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Kashmir Saffron Growers 12 Year Wait For Sprinkler Irrigation System Affects Yield

Parvaiz Bhat

xpressing mixed feelings about the saffron yield this year, the growers in the South Kashmir's Pampore say that even the much hyped multi-billion rupees National Mission on Saffron (NMS) being implemented since 2010 in Kashmir has not ensured a reliable irrigation system for their fields which plays a crucial role in saffron productivity. The Rs 4.1billion NMS,

launched in 2010 to rejuvenate saffron cultivation in Kashmir by helping counter erratic

rainfall among other challenges, has yet to ensure a reliable sprinkler irrigation for saffron crop, the most basic requirement for their crop, farmers complained.

Putting in place sprinkler irrigation in saffron fields, which have traditionally depended on rain, was a key objective of NMS. The NMS was due to end in 2016, but has since been extended, though most of the works under this mission have been completed according to the officials of agriculture and irrigation departments. Saffron farmers, who grow



the "king of spices" in fields Pampore, have complained sprawling across several for years that lack of rainfall thousand hectares mainly in at crucial times has led to a

THE SPRINKLER IRRIGATION SYSTEM WHICH THE GOVERNMENT CLAIMS HAS **BEEN PUT IN PLACE** should have been

functional by now. But is it working? You can see for yourself what has happened to these pipes and the bore-wells. They are not serving any purpose,"

decline in production –adding that things are getting worse. One or two spells of rain in September and October are

since the late 1990s, it either

hasn't rained in those months

or has rained too much, said

adding that farmers still rely on how the weather behaves in the cropping season. "The sprinkler irrigation vital for the crop to flower, farmers said. But in most years

system which the government claims has been put in place should have been functional by now. But is it More on P10

farmer Mohammad Reshi,

Atal Dulloo Tipped To Be New J&K CS



Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The government on Monday repatriated senior IAS officer Atal Dulloo to his Union Territories cadre, a personnel ministry order said. Dulloo, a 1989-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) More on P10

KASHMIR'S **POWER** WOES

PDD To Snap Lines, Slap Cases Against Defaulters

Under No Circumstances Should J&K Engage In Overdrawal Of Power: Principal Secretary

Auqib Javeed

Srinagar: Facing flak for frequent and unscheduled power cuts in Kashmir Valley, the Power Development Department (PDD) on Monday announced to disconnect electricity supply and file criminal cases against all those consumers who haven't paid their power bills and have 'willfully defaulted'.

"We will take tough action against all the defaulters who have not paid their electricity bills to the department. Their lines will be disconnected and criminal cases will be filed against them," Principal Secretary of Power Development Department (PDD) H Rajesh Prasad told Kashmir Observer. PDD, he said, wants to

purchase additional electricity from other states but the lack of funds was making it difficult.

"The revenue generation is very poor, leading to constraints on the budget," he added.

Earlier, chairing a meeting with the Managing Directors of Corporations and all Chief Engineers and senior officers of the department here to review the power supply position in J&K, particularly Kashmir valley, Prasad asked the engineers to strictly follow the schedule, emphasizing that no unscheduled power cuts shall be tolerated, an official spokesperson said.

During the review, he said, it was informed that a curtailment schedule has been prepared based on the power availability in the region. More on P10



A sanitation worker cleans a street near Srinagar's clock tower on a cold and foggy Monday morning. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Dense Fog Grips Kashmir, Affects Road; Air Traffic

Srinagar Records Coldest Night Of Season At Minus 0.8 Deg Celsius

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: A thick layer of fog engulfed Kashmir Valley on Monday affecting smooth flow was 1.2 degrees below the degrees Celsius. normal temperature for this Bandipora in north Kashmir time of the year, an official of the Indian Meteorological

recorded minus 1.2 degrees Celsius.

Chorus Grows For Winter Break In Primary Schools

PSAJK, JKSA; DAK Asks Govt To Take Call At Earliest

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: The Students enrolled at several private and government institutions, Monday urged the administration to declare winter break for all schools, asserting the poor heating arrangements amidst the bone-chilling cold makes it difficult for them to attend classes.

Parents of the students also appealed to the administration to declare winter break for all schools, given the early advent of winters in Kashmir.

Boarding buses early in the morning to get to their schools, parents claimed, makes it a herculean task for the students,

Government's recent decision to modify school timings within and outside Srinagar Municipal limits has somewhat relieved the students, but the extreme cold and dense foggy conditions in the morn-

especially young ones.

ing makes it very difficult for children to get to schools, Tariq Ahmad, whose 4-year-old child attends Burn Hall School, told Kashmir Observer.

Getting his child to wake up early in the morning in the middle of a bitter cold to board a bus, according to Tariq, is a big challenge

"We appeal to the government to at least announce winter breaks for the elementary classes so as to protect the children from getting exposed to the most common diseases including cold, flu and other respiratory More on P10

Army Commander, DGP **Discuss Winter Security Plan**

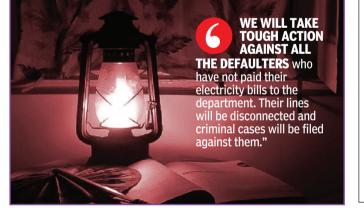
Press Trust Of India

Jammu: The Indian Army's northern commander and the director general of Jammu and Kashmir Police have reviewed the security plan against terrorism and the administrative arrangements ahead of the winter months, the Army said on Monday.

This was the first interac-

Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi since





of road and air traffic, even as

Department said. The maximum temperaure has also shown a de-

recorded a low minus 2.5 degrees Celsius, while Gulmarg

Speaki

this capital city recorded the coldest night of the season with mercury settling at minus 0.8 degree Celsius. Srinagar city, the sum-

mer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, recorded the minimum temperature of minus 0.8 degrees Celsius, which

crease with the city recording a high of 12.5 degrees Celsius on Sunday.

Shopian was the coldest recorded place in the valley as the mercury settled at minus 3.8 degrees Celsius last night followed by Pahalgam in south Kashmir at minus 2.6 Observer, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad, Director Meteorological Department said that the foggy conditions in the Kashmir valley will continue for another week.

tion that RR Swain, the director "Foggy conditions are likely general of Jammu and Kashmir to continue till November 27. Police, has had with the Indian However, More on P10 Army's Northern Commander

taking charge on October 31.

"Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi, Army Cdr NC, interacted with RR Swain, director general of police, Jammu and Kashmir, to discuss about enhanced coordination between More on P10

CONSERVATION OF WETLANDS

Govt's Failure To File Status Report 'Serious Lapse': HC

Seeks Status Regarding Current Condition Of Anchar Lake

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The High Court of I&K and Ladakh on Monday

granted J&K government "final opportunity" to file a status report regarding wetlands recognized as that of international importance and declared as Ramsar Sites, observing that the failure on part of the UT administration was a "serious lapse."

...In spite of the order passed by this Court on 09.09.2022, the Union Territory of J&K has not yet filed a status report, while the Union Territory of Ladakh has filed the same," a bench of

Chief Justice N. Kotiswar Singh and Justice M.A. Chowdhary said while hearing a suo-moto Public Interest Litigation (PIL) on the directions by the

Supreme Court. 'Considering the importance attached to the issue and the desire of the Hon'ble Supreme Court to have the matter monitored by this Court, we are of the view that failure to file a status report by the Union Territory of J&K is a

serious lapse," the court said. However, the court granted a "final opportunity to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir to file the status report without fail." "Failure to do so More on P10

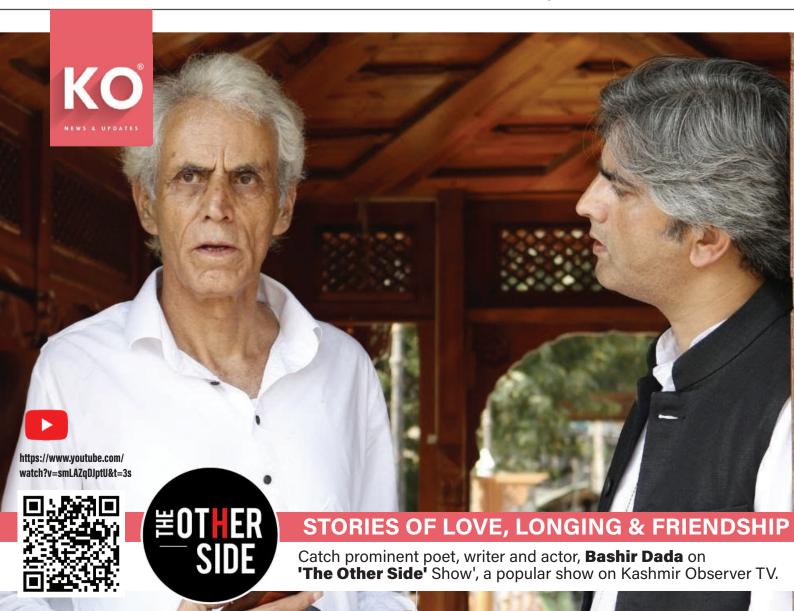
SHORT TAKES

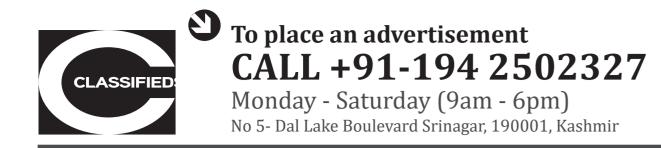
Search Ops **Underway In Rajouri**

ecurity forces on Monday launched a search operation in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district after information was received about suspected movement of terrorists, sources said. They said the movement of terrorists was reported in the Saloki forest area in Rajouri. According to the More on P10

4 Dead In Kathua Accidents

our people, including two minor girls, were killed in two separate accidents in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua, police said on Monday. Surjeet Kumar (40) and his daughter Sonali (11) of Shab-e-Check village of Rajbagh were killed when their motorcycle was hit by a truck at Lakhanpur on the Jammu- More on P10





KASHMIR OBSERVER Srinagar | Tuesday | 21-11-2023

'123456' The Most Common Password, Can Be Cracked In Under A Second: Study

Press Trust Of India

he most common password was "123456" and a hacker would probably take less than a second to crack it, according to a study conducted by NordPass, a software company that helps users organise their passwords.

The password "123456" was held by about 45 lakhs accounts, the study found in partnership with independent experts specialising in researching cybersecurity incidents, according to the Panama-based company's website.

The second and the third most popular passwords were "admin" and "12345678", used in about 40 lakhs and 13.7 lakhs accounts, respectively, the study findings on the website show.

In India, the most common password was "123456", kept in around 3.6 lakhs accounts, followed by "admin", used in around 1.2 lakhs accounts, according to the website.

The research team analysed passwords from a 6.6 Terabyte-database, which were stolen by employing various stealer malware, such as Redline,



Vidar, Taurus, Raccoon, Azorult, and Cryptbot, it said.

Malware logs included both passwords and the source website and the researchers' database included data from up to 35 countries.

The researchers classified the data into various verticals, which allowed them to perform a statistical analysis based on countries, NordPass's website said.

NordPass exclusively received only

credentials to secure accounts on this platform category.

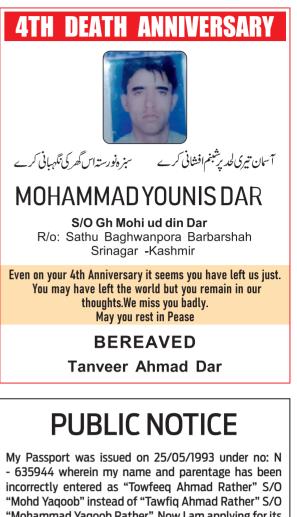
The website also acknowledged "123456" to be the "world's worst password" as it was ranked the most common password 4 out of 5 times, while "Password" held this title once throughout the lifetime of the study.

NordPass quoted the researchers while saying that "while passwords are getting harder to breach due to rapidly evolving technologies, malware attacks are still seen as a prominent threat for account security."

The password manager company advised account holders to use complex passwords that were at least 20 characters long and included a mix of uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers and special symbols.

NordPass also asked password users to desist from reusing the same password across multiple websites or services, as compromising one account could risk the safety of all the other accounts.

Further, it called for a "regular" assessment of the passwords for their health and improving them for a "safer online experience", in addition to advocating the use of password managers such as itself.



"Mohammad Yaqoob Rather". Now I am applying for its correction. If anyone has any objection in this regard, they may contact the passport office Srinagar within 7 days of the publication of this notice. After that no objection will be entertained. tko

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR Jammu & Kashmir Services Selection Board CPO Chowk, Panjtirthi, Jammu/Zamzam Complex, Rambagh, Srinagar. www.jkssb.nic.in

Subject: Result/Score-sheet of Written Test for the Matic Level Posts regarding.

NOTIFICATION

Whereas, the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) conducted Written Examination for the following Matric Level Posts on 05th November, 2023; and

S.No.	Notification No.	Item No.	Name of the Post	Department
1	01 of 2021	061	Assistant Mechanic	Horticulture
2	01 of 2021	074	Assistant Mechanic	Horticulture
3	01 of 2021	079	Assistant Mechanic	Horticulture
4	01 of 2021	083	Assistant Mechanic	Horticulture
5	01 of 2021	087	Assistant Mechanic	Horticulture
6	01 of 2021	099	Assistant Mechanic	Horticulture
7	01 of 2021	103	Assistant Mechanic	Horticulture
8	01 of 2021	106	Assistant Mechanic	Horticulture
9	05 of 2020	168	Assistant Mechanic	ARI and Training
10	07 of 2020	315	Electronic Mechanic	Skill Development
11	07 of 2020	325	Electronic Mechanic	Skill Development
12	05 of 2020	147	Fitter	Public Works (R&B)
13	04 of 2020	083	Greaser Washer	Transport
14	05 of 2020	167	Junior Electrician	ARI and Training
15	05 of 2020	166	Lathe Runner	ARI and Training
16	04 of 2022	081	Mechanic	Home
17	03 of 2021	604	Mistry	Forest, Ecology and Environment
18	06 of 2020	190	Plumber – II	Higher Education
19	01 of 2021	121	Screenman	Information
20	01 of 2021	126	Screenman	Information
21	01 of 2021	132	Screenman	Information
22	01 of 2021	136	Screenman	Information
23	01 of 2021	141	Screenman	Information
24	01 of 2021	154	Screenman	Information
25	01 of 2021	155	Screenman	Information
26	01 of 2021	157	Screenman	Information
27	01 of 2021	112	Tailor	Hospitality and Protocol
28	07 of 2020	311	Workshop Assistant	Skill Development
28	07 of 2020	320	Workshop Assistant	Skill Development



searchers, which gives no reference to

internet users' personal data, it said.

Further, no personal data was

conduct this study, the website said.

"Streaming lovers seem to be

said, referring to users who enjoyed

streaming online content. The study

websites, people choose the poorest

found that compared to other popular

strong password haters," NordPass

acquired or purchased by NordPass to

Jammu and Kashmir Bank Limited **Estates & Engineering Department** Corporate Headquarters, Srinagar M. A. Road Srinagar, 190 001 J&K

Online Request for Proposal (e-RFP)

Comprehensive AMC/Total Guarantee of Ricoh make **Photocopier Machines Installed at various** Departments/Offices of CHQ/Other Allied Offices

Tender Notice along with Complete Tender document outlining the minimum requirements can be downloaded from and BIDs can be submitted on the Banks' e-Tendering Portal https://jkbank.abcprocure.com w.e.f. November 20, 2023, 16.00 Hrs. Tender Document can also be downloaded from Bank's Official Website www.jkbank.com. Last date for submission of Bids is December 11, 2023, 17.00 Hrs. e-NIT Ref.No.JKB/E&ED/AMC-Ricoh/2023-888

Dated: 18-11-2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

My mother's name has been wrongly written in school as Moobena Begum while her correct name is Mubeena Begum which needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Al-Noor Model School Dhobiwan within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Abrar Ahmad Lone	
S/o Gh Mohammad Lone	bmg
R/o Braripora Bejhama Baramulla	

BEFORE THE HON'BLE COURT OF PRINCIPAL DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE AT SRINAGAR.

From the office of :-Adv Faizan Ul Hag Mattoo Adv Imtiyaz Aziz Baigh Adv Manzoor Sadiq Ganie Adv Sirnawaz Thakur

Whereas, the J&K Services Selection Board (JKSSB), vide Notice No. JKSSB-COE0EXAM(UT)/88/2023-03 (7314392) dated: 05-11-2023, issued provisional Answer Key in respect of the written test; and Л

Whereas, the objections received in response to the Provisional Answer Key were examined and the revised/final answer key in respect of written examination held for the above said posts has been notified vide No. JKSSB-COE0EXAM(UT)/88/2023-03 (7314392) dated: 19-11-2023.

Now, therefore, in view of the above, the result/score-sheet, based on the performance of candidates who appeared in the Written Test for the above mentioned Matric Level Posts of different departments conducted on 05-11-2023, is hereby notified as Annexure "A".

It is further notified that:

- i. mere figuring in the result/score sheet shall not entitle a candidate to be called for document verification or figure in the select list and that he/she has to fulfill other eligibility conditions, as laid down and decision of the Board in this regard shall be final.
- ii. the Jammu & Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) will call candidates falling in the consideration zone, based on the merit obtained by them for document verification. The schedule for document verification shall be notified separately

DIPK-12479/23 dated: 20-11-2023

eu separat	ely.
	41
<u>1</u> 1a	19.11.2023
Re	yaz Ahmad Malik (JKAS)
Contr	oller of Examinations
	vices Selection Board

No.JKSSB-COE0EXAM(UT)/88/2023-03(7314392)

 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-4322/23 dated: 20-11-2023

E-mail:-techrbpul786@gmail.com | Phone:-01933-295302 Government of Jammu & Kashmir (UT)

Office Of The Executive Engineer **R&B** Division Pulwama.

TENDER NOTICE

E-NIT No: 191 / EEP/RNB/of 2023-24/10927-37

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT term 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 Government for the following work : -

6. No	Name of Work	Approved Cost civil (Rs. Lacs.)	Cost of T/D (Rs.)	Time of Completion in working Days	Class of Contract	Major Head of Accounts	Administrative Accord Approval No:	Call No:
	Repair/renovation of Govt Residential quarters (AMC) (Part B Acs).	1.00	200/	Fy 2023-24	All classes	NFB	11 DDCP of 2023 dated .26.05.2023	Ist call

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website <u>www</u> iktenders nov inas per schedule of date given below:-

J	ktender	s. gov .mas per schedule of date given below:-	
	1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	20 - 11 - 2023
	2.	Bid downloading Start Date	20- 11-2023 from 10:00 A.M
	3.	Bid submission Start Date	20-11-2023 from 10:00 A.M
	4.	Bid Submission End Date	25 - 11-2023 upto 0 4:00 P.M
	5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	28 - 11 -2023 at 10:30 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Div.Pulwama
	6.	Submission of Performance Security(PS)	The 1 st lowest responsive Bidder has to produce an amount of Rs 5000/- as performance security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG within 02 Days before fixation of contract and the same shall be released only after successful completion contractual obligation concerning the allotted work.
	1.	Annexure -C (Debited to M.H.0059 PWD) and EM	der document in the shape of Treasury Challan /Receipt as per ID in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the Executive Engineer Ilan and EMD should be between the date of start of bid and Bid

2. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of responsive bidders shall opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Div. Pulwama

- 3. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids.
- The normal deposits (deducted @ 10% from running bills) shall be released after the DLP of the work is over.
- 5. The Contractors are advised to visit the site and to be aware of the conditions for launching at site of work before quoting the rates.
- The contractor shall also be responsible for any theft/ damage to any of the component at site and the cost of damage/ the if any shall be deducted from the work done or CDR of the Contractor till completion of work and handing over
- 7. The ceiling amount of the work shall not exceed Rs.1.00 lac only.
- 8. Any item / Items of work found necessary during execution of work outside BOQ shall have to executed by the contractor and shall be paid at Par/and the minus (%) as quoted by bidder.

