or in any of the above stated situation the engagement shall be deemed to have been cancelled ab-initio and also I shall be liable for any action under law.
- That, if at any later stage, it is found that I am in possession of lower/Higher than the prescribed qualification; my engagement shall be liable for cancellation as AWW/AWH. The onus of proving it to be true lies with the undersigned/deponent.
- That I have gone through the H.R. Policy No. 222 - JK (SWD) of 2023, dated. 30-11-2022, and am well versed with all features of the policy and shall be applicable to the deponent, in case of selection as Anganwadi Worker/ Anganwadi Helper.

Verification _____ Deponent
The averments mentioned herein above are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and nothing has been concealed therein.
DIPK-7915/23 dated: 29-08-2023

NOTICE

I want to transfer the Electric Connection bearing Consumer No.0203010010892 ,Installation No.23767-R1 which is registered in the name of Zahid Nabi Bhat S/o: Ghulam Nabi Bhat R/o: Qammerwari Srinagar in the Electric Department. In this regard, if anybody having any objection He/She may convey to Assistant Executive Engineer Electric Sub Watal Kadal Srinagar within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Nazir Ahmad Matta S/o: Mohd Subhan Matta
R/o: Arampora Qammerwari Sgr
Phone: 9906801379

nj

NORTHERN RAILWAY			
E-Tender Notice			
Sr.DEN-IV/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date-19.09.2023 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on www.ireps.gov.in portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information login to www.ireps.gov.in			
Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System	
Open	Works	Single Bid System	
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time	
26.08.2023	05.09.2023	19.09.2023/ 15:00 Hrs.	
S.N. 1. Tender No.: 180-2023-24-UHP-DRM-FZR			
Details of Tender: TRR (P) 8.56 km from km 15 to 15.560, km 19 to 23, km 41 to 43 & km 49 to 51 on JAT-SVDK section under ADEN/UHP			
Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
1,67,68,173.09/-	2,33,900/-	60 Days	12 Months
Similar nature of work:- "CTR/TRR/TFR/TTR including Raising of track, screening, distressing of track, pre & post works for track maintenance machine like tamping machine/ballast screening/regulating machines & TTR by T-28".			
S.N. 2. Tender No.: 182-2023-24-UHP-DRM-FZR			
Details of Tender: TRR (S) 16.631 KM at Loop lines no. 1,2,3,5 at UHP (total length 3.187 km), loop line no. 1,3 & 4 at SVDK (total length 1.508 km), loop line no. 1 & 2 at CRWL (total length 2.326 km), loop line no. 1 & 3 at SGR (total length 1.815 km), loop line no. 1 & 3 at BLA (total length 1.919 km), loop line no. 1 & 3 at RMJK (total length 1.978 km), loop line no. 1 & 3 at MNVL (total length 2.9 km), loop line no. 3 & 4 at SVDK (total length 0.998 km) on JAT-SVDK Section by Manual with 60 Kg 90 UTS rails (LWR) & PSC-6 (new) sleepers (1660 nos./km) with elastic fastenings under ADEN/UHP.			
Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
2,14,63,085.39/-	2,57,300/-	60 Days	12 Months
Similar nature of work:- "CTR/TRR/TFR/TTR including Raising of track, screening, distressing of track, pre & post works for track maintenance machine like tamping machine/ballast screening/regulating machines & TTR by T-28".			
Note 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender. No.: 180-2023-24-UHP-DRM-FZR & 182-2023-24-UHP-DRM-FZR Date: 28.08.2023 2682/23			
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE			

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR NAAC Accredited Grade "A+" HAZRATBAL, SRINAGAR	
ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE	
Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for the research project entitled "A study on the Lived Experiences of Women with (PCOS) Polycystic Ovary Syndrome in Kashmir" sanctioned by ICSSR, New Delhi. The positions are co-terminus with the project. Details of eligibility for these positions are as under:	
Positions	Research Associate (1) Research Assistant (2)
Essential Qualification	For Research Associate: Postgraduate in any social science discipline with minimum 55% marks and NET/SLET/M.Phil/Ph.D. For Research Assistant: Ph.D/M.Phil/ Postgraduate in social science discipline with minimum 55% marks.
Desirable Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Candidate should have a strong understanding of Qualitative Research, data analysis, compilation, and report writing.Experience and ability to conduct interviews to gather primary data through fieldwork, to transcribe interviews, and to prepare descriptive field notes.Preference shall be given to female candidates
Remuneration	Research Associate (Rs.20,000/month) Research Assistant (Rs.16,000/month)

How to Apply:

Interested candidates are required to submit their application along with their CV and relevant documents in the office of the department of social work University of Kashmir, Or Applicant can mail their applications along with their CV and relevant documents to pcod2023@gmail.com by or before the 5th of September 2023. They have to send the scanned copy of the application also duly signed by him/her, along with relevant documents in PDF format.

NOTE:

- The engagement will be as per the guidelines of ICSSR.
- No TA/DA will be paid for appearing in the interview.
- Only shortlisted candidates from the initial screening will be called for interview.
- Interview date will be intimated by "E-mail" to shortlisted candidates.
- The extension of the project staff shall be subjected to their performance.

DIPK-NB-2915/23 dated: 29-08-2023 Sd/- Project Director

SKUAST
KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR (Academic Section)

Main Campus, Shalimar, Srinagar-190025

Subject: Rescheduling of Document Verification/Counselling in respect of;

- Master Degree Programme under Domicile of UT of J&K and UT of Ladakh for the Academic Session 2023-24
- One Year BHT Course

ABBERVATIVE NOTICE

In partial modification to Notice No 6616-66 Dated 24-08-2023 read with Notice No. AU/Acad/UET-2023/Counselling/6327-6345 Dated:28-03-2023 and AU/Acad/UET-2023/ Counselling/6997-7046 Dated: 28-08-2023 read with No.AU/Acad/UET-2023/Counselling/ 6507-57 Dated: 23-08-2023 read with Notice No.AU/Acad/UET-2023/ Counselling/ 6667-6761 Dated: 24-08-2023, it is notified for all the concerned that Document Verification/Counselling in respect of Masters Degree Programme for Agriculture and Horticulture streams and One Year BHT Course for District Anantnag & Baramulla is rescheduled as per the details given in full length Notification available on University official website www.skuastkashmir.ac.in/ www.skuast-kashmir.co.in

By Order

Sd/-
(G.N.Dar)
Deputy Registrar (Acad)

AU/Acad/UET-2023/Counselling/7064-7110
Dated: 29 - 08 -2023

From the office of the Advocate Zaffar Mohidin

In the case of : Ghulam Hassan Tantray S/o Jalal-ud-din Tantray
R/o Durpora Manigam District Ganderbal

V/s

Public at Large

The caveator has reason to believe / apprehension that non-caveator may challenge the letter issued by the HPCL in favour of Caveator by virtue of Ref No. J&K RO/DK/L01/56 Dated: 29-09-2022 by way of suit writ petition, appeal or any other proceedings before the hon'ble High Court or any other Court by suppressing the material facts & may succeed in obtaining some relief in their favour at the back caveator in exparte . If the non-caveator approach the hon'ble court in that eventuality the caveator may be put to notice before issuing any exparte interim order & the caveator may be given opportunity of being heard before passing any order.

nj

Sd/- Advocate

از عدالت سبج میوہیل بمطریٹ سرینگر

با اجلاس مہرین مشتاق

رجسٹر ادر تحس اینڈ تحس	Hajra بنام	سائل اس سالہ
الہس۔ ایم۔ سی۔ سرینگر (سیول)		
درخواست بفرج اندراج تاریخ پیدائش	Hajra	نام:
تاریخ: 1 پیدائش: 10-10-1988		تاریخ:
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل سالنہ کے بذمہ ایک درخواست بشمول حلفی بغرض		
اندراج تاریخ پیدائش	Hajra D/W/O Ghulam Rasool Shalabaf	نام:
مورخہ 24-08-2023 پیش کیا ہے۔ لہذا احوام الناس کو		
بذریعہ اشتہار کیا جاتا ہے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی عدلیہ اعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اسے		
عدالت اشاعت اشتہار کے اندر دس پیم عدالت میں آکر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے معیا کوئی عدلیہ		
اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئندہ عدالت بذمہ	05-09-2023	کو قرض ہے۔
تقریر الصدر		
سبج میوہیل بمطریٹ سرینگر	nj	



Bollywood Actor Lalit Parimoo Visits KU, Interacts With Students

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Famous television and film actor Lalit Parimoo gave a special lecture at the Media Education Research Centre (MERC), University of Kashmir.

The lecture was attended by the students, scholars and faculty members of the department, a statement reads.

In his lecture Parimoo highlighted the importance of theatre as an effective medium of communication. He said that historically theatre developed as a medium of communication and catharsis.

"Theatre has always played a pivotal role in the development of society and in keeping it anchored to moral values," Parimoo said.

Parimoo said that the youth here are very talented, they only need some polishing for which he and his friends are taking some initiatives very soon.

Lalit Parimoo is an Indian film and television actor. He is best known for playing the scientist "Dr. Jaikaal" in the superhero series Shaktimaan. Parimoo has acted in a number of Bollywood films including Haider, and as a professor in Agent Vinod. Parimoo has also written a book titled Main Manushya Hoon (I am a Human).

Citing examples from his long career in the

entertainment industry Parimoo said that the main purpose of art is to instil and encourage sublime values in a society.

"Through the work of art and creativity you should try and plant a sublime idea in the minds of people so that your art becomes sensible and productive and you contribute positively to the society," he added.

Encouraging students to overcome shyness and inhibitions, Parimoo told them to focus all their energies in learning the craft and skill of storytelling through the medium of theatre and cinema and then experiment with the craft.

He said that we need more and more writers and directors who are willing to transform the society into a better society.

Parimoo advised students to read Sanskrit, Hindi and Urdu plays to understand their roots and hone their skills as communication professionals.

Parimoo said that because of his emotional connection with the motherland- Kashmir he feels that he should do something for his people and society.

Parimoo along with some local filmmakers is planning to have a three months acting workshop in the valley under the banner of newly created J&K Film and Dramatic Arts Academy.



Laborers loading thick wooden logs in a shikara amidst lotus bloom in world famous Dal Lake on Tuesday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Police Arrests Imam For Sodomising 9-Yr Old Boy In Srinagar

Student Stabbed Inside Govt Polytechnic Bemina; Two Held

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Police on Tuesday arrested a man on the charges of allegedly sodomising a minor boy at Malik Angan area of Safakadal in the old city and threatening him of dire consequences in case he disclosed the shameful act to anyone.

A police official told Kashmir Observer that a 9-years old boy was molested and sodomised by a cleric of a local mosque at Malik Angan locality in Safakadal.

He identified the accused cleric as Waseem Raja son of Ali Mohammad Malla of Noorbagh area in Srinagar. The accused, he said, was leading prayers at a local mosque in Safakadal.

A formal case FIR No. 30 of 2023 under IPC sections 377 and 56 POSCO Act was registered at Maharaj Gunj police station in this regard and investigation was set into motion.

Confirming the incident, Srinagar police on X said "One Waseem Raja S/o Ali Mohd Malla R/o Noorbagh presently working as Imam at Masjid Aisha Malikaagun arrested for committing unnatural sexual offence on a 09 years [old] child."

Meanwhile two youth were arrested by the police for attacking

and injuring a teenager at Government Polytechnic for Women in Bemina area of Srinagar on Tuesday.

A 19-years old teenager from Sopore was hospitalized after being attacked by two youth with a sharp edged weapon at the college premises here this afternoon, a police official said.

Identified as Mehran Ahmad

critically injured.

The official said the injured was immediately evacuated to the SKIMS Medical College Bemina for treatment and is said to be stable. The accused duo, he said, was arrested barely an hour after carrying out the attack.

The accused have been identified as Abrar Shabir son of Shabir Ahmad Dar of Chadoora area in central Budgam and Rahil Ali son of Ali Mohammad Pahlou of Dalgate Srinagar.

A formal case FIR no 89 of 2023 under IPC sections 307 has been registered at police station Bemina in this regard and investigation set into motion. Srinagar police while confirming the assault on a teenager from Sopore town said, both the accused have been arrested in connection with the stabbing case.

"Two (2) accused namely Abrar Shabir S/o Shabir Ahmad Dar R/o Chadoora and Rahil Ali S/o Ali Mohammad Pahlou R/o Dalgate Srinagar arrested for assaulting/injuring a polytechnic student with a sharp edged weapon. FIR no 89/2023 registered in Bemina PS. Weapon of offense also recovered," police said on X.



son of Parvaiz Ahmad Khuroo of Sopore town in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, the student, police said, suffered injuries in his head, chest and lower back portion of the body in the attack.

The incident took place following an altercation between him and the accused in the college premises. The accused duo, police said in a fit of rage stabbed the victim multiple times, leaving him

Downtown Roads To Be Macadamized Soon: Div Com

Observer News Service

Srinagar, Aug 29 (KNS): Divisional Commissioner of Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri Tuesday said that downtown roads will be macadamized soon.

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir said that earlier there was an issue of laying sewer lines in downtown parts which

however has been completed now and in the subsequent process the roads of downtown areas will be black topped soon.

He said authorities avoid regular inspection of undergoing works in downtown areas owing to narrow roads. "But I assure that the things are on the track," Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Bidhuri added.

Teenager Drowns To Death In River Jhelum

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A teenager died after drowning into River Jhelum near Zero Bridge in Srinagar while taking a bath on Tuesday.

After being informed by the Police Station Raj Bagh about the incident, River Police swung into action and fished out the dead body of the 19-year-old boy.

G20 **NORTHERN RAILWAY** **E-Tender Notice**

Sr.DEN-I/IFZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.irebs.gov.in with closing date-19.09.2023 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on www.irebs.gov.in portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information login to www.irebs.gov.in

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System
Open	Works	Single Bid System
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time
28.08.2023	05.09.2023	19.09.2023/ 15:00 Hrs.
S.N. 1. Tender No.: 187-2023-24-PTK-DRM-FZR		
Details of Tender: Complete track renewal (P) work of 28.797 Km Railway track on JRC-PTK-JAT section in the jurisdiction of SSE/BG/P.Way/PTK under ADEN/PTK.		
Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Validity of Offer / Period of Completion
7,18,67,472.18/-	5,09,300/-	60 Days 10 Months
Similar nature of work:- "CTR/TRR/TFR/TTR including raising of track, screening, distressing of track, pre & post works for track maintenance machine like Tamping machine/Ballast screening/regulating machines & TTR by T-28".		
Note 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.		
No.: 187-2023-24-PTK-DRM-FZR Date: 29.08.2023 2691/2023		
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE		

J&K Bank **Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited**

Impaired Assets Portfolio Management Department
Zonal Office Srinagar M A Road, Srinagar 190001 J&K
T +91 (0)194 248 2658 F +91 (0)194 245 2659
E iapmd.kmr@jkbmail.com

POSSESSION NOTICE

Notice under Section 13 (4) of the SARFAESI ACT, 2002 read with Rule 8 (I) of the Security (Enforcement) Interest Rules, 2002

Whereas Mr. Mohammad Yehya Banday as the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notice dated 19/05/2023 thereby calling upon the Borrower namely **Mohammad Shafi lone s/o. Abdul Ahad Lone r/o. H no. 185 A, Umer Abad Sector B Goripora, Peerbagh Srinagar** to repay an amount of **Rs.22918409.12 (Rupees Two Crore, Twenty Nine Lakhs Eighteen Thousand Four Hundred Nine And Paise Twelve Only)** being the balance outstanding as on **15.05.2023** in the accounts of the Borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon.

The said borrower having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower in particular and the public in general that the undersigned being authorized officer of the J & K Bank Ltd. has taken possession of the mortgage property described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on me under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on **24th day of month August of the year 2023**

The said borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the J&K Bank Limited for the amount in aggregating to **Rs. 23562533.12 (Rupees Two Crore Thirty Five Lakhs Sixty Two Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Three And Paise Twelve Only)** together with future interest thereon from **01.08.2023** and other charges incurred or to be incurred.

