

On Day 4 Forces Launch Massive Mortar Assault

Army's Northern Commander Reviews Operational Situation, Police In Kishtwar Put On Alert

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Security forces launched a massive assault with mortar shells to flush out terrorists responsible for the killing of four security forces personnel from a hilly forest in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag district on Saturday, officials said.

The Army's northern commander Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi reviewed the operational situation near the site of the gunfight that has been going on for four days.

Security forces have been chasing the terrorists, believed to be two or three in number, since Wednesday.

On the fourth day of the operation, drones and helicopters were used to track and neutralise the terrorists, officials said.

The drones and helicopters were deployed to keep surveillance in the hilly terrain and pinpoint the locations of the terrorists in the forest in



ANANTNAG ENCOUNTER

Gadole in the Kokernag area of the south Kashmir district, the officials said.

As the assault was resumed on Saturday morning, the security forces fired several mortar shells towards the forest, they

said.

They said there were several cave-like hideouts in the forest area and drones were being used to pinpoint their locations to carry out attacks on them.

Drone footage showed a

militant running for cover after one such hideout was hit by shells fired by security forces on Friday.

The Army's northern commander on Saturday visited the site of the gunfight to take stock of the operational situation.

Lt Gen Dwivedi was briefed by the ground commanders on the high-intensity operations, in which hi-tech equipment is being used for surveillance and delivery of firepower, along with the high impact of precision fire being used by the forces.

"#LtGenUpendraDwivedi #ArmyCdr, Northern Command reviewed the operational situation on the ongoing operations at #Kokernag forest area in #Anantnag," the Army's Northern Command said in a post on X.

The commander inspected the drone which has been used to survey the area and track the terrorists, the officials said.

He also interacted with troops deployed in the operation, they added. **» More On P10**

OCCUPATION OF GOVT QUARTERS HC Seeks Details of 48 Politicians Who Own Houses

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: The High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh on Friday sought details of personal accommodations of 48 politicians who have retained government facilities in Jammu and Srinagar.

A division bench of Chief Justice N Kotiswar Singh and Justice Rajesh Sekhri issued the order on a PIL filed by Prof SK Bhalla.

Bhalla in his petition highlighted alleged unauthorised retention of various government accommodations, including ministerial bungalows, flats, quarters in Jammu and Srinagar by former **» More On P10**

13 Pak-Based Terrorists Now Proclaimed Offenders

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: A court has declared 13 Pakistan-based terrorists as proclaimed offenders in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district, paving the way for attachment of their properties if they fail to appear before it within 30 days, officials said on Saturday.

The proclamation notice under section 82 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) was served to the families of the terrorists in different parts of Kishtwar by the special investigation units (SIUs) of the local police amid beating **» More On P10**

Kashmiri Students Protest Against Transfer To Unapproved College

22 Female, 3 Male Students Were 'Injured In Police Action' At DBU Punjab

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Kashmiri students continued protests for the third consecutive day Saturday inside Punjab's Desh Bhagat University against the alleged police action on a group of students protesting their transfer to an unapproved and unregistered college located within the varsity campus.

At least 25 Kashmiri students including 22 girls and 3 boys pursuing various paramedical courses were injured on Thursday when police used batons to scuttle their protest inside the Varsity campus. The students were

protesting against the DBU authorities over against their alleged clandestine transfer to an unapproved and unregistered college located within the varsity campus.

"We staged a protest against our illegal transfer to Sardar Lal Singh College which is not approved by either the Indian Nursing Council (INC) or Punjab Nursing Registration Council (PNRC)," a student, wishing not to be named, told Kashmir Observer over phone.

"The DBU administration in sheer violation of INC admission guidelines exceeded the limit and **» More On P10**

Punjab Parties Take Up Issue With CM Mann

MAJID NABI

The opposition parties in Punjab have taken serious note of the alleged assault on female Kashmiri students at Desh Bhagat University on Thursday and have demanded thorough investigation into the matter. Pratap Singh Bajwa, leader of the opposition in Punjab **» More On P10**

THE STUDENTS HAVE APPRAISED THE ADMINISTRATION ABOUT THEIR ISSUES and that they have assured action in case their allegations of assault and illegal transfer to an unapproved college proved genuine. Talks between the administration and student representatives are on at the moment."

3 Terrorists Killed Along LoC In Uri: Police

Three militants were killed as security forces foiled an infiltration bid along the Line of Control (LoC) in Baramulla district of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, officials said. The operation was launched in the Hathlanga forward area in Uri sector of the north Kashmir district, the police officials said. "In a Joint Operation launched by #IndianArmy, @JmuKmrPolice and Intelligence agencies, an infiltration bid was foiled today in the morning hours along LoC in Uri Sector, Baramulla," Army's Chinara Corps wrote in a post on X. Three terrorists tried to infiltrate into the Indian side and were engaged by alert troops, it said. While the bodies of two terrorists have been retrieved, firing from a Pakistani post in the vicinity is interfering with the retrieval of the third terrorist's body, it added. The operation is in progress, the Army said. The identities and group affiliation of the slain terrorists are yet **» More On P10**



The mighty Jhelum which crossed the danger mark in September of 2014, inundating Srinagar city, is currently flowing at its lowest level in the last 60 years. The prolonged dry spell and record-breaking heat wave in the Kashmir valley has drastically reduced the water flow in the river, sparking concern among environmentalists and residents alike about the city's future. KO Photo Abid Bhat

J&K's New Start-Up Policy 2023 To Be Notified By Next Month: LG



Observer News Service

Srinagar: Announcing that Jammu and Kashmir's new start-up policy 2023 will be notified by next month, the Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said Saturday that the new policy will provide a roadmap for nurturing innovation, creating jobs and driving economic growth.

Addressing the valedictory session of J&K Start-Up

Conclave 2023 here on Saturday, Sinha said that the new policy will ensure market access, suitable infrastructure and all the assistance and help to entrepreneurs in their journey, he added.

He congratulated the Department of Industries and Commerce J&K for organizing the first of its kind conclave in collaboration with other stakeholders and startups from the UT.

"J&K Start-Up Policy will

also facilitate the growth of many cutting-edge sectors for Jammu and Kashmir which are still untapped. For the Seed Funding, a one-time assistance up to Rs. 20 lakhs in 4 equal installments will be provided to start-ups recognized by J&K Government," the LG said.

"Government will also provide a Capital grant on setting up/scaling up incubator and accelerator infrastructure in the UT with **» More On P10**

Advocates Sports As Part Of School Curriculum

The Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Saturday said that sports should be a compulsory part of school curriculum to inculcate social skills, teamwork and to build a strong foundation for character building and mechanism to identify sporting talents at a very young age. "Sports is not only a medium of recreation but also shapes skill, experience and paves the right path for the students to follow their passion," Sinha said after inaugurating the annual sports meet of Burn Hall School at Bakshi Stadium, here on Saturday. He impressed upon the teachers and parents to encourage sports and outdoor activities among the children for their overall well-being and all-round development. "We have to create **» More On P10**

Awaam Ki Awaaz

17 September, 2023 **11:00 AM**

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DIPK-8987/23 Dated: 17-09-2023



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IISc Scientists Develop New Approach To Potentially Detect And Kill Cancer Cells

Press Trust Of India

Scientists at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have developed a new approach to potentially detect and kill cancer cells, especially those which form a solid tumour mass.

They have created hybrid nanoparticles made of gold and copper sulphide, which can kill cancer cells using heat, and enable their detection using sound waves, according to a study published in 'ACS Applied Nano Materials'.

Early detection and treatment are key in the battle against cancer, noted the Bengaluru-based IISc in a statement on Monday. Copper sulphide nanopar-



ticles have previously received attention for their application in cancer diagnosis, while gold nanoparticles, which can be chemically modified to target cancer cells, have shown anti-cancer effects.

In the current study, the IISc team decided to combine these two into hybrid nanoparticles. "These particles have photothermal, oxidative stress, and photoacoustic properties," says Jaya Prakash, Assistant Professor at the Department of Instrumentation and Applied Physics, IISc, and one of the corresponding authors of the paper. PhD students Madhavi Tripathi and Swathi Padmanabhan are co-first authors. When light is shone on these hybrid nanoparticles, they absorb the light and generate heat, which can kill cancer cells. These nanoparticles also produce singlet oxygen atoms that are toxic for the cells, the release pointed out. "We want both these mechanisms to kill the cancer cell," Jaya Prakash explains.

The researchers say the nanoparticles can also help diagnose certain cancers.

Office Of Advocate Mohammad Fayaz Magray
 J&K HIGH COURT SRINAGAR CHAMBER NO. 27 DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BUDGAM Cell No. 9797792309

In the case of:-
 1. Nazir Ahmad Mir S/o Haji Gh Kasool Mir R/o Beerwah Budgam
 2. Tram Jan D/o Bashir Ahmad Shah R/o Mamoosa Rattan Bara mu lla
 3. Gh Mohd Tcli S/o Gh Nabi Tcli
 4. Mohd Maqbool Ganic S/o Ali Mohd Ganic
 6. Shabir Ahmad Ganie
 7. Bilal Ahmad Ganie Sons of Gh Nabi Ganie Residents of Adina Tehsil Magam Budgam
 Caveators

V/S Public At Large

Non-Caveators

IN THE MATTER OF:

Caveat Petition in terms of Section 148-A of C.P.C. The Caveators have reasons to believe/apprehension that non-Caveator (s) may file a suit/application/petition or any other type of proceedings before the hon'ble High Court, District Courts, Revenue Courts or any other forum may succeed in obtaining some relief/order at her back/ex-parte against the caveators and in such eventuality, the caveators will be put to an irreparable loss and inconvenience. It would be proper that caveators may be given an opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble Court before passing any other or direction.

bmg Advocate

Before the Hon'ble Court of Municipal Magistrate, Srinagar

Saleema D/o Ghulam Ahmed Pala R/o Ganaie Mohalla Manigam Brien Nishat Srinagar Applicant

VERSUS Registrar Birth & Deaths S.M.C. Srinagar Non Applicant

in the matter of: Application for recording the date of birth of the below named child/ person May it please your honour;

The application is submitted as under 1- That the date of Birth of the below named child/person has not sofar been recorded in the records of Non-applicant as is evident from the N.O.C issued by non-applicant enclosed with this application.
 2. That the applicant wishes to get the date of Birth of below mentioned child/person be recorded in record of non-applicant and solicits application accordingly.
 3. That I have not obtained birth certificate till date of below named child/person.
 4. That this application is supported by duly sworn affidavit.

IN THE PREMISES IT IS THEREFORE prayed that the nonapplicant be directed to record the following particulars of the below named child/parson.

Name	Saleema
Sex	Female
Father's Name	Ghulam Ahmed Pala
Date of Birth	01-03-1970
Residence	Ganaie Mohalla Manigam Brien Nishat Srinagar
Place of Birth	At Home

AFFIDAVIT

I RAEES AHMAD KHAN S/O BASHIR AHMAD KHAN R/O HOUSING COLONY, BEMINA, SRINAGAR do hereby solemnly affirm and declare on oath as under:

1. That the deponent is a permanent resident of U.T OF J&K.

2. That the deponent has lost his WALTT containing PAN CARD, ADHAAR CARD, ELECTORAL I VOTER ID CARD, ATM CARD, CASH & SOME IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS, somewhere near his shop at GENERAL ADDA BATMALOO, SRINAGAR.

3. That for the loss of the same and accordingly to prevent the misuse of the same, the deponent is soliciting this affidavit to the concerned authorities of POLICE STATION BATMALOO, SRINAGAR to register an FIR regarding the loss of the same.

4. That for any misrepresentation, the deponent shall be personally responsible for the consequences thereof. Hence this affidavit.

DEPONENT

VERIFICATION

Verified that the contents of this affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and nothing has been concealed therein.

DEPONENT

nj

From The Principal District Judge, Srinagar

Present: Mr. Jawad Ahmad

- Hakim Shahid Ali
- Hakim Nazir Hussain
- Hakim Abid Hussain
- Sons Of Late Hakim Ashraf Ali R/Os Of Baghwonpora Lalbazar Sgr
- Zreena Bano D/o Lt Hakim Ashraf Ali W/o Khakeem Ghulam Mustafa R/o Hakeem Mohalla Baghwonpora Lalbazar Sgr
- Hameeda Bano W/o Late Mohammad Jaffer Mir D/o Lt Hakim Ashraf Ali R/o Molvi Stop Lal Bazar Sgr

In the matter of Application for issuance of Succession certificate in favour of the petitioner(s)

Notice to public at Large

Where the petitioners(s) FILED ABOVE TITLED PETITION BEFORE THIS COURT OF ISSUANCE OF SUCCESSION certificate in favour of Petitioner(s) In respect of Rs 65435228 as debts and securities in name of Deceased Namely: Zoono W/o Late Hakeem Ashraf Ali R/o Baghwonpora WHO DIED ON 13-08-2023 . The petition is pending disposal before this court and the next date of hearing is fixed on 07-10-2023

Public Notice is hereby issued, informing all and sundry through the drom of this proclamation that at any anyone has any objection for issuance of succession certificate, he/she / or they shall appear before this court either personally or through counsel or any authorized agent and file objections on or before 07-10-2023. Failing which the petition will be taken up and appropriate orders will be passed in the same

In case, the date fixed is declared as holiday the matter shall be taken on the next working day.

Given under my hand and seal of this court on

Jawad Ahmad

Principal District Judge, Srinagar

از عدالت سبج میوہیل جھڑپٹ سرینگر
 با اجلاس مہرین مشتاق
 سائل اسماء
 درخواست بفرج اندراج تاریخ پیدائش اوفات
 نام: Mohd Maqbool Khan
 تاریخ: 06-02-1973
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدور میں سائل سائل نے عدالت ہذا میں ایک درخواست بشمول حلفی بغرض اندراج تاریخ پیدائش
 Mohd Maqbool Khan S/o Ab Rahim Khan مورخہ 13-09-2023 پیش کی ہے۔ لہذا احوام اناس کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی مذکر یا اعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے مذرات اشاعت اشتہار کے اندر ہی پدم عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے معیا کوئی مذکر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئیدہ عدالت ہذا میں 28-08-2023 کو مقرر ہے۔
 تحریر الصدور
 سبج میوہیل جھڑپٹ سرینگر nj

از عدالت سبج میوہیل جھڑپٹ سرینگر
 با اجلاس مہرین مشتاق
 سائل اسماء
 درخواست بفرج اندراج تاریخ پیدائش اوفات
 نام: Ghulam Nabi Bhat
 تاریخ: 01-08-1970
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدور میں سائل سائل نے عدالت ہذا میں ایک درخواست بشمول حلفی بغرض اندراج تاریخ پیدائش
 Ghulam Nabi Bhat S/o Abdul Khalique Bhat مورخہ 14-09-2023 پیش کی ہے۔ لہذا احوام اناس کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی مذکر یا اعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے مذرات اشاعت اشتہار کے اندر ہی پدم عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے معیا کوئی مذکر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئیدہ عدالت ہذا میں 28-08-2023 کو مقرر ہے۔
 تحریر الصدور
 سبج میوہیل جھڑپٹ سرینگر nj

از عدالت ایڈیشنل سیشن جج موہال جھڑپٹ پانڈ چوک
 با اجلاس :-
 سائل اسماء
 درخواست بفرج اندراج تاریخ پیدائش اوفات
 نام: Mohd Shaban Chopan
 تاریخ: 26-11-2008
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدور میں سائل سائل نے عدالت ہذا میں ایک درخواست بشمول حلفی بغرض اندراج تاریخ پیدائش
 Muntaz Shaban D/o Mohd Shaban Chopan مورخہ 09-08-2023 پیش کی ہے۔ لہذا احوام اناس کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی مذکر یا اعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے مذرات اشاعت اشتہار کے اندر ہی پدم عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے معیا کوئی مذکر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئیدہ عدالت ہذا میں 28-08-2023 کو مقرر ہے۔
 تحریر الصدور
 ایڈیشنل سیشن جج موہال جھڑپٹ پانڈ چوک nj

از عدالت سبج میوہیل جھڑپٹ سرینگر
 با اجلاس مہرین مشتاق
 سائل اسماء
 درخواست بفرج اندراج تاریخ پیدائش اوفات
 نام: Sami Iqbal
 تاریخ: 09-04-2021
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدور میں سائل سائل نے عدالت ہذا میں ایک درخواست بشمول حلفی بغرض اندراج تاریخ اوفات
 Haseena W/o Mohammad Iqbal Tanki مورخہ 09-09-2023 پیش کی ہے۔ لہذا احوام اناس کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی مذکر یا اعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے مذرات اشاعت اشتہار کے اندر ہی پدم عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے معیا کوئی مذکر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئیدہ عدالت ہذا میں 19-09-2023 کو مقرر ہے۔
 تحریر الصدور
 سبج میوہیل جھڑپٹ سرینگر nj

از عدالت ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج (بنک مقدمات) سرینگر
 با اجلاس: اردو نثر ما
 Paunjab And Sindh Bank
 بنام
 Mohammad Altaf Ganie
 ڈوکی و صوبائی رقم مبلغ = 49300/-
اشتہار بمراد آگاہی بنام
 1. Mohammad Altaf Ganie S/O Ghulam Mohd Ganie R/o 138 Mustafabad Zainakote Sgr
 2. Mehraj-ud-din Sheikh S/o Ghulam Hassan Sheikh R/o Rozbal P.O Sgr Gunj Khanayr Sgr
 مقدمہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدور میں مدعا علیہ مدعا علیہ کی قبیل کرانے کی بسیار کوشش کی گئی۔ الا ان کو یہ جدید پر مدعا علیہ مدعا علیہ دستیاب ہوئے اور نہ ہی بذریعہ معنی تسل لائی گئی۔ بدین وجہ حسب استمدائی مدعا علیہ مدعا علیہ جو بذریعہ اشتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم مبلغ 49300/- روپے سے روڈی کریں۔ بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کاروائی عمل لائی جائے گی۔ تحریر ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج (بنک مقدمات) سرینگر nj

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Office Of The Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Kulgam
 Fresh NIT No 109/2023-24/RnB/Kul/e-tendering/7803-23Dtd 15-09-2023

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

S. No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (In Rs.)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	Major Head of Account	Position of AAA	Reference AAA and Technical Sanction	Project Authority
1	Construction of road from Derapora to Sheihpora.	16.98	800	33960	25 days	Bee & Cee	U.T Sector 787	6.00	Order No: SE/R&B/Ang-kul/AAA/27 of 2023-24 dated 08-08-2023 & T.S No: 51/DB/TS/2023-24 dated 25-08-2023	PWD (R&B) Department

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

S. No.	Particulars	Dated
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice.	15-09-2023
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 16-09-2023 To 22-09-2023 (10:00AM to 04:00PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 16-09-2023 To 22-09-2023 (10:00AM to 04:00PM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To 22-09-2023 (04:00PM)
6	Date and time of opening of bid (online)	23-09-2023 (11:00AM)

In the office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Kulgam

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Demand Draft/ Treasury Challan / Receipt credited to MH 0059-Rev-Misc: and Earnest money / Bid security in shape of CDR / FDR pledged to Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Kulgam (tender receiving authority). --Refer Govt order No: O.M. No. A/24(2017)-651 Dated:- 07-06-2018. However the Date of uploaded e-Challan/ treasury Receipt, must be in between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date, and CDR/FDR/BG's older than 06 months on the date of submission will not be entertained.
- Earnest Monty (2% of the Advertised cost) from all the bidders in the shape of CDR/FDR at the time of tendering and 5% performance security of the allotted cost in shape of CDR/FDR/BG by the Successful Bidder). The same shall be released after successful completion of the Defect Liability Period of the work. The EMD 2% of successful bidders shall be released after receipt of 5% Performance Security) vide Chief Engineer (R&B) Kashmir, Srinagar's Circular No: CE/RBK/HD/32857-72 dated 01-01-2022.
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No Financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-2 & 3.1.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents like CDR/PAN/TIN/ Demand Draft with the bid and all documents be submitted physically to Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Kulgam before date of opening of bid.

Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.
 4. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
 5. Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan/ Receipt credited to MH 0059-Rev-Misc: must be uploaded with the bid.
 6. Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.
 7. All other terms and conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double Agreement Form)

No7824-26
DIPK-8971/23 Dtd 16-09-2023

Sd/-
Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Kulgam

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Office Of The Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez
 NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
 SINGLE COVER SYSTEM (upto Rs. 2.50 Crores)
 E-NIT No. 67/2023-24/EE/SSDG/5480-88/E-tendering/Dated:-14-09-2023

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

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (in Rs.)	Time of Completion	Earnest Money (In Rs)	Major Head of Account	Class of Contractor	Project Authority
1	Construction of JE's (PHE) Residential Quarter at Halqa kanzalwan Bagtore WSS Kalisariee Bagtore	33.75	1100	60 Days	67500	Languishing	BEE/AAY	PHE Jal Shakti Department

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

S.No.	Particulars	Dated
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice.	14-09-2023
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 15-09-2023 To 25-09-2023 (10:00 AM to 04:00 PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 15-09-2023 To 25-09-2023 (10:00 AM to 04:00 PM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To 25-09-2023 (04:00 PM)
6	Date and time of opening of bid (online)	26-09-2023 (11:00 AM)

In the office of Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez Major Head 0215-Rev-Misc: [Tender Inviting Authority] (Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt) (Refer Govt. order No. O.M No. A/24 (2017)-651 Dtd 07-06-2018 (The Date of Treasury Challan/CDR/FDR should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) pledged to Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez (Tender receiving Authority).
- All bidders have to pay 2% of advertised cost of the work as earnest money deposit (EMD) in shape of CDR pledged to Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez at the time of uploading of tender.
- The lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract value as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/pledged to Executive Engineer Special sub Division Gurez within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of work with DLP.
- Instruction to bidder (ITB)
- All Bidders shall upload the following information and documents along with qualifying criteria/qualification information with the bids.
 a. All bidders shall upload Copies of Original Documents defining constitution/Legal status, place of registration and principal place of Business with.
 b. Cell No. and Correspondence Address.
 c. All Bidders shall upload Treasury Challan/2% of Adv Cost. In shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer Special sub Division Gurez
 d. All Bidders shall upload PAN CARD.
 e. All Bidders shall upload Registration Card with latest renewal on JKPWOMS Portal.
 f. All Bidders shall upload the GST No. GST (Registration Certificate) acknowledgment receipt along with latest GST (3B) of ending previous month & Quarterly respectively April- June 2023/ latest month i.e. August 2023.
 g. All bidders shall upload verification certificate from concerned Chief Engineer/Superintending Engineer of Enlistment Registration Card. Letter No:- Chief Engineer PW (R&B) Kashmir's :-18484-516 Dated:- 21-11-2020 and No:- BS/812-44 Dated 06-04-2021.
 h. The tender/ bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirement a/s laid down in NIT
 i. All other terms and conditions are as same as laid in PWD Form 25.

DIPK-8918/23
 DATED: 16-09-2023

Sd/-
Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez

Special Drive On Sale Of Illicit Cigarettes Conducted In Srinagar

Observer News Service (COTPA). As per the act, 40% of the front of all tobacco product packages be covered with pictures of health warnings intended to alert people to the potential dangers of using such products. Commissioner, FDA, J&K has issued strict instructions to all the officers of food safety to crackdown on such violators and offenders in their respective Jurisdictions, to ensure effective Implementation of COTPA 2003. All the Food Business vendors are informed that sale of any kind of the Tobacco products, without pictorial and statutory warning is a punishable Offence with an imprisonment up to 6 months.



Closure Of Badamwari For Joggers Triggers Protest

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Residents of Kathi Darwaza, Rainawari and its adjoining areas on Saturday staged a protest against the authorities, demanding immediate rollback of the order, directing people not to visit Badamwari Park during morning and evening hours. Dozens of people including those visiting the park on a daily basis staged a protest here against the order, which they described as arbitrary. They urged the administration to immediately revoke the order for the larger interest of the public. "We frequently visit this park for morning and evening walks,

however the recent order directing people not to visit the Badamwari during morning and evening hours came as a shocker for everyone. We want immediate rollback of the order," a protester was heard saying in a viral video outside Badamwari Park. He said on one hand the authorities make tall claims of healthy drugs free Kashmir, while on the other hand elderly people are barred from morning and evening brisk walks. "We failed to understand as to what made the authorities to issue such an order which is unacceptable to everyone. Why should we stop visiting Badamwari, does the government think that people

who visit the park are drug addicts," he added. Another visitor, a chronic diabetic said the doctors have advised him to go for a brisk walk to improve his blood sugar level. "I am from congested Rainawari locality in Srinagar and most of the people of my age use to visit Badamwari for morning and evening walks, hence closing this park for elderly people like us is not a wise move," he said. The protesters appealed to Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar and Director Floriculture to look into the matter and reopen Badamwari Park for visitors during morning and evening hours.

CUK-DIPR Organizes Symposium & Cultural Program At GHSS Jawahar Nagar

Observer News Service Srinagar: As part of its initiative to empower youth, the Cultural Unit Kashmir of Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) J&K in collaboration with Government Boys Higher Secondary School Jawahar Nagar Srinagar today organised a symposium and Cultural Program at GHSS Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar on 'Introduction to Youth Empowerment

and Skill Development'. The aim of the program was to make students aware of life skills which are vital to effectively tackle the challenges of the 21st century and to bring attitudinal and behavioral change. Popular drama artists performed a short play on Youth Empowerment. Senior lecturer Sabiya Hassan hosted the event while Principal GHSS Jawahar Nagar, Farooq Ahmad Raina presided over the function.

Water Shortage Sparks Protest In Rainawari, Residents Block Road

Observer News Service Srinagar: The residents of Rainawari area in the old city on Saturday staged a protest against Jal Shakti department for failing to restore water supply for the past one month. The protesters, mostly women, gathered and blocked the main road near JLN Hospital, bringing traffic to a standstill. Speaking to the media, the protesting women said they have been without water supply for a month, and that the authorities seem to be least bothered over their plight.

Snag In Zainakote Grid Station Leaves Several City Areas In Darkness

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Several areas of Srinagar are reeling under darkness as a result of a technical snag developed at Zainakote grid station while the authorities said the

men are on job to restore the electricity at the earliest. According to reports, some of the areas including Chattabal, Safa Kadal and other adjacent localities have been reeling under darkness for the last couple of

hours. Chief Engineer, Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDC), Javed Yousof Dar said that Zainakote grid station has developed some technical snag and that the restoration

process has already been started in this regard. "The men and machinery have been pressed into service and the power supply in the affected areas will be restored as early as possible," he said.

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

AIRPORTS
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

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

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

PRAYERS

FAJR	4:50
ZUHR	12:36
ASR	4:53
Magrib	6:42
ISHA	8:02

HIJRI CALENDAR
1445

This Day In History

- 642 - Arab forces under Amr ibn al-'As conquer Alexandria
- 1462 - The Battle of wiceno (or Battle of arnowiec) is fought during Thirteen Years' War.
- 1598 - Dutch sailors discover island of Mauritius
- 1644 - French troops occupy Mainz
- 1678 - France & Spain sign Treaties of Nijmegen
- 1778 - 1st treaty between the US & Indian tribes signed (Fort Pitt)
- 1809 - Peace between Sweden and Russia in the Finnish War. The territory to become Finland is ceded to Russia by the Treaty of Fredrikshamn.
- 1862 Battle of Mumfordsville, Kentucky, US Col J Wilder surrenders city
- 1862 - American Civil War: The Allegheny Arsenal explosion results in the single largest civilian disaster during the war; 78 workers killed.
- 1899 - 1st British troops leave Bombay for South Africa
- 1916 - WWI flying ace The Red Baron of the German Luftstreitkräfte, wins his first aerial combat near Cambrai, France
- 1924 - Italy signs treaty of Rapallo
- 1934 - USSR joins League of Nations (Netherland, Switzerland & Portugal vote no)
- 1939 - German U-29 sinks British aircraft carrier Courageous, 519 die
- 1939 - Soviet Union invades Eastern Poland allowing Germans to advance West, taking 217,000 Poles prisoner, without a formal declaration of war
- 1940 - Adolf Hitler indefinitely postpones Operation Sealion, the planned German invasion of Great Britain
- 1941 - World War II: A decree issued by the Soviet State Committee of Defense, restoring Vseobuch "Universal compulsory military training of the citizens of the USSR" in the face of the "Great Patriotic War"
- 1943 - World War II: Soviet city of Bryansk is liberated from Nazis.
- 1944 - Dutch begin railroad strike against German occupiers
- 1959 - Transit 1A, 1st navigational satellite launched; failed to orbit
- 1959 - Typhoon kills 2,000 in Japan & Korea
- 1962 - US space officials announce selection of 9 new astronauts
- 1968 - Zond 5 completes circumnavigation of Moon
- 1970 - Jordan launches offensive against guerrilla army
- 1972 - Tanzania troops march in to Uganda
- 1975 - Rollout of 1st space shuttle orbiter Enterprise (OV-101)
- 1976 - Amnesty International receives Erasmus-prize

From KO Archives

CM Strips Ministers Of Security

Observer News Service Srinagar: The State Chief Minister, Dr. Farooq Abdullah has ordered his ministers and senior officers of the administration not to use pilot jeeps, except when they are on tour outside Jammu and Srinagar cities. The Chief Minister also ordered the measures to economise manpower and to reduce inconvenience to general public. The CM's order states there shall be only one escort jeep for ministers and chief secretary while other senior officers shall be given only a PSO and a gunman for their security. "Sirens on official vehicle would not be used henceforth," an official press release said here this evening. The ministers and senior officers have been asked not to use flags within Jammu and Srinagar cities. Only the vehicles of ministers and chief secretary would use red lights. The CM has also directed to ensure smooth flow of traffic in the interest of general public with due regard to security aspect. (Kashmir Observer, September 17, 1998)

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Notice Inviting Tender
Sr.DEE/TRD/FZR acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders for the works as under. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date 10.10.2023 at 15.00 only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall not be considered.
Tender No. : 508B-TRD-FZR-2023-24, Name of work : Electrification of Washing Lines at Chheharta and Amritsar stations over Firozpur division. App. Cost (Rs.) 2,36,21,985,28P. Cost of Tender form (Rs.) : Nil., Date & Time for submission of tender : Upto 10.10.2023 15.00 Hrs., Earnest Money # (Rs.) : 2,68,100/-, Completion Period : 06 Months, Opening of tender : 10.10.2023 after 15:00 Hrs., Website : www.treps.gov.in
Note : # Tenderer (s) may please note that offers received without Bid Security either in cash through e-payment gateway or as Bank Guarantee bond from a scheduled commercial bank of India or as mentioned in tender documents (as per Annexure-21) valid for a period of 90 days beyond the bid validity period, will be considered as incomplete & invalid offer and for which contractor shall have no claim on Railway.
No. 508B-TRD-FZR-2023-24 Dated : 15.09.2023
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 2876/23

Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited
Impaired Assets Portfolio
Management Department (IAPMD)
Zonal Office
Pulwama

J&K Bank
Serving To Empower

E-AUCTION NOTICE
(For sale of mortgaged immovable property under sub rule 06 of Rule 08 read with sub rule 01 of Rule 09 of The security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 of SARFAESI Act 2002) (In the NPA A/c of M/s Valley Plastics)

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and to the borrower, mortgagor and guarantors in particular that the below mentioned immovable property mortgaged to The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd. Branch LCU, Lassipora, the physical possession whereof has been taken by the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank under section 13 (4) of the SARFAESI Act 2002 will be sold through e-auction on "As is where is", "As is what is", "Whatever there is" and "No complaint" basis" on 20.10.2023 for recovery of dues to the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd. Branch LCU, Lassipora. The description of property, reserve price and the earnest money deposit (EMD) is mentioned herein below:

Description of the mortgaged properties (Put on sale)	1. Leasehold rights of land measuring 02 Kanals leased out by SIDCO in favour of the borrower firm (M/s Valley Plastics) at IGC, Lassipora, together with civil structures constructed over the said land.
	2. Land measuring 4 Kanal 11 Marlas falling under Khasra No. 689, Khata No. 340, Khawat No. 65, situated at Sunsamloo Pulwama, standing in the name of Mst. Zaina, Adopted D/O: Mr. Ab. Wahab Malla (W/O: Ab. Gani Malla), R/O: Bundzoo, Pulwama.
	3. Land measuring 4 Kanal 11 Marlas falling under Khasra No. 68 (2 K), Khata No. 95, Khawat No. 2 And Khasra No. 215 (2 K 11 M), Khata No. 99, Khawat No. 22. Situated at Shopian Road, Bundzoo, Pulwama, standing in the name of Mst. Zaina, Adopted. D/O: Wahab Malla W/O Ab. Gani Malla, R/O: Bundzoo, Pulwama.
Reserve Price	1. Rs.314.60 lacs 2. Rs.73.51 lacs 3. Rs.134.18 lacs
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	1. Rs.31.46 lacs 2. Rs.7.35 lacs 3. Rs.13.42 lacs

The bid document/format containing full details of the mortgaged property and all the terms & conditions can be had from and submitted on the website "https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net (Contact Persons: Mr. Ram Sharma (M) 9978591888, 9265562821 (O) 079 - 6813 6844.). The bids complete in all respects can be only submitted online by or before 18.10.2023 upto 4.00 PM. The e-auction will be held on 20.10.2023 from 11.30 AM-4.00 PM. The contact details of the bank officials are: Mr. Abdul Hamid Wani (Authorized Officer) Mobile No. 7889339709 & Mr. Asif (Credit Head LCU Lassipora) Mobile No. 7006292103. This publication is also a 30 days' Notice in terms of sub rule 06 of Rule 08 read with sub rule 01 of Rule 09 of The security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 to the borrower, mortgagor and the guarantors to pay the total outstanding of loan along with interest and other expenses before the date of e-auction, failing which the property will be auctioned and balance if any, remaining outstanding along with interest and expenses will be recovered from them.

Dated: 14.09.2023
Place: Pulwama
Sd/-
Abdul Hamid Wani
Authorized Officer
Registered office : Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India
CIN: L65110JK1938SGC000048; T : +91 (0)194 2481 930-35; F : +91 (0)194 248 1928; E : info@jkbmail.com; W : www.jkbank.com

DIPK-NB-3245/23 dated:16-09-2023

Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited
Impaired Assets Portfolio
Management Department (IAPMD)
Zonal Office
Pulwama

J&K Bank
Serving To Empower

E-AUCTION NOTICE
(For sale of mortgaged immovable property under sub rule 06 of Rule 08 read with sub rule 01 of Rule 09 of The security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 of SARFAESI Act 2002) (In the NPA A/c of M/s Sheikh Fruit Company & M/s Noorani Traders)

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and to the borrower, mortgagor and guarantors in particular that the below mentioned immovable property mortgaged to The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd. Branch Murran Adda, Pulwama, the physical possession whereof has been taken by the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank under section 13 (4) of the SARFAESI Act 2002 will be sold through e-auction on "As is where is", "As is what is", "Whatever there is" and "No complaint" basis" on 18.10.2023 for recovery of dues to the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd. Branch Murran Adda, Pulwama. The description of property, reserve price and the earnest money deposit (EMD) is mentioned herein below:

Description of the mortgaged properties (Put on sale)	Residential House along with land measuring 14 Marlas, falling under Khasra No.1659/1537, Khata No. 1069 and Khawat No.247 situated at Murran, Pulwama belonging to Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Sheikh S/O Mohammad Abdullah Sheikh R/O Murran, Pulwama.
Reserve Price	Rs.87.46 lacs
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs.8.75 lacs

The bid document/format containing full details of the mortgaged property and all the terms & conditions can be had from and submitted on the website "https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net (Contact Persons: Mr. Ram Sharma (M) 9978591888, 9265562821 (O) 079 - 6813 6844.). The bids complete in all respects can be only submitted online by or before 16.10.2023 upto 4.00 PM. The e-auction will be held on 18.10.2023 from 11.30 AM-4.00 PM. The contact details of the bank officials are: Mr. Abdul Hamid Wani (Branch Manager/Authorized Officer) Mobile No. 7889339709.

This publication is also a 30 days' Notice in terms of sub rule 06 of Rule 08 read with sub rule 01 of Rule 09 of The security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 to the borrower, mortgagor and the guarantors to pay the total outstanding of loan along with interest and other expenses before the date of e-auction, failing which the property will be auctioned and balance if any, remaining outstanding along with interest and expenses will be recovered from them.

Dated: 14.09.2023
Place: Pulwama
Ab. Hamid Wani
Authorized Officer
Registered office : Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India
CIN: L65110JK1938SGC000048; T : +91 (0)194 2481 930-35; F : +91 (0)194 248 1928; E : info@jkbmail.com; W : www.jkbank.com

DIPK-NB-3224/23 dated; 16-09-2023



Canada Hits Pause On Trade Mission To India After Tensions At G20 Summit

Agencies

Canada has announced it would postpone an October trade mission to India, in the midst of strained relations between the two countries.

A spokesperson for Canadian Trade Minister Mary Ng confirmed the change on Friday, though no reason was offered for the delay.

"At this time, we are postponing the upcoming trade mission to India," the spokesperson, Shanti Cosentino, said.

Earlier in the day, anonymous Indian officials also told reporters that negotiations over a trade deal were on hold, due to objections over "political developments in Canada".

In May, Ng and her Indian counterpart, Piyush Goyal, had issued a joint statement saying they hoped to boost trade and investment between their two countries by the year's end.