Technical Officer

Head Draftsman

Executive Engineer R&B Division Pulwama

Dated: 20 /11/2023

DIPK-12520/23 dated: 20-11-2023 IN THE CASE OF :-1. Zahid altaf bhat S/o Late mohmmad altaf bhat

R/o Palpora pampoosh colony Noor bagh. Srinagar 2. Arsalaan jahan bhat S/o Late mohmmad altaf bhat R/o Habbakadal Srinagar.

(Caveator)

V/S Public at large (Non-Caveators)

IN THE MATTER OF:- Caveat petetion in terms of section 148 A cpc.

The caveator has reason to believe/apprehension that non caveators may file an application /case /revision or any other proceedings before this hon'ble court on the ground of distorted facts /misrepresentation and cooked up story , therefore may succeed in obtaining some relief / order at their back /ex parte against the caveators and in such eventuality the caveators may suffer an irreparable loss and injury which can't be compensated by any means later on . Therefore it would be proper to put caveators on notice so that an opportunity of being heard is given to the caveators before passing any such relief / order

Hence this Caveat application .

Conatus Institute Of In Striving for integrat	
Ref. No. CIIE/1445-04-11/5/3 TO WHOM IT M	
This is to certify that Mohammad Wani Mother's Name: Parveena E is reading in this Institution in cla Admission No. CIIEP23-55 Her/His Date of Birth as per the so In words : Nineth March Two Tho	Bano Resident of Kangamdor ss 1st Session 23/24 chool record is 09.03.2017
Conatus Institute Of In Striving for integrat	ntegrated Education
Ref. No. CIIE/1445-03-30/5/3	Date: October 14, 202 AY CONCERN
TO WHOM IT M	

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KASHMIR OBSERVER Srinagar | Tuesday| 21-11-2023 🔾

Daraksha Andrabi Inaugurates **HRJP Council Office In Srinagar**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Chairperson, Jammu & Kashmir Waqf Board, Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi, today inaugurated the new office of Human Rights Judicial Protection Council at Srinagar.

Shabnum Mehraj representing IHRJPC Kashmir Chapter was also present on the occasion.

The Council aims at providing social justice protection to the deprived sections of the society.

Dr Darakhshan Andrabi also inaugurated a blood donation camp on the occasion besides distributing blankets among the needy. In her address, Dr Da-

rakhshan Andrabi said that social service is the basis of public welfare and when the government is doing its best possible for serving people, the contribution of the volunteers also re-

mains very significant. "Social service has always been at the core of my politics and I continuously remain busy in social service initiatives. We all need to develop the interest of your youth in volunteer services at a bigger scale", said Dr Darakhshan Andrabi.

She praised the youth of J&K who are taking part in different public welfare initiatives at individual and collective levels. "Drug addiction among youth is alarming and Waqf Board is planning to establish a Drug De-Addiction Centre for Girls in Srinagar ", said Andrabi.

She also felicitated many volunteers on the occasion for their social contribution.



A Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) sanitation worker sweeps pedestrian walkway at the Residency Road in Srinagar amidst dense fog on a cold Monday morning. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Dal Lake Fire Survivor Tourists

Return Homes Safely

Mirwaiz-Umer Faroog Bereaved

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The wife of Late Molvi Ali Mohammad Jan, who was the aunt (Chachi) of Mirwaiz-e-Kashmir, Dr Moulvi Muhammad Umar Farooq breathed her last this morning after a brief illness.

The funeral prayers (Nimaz-e-Jinazah) of the deceased were held at their residence in Kursoo Rajbagh, Srinagar, at

12.30 pm. The funeral prayer of the deceased was led by Mirwaiz Umar Farooq at Kursoo Rajbagh, Srinagar, at 12.30 pm after the authorities allowed the latter to participate in the funeral procession of

A large number of people from all walks of life participated in the Nimaze-Jinazah. Later, the deceased was buried in her ancestral family graveyard.

70th All India Cooperative Week Concluding Function Organized At SKICC

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Cooperative Department on Monday organized a mega function to wrap up the week-long celebrations of 70th All India Cooperative Week at SKICC, Srinagar.

The mega program was attended by Registrar Cooperative Department, J&K, Mohammad Akbar Wani; Additional Registrar Cooperative Societies Kashmir. Syed Qamar Sajad; Director Agriculture, Director Industries, Director Animal Husbandry, Director Command Area Development, Joint Director Horticulture Denuty Registrars, Assistant Registrars, Representatives of Cooperative Societies, officers and officials of the department.

his aunt.

Srinagar: All the seven tourists including a couple from Chennai, who miraculously escaped the tragic houseboat blaze in Dal Lake earlier this month, have 'safely' returned to their homes, officials said on Monday.

The inquiry into the death of three Bangladeshi guests, officials said, is underway, while the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) report will reveal the actual cause

Majid Nabi

of the fire. Three Bangladeshi nationals on a trip to iconic tourist attraction-Dal Lake in Srinagar lost their lives in the tragic fire incident. The deceased tourists were identified as Anindya Kawshal, Das Gupta and Mohammad Moinud, all residents of Bangladesh. The seven tourists including a

couple from Chennai who survived the devastating blaze have returned to their homes, officials said.

They said the survivors did not report injuries or losses to their possessions in the inferno that otherwise left 5 luxurious houseboats, an equal number of wooden dwellings and a few concrete structures completely gutted at Mir Mohalla near Ghat number 09 at Dal Lake on No-

House Gutted, **Fireman Injured In** Soura Blaze

rinagar: A residential house was gutted while a firefighter suffered injuries in a fire incident at Soura area of Srinagar this afternoon, officials said.

An official said that a residential house caught fire in the afternoon following which the fire tenders were rushed to the spot at 02:36 PM.

While dousing the flames, one leading Fireman, namely Rouf UI Hamid, sustained injuries in the incident and was shifted to SKIMS Soura for treatment. Confirming the fire incident officials said the timely efforts of the Fire and Emergency Service (F&ES) department brought the fire under control, thereby averting a possible tragedy. However, they said that the top story and the attic of the house suffered damage

The officials stated that there were no reported casualties from the civilian side in the fire incident and the cause of fire is under investigation.

children, according to the earlier statement of police. were safely ceiving the FSL report," he added. Eight tourists including two rescued by the joint teams of Fire

and Emergency Service (F&ES) and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and Police.

Only seven tourists were reported to be stranded in the houseboat, according to Station House Officer (SHO) Ram Munshi Bagh police station, who, he said, were later removed to a safer location within Dal Lake.

"Of the total 10 tourists, three died in the unfortunate incident, while seven others including a couple from Chennai were safely rescued and removed to a safer location the same day. The survivors did not suffer any injury or other losses in the incident," SHO Ram Munshi Bagh police station, Ajaz Ahmad told Kashmir Observer.

He said the tourists returned after recording their statement, while necessary medico-legal formalities stand completed in this direction.

In reference to the origin of the fire, the SHO said the samples from the wreckage of the house boats were collected on the same day for analysis at the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL); the results of which are pending.

"It would be premature to speculate on anything prior to receiving the FSL report. The actual cause of the fire may be determined after re-



This Day In History

- 235 St Anterus begins his reign as Catholic Pope
- 695 Pope Sergius names Willibrord as Archbishop **Clemens of Friezen**
- 1272 Following Henry III of England's death on November 16, his son Prince Edward becomes King of England.
- 1317 Frederik of Sierck/Zyrick becomes bishop of Utrecht
- 1620 Pilgrim Fathers reach America: Provincetown Harbor, Mass
- 1729 Netherlands signs Treaty of Seville
- 1759 Battle at Maxen: Prussian army surrenders to Austrians
- 1794 Honolulu Harbor discovered
- 1806 Decree of Berlin: Emperor Napoleon I bans all trade with Britain
- 1813 Stettin surrenders to allied armies
- 1818 Russia's Tsar Alexander I petitions for a Jewish state in Palestine
- 1877 Thomas Edison announces his "talking machine" invention (phonograph), the 1st machine to play and record sound
- 1906 China prohibits the opium trade
- 1914 British army conquers Bazra
- 1917 Maxim Gorky calls Vladimir Lenin a blind fanatic and unthinking adventurer
- 1918 2 German ammunition trains explode in Hamont Belgium, 1,750 die
- 1924 British Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin cancels Labour contract with USS 1942 - Hitler names field marshal Erich von

Manstein commander of the newly-created Army

1944 - Personnel & executive staff of Philips

1945 - Benjamin Britten's 2nd String quartet in C

the progress of cooperative societies.

The Registrar appreciated the officers and officials and members of societies for reviving the department and channelizing the potential of

youth to transform their livelihood by earning through sustainable avenues of employment. Meanwhile, he maintained that the coop-

erative department is intervening in the establishment of CSC centers and Jan Aushadhi Centers

and is fostering coopera-

tion with every depart-

ment. Besides, he said that

in the educational sector,

the department has intro-

Speaking on the occasion, the Registrar Cooperative Department highlighted the importance of the department in ensuring the utilization of local talent and produce for providing employment to the people.

He underlined that compassionate behavior, unity and right decision making is imperative for

duced Smart Classes and Science labs in cooperative schools The Additional Registrar Cooperative Societies, Kashmir said that the Cooperative department creates a relation between the producer and consumer by providing the best and convenient interface where the interests of both are protected and served in a better

way by removing the intermediaries and middlemen.

Azadi ka

vember 11.

GOVERNMENT OF UT JAMMU AND KASHMIR **Office Of The Executive Engineer** PCD (PHQ) J&K Jammu/ Srinagar

INVITING SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE

e-NIT No/EE-PCD/PHQ/90/2023-24 Dated: - 20-11 - 2023

Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K JAMMU/ SRINAGAR on behalf of The President of India invites tenders by e-tendering on Percentage rate basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K

5	5.	Name of Work	Name of Divi-	Estimated	Cost of docu-	Earnest	Time Allowed	Date of open-	Class of
	١o		sion	Cost (Rs. in	ment (In Rs.)	Money in Rs.)	for completion	ing of tender	Contractor
				lacs)					
1		Immediate Repairs of	PCD (PHQ)	1.65 lacs	200/-	3260/-	45 working	29-11-2023	"A", "B",
		toilet / bathroom of Spl.	J&K, Jmu / Sgr				days		"C"&"D"
		DGPCID Hgr's at Jammu.					-		

1. Date of Publishing 21-11-2023 at 1600 hours

The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website http://iktenders.gov.in from 1630 hours on 21-11-2023. i. The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website http://iktenders.aov.in from 22-11-2023 to 28-11-2023 upto 1600 Hrs. The bids received will be opened at 1100 hours on 29-11-2023 on line.

ii. The complete bidding process will be on line.

iii. Technical bids of bidders shall be opened on line in the office of Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar on 29-11-2023 at 1100 Hrs.

iv. The lowest bidder i. e. L1 shall be intimated to deposit the original copy of required earnest money in shape of CDR/ FDR and hard copies of all relevant documents as mentioned in clause 2 of general instructions to the bidders within five days from opening of financial bids.

v. In light of Govt. Notification issued by Finance Department Civil Secretariat Vide No. A/24(2017)-651 dated:- 07-06-2018, the bidder must upload the copy of challan / receipt on account of cost of tender documents remitted in the treasury concerned for that the bidders must write an application to be addressed to treasury officer concerned requesting therein for remittance of amount as cost of tender documents towards M. H. 0055/ Revenue (others).

vi. The cost of tender documents should be submitted by the bidder in shape of treasury challan / receipt and upload the same.

Earnest Money - The earnest money deposit (EMD @ 2% of advertised cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar of the successful bidder (L1) shall be released, only after defect liability period, the DLP shall be calculated from the date of successful completion of the work to the satisfaction report of Engineer in charge

Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website httpJ/iktenders.aov.in Bid documents contain qualifying criteria for bidder, specifications, bill of quantities, conditions and other details.

5. The site for the work is available. The intending bidders are strongly advised to inspect the site of work before bidding. 6. Financial Bids will be opened on line in the office of the Executive Engineer, PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/Srinagar, 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 time and venue. 6. The bid for the work shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder / tenderer withdraws his bid/tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the said earnest money shall stand forfeited.

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

8. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents.

DIPK-12516/23 DATED: 20-11-2023

(Er. Neerai Gupta

Executive Engineer

PCD PHQ J&K Jmu/ Sgr.

premieres 1945 - General Motors workers go on strike

Group Don (Heeresgruppe Don)

demonstrate for more food

- 1946 Georgi Dimitrov elected premier of Bulgaria
- 1946 Harry Truman becomes 1st US President to travel in a submerged sub
- 1947 Bill Longson beats Lou Thesz in St Louis, to win National Wrestlingg Association world heavyweight title
- 1949 Bill Veeck sells Indians for \$22 million
- 1952 1st US postage stamp in 2 colors (rotary process) introduced
- 1953 Authorities at the British Natural History Museum announce the "Piltdown Man" skull, one of the most famous fossil skulls in the world, is a hoax
- 1955 Argentina asks Panama for return of expresident Peron
- 1962 The Chinese People's Liberation Army declares a unilateral cease-fire in the Sino-Indian War.
- 1967 Vietnam War: American General William Westmoreland tells news reporters: "I am absolutely certain that whereas in 1965 the enemy was winning, today he is certainly losing."
- 1970 General Hafez al-Assad becomes Prime Minister of Syria following military coup
- 1971 Battle of Garibpur: Indian troops aided by Mukti Bahini (Bengali guerrillas) defeat the Pakistan army
- 1974 Birmingham pub bombings: 21 civilians killed when bombs explode at two pubs in Birmingham, England (deadliest attack in England during "the Troubles")
- 1989 Law banning smoking on most domestic flights signed by US President George H. W. Bush
- 2002 NATO invites Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia to become members.
- 2012 An Israel and Hamas ceasefire is negotiated
- 2013 31 people are killed by a truck bomb in northeaster Iraq
- 2013 The Alabama parole board grants posthumous pardons to three members of the Scottsboro boys
- 2016 India celebrates 50th anniversary of IR8, rice variety specially bred that saved much of Asia from famine

Registered office : Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India SGC000048 ; T : +91 (0)194 2481 330 35 ; F : +91 (0)194 248 1928 ; E : info@jkbmail.com DIPK-12516/23 DATED: 20-11-2023

Development of GCT at Vijaypur Jammu, Railway Station, details as under: The date of pre-bid meeting which has been fixed as 11.12.2023 and written as 14.12.2023 in Tender Document is hereby corrected in Tender documents and the date of Pre-Bid Meeting may please be

Rest of the conditions provided on ireps.gov.in will remain same For further details please visit on Railway's website ireps.gov.in

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Corrigendum

and on behalf of President of India Invites Tenders (Two Packet System) for

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/FS. Northern Railways, Firozpur fo

No. 2-AC/Goods-GCT-VJPJ-FZR/23 Date: 20.11.2023 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 3641/23



read as 11.12.2023.

Jammu and Kashmir Bank Limited **Estates & Engineering Department** Corporate Headquarters, Srinagar M. A. Road Srinagar, 190 001 J&K

Online Request For Tender (e-NIT)

Tender for supply, installation, testing & Comissioning of D.G. Sets (cpcb iv +) for branches & offices of the bank

Tender Notice along with Complete Tender document outlining the minimum requirements can be downloaded from and BIDs can be submitted on the Banks' e-Tendering Portal https://jkbank.abcprocure.com w.e.f. November 21, 2023, 16.00 Hrs. Tender Document can also be downloaded from Bank's Official Website www.jkbank.com. Last date for submission of Bids is December 12, 2023, 17.00 Hrs. e-RFP Ref. No JKB/E&ED/SITC-DGsets/2023-889 Dated: 18-11-2023

KASHMIR OBSERVER Srinagar | Tuesday | 21-11-2023

NEWS

Rescuers To Dig New Shaft For 41 Workers Trapped In **Tunnel For 9 Days**



the crucial heavy drilling ma-

chines, with the air force hav-

the impact of extensive con-

struction in Uttarakhand,

where large parts of the state

Engineers had been trying

to horizontally drive a steel

pipe through the debris, just

wide enough for the increas-

ingly desperate men to squeeze

But drilling on that route was

paused on Friday after a crack-

ing sound created a "panic situ-

Teams were now preparing to

dig the new shaft from above,

forcing workers to cut an en-

tirely new track up to the top of

the forested hill high above for

The new plans include drill-

ing vertically from the top of

the mountain, which rescuers

hope can start by Tuesday as

they await the arrival of ma-

chinery, said Jasvant Kapoor, a

general manager at state-run

company SJVN, which is in-

Top local civil servant Ab-

"Up to 900 metres (2,950

feet) of the 1,200 metre-long

road being built for drilling

over the tunnel has been com-

pleted," Ruhela told the AFP

Foreign experts have been drafted in, including inde-

pendent disaster investigator

Arnold Dix, president of the

International Tunnelling and

Underground Space Association.

hishek Ruhela said the track to

the new drilling site was three-

quarters built.

news agency.

volved in the rescue efforts.

the heavy equipment needed.

Experts have warned about

ing to twice airlift new kit.

are prone to landslides.

'PANIC SITUATION'

ation", officials said.

through.

Agencies

Indian rescuers are battling to free 41 men trapped in a road tunnel for nine days as they prepare to dig an entirely new shaft after previous efforts failed.

Excavators on Monday were removing earth, concrete and rubble from the site of the under-construction tunnel in the northern Himalayan state of Uttarakhand that collapsed on November 12.

The trapped workers have access to light, and supplies of oxygen, dry food, water and medicines are being sent via a pipe. At least three workers have complained of dysentery, officials said.

The authorities are now trying to send cooked food and set up a phone connection for them through a second, 6-inch (15cm) pipeline being drilled into the debris, with 42 metres (138 feet) out of an estimated 60 metres (200 feet) already completed, said Bhaskar Khulbe, officer on special duty for the tunnel project.

"Our priority is to save 41 lives who are trapped inside the tunnel. Through this [pipeline], we will be able to send necessary things to them," Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari told reporters on Sunday.

Officials are also considering setting up an optical fibre connection through this pipeline, Gadkari added, which can be used to insert a camera or phone connection into the tunnel to help workers speak to their families.

But rescue efforts have been slowed by falling debris as well as repeated breakdowns of

Asked To Pay For Excess Luggage, **IPS Officer Creates Ruckus At** Kolkata Airport; Booked



Yemen's Houthi's Seize Israeli-Linked Ship In Red Sea; **Capture 25 Crew Members**

Agencies

JERUSALEM: Yemen's Houthi militia seized an Israeli-linked cargo ship in a crucial Red Sea shipping route on Sunday and took its 25 crew members hostage, officials said, raising fears that regional tensions heightened over the Israel-Hamas war were playing out on a new maritime front.

The Iran-backed Houthi's who control over seventy percent of Yemen said they seized the ship over its connection to Israel and would continue to target ships in international waters that were linked to or owned by Israelis until the end of Israel's campaign against Gaza's Hamas rulers.

"All ships belonging to the Israeli enemy or that deal with it will become legitimate targets," they said.