The borrowers attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of the time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable Property

- Double storeyed residential building with land underneath and appurtenant thereto measuring 17 marlas bearing khasra no.157 min, Khata no.103(new) 526(old) khewat no. 82 new 5 (old) situated at mouza Hyderpora behind Jamkash Tehsil Chanapora District Srinagar
- Mortgage of Land measuring 11 kanals and 10 marlas along with an under construction building having RS Masonary Plint / foundation Walls of burnt brick in mud mortar situated at Hayatpora Chadoora District Budgam standing jointly in the name of Ms. Rizwana Lone d/o. Mohammad Shafi Lone (9K 7M) and Mrs. Shamima Bano w/o. Mohammad Shafi Lone (2K 3M) both resident of Rawalpura Srinagar.The property falls under following settlement numbers:-
Khasra no. 197 min (2K) Khata no.108 and khewat no.63
Khasra no. 169 min (4K 8M) khata no. 05 and khewat no. 04
Khasra no. 172 min (2K 19M) khata no. 05 and khewat no. 04
Khasra no. 165 min (01K) khata no. 131 and khewat no. 85
Khasra no. 195 min (1K 03M) khata no. 05 and khewat no. 04
- Extension of charge on the registered mortgage of land measuring 14 marlas along with double storeyed residential building constructed thereon situated at Goripora, Sanat Nagar bearing Khasra no.197 min, Khata no.1214, Khewat 256 standing in the name of Mohammad Shafi Lone s/o Abdul Ahad Lone r/o Rawlpura. The property stands already mortgaged to M/s Lone Enterprises with working capital limit of Rs.34.50lakhs

Dated: 24.08.2023 **Authorized Officer**
Place: Srinagar

Registered office : Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India
CIN: L65110JK19385GCO00048 ; **T :** +91 (0)194 2481 930-35 ; **F :** +91 (0)194 248 1928 ; **E :** info@jkbmail.com ; **W :** www.jkbank.com

DIPK-NB-2909/23 dated: 29-08-2023

UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

Office of the Executive Engineer, Construction Division

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER


For and on behalf of the University of Kashmir, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on Percentage (%age) basis from approved and eligible Civil Contractors registered with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/U.T/ Central Governments for the following works


S. No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc in shape of E-Challan (In Rs.)	Earnest Money in Rs.	Time and Date for Submission of E-Tender.	Date & Time of Opening of Bid	Class of Contractor
1.	Construction/ Upgradation of Road Network at Zakura Campus, University of Kashmir (Phase-II).	118.66	2600/-	2,37,320/-	30-08-2023 to 11-09-2023 (6.00 PM)	12-09-2023 (11.30 AM)	"AAY" Civil having MoU with registration HMPO


The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the web site www.kashmiruniversity.net/ / www.jktenders.gov.in.

Executive Engineer


NIT No: - F(E.Tend)(UCD)/KU/37/23
DIPK-NB-2901/23
DATED:- 29/08/23.

 **TRAFFIC POLICE :** 9419993745, 01998-266686
PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
PDD: 0194-2450213
FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,245222,2452155
CAPD: 18001807011
SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200


AIRPORTS
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 

RAILWAYS


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

HIGHWAY STATUS


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

**HIJRI CALENDAR**
12 Safar
1445

PRAYERS

FAJR	4:35
ZUHR	12:32
ASR	5:11
Magrib	7:04
ISHA	8:28

This Day In History

- 257 - St Sixtus II begins his reign as Catholic Pope
- 1125 - Duke Lotharius of Supplinburg elected king of Germany
- 1146 - European leaders outlaw crossbow, intending to end war for all time
- 1363 - Beginning of the Battle of Lake Poyang; two Chinese rebel leaders Chen Youliang and Zhu Yuanzhang are pitted against each other in what was one of the largest naval battles in history during Mongol-led Yuan Dynasty
- 1464 - Pietro Barbo elected to succeed Pope Pius II as Pope Paul II
- 1481 - 2 Latvian monarchs executed for conspiracy to Polish king Casimir IV
- 1574- Guru Ram Das became the Fourth Sikh Guru/ Master.
- 1645- Dutch & Indians sign peace treaty (New Amsterdam (NY))
- 1673- Leopold I, Spain, Netherlands & Lutherans form anti-French covenant
- 172- Russian/Swedish Peace of Nystad, ends North Sea War
- 1901- Hubert Cecil Booth patents vacuum cleaner
- 1918- Czechoslovakia forms independent republic
- 1928-Jawaharlal Nehru requests independence of India
- 194- Siege of Leningrad by German troops begins during WWII
- 1944-Soviet troops enter Bucharest, Romania
- 1945- Hong Kong liberated from Japanese
- 1960-East Germany imposes a partial blockade on West Berlin
- 1961- Last Spanish troops leave Morocco

From KO Archives

'Illiterate' Appointed Instead Of Namesake

MUSHTAQ AFTAB

CHADURA (BUDGAM)- Even as numerous scandals of fake appointments have surfaced in various government departments over the recent years, incidence of the wrong doing is far from being stamped out. Some diehards still manage to get a job in one or the other department by manipulating records and documents, and by tapping the 'right' person and the 'tight' timer.

An illiterate villager has got a government job allegedly by impersonation, and got away with it, assurance of the finance minister to get the wrong undone notwithstanding. In the process, the genuine claimant for the appointment continues to be jobless. Reports said Nazir Ahmad Dar r/o Abdul Kabir Dar R/o Badipore, has passed his 12th (TDC) clam examination. But, it is his namesake in the neighbourhood who, though illiterate, has allegedly got a government job. The only difference between the two is in the names of their grandfathers. While the former's grandfather is named Abdullah Dar, the latter's name is Ahmad Dar.

According to reports, the uneducated Nazir Ahmad Dar was appointed in the horticulture department in 1996. He is posted in the district office at Budgam. Sources in the department said Dar managed to procure the certificates of his educated namesake which he produced in support of his claim. The department did not entertain the 'genuine' claim of the educated Dar.

Though the serious case of alleged swap was brought to the notice of the state vigilance organisations, no action has been taken so far. The educated Dar approached the finance minister, Abdur Raheem Rather, who also happens to be his neighbour. He had assured him to get the right person appointed against the post. However, justice ' still eludes hint despite lapse of about four years

In another case, Mushtaq Ahmad Zargar s/o Ghulam Ahmad Zargar r/o Badipore has managed to secure a job allegedly by producing a fake certificate of academic qualification. According to reliable sources, he is barely read upto 4th standard. However, he managed to get a certificate of having passed his 9th class (under metric) examination from the government higher secondary school, Nagam, in 1996 allegedly, through his brother, Abdul Rasheed Zargar, who is a teacher at Badipore.

On the basis of the alleged fake certificate, Zargar was appointed as a peon in the animal husbandry department. He has been working at the veterinary dispensary here for about three years past. Sources said the department did not take any action to unravel the facts and bring the accused to justice even after the matter was brought to its notice.

(Kashmir Observer, August 30, 2000)

Imran Khan's Conviction, 3-Year Sentence Suspended By Islamabad High Court

Press Trust of India

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court today suspended Imran Khan's conviction and three-year sentence in the Toshakhana corruption case and ordered his release, in a big relief for the former jailed Pakistan prime minister.

A division bench comprising Islamabad High Court (IHC) Chief Justice Aamir Farooq and Justice Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri announced the much-anticipated verdict which was reserved on Monday.

"Decision of District Court (has been) suspended by IHC," Imran Khan's party Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf said in a short WhatsApp message.

"The copy of the judgment will be available shortly all we are saying now is that [Imran's] request has been approved," Justice Farooq said.

Khan's aide on legal affairs Naeem Haider Panjotra posted on X, formerly Twitter: "The CJ has accepted our request, suspended the sentence and said a detailed decision would be provided later." The judges reserved the verdict on Monday after the rival lawyers concluded their arguments on the suspension of the three-year sentence awarded by Judge Humayun Dilawar on August 5.

A trial court in Islamabad convicted and sentenced the 70-year-old Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chairman to three years in prison on August 5.



The cricketer-turned-politician was sentenced on charges of unlawfully selling state gifts acquired by him and his family during his 2018-2022 tenure. He has also been barred from politics for five years, preventing him from contesting an upcoming election.

Khan challenged his conviction within days and the IHC began a formal hearing on August 22. It adjourned the case on Friday after the lawyer representing the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) did not appear due to illness.

Imran Khan's lawyer Latif Khosa completed his argument on Thursday, asserting that the verdict was given in haste and was full of shortcomings.

He also urged the court to set aside the sentence but the defence team demanded more time to complete its arguments.

Separately, a three-member top court panel led by Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial and comprising Justice Mazahar Ali Akbar Naqvi and Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail is also set to resume hearing petitions against the Toshakhana case.

Insulting Woman, Being Rude To Her Is Not Outraging Modesty: Court

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Insulting a woman or being rude to her and not behaving in a chivalrous manner will not amount to outraging the modesty of a woman, the Delhi High Court has held while setting aside an order putting a man on trial for calling a woman 'gandi aurat'.

The high court also said gender-specific laws are not meant to be "anti-opposite gender" but to serve the purpose of addressing unique issues faced by a particular gender.

It said the fact that a piece of legislation is gender-specific should not be misconstrued to mean that the role of a judge also changes from being neutral to tilting towards a particular gender, and irrespective of the gender-specific nature of a law, the judicial duty fundamentally requires unwavering neutrality and impartiality.

"Gender-specific legislation exists to address the unique concerns and challenges faced by particular genders within society. However, this does not imply that the judge is to be influenced or swayed by gender-related factors when administering justice unless specific

presumptions are legislated in favour of a particular gender in law.

"In essence, judicial neutrality is an indispensable cornerstone of the legal system, ensuring that all parties, regardless of gender, are treated fairly and equitably," Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma said.

The high court made the observations while setting aside a trial court's order framing a charge under section 509 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman) of the IPC, saying a prima facie case was made out against the man.

The prosecution's case was that the complainant woman and the accused were working in the same organisation and the man was her senior.

It was alleged that he used foul language against the woman when she refused to give him ₹1,000 and called her 'gandi aurat' (dirty woman).

The high court said the word 'gandi aurat', if read in isolation, without context, without any preceding or succeeding words indicating intent to outrage the modesty of a woman, will not bring these words within the ambit of Section 509 IPC.

China Provokes India, Includes Arunachal, Aksai Chin In New Map

Agencies

BEIJING: China has officially released the 2023 edition of its "standard map," which shows the state of Arunachal Pradesh and the Aksai Chin region as part of its territory.

The map released on August 28 shows Arunachal Pradesh which China claims as South Tibet and Aksai Chin occupied by it in the 1962 war as part of its territory. Taiwan and the disputed South China Sea are also included within the Chinese territory in the new map.

The map also incorporates China's claims over the nine-dash line thus laying claim to a large part of the South China Sea areas.

Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, and Brunei have all claims over the South China Sea areas.

The map was released by China's Ministry of Natural Resources during the celebration of Surveying and Mapping Publicity Day and the National Mapping Awareness Publicity Week on Monday in Qingqing county, Zhejiang province, as per China Daily newspaper.

Recently Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Xi Jinping met on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit in Johannesburg, South Africa.

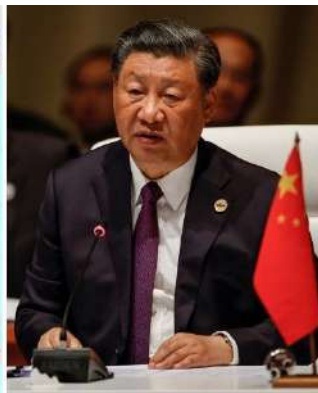
Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra had said in his conversation with President Xi



Jinping, Prime Minister Modi highlighted India's concerns on unresolved issues along the Line of Actual Control in the Western Sector of the India-China border areas.

"The Prime Minister underlined that maintenance of peace and tranquillity in the border areas and observing and respecting the LAC are essential for the normalisation of the India-China relationship. In this regard, two leaders agreed to direct their relevant officials to intensify efforts at expeditious disengagement and de-escalation," Mr Kwatra had said.

The chief planner of China's Ministry of Natural Resources, Wu Wenzhong, said surveying, mapping and geographic information play an important role in boosting the development of the nation,



meeting the needs of all walks of life, supporting the management of natural resources, and helping the construction of ecology and civilization.

"The next step will be to accelerate the application of geographic information data such as digital maps and navigation and positioning in the development of the digital economy, such as location-based services, precision agriculture, platform economy and intelligent connected vehicles," Wu said, as per China Daily.

Zhejiang has in recent years focused on the deep integration of the digital and real economies and has continued to promote the development of the digital economy, according to Li Yaowu, deputy secretary-general of the Zhejiang Provincial People's Government.

Raisi: Iran Will Not Yield To West's Attempts Of Isolation And Despair

Agencies

During a news conference in Tehran on Tuesday, Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi claimed that efforts by the West to isolate Iran and bring despair to the Iranian people have been in vain, and while the country has forged strong relations, its enemies are also knocking on the door after trying to abandon it during the riots last year, after the death of the young Mahsa Amini.

"The enemy tried to follow two strategies of isolating Iran in the world and disappointing the people inside, which it failed in both," he said, adding: "That is because we follow numerous agendas in our foreign policy all at the same time, one of which is the JCPOA" citing the 2015 nuclear deal following the US' withdrawal.

"We've followed relations with the neighboring countries as well as Islamic and aligned states, and improved the level of political, economic and commercial relations where commercial ties have



grown 14 percent compared to the previous government," he noted.

"In the area of regional trades and business measures which some believed little can be done, the government broke the record, and it turned out that there are many capacities in the country."

Ready for negotiations with US

Raisi continued that enemies "tried to anger the people by creating problems, but the people carried on vigilantly and with insight and disappointed the enemy." However, upon realizing that the people stood with its government and that progression did not stop, they turned to unrest.

"It thought that it could follow through with agitation.

Even the Westerners left the negotiation table and pinned their hope on riots," he said, adding: "They thought that they could achieve their goals in riots, but the people let them down, after which, they immediately messaged that they wanted to go back to the negotiating table and start negotiations."

According to the Iranian president, signs like production, science, and technology indicators, alongside knowledge-based projects of the Iranian youths show "growth, effort and progress."

"Today is the day when Islamic Iran is known as an advanced and technological country".

In light of recent US reports the Biden administration has been negotiating discreetly to launch diplomatic channels with Iran, the latter has not commented, and Raisi asserted that they "have not abandoned the negotiating table for removing the sanctions".

"The other side left the negotiation table, and now they regret it, stating that they are ready to negotiate."



Lok Sabha Polls Likely To Be Advanced: Nitish Kumar Backs Mamata Banerjee

Press Trust of India

NALANDA, BIHAR: The Lok Sabha elections are likely to be advanced as the BJP fears with time it will suffer more loss because of the opposition unity, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said today, backing a similar claim made by Mamata Banerjee.

Ms Banerjee on Monday said that she was apprehensive that the Lok Sabha elections could be held in December this year, or in January.

Asked about the statement, Mr Kumar told reporters, "I have been saying it for the last seven-eight months that the NDA government at the Centre might go for early Lok Sabha polls, fearing more loss to the BJP because of opposition unity."

"Therefore, all opposition parties must come together to defeat the BJP in the Lok Sabha polls. I am once again repeating that I have no desire for myself, I have no personal ambitions. My only wish is to unite the maximum number of parties (opposed to the BJP) before the elections," he added.

Mr Kumar, who recently said

that more parties are likely to join opposition coalition INDIA, declined to divulge any details.

"We have taken initiatives for unity among the opposition parties. The opposition coalition INDIA will further strengthen after the Mumbai meeting on August 31 and September 1," he said.

The chief minister was speaking to reporters after inaugurating the new campus of the Nalanda Open University.

Mr Kumar said the exercise for the cast survey has been completed, and it will be soon published.

"The exercise has been completed. Now, the data is being compiled and it will soon be published. The final data will enable the government to work for the development of various sections of society, including those who are deprived. This will help us to know which areas require development. Let the detailed data be published, I am sure that other states will also follow it," he said.

Mr Kumar said the decision to hold the caste-based survey was unanimous, and taken by the leaders of all political parties, including the BJP.

"Prisoner's Constitutional Rights": High Court Pulls Up Tihar Jail Over Prison Amenities

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Observing that a prisoner's basic constitutional rights persist even behind bars, the Delhi High Court has constituted a four-member fact-finding committee of lawyers to "meticulously" inspect the living conditions in Tihar jail, including the status of drinking water, sanitation, overall hygiene and maintenance of washrooms in the prison complex.

While taking note of alleged lack of basic amenities in the largest prison complex in South Asia, the court remarked the right to life remains inviolable, irrespective of an individual's incarcerated status.

"Recognising the pressing nature of this issue, we deem it necessary to authorise an independent committee for a meticulous inspection of Tihar jail. To this end, we establish a fact-finding committee consisting of Dr. Amit George, Santosh Kumar Tripathi, Nandita Rao, and Tushar Sannu.

"Their mandate is to impartially evaluate the present conditions and update us on the

status of drinking water, sanitation, overall hygiene, and the maintenance of washrooms/toilets within the complex," a bench of Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Sanjeev Narula said in an order passed on August 23.