But those talks have hit several high-level snags. Most recently, during last weekend's Group of 20 (G20) summit in New Delhi, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi chose not to hold a formal bilateral meeting with Canadian leader Justin Trudeau, a decision many perceived to be a snub.

Modi also pulled Trudeau aside to criticise Canada's handling of recent Sikh protests. Videos circulated in June

showing a controversial parade float in Brampton, Ontario, that was themed after the assassination of Indira Gandhi. The former Indian prime minister had been killed by her Sikh bodyguards in 1984 after she ordered military action against Sikh separatists at the Golden Temple in the state of Punjab.

The parade float sparked furor in the Indian government, which called the display a celebration of separatist violence.

On Sunday, in a press release after Modi's encounter with Trudeau, the Indian government reiterated its "strong concerns about continuing anti-India activities" in Canada.

"Extremist elements" in the country, the press release said, were "inciting violence against Indian diplomats, damaging diplomatic premises, and threatening the Indian community in Canada".

However, since his election in 2014, Modi has been accused of overseeing a rising tide of conservative Hindu nationalism in India, while minority groups in the country raise concerns about threats to their human rights.

Canada, meanwhile, has the largest Sikh population outside of Punjab. Among them are separatists who hope to create an independent Sikh state called Khalistan in northern India.

Wet-Hot Extreme Weather To Become Frequent Due To Climate Change: Study



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Simultaneous rainfall and heat extremes will become more frequent, severe and widespread due to climate change, more so than dry-hot conditions, scientists say.

For every 1 degree Celsius rise in temperature, the air's capacity to hold moisture increases by 6 to 7 per cent.

The hot-and-humid air, thus, makes more water available to fall as rain, making wet-hot extremes likelier, the scientists said in their study published in the journal Earth's Future.

Events such as floods and landslides could become frequent because, under wet-hot conditions, the heat waves first dry out the soil, thereby reducing its ability to absorb water.

Subsequent rainfall has a harder time penetrating the soil and instead runs along the surface, contributing to flood-

ing, landslides and ruining crop yields, they said.

Wet-hot extremes will also cover a larger area and be more severe than dry-hot extremes, they projected.

While regions such as South Africa, the Amazon and parts of Europe are expected to become drier, many regions, including the eastern United States, eastern and southern Asia, Australia and central Africa, will receive more precipitation, the researchers found using climate models under the current emissions scenario.

The regions likely to be hit hard by such "compound climate extremes" include many heavily populated areas already prone to geologic hazards, such as landslides and mudflows, and which produce many of the world's crops.

"These compound climate extremes have attracted considerable attention in recent decades due to their dispro-

portionate pressures on the agricultural, industrial and ecosystems sectors - much more than individual extreme events alone," said Haijiang Wu, lead researcher, at North-west A&F University, China.

The European floods of 2021 are an example of the world already experiencing wet-hot extremes.

That summer, record-high temperatures dried out the soil. Soon after, heavy rainfall poured across the parched soil's surface and triggered massive landslides and flash floods, washing away houses and claiming lives.

Climate adaptation strategies should thus account for wet-hot conditions.

"If we overlook the risk of compound wet-hot extremes and fail to take sufficient early warning, the impacts on water-food-energy security would be unimaginable," said Haijiang Wu.



Congress says Bharat Jodo Yatra 2.0 from east to west 'under consideration'

Press Trust of India

HYDERABAD: The Congress on Saturday said Bharat Jodo Yatra 2.0 is "under consideration" with some CWC members requesting that it be undertaken from the eastern part of the country to the west.

Addressing a briefing on the deliberations of the first meeting of the reconstituted Congress Working Committee (CWC) here, senior Congress leader P Chidambaram said members of the party's top decision-making body have requested to organise a "Bharat Jodo Yatra 2.0 from east to west".

"That matter is under consideration," he said in response to a question about organising the second edition of the Bharat Jodo Yatra. Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi had undertaken the Bharat Jodo Yatra from Kanyakumari to Kashmir from September 7, 2022, to January 30 this year.

The Congress leaders have said the 136-day march, covering 4,081 kilometres in 12 states and two Union territories, 75 districts and 76 Lok Sabha constituencies, left an indelible impression on people's minds.

During the course of the yatra, Gandhi addressed 12 public meetings, more than 100

street-corner meetings and 13 press conferences. He had over 275 planned walking interactions and more than 100 sitting interactions.

Several experts had said a big takeaway from the yatra for the Congress had been Gandhi's image transformation.

With over 4,000 kilometres under his belt, Gandhi had managed to catch the attention of his supporters as well as detractors. The march saw participation from a cross-section of society, including film and TV celebrities such as Kamal Haasan, Pooja Bhatt, Riya Sen, Swara Bhasker, Rashami Desai, Akanksha Puri and Amol Palekar.

Besides, writers and military veterans, including former Army chief Gen (Retd) Deepak Kapoor and ex-Navy chief Admiral (Retd) L Ramdas, and noted people such as former RBI governor Raghuram Rajan and ex-finance secretary Arvind Mayaram had also participated in the yatra.

Opposition leaders such as National Conference's Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah, PDP's Mehbooba Mufti, Shiv Sena's Aaditya Thackeray, Priyanka Chaturvedi and Sanjay Raut and NCP's Supriya Sule, had also walked alongside Gandhi at various points in time during the march.

Pak Court Objects to Reopening of Bhagat Singh's Sentencing Case

Press Trust of India

LAHORE: A Pakistani court on Saturday raised an objection on a plea to reopen the case of Independence war hero Bhagat Singh's sentencing in 1931 and to set it aside by exercising the principles of review and honour him with posthumous state awards.

Singh was hanged by the British rulers on March 23, 1931, along with his comrades Rajguru and Sukhdev after being tried under charges of hatching a conspiracy against the British regime.

Singh was initially jailed for life but was later sentenced to death in another "fabricated case".

On Saturday, the Lahore High Court (LHC) raised an objection to reopening the decade-old case and constitution of a larger bench to listen to the petition that pleads to set aside the sentence of Singh by exercising principles of review and order the government to honour him with posthumous state awards.

"The Lahore High Court on Saturday raised an objection to reopen the Bhagat Singh case

and constitution of a larger bench for its early hearing. The court objected that the petition is not maintainable for the constitution of a larger bench," Advocate Imtiaz Rashid Qureshi, chairman of the Bhagat Singh Memorial Foundation and one of the petitioners, told PTL.

Qureshi said the petition of a panel of senior lawyers of which he is part has been pending in the LHC for a decade.

"Justice Shujaat Ali Khan in 2013 had referred the matter to the chief justice for the constitution of a larger bench, since then it has been pending," he said.

The petition says that Bhagat Singh fought for the independence of the sub-continent.

The petition further says that Singh is respected in the sub-continent not only by the Sikhs, and Hindus but also Muslims. Founder of Pakistan Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah twice had paid him tribute during his speech in the Central Assembly. "It is a matter of national importance and should be fixed before a full bench," Qureshi pleaded.



Us-Saudi Arms 'Megadeal' Collapses Over Russia, China Links: Report

Agencies

US weapons maker RTX, formerly known as Raytheon Technologies, scrubbed a multibillion deal with Saudi firm Scopa Defense earlier this year over "concerns" that the latter was pursuing business with sanctioned Russian and Chinese companies, according to people familiar with the deal that spoke with the Wall Street Journal (WSJ).

In 2022, RTX and Scopa signed a memorandum of understanding to build a factory in the kingdom for air defense systems to protect Riyadh from airstrikes. The plan reportedly called for installing radars and multiple air defense systems with an investment of \$25 billion in the kingdom and \$17 worth of sales.

The owner of Scopa, Mohamed Alajlan, told the WSJ that his company has no deals with sanctioned Russian companies and that any deals with Chinese firms "are limited to securing raw materials such as copper or rubber for use in producing ammunition and armored vehicles."

"We don't work with any companies that have interna-



ional sanctions," Alajlan told the WSJ, adding that the decision by RTX to scrub the deal was "rushed, illogical, and even irrational."

Alajlan, who also chairs the Saudi-Chinese Business Council, is the heir of a prominent Saudi family that for decades has imported Chinese textiles to the kingdom.

According to the WSJ, the "unease" over Scopa's alleged ties to sanctioned Russian and Chinese companies "was a deciding factor for an advisory board of retired US military officers to resign from the Saudi company."

Furthermore, the daily claims Scopa fired its chief executive "who had raised the sanctions concerns with his company's owner and US officials."

Alajlan is also accused of hir-

ing an executive from a Russian company sanctioned by the US to run a separate firm he had set up, known as Sepha. Moreover, he reportedly hired a Chinese executive to run yet another firm, Tal, "which had engaged in talks regarding deals with Chinese firms that are also sanctioned by Washington."

Tal and Sepha shared computer servers with employees at Scopa, which was allegedly a major concern for RTX.

A document reviewed by the WSJ showed that Sepha had looked at "marketing Russian ammunition, body armor and surveillance equipment in Saudi Arabia, assembling Russian attack helicopters there, and manufacturing armored vehicles with Russia's Military Industrial Co."

Tushar Gandhi Files Case Against Right-Wing Leader For Mahatma Remarks

Press Trust of India

PUNE: Tushar Gandhi, author and great-grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, on Friday said he has filed a private criminal suit in a court in Pune against Hindutva leader Sambhaji Bhide for his "defamatory" remarks against the Father of the Nation.

Gandhi said he, through his lawyer, has also filed a complaint in the district and sessions court in Shivaji Nagar against the Pune police for not acting on his application submitted in the Deccan Gymkhana police station last month, seeking action against Bhide.

"It is unfortunate that the police are forgetting their duties and working under political pressure," he told reporters in reply to a question.

Gandhi maintained when he submitted the complaint application against Bhide, the police said they would seek legal opinion before moving forward in the matter.

"Since then they have been just dilly-dallying and did not give any concrete reason

(for not filing a case against Bhide). Since no action was taken on our application, we had to approach the court and file a complaint of defamation against Bhide," he said.

Gandhi, along with his advocate and some others, had visited the Deccan Gymkhana police station and filed a complaint against the right-wing leader, seeking registration of a case against him under IPC sections 153A (promoting enmity between different groups), 499 (defamation) and 505 (statements conducting public mischief).

"Bhide made derogatory remarks not just against Babu, but also against his family," Gandhi had then said.

Bhide is accused of making offensive remarks about Mahatma Gandhi's lineage while speaking at a programme in Amravati district in eastern Maharashtra in the last week of July.

Following his remarks, first information reports (FIRs) were registered in Amravati and Nashik against Bhide, the founder of the Shri Shiv Pratishthan Hindustan outfit.



Historic India Club Calls Last Orders In London

Press Trust of India

LONDON: The India Club in London, with its early roots in the Indian independence movement as a hub for nationalists and a home away from home for Indians in the country over the years, will close permanently on Sunday.

With its walls adorned with photographs of prominent Indians such as former prime ministers, the Club's founding member was Krishna Menon - who went on to become the first High Commissioner of independent India to the UK. As well as housing one of the UK's early Indian restaurants, India Club quickly transformed into a hub for a rapidly growing British South Asian community in the aftermath of Indian independence.

"We have been completely rushed off our feet since the public found out we were closing on September 17," said Phiroza Marker, the manager of

the Club. "We are closing but looking for new premises in the vicinity to relocate to," she said.

Parsi-origin Yadgar Marker has been running the establishment with his wife Freny and daughter Phiroza since they rescued it from ruin in 1997 as the director of Goldsand Hotels Limited.

The family had launched a "Save India Club" appeal and won an initial battle to prevent the building from partial demolition a few years ago when they were served a notice by the landlords to make way for a more modernised hotel. However, with the rents being hiked exponentially amid a cost-of-living crisis, it has spelt the end of the road for the venue.

Nostalgic visitors who have been frequenting this little slice of India in central London, offering hot dosas and pakoras within a dwelling steeped in history, feel bereft at the loss.



"It's simply heart-breaking. A slice of Indian history on the Strand will be lost forever," said British Indian historian and journalist Shrabani Basu. "As an Indian journalist based in London, it was our

watering hole. There will be no more beer and pakoras at the historic bar. We will miss it," she said.

Smita Tharoor, the London-based daughter of one of the other founder members of In-

dia Club - journalist Chandran Tharoor, has been a regular visitor with her brother Congress MP Shashi Tharoor, and other family members.

"Many of the former leaders and founders of the In-

dia Club to offer a home away from home for Indians living in London. My father regaled us with their stories when we were growing up in India," she shared.

"For me, the closure of the club is something very emotional and sad because it is the end of my father's memories that have been kept alive for so many years and where I could visit whenever I missed him. He died very young at the age of 63 in 1993. This is not just a place to eat Indian food. This is a place that gives us stories of the past," she said.

Ms Tharoor recalls how the Club has counted the likes of Dr Rajendra Prasad, the first President of independent India, and Lord Mountbatten - the last Viceroy of India - among its many distinguished visitors, and has been a little corner of India for many living in or visiting the UK capital. "Menon intended the India

Club to be a place where young Indian professionals living on a shoestring could afford to eat, discuss politics, and plan their futures," noted Parvathi Raman, Founding Chair of the Centre for Migration and Diaspora Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), when she worked on the exhibition 'A Home Away from Away: The India Club' in 2019, curated by the UK's conservation charity National Trust.

The Club has functioned as an Indian restaurant since 1946 on the first floor of the 26-room Strand Continental Hotel. The freeholder of the building, Marston Properties, had earlier put in an application with Westminster City Council for a "partial demolition" to create a new hotel. The application was unanimously turned down by the Council in August 2018, noting the venue's importance as a cultural institution in the heart of London.

Inching Towards Policy Of Zero Terrorism In J&K: DGP

Homage Paid To Martyrs Of Anantnag, Rajouri Operations

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Stating that terrorism in Union Territory is at its lowest level with the killing of around 49 terrorists this year so far, the Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh said on Saturday that "we are moving inch by inch" towards the policy of zero terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir.

Speaking at the 3rd Northern Regional Police Coordination Committee meeting held at the Conference Hall of Police Headquarters here on Saturday, the DGP said that there was a time when security forces were pelted with stones every Friday.

"Now that is over. The J&K security team has been able to ensure zero violation of human rights and there has not been a single civilian casualty in any law & order engagement over the last few years," he said.

"We are moving inch by inch towards the policy of zero terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir", he added.

The meeting chaired by J&K DGP was attended by senior officers of Police departments of Northern States/Union Territories and officers of Central armed police forces (CAPFs/CPOs). The meeting was aimed to enhance Inter-State Police coordination besides addressing various policing issues effectively across the North-Indian States/UTs.

Maintaining that terrorism in J&K is at its lowest level, the DGP said that this year J&K security team has been able to neutralize around 40 foreign terrorists and 9 local terrorists.

"Local involvement in terrorist activities has drastically come down. Optimum synergy among the forces have pushed terrorists out of villages & cities to mountains," he added.

Expressing gratitude to the people for their cooperation to the forces, the DGP said that "enforcement of rule of law" was one single guideline for the security team of J&K.

"Action has been taken against the people involved in any anti national activity as well as against instigators," he said.

The DGP said that the officers have made very good recommendations which will be taken up with the government at higher level for incorporation while planning and framing policies for law enforcement.

The officers who attended the

meeting included DGP Himachal Pradesh Sanjay Kundu, DGP Chandigarh Praveer Ranjan, Spl CP Crime Delhi Ravinder Singh Yadav, ADGP CI Punjab Amit Prasad, ADGP Ladakh S D Singh, IG SSB Amrendra Kumar Sen- gar, IGP North West ITBP Sanjay

Gunjyal, ADGP L&O Uttarakhand Dr. V Murugesan, IG CB CID UP K Satyanarayana, DIG NIA Amit Kumar, ADG L&O Haryana Mamta Singh, IG NIA Vijay Sakhare, Zonal Director NCB Chandigarh/Jammu Amanjit Singh, SSP Chan- digarh Kanwardeep Kaur, IG BPR&D MHA Anurag Kumar, DIG Trg. NCRB Prashun Gupta, DySP Uttarakhand Ankush Mishra and senior officers of J&K.

At the outset of the meeting one minute silence was observed to pay homage to the martyrs of Anantnag & Kokernag operations, a police spokesperson said.

He said that the DGP Chandigarh, Spl DG CID J&K, Spl DG Crime J&K, ADGP Jammu, Director SKPA Udhampur, ADGP Kashmir, ADGP L&O Haryana, ADGP L&O Uttarakhand, IG NIA New Delhi, DIG Training NCRB New Delhi, SSP Chandigarh & DySP Uttarakhand gave Power-Point presentations on different topics in which various policing practices on crime control, narco smuggling, joint training, anti terror actions, cyber crime, sharing of information/intelligence were discussed.

"Besides this the police leadership also discussed a wide range of topics related to terrorism, drug menace, increasing trend in cybercrime, drone usage for dropping drugs & contrabands from across the border," the spokesperson said.

He said that threadbare discussions were also held on topics like creation of Inter-State database and Communication channels between Police forces, sharing of intelligence about organised crime, human trafficking for better coordination.

"Number of measures to enhance coordination among forces in the region were proposed. Emphasis was laid on establishing real-time information sharing mechanism regarding inter-state criminal activities and also putting joint efforts to tackle cybercrime. It was also proposed to share good practices including soft- ware applications of different forces for the benefit of all the members State/UTs/Organisations," he added.

DRUG SUPPLY CASE

Court Rejects Bail Of Delhi Resident, Other Accused

M Ahmad

SRINAGAR: A court here has rejected bail application of two accused persons including a resident of New Delhi in connection with alleged supply of banned drugs.

"Having regards to the nature of allegation, evidence on record so far and rigors of section 37 of the NDPS Act is attracted in the present case.I am of the considered opinion, that this is the fit case, where bail ought not be granted, and the applicants/accused persons too have failed to carve out a case for bail in their favour," 1st Addl. Sessions judge Srinagar, Khurshed-ul Islam said while rejecting bail plea by Tufail Ahmad Chota, a resident of Nowhatta Srinagar and Shakir Khan of Batla House Jammu Nagar Delhi.

"If they are granted bail at

this stage there is every apprehension that the accused persons will repeat the offences," the court said.

According to prosecution, Shakir Khan was arrested by a police team from Srinagar on 31 December 2020 from his house situated at Batla House Jammu Nagar New Delhi.

"During investigation accused Shakir Khan alias Ali Bhai has admitted that he had met Bilal Ahmad Sheikh (one of the accused in the case) in the month of September 2020 at Lajpat Nagar Market as his contact number was given to Bilal Sheikh by some person and since that day he has been in contact of Bilal Ahmad Sheikh," the prosecution said, adding, "Bilal Ahmad Sheikh used to visit Delhi, he used to purchase Tapal-75 and Spasmoxyvon etc. drugs from him."