Mohammed Abdul-Salam, the Houthis' chief negotiator and spokesman, later added in an online statement that the Israelis only understand "the language of force".

"The detention of the Israeli ship is a practical step that proves the seriousness of the Yemeni armed forces in waging the sea battle, regardless of its costs and costs," he added. "This is the beginning."

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office had blamed the Houthis for the attack on the Bahamas-flagged Galaxy Leader, a vehicle carrier affiliated with an Israeli billionaire. It said no Israelis

were on board. The ship's Japanese operator, NYK Line, said the vessel had no cargo at the time of the

hijacking. Its crewmembers are from the Philippines, Bulgaria, Romania, Ukraine and Mexico, NYK said.

treating the crew members "in accordance with their Islamic values", but did not elaborate on what that meant. The Israeli military called the hijacking a "very grave inpublicly discuss the matter. cident of global consequence". Israeli officials insisted the ship was British-owned and Japanese-operated. However, the Houthis. ownership details in public shipping databases associated

the ship's owners with Ray Car Carriers, founded by Abraham "Rami" Ungar, who is known as one of the richest men in Israel. Ungar told The Associated Press he was aware of the incident but couldn't comment as he awaited details. A ship linked to him experienced an

explosion in 2021 in the Gulf of Oman. Israeli media blamed month. it on Iran at the time. International shipping often involves a series of management companies, flags and owners stretching across the globe in a single vessel. Two US defence officials

confirmed that Houthi rebels seized the Galaxy Leader in the Red Sea on Sunday afternoon local time. The rebels descended on the cargo ship by rappel-

12 Including Wounded Patients Killed In Israeli Strike On Gaza Hospital

Agencies

PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES: Gaza's Hamas-run health ministry said Monday Israeli forces had struck the Indonesian Hospital and killed at least 12 people, including patients, in the north of the war-torn Palestinian territory.



The Houthis said they were ling from a helicopter, the officials said, confirming details first reported by NBC News. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorised to

The ship's seizure resembles others previously conducted by Iran, which has long armed

Twice in the last month, US warships have intercepted missiles or drones from Yemen that were believed to be headed toward Israel or posing a threat to American vessels. The USS Carney, a Navy destroyer, intercepted three land attack cruise missiles and several drones that were launched by Houthi forces toward the northern Red Sea last

Thomas Hudner, another destroyer, was sailing toward the Bab-el-Mandeb strait when the crew saw a drone, reported to have originated in Yemen. The ship shot down the drone over the water. The officials said the crew took action to ensure the safety of US personnel, and there were no casualties or damage to the ship.





Gaza In Israeli Offensive

Agencies

GAZA: The head of a prominent media institution in Gaza and two other journalists were killed during the weekend in Israel's offensive in the territory, their relatives said on Sunday, adding to the dozens of reporters who have died in the six-week conflict.

The New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) said the weekend deaths raised to 48 the number of journalists and media workers it had confirmed killed in the region since the Oct. 7 Hamas attack on Israel and the subsequent Israeli offensive. The CPJ, whose list covers

journalists killed on both sides of the conflict although most have been in Gaza, said it seeks at least two sources to verify each death. It said its list of those killed comprised 43 Palestinians, four Israelis and one

"Journalists across the region are making great sacrifices to cover this heart-breaking conflict. Those in Gaza, in particular, have paid, and continue to pay, an unprecedented toll and face exponential threats," Sherif Mansour, CPJ's Middle East and North Africa program coordinator, said in an email to Reuters. On Sunday, Belal Jadallah,

a journalist and head of the board of the Press House-Palestine, a non-governmental organization, was killed and his pharmacist brother-in-law was seriously wounded, his sister and other relatives told Reuters.

Jadallah told his sister earlier

on Sunday he was heading out of Gaza City toward the south. He was killed in the Zeitoun area of Gaza City, said his sister, who added that people who found him and took him to a medical center where he was declared dead said he had been killed by an Israeli tank shell. Reuters could not indepen-

dently verify this report or the report of the other two journalists killed this weekend.

Four of Jadallah's relatives work for Reuters in Gaza or abroad. One of the journalists on CPI's list of those killed is Reuters journalist Issam Abdallah who was killed in Lebanon near the border with Israel on Oct. 13.

In addition to Jadallah, two freelance journalists – Hassouna Sleem and Sary Mansour - were killed on Saturday in an Israeli assault on Bureij refugee camp, in the center of the Gaza Strip, their relatives and Palestinian health officials said. The health officials said 17 people died in the incident.

The Israeli military did not immediately respond to a request for comment about the deaths of Jadallah or the others. In the past, the Israeli military has said it was pursuing its offensive to dismantle Hamas after the Oct. 7 attack and it would look into individual cases at a later date. It has also said it makes every feasible effort to mitigate civilian harm.

The Press House-Palestine says on its website that its overall objective is to contribute to developing an "independent Palestinian media, that reflects the values of democracy and freedom of expression and its principles.'



Bengal Man Dies By Suicide After India's Loss In World **Cup Final: Family**

Press Trust of India

KOLKATA: A case was filed against a senior police officer for allegedly creating a ruckus at the Kolkata airport when asked to pay for additional luggage he wanted to carry on a flight, officials said on Monday.

He was identified as Anirban Ray, a 1998-batch IPS officer who is at present posted as the Additional Director-General (Provisioning) with the West Bengal Police, they said.

He has been booked under IPC sections 323 (voluntarily causing hurt), 341 (wrongful restraint), 505 (causing public mischief) and 506 (criminal intimidation), Deputy Commissioner (Airport) of Bidhannagar City Police Aishwarya Sagar said.

The incident happened on Sunday afternoon. An FIR has already been lodged against him, and appropriate legal action has been initiated. An investigation has been started." she said.

Ray was supposed to take a flight to Delhi from the Kolkata airport, officials said.

According to the complaint, he misbehaved with the airport staff and created a ruckus after he was asked to pay for excess luggage, they said.

Following the incident, he was not allowed to board the flight and was escorted out of the airport, they added.

ed and around 700 people remained trapped inside the "besieged" medical centre, said Ashraf al-Qudra, a spokesman of the ministry which has reported a death number of more than 13.000 in Gaza.

Dozens more w

Israel did not immediately comment but pushed on with its withering air and ground campaign aimed at destroying Hamas over the October 7 attacks it says killed 1,200 people and saw 240 dragged off as hostages.

The latest reported blow to Gaza's devastated health sector came as hopes rose that 31 premature babies evacuated from another hospital, Al-Shifa, would be taken from a Gaza clinic to safety in Egypt through the Rafah crossing. Frantic diplomatic efforts

were meanwhile underway to seal a deal for the release of some of the hostages. Mediator Qatar voiced hope on Sunday that an agreement was near. but Israel and Hamas

have not yet reported that a

deal is imminent.

The bloodiest ever Gaza war has reduced much of the coastal strip to rubble and seen Israeli troops raid, occupy and evacuate the biggest hospital, Al-Shifa, in recent days, which saw hundreds flee the area on foot toward southern Gaza.

Israel, backed by ally the United States, argues that Hamas has used vast tunnel networks below Al-Shifa for military purposes and showed recovered weaponry as proof, but was yet to reveal evidence of a major military headquarters below ground.

After another Gaza building was hit, in Deir al-Balah south of Gaza City on Sunday, rescuers searched through the debris for survivors and bodies, using the lights of their mobile phones in the rain.

"There are only children and women in the house and no

one else," exclaimed one resident. "How can that give them (the Israeli army) an excuse to hit it? ... We don't have any equipment to pull people out from under the rubble.' Bodies on the road

Alarm has surged over the dire humanitarian situation as the war rages into a seventh

week. The Israeli offensive has killed more than 13,000 people, including thousands of children, according to the Hamas-run government, fuelling mounting global pressure for a ceasefire.

The UN humanitarian agency OCHA has described a "collapse of services" at hospitals across northern Gaza, amid shortages of electricity, fuel and medical supplies.

Israeli officials have warned a "window of legitimacy" for the war to rout Hamas may be closing.



Press Trust of India

BANKURA (WB): A 23-year-old man allegedly died by suicide in West Bengal's Bankura district after India lost the World Cup final to Australia, his family said. The incident happened around 11 pm on Sunday near the Cinema Hall in Beliatore police station area, police said. Rahul Lohar used to work at a clothing store in the area, and

he took a leave on Sunday to watch the final match. Heartbroken by India's loss to Australia. he died by suicide in his room, his brother-in-law Uttam

Sur said. Otherwise, there were

no such problems in his life, he claimed

His body was sent to the Bankura Šammilani Medical College and Hospital on Monday morning for post-mortem examination, police said, adding that a case of unnatural death was registered.

There was no one in the house when the incident happened, they said.

Police said that an investigation was underway, refusing to comment on the reason for the death.

India lost the World Cup title clash to Australia by six wickets, in Ahmedabad on Sunday.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, IT AND COMMUNICATION DIVISION KASHMIR POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LIMITED (KPDCL) PDD COMPLEX BEMINA, SRINAGAR

E-mail: ceo.rapdrp.a@gmail.com Tel No: 0194-2490821 Fax No: 0194-2490829

EXTENSION NOTICE NO 3

In view of no response to the e-NIT issued for "Replacement of defunct Addressable Fire Alarm System, Rodent Repellant System, High Sensitivity Smoke Detection System, CCTV System and Access Control System at Data Centre, Bemina, Srinagar" vide this office NIT No.: CEO/IT&C/19 of 2023 Dated: 06/10/2023, the last date for online submission is hereby further extended up to 25-11-2023, 3:00pm. The details to submit e-Bid online up to the date and time are mentioned in the table below:

A e-Bid submission (end) date & time(Extended)	25/11/2023:1500 Hrs
B Online Technical e-Bid Opening date and Time	28/11/2023:1400 Hrs
C Venue of opening of technical Bids	Office of the Chief Executive Officer, IT & C division , KPDCL
D Online Financial e-Bid Opening date and Time	Will be separately communicated to the technically responsive bidders
E Estimated Cost Including Taxes	INR 14,53,628/=
No: CEO-IT&C/1724-26	Sd/-
Dated: 20-11-2023	Chief Executive Officer
DIPK-NB-4321-23	IT and Communication Division
DT: 20/11/2023	KPDCL





JAMMU & KASHMIR HORTICULTURAL PRODUCE **MARKETING & PROCESSING CORPORATION (JKHPMC) LTD HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT, JAMMU & KASHMIR GOVERNMENT**

OPPOSITE PRESENTATION CONVENT SCHOOL, RAJBAGH, SRINAGAR-190008, J&K

SHORT TERM INVITATION OF BIDS FOR APPOINTMENT OF FIRM AS TAX CONSULTANT OF JKHPMC LIMITED

Jammu & Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited (JK HPMC), a Joint Venture of Government of India and Government of Jammu & Kashmir under the administrative control of Agriculture Production Department, J&K invites short term bids in two parts (Technical Bid & Price Bid) for appointment of a firm of Chartered Accountants as Tax Consultant for handling matters of both Indirect and Direct Taxes for a period of 03 financial years. The services will be regarding the issues related to Direct/Indirect taxes levied by Central and the UT Governments. The NIT document giving details regarding various technical particulars of the proposal covering particulars of the participating firm and the Price Bid, the Scope of Work can be had from the office of Managing Director, JKHPMC Limited Raj Bagh, Srinagar or can be download from the Corporation web site www:https://jkhpmc.jk.gov.in

The bids shall be submitted by the firms not later than 2.00 pm on November 25th, 2023

No: JKHPMC/MD/23/2282	DIPK-NB-4329-23	Managing Director
Dt: 20 / 11/2023	DT: 20/11/2023	JKHPMC Ltd.

STATE

BJP Demands Enhanced Security At Migrant KP Camps

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: A BJP delegation on Monday called on Senior Superintendent of Police (Jammu) Vinod Kumar and demanded enhanced security at camps housing migrant Kashmiri Pandits.

The demand was highlighted in a memorandum submitted by the BJP's Kashmir displaced unit led by the party's district chief Chand Ji Bhat, it said in a statement.

The delegation raised the alleged incidents of vandalism of vehicles in the Jagti township and sought intensified efforts to apprehend the culprits and implement preventive measures. It also emphasised the urgent

need to bolster manpower at the Jagti police post and recommended frequent and comprehensive night patrolling at all Kashmiri Pandit camps in Purkhoo, Muthi, Jagti and Nagrota. "This proactive measure aims to deter criminal activities and enhance residents' sense of se-

curity," the delegation said. It also proposed monthly campaigns on drug awareness, crime prevention and policepublic meetings to foster community engagement.

The delegation raised the issue of CCTV camera installation at Jagti and other camps, the statement said, lauding the positive response of the police official.

Crackdown On Traffic Violators 40 Vehicles Blacklisted, 4 **DLs Suspended In Anantnag**

Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: A team of Motor Vehicles Department on Monday laid special nakka at Khanabal- Bijbehara Road to check violation of the various visible offences under Motor Vehicles Act, 2019 and Central Motor Vehicles Rules 1989.

During the checking, nearly 120 Vehicles were checked which included as many as 30 School Buses. 40 vehicles were blacklisted on spot for various offences such as diversion of route permit, carrying students in private vehicles, carrying excess students in school buses,

Non use of seat belt, plying without fitness, without permit and tempering Speed Limiting Device. Fine to the tune of Rs 45000 is expected to be realised from the violators.

Meanwhile the inspection team also made the people aware about their duties towards observing traffic norms and road safety while travelling.

The violators were informed that similar checking drives would continue in the coming days and asked them to strictly adhere to traffic norms to avoid any further strict action by the department.

AJKPC Hits Out At Poll Panel Over Delay In Local Body Elections

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The All Jammu and Kashmir Panchayat Conference (AJKPC) on Monday accused the state election commission of delaying the conduct of local body polls and alleged it was functioning as "extension and subordinate department" of the government.

The AJKPC, a representative body of panchayati raj institutions, also opposed any move by the government to transfer the process of budget planning for the next financial year from the panchayats and block development councils (BDCs) to the district development councils as the term of both existing BDCs and panchayats would cease to exist in the first week

gone into hibernation...," AJKPC president Anil Sharma told reporters here.

He said the commission is silent on the conduct of local body elections though the term of existing bodies is about to end.

He said that the commission should act as an "autonomous and independent body" but was functioning as "an extension and subordinate department of the government".

"Our organisation is strongly opposing the reported proposal of the government, wherein it has been stated that planning of the Panchayats and Block Development Councils (BDCs) for next financial year of 2024-25 will shift to the District Development Councils (DDCs) as



A GROUP OF MEN doing workouts inside a public park in Srinagar on a cold and foggy Monday morningy. KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

AI-Based System Introduced For Detecting TB Cases In Kashmir

'Sound Bank With Over 20,000 Sounds Created To Help Recognise TB Cases'

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Authorities in Kashmir have initiated Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems to detect potential tuberculosis cases to enhance surveillance and work towards making the

An official of the State Tuberculosis Office said that an artificial intelligence system has been started in districts that have been already tuberculosis-free to keep more surveillance and fully eradicate

the disease. While AI algorithms can efficiently identify potential tuberculosis cases, the official

recommended a comprehensive clinical examination and follow-up tests. He said the integration of AI reduces the number of patients requiring extensive tests, making resource allocation more efficient and cost-effective.

"This combined approach significantly reduces costs while enhancing the detection of TB cases. By screening patients in the community and detecting TB early, better outcomes are achieved, and

shorter treatment courses become possible," the health official said, adding that early detection is crucial in limiting the spread of this highly contagious disease. The official added that the

introduction of AI in tuberculosis diagnosis offers hope in the global fight against the disease, particularly in remote areas with limited diagnostic facilities.

He said though TB cases are on the decline in Kashmir, the disease continues to remain a significant global threat. "But with the power of AI, we are hopeful of eradicating this global menace at the earliest," he said.

The AI system, already operational in tuberculosis-free districts, is set to expand across the entire Kashmir region, he said, adding that training has been provided to staff, and a mobile app has been developed to enable people to record their cough sounds

"Through this app, a person will be informed whether he/ she needs to go for further screening or not as a cough

Army Hands Over 10 Modified Scooters To Battle-Wounded

bank with around 20.000 cough sounds (under national study) has been recorded to identify sounds resembling with potential case of TB," he said.

Dr Adfar Qadri, the State Tuberculosis Officer said tat J&K has become a trendsetter in healthcare as two more districts - Anantnag and Pulwama - have been declared TB-free after Srinagar and Budgam.

Srinagar received a gold medal for its efforts, contributing to the region's success in combating tuberculosis, Dr Adfar said, adding, "We will achieve TB elimination by 2025 as we are doing intensified and active case finding and case screening."

Dr Qadri said tuberculosis is declining in Kashmir. "We will achieve TB elimination by 2025 as we are doing intensified and active case finding and case screening. Several measures have been taken over the years to develop infrastructure and employ manpower for the early detection and effective treatment of the disease."-(KNO)

36.15 Kanal Evacuee Land Retrieved In Kathua

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Evacuee Property Department Jammu has launched an extensive Eviction Drive to vacate EP Land from illegal occupants/ encroachers/ land grabbers etc. The move has been initiated on the directions issued by Custodian General J&K Rajinder Singh Tara.

In this context an eviction team was constituted under close supervision of Custodian Evacuee Property Jammu Ravinder Sharma and over all supervision of the Custodian General J&K Rajinder Singh Tara.

dian Evacuee Property Jammu /Kathua /Samba retrieved the evacuee Property Land covered under Khasra No.524 (15 kanals 14 marlas) and Khasra No. 525 (21 Kanals 01 marlas) totaling 36 Kanal 15 Marlas situated at Village Sahar Logate, Tehsil & District Kathua.

The team was assisted by Revenue authorities Naib Tehsildar, Girdawar and Patwari Halqa concerned who earlier identified and demarcated the said land. Police party was also provided by the Station House Officer, Police Station Kathua. As per prevailing market rate the land retrieved is worth crores of rupees. The sign Boards were

also installed on spot.

The eviction team headed by Aijaz Ahmed Deputy Custo-

'VIKSIT BHARAT SANKALP YATRA' **Union Joint Secretary Reviews, Finalizes Preps In Anantnag**



Observer News Service economic upliftment.

Yatra" preparations.

Officer about the district plan

for the upcoming 'Viksit Bharat

Sankalp Yatra. The plan includ-

ed formation of transport and

route schedule, appointment

of nodal person and training of

the stakeholders about various

Union Joint Secretary inter-

acted with the district officers

and other stakeholders involved

in the Yatra and had detailed as-

sessment of the arrangements.

focused on evaluating the im-

pact of the initiative on various

aspects such as infrastructure

development, community en-

gagement, and overall socio-

The threadbare discussions

facets of the Sankalp Yatra.