The high court was hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) filed by the Delhi High Court Legal Services Committee (DH-CLSC), highlighting the pressing issue of supply of clean drinking water and maintaining hygienic sanitary conditions within the Tihar jail complex.

The petitioner drew the court's attention to a report stemming from an inspection conducted by a panel counsel which underscored a "worrying deficiency" in providing inmates with drinking water in jail.

The plea also described the sanitary conditions there as less than satisfactory and added that many washrooms and toilets are in disrepair and even the basic privacy of inmates is compromised due to broken doors, hampering their ability to maintain personal hygiene in private.

NEWS MAKERS

UP Boy Slapped By Classmates On Teacher's Order Moves To Another School

Press Trust of India

MUZAFFARNAGAR, UP: The school boy who was slapped by his classmates on the instructions of the school teacher, is moving to another private school some kilometres from the Khubbapur village here, the Jamiat-e-Ulema Hind said on Monday.

District president of the organisation Maulana Mukarram on Monday told PTI that Jamiat-e-Ulema Hind has undertaken to sponsor the boy's education and arranged for his admission to an English medium school in Shahpur town.

He said the organisation has hired a vehicle for ferrying the boy to and from the new school where he has been admitted to Upper KG and asserted that the Jamiat-e-Ulema Hind will sponsor his education as long as he wants to study.

Mukarram said members of the Jamiat-e-Ulema Hind had visited the boy's family

on Sunday on the direction of its president Arshad Madani.

The boy's father and members of the organisation visited the new school on Monday and completed the admission procedure, he added.

Meanwhile, the Uttar Pradesh Minorities Commission has taken suo motu cognizance of the incident on the basis of reports in the media.

Officials here said that the Commission has asked the district magistrate and senior superintendent of police of Muzaffarnagar to send an eight-point report about the incident.

The Commission has also directed that the BSA of Muzaffarnagar and teacher Tripta Tyagi to physically appear before it in Lucknow on September 6.

A video of the Muslim boy getting slapped by his classmates on the directions of the school teacher who was also seen making objectionable remarks against the community went viral on

social media a few days ago, triggering an outrage from all quarters. The teacher Tripta Tyagi has been booked.

The school remained closed for the third day on Monday, with its management saying that they were busy replying to the show cause notice served to it by the education department over the school's affiliation.

Basic Shiksha Adhikari Shubham Shukla told PTI that the school was sent a show cause notice on Saturday over its affiliation and has been asked to submit its reply on Monday on the issue of its affiliation.

The school had in 2019 got affiliation for three years. Despite the affiliation expiring last year, the school management did not try to get it renewed, he said.

Shubham Shukla said the school will not be closed and normal teaching activities will continue there in the interests of students till an alternate arrangement is made for them.

Geetika Srivastava Gets Charge Of Indian High Commission In Islamabad

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Geetika Srivastava, currently serving as joint secretary at the headquarters of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), will be India's new charge d'affaires at its high commission in Islamabad, people familiar with the matter said on Monday.

She will succeed Suresh Kumar who is likely to return to New Delhi.

Ms Srivastava, a 2005 batch Indian Foreign Service officer, is currently serving as a joint secretary in the MEA's Indo-Pacific division.

The Indian and Pakistani high commissions in Islamabad and Delhi are being headed by their respective charge d'affaires after Pakistan downgraded diplomatic ties following India's decision to withdraw the special status of Jammu and Kashmir in August 2019.

Ms Srivastava is expected to take up her assignment in Islamabad shortly, said one of the people familiar with the matter.



Libyan Pm Sacks FM After Storm Over Israel Meeting

Agencies

TRIPOLI: Libya's prime minister sacked the foreign minister on Monday in an effort to contain a growing furore over Najla Mangoush's meeting with her Israeli counterpart last week, which prompted protests in several Libyan cities.

Mangoush had said her meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Eli Cohen in Rome was unplanned and informal, but an Israeli official said it had lasted two hours and was approved "at the highest levels in Libya".

Some reports in Libyan media said the foreign minister had left for Türkiye after the furore, but others said she was in the country and had been put on a no-fly list.

The meeting is contentious because Libya does not formally recognise Israel and there is widespread public support across the Libyan political spectrum for the Palestinian cause of creating an independent state in ter-



ritory Israel occupies.

The dispute over the meeting has fed into Libya's internal political crisis, giving ammunition to Prime Minister Abdulhamid Dbeibah's internal critics at a moment when the future of his interim government was already in question.

Libya has been without a stable central government since the overthrow of Muammar Qadhafi in 2011. Dbeibah's interim government, in office since 2021, is not recognised by some major factions and there is growing political momentum to replace it with a new unified administration aimed at holding national elections.

Protesters demonstrated in front of Libya's foreign ministry late on Sunday, causing some damage outside the building, where a large security presence was visible early on Monday.

Protests took place in other parts of Tripoli, as well as other cities.

Burning tyres blocked some major roads in Tripoli on Monday, but there was no sign of violence.

Mangoush's office tried to quell the anger late on Sunday, saying she had rejected a request for an official meeting with Cohen, but that they had met during an unplanned encounter while she was meeting Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani.

'Bridge to West'
The Israeli official disputed that account. "The meeting was coordinated at the highest levels in Libya and lasted almost two hours. The Libyan prime minister sees Israel as a possible bridge to the West and the US administration," the official said.

SG's Arguments In SC Vindicate Our Stand: Mehbooba

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti on Tuesday said the arguments by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta in Supreme Court during the hearings on a batch of petitions challenging the abrogation of Article 370 vindicated her party's stand that the situation in Jammu and Kashmir was far from normal.



The Solicitor General on Tuesday informed a five-judge constitution bench of the apex court, headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud, that the Union Territory status of Jammu and Kashmir is not a "permanent thing" and the Centre will make an elaborate statement on the vexatious political issue in the court on August 31.

The bench was hearing Mehta's submissions defending the Centre's decision to do away with the special status of the former state and its reorganisation.

"Despite GOI's tall claims, SG's statement before the SC today vindicates our stand that the situation is far from normal in J&K," Mufti posted on X, formerly Twitter.

She said the Solicitor General is making the argument only as an excuse to defend the Centre's "constitutional harakiri".

"Even to achieve this abnormal normalcy, J&K has been turned into an open air prison. Tushar Mehta is now invoking our argument only as an excuse to defend GOI's constitutional hara-kiri," she said on the microblogging site.

NC leader and former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Omar Abdullah also called Mehta's argument a "diversion".

"The SG is a very competent & clever litigator. He's trying to divert the focus of the arguments to the centre's view of 'normalcy'. This is a trap best avoided," Abdullah said.

He underlined that the apex court has not been petitioned to rule on the security situation or normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir, adding that the "simple question for the Hon CJ & other judges on the bench is to decide whether the changes forced on J&K in 2019 were legal & constitutional or not".

"Everything else is a diversion," he added.

Allegations Warrant An Impartial Inquiry: Omar

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: National Conference leader Omar Abdullah Tuesday said the allegations of harassment and irregularities levelled by a Dalit IAS officer against Jammu and Kashmir Chief Secretary A K Mehta were serious enough to warrant an investigation.

However, such an investigation will never happen and the media has also completely ignored the story, the former chief minister claimed.

"The allegations are serious enough to warrant an impartial investigation but we know that will never happen. Sadly the news media has completely ignored this story. They are being kept too busy chasing

Ms World & other fluff stories. The lure of advertising rupees & the fear of summons to police stations have effectively silenced what was once a vibrant free(ish?) press in J&K," Abdullah posted on X.

The National Conference vice president was referring to a report in a national daily that IAS officer Ashok Parmar had filed a complaint to the chairman National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC).

The 1992-batch AGMUT cadre officer has alleged in the complaint he was frequently transferred for being from a scheduled caste and for highlighting "bunglings" in the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission of Jal Shakti Department in J&K.

Urs Of Syed Qamar-U-Din Bukhari (RA) Observed With Religious Fervor

Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: The annual Urs of Hazrat Qamar-u-Din Bukhari (RA) is being observed in Reshpora, Saloora area of Ganderbal with much enthusiasm and religious fervour.

Thousands of people paid obeisance and participated in the Urs for which the District Administration has made elaborated arrangements.

The special attractions in the Urs are a day-long sufi music programme, a gymnastics show, and a range of fresh food stalls. The areas enroute to the shrine have been decorated.

The administration has made arrangements for holding an exhibition by setting up various stalls, cultural events, and Naat compe-

titions during the Urs days.

While reviving the cultural aspect of the festival, a cultural programme was performed by the artists at Qamaria Ground.

In lieu of the Urs, different departments have installed stalls showcasing a variety of products and technologies developed in the field of agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries, agro-forestry, agri-engineering, and other related fields during which various welfare schemes and programmes would also be highlighted.

Meanwhile, District Development Council (DDC) Chairperson Ganderbal NuzhatIshfaq along with ADDC Ganderbal Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani inspected the stalls, reviewed arrangements for the devotees.



STUDENTS PASS THROUGH a wooden bridge while returning home from their school in the interiors of Dal Lake on Tuesday.

KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

TOLL PLAZA TUSSLE

Hunger Strike By YRS Enters 6th Day

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The hunger strike by 'Yuva Rajput Sabha' (YRS) activists and civil society members demanding the removal of a toll plaza on the Jammu-Pathankot highway in Samba district entered the sixth day on Tuesday.

Activists of the YRS have been on a hunger strike since August 25 at Samba after the police detained their 26 colleagues for violating restrictions imposed around the Sarore toll plaza. All of them were later released.

One of the activists, Lucky Singh, whose condition deteriorated on Tuesday due to the hunger strike, was taken to a hospital in Jammu, officials said, adding his condition is stable.

"I request the administration to resolve the issue immediately. It is a united demand of



all," Singh told reporters while being taken to the hospital.

President of Beopar Mandal Tejinder Singh said authorities should pay heed to the demands of the locals to remove the toll plaza.

The YRS held massive protests on August 21 over the setting up of the toll plaza at Sarore in Samba, saying the locals had to unnecessarily pay

a toll.

It also claimed that the toll plaza was set up in violation of the guidelines of the National Highways Authority of India as the distance between two toll plazas on this highway stretch is less than 35 kilometers. According to the NHAI rules, the distance between the two toll plazas should be 65 kilometers.

Union Minister Hands Over Appointment Letters To New BSF Recruits

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Ajay Kumar Mishra on Monday handed over appointment letters to newly inducted BSF recruits here.

"To infuse the flow of young blood into the Central Armed Police Forces and to provide employment opportunities for youth, Ajay Kumar Mishra, MoS (Home), handed over the appointment letters to newly inducted recruits of J-K under Rozgar Mela at BSF campus Srinagar," a spokesman of the BSF said.

Talking to reporters after the function, Mishra said the number of appointments under Rozgar Mela has crossed five lakh.

"Since the opportunities for government jobs are limited, we are making efforts to create a conducive atmosphere which will lead to more investors coming in. This will create jobs in THE private sector," he said.



The minister said the youth are an asset and the future of the country as "India has the highest number of youth."

Asked about the situation in Kashmir, he said the change is visible on the ground and also reflected in the number of tourist arrivals.

"I went around yesterday. I went to Cheshma Shahi and saw the youngsters playing and enjoying themselves. I was very happy. It is also reflected in the data, last year we had

1.88 crore tourists visiting Jammu and Kashmir," he added.

Mishra said terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir was on a decline and the government is in complete control of the situation.

"We are not facing the challenges today that were there in 2014. The number of terror incidents are decreasing. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, the life of the people of Kashmir will be peaceful," he added.

Amarnath Yatra

Chhari Mubarak Enroute Holy Cave Shrine

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The saffron-robed holy mace of Lord Shiva, popularly known as 'Chhari Mubarak', Tuesday reached Sheshnag where it will halt for the night before heading for the Amarnath holy cave shrine, officials said.

Amidst religious chants, the Chhari was taken from Chandanwari to Sheshnag by Mahant Deependra Giri, the custodian of the holy mace.

The holy mace will reach the cave shrine, considered to be the abode of Lord Shiva, in south Kashmir Himalayas for special prayers on August 31,

which will mark the culmination of the annual Amarnath Yatra.

The holy mace will be taken to Panchtarani on Wednesday for a night halt.

The Chhari Mubarak Swami Amarnath Ji had left for the main course of pilgrimage on Saturday from Mahadev Gir Dashnami Akhara here.

Special prayers were held at the Dashnami Akhara temple before the commencement of the religious pilgrimage.

Giri will carry the holy mace to perform 'pujan' and have 'darshan' in the early morning of 'Shravan-Purnima' on August 31.

IUST Hosted Prof. Nisar Ali Under Meet The Eminent Programme

Observer News Service

AWANTIPORA: Under the Meet The Eminent Programme, the Department of Economics, IUST hosted Professor Nisar Ali, member UPSC and former Dean Social Sciences at University of Kashmir. The guest speaker deliberated on the topic 'Perceptions and Perspectives of Development: J & K Scenario'.

Prof. Nisar Ali's lecture shed light on different challenges in agriculture and manufacturing sectors, resulting in union territory's dependency on other

states. Referring to research and statistical data, he invited attention towards the need of society's inadvertent involvement in compounding multiple challenges and underlined the contribution of the higher educational institutions for the same.

The program attended by students, scholars, faculty members and university officials including Librarian Rumi Library, and Head, Department of Economics provided a dynamic forum for interactive exchanges between the expert, faculty members and participants.

Subsidised Meal Initiative At Jammu's GMC Hospital Garners Huge Response

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: A subsidised meal initiative -- 'Thali for Rs 10' -- introduced by a non-profit organisation at the Government Medical College (GMC) Hospital here has drawn a huge response from patients' families with nearly 400 people availing the facility on the first day alone.

Sewa Bharti, a non-governmental organisation (NGO) renowned in the region for supporting vulnerable communities, introduced the 'Apna Bhojnalaya' initiative at the hospital here on Monday.

This step seeks to provide affordable and nourishing meals priced at just Rs 10 to the caregivers of patients visiting Government Medical College (GMC) Hospital, Sumit Mahajan, one of the managers of the food point, told PTI.

"There was a huge response on the first day itself with over 390 persons opting for the

meal", Mahajan said.

"We have kept a target of 400 for today. Keeping in view the increasing demand, we have added more logistical support to the food point," he added.

One can purchase breakfast, lunch and dinner thalis at 'Apna Bhojnalaya', which is served by 5 to 6 employees besides volunteers.

"Currently, we are serving a rice-based thali, which includes rice, vegetables, dal and halwa, but soon chapatis will be added to the menu," a member of the NGO said.

Dr Bhupinder Kumar, Commissioner-Secretary, Health Department, who inaugurated the affordable meal facility, appreciated the step taken by Sewa Bharti, saying, "Apna Bhojnalaya initiative at GMC exemplifies the true spirit of service and compassion. This initiative serves as a beacon of light, reminding us all of the impact that small gestures can have on the lives of those in need".

J&K Tops After Adding 16 More Services Of Tpt Dept To Its Tally Of Online Services

CS Calls For Doing Away With Citizens Visiting Offices By Resorting To e-KYC Authentication Only

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday added 16 more online services offered by the Transport Department to its list after Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta launched them under the e-Transport project of the Department.

With this, Jammu and Kashmir moved to first place in the country amongst States/UTs in offering the number of online services to its citizens. The UT had earlier taken its tally to 1016 online services overtaking Kerala and other top performing States as per the recent edition of NeSDA rankings.

Speaking during the launch of these services, the Chief Secretary maintained that the motive of the online services is to reduce the burden on our citizens

by providing them opportunities to access services from the comforts of their homes. He observed that the provisions of facial recognition, e-KYC authentication and jivan pramanpatra are few reliable means to ascertain the genuineness of claims. He asked for adopting measures under which the services are offered to the citizens seamlessly without having to make physical visits to government offices.

Dr Mehta further impressed that since volume of services has increased exponentially, it is time to assess digital maturity of these services. He made out that the quantity underpinned by quality would lead to desired results and satisfaction of citizens. He enjoined upon them that the integration with APIs should also be carried out to make single sign-on a prominent feature

for all these services.

The Chief Secretary called it is an important milestone in tune with the resolve of the J&K administration to provide corruption free, convenient and accessible services to the common man. He made out that the 'Digital J&K Programme' that was launched in mission mode last year has been successful in making J&K to upgrade from 'line to online' and 'physical to digital' thereby ushering an era of transparency and efficiency in working of government offices across the UT.

The Chief Secretary took the occasion to commend the efforts of the IT Department and NIC for the progress made in enhancing the number of online services of different departments. He gave credit to the team work and commitment of all those officers

and officials who contributed immensely to take UT at the top of the rankings today from bottom a couple of years back.