DRY WEATHER CONDITIONS

Water Level In Jhelum Drops To 70-Year Low



Abid Bhat/VO

Water Level At Sangam Dips To 0.09 Feet; 2.15 Feet At Ram Munshibagh: I&FC

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The persisting dry weather across the valley has brought down the water level in Jhelum to 70-year low in the month of September.

The valley has been witnessing dry weather for more than a month, which has complicated the problems of water scarcity and irrigation for the farmers.

While the southern parts of the valley have recorded rainfall on Friday and Saturday, central and north parts of the valley continue to reel under dry weather conditions.

As per the data shared by the Irrigation and Flood Control Department, the water level at Sangam has dropped to 0.09 feet.

They said it was the lowest water level recorded in the water body in the last 70 years in the month of September.

Sangam as per the officials is the guiding factor to determine the water level in River Jhelum, which is the main waterway of Kashmir.

Official records also suggest that the water level at Ram Munshi Bagh had dropped to 2.15 feet.

At Asham, the current water level is 1.6 feet. Officials said the water level at both these points is also lowest recorded in the recent past.

Officials said the lowest water level recorded in Jhelum in the month of September so far has been 0 feet in the year 2019 and 2021.

They said the valley has not received sufficient rainfall for the last two months due to which the water body has almost dried up.

"In July, we received good rainfall and at the time a flood alert was issued. The valley has been witnessing a dry now for

the last three months. Jhelum, which is the main water body, has almost dried up at many places," officials said.

Chief Engineer Irrigation and Flood Control Department Naresh Kumar said the valley has witnessed one of the driest September this year.

"September never used to be drier like this before. The valley has not recorded rains for a long time now, which affected Jhelum drastically," he said.

The residents who are living along banks and in houseboats also said they have witnessed this phenomenon for the first time.

"During autumn and winter, the water level drops in Jhelum but this is probably the lowest water level we have witnessed so far. Currently, the surface of the river is visible," said Mohammad Monis, a resident of Rajbagh.

Pertinently, the weather man has predicted hot and dry weather to continue in Jammu and Kashmir for a week ahead—(KNO)

Pak-Sponsored Terrorism On Last Legs In Kashmir: BJP Leader

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana on Saturday said Pakistan-sponsored terrorism is on its last legs in Jammu and Kashmir and slammed valley-based politicians advocating a dialogue with the neighbouring country.

Rana, a former legislator, said the people of Jammu and Kashmir are now realising the dividends of peace more than before.

National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Wednesday said militancy in Jammu and Kashmir will not

end until India and Pakistan hold a dialogue to find a lasting solution to all conflicts, while Congress leader Saifuddin Soz said the doors of dialogue should be opened to end the bloodshed in the valley.

The two leaders made the remarks in the aftermath of the recent encounters that left five security personnel including an army colonel, a major and a deputy superintendent of police dead in south Kashmir's Anantnag and Rajouri in Jammu region.

"The Centre has, time and again, made its policy of terror and talks not going together very clear and still those trying to carve out an unsolicited role for themselves, for whatever reason, by jumping the line, should understand that India cannot engage itself with a country that sprouts terrorism," Rana said in a statement here.

Questioning the sensibilities

of the "self-proclaimed votaries" of India-Pakistan talks and their sense of proportion, he expressed surprise and anguish over unwarranted rants of engaging Islamabad in dialogue even before the last rites of the bravehearts were held.

"The insensitive terror ecosystem should learn a lesson from the common man in Kashmir who took to the streets and joined the candle march to pay their tributes to valiant martyrs, who offered supreme sacrifice to maintain the prevailing momentum of normalcy in the valley," Rana said.

He said the anger against the recent terror acts in the valley, as elsewhere in the country, is a mute reminder to the "rejected and frustrated political elite who seize such opportunities to play dirty politics in the mistaken belief of remaining relevant to politics".

He said they forget that Kashmir has transformed and stands for peace and this urge has become predominant during the last four years that have witnessed near normalcy, leading to buzzing economic activity and humming tourist influx.

"The dubious role of the terror ecosystem to run politics over the graves and the miseries of common people has now become obsolete, which is why the people are up in arms against the cult of violence and disruption."

"The people of Jammu and Kashmir are realising the dividends of peace now more than before," he said.



Traffic Cop Lands In ACB Net

SRINAGAR: The sleuths of Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Saturday arrested a traffic policeman in the tourist resort of Sonamarg for accepting a bribe of Rs. 9000 from a truck driver.

An official said that the traffic cop, SgCt Mohammad Ayoob Dar, was caught in a trap case by the ACB team headed by DySP Ghulam Nabi.

He said that the cop was arrested after he took a bribe of Rs. 9000 from the truck driver near the Traffic Check Post (TCP) in Sonamarg. After the arrest of the traffic policeman, an FIR was registered by the ACB in this regard.

Union AYUSH Secretary Visits Unani Hospital

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Dr Rajesh Kotecha, the AYUSH secretary in the Union Government, along with Padma Bhushan recipient Dr Davindera Triguna, paid a visit to the Unani Hospital in Shalteng today to assess the healthcare facilities provided to patients in the Kashmir Division. The officials were joined by Director Ayush Dr Mohan Singh.

During their visit, the Union Health Secretary received a comprehensive briefing about the hospital's operations from Medical Superintendent Dr Mohammad Farooq Naqashbandi. Dr Naqashbandi highlighted the hospital's vital role in serving the Kashmir division, revealing that it caters to an impressive daily influx of 300 to 350 patients seeking Ayush healthcare services.

Dr Kotecha explored various departments and sections of the hospital, including the Outpatient Department (OPD), Panchkarma, Hijama section, Laboratory, USG, X-Ray, and other diagnostic facilities. He took the opportunity to interact with patients to gather their feedback on the quality of services and overall satisfaction.

The Union AYUSH Secretary praised the hospital staff for providing top-notch patient care. He assured the hospital of full support from the Ministry of Ayush, reaffirming the commitment to further enhance healthcare services in the region.

SIA Carries Out Searches In Reasi

JAMMU: The Special Investigation Agency (SIA) carried out searches in the upper reaches of Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi following information about desperate attempts by terrorists to revive militancy in the district, police said on Saturday.

The search was conducted by the investigators of SIA, a counter-terrorism wing of Jammu and Kashmir Police, in Pouni and Mahore tehsils based on intelligence reports that some over-ground workers (OGWs) were providing logistical help and information to anti-national elements, a police officer said.

nation aspects along the International Border (IB), he said.

Khurania visited the Samba sector where he was briefed about the recent threats being faced by the BSF in the area, ranging from tunnelling and cross-border smuggling. A special emphasis was given to the threats posed by drones coming from across the border, he said.

The SDG was shown various border domination aspects on the ground.

Khurania addressed the troops and praised them for their effective border duties round the clock, the spokesperson said.

BSF SDG Reviews IB Security In Jammu

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: BSF Special Director General (SDG) Y B Khurania visited the International Border in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba sector and reviewed the security measures taken by the force, a spokesperson said on Saturday.

Khurania arrived here on a three-day visit to review the security situation along the Jammu frontier on Friday.

BSF Inspector General (IG) D K Boora gave a detailed presentation to the SDG covering all critical aspects of border security and domination along



the borderline in Jammu, the BSF spokesperson said.

Boora described the general security scenario in the area of operation, including the deployment pattern of BSF battalions and their robust domi-

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD(R&B) DIVISION SUMBAL
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

FRESH E-NIT NO 59 OF R&B/Sbl/2023-24 / E-TENDERING, DATED: 16-09-2023

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir Expression of Interest (EOI) are invited from approved and eligible Bidders as per Instruction to Bidder (ITB) and Terms of Reference Annexed. The Bidder (Firm / Consultant / Agency / Company) should have the eligibility as per Annexure-l under Eligibility Criteria for each of the following work:-

S. No	Name of work	Advertised Consultancy cost (Rs. In lacs)	Cost of tender document (In Rs)	Cost of EMD (In Rs)	Time of Completion	Type of Consultancy
1	Construction of New Munsiff Court Complex, Sumbal.	0.30	200.00	600.00	10 days	Conceptual/ Architectural Plan Only

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

S. No.	Particulars	Dated
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	16-09-2023
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 16-09-2023 (4.00PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 16-09-2023 (4.00PM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To 21-09-2023 (04:00 PM)

Last Date for receiving the hard copy (Original DD & EMD)
Hard copies shall be obtained only from the bidder who is declared as lowest bidder (L1) at the time of opening of tenders. The cost of tender document will be collected through e-Challan / Receipt. However the successful bidders will submit the same separately after the opening of bids online.
Note:- All bidders must upload EMD in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal @2% of Advertised cost.

S. No	Date and time of opening of bid (online)	
5	22-09-2023 (11.00 AM)	In the office of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Sumbal

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan/ Receipt(Under MH- 0059 PWD) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal (Tender Inviting Authority) (Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt) (Refer Govt. order No. O.M No. A/24 (2017)-651 Dt 07-06-2018 (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission EndDate) and Earnest Money / Bid Security 2% of Advertised cost in shape of CDR / FDR applicable pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal (Tender Receiving Authority).

3. The bidder who is declared as (L1) shall deposit 3% Performance security of the contract cost in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Sumbal (Tender Inviting Authority) and the 2% EMD shall be released in favour of the successful bidder only after the receipt of 3% Performance Security.

4. The date and time of opening of Bid shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Sumbal.

5. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 30 days from the date of Opening of Technical bids.

6. Instruction to bidder (ITB)

14.1 All Bidders shall upload the following information and documents along with qualifying criteria/qualification information with the bids.

a. All bidders shall upload Copies of Original Documents defining constitution/Legal status, place of registration and principal place of Business with Cell No. and Correspondence Address.,

b. Verification of the Enlistment Card/License from its issuing authority. Subject card is issued other than (R&B) Department.

15 All bidders shall upload Treasury Challan.

a. All bidders shall upload CDR/FDR/BG@2% of advertised Cost pledged to opening authority.

b. All bidders shall upload Valid Registration card front and renewal Side (Latest), Valid GSTIN No. & PAN No.

c. All bidders shall upload Scanned Copy of GSTIN Registration and latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B i.e. latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B and read circular issued by finance deptt. Vide his No:-FD-CODE/371/2021-02, Dated:-24-02-2023

16. The bidder at his own responsibility and risk should visit and examine the site of work and its surroundings before submission of bid.

17. All the documents relating to the bid shall be in English language.

18. Bidder must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including tender documents fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid. No document(s) which has/have not been uploaded shall be entertained in the form of hard copy. However, in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.

1. The Structural Drawings/Architectural Drawings and other Service Drawings need to be vetted/proof Checked by DIQC/NITSrinagar.

No:-R&B/Sbl/23/2974-80.
Dated:-16-09-2023.

Sd./
Camp Clerk

Sd./
Draftsman

Sd./
Executive Engineer
R&B Division Sumbal

DIPK-8982-23
DT: 16/09/2023

Reviving Local Languages

A Lifeline for Chenab Valley's Fading Heritage and Culture

Anzer Ayoob

Chenab Valley, once a vibrant tapestry of languages, cultures, and traditions, is now at a crossroads. The rich linguistic diversity that once defined this region is slowly fading into obscurity. The erosion of local languages in the Chenab Valley threatens not just its linguistic heritage but also its unique cultural tapestry. In this digital age, the preservation and revival of these local languages are not merely about words but are vital for safeguarding the valley's identity.

A Cultural Melting Pot

The Chenab Valley, nestled in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, is a microcosm of India's diverse heritage. Home to a plethora of languages including Bhaderwahi, Sarazi, Pogli, Kishtwari, Padri, Bhalessi, and more, it embodies the essence of cultural richness. These languages are not just mediums of communication; they are the keys to understanding the unique history, folklore, and traditions of the region.

However, the neglect of these languages over the years has led to their decline. The official recognition of only a handful of languages in the Jammu and Kashmir Official Languages Bill, 2020, demonstrates the disconnect between the government and the linguistic diversity of the region. This negligence has contributed to the fading of Chenab Valley's culture.

The Power of Language

Language, often underestimated as a mere tool for communication, holds within it the essence of a community's history, values, and identity. In the case of the Chenab Valley, local languages are not just a medium of everyday conversation; they are the conduits through which the region's intricate tapestry of culture and tradition has been woven over centuries. These languages encapsulate the wisdom of generations, the stories of heroes and heroines, and the collective memory of its people.

At its core, language is a vessel for the transmission of knowledge. The unique vocabulary, idioms, and expressions in Chenab Valley's local languages contain insights into the environment, traditions, and beliefs of the region. They encode the indigenous knowledge of agriculture, animal husbandry, and natural remedies, allowing for a harmonious coexistence with the Valley's challenging terrain. These languages are the bridge between past and present, enabling each generation to inherit the wisdom and experiences of their forebears.

Beyond this, language serves as a powerful tool for preserving cultural nuances and narratives. The Chenab Valley's local languages are repositories of folklore, myths, and legends that convey the region's distinct identity. They give voice to the stories of resilience, love, and adventure that have been cherished for generations. Language is the thread that stitches together the cultural fabric of the Valley, holding its diverse communities and their narratives in a harmonious embrace.

Cultural Resurgence Through Language

The resurgence of local languages in the Chenab Valley holds the promise of a profound cultural revival. Language, in this context, is more than a means of communication; it's the vessel that carries the collective memory of the region's people. These languages have been the age-old custodians of folk tales, legends, and historical narratives that are deeply entwined



“The promotion of local languages in the Chenab Valley can serve as a powerful catalyst for economic growth and prosperity in the region. At its core, this endeavor offers a multifaceted approach to uplift the local economy

with the Chenab Valley's identity.

First and foremost, language serves as a bridge across generations. The revival of local languages allows older generations to pass down their stories, traditions, and wisdom to the youth. It becomes a conduit through which the oral histories, myths, and rituals that once defined the Chenab Valley can be preserved and cherished. As young minds engage with their native tongues, they are not merely learning words; they are immersing themselves in the vibrant tapestry of their culture.

Moreover, language is the lifeblood of artistic expression. Chenab Valley's local languages are intricately connected to its traditional art forms, music, and literature. By reviving these languages, the region can breathe new life into its cultural heritage. It's through these languages that songs are sung, stories are told, and poems are recited. The resurgence of local languages can inspire a renaissance of creativity, giving birth to new artistic expressions that draw from the deep well of tradition.

Lastly, local languages foster a sense of belonging and identity. They provide a unique code of communication that binds communities together. When people converse in their mother tongue, it's more than just words; it's a shared experience that strengthens social bonds. In the Chenab Valley, the revival of these languages can bring communities closer, uniting them in their efforts to preserve their cultural legacy. It creates a sense of pride and ownership over their linguistic heritage, encouraging people to actively participate in its revival.

Bridge to Economic Prosperity

The promotion of local languages in the Chenab Valley can serve as a powerful catalyst

for economic growth and prosperity in the region. At its core, this endeavor offers a multifaceted approach to uplift the local economy.

Firstly, by encouraging the development and recognition of local literature, music, and art, the region can tap into its unique cultural assets. Traditional art forms, indigenous music, and folk literature are not only integral to the identity of the Chenab Valley but also have the potential to attract cultural enthusiasts and tourists. This can lead to the establishment of cultural tourism as a thriving industry, creating job opportunities in hospitality, entertainment, and related sectors. When tourists are drawn to the valley's distinct cultural offerings, they contribute to its local economy by patronizing local businesses, staying in local accommodations, and purchasing traditional crafts.

Secondly, the preservation and promotion of local languages can foster a sense of community and local pride. When people are encouraged to speak and celebrate their native languages, they are more likely to feel connected to their roots and traditions. This sense of belonging can stimulate a deeper engagement with local businesses and products. Supporting local enterprises becomes an act of cultural preservation and a means of sustaining the region's distinct way of life. As a result, small businesses, artisans, and craftsmen can flourish, and their products can gain recognition both locally and beyond.

Lastly, the use of local languages in education and communication can empower individuals in the Chenab Valley, particularly the youth. When children have the opportunity to learn in their mother tongue, their educational outcomes often improve, leading to a more skilled and knowledgeable workforce. This, in turn, can attract investments and industries that value a well-educated local workforce. Fur-

thermore, when local languages are integrated into formal communication, individuals are better equipped to participate in the broader economy. They can access information, job opportunities, and government services more effectively, reducing barriers to economic progress.

Digital Renaissance

In an era dominated by the internet and digital technology, the preservation of local languages in the Chenab Valley is crucial for several compelling reasons. Firstly, the digital realm is where a significant portion of modern communication, learning, and information-sharing takes place. By ensuring that digital content is accessible in local languages, we bridge the gap between the traditional and the contemporary, allowing the younger generation to connect with their heritage in a medium they are familiar with.

Digital platforms, including social media, e-commerce, and educational websites, have become integral parts of daily life. For the Chenab Valley's local languages to thrive, they must find a presence in this digital landscape. This means not only creating content in these languages but also developing user-friendly interfaces and tools that facilitate communication and engagement in local languages. It's about making sure that when someone accesses a website or a mobile application, they can do so comfortably in their native tongue, ensuring that language is not a barrier to benefiting from the digital world.

Moreover, the digital arena provides an opportunity for the Chenab Valley's local languages to reach a wider audience. By sharing their unique linguistic and cultural heritage online, the valley can showcase its distinct identity to the world. This, in turn, can attract cultural enthusiasts, researchers, and tourists who are interested in exploring the region's rich history and traditions. In essence, the digital renaissance of local languages in the Chenab Valley is not just about preservation; it's also about leveraging technology to propel these languages into the global spotlight, fostering a deeper appreciation for the region's cultural diversity.

The Way Forward

To secure the future of Chenab Valley's linguistic and cultural heritage, a concerted effort is needed. Government initiatives, community involvement, and educational reforms must converge to promote and preserve the local languages. Language revitalization programs, digital content in regional languages, and cultural festivals can all play pivotal roles.

Chenab Valley's local languages are not just words; they are the vessels of a rich and vibrant history. Their preservation is an investment in the valley's identity and a tribute to the resilience of its people. It is a choice to celebrate diversity and ensure that the tapestry of Chenab Valley's culture continues to thrive in the years to come.

In the preservation of these languages, we find the key to saving not just words but a cultural heritage that is at risk of slipping away forever.

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

The author Anzer Ayoob is a journalist and founder of The Chenab Times, a news outlet and president of Chenab Times Foundation, a registered trust focused on art, culture and public grievances

G20 Is In Need Of Genuine Reform

M. K. BHADRAKUMAR

India being the host country, the triumphant tom-tomming that G20 summit on September 9-10 was a "success" is both understandable and probably justifiable. Certainly, Indian diplomacy was in full cry. The negotiation of the G20 Declaration is no mean achievement in a highly polarised environment.

That said, in a forward-looking perspective, the geopolitical factors that were at work in the Delhi summit will continue to remain the critical determinants for the G20's future as a format to forge new directions in economic strategies. In a world torn apart, many imponderables remain.