He expressed satisfaction ANANTNAG: Union Joint Secreover the collaborative efforts tary Ministry for Development of all stakeholders involved in of North Eastern Region (DONthe initiative. He highlighted the importance of sustained ER), Angshuman Dey, designated District Prabhari Officer for community participation and Anantnag on Monday visited emphasized the need for conthe district and reviewed the tinued coordination among ongoing "Viksit Bharat Sankalp government agencies, local authorities and the public to en-Deputy Commissioner, S F sure the success of the "Viksit Hamid, briefed the Prabhari

Bharat Sankalp Yatra." Union Joint Secretary stressed upon the officers to effectively coordinate the arrangements for the Yatra besides organizing training sessions for the officers and resource persons of line departments. During the meeting, various

schemes were discussed and slated for promotion including PM Vishwakarma, PM Ujjwala Yojana, PM Mudra Loan, PMEGP, Mumkin, Poshan Abhiyan, Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY, PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana, PM Awas Yojana (Rural), PM Kisan Saman, Kisan Credit Card, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Har Ghar Jal - Jal Jeevan Mission, etc.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER SUB TRANSMISSION DIVISION-Ist (KPDCL), BEMINA, SRINAGAR

division TB-free.

of January 2024.

the Jammu and Kashmir State to exist in first week of Janu-Election Commission. It has ary-2024," he said.

the term of both existing BDCs 'We are critical of the role of and Panchayats would cease

VHP To Form Village Committees To **Empower Hindus Living In J&K Slums**

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The VHP will form villagelevel committees for the empowerment of the weaker sections among the Hindus, especially those living in slums across Jammu and Kashmir, an organisation official said on Monday.

The Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) is engaged in various social awareness campaigns to ensure justice and respect to the weaker sections among the Hindu community, the official further said.

"Committees will be formed in each village to supervise various programmes such as skill development training for the uplift of SC and ST Hindus living in slums and forests," Devji Bhai Rawat, the VHP's national secretary, told reporters.

"The skill development training is being conducted for uneducated youngsters to enable them to earn a living for their families," he added after chairing a meeting with organisation officebearers to finalise the programme.

Soldiers In Jammu

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Army on Monday handed over 10 modified scooters to the soldiers wounded in various battles in Jammu and Kashmir.

This would make them independent for their day-to-day movements, the Army said.

The disabled soldiers expressed their happiness over the gesture to the Army and War Wounded Foundation (WWF) for bringing betterment in their lives through this initiative.

"It is a matter of great pride for us to become part of this event organised by the War Wounded Foundation (WWF)", General Officer Commanding (GoC) 16 Corps Lt Gen Sandeep Jain said while addressing the function.

He also paid tributes to the soldiers who laid down their lives for the nation and said that it is because of their sacrifices that the society is proud of them. The wounded soldiers said that the Army and nation stand behind them in the difficult times.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AMONG YOUTH **Govt Polytechnic Budgam Hosts Awareness** programme At Chadoora Campus

Observer News Service

BUDGAM: The government Polytechnic College Budgam on Monday hosted a daylong event at its Chadoora campus on the title "Substance abuse among the young generation, our collective responsibility"

The event was held in collaboration with NGO Help Poor Voluntary Trust and was supported by Kashmiri American Society for Healthcare, Education and Research, a not for Profit organization registered in the USA.

The event, anchored by Er. Suehail, brought together esteemed guests of honor, Dr. Muzaffar Ahmed Khan, renowned Clinical psychologist and Drug de-addiction expert in valley, and Dr. Syed Riyaz Ahmad project direc-



kicked

ted to addressing the press-

ing issue of substance abuse

off with a powerful skit,

shedding light on the im-

pact of drug abuse on a

girl student's life. The skit

portrayed the pivotal role

played by her teacher, in

collaboration with a doc-

tor, in guiding her back on

among the youth.

The seminar

tor KASMER, along with a the right track and leading a diverse audience commithealthy and normal life.

Dr. Shafquat Ara, the Principal of Government Polytechnic College Budgam, set the tone for the seminar with a warm welcome address, emphasizing the collective responsibility in addressing substance abuse.

She emphasized the proactive, constructive and indispensable role played by the district administration

substance abuse in collaboration with institutions for actively engaging them to address the critical issue of drug abuse collectively.

The initiative aimed to raise awareness among students, making them aware of the perils associated with substance abuse. She stressed on addressing mental health issues by fostering understanding, promotion of open dialogue, and providing accessible resources for support and treatment." Dr. Muzafar Khan led discussions on the challenges of substance abuse among the youth and shared valuable insights into the psychological aspects of the issue. He addressed the role of teacher in guiding students in right direction away from such evil.

NUTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No. STD I / 20 of 2023-24 dated 17.11.2023

For and on behalf of the Managing Director KPDCL, e-Tenders, (In Two Cover System) is hereby invited from reputed A-class electrical contractors / registered firms/suppliers enlisted with CPWD/MES/Railways/DGS&D/JKPDD, for the work mentioned as:-

	Description of Work		Earnest Money	Cost of document	Position	Last date of submis-
S.N	Description of Work	Description of Work		(In Rs.)	of AA	sion of e-bid (online)
	Laying of 33KV 400 Sqmm XLPE Cable (Single	Laying of 33KV 400 Sqmm XLPE Cable (Single Ckt. Single		Rs.1000.00 (one		11/12/2023; 03:00
01	Core) Aluminium Armoured Underground throug	sh HDPE	(Eighteen	Thousand only)	Accorded	PM
	Pipe for 33KV under-construction Zawoora Line	Pipe for 33KV under-construction Zawoora Line		Non refundable		FIVI
1.	Document Download/Sale (start) Date.	20/11/20	23: 09:00 AM			
	Document Download / Sale (End) Date.	11/12/20	23; 03:00 PM			
3	Bidding Queries/Clarifications	20/11/20	23 to 21.11.2023	3.		
4.	Bid Submission Start Date	22/11/20	23; 10:00 AM			
5.	Bid Submission End Date	11/12/20	23; 03:00 PM			
6.	Commercial/Technical Bid Opening Date & Time	13/12/20	23; 02:00 PM			
7.	Financial Bid Opening	Shall be de	eclared later on fo	r the technically qualifi	ed bidders	
8.	Venue of Commercial/ Technical Bid Opening	Electronica	ally in the office of	Executive Engineer STI	D-Ist Bemina	a Srinagar, J&K.
9.	Cost of e-Bid document	Rs.1000.0	0 (Rupees One Th	ousand only) Non refun	dable	
10.	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 18000	/-(Eighteen Thous	sand only)		
11.	Position of Funds	Available				

The bidders need to submit the proof/ cost of e-Bid document as stated in the above table through non-refundable Demand Draft pledged to Executive Engineer, STD-I, Bemina, Srinagar. The scanned copy of the Demand Draft must be uploaded on e-tendering portal in Commercial / Technical Bid Documents & hard copy of the same to be submitted in the office of the Executive Engineer, STD-I, Bemina, Srinagarbefore opening of techno-commercial bids.

- All the e-Bids must be accompanied by the scanned copy of EMD in the form of CDR/FDR only, pledged to the Executive Engineer, STD-I, 1. Bemina, Srinagar. No Interest would be payable on Earnest Money deposited with the Department.
- 2. Hard Copy of original instrument of EMD shall be submitted to the office of the Executive Engineer. STD- I. Bemina. Srinagar, before opening of techno-commercial bids. In case any bidder shall submit/upload the bid declaration instead of EMD, his bid shall be summarily rejected and shall not be considered for techno-commercial evaluation.
- 3. The date and time of opening of financial bids shall be notified on web site http://jktenders.gov.in. This is conveyed to the qualified bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The financial bids shall be opened accordingly online on the same web site at the office of the Executive Engineer, STD-I, Bemina, Srinagar.
- The e-Bids will be electronically opened in the presence of bidder's representatives, who choose to attend at the identified venue on 4 indicated date and time mentioned in the above table or any subsequent day to the convenience of the Tender Opening Committee. An authority letter of bidder' representative will be required to be produced.
- 5. The Department reserves the right to cancel any or all the e- Bids/ the e- Bid process without assigning any reason thereof .The decision of department will be final and binding.
- 6. In the event of date specified for e-Bids opening being a holiday/closed day for department's office then the due date for opening of e-Bids shall be the following working day at the same time and place.
- All the required documents excluding Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded by the e-Bidder electronically in the PDF format, where-7. as Price Schedule/BOQ should be up loaded electronically in the same BOQ sheet provided with the SBD.
- 8. To participate in e-bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' As per InformationTechnologyAct-2000, to participate in online bidding.
- Hard copy of technical bid, technical specification and commercial bid documents (complete) of L1 Bidder must be delivered to the 9. office of the Executive Engineer, STD- I, Bemina, Srinagar.

The sealed cover shall be scribed as "Techno-Commercial Bid against e-NIT No. STD-I/20 of 2023-24 dated 17/11/2023.

- The name of the L1 bidder and e-NIT no. shall be clearly written on the cover. It may be noted that the hard copy should be an exact 10. replica of the uploaded offer documents. For evaluation purposes the uploaded documents will be treated as authentic and final. The hard copy shall be used only for reference purpose.
- The name of the bidder and e-NIT no. shall be clearly written on the cover. It may be noted that the hard copy should be an exact replica 11. of the uploaded offer documents. For evaluation purposes the uploaded documents will be treated as authentic and final. The hard copy shall be used only for reference purpose.
- 12. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents.

Any other information regarding e-tendering process can be had from the office of the Executive Engineer, STD- I, Bemina, Srinagar

No.:- STD-I/4616-17	Sd/-
dated:-17/11/2023	Executive Engineer,
DIPK-NB-4318-23	Sub Transmission Division-I,
DT: 20/11/2023	Bemina, Srinagar.

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KASHMIR OBSERVER[®]

Tuesday | 21-11-2023

Deepening Power Crisis

he Kashmir Valley is experiencing an extreme cold over the past week with night temperature plunging to sub-zero. Srinagar witnessed the coldest night of the season as temperatures dipped to a low of minus 0.8 degrees Celsius on Sunday, marking a drop of nearly 2 degrees from the previous night's 0.9 degrees. According to the meteorological department, this was 1.0 degree below the normal temperatures expected for this time of year in the capital city. The city has also been waking up to a thick blanket of fog that has significantly reduced visibility, causing disruptions in both pedestrian and vehicular movement during the morning hours. This foggy condition has extended across various parts of the Kashmir valley, affecting daily routines for several hours.

The drop in temperatures has brought about a familiar set of challenges, particularly with power supply issues. It's unfortunate that this recurring problem hasn't received the attention it deserves from the government, leaving the public to endure the consequences year after year. Unscheduled outages, surpassing the already announced curtailment schedules, have become an unwelcome norm, hitting households and industries hard.

The worsening power situation has also impacted the healthcare system, a lifeline for many. Hospitals, from government-run facilities to private institutions, reel under the weight of power scarcity, impeding critical medical procedures and endangering the lives of patients, especially those reliant on intensive care units and life-sustaining equipment. The vulnerability of rural healthcare facilities, grappling with erratic power supply, exacerbates the hardships faced by communities.

As for ordinary people, pushed to the edge, they are resorting to purchasing alternative power sources like inverters, bearing the brunt of additional financial strain. Yet, these makeshift solutions cannot replace the dire need for a reliable and sustainable power supply.

The demand for improvement is thus understandable, especially with Chillai Kalan approaching and the inevitability of harsher weather conditions. It's essential for the Power Development Department to step up and better prepare for the upcoming challenges, especially considering its historical struggles in promptly restoring electricity after heavy snowfall.

Addressing the unfair implementation of power curtailment across different regions is crucial for ensuring that everyone is dealt with fairly during these difficult times. Hopefully, the government will take proactive steps to minimize the impact of the power shortage, acknowledging the hardship it brings to the lives of the people. Given the severity of the situation and its recurrent nature, it's understandable for the public to hope for a more effective response from the authorities this time around. Here's hoping that the government takes steps to make some redeeming difference to the situation.

Fuss or Fad: Being Vocal for Local?

A path to economic self-reliance amid global uncertainties

Zia Darakshan

hen we walk into a market, we are often surrounded by foreign brands. From essentials like diapers and shampoo to clothing and household products, everything seems to be dominated by international brands. This scenario prompts important questions: What have we been doing? Why don't we have more of our own brands? Even if we do have them, why do we prefer to buy global brands over homegrown ones?

This vast gap between domestic and international brand presence provides an opportunity for us to foster self-reliance. In the given global scenario, the time is ripe to develop our own brands, thereby reducing our dependence on foreign products. The covid-19 induced economic crisis has taught us how important it is to be economically self-reliant after the global economic supply chain was massively disrupted for months together.

So, it is imperative to break free from our inclination to choose foreign products over local ones and instill a sense of pride in our own brands. Creating homegrown alternatives to international brands can transform our economic environment reduce trade imbalances, and stimulate job creation within our country.

Promoting the purchase of indigenous products over foreign products in India can be achieved through a multi-faceted approach involving education, incentives, quality assurance, awareness campaigns, Local Brand Promotion, Online Marketplaces like e commerce, Consumer Discounts, Consumer Education, Retailer Support, Sustainable Practices, Community Engagement, School Curriculum, Cultural Relevance etc.

It's important to create a shift in the mindset of consumers and emphasize the broader benefits of buying indigenous products.



A woman artisan showcases her craft at SARAS mela in Srinagar – KO file photo by Abid Bhat

"

and promote the export of locallymade products. With 761 districts across the country included in the scheme, it is expected to carry export promotion of over 1000 products.

It is interesting to note that the desire for indigenous products is surging among Indian consumers, there's a notable shift away from global brands. Around 60% of respondents in a KPMG sur-

vey, spanning various age groups, express a strong inclination to replace foreign brands with customized, made-in-India products. This trend indicates a growing preference for locally crafted brands, showcasing a shift in consumer behavior and a willingness to pay an extra price for homegrown quality. J&K's Scenario

The scenario in J&K reveals the number of startups is very less almost negligible despite the huge and bountiful resources the UT is gifted with.The primary reason behind this is that we are brought up with the job oriented mentality All of us share the same dream ,the same goal of securing a Government job with a fallback plan to transition to the private sector if the initial pursuit proves unsuccessful. This rate race of acquiring hassle free jobs may inadvertently stifle our creative potential and hinder our productivity . Nobody National scenario reveals that 90% of the startup companies get closed before they even start properly. The rest 10% have to struggle with getting funds and searching for angel investors. Now one can imagine the plight of a small place like J&K where there are hardly any angel investors. However, in the last couple of years we have noticed an upward trend in local entrepreneurship

neurship among our children from an early age. Rather than solely seeking government or private sector employment, we can empower our youth to create their own ventures. By nurturing and supporting homegrown entrepreneurs, we can transform our abundant resources into thriving markets.

Recently, Jammu & Kashmir's economy received a boost through the ODOP initiative, as 21 local products from 20 disheritage, and breathtaking natural beauty, is also blessed with an abundance of herbs and a diverse flora and fauna. Among these botanical treasures, Kashmir harbors a wealth of plants with medicinal qualities that have been cherished for their use in medical treatments, aromatherapy, and cosmetics. However, an unfortunate consequence of the high demand for these resources from countries such as Europe, China, and Japan has turned the region into a hotspot for smuggling activities.

Researchers have painstakingly documented 1,123 medicinal plants thriving in the fertile soils of Jammu and Kashmir. These plants possess untapped potential, yet it remains largely unexplored by the local population. The need of the hour is to initiate a transformation – one that harnesses our natural bounty to build a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Education and Awareness

Education is the cornerstone of this transformation. We must launch comprehensive awareness programs to acquaint our people, especially the younger generation, with the treasures that lie in their own backyard. Knowledge about the medicinal and aromatic properties of local flora, and their value in various industries, is essential. This awareness is the first step toward unlocking economic potential while safeguarding our ecological heritage.

Role of NGOs

In this endeavor, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) can play a pivotal role. Rather than relying solely on sporadic fundraising efforts, they can channel their resources and energy into creating meaningful awareness campaigns. These organizations can extend their reach to educate children and collaborate with entrepreneurs to build a strong and sustainable network. By doing so, they can genuinely empower our youth and foster a culture of self-reliance.

Succinctly, J&K holds th tential for creating its own brands by leveraging natural resources wisely and pursuing a path of selfsufficiency. Initiatives must begin with education, awareness, and a collective commitment to preserve our natural wealth. By fostering a strong network of entrepreneurs, we empower our youth to seize opportunities at home, contribute to regional prosperity, and transform our natural treasures into a lasting source of wealth. Meanwhile, while the allure of global demand is enticing, it's essential that we strike a balance. We can no longer afford to let our precious resources be sold for meager sums. Instead, we must recognize the need to preserve them wisely, ensuring their sustainability for generations to come.

OTHER OPINON

India's drug detox

T has now followed up this move by setting up a team to develop a portal that will enable tracking of drug-making processes. Medicine manufacturers will be required to feed in details of raw materials and distributors will need to upload their invoices on this platform. The site will also contain information about spurious and poor-quality drugs unearthed by inspectors — this could help tackle the problem posed by the movement of substandard medicines across state borders. The platform will also track court cases related to the pharma industry.

Studies have shown that pharma majors outsource production to small units which often escape the regulatory radar. State regulatory bodies find it difficult to track down supply chains of firms that comprise fly-by-night operators. While adulteration gets belated attention at times, experts believe that a more intractable problem is that of substandard drugs that delay or compromise treatment. By all accounts, a large section of physicians in the country do not seem to have faith in unbranded drugs. In August, a doctors' protest forced the National Medical Commission to take back its directive on prescribing generic medicines. The use of IT-enabled procedures could make the pharma industry's processes transparent and improve coordination between the country's 36 regional regulators. But a single window for all drug regulation should be seen as only the first step towards restoring the credibility of generics.

India has among the toughest laws against spurious drugs. However, a robust regulatory mechanism also requires an effective system for monitoring manufacturing and sales units. That is still in the works. Most states haven't found a way to adopt the 20-year-old formula of the Mashelkar committee which recommended one drug inspector for 50 production units and one inspector for every 200 retail units. In several states, there is no clear demarcation between the roles of drug testing and food regulatory agencies. Field officials are often tasked with administrative work related to the cancellation and renewal of licenses. Their primary responsibility of scrutinising the safety and efficacy of medicines suffers as a result. That's why the creation of a portal for drug control should be accompanied by measures to enhance the capacity of regulatory bodies.

The Indian Express

These strategies can help create a more significant preference for Indian-made goods in the market. We have seen numerous gov-

ernment initiatives in the last few years with an aim to boost local entrepreneurship, such as Make in India, Vocal for Local, Digital India, and Startup India. These initiatives aim to revive the industrial sector and assist farmers, migrant workers and others in need. In response, state governments have also announced their own measures to stimulate economic activity in their respective regions. For example 'AatmaNirbhar' represents a major shift towards 'Made by India' from the earlier 'Made in India' slogan.

As part of India's push towards self-reliance, the government has launched the 'One District, One Product' initiative under the AatmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. The initiative aims to boost local economic and socio-cultural growth, create employment opportunities,

OBSERVER

MAIL

prefers to become an entrepreneur. The handful who finally manage to become one and launch a startup face a lot of difficulties in their initial phase.

National scenario reveals that 90% of the startup companies get closed before they even start properly. The rest 10% have to struggle with getting funds and searching for angel investors. Now one can imagine the plight of a small place like J&K where there are hardly any angel investors. However, in the last couple of years we have noticed an upward trend in local entrepreneurship where our youth are coming up with brilliant ideas and many of them are doing quite well in their own spaces.

How to help indigenous products find their way in international market

The union territory of Jammu and Kashmir holds the keys to unlocking a world of opportunities. To do so, we must first inspire and inculcate the spirit of entrepre-

tricts of the Union Territory have been selected for export promotion. The ODOP initiative in India builds on this idea and aims to make products locally, from scratch to finish, instead of relying on global companies operating in India. This marks a significant shift towards the 'Made by India' approach. The scheme aims to achieve this by promoting local businesses and scaling up manufacturing, with a view to identifying potential foreign customers. Ultimately, the goal is to turn each district in India into an export hub, specializing in the product for which the district is known. It is here that J&K youth has to come forward and explore and get engaged in entrepreneurship.