While providing details the Secretary Transport, G. Prasanna Ramaswamy revealed that by introducing these services in an online mode would make the Department faceless to a large extent. He gave out that these services would go a long way in resolving many of the issues faced by the Department in serving the citizens better.

He also disclosed that the redundant options like Hold, Inward in file disbursement have been done away with in this improved set-up to bring efficiency in the working of the department. He said that the most downloaded government application named 'NextGen m-Parivahan' having more than 10

Crore subscriptions would soon be adopted here in J&K to provide holistic information about the transport related services to its users. He added that the Department is soon going to add the feature of auto-appeal in order to curb the chances of delay in providing services to its applicants.

The services which were made online today includes Transfer of Vehicle ownership, Hypothecation termination/changes, issuance of duplicate RC, Change of address in RC, issuance of fresh permit, renewal of permit, renewal of authorization, temporary permit, duplicate permit, transfer/surrender of permit, application for Counter sign/duplicate counter sign, modification of documents, updation of mobile number, checking status and pending transactions.

Govt of Jammu and Kashmir (UT)
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT
DIRECTOR ANGORA RABBIT FARM
WUSSAN PATTAN
Arf.wussan101@gmail.com arf.wussan@gov.in
(AGRICULTURE SECTION)
TENDER NOTICE
Sealed tenders are invited from the interested Persons/Firms/Contractors for Harvesting including Drying, Binding, Stacking, Collecting, Lifting and Loading etc of Kharief Crop (Sorgum) at Angora Rabbit Farm Wussan and Fodder Farm Tapper Pattan respectively for the year 2023-2024 on the terms and conditions given below:
Terms & Conditions .
1. The tenders must reach this office by or before 07/09/2023 up to 1:00 PM and shall be opened on the same day/date at 2:00 PM in presence of the tender opening committee. In case the last date happens to be holiday etc, the next working day shall be treated as the day of opening of tenders.
2. The rates shall be quoted @ Per quintal for Harvesting including Drying, Binding, Stacking, Collecting, Lifting and Loading etc.
3. The rates should not exceed Rs. 510/= per quintal for Angora Rabbit Farm Wussan and Rs. 520/= per quintal for Fodder Farm Tapper Pattan.
4. The rates should be inclusive of all taxes.
5. The tenderer shall be personally responsible for any kind of damage to the fodder crop until the produce is supplied to other stations.
6. The tender shall include a CDR amount of Rs.2000/=(Rupees Two thousand only) each for Angora Rabbit Farm Wussan and Fodder Farm Tapper Pattan separately pledged to Assistant Director Angora Rabbit Farm Wussan Pattan.
7. The payment shall be made only after receipt of acknowledgement from concerned quarters.
8. This office reserves the right to cancel any tender without assigning any reason.
9. Any other condition if deemed necessary shall be communicated on spot.
Sd/-
(Dr.Waseem Muzaffar Malik)
Assistant Director
Angora Rabbit Farm
Wussan
DIPK-7951-23
DT: 29/08/2023

Plastic Menace

New data from the J&K Pollution Control Board has revealed a startling reality – the region generates a staggering 51,000 tonnes of plastic waste each year, which then is littered around the place. Kashmir alone contributes 31,000 tonnes to this overwhelming total, with the Jammu division accounting for an additional 20,000 tonnes.

A prevailing 'throw-away culture' has seen plastic bags clog city drainage systems, leading to drain blockages that exacerbate flooding during rains. The plastic litter also infiltrates the landscape, choking water bodies that are already burdened with pollution from multiple sources. The situation worsens when ready-to-eat food items are carried in bags that leach out the chemicals, inadvertently exposing consumers to potential hazards.

The J&K government has made strides in tackling this menace. The ban on polythene usage within the region is a commendable step toward curbing plastic waste. However, more needs to be done to enforce this ban effectively and promote public cooperation. While regulations and policies are integral, a collective commitment to reduce plastic consumption and encourage responsible waste management is paramount.

Public awareness campaigns can play a huge role in changing mindsets and behaviors. Education about the dangers of plastic pollution, along with advocating for the use of sustainable alternatives, can foster a sense of environmental responsibility among citizens. This collective effort will contribute to the preservation of the Valley's natural beauty for generations to come.

Now the situation is such that polythene is everywhere. There's hardly any shop in the Valley where you can't get polythene carry bags. Though polythene pollution is a worldwide phenomenon, in Kashmir the penetration seems to be even deeper. Supermarket bags, nylons and other plastics litter roads, croplands and water bodies. The impact has been highly damaging. The humble plastic bag and plastic drink container play a far greater role in changing the planet than has been realized.

Though several times bans have been imposed on the use of plastic bags in J&K over the last two decades, not much has changed on the ground. The reason is that the bans were never seriously implemented. Here's hoping that the current government finally gets the act right and ensures not only that the use of plastic is strictly banned but that the use of environmentally friendly products is aggressively promoted. There is an urgent need to end this criminal negligence towards our environment. More so in Kashmir, the paradise on earth, whose natural beauty draws lakhs of tourists every year.

OTHER OPINON

Gold winner

Neeraj Chopra scripted another glorious chapter by becoming the first-ever Indian to secure a gold in the World Athletics Championships in Budapest on Sunday. It was Neeraj's second and India's third medal after long jumper Anju Bobby George opened the account in 2003. Neeraj, the first Indian Olympic champion athlete, hurled the javelin to 88.17m in his second attempt to achieve the crown in a highly competitive field, also comprising Commonwealth Games champion Arshad Nadeem, who took the silver, the first-ever Worlds medal for Pakistan, with 87.82m. Neeraj, who recorded his season best 88.77m in the qualification round, continued his unbeaten streak this year to not only improve upon his 2022 Worlds silver in Eugene but also become the third athlete after Jan Zelezny and Andreas Thorkildsen to win the World and Olympics gold. He formally led India's javelin revolution at a global stage as compatriots, Kishore Jena (84.77m) and D.P. Manu (84.14m), took fifth and sixth spots. Neeraj's feat made India one of the three countries which earned their maiden yellow metal. The Indian men's 4x400m relay team members (Muhammed Anas, Amoj Jacob, Muhammed Ajmal and Rajesh Ramesh) ran out of their skin to create a new Asian record (2:59.05) and enter the final. Ultimately, they finished fifth. Woman steeplechaser Parul Chaudhary set a new national mark of 9:15.31.

However, the long jumpers, triple jumpers, hurdler Jyothi Yarraji and steeplechaser Avinash Sable's below par show brought disappointment. Even though leading athletes have been caught for doping this year, Neeraj, Chaudhary and the relay team's achievements will encourage the Indians for the Asian Games and 2024 Olympics. The mediocre performance of several athletes is a matter of concern for the Athletics Federation of India and the Sports Ministry and calls for an appraisal of the training. The World Championships witnessed several spectacular performances, including the U.S. 4x400m mixed relay team's world record. While the U.S. continued to dominate despite a reduced tally of 29 medals, including 12 gold, Canada improved to claim six, including four gold. With China not getting a single title, Asia's gold count dipped from five to three. U.S. sprinter Noah Lyles became the first male after Usain Bolt to win the 100m, 200m and men's 4x100m relay titles. Kenyan superstar Faith Kipyegon won a 1500m and 5000m double and Spaniard Alvaro Martin and Maria Perez swept the race walks, coinciding with the Chinese and Japanese walkers' failure, to make the edition exciting. The World Athletics would do well to promote track and field sport across the globe.

The Hindu

Lavish Weddings Have Mangled Our Social Fabric

Mushtaq Hurra

Our pretentious ways of performing marital rituals have begotten new miseries and troubles for destitute parents of girls. Birth of a girl child frowns the face of a father, given the ostentatious customs and conservatism etched to our wedlock ceremonies. Thousands of girls are exasperatedly looking at the thresholds of their homes, to have a glimpse of their grooms

The institution of marriage has become almost a nightmare for poor and lower-middle class families. With every passing day, we add toxic conventions and incomparably burdensome innovations to our weddings

Emerging extravaganza in Kashmir marriages is exacerbating the plight of poor marriageable girls and their coerced parents. New trends in dowry, wazwan, wedding attires and other related rites have made the marriages very difficult to solemnize. Kashmiris are taking a lead in brazen showoff to win false public admiration and extolment. Marrying off a daughter sends shivers down the spine of their hapless father, because marriage of the daughter requires hefty amounts of money and material to perform.

The institution of marriage has become almost a nightmare for poor and lower-middle class families. With every passing day, we add toxic conventions and incomparably burdensome innovations to our weddings.

Size of Gushtaba and the number of cuisines served to invitees in a Kashmir marriage has become the benchmark of our living. Very recently, a harrowing video went viral on different social media platforms, where the traditional wazwan was served to invitees individually. Contrary to our cultural legacy and cherished customs, guests in the marriage were not served the great feast in big copper plates, but separately in small plates. The wazwan was not ladled out by wazas but by young men attired in three piece suits. Is this the inclusion of a new innovation to our social structure?

Why is our affluent class oblivious to the impact of their rituals on our social fabric? Though wazwan is the crown of our unprecedented cultural identity, we have made it onerous and perturbing. The gluttony has probably ceased our ability to feel the pain of others. We have stooped to the lowest of low.

Luxury tent houses to accommodate guests have become an ugly reminder of poverty and lack of means of parents. Glamour and glory of our marriages is unfortunately attributed to the size and elegance of a tent house. Exorbitant rents of the tent houses break the backs of these impecunious parents who strive hard to earn their livelihoods. But, it has become more than an obligation for us.

A hapless father either takes loans or debts from money-lenders which they fail to reimburse throughout their lives. Consequently, hundreds have gone bankrupt or have committed suicide. The unnecessary splurge and squandering has ruined the lives of insolvent parents.

Sophisticatedly lavish and fancy dry-fruit boxes with multiple compartments to hold varieties of juices, dates, cashew nuts, pistachios, raisins, figs, kiwis and apricots, have tormented the poor parents of girls. Even copper-made trays with several chambers are hitting new highs in our markets. Meenakari and papier mache designs on these boxes and trays make them inor-



Photo for representational purposes only

dinately extortionate and expensive. An empty tray containing boxes with handmade designs, costs thousands of rupees. And the huge prices of dry fruits makes it a royal rite. How can a poor father bear all this sumptuous outlay? The showoff will neither win us the pleasure of Allah SWT nor the public adulation we intend to gain. It only spoils our here and hereafter. And we don't let others live freely.

Demanding or expecting unwarranted gifts like golden ornaments, embroidered suits, precious sweets, and other things in the name of token of love, from a bride and her family, is the cruel

difference to souls with dead consciences. I, at times, suspect our human origin.

Our pretentious ways of performing marital rituals have begotten new miseries and troubles for destitute parents of girls. Birth of a girl child frowns the face of a father, given the ostentatious customs and conservatism etched to our wedlock ceremonies. Thousands of girls are exasperatedly looking at the thresholds of their homes, to have a glimpse of their grooms. Their hina has burnt down to our inappropriate social dictums. The virtual typhoon of profuse lavishness has destroyed their castles before they are con-

Glamour and glory of our marriages is unfortunately attributed to the size and elegance of a tent house

est manifestation of matrimonial fascism exhibited by a groom and his parents. The fiendish dictates leave the bride-to-be and her father to bite their jaws and dagger their bosoms. Is it fair to loot a poor father who has already gifted you his kidney? Isn't it against the basic tenets of humanity? How callous of you! O Ashraf Makhlooqaat. Here, I am reminded of a Habeeb Jalib couplet: (Yeh Desh Hai Anday Logu'n Ka, Aay Chand Yaha'n Na Nikla Kar) O Moon, don't flaunt here, the land belongs to sighted blinds.

The number of guests and invitees with barat, proves the last nail in the coffin. Even wazas forget the number of rams they slaughter in a marriage. Dozens of labourers are hired to pound the mutton for different wazwan delicacies. I am neither against serving wazwan to guests in a marriage nor to invite relatives and friends, but crossing the limits of moderation is somewhat irritating. A few years earlier, our government had introduced guest control law to minimize the number of invitees with a groom, but that official decree has become archaic. Sermons, advices, wisdom and fear of God makes no

structed. Hundreds of wretched and weebegone parents are cursing their fates, because their beloved daughters have become obsolete to get married. Their aspirations and longings to see off daughters in marriage, have vanished into the thin air.

No angel or prophet will liberate us from the clutches of our own wicked social by-laws. We have entangled ourselves like those opportunistic birds who sit on noose traps to peck dazzling baits. We must break the shackles of our poor mindset to get rid of this unchained slavery. Lukh Kya Wanan is the biggest impediment in the path of our salvation and liberation. We shouldn't pay any heed to public backlash for the initiation of a positive social change. We should revisit our ways of living. May Allah SWT guide us to the right path!

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

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ISRO's Next Adventure

Even as the grand success of Chandrayaan-3's launch continues to reverberate and vibrate the entire nation, the ISRO has swiveled its gaze at the sun, as it will launch Aditya L-1, the country's first space-based observatory, on Sept. 2. Like Chandrayaan-3, the Aditya-L1 mission is yet another bold

venture by ISRO to stamp its mark in history, as it will mark a pioneering stride for India into the domain of space-based missions. It is said the major advantage of this celestial arrangement is that Aditya-L1, named after Sanskrit term, meaning 'Sun God', will enable an uninterrupted view of our life-star, free from any

veils of occultation or eclipses, thereby maintaining a real-time vigilance over solar activities and their intricacies. No doubt, similar to Chandrayaan-3's triumphant launch, Aditya-L1 mission launch will ignite a renewed wave of excitement across the country. This adventurous enterprise has the potential not only to unravel the

mysteries concealed within the sun's fiery grasp, but also to redefine our understanding of the cosmos at large. Said Rakesh Sharma, the first Indian to enter space, "There is hardly a facet of an Indian citizen that has not been touched by ISRO's technology."

Ranganathan Sivakumar

Skill Development in India: Status, Prospect and Challenges

Rajkumar Singh

The skill development in India is a long-drawn policy, it however, gained momentum recently and in line, the government has launched several skill development initiatives, including the National Skill Development Mission, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), and Skill India Mission. These programs have aimed to provide training to millions of individuals across various sectors. The recent initiatives resulted in:

a. Increased Participation: There has been an increase in the number of individuals participating in skill development programs, with a focus on both urban and rural areas. The training has covered a wide range of sectors, including manufacturing, agriculture, healthcare, IT, and more.

b. Industry Partnerships: Skill development initiatives have fostered collaborations between the government and industries, ensuring that training is aligned with industry requirements. Sector Skill Councils (SSCs) have played a role in developing industry-relevant training programs.

c. Recognition and Certification: There has been a push towards standardization and certification of skills to enhance the employability of individuals. Certification under PMKVY and other programs has gained recognition in the job market. The Indian skill development programmes also face several challenges which include:

a. Quality of Training: Ensuring the quality and relevance of training remains a challenge. Many programs have been criticized for not adequately preparing individuals for the demands of the job market.

b. Geographical Disparities: Access to skill development programs and opportunities is not uniform across different regions of India. Rural areas often face challenges in terms of infrastructure and training facilities.

c. Employability: While many individuals undergo skill training, there have been concerns about the actual employability of these trained individuals. There is a need to bridge the gap between skills acquired and industry requirements.

d. Mismatch with Market Needs: Skill development programs sometimes struggle to keep up with rapidly evolving industries and technological advancements, leading to a skills gap in emerging sectors.

e. Monitoring and Evaluation: Effective monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are necessary to track the outcomes of skill development programs and make necessary improvements. Efforts are being made to address these issues through continuous refinement



of programs, better industry engagement, improved quality assurance, and increased focus on emerging technologies and market trends.

Methods of skill development

Skill development can be achieved through a variety of methods and approaches, catering to different learning styles, sectors, and demographics which include:

a. Formal Education and Training: Traditional education institutions, colleges, universities, and vocational schools offer structured courses and programs designed to impart specific skills and knowledge. Vocational education and training (VET) programs, such as Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), focus on hands-on training in specific trades.

b. Apprenticeships and Internships: Apprenticeship programs provide on-the-job training and mentorship, allowing individuals to learn and practice skills directly in the workplace. Internships offer practical experience and exposure to real-world work environments, helping individuals develop both technical and soft skills.

c. Online Learning and E-Learning: Online platforms offer a

wide range of courses and resources that can be accessed remotely, enabling flexible learning at one's own pace. Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) and online tutorials provide opportunities to acquire skills in various fields.

d. Skill Development Institutions: Skill development centers, community colleges, and training institutes offer specialized courses in areas like IT, healthcare, hospitality, and more.

e. On-the-Job Training: Many skills are best learned through practical experience while working. On-the-job training provides hands-on learning in real work situations.

f. Skill Development Workshops and Seminars: Short-term workshops and seminars provide intensive training on specific skills or topics, often led by industry experts.

g. Sector-Specific Training Programs: Sector Skill Councils (SSCs) collaborate with industries to design training programs aligned with specific sector needs.

i. Entrepreneurship and Incubation Programs: Programs that teach entrepreneurship skills and provide guidance for starting and running a business.

j. Soft Skills Training: Soft skills such as communication, teamwork, leadership, and problem-solving

can be developed through workshops, role-playing, and experiential learning.

l. Government Initiatives and Skill Development Schemes: Governments often launch skill development programs to enhance employability. These may include subsidized training, certifications, and placement support.

m. Industry Collaborations and Partnerships: Collaborations between educational institutions and industries can provide industry-relevant training, internships, and placement opportunities. Combining multiple methods and adopting a lifelong learning mindset can lead to well-rounded skill development and career growth.