The geopolitical factors can be attributed largely to the fact that the G20 summit took place at an inflection point in the Ukraine war, an event that is, like the tip of an iceberg, a manifestation of the tensions building up between the Western powers and Russia in the post-cold war era.

The heart of the matter is that the Cold War ended through negotiations but the new era was not anchored in any peace treaty. The void created drift and anomalies — and security being indivisible, tensions began appearing as the NATO embarked on an expansion eastward into the former Warsaw

Pact territories in the late 1990s.

With great prescience, George Kennan, the choreographer of Cold War strategies, forewarned that the Bill Clinton administration, seized of the "unipolar moment," was making a grave mistake, as Russia would feel threatened by NATO expansion, which would inexorably complicate the West's relations with Russia for a long, long time to come.

But NATO kept expanding and slouching toward Russia's western borders in an arc of encirclement. It was an unspoken secret that Ukraine was set to become ultimately the battleground where the titanic forces would clash.

Predictably, following the regime change in Ukraine backed by the West in 2014, an anti-Russian regime was installed in Kiev and the NATO embarked on a military build-up in that country alongside a concerted plan to induct it into the western alliance system.

Suffice to say, the "consensus" evolved at the G20 summit last week regarding Ukraine war is, in reality, a passing moment in the geopolitical struggle between the US and Russia, as embedded within it is the existential crisis Russia faces.

There is no shred of evidence that the US is willing to concede the legitimacy of Russia's defence and security interests or to give up its notions of exceptionalism and world hegemony. If anything, a

very turbulent period lies ahead. Therefore, do not exaggerate the happy tidings out of the Delhi summit, much as one may savour the moment.

Washington's climbdown at the summit regarding Ukraine has been both a creative response to the mediatory efforts by the three BRICS countries — South Africa, India and Brazil — as much as, if not more, in its self-interest to avert isolation from the Global South.

Evidently, while Moscow is profusely complimenting India and Modi, the opposite is the case in the western opinion where the compromise on Ukraine has not gone down well at all. The British newspaper Financial Times, which is wired into government thinking, has written that Delhi Declaration refers only to the "war in Ukraine," a formulation that supporters of Kiev such as the US and NATO allies have previously rejected, as it implies both sides are equally complicit, and "called for a 'just and durable peace in Ukraine' but did not explicitly link that demand to the importance of Ukraine's territorial integrity."

Indeed, feelings are running high and, no doubt, as the Ukraine war enters the next brutal phase, they will boil over at the prospect of a Russian victory.

Again, there is no question that the West feels challenged by the dramatic surge of BRICS — more to the point, the group's seductive appeal among the developing countries, the so-called Global South,

unnerves the West.

The West can never hope to gain entry into the BRICS tent, either. Meanwhile, the BRICS is moving with determination in the direction of replacing the international trading system which provided underpinning for western hegemony. The US' weaponisation of sanctions — and the seizure of Russian reserves arbitrarily — has created misgivings in the minds of many nations.

Plainly put, the US has forgotten its solemn promise when dollar replaced gold as the reserves in the early 1970s that its currency will be freely accessible for all countries. Today, the US turned that promise upside down and exploits dollar's primacy to print the currency as much as it wants and live beyond its means.

The growing trend is toward trading in local currencies, bypassing dollar. The BRICS is expected to accelerate these shifts. Make no mistake, sooner or later, BRICS may work on an alternative currency to replace dollar.

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

From Extravagance to Essence: Rediscovering Kashmiri Weddings

Are we defined by the extravagance of our celebrations or the depth of our connections?

Aubaid Ahmad Akhoun

"And those who, when they spend, are neither extravagant nor niggardly but hold a just balance between those (extremes)." - Quran, 25:67

As the summer sun relinquishes its fiery grip on the beautiful valleys of Kashmir, a unique trend has emerged this year. With scorching temperatures making traditional summer weddings a challenge, many Kashmiri families have wisely chosen to delay their marriage ceremonies, opting instead for the cooler months of September to November. This shift not only brings respite from the heat but also offers a valuable lesson in celebrating love and togetherness with simplicity.

Kashmir, often described as "Paradise on Earth," has long been renowned for its breathtaking landscapes, vibrant culture, and warm hospitality. The grandeur of Kashmiri weddings, with their rich traditions, elaborate rituals, and opulent feasts, is equally well-known. However, the soaring temperatures in recent summers have taken their toll, making these celebrations more about extravagance than the love and unity they represent.

This change in wedding timing provides a timely opportunity to reflect on the essence of marriage ceremonies. The common message to the public, both in Kashmir and beyond, should resonate with the idea of embracing simplicity and shunning extravagance.

"Indeed, Allah loves not those who are self-deluding and boastful." - Quran, 4:36

Religious Teachings

Incorporating the wisdom of religious texts into our plea for simplicity in Kashmiri weddings, we find strong support for this noble cause:

Islamic Perspective

In Islam, simplicity is highly regarded, and extravagant spending is discouraged. The Quran mentions moderation and avoiding excessiveness in spending, as it encourages Muslims to give to those in need and to prioritize helping others over lavish expenditures (Quran 7:31).



"The most blessed marriage is the one with the least expenses." - Prophet Muhammad (Al-Mu'jam al-Awsat)

Hindu Perspective

Hinduism, with its diverse traditions, also promotes simplicity in weddings. The ancient scriptures, such as the Manusmriti and the Bhagavad Gita, stress the significance of modesty and frugality. The Bhagavad Gita, for instance, teaches detachment from material possessions and the value of inner contentment.

Sikh Perspective

Sikhism, founded on the principles of equality, humility, and selflessness, advocates for simple and meaningful ceremonies. The Guru Granth Sahib, the holy scripture of Sikhism, emphasizes

the importance of humility and avoiding extravagance.

By aligning our plea for simplicity in Kashmiri weddings with these religious teachings, we honor our faith, promote social harmony, and contribute to the well-being of our community.

Additional Benefits for the Community:

Financial Stability: Extravagant weddings often result in financial burdens not only for the immediate families but also for the community at large, diverting resources from more essential needs.

Community Development: By practicing frugality in weddings, families can allocate resources toward community development initiatives such as education, healthcare, and infrastructure.

Social Equality: Extravagant weddings can inadvertently create disparities within the community. Encouraging modest weddings fosters social equality, where all members can participate equally.

Cultural Preservation: Simplifying weddings better preserves cultural aspects, ensuring they are passed down to future generations intact.

Environmental Responsibility: A focus on eco-friendly weddings aligns with the global movement toward sustainability, contributing to a cleaner and healthier environment for everyone.

Social Cohesion: Shared values of simplicity in weddings create stronger bonds among community members, enhancing social cohesion and harmony.

Education and Empowerment: Resources saved from extravagant weddings can be channeled into educational programs, scholarships, and skill development initiatives, empowering the youth.

Philanthropy and Charity: Wedding celebrations can be an opportunity for charitable acts, supporting local charities or less fortunate community members in need.

Mental Health and Well-being: Simplifying weddings reduces stress and anxiety associated with planning extravagant events, leading to happier and more productive individuals.

Setting a Positive Example: Prominent community members choosing simplicity set a positive example for others to follow, fostering a culture of responsible celebration.

Tailpiece

In conclusion, embracing simplicity in weddings benefits not only individual families but the entire community. By making conscious choices to avoid extravagance, we pave the way for a stronger, more united, and prosperous community that can collectively address its challenges and build a brighter future for all.

"Simplicity is the keynote of all true elegance." - Coco Chanel

The message is clear: It's time to rekindle the true spirit of Kashmiri weddings by making them more about love, togetherness, and shared moments of joy. Let us cherish the memories we create, not the extravagance we display. In doing so, we will pave the way for a brighter future filled with meaningful and sustainable celebrations.

Aubaid Ahmad Akhoun is a renowned Columnist & Motivational Speaker and an Associate Editor of the Weekly Publication 'Education Quill'. He currently serves as the Senior EDP Head at DD Target PMT Kashmir, a reputable institute renowned for its coaching classes in the medical/JEE/Foundation Classes

9 Of The Most Successful People Share Their Reading Habits

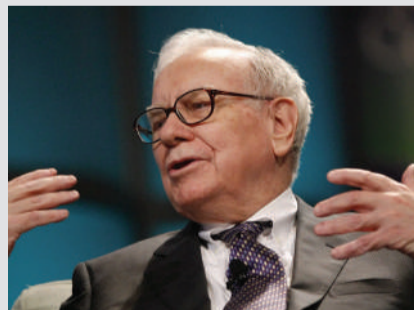
Chris Weller

Most successful people credit reading, in some capacity, as a factor in their success.

A young Elon Musk read for 10 hours each day before growing up to become Tesla CEO. These days, former Microsoft CEO Bill Gates reads a new book every week.

Here's how some of their peers incorporate reading into their own lives.

Warren Buffett



The Berkshire Hathaway magnate reportedly spends five to six hours a day reading five different newspapers.

He also combs through 500 pages of financial documents and recommends prospective investors do the same.

"That's how knowledge works," he recently told an investment class at Columbia University. "It builds up, like compound interest. All of you can do it, but I guarantee not many of you will do it."

Bill Gates

The former Microsoft CEO has attested to reading 50 books a year, or roughly one book a week.



Most of the books are non-fiction dealing with public health, disease, engineering, business, and science.

Every now and then he'll breeze through a novel (and sometimes in one sitting late into the night). But primarily the books serve Gates' interest in learning more about the world he inhabits.

Mark Zuckerberg



Facebook Founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg speaks on stage during the annual Facebook F8 developers conference in San Jose, California, U.S., April 18, 2017. In 2015, the Facebook CEO vowed to read one book every other week "with an emphasis on learning about different cultures,

beliefs, histories and technologies," he wrote in a Facebook post.

"Books allow you to fully explore a topic and immerse yourself in a deeper way than most media today," he wrote. "I'm looking forward to shifting more of my media diet towards reading books."

Oprah Winfrey



The most successful people all tend to have one thing in common: They read. Amazon

Since 1996, the veteran talk-show host has been advising her viewers' reading habits with Oprah's Book Club. Winfrey has called reading "her personal path to freedom."

"Books allowed me to see a world beyond the front porch of my grandmother's shotgun house," she said in her acceptance speech for the 2004 United Nations Humanitarian Awards, adding that books gave her "the power to see possibilities beyond what was allowed at the time."

Mark Cuban

Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban is a vocal supporter of treating business like a sport, which means he looks for the



competitive edge however he can.

Often, that means reading for three hours every day, just to learn more about the industries he works in. Cuban has said this worked wonders at the start of his career.

"Everything I read was public," he wrote in his blog's Success and Motivation Series. "Anyone could buy the same books and magazines. The same information was available to anyone who wanted it. Turns out most people didn't want it."

David Rubenstein



Carlyle Group co-founder and Managing Director David Rubenstein REUTERS/Fred Prouser Rubenstein, billionaire cofounder of the private equity firm The Carlyle Group, reportedly reads up to eight newspapers a day and six books a week.

The philanthropist chalks up his extraordinary ability to a laserlike sense of focus.

"From early on, I've been pretty driven," he told The Baltimore Sun in 2010.

Phil Knight



According to The New York Times, the Nike founder kept the library behind his executive office so sacred that anyone who entered had to remove their shoes and bow.

When asked by the Times in 2007 if he'd preserved the library after stepping down as CEO three years prior, Knight responded with incredulity.

"Of course the library still exists," he said. "I'm always learning."

Elon Musk

Long before he became the CEO of Tesla, and even before he cofounded PayPal, a young Elon Musk was reading science-fiction novels for up to 10 hours a day.

He also reportedly read through the entire Encyclopedia Britannica when he was 9 years old.

He still credits a love of books for his vast knowledge about rockets. When asked how he knew so much about them, he said "I read a lot of books."

Best, Most Creative Ideas Came From Humans, While Chatbots More Creative Than Average Human: Study

Press Trust Of India

The best, most creative ideas came from humans, said researchers who analysed responses of humans and ChatGPT in a creative task.

Artificial intelligence (AI)-based chatbots might, however, outperform the average human at creative thinking, the researchers said in their study published in the journal Scientific Reports.

They found that while the humans' ideas were wide-ranging, and included the best and the worst from the entire output, AI models' ideas were consistently better than the average human creative ideas.

The results also suggested that generating creative ideas may not be a feature unique to conscious human beings, their study said.

For the study, the researchers from Finland and Norway used the Alternate Uses Test (AUT), whereby the test-takers, including AI-chatbots ChatGPT-3, ChatGPT-4 and Copy.AI, were asked to imagine uncommon and creative utilities, including silly and strange ones, for everyday objects such as "rope", "box", "pencil" and "candle".

AUT is a widely used measure in assessing divergent thinking, studied to play a role in activities like brainstorming and mind-mapping and thought to be key to creativity.

"Divergent thinking tests are perhaps the most widely recognised tools for gauging everyday creativity. They challenge participants to generate a variety of ideas in reaction to given stimuli, which can be either visual or verbal," Simone Grassini, the study's corresponding author, told PTI in an email.

The team recruited 256 participants aged 19-40 years, 44 of whom were students. Each subject's creative output was finally scored based on the count of ideas (fluency), flexibility in uses suggested, originality and elaboration (level of detail in responses).

The clearest weakness in the humans' performance lay in the relatively high number of low-quality ideas, possibly arising due to failures in their executive functions, the study said of its human subjective ratings results, according to which, ChatGPT-4's performance was adjudged the most superior.

Executive functions involve selecting behaviours enabling one to achieve a chosen goal, which here was generating creative ideas, and include attentional control, cognitive inhibition and flexibility and working memory.

Difficulty in maintaining task goals in their working memory, for example, or in inhibiting ideation from closely-related concepts and in switching attention to distantly related concepts could be potentially linked to flexible and highly connected semantic networks, helping make associations between different concepts in the brain's stored knowledge.

The speed of AI models in accessing large data structures may explain their higher-than-average performance, even though it is not clear how semantic networks are represented in their memory, the researchers said.

"It is difficult to pinpoint specific mechanisms," said Grassini, who referred to the internal functioning of AI models as a "black box".

"We could, however, hypothesise that either the model

is linked to flexible and highly connected semantic networks, helping make associations between different concepts in the brain's stored knowledge.

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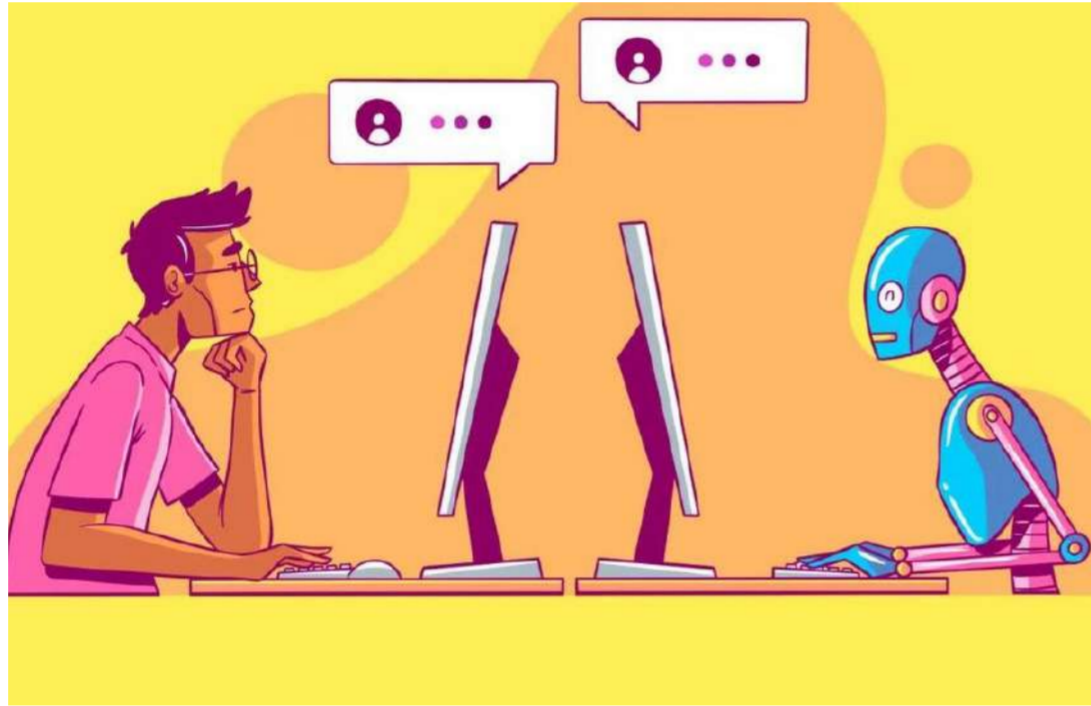
"We could, however, hypothesise that either the model

cepts for ideation, the authors said in their study.

Engaging in divergent thinking is known to activate brain regions involved in organising and selecting creative ideas from a range of concepts, in recognising and creating distant semantic associations and in retrieval and maintenance of these creative ideas, including their long-term storage.

"There also seems to be a connection between divergent thinking and the dopaminergic system," said Grassini.

The study said that understanding how AI systems and humans interpret, understand, and articulate language could



reasons for failure, the researchers said.

Motivational and emotional factors cannot be ignored in causing variations in performance, which were absent in the chatbots' responses as they executed the assigned task always at the best of their capacities, they said.

Further, the study's semantic distance results found that chatbots performed better than the average human, even as they did not consistently outperform humans' best performance.

According to associative theories of creativity, creativity

has learnt optimal responses from some document, like training material it found on the internet, or that it has generated answers as an interpretation of our query.

"In this case, we could define that such type of 'creativity' expressed by the AI-model is some sort of emerging quality of its functioning," said Grassini, also an associate professor of psychology, University of Bergen, Norway.

Thus, highly creative individuals, likely possessing flexible semantic networks, can still compete with AI in triggering distant, weakly related con-

potentially bridge the gap between machine efficiency and human intuition.

Future research could explore how AI could be leveraged in bolstering human creativity, thereby fostering a close interaction between technology and human potential, the study said.

"It's reasonable to anticipate that as AI models continue to evolve, their ability to exhibit high levels of creativity, as demonstrated in such tests, will be crucial for showcasing diverse forms of creative expression," said Grassini

Scholarships This Week

Kashmir Observer in association with Buddy4Study.com presents scholarships available for the meritorious students of Jammu and Kashmir.

Scholarship Name

Reliance Foundation Undergraduate Scholarships 2023-24

Description: The Reliance Foundation Undergraduate Scholarships aim to support meritorious students from all corners of the country in pursuing their undergraduate education. This empowers them to continue their studies, become successful professionals, and realize their dreams, unlocking their potential to uplift themselves and their communities and contribute towards India's future socio-economic development.

Eligibility: Students must be enrolled in the first year of a full-time undergraduate (UG) degree in any stream at a recognised Indian institute.