In the picturesque landscapes of Kashmir, opportunities to cultivate indigenous brands abound, particularly in the realm of cosmetics and beyond. This region, renowned for its rich culture,

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

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

Winners Nonetheless

ports, at times can be extremely cruel and can be devastating to a team and its players more than the fury of nature. This painful fact will haunt the Men in Blue forever, who were absolutely dominant until the finals of the World Cup 2023, but eventually lost to Men in Yellow in the summit clash. Just over a month ago, the Aussies found themselves languishing at the very bottom of the points table, looking like a jaded unit, which seemed cooked and short of answers. But in an amazing turnaround, they managed to win nine games on a trot to become world champions. And it was a sort of poetic justice for Australia,

as after losing to India and South Africa in the league stage, they stormed their way to the WC title, defeating the same two teams. It seems that Team India was destined to lose just one game in WC 2023, but unfortunately that game happened to be the final. Nevertheless, the Men in Blue had an outstanding WC 2023 tournaMAIL YOUR LETTERS P.O.Box # 337, GPO, Srinagar-190 001 email: editpage.ko@gmail.com

ment and made every Indian feel proud of their brilliant performance, and they can walk with their heads high. As Prime Minister Narendra Modi often says, there are no losers in sports, but only winners and future winners.

Ranganathan Sivakumar

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On World Children's Day Children Need Happiness

Mohammad Hanief

hildhood is a universal experience, something every adult across the world has gone through. For many, childhood is a time we are nostalgic for. It's a time of curiosity, imagination, exploration and incredible development. For many of us, a special adult helped us to learn and grow as children and led us to love learning. For some, it was a great teacher or wise neighbour. Others had parents, grandparents or other relatives who encouraged them to be curious and study hard. Even if vour childhood wasn't easy, you probably had at least one inspirational adult in your life who encouraged you and was a role model.

Unfortunately, not everyone has a good childhood. Proportionately, more children live in poverty than adults. 19.5 per cent of the world's children live in extreme poverty, and even though children are only one third of the global population, they are half of the poor. Around the world, many children live without access to clean water, enough food, or decent healthcare. Others live in extremely dangerous places and some are forced to join armies to fight wars they don't understand.

Over 120 million children do not attend school and even those who do are not always learning: two out of five students leave primary school not knowing how to read, write or do basic maths. Even those who may have happy memories of childhood did not necessarily have an easy life as a kid. Children are dependent on the adults in their life for support, and not all adults treat children well.

Even though every day is, or at least should be, a day to nurture and celebrate children, Universal Children's Day is celebrated as a special day around the world on November 20. In 1989 the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child – a 54-item list describing the universal rights of children - was signed. This document came out of the work of a lot of experts and representatives from many nations who met to create a child-specific version of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that was signed in 1948. The Convention on the Rights of the Child is the most widely and quickly signed treaty in history, meaning it was quickly adopted into



the civil codes of most countries around the world. Universal Children's Day 2023 is a

global observance that celebrates and promotes the rights and well-being of children worldwide. It serves as a reminder of the importance of ensuring that every child has the opportunity to grow, learn, and thrive in a safe and nurturing environment. Since its inception, Universal Children's Day has been an opportunity to advocate for children's rights and promote awareness of the challenges and opportunities facing children worldwide.

Universal Children's Day is a United Nations (UN) initiative that emphasizes the fundamental rights of children. It was established to promote and protect children's rights as outlined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. These rights include the right to education, health, protection, and participation in decisions that affect their lives.

Celebrating Universal Children's Day involves activities and initiatives that promote the welfare and rights of children. Organize workshops, seminars, or educational events that raise awareness about children's rights and the importance of quality education. Advocate for policies and actions that protect and support children's wellbeing, including access to healthcare, nutrition, and safe environments.

Contribute to organizations that work to improve the lives of children through education, healthcare, and social programs. Encourage children to express themselves through art, music, and creative activities that celebrate their talents and voices. Ensure that all children, regardless of their background, have equal opportunities and access to education and resources.

Mothers and fathers, teachers, nurses and doctors, government leaders and civil society activists, religious and community elders, corporate tycoons and media professionals, as well as young people and children themselves, can play an important part in making World Children's Day relevant for their societies, communities and nations.

Children's Day in India is also popular as 'Bal Diwas' and is celebrated every year across the country on November 14. This day honors the birth anniversary of India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, broadly known as 'Chacha Nehru'. Nehru was a major advocate of children's education and rights. He had confidence in an inclusive education system and that a country could succeed. His vision focused on children being the future of the nation and the foundation of society. In 1955, he established the Children's Film Society India to give a platform to the issues of children.

In the year 1948, Children's Day was first marked as "Flower Day" on November 5. It was an effort by the Indian Council of Child Welfare (ICCW) to gather funds for the Unified Nations Appeal for Children (UNAC) through the offer of "flower tokens." Later, in 1954, Nehru's birthday was first celebrated as Children's Day.

The importance of Children's Day lies in its significant emphasis on recognizing the importance of a protected and healthy childhood. It fills in as a reminder that childhood isn't simply a stage but a foundational period that shapes people and, thus, the general public they contribute to.

It promotes the privileges of kids as well as highlights the requirements for their general prosperity, including education, nourishment, and a safe family environment. The festival fills in as a societal reminder to protect the innocence and capability of children, considering them as the future leaders of our world.

Children's Day is observed by the tone of affection, gifts, and spoiling of students. Teachers in schools sort out special projects and performances for students which additionally incorporate contests, for example, debating, painting, quizzes, singing, and dancing. As a part of the celebrations, the exchange of gifts like books and cards additionally happens among students.

As universal Children's Day was created to change the way children are viewed and treated by society and to improve children's welfare. Universal Children's Day is a day to advocate for and champion the rights of children. Children's rights are not special rights or different rights. They are fundamental human rights. A child is a human being, entitled to be treated as one and should be celebrated as such.

Millions of children throughout the world live in extreme poverty. The children are often deprived of medicine, education and shelter. Many live without access to clean water. They are unprotected and oppressed, starved of affection and opportunity and trapped in a cycle of disadvantage passed from one generation to another, if they're able to survive past childhood.

Since the Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted, the global mortality rate for children under five years old has been cut in half. The world community is beginning to give its best to children. It's improving the odds for every child, giving them a chance to rise above disadvantage and discrimination, to push past predators and abuse, to fight off disease, ignorance, malnutrition and shame so they may live up to their fullest potential.

There is a lot to be done to make the world a safer, more supportive place for children. The good news is, you're an adult and you have the power to influence the next generation in the most wonderful way. Start by explaining the Rights of the Child to the children in your life. Let them know that they, just like all human beings, have rights. Help a child learn to love learning, so they can become a motivated adult just like you.

> The author can be mailed at m.hanief@gmail.com X/Twitter: @haniefmha

AI Is Now Accessible To Everyone: 3 Things Parents Should Teach Their Kids

Kathy Mills & Christian Moro

It is almost a year since ChatGPT burst onto the scene, fuelling great excitement as well as concern about what it might mean for education.

The changes keep coming. Earlier in the year, MyAl was embedded into social media platform Snapchat. This is a chatbot powered by ChatGPT, which encourages teens to ask anything - from gift suggestions for friends to questions about homework.

Meanwhile, Microsoft is rolling out "Copilot" on its systems, billed as an "everyday AI companion". This follows the introduction of "Bing Chat", an AI-enhanced assistant to accompany the Bing search tool.

All of a sudden, generative artificial intelligence – which can create new content such as text and images – has become accessible to everyone, including young people.

We are researchers with a background in digital technology and are highly enthusiastic about the potential for AI. However, there are risks as well as benefits. Here are three things parents can keep in mind as they navigate AI technology with their kids.

AI is here to stay

Artificial intelligence itself is not new – chatbots and generative AI have been around since the 1960s.

But over the past year there has been a rapid expansion in the size of AI databas-



es, huge financial investments into these technologies, more innovative code, and enhanced accessibility and usability.

Parents may be naturally hesitant about AI. Many schools have considered banning some AI uses, amid claims it would lead to cheating and undermine academic integrity.

But AI is not going to go away, and will only become more widely used in our lives. The sooner young people learn to use this technology, the more informed they can be about how to use it wisely and productively.

If you are a parent, it is important to learn about and try these technologies for yourself so you can help your child navigate a world with AI. Start by logging in to a free generative AI tool, and experiment together by asking the bot some questions and reflecting on the answers.

Be critical

Generative AI can do amazing things – like generate images or write stories – but it does not reflect on what it's writing. It will string text together in a way that makes sense but not "read between the lines".

Generative AI cannot evaluate the credibility of sources, nor can it always

find authoritative information to back up claims. The generative AI software is also trained on data from a specific time so recent events may not be included.

So children need to learn that although it looks similar to other writing, such as in a book or article, the text has been pieced together by computer code. This means every word, sentence and claim should be treated with scepticism.

You can use this as an opportunity to help your children develop critical thinking skills.

Go to a free AI art generator with your school-age child and put in some searches. Then ask your child questions such as, "What kinds of people are shown? What kinds are missing? Do you see any stereotypes? Can you see any biases?".

Watch out for chatbots

Chatbots are computer programs designed to simulate conversations as if they were another human.

For example, there were more than ten million Replika users as of 2022. Replika is a chatbot billed as a companion who cares. It acts like a friend but relationships with the chatbot can become romantic or sexual.

In many chatbot applications such as this, there may be no moderation or human checks on inappropriate content. So be aware if your child spending a long time with AI "friends".

If left unaccompanied, these types of applications could feed into a child's curiosity and potentially manipulate them into unethical and harmful situations, like highly personal conversations with a bot.

Make it clear to your children that generative AI is machine, not a human. It does not share your ideals, beliefs, culture or religion. It presents text and language based on models and algorithms. It is not something to argue with, take lessons from, or be used to reinforce your values.

The code may also be manually edited to inhibit certain viewpoints or stances on topics.

Images, videos and audio also matter

With all the focus on text, be sure to remind your children images and video are also part of the generative AI landscape. Children may be careful about what text they enter online but careless with uploading images.

Their photos and facial image become available to AI when uploaded, which makes it harder to protect their identity. For example, ChatGPT now has image capabilities you can include in your conversations with the chatbot. Discuss privacy with your child, and be sure to mention that any data uploaded to the internet can be stored, scanned and processed by AI.

Al can be a powerful learning and engagement tool, and the developments in this field are highly exciting. With open conversations and some oversight, the possibilities of children greatly benefiting from this technology are endless.

> By arrangements with The Conversation

LIFE & TIMES

KASHMIR OBSERVER Srinagar | Tuesday | 21-11-2023

'91% Of Indian Gen Z Workers Prepared For Al Adoption At Workplace'

IANS

en Z in India is excited to use generative AI in the workplace, with 91 per cent saying they feel prepared for their employer to adopt the technology in everyday work, a report showed on Friday.

While 81 per cent of Gen Z employees have leveraged generative AI to enhance their work, 45 per cent seek training for hard skills related to their jobs, compared to 40 per cent for soft skills, according to Adobe's 'Future Workforce Study for India'.

"Gen Z workers are the most

tech-savvy generation yet, and they're eager to embrace disruptive technologies like generative AI. To capitalise on this opportunity, organisations must strike a balance between embracing these technologies and nurturing a culture that aligns with evolving requirements," said Prativa Mohapatra, Vice President and Managing Director at Adobe India.

Gen Z is eager to lend their perspectives at work, with most respondents (96 per cent) saying they are comfortable providing feedback to their peers and colleagues.

An overwhelming majority of Gen Z workers (93 per cent) in



the country are eager to grow, not only in impact but up the corporate ladder to the C-suite. "While 87 per cent say they

feel good about career growth op-

portunities at their company, 46 per cent of respondents ranked no clear path to promotion as one of the top reasons they would leave a job," the report said.

Gen Z is also eager for career guidance, with 91 per cent saying they believe a workplace mentor is crucial for their career.

However, just 76 per cent of Gen Z report having a mentor at work.

Gen Z prioritises their professional growth in a workplace, ranking no clear path for promotion as the number one reason for leaving a job (46 per cent), closely followed by less than satisfactory pay (43 per cent), the findings showed.

Fully Injectable Continuous Glucose Monitor For Diabetics Soon

IANS

esearchers at Texas A&M University in the US are working to create a fully injectable continuous glucose monitor (CGM) so small it rivals a grain of rice and can be used with an external optical reader to measure sugar levels at any given time.

Two faculty members from the Department of Biomedical Engineering at the university have received a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant to fund a multidisciplinary project to develop an injectable, grain-of-rice-sized glucose biosensor and wearable device.

"Continuous glucose monitors (CGMs) are commercially available, but most of them are indwelling, meaning there is a needle in the skin connected to a patch on the arm," said co-principal investigator and Regents Professor, Dr Gerard Cote.

"There is one CGM that is totally implantable, but it is much bigger than ours and requires a doctor to surgically implant it with an incision," he added.

Cote and his lab are designing the injected sensor's chemistry and developing the watch-type reader device.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir Office of the Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospitals Division Baramulla Fax No: 01952-234426 e-mail, id, xenmhdbla@gmail.com

CORRIGENDUM-I

Subject: - Extension of Critical Dates of e-NITS No. 11 of 2023-24 Dated: - 28-10-2023.

Reference: - Tender IDs: - 2023_PWDJK_235080_1

Due to inadequate response in reference to above cited e-NITs, the Critical Dates are extended as under:

S.No	Description	Re- Scheduled date
1	Date of Downloading	28-10-2023 (06:15 PM) to 04-12-2023 (06:00 PM)
2	Date of uploading	28-10-2023 (06:15 PM) to 04-12-2023 (06:55 PM)
3	Due date of opening of tender	05-12-2023 (01:00 PM)

-/Sd Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospitals Division Baramulla

No: - M&HDB/TS/1352-54 DIPK-12499/23 Dated: - 20-11-2023

> GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR Jammu & Kashmir Services Selection Board CPO Chowk, Panjtirthi, Jammu/ Zamzam Complex, Rambagh, Srinagar. www.jkssb.nic.in

ANSWER KEY NOTICE

Subject:- Written Examination for the Post of Junior Environmental Engineer, Forest, Ecology and Environment Department - Final Answer Key regarding.

Whereas, the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) conducted the Written Examination for the post of **Junior Environmental Engineer**, UT Cadre, Forest, Ecology and Environment Department, advertised vide Advertisement Notification No. 03 of 2021, under Item No. 557, **on 05th November**, 2023; and

The J&K Board Of Professional Entrance Examinations (BOPEE)

Tele/Fax: 0194-2433590, 2437647 (Srinagar): 0191-2479371, 2470102 (Jammu) Website: www.jkbopee.gov.in E-mail: coejakbopee@gmail.com/helpdeskjakbopee@gmail.com

Subject:- Conduction of Special Stray Vacancy Round as an additional Round for admission to vacant AYUSH-UG seats under Govt/Govt. Aided/Central University/National Institutes in view of revised minimum percentile criteria of NEET (UG)-2023 by 5 percentile across all categories for admission to AYUSH-UG courses for the academic year 2023-24: Registration of candidates and submission of documents thereof.

Reference: i) Notification No. 082-BOPEE of 2023 dated 20.09.2023.

- ii) Notification No. 114-BOPEE of 2023 dated 08.11.2023.
- ii) Notification No. 117-BOPEE of 2023 dated 13.11.2023.
- iii) Letter issued by National Commission for Indian System of Medicines, Ministry of Ayush, Government of India, vide communication No. AIAPGET/COE/2023 dated 09.11.2023
- iv) Letter issued by Ayush Admissions Central Counseling Committee (AACCC) vide communication No. AA-11013/1/2023-EP- I dated 13.11.2023

Notification No: 120-BOPEE of 2023 Dated: 19-11- 2023

It is hereby notified for the information of all the concerned candidates that the National Commission for Indian System of Medicines, Ministry of Ayush, Government of India, vide communication No. AIAPGET/COE/2023 dated 09.11.2023 has reduced the minimum qualifying percentile criteria by five percentile criteria across all categories for admission to UG courses under Ayush for academic year 2023-24 and the Ayush Admissions Central Counseling Committee (AACCC) vide communication No. AA-11013/1/2023-EP- I dated 13.11.2023 has notified conduction of Special Stray Vacancy Round as an additional round for admission to seats in Government/Private Colleges/Institutions and the last date of admission in these courses for academic year 2023-24 is 30th November, 2023. However, the reduced qualifying percentile is given herein below:-

Category	Existing cut - off percentile for UG /PG Courses for	percentile for UG / PG
	A.Y. 2023-24	24
UR EWS	50 th	45 th
SC/ST/RBA/	40^{th}	35 th
OSC/ALC/PSP		
UR/EWS (PwD)	45 th	40 th
SC/ST/RBA/	40^{th}	35 th
OSC/ALC/PSP		
(PwD)		

The candidates who fall within the ambit of the said revised percentile qualifying score of NEET - UG Ayush courses 2023 and are willing to participate in the Special Stray Vacancy Round of Upgradation/Allotment Counselling against the seats which have remained unfilled/ to be received as shortfall, if any, during Mop Up Round of Upgradation/Allotment counselling are advised to register themselves and submit the requisite documents as mentioned herein below physically at BOPEE office Jammu/Srinagar upto 21st of November, 2023 till 2:00 p.m. of uploading of this notification on the official website of the Board and any eligible candidate who has not registered earlier and does not figure in the annexure A of Notification No. 082-BOPEE of 2023 dated 20.09.2023 in the UT merit list of 2023, but wants to be considered against the unfilled and the seats to be received as shortfall, if any, may also submit his/ her documents physically at BOPEE office Jammu / Srinagar for registration within the prescribed time schedule indicated herein above (21st of November, 2023 till 02:00 p.m.):-

- 1. Domicile Certificate.
- 2. 12th Class Marks Card.
- 3. DOB Certificate/10th Class Marks Card issued by the Board.
- 4. Category Certificate, wherever applicable.
- 5. NEET-2023 score card.

The updated rank wise list shall be available on BOPEE website before the start of counseling.

It is further notified for the eligible candidates that the Board shall conduct the Stray Vacancy Round of Counselling (physical) on 24th of November, 2023 as per following schedule:

S.No	Time of	Rank			Date/Day of	Remarks		
	Registration/Attendance				Counselling			
01.	08.30 a.m. to 10.00 a.m	01	4115 newly register candida if any	ed	24.11.2023 (Friday)	All the eligible candidates (OM/Category)		



The sensor is put under the skin and analysed using light from the watch-like device to determine the glucose concentration.

The reader sends the signal to a cell phone and the patient can share the results with their health provider.

"The chemical assay in the injectable sensor is used to determine the concentration of the glucose within the tissue, and the watch device sends in light and measures the fluorescence from the sensor to give the sugar concentration," Cote explained.

The sensor and wearable reader employ an optical sensing technology that addresses the challenges associated with biosensing for populations of darker skin tones.

"We use chemistry that has a fluorescent colour that emits in the red and infrared range rather than green light, which works better for the darker skin tones," Cote said.