Prospects and challenges in India

The prospects of skill development in India are promising and play a pivotal role in shaping the nation's economic and social landscape.

a. Demographic Dividend: India has a large and youthful population, which can serve as a demographic dividend if properly skilled. With the right training, this workforce can drive economic growth and innovation.

b. Rising Demand for Skilled Labour: As India

continues to modernize and diversify its economy, there is an increasing demand for skilled workers in various sectors, including technology, healthcare, manufacturing, services, and more.

c. Government Initiatives: The Indian government has demonstrated a commitment to skill development through various initiatives such as the National Skill Development Mission, PMKVY, and Skill India Mission. These programs provide a structured framework for promoting skill development across the country.

d. Public-Private Partnerships: Collaborations between the government, industry, and academia are fostering effective skill development models. Industry engagement ensures that training aligns with current and future industry needs.

e. Digital Transformation: India's push towards digitalization and technology adoption creates opportunities for individuals to develop digital skills, making them better equipped for a technology-driven job market.

e. Entrepreneurship and Start-ups: Skill development nurtures entrepreneurship by equipping individuals with the expertise needed to start and manage successful businesses. This supports job creation and economic diversification.

f. Globalization and Outsourcing: India's role as a global outsourcing destination creates demand for skilled professionals in fields such as IT, business process outsourcing, and knowledge services.

g. Global Recognition: Certifications and qualifications obtained through skill development programs are gaining recognition globally, enhancing the employability of Indian workers internationally.

h. Skill Development for Specialized Sectors: Niche sectors such as creative industries, sports, and artisanal crafts are gaining recognition, offering unique skill development opportunities.

i. Lifelong Learning: The recognition of the need for continuous learning throughout one's career is fostering a culture of lifelong learning and skills upgrading. However, continued efforts from government, industry, and educational institutions are essential to harness the full potential of skill development in India and drive inclusive economic growth and social progress.

Dr. Rajkumar Singh is a Youth Motivator, presently Professor of Political Science and Dean, Student's Welfare (DSW), at B.N. Mandal University, Madhepura (Bihar), India. His 25 books published in addition to about 1000 articles in national and international journals and daily newspapers from 25 foreign countries

These Are The Reasons Why Sparrow And Other Birds Are Disappearing

Anushka Jain

Sparrows are closely habitat with humans. The house sparrow is a bird that comes under the sparrow family Passeridae, found in most of the world. The house sparrow is strongly bonded with the human habitat. It builds its nest below the roof, ventilators, and walls of the house. It can adapt itself to the urban or rural environment. The seeds of grains and weeds are the foods of sparrow and insects also its typical food. It was seen in more significant numbers earlier in most cities, towns, and villages associated with human settlers.

But its number is rapidly decreasing recently and even it reached the stage of disappearing. There are many reasons like urbanization, rising of concrete towers and cell phone radiation, absence of native plants and use of insecticides and pesticides in farms, and pollution with harmful gases that might affect a house sparrow population. Here the list of reasons that makes the little sparrow disappearing from the ecology.

Loss Of Trees Or Deforestation



It is a known fact that trees are the primary habitat of birds. Cutting down trees will create a habitat loss for birds then why not a sparrow, it also loses

its nest.

Change In Building Construction



Earlier, we can see the buildings with an open window, the gap between the roof and wall, an electric box outside the house, and a place for a lamp in the house, sometimes holes in the wall. These are the places where we can find the nest of birds, especially sparrows. However today constructions are changed with a closed wall with glass windows, no ventilators, and no gap even to enter mosquitoes then how the birds can build a nest. Again it is a loss of habitat.

Absence Of Native Plants And Shrubs



Other familiar places for nesting are native plants and trees such as mehndi, jasmine, neem, and many others, where the sparrow finds the perfect place

for nesting. These plants and trees are very close to humans since sparrows are living closely with humans. The shrubs and dense hedges are also the nesting place for the sparrow. It finds these places to defend itself from its predators.

Difficulty In Finding Grains And Seeds



The street grocery stores are replaced with modern air-conditioned closed grocery stores. The sparrows are struggling to find seeds and grains in sacks placed outside the stores.

Radiation From Mobile Towers



The electromagnetic radiations from the mobile towers affect the birds. It becomes the reason for declining its population. The radiations are even affecting the human, then how the little sparrow can sustain. Birds are more sensitive to magnetic radiation.

Increase In The Number Of Other Bigger Birds

An increase in the population of more giant birds like pigeons and crows. It is also one reason for the disappearance of sparrows. It causes a deficiency for food and shelter for sparrows.

Pollution And Use Of Chemicals In Fertilizers

Pollution in cities makes the birds move out of the cities. It is not getting good seeds and grains and struggling for non-polluted water resources.

Using chemicals in fertilizers produces grains and seeds with more chemical content, spoiling sparrows and other birds' diets.

It is hard to see the disappearance of sparrows. We can save it if we try some alternative. We can place a nest box with some grains to feed. Plant native plants and trees to help the sparrow to built its own nest. Can set up a water bath for birds to drink and bath. Encourage others in saving the sparrow.

To raise awareness and protect the house sparrows and other birds the World Sparrow day is celebrated on March 20 every year from 2010. It was an initiative of the Nature Forever Society of India in collaboration with many national and international organizations worldwide.

It is sad to see that the birds are becoming homeless today because of deforestation, fewer trees, and climatic changes. Sometimes the natural disaster like tsunami and floods would also cause the shift of the habitat of birds. Happily, the terrace of some good-hearted people's houses has become the habitat of birds like parrots. Read about the Birdman of Chennai Joseph Sekar and the couple Sudarshan and Vidya who feed parrots every day. They not only provide food but also shows more care and love towards parrots.

Gene Therapy Offers Potential New Treatment For Liver Cancer

IANS

US researchers have found that a type of gene therapy can someday help treat people with hepatocellular carcinoma—the most common form of liver cancer—and metabolic diseases like diabetes.

The team led by University of California-Davis discovered a gene therapy that induces the body to create microRNA-22 (miR-22), a naturally occurring molecule, aided in treating mice with hepatocellular carcinoma.

The miR-22 treatment also reduced liver inflammation and produced better survival outcomes with no observable toxicity compared to the US FDA-approved liver cancer treatment lenvatinib.

“This research introduces miR-22 gene therapy as a promising and innovative approach for treating hepatocellular carcinoma,” said Yu-Jui Yvonne Wan, Professor from the UC Davis Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine.

“The study’s findings suggest that miR-22 therapy could provide better survival outcomes, enhance anti-tumour immunity, improve metabolism and reduce inflammation.”

In the study published in the journal Molecular Therapy, the researchers explained that the miR-22 acts like a brake, stopping the production of certain proteins, including cyclin

A, protein deacetylases and hypoxia-inducible factor—all that can fuel liver cancer growth.

Wan’s previous research shows that metabolites produced by the gut microbiome help create miR-22 and have anti-cancer benefits. These metabolites include retinoic acid, short-chain fatty acids, bile acids and vitamin D3.

When people have



colon or liver cancer, signalling from these metabolites is reduced, which in turn reduces miR-22.

This was a clue for Wan that returning miR-22 to a higher level might act as a treatment for liver cancer.

For the study, Wan used an inactivated adenovirus, and introduced miR-22 into mice with a single intravenous injection.

The mice treated with the gene therapy were compared with mice treated with the current US FDA-approved drug lenvatinib (administered orally once a day), untreated mice and healthy mice.

Both miR-22 and lenvatinib inhibited the progression of liver cancer compared to untreated

mice. However, the miR-22-treated mice had longer survival times without toxicity compared with lenvatinib-treated mice.

MiR-22 and lenvatinib reduced serum alanine transaminase (ALT), aspartate aminotransferase (AST), and cholesterol levels, indicating improved liver function. MiR-22-treated mice showed no blood or organ toxicity.

At five weeks, untreated mice had enlarged livers, making up 33.5 per cent of their body weight. The treated mice had smaller, less diseased livers, with ratios of 10.9 per cent (miR-22) and 12.0 per cent (lenvatinib) of body weight.

The median survival rate was 46 days for the lenvatinib group and 50 days for the miR-22 group.

Two mice treated with miR-22 remained alive for 60 days. In contrast, the survival time for the untreated mice was about 40 days.

“The positive findings from this preclinical study give us hope that miR-22 could be a promising alternative to treat hepatocellular carcinoma,” Hu said.

For Restful Sleep In Aged, Ambient Temperature Should Be 20-25 Degrees Celsius: Study

Press Trust Of India

Ambient night-time temperature for older adults to have a restful sleep should be between 20 and 25 degrees Celsius, according to newly published research.

Further, sleep efficiency in the older adults, aged 65 years or above, was found to drop by 5-10

per cent as the ambient night-time bedroom temperature rose to 30 degrees Celsius, the study found, despite substantial differences among the individuals studied.

A lowered sleep quality in the long-term has been linked with cognitive decline and dementia in older adults, along with impacting their mood by making

them irritable and less productive in the day.

Sleep quality in older adults could, thus, potentially be enhanced by optimising home thermal environments, the study from Marcus Institute for Aging Research and Harvard Medical School, Boston, US, said about its findings which, it said, emphasised the importance of personalised temperature adjustments based on individual needs and circumstances.

From a climate adaptation point of view, the study findings are important as cities are projected to become warmer due to a combination of both climate change and urban induced warming, it said.

Office Of The Child Development Poshan Project Officer Poshan Project Nagam.

Subject: Tantative Selection List of candidates who have applied for engagement as A.W .Helper(SAHAYIKAS) for AW Centre of Poshan Project Nagam" vide this office Advertised Notice No: ICDS/NGM/Estt/2023/241-58 Dt. 08/07/2023.for Anganwadi Centres Punch Ward/ Municipal ward as shown below (Phase-2nd):

S. No	Index No	Name of the Candidate with Parentage and Residence	Name of Anganwadi center	Name of Panchayat Halqa	Name of Panch Ward	Date of Birth	Qualification	Married/Un-Married	Matric Merit				Total Merit	Selected Candidate-date	Remarks
									Max. Marks	Marks obtained	%age	Add-(02) points as per HR policy			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	1	Bazila Mohiudin W/o omer Akber Dar D/o Gh Mohi Ud Din Yatoo R/o Nagam	Baba Wani A	Nagam A	Ward No-05	5/6/1999	10th	Married.	500	260	52	Nil	52	Selected Candidate	
2	1	Madina Akhter W/o Tajamul Hilal D/o Ghulam Ahmad Ganai R/o Ganai Mohalla Dalipora	Ganai Mohalla Dalipora	Chrawni	Ward No-01	10/12/1991	10th	Married.	500	303	60.6	Nil	60.6	Selected Candidate	
3	1	Sumi Jan W/o Sheeraz Ahmad Khanday R/o Chalyan Choontinar	Chalyan Choontinar A	Chalya Choontinao	Ward No-05	9/5/2000	9th	Married	300	149	49.66	Nil	49.66	Selected Candidate	
4	2	Gulzarah Akhter W/o Farooq Ahmad Dar D/o Mohammad Khalil Dar R/o K- Nowgam	K- Nowgam	K- Nowgam	Ward No-01	12/9/1987	10th	Married.	500	196	39.2	Nil	39.2	Selected Candidate	CDPO/Poshan/NGM/2023/ Adv/90-100 Date: 16-05-2023

copy for information and necessary action to the selection committee for the approval of selection for the post of (Sahayikas) AWHS constituted vide Govt Order No:222-JK(SWD)of 2023 Dated:30.11.2022 and Govt order No: 103-JK(SWD) of 2023 Dated : 28.04.2023 However this would be strictly conditional and is subject to objections, if any, as received from the general public within (05) days after publication of the tentative selection list in the newspaper.

Child Development Project officer NAGAM (Member Secretary)

Zonal Educational Officer NAGAM (Member)

DIPK-7960/23 dated: 29-08-2023

Block Development Officer Nagam Budgam (Member)

Zonal Educational Officer Chari- Sharief (Member)

Block Development Officer Chari Sharief Officer (Member)

Office Of The Purchase Committee For Government Dental College & Hospital

Shireen Bagh, Srinagar, Kashmir.

Phone No.:- 0194-2504705 Website: www.gdcsrinagar.org Email: gdcsrinagar@gmail.com

e-NIT No. 03 of 2023-24

TENDER NOTICE

Dated:-29-08-2023.

Subject: Notice inviting online tenders for fixing/allotment of contract for LIFTING, TRANSPORTATION, TREATMENT & DISPOSAL OF BIO MEDICAL WASTE generated in Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Srinagar.

For and on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, the Chairman, Purchase Committee/RCC, Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Srinagar invites online tenders (in two cover system: Technical Bid and Financial Bid) from registration/authorized firms/service providers for fixing/allotment of contract for LIFTING, TRANSPORTATION, TREATMENT & DISPOSAL OF BIO MEDICAL WASTE generated in Govt. Dental College Hospital, Srinagar as per Bill of Quantity (BOQ) and on the terms and conditions as laid down in the Annexure "A" of this Tender Notice.

Tender Schedule:

Event	Date
Date of publishing of Tender Notice on the e-tendering website	30-08-2023 (1600 hours)
Start date of Downloading of tender documents from the e-tendering website	31-08-2023 (1600 hours)
Start date for uploading of online tenders (both Technical and Financial Bids) in the electronic format on e-tendering portal.	01-09-2023 (1000 hours)
Last date for uploading of online tenders (both Technical and Financial Bids) in the electronic format on e-tendering portal.	21-09-2023 (1600 hours)
Last date for submission of hard copies of all pre-requisite documents (including Demand Draft and FDR/CDR original) in sealed envelope.	By or before 25-09-2023 till 1400 hours.
Tentative date of opening of uploaded bids (technical bids only) or any other date convenient to the bid opening authority in Conference Hall, Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Srinagar	28-09-2023 (1100 hours)
e-Tendering website	https://www.jktenders.gov.in

Any clarification will be entertained from 05-09-2023 to 12-09-2023 on all working days during office hours. No representation will be entertained beyond the stipulated period.

Other Details:

S. No.	Item	Particulars
01.	Tender Reference	e-NIT No. 03 of 2023-24 Dated:-29-08-2023.
02.	Tender Fee (Non-Refundable) Favoring Accounts Officer, Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Srinagar.	500/-
03.	Bid Security/ Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in shape of CDR/FDR drawn on any Nationalized/Scheduled Bank and shall be pledged to Principal/Dean, Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Srinagar. (However, in case of FDR the validity should not be less than 24 months from the date of submission of online tenders).	20,000/=

01. Cover 1st- Technical Bid:

No tender/bill will be entertained without fulfilling (uploading on the website https://www.jktenders.gov.in) the below mentioned pre-requisite formalities.

i. Self attested with stamp copy instrument with regard to Tender Fee in shape Demand Draft for 500/- favoring Accounts Officer, Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Srinagar.

ii. Self attested with stamp copy of the instrument with regard to Bid Security/Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of 20,000/- in shape CDR/FDR Pledged to Principal/Dean, Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Srinagar drawn on any nationalized/Scheduled Bank.

iii. Self attested with stamp copy of authorization from prescribed authority i.e. J&K Pollution Control Board.

iv. Experience (minimum 1 one year) of undertaking and executing the job in any Government or private hospital.

v. Accepting/agreeing to abide by all the Terms & Conditions of the e-NIT on the company letter head duly sealed and signed. However, the hard copy of pre-requisite documents [as mentioned above at serial no. (iii), (iv) and (v)] along with original instruments with regard to Tender Fee in shape of Demand Draft and bid Security/Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of in shape of CDR/FDR [as mentioned above at serial no. (i) and (ii)] duly page marked/numbered, sealed and signed under proper checklist/covering letter and shall be submitted in the office of undersigned in sealed envelope by or before 25-09-2023 till 1400 hours. The Purchase Committee/RCC shall not be held responsible for any delay in this regard due to any reason whatsoever.