Must have passed class 12 with a minimum of 60% marks

The annual household income should be up to INR 15,00,000 (preference will be given to those students whose family income is less than INR 2,50,000)

Open for resident Indian citizens only. Aptitude test is mandatory.

Prizes & Rewards: Up to INR 2,00,000 over the duration of the degree
Last Date to Apply: 15-10-2023
Application mode:

Online applications only
Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/RFS8

Scholarship Name

Medhaavi Engineering Scholarship Program 2023-24

Description: Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) is offering financial assistance to underprivileged students pursuing engineering courses at specified 20 NITs across India and encouraging them to pursue their higher studies, gain self-confidence, achieve independence, and become employable.

Eligibility: Students enrolling in the 1st year of undergraduate engineering courses in the academic year 2023-24 at any of the specified 20 NITs across India are eligible. Applicants must have scored at least 55% marks in Class 12 examination. The annual family income of the applicants should be less than INR 8 lakh from all sources.

Prizes & Rewards: One-time fixed scholarship of INR 30,000

Last Date to Apply: 30-09-2023

Application mode: Online applications only
Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/BPCL51

Government of Jammu & Kashmir Directorate Of Floriculture (G&P) Department Kashmir

Tel-0194-2474234 Fax -2482032 – email: - kashflori@rediffmail.com

GIST of e- Tender Notice No. 28 of 2023
Dated: -14/09/2023

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K UT, e-tender is invited from interested bidders for **Outsourcing of Entry Ticketing System of Eidgah Park, Srinagar** of Floriculture Department Kashmir as per details given below: -

The bidders have to quote their bid amount in the concerned BOQ: -

S.No.	Period of contract	Reserve Bid	Value of security deposit @ 10% of Reserve bid	Cost of tender document
1.	(01) One year from the date of award of contract	Rs.3,68,000.00	Rs.36,800.00	Rs.500.00 in the shape of e-challan

The bidding document(s) consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, terms and conditions and other details can be seen/downloaded through the Departmental website www.dofkashmir.com/www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of date given below:-

1.	Period of downloading of bidding document	15.09.2023 from 03:00 PM to 04.10.2023 up to 02:00 PM
2.	Bid submission Start Date	15.09.2023 from 03:30 PM
3.	Bid submission End date	04.10.2023 up to 02:00 PM
4.	Date and time of Opening of Tenders (Online)	07.10.2023 at 02:00 PM

In case of any eventuality, the date of opening will be considered on any other convenient working day.

DIPK-8928/23
dated: 16-09-2023

Sd/-
Accounts Officer,
(Member Secretary)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR Office Of The Headmaster Government Girls High School Zaindar Mohalla Srinagar

Subject: Engagement/Hiring of Helpers/AAYAs under support at Pre-Primary (ECCE) for the for the year 2023-24.
Reference: Directorate of Samagra Shiksha, J&K's No: Edu/PP/DS/ECCE/Helpers/1861-1905/2023-24 Dated: 06/06/2023 & Chief Education Officer Srinagar's Endorsement No:CEO/Sgr/Sms/2187/23 Dated: 07-06/2023.

NOTICE

Applications on plain paper are invited for engagement / hiring of **Helpers / AAYAs** under Early Childhood Care & Education (ECCE) in this school. Applications with documentary proof viz. Gender, Domicile of the particular area where this school is located, BPL category certificate, fitness certificate, qualification certificate, certificate regarding Para 2 of section -C etc. (issued by the competent authority) should reach office of the undersigned on or before 20-09-2023 up to 4.30 P.M.

A. NATURE OF DEPLOYMENT:

- The deployment of **Helper / AAYA** shall be purely terminus and shall start from the date they are engaged / hired and shall conclude with the end of academic session. It can be extended subject to the performance and the approval of funds from the Ministry of Education, Government of India in the particular component. **Affidavit from 1st Class Magistrate shall have to be produced by the candidate at the time of joining for not claiming for permanent absorption at any stage.**
- All decisions of the funding agency (**Samagra Shiksha, J&K under the aegis of School Education Department**) shall be implemented in this regard.

B. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA OF HELPER / AAYA:

- Only female candidate can apply.
- The applicant must be domicile of the ward where approved school is located.
- Applicant must be belonging to BPL (Below Poverty Line) category.
- The candidate must be physically/mentally fit to carry out her job.

C. QUALIFICATION / PREFERENCE:

- Minimum Qualification of a **Helper / AAYA**: 8th Class passed. In case there is no eligible candidate available in Ward, the candidate with lesser qualification shall be considered.
- Preference shall be given to candidates from BPL Category in below mentioned order of priority:**
 - Widow
 - Divorced
 - Orphan
 - Any candidate among poorest of the poor in the ward.

D. Age:

- The age of a candidate must be between 18-45 years as on 1st of January of the deployment year.

E. Honorarium:

- Rs. 5,000/- (Five thousand only) per month, which may vary as per the approval in the subsequent year in PAB of Samagra Shiksha.

F. TOTAL NON-AVAILABILITY OF ELIGIBLE CANDIDATE:

- In case of total non-availability of the candidate, as mentioned under C & D sections above, the candidate from the Municipal Committee (concerned) will be considered / engaged.

G. FINALIZATION OF SELECTION PROCESS:

- In case of tie-up of the selection of candidates for **Helper**, the preference shall be given to the elder candidate (i.e. Candidate with more age shall be considered).
- The name of the selected **AAYA / Helper** shall be displayed on the Notice Board of the school/Municipal Ward/CEO Office.

H. APPEAL:

- If anybody feels aggrieved with selection of **Helper / AAYA**, an appeal shall be referred to the Chief Education Officer, Srinagar within period of 15 days from selection. 2nd Appeal, if any, may be filed before the Director, School Education, Kashmir.

I. PREMATURE TERMINATION:

- In case of any misconduct, misbehaviour and poor performance while discharging duty by a **Helper / AAYA**, as noticed/reported, the concerned Head of Institution (HOI) shall have the right to terminate the services of **Helper / AAYA** in consultation with the Municipal Ward with due adherence to the prescribed procedures, as the case may be. The replacement shall be made within 7 days.

J. JOB CHART OF HELPER / AAYA:

- The **Helpers / AAYAs** for pre-primary sections of Govt. Schools shall have to perform below mentioned suggestive tasks:
 - Escorting the children at their arrival, departure, between activities (for example while moving to outdoor areas, play ground and toilet etc).
 - Maintaining the hygiene of the children—Toileting, hand washing, cleanliness of children etc.
 - Helping the teacher in preparing class for activities, like setting up material, making arrangements for day to day activities.
 - Assisting the children in taking food under the supervision of teacher, under PM POSHAN (MDM).
 - Any other assignment given by HOI for proper care of children.

(HEADMASTER)
Government Girls Hgh School
Zaindar Mohalla Srinagar

No: GHS/Z/961

DIPK-8957/23

dated: 16-09-2023

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR UT Office Of The Executive Engineer JSD (PHE) Rural Water Supply Division, Ganderbal/Sgr. H.q: Cheki-Duderhama Ganderbal.

e – mail: pherwsd@gmail.com, Phone/Fax: 0194 – 2416292,

NOTICE INVITING e – TENDERS:

GIST OF FRESH e – NIT No - 36/J5-PHE/RWSD/Civil of 2023-24

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of UT of J&K e-tenders (Two cover System) are invited on **TURK KEY** basis from "A" Class - Reputed and resourceful contractors' Firms/Companies/Joint Venture of repute in PWD or Equivalent in CPWD Railways and other state Governments, which should be uploaded on the Procurement e- web portal <http://www.jktenders.gov.in> up to last bidding date i.e. 09.10.2023 up to 02:00 PM for the subject work(s) referred below to be received by the Executive Engineer JS-PHE RWS Division Ganderbal/Sgr (HQ: Cheki Duderhama Ganderbal) and as per the details mentioned in this tender notification and to whom all the terms and conditions of detailed e-NIT / Tender Documents/ PWD Form No- 25 double are accepted. The detailed tender document and Specifications etc. can be downloaded on the e-procurement Portal <http://www.jktenders.gov.in>. The cost of tender documents (Non-refundable/Non-Transferable) should be in the shape of e-Challan or Treasury Challan/Receipt in favour of the Executive Engineer JS-PHE Rural Water Supply Division, Ganderbal/Sgr (HQ: Cheki Duderhama Ganderbal)

S. No	Name of Work with Package No.	Tendered Cost including all taxes (Rs in lacs.)	Cost of documents (envelop in Rs)	Estimate Money Deposit (in Rupee) (in Rupee) (in Rupee)	Time of completion	Tender Cost	Time and Date of opening of tenders (online/technical)	Class of contractor
01	Design, Construction, successful testing & Commissioning of 0.04 MGD Slow Sand Filtration Plant, 0.20 Lacs gallons capacity RCC S.R. Sump cum Pump House, Pre-settling Tank, Anchor Blocks, Sluice Chamber, Laying/Filling of D/GI mains/Sub mains, distribution system and providing, fitting, installation, testing and successful commissioning of electric mechanical component for WSS Banjar Bani Bela Wuzian under CAPEx and maintenance for a period of One year only on Turnkey Basis including conducting complete necessary soil tests as required of selected site, as per the Parameters/ Specification mentioned in the tender documents. Architectural aesthetic shall also be kept in consideration to make the structures appealing	₹140.07 lacs	₹1500/-	₹421 Lacs	07 months	₹	09.10.2023 up to 02:00 PM	"A" Class - Reputed and resourceful contractors of Equipment in CPWD Railways and other state Governments.

Head of Accounts - CAPEX:

Position of Funds: - Available

The tendering authority is the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) RWS Division Ganderbal/Sgr

The awarding authority is the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) RWS Division Ganderbal/Sgr

The Bidding documents and other details can be downloaded from the website: www.jktenders.gov.in

From 15.09.2023 (02:00 p.m.) upto 09.10.2023 (02:00 p.m.)

IL GENERAL CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACT

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings

(If any), Book of quantities (B.O.Q) Set of terms, conditions of contract and other details can be seen / downloaded from the website: www.jktenders.gov.in As per schedule of dates given below

	15.09.2023
01	Date of Publishing of Tender Notice
02	Date of downloading of bidding documents
03	Bid Submission Start date
04	Date of Pre-bid meeting
05	Last date of submission of bid Queries
06	Bid Submission and date
07	Date & time of opening Bids (Technical Cover)

Bids must be accompanied by bid security viz. Earnest Money in shape of CDR/EDR and Treasury Receipt (mentioning therein the NIT No. S.No. of work and Advertised Cost as per the NIT) as cost of Tender Document under M.H. 0215 to be placed in favour of the Executive Engineer JS-PHE RWS Division Ganderbal/Sgr (HQ: Cheki Duderhama Ganderbal) as specified in the table (I) (Page-1) & all other requisite documents mentioned in the Detailed / Uploaded Tender document of the work. Bids will be opened in the Office of the Executive Engineer JS-PHE Rural Water Supply Division, Ganderbal/Sgr (HQ: Cheki Duderhama Ganderbal) on 10.10.2023 at 11:30 AM. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same

No: - JS-PHE/RWSD/curr./ 7756 - 80,
DIPK-8909/23 dated: 16-09-2023

Sd/
Er. Samullah Baigh
Executive Engineer, JS (PHE) Deptt.
RWS Division Ganderbal/Sgr.

J&K Bank's Chief Financial Officer receives Best CFO Award of the Year 2023

An Acknowledgement Of The Remarkable Turnaround In The Bank's Financial Performance: MD & CEO

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: As a significant recognition of consistently improving financial metrics of J&K Bank, Dalal Street Investment Journal (DSIJ) has awarded its CFO Pratik D. Punjabi as the Best Performing CFO for the FY 2023 in the (Small Cap) category of the banks. Pertinently, DSIJ is one of the renowned equity research and capital investment publications of the country.

Attributing the award to the various transformational initiatives taken during the last couple of years, the Bank's MD & CEO Baldev Prakash said, "This award is an acknowledgement of the remarkable turnaround in the Bank's financial performance through various transformational and strategic initiatives implemented successfully by the Bank-staff ushering in a new era of financial growth and stability for the



Bank."

"Besides being a strong recognition of the leadership skills of Mr Pratik D Punjabi, it also reflects an appreciation for the Bank's commitment towards transparency and ethical financial practices", he added.

Notably, based on the Bank's stellar performance in FYE 2023, Pratik D. Punjabi received the award from DSIJ for the FY 2023 that witnessed the Bank's all-time high Net profit, improved ROA and ROE, reduced cost-to-income ratio besides decadal low GNPA and NNPA among other strong financial parameters resulting in vastly improved shareholder value.

J&K Requires Start-Up Push To Change 'Sarkari Naukri' Mindset Among Youth: Union Minister



Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Union Minister Jitendra Singh on Saturday said Jammu and Kashmir requires a push for start-ups to change the "sarkari naukri" mindset of the youth.

"Amid a startup revolution across the country, the 'sarkari naukri' (government job) mindset of the Jammu and Kashmir youth could prove to be an impediment," he said.

Addressing a two-day youth conclave organised by the Indian Institute Of Integrative Medicine after its inauguration, Singh said the successful launch of Chandrayaan-3 and Aditya L-1 has sparked global aspirations among Indian students.

"...this generation has aspirations in abundance and avenues in tons, with numerous opportunities knocking at their doors in the form of start-ups which are now the engine of economic growth," the minister said.

Hailing the new National Education Policy as one of the revolutionary steps taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Singh said it supple-

ments the start-up ecosystem, promises new careers and entrepreneurship opportunities for students and the youth.

He said the provision of multiple entry and exit options is something to be cherished as this academic flexibility will have a positive impact on students seeking to avail different career opportunities at different times depending upon their intrinsic learning and inherent aptitude.

Noting that one of the objectives of the policy is delinking degrees from education, Singh said linking degrees with education has taken a heavy toll on the education system and society as well.

"One of the fallouts has been an increasing number of educated unemployed," he said.

In the nine years of the Narendra Modi government, the minister said, apart from formal jobs, lakhs of opportunities and avenues have been created outside the government sector for the youth of the country, be it start-up policy, Mudra Scheme or PM SVANidhi.

"This is all evident now

that with the unlocking of the space sector by the prime minister in June 2020, the number of space start-ups sky-rocketed from merely four to 150 and most of them being led by science students, researchers and entrepreneurs," he said.

Singh said there were just around 350 start-ups before 2014, but after Modi gave the clarion call from the ramparts of the Red Fort in his Independence Day address and after rolling out a special start-up scheme in 2016, there has been a quantum jump with over 1.25 lakh start-ups now with more than 110 unicorns.

"Similarly, in the biotech sector, from 50 odd start-ups in 2014, we now have 6,000 start-ups," he said.

IIM Director Zabeer Ahmad said the institute endeavours to promote start-up and entrepreneurship ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir and this youth conclave is a part of the initiative.

IIM-Jammu is a constituent institution of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

Being 5th Largest Economy 'Impressive,' But Per Capita Income Must Also Rise: Ex RBI Gov

Press Trust Of India

HYDERABAD: While India becoming the fifth largest economy in the world is an 'impressive achievement,' there is a need to grow fast to increase the per capita income of the country from the present levels, former Reserve Bank of India Governor C Rangarajan said on Saturday.

In his address at the 13th Convocation of the ICFAI Foundation for Higher Education, Rangarajan said post Covid-19 and the Russia-Ukraine war, there is a need to lay down a clear roadmap for India's future development and the first and foremost task is to raise the growth rate.

Noting that India was today the fifth largest economy, he said, "this is an impressive achievement."

"However, in relation to per capita income, it is a different story. In 2020, India's rank with respect to per capita income was 142 out of 197 countries. This only shows the distance

we have to travel

All the same, we have no choice but to grow fast, given the present level of per capita income," the former chairman of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council said.

According to calculations, he said, if the country achieves a seven per cent rate of growth continuously over the next two decades and more, it will make a substantial change to the level of the economy and India may almost touch the status of a developed economy.

India needs to absorb the new technologies that have emerged and that will emerge and skilled manpower which is consistent with this development through the new technologies may lower the employment elasticity with respect to output, he stressed.

"Employment must come out of increased growth. Employment enhancement without growth is not sustainable. That is why we must aim at least at a sustained growth of 7 per cent," Rangarajan pointed out.



Govt Dismisses Criticism Regarding Inflated GDP

Says It Follows Established Practice To Compute Growth

Observer News Service

NEW DELHI: The Finance Ministry on Friday dismissed the criticism of inflated GDP saying it has followed the consistent practice of using the income side estimates to compute economic growth, and stressed many international agencies have revised upwards their forecast after seeing the first quarter data.

The critics, the ministry said, should have looked at other data like purchasing managers' indices, bank credit growth, increase in capital expenditure and consumption pattern to assess the growth.

India's real GDP growth was 7.8 per cent on year-on-year (y/y) basis in Q1 FY24 as per the Income or Production Approach.

"As per the expenditure approach, it would have been lower. So, a balancing figure statistical discrepancy is added to the expenditure approach estimate. These discrepancies are both positive and negative. Over time, they wash out," the ministry said in a long post on X.

In fact, in FY23 and FY22, the "statistical discrepancy" was negative and in other words, growth as per the Income Ap-



proach was lower, the ministry said, adding it would have been higher than the 7.2 per cent reported for FY23 and higher than the 9.1 per cent reported for FY22, using the expenditure approach.

Former Chief Economic Advisor Arvind Subramanian, in an article, argued that India's GDP is not measured from the expenditure side rather than productivity side.

Even the principal opposition party Congress earlier in the day alleged that the real GDP numbers may be inflated as they do not accurately reflect the impact of inflation on GDP growth.

The ministry said India consistently uses the income side approach for calculating GDP growth for various reasons. It does not switch between the two approaches depending on which one is favourable.

Gadkari Bats For Small Units, New Technology And Construction Methods To Reduce Prices Of Houses

Press Trust Of India

PUNE: Union Minister Nitin Gadkari on Friday said shifting focus from large size homes to small units, use of new technologies and construction methods as well as application of innovative construction material will significantly help in reducing the cost of homes.

Addressing the 40th Annual General Meeting of the Confederation of Real Estate Developers of India (Credai) Pune Metro, he said there was need for decentralization from 'smart cities' to 'smart villages' that can be connected to cities with an efficient



road network.

A minuscule percentage of the country's people can afford houses with price tags of Rs 1 crore or more and the country's masses should be at the centre of approach to housing construction, a release quoted Gadkari as saying.

He cited examples of how cost of construction for in-

frastructure projects was reduced by his ministry by applying innovative construction technology and materials, adding the same concepts can be extended to housing construction to reduce prices of homes.

Demand pressure is making it possible to sell high priced homes easily, but developers should shed this complacency and look to build homes for common people, the Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways said.

Gadkari announced his ministry will in three months start flyover projects for Pune with an investment of Rs 55,000 crore.

Dir Agri Flags-Off Beekeepers On Exposure Visit

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal in presence of Director Agriculture Sikkim B.L. Dahal Saturday flagged-off a group of beekeepers on an exposure visit to Manigam, Ganderbal.