The chemical assay in the injectable sensor is used to determine the concentration of

the glucose within the tissue, and the watch device sends in light and measures the fluorescence from the sensor to give the sugar concentration Whereas, the J&K Services Selection Board (JKSSB), notified Provisional Answer Key vide No. JKSSB-COE0EXAM(UT)/88/2023-03 (7314392) dated: 05-11-2023, in respect of the aforesaid post and the same was uploaded on the official website of JKSSB (<u>www.jkssb.nic.in</u>) for information of the candidates and seeking of objections/representations on the prescribed proforma, if any from the candidates; and

Whereas, in response to aforesaid notice, **25 objections** were received in respect of **10 unique questions** within the stipulated time; and

Whereas, in view of the above, the revised/final answer key in respect of written examination held for the post of Junior Environmental Engineer has been finalized.

Now, therefore, the Revised/Final Answer Key in respect of aforesaid post, for which written examination was conducted on 05-11-2023, is hereby notified as under in respect of question(s) which have been challenged.

Post	Te	xt Book Ouesti		ries	Change in Answer Key					
Name	A	B	с	D	Previous correct option ID	New correct option ID				
Junior	Q5	095	Q65	Q35	Α	DISCARDED				
Environm	Q61	Q31	Q1	Q91	В	D				
ental	074	Q44	Q14	Q104	В	A				
Engineer	097	Q67	Q37	Q7	В	A & B				
	Q102	072	042	012	Α	В				
	Q4	094	Q64	Q34	В	B & A				
	Q19	Q109	Q79	Q49	С	NO CHANGE				
	Q77	Q47	Q17	Q107	В	DISCARDED				
	Q38	Q8	Q98	Q68	В	A				
	Q28	Q118	Q88	Q58	D	NO CHANGE				

Further, such candidate(s) who deposited amount @ Rs 200/- per question and whose objection(s) is found genuine/correct as per revised/final answer key, will get the refund in their bank accounts provided to the Board.

Note: No further claim in respect of final answer key shall be entertained by JKSSB through any medium.

Sd/-Reyaz Ahmad Malik (JKAS) Controller of Examinations J&K Services Selection Board

No.: JKSSB-COE0EXAM(UT)/88/2023-03 (7314392)

DIPK-12490/23 dated: 20-11-2023 Note:

- It is enjoined upon all the eligible candidates that they shall attend the counselling only after checking the Seat Matrix which shall remain available on website of the Board viz. www.jkbopee.gov.in.
- 2. The candidate(s) who have been allotted seat/college during Mop Up Round of counselling but have failed to join against the said seat/college, he/she shall not be eligible to participate in the Stray Vacancy Round of counselling under any circumstances.
- 3. Those candidates who have remained absent or got CNA/SNA during Ist , 2nd and Mop Up Rounds of Counselling are also eligible to participate in this round of Counseling.
- 4. The candidate(s) who have been allotted seat/college during First/Second Round(s) of counselling but have failed to join against the said seat/college, he/she shall also be eligible to participate in the Stray Vacancy Round of counseling.
- 5. Those candidate(s) who have been allotted seat(s) during the Mop Up Round of Counseling and have joined against the said seat/College, if interested, for upgradation are also eligible to participate in the Stray Vacancy Round of Physical

Counseling with the condition that they shall have to produce their fee deposition receipt of the concerned allotted College at the time of their admission in that College.

- 6. The candidates who have been allotted seats in AIQ during 2nd /Mop up/Stray rounds of counseling & have joined the allotted Institutions & also those candidates who are participating in AIQ Stray round(s) of counseling are not eligible to participate in this round of counseling.
- 7. The candidates who are participating for the first time in the Counseling process are advised to deposit an amount of Rs.1000/ as a counseling fee on the day of Counselling through POS Machines available at BOPEE office Jammu/Srinagar through Debit/Credit card. Further, all such candidates are advised to bring along all Certificates/Documents in original for check and verification at the time of counselling.
- 8. The Board reserves the right to notify such changes as may become necessary in view of any technical difficulty or the reasons beyond its control.
- 9. This notification is issued without any prejudice and subject to final outcome of the writ petition if any, pending before any competent court of law.

The other terms & conditions shall, however, remain the same as notified by the Board in various Notifications/Notices issued from time to time in this regard.

E & O E

Sd/-Controller of Examinations J&K BOPEE

BOPEE-EXAM/11/2023 (7313777) DIP dat

DIPK-NB-4315/23 dated: 20-11-2023

BUSINESS

Book Highlights Handcrafted Carpets, Rugs And Mats Of Kashmir



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Textile researcher Promil Pande explores the age-old traditional craft practices of Kashmir, particularly a variety of floor coverings, in her illustrated book. "Floor Coverings from Kash-

mir: Kaleen Carpets, Namdah, Gabba, Ari Rugs and Wagoo Mats" details the various types of floor coverings created in Jammu and Kashmir, tracing their origin in the case of Wagoo mats from the Indus Valley Civilization to the reign of King Zainul-Abidin in the 15th century in the case of pashmina shawls.

With the shawl weavers later transferring their skills to carpets, the author talks about the history, craft production networks and cultural context of Kashmir, where these exquisite handwoven floor coverings are created.

Published by Niyogi Books, "Floor Coverings from Kashmir" also traces the weaving of hand-knotted rugs back to the Pazyryk carpet made 2,000 years ago (now in the Hermit-

age Museum, St. Petersburg). Weaving the story of carpet production in India, Pande explains the role of the Mughal emperors who set up imperial karkhanas or workshops, where master weavers were commissioned to weave rugs for the royal palaces.

The gradual shift from the predominant Persian style during the reign of Jahangir to a more Mughal or flower style during the reign of Shah Jahan is explained, as is the patronage of weavers by Rajput rulers in their kingdoms.

The London Exhibition of 1851 introduced Indian carpet weaving to a larger global audience, along with the exquisite pashmina shawls, also known as param narams, which led to their becoming a highly sought after luxury item of attire in Europe.

In separate chapters, the author provides details of the traditional craft networks in Kashmir that led to the production of the different types of floor coverings: Kaleen Carpets, Namdah, Gabba, Ari Rugs and Wagoo mats.

Domestic Air Passenger Traffic Touches Record High On Nov 19

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The domestic air traffic touched a new high on Sunday as airlines carried 4,56,910 passengers, marking two "consecutive days of historic numbers". On Saturday also, the air traffic number reached a new high of 4,56,748 passengers, according to official data.

"Post-Covid, India's domestic aviation's turnaround story has not just been overwhelming but inspiring as well. Positive attitude, progressive policies, and deep trust among passengers are taking it to new heights with every flight, every day," the civil aviation ministry said in a post on X on Monday. There were 4,56,910 domestic air passengers and 5,958 flight movements on Sunday (November 19). The count was much higher than the 3,93,391 passengers and 5,506 flight movements recorded on November 19 last

year. There were 4,56,910 domestic air passengers and 5,958 flight movements on Sunday (November 19). Sharing the record numbers.

Civil Aviation Minister Jyotira-



ditya Scindia on Monday said an annual growth of nearly 11 there is no stopping the counper cent to 1.26 crore in October. Meanwhile, the Mumbai try from becoming the world's largest aviation market. "The International Airport (CSMIA) on Monday said it recorded josh is high-est sir! India's air passenger traffic breaks the passenger traffic of more previous day's record, thus than 4.25 million in October, marking two consecutive days an 18 per cent growth compared to the year-ago period. of historic numbers. More than Meanwhile, the Mumbai Ina feat for the aviation industry, ternational Airport (CSMIA) it is a collective achievement on Monday said it recorded "With this, there is no stoppassenger traffic of more than ping us from becoming the 4.25 million in October, an 18 world's largest aviation marper cent growth compared to ket!," he said in a post on X. the year-ago period. It was also the highest post-

"International passengers at CSMIA alone witnessed a Covid air traffic for two constrong 20 per cent growth with India is one of the fastestmore than 1.14 million passengrowing civil aviation markets gers travelling, in comparison to 0.94 million same period in the world and domestic air passenger traffic registered last year," it said in a release.

At J&K Bank Hqrs, Sensitization **Programme For Banks Held On Credit Linked Schemes Under HADP**

for the people of India.

secutive days.



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR- Department of Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare (J&K Government), National Informatics Centre (NIC) and Convenor I&K UTLBC (J&K Bank) Monday collaborated together to conduct a sensitization/training programme for Banks/Financial Institutions on Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) & Credit Linked Schemes that was held at Bank's Corporate Headquarters. The programme was attended by various representatives from Agriculture Production Department, NIC and Banks while some officials joined the proceedings through video-conferencing from Jammu. While addressing the participants, General Manager J&K Bank (Convenor UTLBC) Syed Rais Maqbool highlighted the importance of all

making the UT Government's HADP a success by ensuring credit linked schemes under this programme reach to every farmer in the UT.

He said, "HADP is very important programme of UT Government with an aim to provide farmers/agriculturalists enough capital/resources to increase/boost their production by utilising modern machinery fertilizers and oth-

in helping farmer community to avail these subsidised credit linked schemes," he added. Speaking on the occasion, Secretary (AP&EW Department) Shabnam Kamili said, "Aimed at scripting a positive and fruitful change in agriculture production in next five years, HADP along with its credit-linked schemes is an

ambitious programme of J&K

Government. The objective

GDP Growth To Dip Marginally To 6.3% In 2024; Political Uncertainty In Election Year Main Risk: Report



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: India's real GDP growth will decline marginally to 6.3 per cent in 2024 from the 6.4 per cent estimated for 2023, an American brokerage firm said on Monday. The next calendar year will be of two halves, wherein the government spending before the upcoming General Elections will be the key driver for growth, while after the elections, it will be the re-acceleration in investment growth, especially from the private sector, Goldman Sachs said in a report.

From a fiscal year perspective, the brokerage said it expects growth to accelerate to 6.5 per cent for FY25 from the 6.2 per cent it has projected for the ongoing FY24, it added. "India has the best structural growth prospects in the region. We believe GDP growth is likely to stay robust at 6.3 per cent y-o-y (year-on-year) in 2024," the brokerage said, adding the country is less sensitive to potential external shocks like

longer rates globally, persistent dollar strength and geopolitical uncertainties.

The brokerage said risks around the growth outlook are evenly balanced but added that "the main domestic risk" is emanating from political uncertainty, with elections approaching in the April-June quarter of 2024. The election season is already underway with Assembly polls in five states, which will be followed by the General Elections later, it said, adding that outcomes of these elections will be "keenly watched" by investors from the standpoint of economic reforms and/or policy continuity. It expects headline consumer price inflation to come at 5.1 per cent for 2024, against 4.7 per cent estimated by the Reserve Bank. This will, however, be lower than the 5.7 per cent expected in 2023, it added. "We expect the government to intervene through subsidies or other measures to keep a lid on food prices in an election year," it said.

Higher Risk Weight On **Unsecured Bank Loans Credit Positive: Moody's**

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The RBI's decision to tighten norms for unsecured personal loans is credit positive because lenders will need to allocate higher capital for such loans, thus improving their loss-absorbing buffers, Moody's Investors Service said on Monday.

The Reserve Bank last week raised risk weights on unsecured retail loans, credit cards and lending to non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) by 25 percentage points.

Moody's said unsecured loans have been growing rapidly in the past few years, exposing financial institutions to a potential spike in credit costs



and financial technology (fintech) companies, including several new entrants, aggressively growing loans in this category. In the past two years, personal loans grew around 24 per cent and credit card loans rose 28 per cent on an average compared with the overall banking sector's credit growth of around 15 per cent, Moody's said.

"We expect banks would be able to absorb higher risk eights on their capital be-

India Post, Blue Dart Ink Pact **For Seamless Parcel Retrieval** With Digital Lockers



NEW DELHI: Express logistics provider Blue Dart on Monday said it has set up digital parcel locker service at post offices un-

Press Trust Of India

der a partnership with India Post. This service allows consignees to retrieve their shipments from digital parcel lockers at post offices, doing away with the need for personal receipts or signing for a package, Blue Dart said in a statemen



code and open the locker, the company said.

Additionally, the deliveries can be collected at any time, and only authorised personnel can access the packages.

Blue Dart Managing Director Balfour Manuel said this transformative partnership underscores unwavering commitment to exceptional customer service, providing customers the option to collect packages at their convenience This initiative demonstrates the company's commitment to revolutionise hyper-connected city logistics, enhancing lastmile delivery efficiency while ensuring a reliable and secure experience for our customers in an increasingly digital and on-demand world. Blue Dart Express Ltd is South Asia's premier express air and integrated transportation and distribution company, offering delivery of consignments to over 56,000 locations in India.

"Blue Dart and India Post forge strategic partnership for enhanced services. Under the collaboration, Blue Dart has introduced automated digital parcel lockers at selected post offices, offering customers an additional delivery method," the statement said.

These parcel lockers keep their contents secure and are easily accessible. When the recipient needs to retrieve a package from the locker, they can simply enter the assigned er equipment. This is where all of us AP&FWD, NIC and Banks have to put in efforts to take these credit linked schemes under HADP to every nook and corner of the UT and make farmers aware about the benefits of these schemes."

"Moreover, we need to handhold these farmers at every stage so that they opt for modern equipment, effective fertilizers/pesticides and more importantly the right credit facility without hassles. is to increase income of our farmers and rural community which will eventually lead to more stable and surging economy of our UT."

While giving an overview of this flagship initiative Technical Officer AP&FWD Dr Anjum Andrabi stated, "We are hugely dependant on agriculture that contributes around 19% to our GDP. So boosting this sector through modern means and technology was need of the hour."

in case of sudden economic or interest rate shocks.

"The tightening of underwriting norms through higher risk-weighted assets is credit positive because lenders will need to allocate higher capitals for such loans improving their loss-absorbing buffers and may dampen their growth appetite," Moody's said in a statement.

It said that over the past few years, India's unsecured lending segment has become very competitive, with banks, NBFCs

cause the overall banking sector's exposure to unsecured retail credit is small at around 10 per cent of loans as of September 2023 and the sector's overall capitalization is at historically high levels with a Common Equity Tier 1 ratio of 13.9 per cent as of March 2023," Moody's said.

However, the impact of the new underwriting rules could vary among individual lenders depending on their exposure to unsecured loans, it added.

EPFO Adds 17.21 Lakh Net **Members In September**

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Retirement fund body EPFO recorded a net addition of 17.21 lakh members in September, according to payroll data released on Monday.

Month-on-month comparison of payroll data shows an increase of 21,475 net members over August 2023, a labour ministry statement said. Year-on-year comparison of payroll data reflects an increase of 38,262 net members over September 2022.

Around 8.92 lakh new members enrolled during September 2023, the ministry said. Among these newly joined members, the age group of 18-25 years constitutes 58.92 per cent of total new members added during the month.

This demonstrates that a majority of the members joining the organised sector workforce of the country are youth, who are mostly first-time job seekers, it explained.

Payroll data shows that approximately 11.93 lakh members exited but rejoined EPFO, it stated.

These members switched their jobs and re-joined the establishments covered under the ambit of EPFO and opted to transfer their accumulations instead of applying for final settlement thus, extending their social security protection, it explained.

As compared to the previous

month, the number of exits de-creased by 12.17 per cent with 3.64 lakh exits in September 2023.

The data indicated that the number of members exiting the EPFO has been declining since June 2023.

The ministry stated that out of a total of 8.92 lakh new members added during the month, around 2.26 lakh are female members, joining EPFO for the first time. Also, the net female member addition during the month stood at around 3.30 lakh.

State-wise analysis of payroll data denotes that net member addition is the highest in Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Gujarat and Haryana. These states constitute around 57.42 per cent of net member addition, adding a total of 9.88 lakh members during the month.

Of all the states, Maharashtra is leading by adding 20.42 per cent of net members during the month.

Month-on-month comparison of industry-wise data displays significant growth in the members working in establishments engaged in the sugar industry, courier services, iron and steel, hospitals, travel agencies etc.

Of the total net membership, around 41.46 per cent addition is from expert services (consisting of manpower suppliers, normal contractors, security services, miscellaneous activities etc.).

Global Slowdown To Stall Office Space Leasing Demand This Fiscal

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: Commercial office space leasing is likely to stagnate at 32-34 million square feet in the country this fiscal due to the lingering global uncertainties which are spawning caution among key tenant categories, says a report.

However, the inherent strengths of the domestic commercial realty market and the increasing shift to return to office should help demand pick up over the medium term, helping keep the credit profiles of office asset owners stable, Crisil Ratings said in a report on Monday.

The domestic commercial office space is dominated by technology companies, with IT and IT-enabled services companies occupying 42-45 per cent of the operational stock. Global capability centres of multinational companies have also emerged as a key category of tenants in the past few years, occupying around a third of the total stock. These two will keep demand modest at 32-34 million square feet this fiscal in the near-term amid global economic headwinds, the report noted.

According to Gautam Shahi, a director with the agency, net leasing of office space will be impacted by two factors this fiscal. One, headcount addition in the IT/ITeS sector has already come to a halt amid taper-

ing revenue growth and pressure on profitability.

Also, the sector may look to control costs, including rent. Secondly, global capability centres may defer largescale leasing plans in the country amid weak macroeconomic outlook in key regions such as the US and Europe.

However, demand from domestic enterprises in the banking, financial services and insurance, consulting, engineering, pharma, and e-commerce segments, which occupy the remainder of the office market, will remain buoyant, resulting in net leasing of 32-34 msf this fiscal, same as that in fiscal 2023.

Employers pushing for increased physical occupancy in offices may prove to be another tailwind for office leasing, he notes and adds that most companies, including those in technology, which otherwise were favouring work-from-home, are now pushing for return to office on most days and physical occupancy, which averaged 40 per cent last fiscal, is expected at 65-70 per cent this fiscal.

According to Saina Kathawala, an associate director with the agency, notwithstanding the near-term hiccups, net leasing is expected to grow 10-12 per cent next fiscal to 36-38 msf. Growth is expected to remain at a similar level over the medium term as well supported by both global capability centres and domestic enterprises.

SKUAST-K Organises Awareness-Cum-Technology Exhibition

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir Monday held an awareness-cum-technology demonstration program on 'Good Agricultural Practices and Innovative Approaches for Production and Processing of Agri-Enterprises' at Government Degree College, Ganderbal.

The program was organised by SKUAST-K's Krishi Vikas Kendra, Ganderbal under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP): Innovative Extension Approaches for Promoting Agriculture in Jammu and Kashmir. The program was chaired by the Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal, Mr Shyambir and co-chaired by Director Extension, SKUAST-K. Prof Dil Mohammad Makhdoomi. The dignitaries initially visited technology demonstration stalls showcasing the latest technologies, varieties, hybrid seeds and value-added products developed by the University, KVK Ganderbal entrepreneurs, startups, & NRLM. Besides large number of stalls were set up by line departments, progressive farmers and entrepreneurs of the district.

In his presidential address, Mr Shyambir appreciated the relentless efforts of KVK Ganderbal in conducting such events from time to time and reaching out to farmers across the District. He further encouraged the farmers to adopt good and ethical practices in agriculture, for preserving the brand name of Kashmiri products which are in huge demand across the World. Mr. Shyambir (IAS) motivated farmers to take up entrepreneurial ventures and ensured full support and cooperation from the government.

Prof Makhdoomi in his address highlighted the aims and objectives of HADP. He said if followed in letter and spirit, such approaches will change the face of agriculture and allied sectors in the district.

Head, KVK, Ganderbal, Dr Ishfaq Abidi, gave a comprehensive overview of the innovative extension approaches & roadmap of HADP and highlighted that HADP aims to revolutionize agriculture and allied sectors in Jammu & Kashmir by taking all stakeholders on board.