(Bidders/tenders are advised to go through the terms & conditions of the e-NIT thoroughly and upload/submit only relevant documents asked for. No un-necessary or irrelevant document shall be uploaded/submitted as the same will create confusion).

02. Cover 2nd –Financial Cover:

i) Tendering/bidding process will be completely online (no price bid shall be submitted in physical form). Rates submitted in physical form will not be entertained/considered at any cost.

ii) Rates shall be submitted by the bidders strictly as per BOQ.

iii) Bidders/tenders are required not to create additional BOQ of their own.

iv) Rates to be quoted in rupees (Rs.) only.

Note: This Tender Notice can also be seen on the departmental/college website https://www.gdcsrinagar.org The prospective bidders/firms shall note that the file of all uploaded documents shall not be more than 2 Mb in any case.

Sd/-
Accounts Officer,
(Member Secretary, Purchase Committee/RCC),
Govt. Dental College & Hospital,
Srinagar.

No: GDC&H/SGR/PC-RCC/MS/6453-59

DIPK-7967/23 Dated:-29-08-2023

Government of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Tangmarg.

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

NIT No:04/R&B of 2023-24

Dated: 28-08-2023

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

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest money (In Rupees)	Time of completion	M.H of Account	Class of Contractor	Projecting Authority
1	Restoration/ Up-gradation of road from Ziyarat Sharif Channapora to Bungam	6.62	300/-	13240/-	30 days	U.T Sector	D/C	R&B Deptt.
2	Up-gradation of link road at Chinat Colony at Chichiloora Tangmarg.	7.00	300/-	14000/-	35 days	U.T Sector	D/C	R&B Deptt.

Position of AAA:

Position of TS:-

Position of funds:

Accorded

Accorded

Available

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 on the dates listed below:

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	28-08-2023
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	30-08-2023
3	Bid submission Start Date	30-08-2023
4	Bid Submission End Date	06-09-2023 4:00 PM
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	07-09-2023 11:00 AM

2. Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between the bid submission start date and the Bid Submission End date) with NIT No. Name of work and Serial No. deposited in M.H. 0059 in the name of Executive Engineer R&B Division Tangmarg (tender inviting authority) as the cost of the tender document.

3. At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Tangmarg (dated between the bid submission start date and the Bid Submission End date) otherwise the tender will be rejected. 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, in single CDR/ FDR/BG which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.

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

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

6. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

6.1 Bidders are advised to download the bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as the "Bidders Manual Kit" option on the web-site www.jktenders.gov to familiarize themselves with the bid submission process.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

11 Price escalation and 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.

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

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

. All bidders must submit copies of original documents defining their constitution/legal status, place of registration, and principal place of business, as well as their cell phone number and e-mail address.

. A valid Contractor/Firm Registration Certificate duly renewed for the year (2023-24 Online mode) issued by a competent authority in accordance with the Contractor Registration Act.& verification of Card registration issued from the competent authority.

. Treasury Challan under (M.H 0059) & Earnest money

. Valid PAN Card

. A Civil Contractor who does not own HMP and is bidding for Bitumen Macadam Works is required to upload an MoU with HMPO, 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

. Scanned copy of GST registration and most recent clearance certificate FORM GSTR-3B and GSTR-1 from the previous quarter or last month, whichever is applicable.

14 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.

15 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.

16 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.

No: R&B / Divn./ Tang/35-47
DIPK-7924/23 Dated: 29-08-2023

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
R&B Division Tangmarg.

Major Outage Hits UK Air Traffic Control Systems, Over 1,200 Flights Cancelled



IANAS

LONDON: Thousands of air passengers have been left stranded after a major outage hit UK air traffic control systems.

More than 1,200 flights were reportedly cancelled due to the outage.

People are stuck in the UK and abroad after National Air Traffic Services (Nats) on Monday limited the number of planes landing, the BBC reported.

Airlines and airports warned there were still "significant delays" despite the issue being fixed within hours.

Holidaymakers – many of whom were returning from holidays and due to return to work on Tuesday – were braced for the chaos to continue as airlines struggle to clear the backlog.

There have been warnings that some knock-on disruption could last for days.

Heathrow said late on Monday evening that schedules re-

mained significantly disrupted, adding that people travelling on Tuesday should contact their airline before heading to the airport, the British news broadcaster reported.

Gatwick Airport said it was planning to operate a normal schedule on Tuesday, but advised passengers to check the status of their flight with their airline before going to the airport.

London Luton Airport also said on Monday evening that flights across the UK airspace remained subject to delays and cancellation, and people should check with their airline for the status of their flight.

Nats confirmed that it had identified and remedied the issue.

It said it would take some time for flights to return to normal.

Several UK airports and airlines, including British Airways, Virgin Atlantic and TUI, were hit by delays and cancellations on Monday.

DGCA Temporarily Suspends Boeing Simulator Training Facility Of Air India For Certain Lapses

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: Aviation safety regulator DGCA has temporarily suspended the Boeing simulator training facility of Air India for certain alleged lapses, a source has said.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is "verifying" some of the documents pertaining to the matter and

came days after a two-member DGCA inspection team allegedly found lapses in the airline's internal safety audit reporting, prompting it to launch a probe in the matter.

A decision on the restoration of the training at the facility will be taken once the documents "verification" process is completed, the source said.

Air India wide-body fleet



will take a call on the restoration of the training facility once it completes the process, the source said.

When contacted, a senior Air India official said DGCA carries out routine checks (on airlines) but did not divulge details.

"DGCA has temporarily suspended Air India's Boeing simulator training facility for certain lapses. The regulator is verifying some documents related to the matter," the source said.

The regulatory action against the Tata Group-owned Air India

comprises Boeing 777 and Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft.

The carrier is also likely to induct Airbus wide-body A350 planes in its fleet from this year end.

According to the inspection report submitted to DGCA, first reported by PTI last week, the airline was supposed to carry out regular safety spot checks in various areas of operations such as cabin surveillance, cargo, ramp and load but during a random inspection of 13 safety points, the team found that the airline prepared false reports in all 13 cases.

Ahead Of Upcoming Assembly Elections, LPG Cylinder Price Cut By Rs 200

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The government on Tuesday announced a Rs 200 per cylinder cut in prices of domestic cooking gas to soften the impact of rising inflation on households as well as counter the promise of cheaper LPG made by the Congress party in upcoming assembly elections.

At present, a 14.2-kg LPG cylinder in the national capital costs Rs 1,103 - more than double the rate it came for in May 2020.

It will cost Rs 903 when the decision is implemented from Wednesday.

For Ujjwala beneficiaries, the price will be Rs 703 after considering the continuing Rs 200 per cylinder subsidy.

Announcing the decision, Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur said the move is aimed at providing relief to households.

Also, the government will provide an additional 75 lakh Ujjwala connections, which will take the total PMUY beneficiaries to 10.35 crores.

Commenting on the decision, Prime Minister Narendra Modi the festival of Raksha Bandhan is a day to enhance happiness in the family and the decision to cut prices will greatly help women.

"Every sister of mine should remain happy and healthy, that is my wish from the God," he said in a post on X, formerly known as Twitter.

Cooking gas prices have



shot up in the last couple of years and have become a major election issue.

The Congress party used the high LPG prices, which had burnt a hole in the budgets of households already reeling under high inflation, effectively in the recently concluded assembly elections in Karnataka. It has promised to give LPG at Rs 500 per cylinder if voted to power in Madhya Pradesh, where elections are due in November-December. The Congress is also providing the LPG at the same price in Rajasthan, where elections are due in November-December.

Thakur however refused to link the decision with elections saying it was a gift from the Modi government to women on the occasion of Onam and Raksha Bandhan.

While he did not say how the price cut would be financed, it is presumed that state-owned fuel retailers will from Wednesday reduce the prices and will get com-

pensated for the same by the government later.

It is not known how much the decision would cost the exchequer but Thakur said the Rs 200 per cylinder subsidy provided to Ujjwala consumers would cost Rs 7,680 crore in the current financial year ending March 31, 2024 (April 2023 to March 2024).

While Ujjwala beneficiaries are only 9.6 crore, there are some 33 crore domestic cooking gas users in the country.

The government in June 2020 stopped giving LPG subsidies. Cooking gas across the country was priced at market rate, which rose to Rs 1,103 in the national capital.

The only subsidy that was available was for poor women who got free connections under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana. The government gave Rs 200 per cylinder subsidy for up to 12 refills in a year. This subsidy was transferred into the bank accounts of the beneficiaries, who bought LPG at market price from the dealer.

Centre Extends PLI Scheme For Automotive Sector By 1 Yr Until FY28

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The government has decided to extend the Rs 25,938-crore production-linked incentive scheme for the automotive sector by one year, Union Heavy Industries Minister Mahendra Nath Pandey said on Tuesday. Post extension, the five-year scheme, originally in place from 2022-23 to 2026-27, will be active until 2027-28.

At present, incentives are applicable under the scheme for determined sales of Advanced Automotive Technology (AAT) products (vehicles and components) manufactured in India from 1 April 2022 onwards for a period of five consecutive years.

"The scheme is being extended by one year," the Heavy Industries Minister told PTI, after reviewing the performance of the scheme with stakeholders here. Speaking with reporters on the sidelines earlier, he shared that the ministry has also accepted other suggestions made by auto industry stakeholders



pertaining to the scheme including quarterly disbursement of subsidies and increasing the number of agencies testing domestic value addition from two at present to four.

"We hope that the schemes will gather pace due to these measures," Pandey said.

Delivering the keynote address at the review meeting, Pandey called for industry's feedback and collaborative engagement to shape the policies, procedures and effectiveness of the PLI scheme. He said that the government is committed to fostering a conducive business environment and accelerating growth in the

Indian Automotive sector.

The minister mentioned that the PLI-AUTO scheme incentivizes only those eligible AAT products for which a minimum of 50 per cent Domestic Value Addition (DVA) is achieved and has been certified by Testing Agencies (TAs) of MHI. This criterion shall reduce imports, facilitate deep localization for AAT products and enable creation of domestic as well as global supply chains. As many as 95 companies have been admitted under the scheme that looks to promote local manufacturing of new technology products such as electric vehicles (EV) through subsidies.



'BRICS+6 To Control 30 Pc Of Global GDP, 46 Pc Population'

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The addition of six new members to the BRICS grouping will see it controlling 46 per cent of the world's population and 30 per cent of its economic output, according to a research paper. At the latest BRICS summit in Johannesburg last week, the present members -- Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa -- decided to add Argentina, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates as new members of the grouping.

The new members will become part of BRICS effective January 1, 2024. The acronym BRICS was originally coined in 2001 by Goldman Sachs economists led by Jim O'Neill. Later in December 2010, South Africa was added as the fifth member. Currently, the five-member grouping is home to 40 per cent of the world's population which controls 26 per cent of the global GDP. But with the six new members (BRICS+6), their GDP share will jump to 30 per cent and share of population will go up to 46 per cent, Soumya Kanti Ghosh, the Chief Economic Adviser to State Bank

of India, said in a note.

However, the biggest impact will be on the share of global oil production that will increase to 40 per cent from the current 18 per cent, while their oil intake share will jump from 27 per cent to 36 per cent, according to the note. Similarly, their share in global merchandise trade will rise from 20 per cent to 25 per cent, and that of global services trade will increase to 15 per cent from 12, the note said, adding that their share in the global forex reserves will increase by 600 bps to 45 per cent.

Ghosh stated that the new grouping will lead to the rise of a new Global South as BRICS+6 will offer a credible alternative to the hegemony of the Global North when it comes to global affairs, trade, currency and energy security. He noted that BRICS+6 will be a game-changer as the terms of global trade will get rewritten as the new grouping could be the lynchpin of a new global order. However, even after the new addition, China and India will continue to contribute 74 per cent of the overall GDP of the grouping, it said.

Gadkari Unveils World's First BS 6 Stage II Electrified Flex Fuel-Based Vehicle

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Increased demand for ethanol for blending with petrol and diesel will change the agriculture economy of India making farmers "urja daata", Union Minister Nitin Gadkari said on Tuesday while launching the world's first BS 6 (stage II) electrified flex fuel-based vehicle, which can run on ethanol blends of beyond 20 per cent.

Compared to the higher contribution of the manufacturing

for ethanol will grow in the country. It will change the agriculture economy of India.

"Our farmers will not only just be ann daata (food giver) but urja daata (energy provider)," he said.

Gadkari exuded confidence that with the demand for ethanol, the share of agriculture to the GDP will also grow. "I am very happy that the day the economy of ethanol will touch Rs 2 lakh crore that day agricultural growth rate which is 12 per cent will grow to 20 per



and services sectors, the agriculture and allied industry's contribution to India's GDP is only 12 per cent while 65 per cent of the population is dependent on agriculture, the minister for road transport and highways said.

The ethanol industry is a boon for farmers. The demand

cent," he said.

Successful tests for alternative fuels have been conducted in generator sets, vehicles, aircraft etc, the minister noted.

Gadkari also informed that neighbouring Bangladesh has requested India to supply petrol blended with ethanol.

Stock Markets Close Higher For 2nd Day; Power, Metal Shares Lead Gains

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: Benchmark stock indices Sensex and Nifty closed higher on Tuesday, marking their second straight day of gains as metal and power and select financial shares advanced.

Losses in index majors Reliance Industries, ICICI Bank and Airtel, and foreign fund outflows restricted gains, analysts said.

Rising for a second straight day, the BSE Sensex rose by 79.22 points or 0.12 per cent to settle at 65,075.82, tracking firm global markets. During the day, it jumped 232.43 points or 0.35 per cent to 65,229.03.

The NSE Nifty gained 36.60 points or 0.19 per cent to end at 19,342.65.

From the Sensex pack, Jio Financial Services Ltd jumped 4.72 per cent. Tata

Steel, Tech Mahindra, NTPC, JSW Steel, Power Grid, Ultra-Tech Cement, HCL Technologies and HDFC Bank were among the major gainers. Bharti Airtel, Hindustan Unilever, Axis Bank, Reliance Industries, Kotak Mahindra Bank, ICICI Bank and IndusInd Bank were among the laggards.

"The buoyancy of the global market in anticipation of no further Fed rate hikes, due to subdued economic data, was noticeable in the Indian market as well. However, heavy-weight stocks were muted compared to the sector-wise and mid & small-cap upsidess," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

The metals sector rallied in anticipation of further green shoots from the Chinese government and central banks, aimed at improving the lo-

cal economy, he said adding the "benefits from festival demand were evident in sectors such as consumer durables, manufacturing, power, and real estate".

In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong ended with gains.

European markets were trading in the green. The US markets ended in positive territory on Monday.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 0.63 per cent to USD 84.95 a barrel.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 1,393.25 crore on Monday, according to exchange data.

The BSE benchmark had climbed 110.09 points or 0.17 per cent to settle at 64,996.60 on Monday. The Nifty gained 40.25 points or 0.21 per cent to end at 19,306.05.

IUST Organizes Entrepreneurship Awareness & Sensitization Programme

Observer News Service

AWANTIPORA: Women's Entrepreneurship Development Cell (WEDC) under the aegis of CIED IUST organized an Entrepreneurship Awareness and Sensitization programme for the students of Govt. Girls Higher Secondary School Pulwama and IUST. A panel discussion on Challenges for women entrepreneurs was also organized.

The experts, Ms. Samar Shawl (CEO Ribbons) and Shehla Imran (CEO Turan & Turab) shared their entrepreneurial experiences, highlighted the prospects and challenges of entrepreneurship in Kashmir. They also delved into the intricacies of securing financing, and navigating the competitive terrain. The experts imparted invaluable wisdom about the nuances of product design and the integral role that society plays in fostering the growth of startups.

Dr. Parvez A. Mir, Director CIED in his address, emphasized the transformative potential of students transitioning from job seekers to job providers through the establishment of their own entrepreneurial ventures and highlighted the pivotal role of cultivating an innovative and entrepreneurial mindset at an early stage.

Hero Motocorp Re-Introduces Karizma Bike In India

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Hero MotoCorp plans to roll out new models and ramp up the sales network as it looks to have a substantial market share in the premium bike segment in the domestic market, CEO Niranjan Gupta said on Tuesday as the company re-introduced the Karizma brand in the country.

The country's largest two-wheeler maker currently has just 4-5 per cent market share in the premium bike segment which has been growing at a rate of 20-25 per cent per year.

The company, which is a leading player in the entry-level and commuter segments below 150 cc, is looking to introduce a new product every quarter in the next one year to ramp up its presence in the 150cc to 450cc bike segment.