During the visit, farmers will interact with scientists, progressive beekeepers and other agri-pre-neurs.

The tour has been organised by the department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare under the National Bee and Honey Mission (NBHM).

While interacting with the beekeepers, Director Agriculture said that the objective of the exposure cum training visit is to make the farmers (bee-keepers aware about the



latest technical know-how and modern agriculture/beekeeping practices in the field of beekeeping and adopt the same in their own bee-keeping units.

Director Agriculture Sikkim also interacted with the beekeepers and shared

his experiences with them. He said this type of exposure visit always proves helpful in imparting latest trends in the relevant field, among the concerned farmers.

The visit was organised for promoting sustainable

and profitable beekeeping practices among the beekeepers in the UT.

Joint Director Agriculture inputs and other concerned officers and officials were also present on the occasion.

Redington Ltd To Offer Latest Range Of iPhones, Apollo Watch Series

Press Trust Of India

company, a press release here said.

NEW DELHI: Information technology solutions provider Redington Ltd would offer the latest range of iPhone and Apple Watch series across the country, the company said on Saturday.

Redington Ltd has partnered with private sector HDFC Bank for cashback offers to customers preferring to purchase the latest smartphones from Cupertino-based



The iPhone 15, 15 Plus, 15 Pro and 15 Pro Max would be offered in 7,000 retail locations across the country.

Besides the smartphones, Redington said it would also retail the Apple Watch Series 9, Apple Watch Ultra 2 also available in over 2,800 retail locations across the country.

Customers are instructed to visit www.indiaistore.com for pricing and availability of the smartphones and the Apple Watch series, the release added.

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

JOINT DIRECTORATE OF EXTENSION SHEEP HUSBANDRY DEPARTMENT KASHMIR

AUCTION NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of public in general & the Timber Dealers/Bandsaw mills in particular that open auction of Eight (08) Nos of poplar logs of different dimensions and fire wood existing in Joint Directorate Complex, Sheep Husbandry Department Kashmir, Lal Mandi shall be held on **3rd of October 2023 (Tuesday) at 11:30 AM** in the office chambers of Joint Director Extension SHDK, Lal Mandi in presence of auction committee.

The auction through open bid will be conducted in accordance with following terms & conditions:-

- 1) The interested bidders are requested to inspect the stock intended to be auctioned prior to their participation so as to have a correct assessment regarding its quality/quantity. The Storekeeper, JDE SHDK will facilitate them in inspection of the stock on any working day during office hours.
- 2) The interested bidders shall have to deposit an earnest money of Rs 500/- as security deposit in the shape of CDR of any nationalized bank pledged to Joint Director Extension, Sheep Husbandry Department Kashmir by or before **30th of September 2023**. The unsuccessful bidder shall receive their CDR'S on the next working day of the auction & same for the successful bidder shall be released after completion of work within the prescribed time after meeting all the terms & conditions of the agreement
- 3) No person shall be allowed to participate in auction unless he/she deposits the earnest money in the shape of CDR.
- 4) The initial bid value is Rs.7,266/- excluding taxes & the successful bidder shall have to pay necessary GST/ taxes whatsoever applicable
- 5) The successful bidder shall necessarily have to pay 1/4th(25%) of the final bid amount on spot to the auction committee & remaining 3/4th(75%) of the final bid amount should be deposited in the official account within 02 days from payment of 1st installment.
- 6) The successful bidder is required to remove the purchased stock within 03 days from the date of allotment of stock.
- 7) Any other terms & conditions, if found necessary, the same shall be communicated to the bidders on spot at the time of auction
- 8) In case the date of auction happens to be a holiday or any untoward situation arises due to any eventuality/circumstance, the auction will be held on the next working day at same Venue & Time.
- 9) The auction committee reserves the right to accept/reject any bid without assigning any reasons thereof.

No:-JDE/Stores/2023-24/978-81
Dated:16 /09/23

DIPK-8975-23
DT: 16/09/2023

Joint Director Extension
Sheep Husbandry Department
Kashmir

Militancy Reviving In Kashmir, Govt Should Take Concrete Steps To Curb It: JKPC Chief

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir unit of the Congress Saturday said militancy was reviving in the valley, and demanded the government to take concrete steps by framing a comprehensive policy to curb it.

Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPC) president Vikar Rasool Wani condemned the killing of three security force officers in a gunfight with militants in Kokernag area on Wednesday. Major Ashish Dhonchak, 19 Rashtriya Rifles Commanding Officer Col Manpreet Singh, Deputy Superintendent of Jammu and Kashmir Police Humayun Bhat, and a soldier were killed in the encounter with the militants on Wednesday.

The gunfight entered into its fourth day on Saturday.

"We condemn it in no uncertain terms. It is a very sad incident. The situation is that militancy has not ended as the Government of India or the LG administration claims. I think they should frame a comprehensive policy to curb the militancy so that people come out of a life of distress which they have been living for the last 35 years," Wani told PTI here.

Wani said the party will not indulge in politics over the issue, and said it is pained by the killings. "There was an incident in Rajouri as well, there is firing in Uri as well, so I think, militancy is again reviving and the government should take some concrete steps (against it)," he added.

The JKPC president said the ground situation in the valley was different from what the BJP was projecting in the rest of the country.

"They use it in other states, to make speeches, when the ground situation is different. When Article 370 was



abrogated, they made it sound like Jammu and Kashmir was previously an area under Pakistan, which is totally wrong. "They use militancy politically to try to make the ground favourable. Congress and other like-minded parties see such issues in the national interest and have never indulged in politics on such issues or martyrs. They (BJP) sought votes in the name of Pulwama martyrs, which is very wrong," Wani said.

Earlier, addressing a press conference, Wani said the Congress will start a protest programme from next week against the "anti-people measures" of the government.

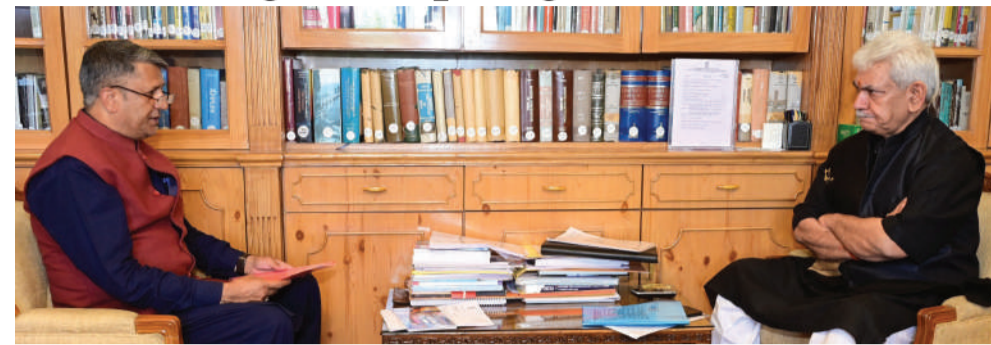
He said from September 19 to 28, protests would be held by the party daily in two districts one each in Kashmir and Jammu province.

Referring to the alleged scam in the Jal Shakti department, Wani demanded a CBI inquiry into the matter.

He said the protest would also target the continuous installation of pre-paid smart metres and forceful recovery of electric tariffs from the people.

"Removal of additional duties on several American products such as apples, etc, which will devastate the apple industry of Jammu and Kashmir, and forceful imposition of property, water and toll taxes are the other issues on which protests will take place," the JKPC president said.

DDC Vice Chairperson, Minority Employees Meet LG



Observer News Service

Srinagar: Haji Farooq Ahmad Mir, Vice-Chairman District Development Council Kupwara besides a delegation of All Employees Joint Association Kashmir (Minorities) also called on LG and apprised their concerning issues. Dr Hina Shafi Bhat, Vice Chairperson, KVB was also present.

The Vice Chairperson DDC Kupwara expressed gratitude

to the LG for gracing the Bungus festival organised recently. He also apprised the issues of public importance.

A delegation of All Employees Joint Association Kashmir (Minorities) also called on LG and apprised their concerning issues. Dr Hina Shafi Bhat, Vice Chairperson, KVB was also present.

The Lt Governor assured the employees for redressal of all

the issues on priority. He also issued on spot directions for setting up a helpline number, and appointing a nodal officer in the office of Divisional Commissioner Kashmir for resolving the grievances of minority employees working in the valley.

The mechanism will also ensure district-wise weekly report on the employees grievances.

Div Com Reviews Arrangements For Air Show Being Held At Jammu Air Force Station Directs Concerned Officers To Put In Place All Necessary Arrangements On Time

Observer News Service

Jammu: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar today chaired a meeting of concerned officers to review the arrangements being put in place for smooth conduct of the Air Show.

The Government of Jammu and Kashmir in collaboration with Air Force Station Jammu is going to present a spectacular Air Show at Air Force Station Jammu on September 22, 2023 from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM.

The Div Com reviewed in detail all the arrangements like security, parking facilities, seating arrangements, invitations, sanitation, water power arrangements etc.

To maintain cleanliness, the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) was entrusted with

sanitation and garbage clearance in the vicinity of Air Force Station. The CEO Cantonment Board was directed to oversee cleanliness and bush cutting within his jurisdiction.

Ensuring smooth traffic flow around the venue, SSP Traffic was instructed to formulate a comprehensive traffic management plan and identify suitable parking areas. Additionally, the Traffic Department will issue a Traffic Advisory to avoid inconvenience to commuters. To attract a wide audience, the Tourist Department was mandated to carry out extensive publicity, printing of invitation cards, and making seating arrangements.

The Information Department was assigned the task of installing Public Address Systems (PAS) and managing media coverage during the event. LED screens

would also be installed with live footage for the audience.

It was clarified that only invitees with passes would have access to the venue, while the general public and audience members can enjoy the Air Show from designated viewing locations.

The meeting was attended by DIG Traffic Shridhar Patel, Commissioner JMC, Rahul Yadav, Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, Director Tourism, Vivekanand Rai, COO Air Force Station Jammu, Gp Capt Y K Kandalgar besides SSP Traffic, Director Health, Joint Director Information, Atul Gupta, Deputy Director Planning, Munish Dutta, Joint Directors of Tourism, Hospitality and Protocol, School Education, Fire services, Chief Engineer JPDC, SE PWD and other concerned officers.

Sprightly showers cheer Delhiites; min temp 26.9 deg Celsius

New Delhi: Rain lashed parts of the national capital on Saturday, giving a respite from the heat as the minimum temperature settled at 26.9 degrees Celsius, two notches above the season's average, the weather department said.

Waterlogging and traffic congestion were also reported in several parts of the city.

According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), the maximum temperature settled at 33.8 degree Celsius, normal during the season.

Delhi recorded 0.6 mm of rain in the last 24 hours which ended at 8:30 am on Saturday. The relative humidity was recorded at 85 per cent at 8:30 am.

The IMD further stated that light to moderate intensity rain and gusty winds with speed of 30-40 Km/h would occur over and adjoining areas of entire Delhi and NCR (Loni Dehat, Bahadurgarh, Ghaziabad, Indirapuram,

Noida, Dadri, Greater Noida, Gurugram, Faridabad, Manesar, Ballabhgarh) etc. during the next two hours.

The IMD has predicted generally cloudy skies with light rain for Sunday. The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to settle at 33 and 25 degrees Celsius respectively.

The commuters wrote on X about the traffic situation in the national capital.

One of them said that he thought Bangalore's traffic was bad but today, he realised that Delhi is also giving a tough competition to it.

Others said the traffic was heavy from Surya Nagar to Anand Vihar and Madipur to New Multan Nagar, a complete chaos.

Delhi's Air Quality Index (AQI) stood at 87 around 5 pm. An AQI between zero and 50 is considered "good", 51 and 100 "satisfactory", 101 and 200 "moderate", 201 and 300 "poor", 301 and 400 "very poor", and 401 and 500 "severe".

Dist Admin Conducts Anti-Encroachment Drive In Ganderbal

Observer News Service

Ganderbal: The District Administration Ganderbal today conducted an anti-encroachment drive under the supervision of Additional District Development Commissioner, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani and President Municipal Council Ganderbal, Altaf Ahmad in main market Ganderbal.

During the drive, all the footpaths along the road were freed from encroachments and opened for the general public.

On the occasion, the ADDC said that the encroachment of footpaths by hawkers has been a persistent problem, causing inconvenience to

pedestrians and obstructing the smooth flow of traffic and removal of encroachments is a positive step towards ensuring the proper utilization of public spaces and enhancing the overall livability of the town.

The district administration will continue to monitor the situation and take necessary actions to prevent future encroachments, he added.

Furthermore, the District Administration Ganderbal appealed to all the citizens not to encroach upon main roads, footpaths, pavements as the same causes inconvenience to the general public and pedestrians.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

On Day 4 Forces

The police believe two to three terrorists are trapped in the forest area as the forces maintained a tight cordon.

Additional Director General of Police (Kashmir) Vijay Kumar late Friday night said the operation was launched on the basis of specific input and claimed "two to three trapped terrorists will be neutralised."

Meanwhile, adequate forces have been deployed in the upper reaches of Kishtwar to watch out for any terrorist movement from across the Pir Panjal Range, a senior police officer said on Saturday.

"For the last three days, adequate personnel of police and army are deployed in the higher reaches of Singhpora and we are dominating the area," Kishtwar Senior Superintendent of Police Khalil Poswal said.

Singhpora connects Kishtwar with Kokernag but the road between the two sides of the Pir Panjal usually remains cut off during the winter owing to heavy snowfall at the 12,500-foot-high Sadna top. At present, a 10.3-km Vailoo-Singhpora tunnel has been under construction since 2009 to ensure round-the-year connectivity.

The SSP said police and army are working in close coordination to tackle any situation. "If there is any movement (of terrorists from the Kokernag side), we are active on that front," he said.

Commanding Officer of the 19 Rashtriya Rifles Colonel Manpreet Singh, Major Ashish Dhonchak, Deputy Superintendent of Jammu and Kashmir Police Humayun Bhat and a soldier were killed by the terrorists on Wednesday.

3 Terrorists Killed

to be ascertained, police said. The infiltration bid and the subsequent encounter came at a time when an operation is underway in Anantnag district to neutralise terrorists who have taken positions in the forest area in a hilly terrain. The gunfight entered its fourth day on Saturday. (PTI)

HC Seeks Details

ministers and legislators. The petition also sought directions to the estates department to ensure the eviction of the illegal occupants in view of the dissolution of the then state assembly in June 2018. The bench directed that "in order to have a clear picture, SS Ahmed, learned counsel for the petitioner, may furnish a list of those persons who possess houses in Jammu or in Kashmir as mentioned in the Annexure-R1 to the status report filed on March 28 this year within the meaning of regulation 5 of regulations of 2004 referred to above". It also directed Senior Additional Advocate General SS Nanda, appearing for the estates department, to furnish a report on whether any person mentioned in the list has an alternative accommodation or a house in Jammu or in Kashmir so that the appropriate order can be

passed. The court directed them to furnish the list within a week.

13 Pak-Based

of drums, they added. Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Kishtwar, Khalil Poswal said a total of 13 local terrorists, who are operating from across the border and making repeated attempts to revive terrorism in the district, were declared as proclaimed offenders after they failed to respond to the non-bailable warrants issued earlier.

The warrants were issued by the special NIA court in March in a terror-related case registered at the Kishtwar police station last year under various sections of the Indian Penal Code and Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

"If these proclaimed offenders fail to surrender within 30 days, the proceedings to attach their properties under section 83 of the CrPC will be initiated," the SSP told PTI.

In the proclamation notices served to the absconding terrorists at their birth places, Additional District and Sessions Judge (fast-track court) Doda Sudesh Sharma said the warrants of arrest issued by the court of additional sessions judge, Jammu were returned with the report that the accused could not be found.

"It has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused has absconded or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant. Proclamation is hereby made that the accused is required to appear before this court within the period of 30 days from the date of publication of proclamation, failing which proceedings under section 83, CrPC shall be launched against him," the identical notices issued on Thursday read.

The officials said the proclamation was issued, among others, against Shahnawaz Kanth alias "Umer" of Hullah, Nayeem Ahmed alias "Amir" of Jamia Masjid Kishtwar, Mohammad Iqbal alias "Bilal" from a place near the Kichloo market, Shahnawaz alias "Nayeem" of Chirool and Javid Hussain Giri alias "Muzamil" of Kundali Pochal.

The list also included Bashir Ahmed Mughal, Gazi-ul-Din and Sattar Din alias "Saifullah" of Jugna Keshwan, Imtiyaz Ahmed alias "Dawood" of Banderna, Shabir Ahmed of Kither Bonjwah, Mohammad Rafiq Keen of Patnazi Bonjwah, Muzaffer Ahmed of Zewar and Azad Hussain of Affani Padder, they added.

Kashmiri Students

illegally shifted us to an unapproved college," he added.

He said that the students continued to protest for the third straight day against unwarranted police action on peaceful students protesting their transfer to an unrecognized college.

Pertinently, nearly 500 students from Kashmir have been pursuing various

paramedical courses for the academic session 2020 at the DBU. At least 70 students, majority of them from Kashmir have been shifted to Sardar Lal Singh College, the college within the DBU campus located at Fatehgarh district in Punjab.

Another student told Kashmir Observer that the DBU administration instead of complying with INC admission guidelines, transferred students to an unapproved college without their consent.

Kashmiri students, he said, have been protesting since 2020, but the DBU administration despite assurances have failed to address their genuine concerns.

The DBU, he said, has an intake capacity of only 60 students while 140 students have illegally been enrolled for various paramedical courses, thus putting the future of these students at risk.

"The paramedical courses we pursue at Sardar Lal Singh College are not recognized by INC or PNRG as the college lacks approval of both the bodies that frame policies for nursing courses. We were ruthlessly beaten by the police and the staff. 22 girl students fell unconscious after being injured in the police action, while 3 boys were seriously hurt," the student alleged.

Despite repeated texts and calls, Vice-Chancellor Desh Bhagat University Punjab Dr Harsh Sadawarti could not be contacted.

However a senior official at DBU, wishing not to be named, told Kashmir Observer that the Punjab government has taken serious cognizance of the issue.

"The students have appraised the administration about their issues and that they have assured action in case their allegations of assault and illegal transfer to an unapproved college proved genuine. Talks between the administration and student representatives are on at the moment," he added.

Meanwhile Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president and former chief minister, Mehbooba Mufti has condemned baton charge on female students protesting against the DBU's decision to transfer Kashmiri students without their consent.

"Lathi charging Kashmiri students and misbehaving with girls for protesting against a university that's wrecked their future is completely uncalled for. Request @BhagwantMann ji to kindly look into this matter. Such actions alienate Kashmiris even further," Mehbooba Mufti wrote on X, formerly Twitter.