Prof Azra Kamili from Central University gave a comprehensive overview of entrepreneurship and startups in enterprise development. In the second session, Scientists of the KVK viz. Dr Shafat A Banday, Dr Eajaz A Dar and Dr Shaheen Farooq delivered detailed lectures regarding innovative approaches and recent advances in their respective fields. The programme witnessed the participation of Scientists, Professors, Research scholars, Chief Agriculture/ Horticulture Officers, District Sheep Husbandry officer, Assistant Director, Fisheries, Principal GDC Ganderbal, farmers, entrepreneurs, farm women, local leaders and students.

NEWS

KASHMIR OBSERVER® SRINAGAR | TUESDAY | 21.11.2023

UN report says world is racing to well past warming limit as carbon emissions rise instead of plunge

United Nations: Earth is speeding to 2.5 to 2.9 degrees Celsius (4.5 to 5.2 degrees Fahrenheit) of global warming since pre-industrial times, set to blow well past the agreed-upon inter-national climate threshold, a United Nations report calculated.

To have an even money shot at keeping warming to the 1.5-degree Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) limit adopted by the 2015 Paris climate agreement, countries have to slash their emissions by 42% by the end of the decade, said the U.N. Environment Programme's Emissions Gap report issued Monday. Carbon emissions from the burning of coal, oil and gas rose 1.2% last year, the report said.

This year Earth got a taste of what's to come, said the report, which sets the table for international climate talks later this month.

Through the end of September, the daily global average temperature exceeded 1.5 degrees Celsius above mid-19th century levels on 86 days this year, the report said. But that increased to 127 days because nearly all of the first two weeks of November and all of October reached or exceeded 1.5 degrees, according to the European climate service Copernicus. That's 40%

of the days so far this year.

On Friday, the globe hit 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees) above pre-industrial levels for the first time in recorded history, according to Copernicus Deputy Director Samantha Burgess.

"It's really an indication that we are already seeing a change, an acceleration," said report lead author Anne Olhoff of Denmark's climate think tank Concito. "Based on what science tells us, this is just like a whisper. What will be in the future will be more like a roar."

It's dangerous already, said UNEP Director Inger Andersen.

"Temperatures are hitting new heights, while extreme weather events are occurring more and more often, developing faster and becoming much more intense," Andersen said. The new report "tells us that it's going to take a massive and urgent shift to avoid these records falling year after year.

The 1.5-degree goal is based on a time period measured over many years, not days, scientists said. Earlier reports put Earth reaching that longer term limit in early 2029 without dramatic emission changes.

To keep that from happening, the



countries of the world have to come up with more stringent goals to cut emissions of carbon dioxide and implement policies to act on those goals, Olhoff said.

In the past two years only nine countries have come up with new goals, so that hasn't moved the needle, but some countries, including the United States and those in Europe, have put policies in place that slightly improved the outlook, she said.

United States' Inflation The Reduction Act. which has 375 billion in spending on clean energy, by 2030 would reduce yearly emissions of carbon dioxide by about 1 billion metric tons, Olhoff said.

That sounds like a lot, but the world in 2022 spewed 57.4 billion metric tons of greenhouse gases and to limit warming to the 1.5 degree mark emissions in 2030 have to be down to 33 billion metric tons. That's an "emissions gap" of 24 billion metric tons.

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said "the emissions gap is more like an emissions canyon a canyon littered with broken promises, broken lives and broken records.'

That's why the report said the chance of keeping warming at or under 1.5 degrees is about one-in-seven or about 14%, "very, very slim indeed," Olhoff said.

If the world wants to settle for a warming limit of 2 degrees Celsius a secondary threshold in the Paris agreement it only has to trim emissions down to 41 billion metric tons, with a gap of 16 billion metric tons from now, the report said.

Because the world has already warmed nearly 1.2 degrees Celsius (2.2 degrees Fahrenheit) since the mid-19th century, the report's projections would mean another 1.3 to 1.7 degrees Celsius (2.3 to 3.1 degrees Fahrenheit) warming by the end of this century. For two years countries have known they have to come up with more ambitious emission cuts targets if the world wants to limit warming to 1.5 degrees, but "none of the large emitters have changed their pledges," said study coauthor Niklas Hohne, a scientist at the New Climate Institute in Germany.

That's why for the past few years the grim outlook from annual Emissions Gap reports barely changed, Olhoff said. This year's emissions gap report

is accurate yet not surprising and the projected temperature range fits with other groups' calculations, said Climate Analytics scientist Bill Hare, who wasn't part of the report.

Guterres reiterated his call for countries to phase out the use of fossil fuels in time to keep the 1.5 degree limit alive, saying "otherwise we're simply inflating the lifeboats while breaking the oars."

"We know now that the impacts of climate change, of global warming of somewhere between 2.5 and 3 degrees Celsius are going to be massive," Olhoff said in an interview. "It's basically not a future I think anybody would want for their children and grandchildren and so forth. The good news, of course, is that we can act and we know what we have to do." (AP)

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Kashmir Saffron

working? You can see for yourself what has happened to these pipes and the bore-wells. They are not serving any purpose," Reshi told Kashmir Observer, while pointing at the defunct sprinkle irrigation system in a saffron field on the eastern side of Srinagar-Jammu highway in Pampore.

Reshi and several other farmers have had a "dismal production" this year as the bulbs in their farms had got damaged by drought and rodents. However, some farmers whose crops had survived, said that they got a good yield following a spell of rain last month.

Lack of rainfall, especially from August to October amid fluctuation in temperature during the crop cycle, causes an outbreak of pests and diseases which damages the crop, Reshi and other farmers said.

One of the farmers who has had a good crop this year is Abdul Rahman who lives in Lethpora-Pulwama, where most saffron production is concentrated.

Rahman said that it was a stroke of luck that his crop was not damaged as it received natural irrigation because of the rain spell. "The government has apparently spent hundreds of crores (of rupees) on irrigation infrastructure for ensuring a good saffron production, but we still depend on rainfall for saffron cultivation. This is a pity," Abdul Rahman told Kashmir Observer adding that "our primary concern (about irrigation) is yet to be addressed."

According to him, the most important thing the government was supposed to do for the farmers was to make water available for the crop. "Though tube-wells have been dug and pipes have been laid for years now, we are yet to see the water in saffron fields," he said.

However, Ghulam Mohammad Dhobi, Joint Director of agriculture department who is also the Nodal Officer for NMS, said that the farmers are also responsible if the irrigation system is yet to work.

"We have observed that at many places the irrigation networks have been removed by farmers from their fields using them as barricades for their farms," the Nodal Officer

recipes. Within Kashmir, saffron is mostly added to Kahwa - the traditional Saffron Tea drunk by people in Kashmir which has also become very popular with the tourists who visit the region annually.

Saffron is one of Kashmir's major industries along with horticulture and agriculture, supporting some 20,000 families according to experts at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. Saffron has been cultivated since 500 AD in Kashmir. Saffron production in the valley had reached its peak in the 1990s at an annual average of around 15.5 tonnes from 5,700 hectares (14,085 acres), but both the land farmed for saffron and yields have declined since then.

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has declared Kashmir as a heritage crop, a distinction only a few crops have achieved globally. "Saffron cultivation is typical in the Kashmir region. This plant is mentioned in the 5th century B.C in Kashmiri records and is still part of the agricultural economy. Known all over the world, Saffron became a cash crop for farmers resulting from a long traditional heritage," FAO has noted about Kashmir's saffron.

Atal Dulloo Tipped

officer of Union Territories or Arunachal Pradesh-Goa-Mizoram and Union Territory cadre, is currently working as secretary, Department of Border Management under the home ministry.

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved his repatriation to his parent cadre on the request of the Ministry of Home Affairs, it said.

He is likely to be appointed chief secretary of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said

Jammu and Kashmir's chief secretary Arun Kumar Mehta is due to superannuate this month-end after completion of 60 years of age.

Chorus Grows

ailments," he added.

Rafiq Ahmad Patloo, an auto-rickshaw driver said that he as to drop his five-year-old child at the school in the hitter

a priority basis amidst the plummeting temperatures and dense fog gripping the region.

The association highlighted that adverse weather conditions extend beyond conventional challenges of rain and snowfall. With temperatures reaching sub-zero levels and visibility significantly reduced due to fog, the journey to school becomes arduous, especially for young students.

In a statement, National Convener of Association Nasir Khuehami said, "The Lieutenant Governor administration should consider these changes in weather. It is very difficult for kids to go to school in extreme cold and fog.

The plea specifically calls for winter vacations up to Class 8, citing the vulnerability of younger students to harsh weather conditions. Nasir Khuehami stressed the urgency, urging the LG to make the announcement as soon as possible to alleviate the hardships faced by students and their families.

National General Secretary Ummar Jamal said, "Bad weather doesn't only mean rain and snowfall. It includes cold when the temperature dips to minus, and visibility becomes very low due to fog. Authorities should consider these changes in weather. It is very difficult for kids to go to school in extreme cold and fog."

"As winter tightens its grip on the region, we hope that the government will prioritize the well-being of students and take prompt action to ensure a safe and comfortable learning environment during the challenging weather conditions," Jamal added.

PDD To Snap

The Principal Secretary, he said, also stressed that under no circumstances should J&K engage in overdrawal of power, which is important not only to stay within the budget but also to uphold grid discipline and prevent unwarranted disruptions in power supply.

"It was further highlighted that sufficient infrastructure has been created in recent years to improve the quality of power supply in the region. Additionally, I&K has availed loans under various Government of India schemes such as Atmanirbhar Bharat and LPS Rules, whereby all outstanding dues of power generators accumulated over the years have been cleared," the spokesperson said.

movement of people in the wee hours. Long queues of vehicles were seen stuck in traffic Jams across Srinagar city in the morning. However, with increase in visibility and temperatures the traffic movement streamlined.

"It is becoming increasingly difficult to ride a bike during morning hours and there is very less visibility. With the increase in foggy conditions, I think the temperatures have also dropped. Before riding, I made sure I was fully covered" said Aamir Shafi, a student of Kashmir University.

"Walking in the morning and evening hours has become difficult owing to the foggy conditions. More than elders, students find it difficult to attend classes in the chilly weather conditions" said Manzoor Ahmad, a pedestrian.

The foggy weather conditions also affected air traffic during the morning hours.

A senior official from Srinagar International Airport told Kashmir Observer that one flight was cancelled while three others were diverted, two of which belonged to Indigo and one to Spice Jet.

"The Indigo flight which had taken off from Hyderabad had to return back owing to foggy weather. It was the only flight that was cancelled today. The other two rescheduled flights returned to the Srinagar International Airport." he said.

"All other flights operated as per the schedule," he added. Army Commander.

the forces, plans for zero tolerance to terror and the se-curity and administrative arrangements amid upcoming winters," according to a post on the X account of the Army's Udhampur-based Northern Command.

Sharing pictures of the interaction, it said the Indian Army and the Jammu and Kashmir Police are committed to bolster safety and security of the Union Territory.

Police and other security agencies are on high alert across Jammu and Kashmir, especially along the Line of Control, to thwart any infiltration attempt by terrorists before heavy snowfall blocks the possible infiltration routes, officials said

told Kashmir Observer.

But, farmers such as Rahman and Reshi argued that some farmers have done it out of anger as the sprinkle irrigation network has never supplied any water to the fields.

"The pipes only act as hurdles when we have to plant the bulbs and tend our farms. So, some farmers might be removing them out of frustration." Abdul Rahman said and added that he and other farmers have informed the government many times about the failure of the sprinkle irrigation system, "but we didn't get any satisfactory answer".

According to Dhobi and officials of the mechanical wing of the Public Works Department, some work is also pending because there has been no funding for NMS in the last three years.

"We have dug 128 bore-wells in the saffron land out of which 111 bore-wells were dug in Pulwama district alone. We will dig the remaining bore-wells also when the pending funding (Rs 85 crores) is released," Dhobi said, adding 22 bore-wells were tested and started this year.

But, this was refuted by farmers who maintained that they are yet to see any benefits of the sprinkle irrigation system even as infrastructure for the purpose seems to be in place.

"All the bore-wells will be handed over to the community (saffron growers), but the farmers have to make sure that the infrastructure remains safe and usable," Dhobi said.

Reyaz Khan, Executive Engineer, Machinery, in the Mechanical Engineering Division (Kashmir) said that the department has completed its work (70 to 75 percent) and the remaining work will be done as soon as the funds are released.

"We have not left any lacuna in our work," he said.

Scientific research has established that irrigation plays the most important role for saffron cultivation in Kashmir. Research published by noted saffron expert, Firdous Nahvi, who worked at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, highlights that saffron yields are falling because of the irrigation problem.

According to Nahvi, until 1999-2000, Kashmir received well-distributed precipitation of 1,000 to 1,200 mm per year, in the form of rain and snow, but that has now decreased to 600 to 800 mm.

"In any part of the world, farming is unthinkable without water," Nahvi notes and adds: "Creating irrigation facilities was the critical part of the project because we have observed in recent years that it doesn't rain when the crop needs the moisture." He was the expert who advised the NMS implementers about the need for installing the sprinkle irrigation system for saffron cultivation in Kashmir.

The world's most expensive spice, saffron (Crocus sativus) - whose tiny orange strands are used for seasoning and colouring from southern Europe to South Asia - is grown mainly in Kashmir, Iran and Spain. Saffron crop is extremely sensitive to climatic conditions. One kg of Kashmiri saffron fetches around 250,000 rupees in domestic and international markets though prices have come down in recent years according to the farmers.

The orange stigmas of the saffron plant are harvested as saffron and used as a flavoring and coloring agent in various

cold, especially in the mornings.

"My child often shivers from the cold and occasionally begs not to send him to school. I truly feel bad for him when drop him off in the morning," says Tariq, whose kid attends Government High School Sonwar.

When contacted Additional Secretary School Education, Naseer Ahmad passed the buck to the Director School Education, saying he is the only person authorized to speak on the matter.

"Actually what you are talking about does not come under my domain, it's better if you talk to the Director School Education as he may be the right person to answer vour queries," Naseer Ahmad told Kashmir Observer.

Director of Education Dr. Tassaduq Hussain Mir could not be reached despite many attempts through text and phone calls.

Renowned influenza expert, Dr Nisar-ul Hassan, when contacted said it would be better if the government announces winter vacations at the earliest so the children are protected from the common winter illnesses.

"Since children are susceptible to the flu, their parents may also become ill at home. If schools cannot provide adequate heating arrangements to children in schools, what good is it to keep them open? It would be better to announce the winter break as early as possible," said Dr Nisar, who is also the president of Doctors Association of Kashmir (DAK)

"Vaccinating children against common winter illnesses is essential, and schools do not provide this service during the colder months." Schools have no right to endanger the students when they don't have basic amenities like air heating and immunizations, he told Kashmir Observer.

Echoing similar views, President of the Private Schools Association of Jammu and Kashmir (PSAJK), GN War said that primary school winter breaks ought to be announced at the earliest. However, he quickly added that the decision about winter break up to the tenth grade may be taken later.

Regarding insufficient heating arrangements in private schools, War said that not all private schools that charge students a meager amount of Rs. 200 or Rs. 300 a month can afford to provide such amenities.

"Let the government spend millions of rupees that would otherwise go unused on these kinds of amenities at private schools. Why do they not act in this way? How is it possible for a school owner who charges students between Rs. 200 and Rs. 300 a month to offer heating for them," War told Kashmir Observer.

He was however quick to add that necessary action must be taken against those schools, which despite charging thousands of rupees from students fail to provide heating arrangements.

"So far as winter vacations are concerned, we also demand it to be announced as early as possible at least up to 5th grade. Rest the decision regarding the classes up to 10th can be taken later given the incomplete syllabus at schools,' added War.

The Jammu and Kashmir Students Association (JKSA) has also requested Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to announce winter vacations, particularly for lower classes, on

"However, under the schemes the J&K has committed to the GoI that the losses shall be reduced to minimum to ensure the viability of the sector," he added.

In line with the commitment to reduce the losses, the spokesperson said, the Principal Secretary issued explicit instructions to the engineers to put an all out effort to eradicate the menace of power pilferage by adopting stringent enforcement measures.

Prasad, he said, asked to maintain regular power supply in areas where people are regularly paying for their consumption, whereas in high loss areas, measures like metering and AB cabling be taken on priority.

"Principal Secretary noted with deep concern that despite dispatching more energy to the valley during this year compared to previous year, there has not been much improvement in the revenue realization," he said

"As such, he directed the concerned officers to ensure that the bills are timely generated and distributed to the consumers. He also directed that the power outages be attended promptly and faults be cleared with minimum downtime particularly the damaged Distribution Transformers (DT) be replaced in the shortest possible time to avoid any inconvenience to people," he added.

In conclusion, the spokesperson said, the Principal Secretary reaffirmed the government's unwavering commitment towards stability and growth of the power sector in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The anticipated implementation of these directives is poised not only to improve the reliability of power supply but also to fortify the financial health of the power sector, ensuring a resilient and responsive energy infrastructure for the people of the region," he added.

Dense Fog

on November 23, there is a possibility of light rains in plains and light snowfall in higher reaches of Kashmir Valley. There may be scattered rainfall maybe from 2mm to 4mm in the city. However, there is no prediction of a major spell." Mukhtar said.

"In Srinagar the temperature was recorded at -0.8 Degree C and in hill stations, it has gone from-2 to -3 Degree C. The temperatures are set to remain the same for the next week." Mukhtar added.

Dr Mukhtar also had a word of precaution for those driving on the national highway.

"Those driving on the National Highway need to take precautions, in order to avoid major accidents. Those to go out for morning and evening walks need to take precautions because the pollution levels are high during mornings and evenings'

"In order to remain safe people should wear masks." he said.

Meanwhile, pedestrians and drivers alike had a tough time on Monday morning as dense fog engulfed Kashmir Valley. The low visibility affected normal life with less

Anti-terrorist operations have also been intensified in the villages close to the forests and borders as part of an area domination exercise, they said.

Govt's Failure

will result in appropriate penal action against those responsible for not filing the status report," the court said.

It also directed the government to indicate status regarding the current condition of Anchar Lake.

The directions followed submissions by Amicus Curiae that the Anchar Lake is in dire situation and needs immediate intervention from the Court for its protection.

There are seven wetlands covered under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and include Hokersar, Wular Lake, Shalbugh and Haigam in Kashmir Valley; Tso Moriri and Tso Kar in Ladakh and Surinsar-Mansar Lakes Jammu.

The High Court, following the directions by the Supreme Court on 3 April 2017, had treated an affidavit filed by the petitioner M K Balakrishnan before the apex court regarding certain wetlands which were covered under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands as PIL

The Top Court had asked the Chief Justices of the concerned High Courts to treat the affidavit as a suo moto PIL and, if necessary, appoint an amicus curiae to assist the court so as to ensure that the Ramsar Convention sites within their jurisdiction were properly maintained.

The High Court pursuant to the directions registered the affidavit as PIL on its own motion and in its first order on the PIL on 28 August 2018, underlined that the "importance of preservation of Wetlands and Water Bodies cannot be sufficiently emphasized as well as the need to set up a regulatory mechanism for all wetlands so as to maintain their ecological character and ultimately support their integrated management in the three regions of the (then) State (Kashmir, Jammu and Ladakh)."

Search Ops

sources, a joint team of security forces is conducting the search operation.

4 Dead In

Pathankot national highway around 12.45 pm, a police official said.

They were returning to their village from Pathankot when their motorcycle was hit by the Jammu-bound truck, the official said.

In another accident, a woman and her granddaughter were killed when they were hit by an unknown motorcycle near Sadq-e-Check on the highway on Sunday evening, the official said.