"The game for us (premium segment) is just starting. So if we look at market share, it will probably be around 4-5 per cent but that's because it is just the beginning for us," Hero MotoCorp CEO Niranjan Gupta told reporters here.

The company's job is to create a full portfolio of premium products very rap-

idly and it is being done, he added.

When asked about the company's expectations regarding the market share gain in the segment, Gupta said: "We would like to have a meaningful gain."

Each of the new products launched in the segment will add to the company's market share, he stated.

India braces for driest August since 1901 amid intensifying El Nino

New Delhi: India is poised to experience the driest August since 1901 which, senior meteorologists say, is a clear result of intensifying El Nino conditions.

Also, the monsoon this year may end up being the driest since 2015, which recorded a rainfall deficit of 13 per cent, they said.

With a 32 per cent precipitation deficit in August so far and the prediction of only subdued rainfall activity over a large part of the country in the next three days, India is on track to record the driest August since 1901, an India Meteorological Department (IMD) official said, requesting anonymity.

August receives 254.9 mm of rainfall, accounting for around 30 per cent of the precipitation during the monsoon season.

India recorded a rainfall deficit of 25 per cent in August 2005, 24.6 per cent in 1965; 24.4 per cent in 1920; 24.1 per cent in 2009 and 24 per cent deficit in 1913, according to the IMD data.

IMD chief Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said the primary reason for below-normal rainfall in August are El Nino -- the warming of waters in the Pacific Ocean near South America -- and the "unfavourable phase of the Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) which is known to reduce

convection in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea".

El Nino is generally associated with the weakening monsoon winds and dry weather in India.

The MJO is a large-scale intra-seasonal atmospheric disturbance originating in tropical Africa and travelling eastwards. It is like a pulse or wave lasting about 30 to 60 days.

During the active phase of the MJO, the atmosphere becomes more favourable for rainfall. This leads to increased cloud cover, stronger winds, and enhanced convective activity, resulting in heavier rainfall over the Indian subcontinent.

"The favourable phase of MJO results in rainfall even if there is no low-pressure system. July recorded above-normal rainfall due to the favourable phase of MJO," Mohapatra said.

Only two low-pressure systems developed over the Bay of Bengal (BoB) against a normal of five under the impact of the prevailing El Nino conditions, he said.

"Another reason for below-normal rainfall in August was a lower number of low-pressure systems in the South China Sea and they, too, moved northward," he said.

Low-pressure systems that develop over the South China



Sea typically move westward, reaching the north BoB after crossing Vietnam and Thailand.

India experienced the longest break in the monsoon -- from August 6 to August 17 -- since 2009 which recorded 13 such days as El Nino gathered strength.

The northward migration of the monsoon trough -- an elongated low-pressure area

extending from heat low over Pakistan to the Bay of Bengal -- leads to break monsoon conditions or suppression of monsoon rain over major parts of India especially in the core monsoon zone or the rain-fed agricultural region spanning from Gujarat in the west to West Bengal and Odisha in the east.

The northward movement of the monsoon trough or

break-monsoon phase results in heavy rains along the foothills of Himalayas and parts of eastern India.

"Monsoon breaks and normal rains are part natural variability of the monsoon. However, El Nino causes these break monsoon phases to continue for a longer period. This is what we are seeing. The stronger the El Nino, the longer the break

phase," Madhavan Rajeevan, former secretary at the Ministry of Earth Sciences, told PTI.

Owing to the positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), the outlook for September is not very bleak, he said.

"September is not expected to be as bad as August. Models suggest the September rainfall will be on the lower side of the normal," he said.

The senior meteorologist said El Nino is the primary reason for the high rainfall deficit in August.

"The absence of the positive phase of MJO must have also played a marginal role," he said.

At a press conference on August 1, the IMD had said El Nino and other unfavourable conditions may suppress rain in August, though cumulative precipitation in the second half of the monsoon season (August-September) is expected to be normal.

"Rainfall in September is likely to be on the lower side (94 per cent to 99 per cent) of the normal (422.8 mm)," Mohapatra had said.

Rainfall recorded between 94 per cent and 106 per cent of the long-period average (LPA), or 50-year average, is considered normal.

Normal rainfall is critical for India's agricultural landscape, with 52 per cent of the net cultivated area relying on it. Additionally, it plays a crucial role in replenishing reservoirs essential for drinking water and power generation throughout the country.

Rained agriculture contributes to approximately 40 per cent of the country's total food production, making it a vital contributor to India's food security and economic stability.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

600 Families To

hopeful that payment would be made to the aggrieved land owners," Dr Muzaffar told Kashmir Observer.

Expressing gratitude to Lt Gen Ajula and DG Defence Estates G S Rajeshwaran for their support, Dr Muzaffar requested DC Budgam and Defence Estates Officer Srinagar to expedite the case of landowners.

J&K Clinches

of the UT is guided by the principle of people-first and our aim to empower the common man. This historic achievement is testimony to our commitment to transform the social landscape and enhance citizen's satisfaction, ensure transparency and accountability in the system and empower the aspirational and talented youth and women," he added

The spokesperson said that it was informed that J&K has overtaken MP to become number one amongst states/ UTs in the country in the number of online services provided to citizens. Under the Digital J&K programme launched in mission mode last year, the number of online services has increased exponentially from 174 services in July, 2022 to 1016 services as on date with nearly 500 percent increase in just one year.

The LG noted that remarkable digital journey of J&K and the resultant transformation from a laggard status in e-governance to a leading position in such a short span of time is unprecedented.

"This has brought about a paradigm shift resulting in increased transparency, accountability and efficiency at all levels," he said.

As a result of purposeful and focused action, the spokesperson said, J&K has witnessed an exceptional increase in volume and uptake of e-services which has transformed the government-citizen interface as never before.

He further said that there has been a palpable reduction in corruption and increase in citizen satisfaction which is being regularly monitored through a citizen feedback mechanism.

"It is the adoption of a robust model of e-Governance -- not just automation but citizen-centric approach by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir which has resulted in an exponential rise in the number of online services and availability of services 24 x 7 x 365. Integration with systems like Digilocker, Aadhaar, e-payment/SMS Gateways has enhanced the ease of living and convenience of citizens obviating the need to visit government offices," he added.

The spokesperson said that the seriousness of the Government's resolve can be gauged from the fact that the Public Services Guarantee Act (PSGA), 2011 has been amended to bring online services under its ambit. Around 300 services have been brought under the auto-escalation mechanism for ensuring time-bound delivery of services and penalties for delays in service delivery.

He added that taking a leap forward in mobile governance, the recently launched mobile application 'Mobile Dost' provides all online services through mobile phones and has a bilingual interface.

"Moving towards digital inclusion, another landmark initiative is the launch of 'Digi-Dost' - a mechanism for doorstep delivery of citizen-centric services by leveraging the ubiquitous presence of Common Services Centres (CSC)," he said.

He further said that the LG commended the efforts of all departments of the J&K Government for developing, designing and deploying online services and particularly the IT Department, JaKeGA and NIC for spearheading the Digital J&K mission.

Sinha, he said, stressed upon the need to ensure proper assessment of citizen feedback and to continually monitor the quality of services.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary, exhorted the officials to identify the areas where online services should be developed for citizens for bringing about social transformation and transparency.

He further directed that an intensive IEC

campaign be launched to inform the public about the digital initiatives and for greater uptake of the online services.

Our Endeavour Is

here on Tuesday, the LG also sought the action taken report from Deputy Commissioners, Head of Departments on the pending grievances of LG's Mulaqaat programme

Sinha was informed that 355 cases have been redressed.

The LG said the constant endeavour of his administration is to strengthen good governance, to ensure benefits of welfare measures reach the poorest of the poor and immediate disposal of their grievances.

"Efficient handling of grievances and needs of people is an instrument of social change and economic growth. Integrated approach by stakeholders is yielding significant result and collective efforts have encouraged effective public participation in planning and implementation of projects," he said.

Responding to a complaint of Bashir Ahmad Wani from Dooru Bandipora pertaining to encroachment of Nallah in his locality, the LG directed the District and Police Administration to remove the illegal encroachment and take legal action against the encroacher.

Siraj Salam from Baramulla drew the attention of the LG on the issue of unauthorized charging of hefty admission fees for the admission of his daughter by private school.

Sinha sought details on the issue and instructed the Director School Education to ensure admission of the child and take necessary action against the school in this matter.

On the grievances of Ishfaq Ahmad of Dar Mohalla Budgam and Prem Singh from Jammu regarding water supply in their localities, Deputy Commissioner Budgam and ADC Jammu briefed the chair that the upcoming schemes under Jal Jeevan Mission will address the need for the water supply in the respective areas.

Responding to the complaint of Sant Ram, a resident of Banjer Korara of Doda related to sanctioning of Old-age pension, the LG directed the officials to ensure the benefits of government schemes reach the beneficiaries timely.

He also sought the status of pendency of pension and scholarship applications from the Secretary Social Welfare Department. He issued a direction for making the process of granting pensions and scholarships more robust for the welfare of the eligible beneficiaries.

"Deputy Commissioners must ensure timely renewal and expeditious sanction of new cases through special camps at Block Diwas for complete saturation of pension and scholarship schemes. All stakeholders must work with complete dedication to speed up major road and other infrastructure development projects," the LG said.

Rehana Batul, Secretary, Public Grievances conducted the proceedings of the LG's Mulaqaat.

Over 26,000

details, he said so far 3,274 cases have been reported in Jammu district, 789 in Doda, 1,956 in Kathua, 604 in Kishtwar, 946 in Poonch, 1,066 in Rajouri, 975 in Ramban, 401 in Reasi, 1,471 in Samba, 849 in Udhampur and 1,631 in GMC Jammu.

Director Health Services Kashmir Dr Mir Mushtaq said that so far 11,751 cases of 'eye flu' have been reported in Kashmir hospitals.

Giving further details, he said that so far 622 cases have been reported in Kulgam district, 703 in Kupwara, 1,719 in Pulwama, 938 in Shopian, 1,363 in Srinagar, 1,876 in Anantnag, 1,042 in Bandipora, 1697 in Baramulla, 1,287 in Budgam and 504 in Ganderbal.

Officials said that around two thousand cases have been reported in Jammu division since 21 August and cases have started declining as today 132 cases were reported. Last week, around 400 cases were reported every day.

They said that cases continue to surge in Kashmir division as around 3,000 cases have been reported in the division since August 21.

The doctors said it is a "self-limiting infection" and each individual's immunity will have a role to play in the course of the disease. They advised the people to wash their hands frequently with soap and water and disinfect touched surfaces like doorknobs, etc.

The people must avoid touching or rubbing their eyes, sharing personal items, wearing contact lenses, crowded places and swimming pools, they said, adding that an ophthalmologist must be consulted if there is severe eye pain, blurring of vision, sensitivity to light associated with throat pain and fever and if the symptoms go worse and don't improve after 24 hours--(KNO)

SC Seeks Timeframe

and its reorganisation, said, "Democracy is important, although we agree that in view of the national security scenario, reorganisation of the state can be done."

The court said lack of electoral democracy cannot be allowed to go on indefinitely.

"This has to come an end... give us the specific time frame as to when will you restore actual democracy. We want to record this," the bench said, and asked Mehta and Attorney General R Venkataramani to seek instructions from the political executive and get back to the court.

"I have taken instructions and the instructions are that the UT status for Jammu and Kashmir is not a permanent thing. It will remain for Ladakh. However, I will make an elaborate statement on August 31," Mehta told the bench, also comprising Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Sanjiv Khanna, BR Gavai and Surya Kant.

He read out from the statement Home Minister Amit Shah had made while tabling the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Bill in 2019 saying J&K's statehood will be restored in due course of time.

As the hearing on the hugely contentious issue continued for the 12th day, the apex court wanted to know from the government's law officers was the abrogation of Article 370 "really a logical step" to achieve J-K's complete integration with India.

"The wide chasm between absolute autonomy, as it existed on January 26, 1950, and complete integration, as it was brought on August 5, 2019... that chasm has been substantially bridged by what was happening in between. So, really, in the sense it was not a complete migration from absolute autonomy to absolute integration.

"It is obvious that a substantial degree of integration has already taken place in the last 69 years. Therefore, what was done in 2019 was it really a logical step forward to achieve that integration?" the bench asked Attorney General R Venkataramani.

The top court also questioned the Centre about the validity of its decision to divide the erstwhile state into two Union Territories, saying the petitioners who have challenged its decision contended it was beyond the powers of Parliament.

Mehta said Jammu and Kashmir was divided into two Union Territories looking at its peculiar situation and the fact that being a border state the matter also involved national security.

The CJL while referring to creation of Chandigarh as UT said, "So, you make them as Union Territories, but at a later point of time when the situation stabilises, the union territories are made into a state. We understand that these are matters of national security and the preservation of the nation itself is the overriding concern. Equally, restoration of democracy is also important."

"Can the Union not have control over a stipulated period to bring stability? Whether it is a state or UT, if all of us survive, then the nation survives. Of course, if the nation survives, then only we survive, else everything is gone. Then should we not give that much leeway to Parliament that for some period a State is made into a UT and then, after a period, it becomes a state," he said.

The bench also questioned the attorney general as to how proviso 3 to Article 370 can be given a go-by while abrogating the

provision.

Article 370 (3) says, "Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing provisions of this article, the President may, by public notification, declare that this article shall cease to be operative or shall be operative only with such exceptions and modifications and from such date as he may specify: Provided that the recommendation of the Constituent Assembly of the State referred to in clause (2) shall be necessary before the President issues such a notification."

The CJL contended that Article 370 says the recommendation of the constituent assembly shall be "necessary" and "before" the President issues a notification, and so it cannot be a post facto recommendation.

"There has to be a recommendation of constituent assembly and, secondly, it has to be before the president decides to abrogate the provision. Therefore, to say this recommendation is just an opinion and not binding is not correct," the bench said.

Venkataramani submitted it is just a recommendation and a recommendatory role was assigned to the constituent assembly of Jammu and Kashmir to ensure that the integration process was completed.

"So what is the sequitur (a logical conclusion)? Are you contending that this is purely recommendatory and therefore absence of recommendation (of the constituent assembly) does not make a difference? Is this your contention?" the CJL asked.

Mehta, intervened and said, "A President of India being bound by a body solely outside the Constitution of India (the J-K constituent assembly) may not perhaps be the correct interpretation of our Constitution. That is, if it says yes, the President can do it, and if it says no, the President cannot do it. The Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir is outside and beyond our Constitution of India."

However, the bench disagreed with Mehta's contention and said from the plain reading of Article 370, it appears that the Constituent Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir was given overriding powers in respect of the state government, as the matters were to be placed before the CA for approval, if concurrence or consultation had been obtained before it came into existence.

Justice Khanna said, "When Article 370 itself refers to constituent assembly, you cannot say that it is outside the Constitution of India. It is within the constitutional framework because it refers to it. Yes, your argument about what will happen once constituent assembly does not exist, is something which we will have to examine with regard to the procedure you have adopted."

The hearing remained inconclusive and will resume on Thursday.

Several petitions challenging the abrogation of 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.

Court Grants

manufactured some documents including some visiting cards on the basis of which he has defrauded not only a single or group of persons but "extremely elevated class of the society including high officials of the civil administration and police authorities." At the end of the day, the police said, Patel succeeded in getting Z Category Security, bullet proof vehicle and enjoyed five star protocol "brazenly" for a considerable period of time.

Miss World

Miss World 2023 pageant, to be held in India later this year.

India, which has won the prestigious title six times, is hosting the pageant after nearly three decades. The last time the country hosted the event was back in 1996.

Leopard Mauls

They raised an alarm following which other villagers rushed to their rescue.

All the injured, reports said, were removed

to the district hospital, Kulgam for treatment.

"We were passing through the area when we learnt that a bear had mauled a man. We rushed to the spot and found three people, including a woman injured," Zahid Iqbal, an eyewitness said.

He said that the area has been witnessing frequent attacks by wild animals. Iqbal urged the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam and wildlife department to look into the matter and save villagers from further beast attacks. (With KNO inputs)

HC Relief

IPD, OPD and all other services at Govt," Medical Superintendent Psychiatric Disease Hospital (IMHANS-K) has said in a press release.

The Psychiatric Diseases Hospital, Kathi Darwaza, Rainawari as well as the Community General Hospital Unit located in SMHS complex will continue as per normal routine, he had said.

LG Sends Raksha

and happiness for all," Sinha said.

Missing Engineer

operation to locate him.

He said further investigation in the case were going on--(KNO)

Drug Smuggler

was recovered in the village of Pingla Haridal.

"The Police promptly transferred the body to SDH Tangdhar for necessary medico-legal procedures. Subsequent to the post-mortem examination, the body was handed over to the family for final rites. A case has been registered under appropriate sections, and a thorough investigation has been initiated," the spokesperson said.