Several Sikh organizations in Kashmir have expressed solidarity with Kashmiri students pursuing various paramedical courses in DBU Punjab and condemned in strong words the police action against female students.

Punjab Parties

also has sought an urgent action against those at fault for safeguarding the future of the Kashmiri students at DBU.

Bajwa in a letter dated September 15, 2023 to Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann has

sought thorough investigation into the allegations of exceeding an intake capacity of admission by the University.

"I am forwarding a representation dated 15th September 2023, submitted by the Jammu and Kashmir Students Association, Srinagar, drawing attention to the distressing situation wherein these students were unilaterally transferred to Sardar Lal Singh College, an affiliate of Desh Bhagat University, without their consent. This transfer allegedly occurred because the University exceeded the admission quota set by the regulatory bodies," reads the letter, copy of which is with Kashmir Observer.

Bajwa, who also represents Qadian Assembly Constituency, has said that Sardar Lal Singh College lacks recognition from the INC and Punjab Nursing Registration Council, thus endangering the academic and professional prospects of these students.

The opposition leader has also proposed some measures to the government for safeguarding the future of the Kashmiri students pursuing various paramedical courses in the variety.

Meanwhile Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) state president, Ravinder Raina said the matter has been taken up with the Union Home Minister and that necessary action will be taken in this regard.

Responding to a question after visiting slain DySP's Srinagar residence, Raina said "I have taken up the matter with the Union Home Minister and that necessary action will be taken. Injustice cannot be tolerated, if meted out to anyone"

J&K's New Start-Up

assistance up to Rs 50 Lakh per incubator. Our prime objective is to ensure there is at least one incubator in every district," he added.

The LG said that under a comprehensive Start-Up Assistance Program, support and mentorship will be provided to the young and budding entrepreneurs.

He also shared the vision of his administration for collaboration with Startup India, angel investor networks, financial institutions and premier institutes under the programme.

"In our unwavering commitment to fostering innovation and economic growth, we have decided to allocate carpet area of 11,200 sqft built spaces at competitive prices at Rangreth for IT, ITES & Tech Startup sectors. Also, the surplus spaces at JKEDI will now be made available to Startups," Sinha said.

He said the institutionalized interactions between business leaders, experts, policy makers and academia during the Conclave are a crucial part of the strategy of the UT administration to speedily bring about transformation in J&K's Start-Up Ecosystem.

"Jammu Kashmir is offering high-impact entrepreneurship, resources and abundant opportunities to serve the global market. It is the perfect place for any entrepreneur who is in search of the next big thing with the goal of

ASIA CUP FINAL

Can India End 5-Year Trophy Drought Vs Sri Lanka?

Press Trust of India

COLOMBO: Rohit Sharma's Indian team will be firm favourites to end its five-year trophy drought in multi-nation events, when it squares off against a depleted Sri Lanka in the final of the Asia Cup here on Sunday despite a few niggling questions still remaining unanswered.

While Axar Patel is an important component in the Indian set-up and his multiple injuries remains a concern, Sri Lanka will in fact miss their premier spinner Maheesh Theekshana way more due to his right hamstring injury.

A glance at India's trophy cabinet will reveal the uncomfortable truth of them not winning any titles in the last five years, and Sunday will be a good opportunity for them to snap that unhappy streak.

Not to forget a win before getting into the World Cup mode will be the ideal boost for a side which hasn't yet fully ticked all boxes but is showing way more

solidity than one would have thought a few months back.

India's last title, across the three formats, came in 2018 when the Rohit's side beat Bangladesh in the Asia Cup by three wickets in Dubai.

Since that victory, India's inability to master crunch matches and occasions has been startling.

India reached semifinals of the 50-over World Cup in 2019 and the T20 World Cup in 2022, besides losing against New Zealand and Australia in the WTC finals in 2019 and 2023 respectively.

The Men in Blue also failed to make their presence felt in last year's Asia Cup, which was won by Sri Lanka. That event was played in T20 format.

Any whichever one looks at it, this is a seriously underwhelming record for a team that prides in its cricketing tradition and wants to set some new trends under head coach Rahul Dravid and skipper Rohit.

However, India will believe



that they have a brilliant chance to add a trophy to their glittering collection come Sunday.

India are certain to recall the five players who were rested for the Super Four match against

Bangladesh on Friday, which they eventually lost by six runs.

The return of Virat Kohli and Hardik Pandya for the summit clash will certainly add meat to their batting unit, which strug-

gled against the array of Bangladesh spinners.

Opener Shubman Gill made a top class hundred, but the rest of the batsmen could not rotate strike effectively in the middle

overs, leaving the late order with a tall task.

The match also revealed another area India needed to address – the lack of consistency in bundling out a side after making early inroads.

India had reduced Bangladesh to 59/4, but the bowlers gave away too many runs in the death overs, allowing their neighbours to post a healthy 265.

But India will hope that the issue will be solved once pacers Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj and left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav make their comeback for tomorrow's game.

India will keep a watch on Axar's right hand which received multiple beatings in the match against Bangladesh, suffering niggles on his little finger and forearm along with hamstring injury.

Even though the team management informed that they are still monitoring the progress of the left-arm spinner, they have

roped in off-spinner Washington Sundar as cover for him for the final.

Washington was training in Bengaluru with India's Asian Games-bound squad, and is expected to link with the team in Colombo by this evening.

But these are India's immediate concerns pertaining to the Asia Cup final. But they cannot be unmindful of the larger picture as well.

Apart from the practice games, India have four more ODIs – Asia Cup final and three matches against Australia – prior to the World Cup to tick the desired boxes.

A victory here in the Asia Cup will boost their confidence ahead of the quadrennial big bash next month, as they also seek to end a 10-year-long ICC trophy drought.

On the other hand, Sri Lanka will feel quietly confident of their chances against India, as the home side is also on a 15-match winning streak in ODIs.



LG MANOJ SINHA ATTENDED the Annual Sports Day of Burn Hall School on Saturday. The event took place at Bakshi Stadium in Srinagar and witnessed the school's students engage in various activities.

KO PHOTOS/ABID BHAT



KP Stars Kralpora Lifts Champions Trophy

Observer News Service

BUDGAM: KP Stars Kralpora on Saturday lifted the Champions Trophy cricket tournament, whose final match was played at Shah Qalandar Sports Ground in Wathoor here. KP Stars Kralpora beat Masood Sports Wathoor in the final match.

Minds School Pampore, J&K RTI Movement and Crescent Bakery Chadoora.

Chairman RTI Movement Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat appreciated the role of tournament organisers and said they were the torch bearers against the war against drug abuse as sports activities helps keeping youth away from drugs and



Masood Sports won the toss and were elected to bat first. Lateef Dar of Masood Sports had a great start but the team could manage only 142 runs in 19 overs. KP Stars Kralpora chased the target easily in 19 hours. Irfan Afridi took 3 wickets and Adil Babu was the top scorer who made 50 and became the game changer.

Large number of participants were present on the occasion. The tournament was organised by Masood Sports in association with Birla Open

substance abuse. Local residents and sports lovers also appreciated the organisers of the tournament, Lateef Dar, Imtiaz Bhat and Yunus Wani, for the successful completion of the tournament.

Local senior citizens and PRI members namely Nazir Ahmad Madani, Mohammad Ayoub, Fayaz Ah Waza, Nazir Ahmad Kumar, Shahbaz Qadri, Dr. Tanveer, Mudaser Yattoo, Mushtaq RTI and others were given mementos for their contribution towards sports activities

Srinagar Judo Championship From September 19: JKJA



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu & Kashmir Judo Association on Saturday announced that it is going to organise the Srinagar District Judo Championship from 19th to 20th September at Indoor Sports Hall, Polo Ground here.

"All those players desirous to take part in the championship have been asked to report to their concerned coaches along with Date of Birth certificate/

Adhaar proof before 19th September 2023," the association said in a statement.

The championship is being organised under the aegis of J&K Sports Council.

According to the statement issued by J&K Judo Association, the Srinagar District Judo Championship is open for Sub-Junior, Cadet, Junior and Senior judo-kas, both boys and girls.

"One Gold, One Silver, two Bronze medals in each category

along with merit certificates will be awarded to winners, participation certificates will be awarded to rest of the participants," the association said.

"For more information players can contact Abdul Hamid Khan, Vice President - 9419094155, Gowhar Khan, Joint Secretary - 7006933154, Shafkat Shafi, NIS Senior Judo Coach - 7006617816, Kabra Altaf, NIS Judo Coach - 9086666982," the press release added.

SUNDAY SPECIAL

Swinging To Serenity: How Golf Can Improve Your Mental Health

Jordan Fuller

If you're looking for ways to soothe a busy brain, ease racing thoughts, and just generally improve your mental health, you've probably looked at all the "regular" things. Chatting with a therapist is a great idea. Meds can make a big difference. But before you consider anything that serious, there might just be other ways to do it, like physical activity.

In particular, if you don't know how golf can improve your mental health, you might want to keep reading and learning because it could just be the

thing that works for you!

The Golfer's Journey: More Than Just a Swing

Golf is so much more than just a sport. If you use it the right way, it can be a journey toward better physical health, more sound mental health, and better cognitive functioning. If you love being outdoors around nature, golf could be the key to giving your mind what it needs to settle into a happier, healthier space.

Mastering the Mind-Body Connection on the Greens

Physical exercise (even mild) can do amazing things for the body and our mental well-being. And golf is the perfect sport for stimulating the mind while giving the body the workout it craves.

can't play a good round of golf without clearing your mind and focusing on what you're doing. Between the unwavering concentration and the low-impact exercise, you're creating the ideal connection between mind and body.

Nature's Therapeutic Embrace

Plenty of studies show real evidence that exercising in nature can have even better therapeutic effects than exercising indoors.

In other words, you'll get a great workout, release endorphins, and stimulate your mind if you're playing in a Top-Golf bay... But those effects are even stronger when you're doing all the same actions and mental processes on the actual golf course, surrounded by nature.

Whether on the driving range or the full golf course, golf is the perfect environment to separate yourself from the stress of the "real world" and enjoy all the benefits.

Connection

Another amazing thing about golf (and something that sets it apart from other sports) is that you can do it alone or with others. If you've got a few hours to spare, you can head to the nearest driving range on your own, clear your mind, and enjoy some alone time.

On the other hand, if you want a bit of social connection, you can hang out on the course with friends or family. It can be a great bonding experience and a healthy way to spend time with the people you love.

Lack of social interaction can be a big contributor to poor mental health. Playing a round of golf is a great way to socialize without feeling like you're obligated to visit someone. You can get in some valuable socialization without having to sit and talk.

Mindfulness and the Art of Concentration

Mindfulness isn't about meditating in a quiet space. It's all about being aware of what's happening at the moment. It's

not about clearing the mind but engaging the mind to be fully present.

Golf is the perfect way. You need to focus on every swing, pay attention to your form, and think about what you want the shot to do. This kind of "being in the moment" can change the brain's neural pathways, helping you manage your emotions better, ease anxiety, and enhance your concentration.

Make the most of this by focusing on that mind-muscle connection. Focus on how your muscles feel on every swing, if you have niggly pains anywhere, and how your form feels. It helps you connect your mind and body, bring you right into the moment, and ease up other intrusive thoughts.

Goal Setting and Achievement on the Greens

Golf is all about reaching your next goal. Whether working towards a specific handicap, aiming for a certain score, or just nailing the next shot, every swing gets you closer to the end result.

With every successful shot or goal reached, you get a nice dose of confidence in yourself and your game. Play often enough, and that sense of accomplishment will stick with you in life outside the golf course.

The key, though, is setting achievable goals. Don't aim for a hole-in-one on every hole, but don't just ignore goal setting either. Set realistic goals and watch yourself achieve them all, building an unshakable sense of confidence.

Stress and Anxiety Management

Life can be difficult, crazy, and overwhelming. But when you step onto the golf course, everything else melts away. The exercise releases happy hormones, lowers stress hormones, and centers your mind on the mind-muscle interaction. Vitamin D, fresh air, and nature add extra benefits.

Being on the course is like a vacation for your mind. It may be an hour or a few hours, but it's a chance for you to take a step back from everything

that's bothering you in the "real world" and benefit from the time in your golfing bubble. When you step off the course again, you're in a better space to think through real-world issues with a logical mind.

A Lifelong Love Affair with Golf

Golf is a fairly different sport to others. You can do it alone or with others for an hour or 6 hours—immersion in a natural setting greatly benefits the already substantial benefits it offers.

Another amazing feature of the game is that you can play it whether you're 20 or 80. Fall in love with the sport now, and it'll be your companion for the next few decades—there's no need to stop when the muscles tire and age creep up on you.

About the Author

Jordan Fuller is a retired golfer and businessman. When he's not on the course working on his own game or mentoring young golfers, he writes in-depth articles for his website, Golf Influence.



Nasa Appoints New Director Of Research For A Scientifically Rigorous Look At UFOs

Agenceis

Pledging a new, transparent, scientifically rigorous look at UFOs, Nasa on Thursday said it had appointed a director of research on the topic — and then kept the name of the director a secret for about seven hours.

The new position is part of Nasa's response to recommendations made by an independent study team that the agency had convened. The panel looked at how to better gather and study information about "unidentified anomalous phenomena", or UAP — the modern term for UFOs.

The panel's report, released on Thursday, did not attempt to provide a definitive answer to whether galaxy-trotting



extraterrestrials are zipping through Earth's skies. But it does propose a bigger role for Nasa in tackling the question. On Thursday evening, the agency identified the director as Mark McInerney. He previously served as Nasa's liaison with the defence department for UAP issues. In the news release, Nasa said he had also worked in various positions at Nasa's Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland.

Princess Diana's Sheep Sweater Smashes Records To Sell For \$1.1 Million

Agenceis

A red sweater adorned with a flock of sheep worn by the young Princess Diana has sold at auction for USD 1.1 million, many times its presale estimate and a record for an item owned by the late royal. The playfully patterned wool jumper featuring a single black sheep in a grid of white ones was bought by an unidentified bidder at Sotheby's online Fashion Icons sale.

The auction house had valued it at between USD 50,000 and USD 80,000 ahead of two

weeks of bidding that ended Thursday. With 15 minutes left until the sale closed, the highest offer stood at USD 190,000, but leapt to USD 1.1 million after a final flurry of bids.

The previous record for a piece of Diana memorabilia was USD 604,800 for a Victor Edelstein-designed ballgown sold by Sotheby's in January.

The sale also smashed the existing auction record for a sweater, the USD334,000 paid in 2019 for Kurt Cobain's green cardigan from Nirvana's MTV Unplugged concert.

Historic India Club In London To Close Doors Permanently After 70 Years On September 17

Agenceis

The India Club in London, with its early roots in the Indian independence movement as a hub for nationalists and a home away from home for Indians in the country over the years, will close permanently on Sunday.

With its walls adorned with photographs of prominent Indians such as former prime ministers, the Club's founding member was Krishna Menon — who went on to become the first High Commissioner of independent India to the UK. As well as housing one of the UK's early Indian restaurants, India Club quickly transformed into a hub for a rapidly growing British South Asian community in the aftermath of Indian independence.

"We have been completely rushed off our feet since the public found out we were closing on September 17," said Phiroza Marker, the manager of the Club.

"We are closing but looking for new premises in the vicinity to relocate to," she said.

Parsi-origin Yadgar Marker has been running the establishment with his wife Freny and daughter Phiroza since they rescued it from ruin in 1997 as the director of Goldsand Hotels Limited.

The family had launched a "Save India Club" appeal and won an initial battle to prevent the building from partial demolition a few years ago when they were served a notice by the landlords to make way for a more modernised hotel. However, with the rents being hiked exponentially amid a cost-of-living crisis, it has spelt the end of the road for the venue.



Nostalgic visitors who have been frequenting this little slice of India in central London offering hot dosas and pakoras within a dwelling steeped in history feel bereft at the loss.

"It's simply heart-breaking. A slice of Indian history on the Strand will be lost forever," said British Indian historian and journalist Shrabani Basu.

"As an Indian journalist based in London, it was our watering hole. There will be no more beer and pakoras at the historic bar. We will miss it," she said.

Smita Tharoor, the London-based daughter of one of the other founder members of India Club — journalist Chandran Tharoor, has been a regular visitor with her brother Congress MP Shashi Tharoor and other family members.

"Many of the former leaders and founders of the India League created the India Club to offer a home away from home for Indians living in London. My father regaled us with its stories when we were growing up in India," she shared.

"For me, the closure of the club is something very

emotional and sad because it is the end of my father's memories that have been kept alive for so many years and where I could visit whenever I missed him. He died very young at the age of 63 in 1993. This is not just a place to eat Indian food. This is a place that gives us stories of the past," she said.

Tharoor recalls how the Club has counted the likes of Dr Rajendra Prasad, the first President of independent India, and Lord Mountbatten — the last Viceroy of India — among its many distinguished visitors and has been a little corner of India for many living in or visiting the UK capital.

"Menon intended the India Club to be a place where young Indian professionals living on a shoestring could afford to eat, discuss politics, and plan their futures," noted Parvathi Raman, Founding Chair of the Centre for Migration and Diaspora Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), when she worked on the exhibition 'A Home Away from Away: The India Club' in 2019, curated by the UK's conservation charity National Trust.

MUSTAFA PRIZE Iran To Host 150 Muslim Luminaries, Including AI Scientists, Next Month



Agenceis

The central Iranian city of Isfahan is scheduled to host the 5th Mustafa Prize ceremony next month, with reports saying 150 luminaries from across the Muslim world attending the prestigious biennial event for their scientific excellence.

Hossein Rabbani, the head of Isfahan's Elites Foundation, said the 5th Mustafa Prize ceremony will be held on October 2, when high-profile scientists in the field of Artificial Intelligence convene in Isfahan from 57 Islamic countries.

The prestigious ceremony will also host the 9th round of Science and Technology Exchange Program (STEP), which is a platform organized by Mustafa Science and Technology Foundation to expand the scientific network among the Islamic world's scholars by holding international events and laying the groundwork for enhancing scientific synergy and cooperation.

"Awarding a prize is regarded

as a way of identifying outstanding people in scientific fields and brings to the fore the existing capacities in different areas of science," Rabbani said.

"An international award, like the Mustafa Prize, has profound impacts given its media aspect," he said, adding that it conveys the message that the Muslim world pays attention to science and technology.

Mustafa Prize was established in 2012 as one of the symbols of scientific excellence and has been held biennially since 2015, recognizing leading researchers and scientists of the Islamic world.

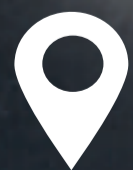
The laureates are awarded \$500,000, which is financed through the science and technology endowment. They will also be adorned with Mustafa Medal and Honorary Diploma.

The prize is awarded in the four categories of Information and Communication Science and Technology, Life and Medical Science and Technology, Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, and All Areas of Science and Technology. In 2016, the Science Magazine called the prize

Bun Maska



Famous
Irani Chai of
Bombay
now in Srinagar



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