From the preliminary investigations, he said, it appears that the deceased has been killed by some rival narcotics smuggling gang members or the rival terror operatives.

Notably, the spokesperson said, Mukhtar Ahmad Shah was a high-profile narcotics smuggler and a person of deep connections among narcotics smugglers in the region.

"He had been found involved in two cases of narcotics and weapons smuggling in the recent past and had confessed to orchestrating the transportation of substantial quantities of narcotics and weaponry across the border," he said.

"His association with his brother, Sadiq Shah, a prominent figure as both a launching commander and a supplier of narcotics and weapons from Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (POJK), underscores the depth of his involvement in these illicit activities. Sadiq Shah is himself chargesheeted in narco-terror cases and happens to be a top terrorist commander based in POJK," he added

Furthermore, the spokesperson said, it is worth mentioning that the Shah family has been entangled in various legal cases relating to narcotics and weapons smuggling.

"At least six other members of the Mukhtar Ahmad Shah's family are currently facing charges in connection to these criminal activities," he added.

Two JKAS

Commissioner (Central) with Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, in terms of Government Order No. 983-JK(GAD) of 2023 dated 19.08.2023, shall continue at his present place of posting.

Labourer Dies

Javid Ahmed Shah was shifted to hospital for treatment.

Soon after the incident, police and civil officials rushed to the spot to assess the situation.

GOC, DGP Discuss

the joint efforts of different security forces for the change in situation in the J&K and said that synergy between the forces working in the J&K is excellent and has contributed immensely in foiling the evil intentions of Pakistan and its sponsored militant groups," the spokesperson added.

ASIA CUP: Pakistan Play Nepal In Sweltering Multan

Press Trust of India

MULTAN: Pakistan will begin their campaign in the Asia Cup on Wednesday taking on Nepal in the city's sweltering heat as multi-team international cricket returns to the country after nearly 15 years.

It has been a long, rough road for Pakistan cricket ever since the militant attack on the Sri Lankan team in Lahore in March, 2009.

Following the attack, not only did Pakistan lose the Champions Trophy hosting rights but also its share of the World Cup matches in 2011.

With the International Cricket Council (ICC) and member nations reluctant to visit the country because of security reasons, Pakistan went without an international game at home for nearly eight years against top-tier teams.

Which is why, the four matches of the Asia Cup being held in the country hold great significance for Pakistan, who have also been awarded the 2025 Champions Trophy.

Pakistan, who recently rose to No. 1 in ODI rankings after a clean sweep of the ODI series



against Afghanistan in Sri Lanka, should win comfortably against Nepal, who are playing their first Asia Cup.

Only two Nepal players, leg-spinner Sandeep Lamichhane and allrounder Dipendra Singh Airee, have the experience of playing in T20 leagues.

Barring Lamichhane, who has played in the Pakistan Super League, the others know very little about the playing conditions here.

Having got their ODI status in the 50-over format, a sign of how close they are to achieving their dream of featuring in the 2027 World Cup, which will be a 14-team affair.

Having arrived in Pakistan a week back, it will be interesting to see how they fare against an outfit which is one of the favourites to lift the Asia Cup.

Pakistan will play just two games at home and the re-

maining in Sri Lanka, including the big ones against India. But the game against Nepal will offer their players a good opportunity to fine-tune their game.

Babar Azam recently hit two half centuries against Afghanistan and only a big one will satisfy the home team fans.

With the weather expected to be hot and humid, both teams will rely heavily on their spinners to do the job.

Indo-Pak WC Match Opening Tickets Sold Out During Pre-Sale



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The first lot of tickets for the marquee World Cup clash between India and Pakistan in Ahmedabad on October 14 has been sold out within an hour after ICC's ticketing partner 'Book My Show' opened its exclusive pre-sale window.

While there will be another round of general sale for the India-Pakistan match on September 3, there is a chance that there would be a complete sell-out within hours, like it happened on Tuesday for all the Mastercard holders.

It couldn't be confirmed as to how many tickets were put online during the pre-sale window for all India matches and the warm-up games but it has been learnt that, after the sales opened at 6 pm IST, within an hour, all tickets on the day were exhausted.

The 'Book My Show' website put a 'Sold Out' caption on the Pakistan game, which wasn't the case for the other eight India games.

"Today it was only for those who owned a Mastercard (credit or debit, India and international). Only two tickets per person was allotted and naturally,

the tickets put on pre-sale were bought by fans within an hour. "However it is expected that another round will happen on September 3. The best part is that Narendra Modi Stadium has 132,000 capacity, so reasonable number of tickets could be expected to be put on sale on September 3," a BCCI source privy to the development told PTI on the condition of anonymity.

The ICC is allowing only two tickets to be booked per person for all India games along with semi-final and final while for non-India games, four tickets per person could be booked.

Srinagar Premier League: Star Kashmir, Ali Jana Win



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The 2023 Srinagar Premier League saw two exciting Round 12 matches on Tuesday at Synthetic Turf TRC here.

In the first game of the day, a 4 pm kick off, Star Kashmir FC locked horns with Real Kashmir FC. The matchup between two youthful local clubs sprung to life in the 8th minute when Shariq gave Star Kashmir the lead. Real Kashmir spent rest of the half chasing shadows as it ended 1-0. Star Kashmir started the second half in similar fashion to first, as Suhaib doubled their lead in the 54th minute. Be-

ing 2-0 down, Real Kashmir created several close chances, including a penalty, but were ably denied by Star Kashmir goalkeeper, Adil Hussain, who took home the man of the match award for his incredible effort between the posts as Star Kashmir FC won 2-0.

The second contest of the day saw Novelty FC take on Ali Jana FC at 7 pm. The game was highly contested as both teams had opportunities to take the lead. Favourites Ali Jana broke the deadlock in 64th minute through Damkei. Although Novelty boys tried their best to find an equaliser, it wasn't to be as Ali Jana held tight to win the game 1-0.

J&K Sports Council Celebrates National Sports Day

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The J&K Sports Council has organised a series of sports activities during the past week to commemorate the celebration of National Sports Day, which began on the 22nd of this month.

JKSC celebrated the National Sports Day on Tuesday and paid tribute to hockey legend, Major



Dhyan Chand. The colourful functions were held at TRC Football Turf Srinagar and other district centres.

Director of Planning, YSS and Higher Education, Ashu Gupta, presided over the function as chief guest, while Dr. Zaffar Iqbal, Chief Accounts Officer, and Muzaffar Hussain Wani, Divisional Sports Officer, were the guests of honour on the occasion.

While addressing the gathering chief guest said the department has played a pivotal role in taking sports

to the nook and corner of J&K.

Referring to the wheelchair Basketball player Insha, the chief guest said that she is a great inspiration.

Divisional Sports Officer, Muzaffar Husain Wani, while addressing the participants said that several events were organized across the Kashmir division and elsewhere in Jammu to pay glowing tribute to the legend and the "wizard" of Indian Hockey, Major Dhyan Chand.

Many players were present on the occasion to receive their appreciation certificates from the chief guest for bringing laurels to J&K.

Meanwhile, a Yogasana sports championship was held at Sher-i-Kashmir Indoor Sports Complex, Srinagar, for sub-junior, junior and senior categories. Toiba Nazir and Bilal Ahmed Dar were declared the best Yogasana athletes in their respective female and male categories.

GCOPE Ganderbal's Annual Sports Festival Begins



Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: The 2nd Edition of Government College of Physical Education Ganderbal's Annual Sports Festival was declared open by Chief Secretary J&K Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Tuesday here.

The festival is being organised by Department of Youth Services and Sports J&K.

Coinciding the National Sports Day, the five-day long festival will conclude on 2nd September. The festival affirmed an impressive merger of 10 events covering Football (Men), Volleyball (Men & Women), Basketball (Men), Handball (Men), Tug-of-war (Men & Women), Kho-Kho (Women), Table-Tennis (Women) and Rauf competitions.

A participation of around 5000 students from 37 participant universities and colleges has doubled the importance of the yearly activi-

ty. Students of various schools of District Ganderbal also took-part in the inaugural function. The grand affair is being organized to provide a platform and stage to the students to showcase their sports talent and resourcefulness.

The inaugural function was attended by Dr Arun Kumar Mehta Chief Secretary of Jammu & Kashmir as chief guest in the presence of DDC Chairperson Ganderbal Nuzhat Ishfaq, Secretary to Government Youth Services & Sports Sarmad Hafeez,

Director Youth Services & Sports Subhash C Chibber, SSP Ganderbal Nikhil Borker, Nuzhat Gull, Secretary J&K Sports Council, Waseem Raja Joint Director Kashmir of the Department of Youth Services and Sports, Mush-taq Ahmad, Additional District Development Commissioner Ganderbal & other dignitaries of Department of YS&S and various other Departments.

Wanted Asia Cup In Pakistan In Its Entirety: Babar Azam

Press Trust of India



MULTAN: Pakistan captain Babar Azam doesn't want to make a hue and cry about 'Hybrid Model' of hosting the Asia Cup but felt that it would have been nice to have hosted the marquee tournament in his country in its entirety.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) have hosting rights for the Asia Cup but the Asian Cricket Council headed by Jay Shah opted for 'Hybrid Model' where Sri Lanka became the co-hosts after it was clear that Indian cricket team won't travel to Pakistan.

"If you ask me, it would have been good if the whole tournament would have been held in Pakistan but unfortunately nothing can be done

about it," Pakistan skipper Babar said at the pre-tournament media conference ahead of the opening match against minnows Nepal.

Pakistan start on Wednesday (Aug 30) against Nepal in Multan and then fly to Sri Lanka the very next day for the big ticket clash against India at Pallekele on September 2. Within 24 hours (September 3), they are back in Lahore for their Super Four game on September 6 and fly back to Sri Lanka, the next day for the next game on September 9.

"As professionals, we are ready for any schedule that is given to us. There would be travelling as well as back-to-back games and we are ready for that," said Babar.

While he didn't want to divulge his strategy about the India game, he expects that his team would put up the best show possible.

"We want to continue with this momentum. Pakistan's match against India will be a high-intensity game and we want to play our best cricket on the given day," he added.

The skipper, rated as one of the premier batters in contemporary cricket, is happy that Pakistan team is currently ranked No. 1 in ODI rankings and also a lot of their players are in top-10.



ODI Has Always Brought The Best Out Of Me: Virat Kohli

Press Trust of India

CHENNAI: Weeks before the start of the ODI World Cup, Indian batting maestro Virat Kohli has expressed his fondness for the format, saying it has "always brought the best" out of him. The World Cup begins on October 5 in Ahmedabad, and hosts India will enter as one of the favourites despite not winning an ICC title in the past 10 years.

Talking to Star Sports, Kohli stressed on the technical challenges and the strategic decision-making skills required to excel in the format, along with the adaptability needed throughout the game.

"I love playing ODI cricket. I think for me, ODI cricket is probably the one format that tests your game completely. Your technique, composure, patience, playing the situation, and playing differently in different phases of the game," he said.

"So, I think it tests you as a batsman completely, and I feel the ODI cricket has always brought the best out of me because I like to embrace that challenge and play according to the situation to help my team win.

"I have always tried to do that, so yeah, as I said, it gives me an opportunity to test myself regularly, all aspects of my batting, and that's why I really enjoy playing ODI cricket," he added.

Kohli has an excellent record in the 50-over format, averaging 66 when batting second and 48 when batting first. His ODI career so far includes 46 centuries, 26 of which were scored during run-chases, setting a record for the most hundreds scored when batting second.

Before the ICC showpiece, India are playing in the Asia Cup and will get their campaign underway against arch-rivals Pakistan on Sunday in Pallekele.



Delhi World's Most Polluted City; Residents To Lose 12 Years Of Life To Pollution: Study



Agenceis

New Delhi: Delhi has emerged as the world's most polluted city in a new study which has also found that its residents are on track to lose 11.9 years of life if the current levels of pollution persist.

The Air Quality Life Index (AQLI) released by the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago also showed that all of India's 1.3 billion people live in areas where the annual average particulate pollution level exceeds the 5 µg/m³ limit set by World Health Organisation (WHO).

It also found that 67.4 per cent of the country's population lives in areas that exceed the country's own national air quality standard of 40 µg/m³.

The study said fine particulate air pollution (PM_{2.5}) shortens an average Indian's life expectancy by 5.3 years, relative to what it would be if the 5 µg/m³ pollution limit set by WHO was met.

The AQLI said that Delhi is the most polluted city in the world with its 18 million residents on track to lose 11.9 years of life expectancy on average relative to the WHO limit and 8.5 years relative to the national guideline if the current pollution levels persist.

"Even in the least polluted district in the region — Pathankot in Punjab — particulate pollution is more than seven times the WHO limit, taking 3.1 years off life expectancy if current levels persist," it said.

Though particulate pollution in the northern plains is exacerbated by geologic and meteorological factors, the AQLI's dust and sea salt-removed PM_{2.5} data imply that human activity plays a key role in generating severe particulate pollution.

That is likely because the region's population density is nearly three times the rest of the country, meaning more pollution from vehicular, residential and agricultural sources, the study said.

Human-Caused Climate Change May Lead To 1 Billion Premature Deaths: Study

Agenceis

New Delhi: Climate change induced by human activity is likely to be responsible for the premature death of about one billion people over the next century, if global warming reaches two degrees Celsius, a study suggests.

The oil and gas industry is directly and indirectly responsible for over 40 per cent of carbon emissions — impacting the lives of billions of people, many living in the world's most remote and low-resourced communities, the researchers said.

The study, published in the journal *Energies*, proposes aggressive energy policies that would enable immediate and substantive decreases to carbon emissions. It also recommends a heightened level of government, corporate and citizen action to accelerate the decarbonisation of the global economy, aiming to minimise the number of projected human deaths.

The researchers found the peer-reviewed literature on the human mortality costs of carbon emissions converged on the "1,000-ton rule," which is an estimate that one future premature death is caused every time approximately



1,000 tons of fossil carbon are burned.

"If you take the scientific consensus of the 1,000-ton rule seriously, and run the numbers, anthropogenic global warming equates to a billion premature dead bodies over the next century. Obviously, we have to act. And we have to act fast," said Joshua Pearce, a professor at the University of Western Ontario in Canada.

Mr Pearce hopes by changing and challenging the language and metrics of global warming, more policymakers and industry leaders will better understand the hard truths about the world's reliance on

fossil fuels.

"As predictions of climate models become clearer, the harm we are doing to children and future generations can increasingly be attributed to our actions," said Mr Pearce.

When this direct correlation is recognised, greenhouse gas emissions liabilities can no longer be ignored, the researchers said.

The study found that to limit these enormous future liabilities and save many human lives, humanity needs to stop burning fossil fuels as quickly as possible by following a more aggressive approach to energy efficiency and renewable energy.

G20 SUMMIT IN DELHI Deploying Langur Mimics Among Authorities' Plans To Scare Off Monkeys

Agenceis

New Delhi: City authorities are taking steps to deploy langur mimics and put up cut-outs of the simians at vantage points to scare away monkeys during the G20 Summit in the national capital.

The unchecked population of monkeys has led to their ever-increasing numbers across the city, including in New Delhi areas (Lutyens' Delhi), with the animals loitering around and often attacking and biting people.

In view of this, the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) and the Forest Department of the city government have taken steps to ensure that monkeys are not allowed to play spoilsport during the important G20 summit, to be held from September 9-10.

"All the important sites, including the main venue of the Summit, hotels where foreign dignitaries and delegates would be staying are being covered to ensure the monkey hordes are not visible there during the event," a government official said.

NDMC vice chairman Satish Upadhyay said the civic body will deploy 30-40 trained persons who can mimic langur voice to scare away the monkeys.

"These trained persons are registered with us and they



have been hired as they are effective in scaring away monkeys by making sounds of langur. We will deploy one each at hotels where delegates would stay, as well as in places where monkey sightings are reported," he said.

An official said over a dozen cut-outs of langur were placed strategically in areas, including Sardar Patel Marg, that are heavily infested with monkeys.

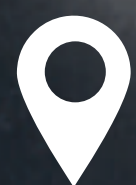
He said apart from other problems, the monkeys have damaged plants and flowers that were part of horticulture landscaping for the G20 Summit by different agencies.

Sardar Patel Marg that connects New Delhi to the IGI airport has been given a facelift with installations of statues, fountains, street furniture and lot of greenery and flowering plants since all the delegates and dignitaries for the Summit will pass through the road, the officials said.

Bun Maska



Famous Irani Chai of Bombay now in Srinagar



JK Bank Lawns,
Opp Ghat 6 Boulevard,
Srinagar