While seven-year-old Sameera died on the spot, her grandmother Santosh (50) succumbed to injuries at a hospital, he said.

In Udhampur, Meanwhile, a woman was killed and seven others injured when two private cars collided at Garnai near Tikri along the Jammu-Srinagar national highway on Sunday, the official said.

The condition of two of the injured persons was stated to be serious, the official said.

SPORTS

Farhan Muneer: Kashmir's **Powerlifting Prodigy**

Agencies

SRINAGAR: For years, 22-year-old Farhaan Muneer has been training hard to build his physique.

A resident of Khayam area of Srinagar, Farhaan gradually started feeling changes in his body after he transformed himself from a skinny to a chiseled lad.

Simultaneously, Farhaan observed that he could easily lift heavy weights.

This is when he started getting serious about the game of powerlifting and bodybuilding.

Come 2022, Farhaan has been awarded as the youngest certified trainer in Kashmir by Global Indian Fitness Federation.

"It was a kind of coincidence with me. I would hit the gym just for a good physique but then I started getting interested in bodybuilding. I learned about bodybuilding from my gurus and last year I was awarded a certificate by the Global Indian Fitness Federation," Farhan told news agency KNO.

Guided by an unyielding determination and aim to make a mark in the world of powerlift-



ing, Farhan has embarked on a rigorous training regimen that

would shape his destiny. "I spend almost four hours daily training in the gym. From bench presses to heavy squats, I am currently able to pull heavy weights. My record in bench press so far is 150 Kgs, 250Kgs in deadlift and 220 Kgs in squats," he said.

Apart from training fitness freaks, Farhaan is simultaneously preparing for mega championships in the game of powerlifting in coming years. "I am currently preparing for

various powerlifting championships. My goal is to bag titles in international powerlifting events. I am being prepared by

J&K Wins Sabre Team Gold In National School Games

Secy DYSS praises J&K athletes

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Secretary Department of Youth Services and Sports, Sarmad Hafeez, on Monday inaugurated the 67th National School Games in the discipline of Fencing for Under-19 boys and girls at Gymnasium Hall, University of Jammu here.

While extending thanks to School Games Federation of India for sanctioning four Nationals to J&K this year, Sarmad Hafeez said that the Government of J&K was committed to promote sports and possess all that was required to host mega sporting events in a most befitting manner.

He said, the performance of J&K athletes at the National scene and the Indian athletes at the International arena portrayed the picture of enhancement in sports infrastructural facilities and excellence in coaching standards. Secretary YSS said that this

event is part of the series of National School Games that J&K has been hosting and till now four national level competitions in sports disciplines of Football, Volleyball, Judo and Fencing have been organised during the current year.

Hafeez further said that last year 60 lakh youth from across J&K took part in various sports activities and this year the target is comparatively much more. He added that mega events like this apart from helping youth to showcase their sporting skills, also help them to exchange their culture

09129

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Vadodara

Haridwar

New Delhi

Gorakhpur Jn.

Gorakhpur Jn.

and language.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Director DYSS, Subash Chibber, highlighted the achievements of the department and encouraged the participants.

Meanwhile, J&K Under-19 boys won Sabre team gold on Day 1 after beating Haryana in the final. The gold medal winners included Harshit Kohli, Anubhav Sharma, Vatsal Gandhotra and Amish Sharma. The silver medal in this category went to Haryana and the bronze was bagged by Punjab and Gujarat.

J&K Bank Rout Galaxy 8-0 In Srinagar Premier League of which came in the 51st minute,

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: J&K Bank FC ran amok Monday, scoring eight goals past Galaxy FC in a Srinagar Premier League fixture at Synthetic Turf TRC here.

The Galaxy team fell apart in the second half of the game, allowing six unanswered goals as J&K Bank striker Akif Reshi

Premier Division.

favour of J&K Bank.

Haridwar

Vadodara

New Delhi

New Delhi

Gorakhpur Jn

19:00

17:20

23:00

14:00

08:00

Prem put Bank ahead in the 24th minute, before Akif dou-

bled the lead in minute 30. At

half time, the score read 2-0 in

saw Galaxy let in six goals, the first

The second half of the game

14:30

11:25

12:00

04:15

22:05

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when Waris found the back of the net. Tawfeeq made it 4-0 in the 58th minute. Akif scored in minute 74, before Prem got his second goal of the game in 78th minute. Akif pounced upon his third goal in minute 85, while Shahid got in on the act a minute later.

At full time, J&K Bank FC had beaten Galaxy FC 8-0. Bank's



Tawfeeq was awarded player of scored another hat trick in the the match.

Saturday

Sunday

Wednesday

Thursday

Tuesday

As per the fixtures list release by DFA Srinagar, the final Round 20 matchup will see Downtown Heroes FC take on FC1 on Tuesday, November 21, at Synthetic Turf TRC. The game kicks off at 3:00 PM, as per the schedule.

Upto 25.11.2023

upto 26.11.2023

29.11.2023

30.11.2023

upto 28.11.2023

the experts in the field," he said. FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS-2023

Anticipating the post festival rush of passengers, Railways have planned to run the following post Festival Special Trains as per schedule given below:-

								05069	Goraknpur Jn.	00.00			1.8 /	Manda and and	
LIST	OF FESTIVAL SPECIA	L TRA	INS ORIGINATING/TI	ERMIN	IAT	ING IN NORTH	IERN RAILWAY	05070	New Delhi	00:30	Gorakhpur Jn.	14:45	Ň	Wednesday	upto 29.11.2023
Spl.		Dept.	01-11-12-12	Arr.			Devile	05071	Gomti Nagar	23:00	New Delhi	08:15	eekly	Thursday	upto 30.11.2023
Train No.	Station From	Time	Station to	Time		Frequency / Day	Period	05072	New Delhi	10:00	Chhapra Jn.	04:15	×	Friday	upto 01.12.2023
03255	Patna Jn	22:20	Anand Vihar Terminal	15:00	ekly	Thursday, Sunday	23.11.2023 to 10.12.2023	05159	Chhapra Jn.	23:55	New Delhi	20:00	eekly	Saturday	upto 25.11.2023
03256	Anand Vihar Terminal	23:30	Patna Jn	17:20	Bi-we	Friday, Monday	24.11.2023 to 11.12.2023	05160	New Delhi	00:30	Chhapra Jn.	19:25	Š	Monday	upto 27.11.2023
02391	Patna Jn	22:20	Anand Vihar Terminal	15:00	skly	Saturday	25.11.2023 to 09.12.2023	09557	Bhavnagar	10:10	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	08:50	eekly	Friday	24.11.2023 & 01.12.202
02392	Anand Vihar Terminal	23:30	Patna Jn	17:20	Wee	Sunday	26.11.2023 to 10.12.2023	09558	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	13:20	Bhavnagar	10:00	Ň	Saturday	25.11.2023 & 02.12.202
03635	Gaya Jn	14:15	Anand Vihar Terminal	05:00	eekly	Mon, Wed, Fri	upto 08.12.2023	05527	Darbhanga Jn.	13:15	Delhi Jn.	13:30	eekly	Thursday	23.11.2023 to 07.12.202
03636	Anand Vihar Terminal	07:00	Gaya Jn	20:45	Tri-w	Tue, Thu, Sat	21.11.2023 to 09.12.2023	05528	Delhi Jn.	15:30	Darbhanga Jn.	15:45	Ň	Friday	24.11.2023 to 08.12.202
05557	Jaynagar	06:00	Anand Vihar Terminal	05:00	kly	Tuesday	21.11.2023 to 05.12.2023	03227	Ara Jn. (Unreserved Spl.)	15:45	Anand Vihar (T)	07:15	te wis	Wed, Sat	22, 25, 29.11.23 & 02.12.2
05558	Anand Vihar Terminal	07:30	Jaynagar	06:30	Wee	Wednesday	22.11.2023 to 06.12.2023	03228	Anand Vihar (T) (Unreserved Spl.)	09:30	Ara Jn.	04:00	e Da	Sun, Thu	23, 26, 30.11.23 & 03.12.23
04678	Firozpur Cantt Jn	13:25	Patna Jn	17:00	skly	Wednesday	upto 29.11.2023	04018	New Delhi	14:55	Bapudham Motihari	12:15	te wis	Tue, Fri, Mon	21, 24 & 27.11.2023
04677	Patna Jn	18:45	Firozpur Cantt Jn	22:40	Wee	Thursday	upto 30.11.2023	04017	Bapudham Motihari	15:00	New Delhi	13:15	e Dat	Wed, Sat, Tue	22, 25 & 28.11.2023
04012	New Delhi	19:20	Darbhanga Jn	16:45	ekly	Tue, Friday	upto 28.11.2023	04028	Anand Vihar (T)	01:00	Bapudham Motihari	23:30	le wis	Tue, Fri, Mon	21, 24 & 27.11.2023
04011	Darbhanga Jn	18:00	New Delhi	16:40	Biwe	Wednesday, Saturday	upto 29.11.2023	04027	Bapudham Motihari	02:30	Anand Vihar (T)	23:45	e Da	Wed, Sat, Tue	22, 25 & 28.11.2023
04518	Chandigarh	23:15	Gorakhpur	18:20	kly	Thursday	upto 30.11.2023	04533	Saharsa Jn.	03:00	Ambala Cantt.	05:00	e Dat	Tuesday	21.11.2023
04517	Gorakhpur	22:05	Chandigarh	14:10	Wee	Friday	upto 01.12.2023	04535	Katihar Jn.	07:00	Chandigarh	12:30	Date wise	Tuesday	21.11.2023
04530	Bhatinda Jn	20:55	Varanasi Jn	17:30	ekly	Sunday, Wednesday	upto 29.11.2023	02351	Patna Jn.	16:00	Anand Vihar (T.)	06:00	se	Tue, Thu, Sat, Mon, Wed, Fri	21, 23, 25, 27, 29.11.23 01.12.2023
04529	Varanasi Jn	20:40	Bhatinda Jn	19:10	Bi-we	Monday, Thursday	upto 30.11.2023						te Vi	Wed, Fri, Sun, Tue,	22, 24, 26, 28, 30.11.23
04060	Anand Vihar Terminal	10:30	Jaynagar	15:15	ekly	Tuesday, Friday	upto 28.11.2023	02352	Anand Vihar (T.)	08:00	Patna Jn.	21:55	Da	Thu, Sat	02.12.2023
04059	Jaynagar	17:00	Anand Vihar Terminal	19:55	Bi-we	Wednesday, Sat	upto 29.11.2023	05315	Chhapra Jn.	11:15	Delhi Jn.	11:20	9.9	Tuesday, Friday	upto 01.12.2023
04488	Anand Vihar Terminal	23:15	Gorakhpur	14:00	kly	Saturday	upto 25.11.2023	05316	Delhi Jn.	14:00	Chhapra Jn.	13:20	Wis	Wednesday, Saturday	upto 02.12.2023
04487	Gorakhpur	17:25	Anand Vihar Terminal	10:40	Wee	Sunday	upto 26.11.2023	05089	Banaras	21:00	Anand Vihar(T.)	15:30	ekly	Tuesday	upto 28.11.2023
04010	Anand Vihar Terminal	23:45	Jogbani	05:20	kly	Tuesday	upto 28.11.2023	05090	Anand Vihar(T.)	18:15	Banaras	09:50	Wee	Wednesday	upto 29.11.2023
04009	Jogbani	09:00	Anand Vihar Terminal	16:05	Weel	Thursday	upto 30.11.2023	05464	Varanasi City	10:40	Jaunpur	13:00	lays week	except Friday	upto 30.11.2023
01664	Anand Vihar Terminal	11:10	Saharsa Jn	11:20	kly	Monday	upto 27.11.2023	05463	Jaunpur	13:20	Varanasi City	15:30	6 D in a v	except Thursday	upto 30.11.2023
01663	Saharsa Jn	14:30	Anand Vihar Terminal	13:55	Wee	Tuesday	upto 28.11.2023	02365	Rajgir	20:00	Anand Vihar (T)	15:00	reekly		21.11.2023 to 09.12.202
03257	Danapur	07:30	Anand Vihar Terminal	00:30	kly	Sunday	26.11.2023 to 10.12.2023	02366	Anand Vihar (T)	23:45	Rajgir	19:10	Bi-		22.11.2023 to 10.12.202
03258	Anand Vihar Terminal	05:00	Danapur	20:45	Wee	Monday	27.11.2023 to 11.12.2023	05473	Jaunpur Jn	13:20	Aunrihar Jn	14:40	eekly	Thursday	upto 30.11.2023
05577	Saharsa Jn	19:10	Ambala Cant Jn	23:15	kly	Friday	24.11.2023 to 08.12.2023	05474	Aunrihar Jn	11:35	Jaunpur Jn	13:00	Ň	Friday	upto 30.11.2023
05578	Ambala Cant Jn	03:40	Saharsa Jn	09:45	Wee	Sunday	26.11.2023 to 10.12.2023	05073	Gorakhpur Anand Vihar (T)	20:55 14:30	Anand Vihar (T) Gorakhpur	12:30 07:30	Date Wise	Tuesday & Friday Wed & Sat	21 & 24.11.2023 22 & 25.11.2023
05531	Raxaul Jn	22:25	Anand Vihar Terminal	18:00	kly	Sunday	26.11.2023 to 10.12.2023	05074	Chhapra	14:30	Anand Vihar (T)	14:00		Thursday	22 & 25.11.2023
05532	Anand Vihar Terminal	20:00	Raxaul Jn	14:30	Wee	Monday	27.11.2023 to 11.12.2023	05076	Anand Vihar (T)	16:00	Chhapra	09:30	Date	Tuesday & Friday	21 & 24.11.2023
05273	Muzaffarpur Jn	18:00	Anand Vihar Terminal	11:00	ekly	Wednesday, Saturday	22.11.2023 to 09.12.2023	05041	Chhapra Kacheri	09:30	Amritsar	14:00		Tuesday & Saturday	21 & 25.11.2023
05274	Anand Vihar Terminal	13:25	Muzaffarpur Jn	07:00	Bi-we	Thursday, Sunday	23.11.2023 to 10.12.2023	05042	Amritsar	17:45	Chhapra Kacheri	22:00	Date	Wed & Sun	22 & 26.11.2023
05005	Gorakhpur	14:40	Amritsar Jn	09:30	skly	Friday	upto 01.12.2023	05575	Saharsa Jn.	19:10	Ambala Cantt Jn.	23:15	ate ise	Wednesday	22.11.2023
05006	Amritsar Jn	12:45	Gorakhpur	08:50	Wee	Saturday	upto 02.12.2023	00070		13.10	Ambaia Cant on.	23.13	۵.e	weakeday	22.11.2023
04049	New Delhi	23:30	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	11:25	ekly	Monday, Saturday	upto 27.11.2023	05571	Jaynagar	06:00	Anand Vihar (T)	05:00	Dat	Thursday	23.11.2023
04050	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	18:30	New Delhi	06:25	Bi-w	Tuesday, Sunday	upto 28.11.2023	04002	Anand Vihar (Terminal)	23:55	Patna Jn.	15:45	wise	Daily	upto 30.11.2023
04080	New Delhi	19:20	Varanasi Jn	09:45	eekly	Mon, Thu, Sat	Upto 30.11.2023	04001	Patna Jn.	18:45	Anand Vihar (Terminal)	10:20	Date	Daily	upto 01.12.2023
04079	Varanasi Jn	18:35	New Delhi	09:00	Triw	Tue, Fri, Sun	upto 01.12.2023	04006	Delhi Jn.	23:05	Jaynagar	23:45	wise	Tue, Fri, Mon, Thu	21, 24, 27 & 30.11.23
01654	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	23:20	Varanasi Jn	23:55	kly	Sunday	upto 26.11.2023	04005	Jaynagar	01:30	Delhi Jn.	01:30	Date	Thu, Sun, Wed, Sat	23, 26, 29.11.23 & 02.12.23
01653	Varanasi Jn	06:20	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	11:20	Wee	Tuesday	upto 28.11.2023	04022	New Delhi	15:30	Saharsa Jn.	16:30	wise	Daily	upto 30.11.2023
04646	Jammu Tawi	05:45	Barauni Jn	12:10	skly	Thursday	upto 30.11.2023	04021	Saharsa Jn.	19:00	New Delhi	20:20	Date	Daily	upto 01.12.2023
04645	Barauni Jn	15:15	Jammu Tawi	22:30	Wee	Friday	upto 01.12.2023	04526	Sirhind Jn.	11:25	Saharsa Jn.	16:00	wise	Thu, Sun, Wed	23, 26 & 29.11.2023
04066	Anand Vihar Terminal	23:00	Patna Jn.	16:00	eekly	Monday, Thursday	upto 30.11.2023	04525	Saharsa Jn.	19:00	Ambala Cantt.	22:20	Date	Tue, Fri, Mon, Thu	21, 24, 27 & 30.11.2023
04065	Patna Jn.	17:45	Anand Vihar Terminal	10:35	Bi-w	Tuesday, Friday	upto 01.12.2023	05530	Anand Vihar Terminal	18:30	Darbhanga	16:00	e Dat	Tuesday	21.11.2023
04062	Delhi Jn.	08:05	Barauni Jn.	06:30	ekly	Sunday	26.11.23 & 03, 10.12.23	04202	Anand Vihar Terminal	10:45	Lucknow	20:20	Daf	Tuesday	21.11.2023
04061	Barauni Jn.	08:00	Delhi Jn.	05:50	Ň	Monday	27.11.23 & 04, 12.12.23		OF FESTIVAL SPECIA	L TRA	INS PASSING THRO	UGH I	NOF	RTHERN RAILV	NAY NETWORK
01676	Anand Vihar Terminal		Muzaffarpur Jn.	21:15	ekly	Monday, Thursday	upto 30.11.2023	09075	Mumbai Central	11:00	Kathgodam	14:30	ķ,	Wednesday	upto 29.11.2023
01675		23:15			ŝ								1 8 7	Thursday	upto 30.11.2023
	Muzaffarpur Jn.	23:00	Anand Vihar Terminal	23:30	Bi-w	Tuesday, Friday	upto 01.12.2023	09076	Kathgodam	17:30	Mumbai Central	20:55	Ň		
01678	New Delhi	23:00 08:10	Anand Vihar Terminal Gaya Jn.	00:30	weekly Bi-w	Monday, Friday	24, 27.11.23 & 01, 04.12.23	07651	Jalna	23:35	Chhapra	05:30	ekly We	Wednesday	upto 29.11.2023
01678 01677	New Delhi Gaya Jn.	23:00 08:10 07:35	Anand Vihar Terminal Gaya Jn. New Delhi	00:30 23:35	e Bi-weekly Bi-w	Monday, Friday Tuesday, Saturday	24, 27.11.23 & 01, 04.12.23 21, 25, 28.11.23 & 02, 05.12.23	07651 07652	Jalna Chhapra	23:35 22:15	Chhapra Pune	05:30 04:00	Weekly We	Wednesday Friday	upto 01.12.2023
01678 01677 02250	New Delhi Gaya Jn. New Delhi (Rajdhani Spl.)	23:00 08:10 07:35 19:10	Anand Vihar Terminal Gaya Jn. New Delhi Patna Jn.	00:30 23:35 07:30	te wise Bi-weekly Bi-w	Monday, Friday Tuesday, Saturday Tue, Thu, Sat, Mon, Wed	24, 27.11.23 & 01, 04.12.23 21, 25, 28.11.23 & 02, 05.12.23 21, 23, 25, 27 & 29.11.23	07651 07652 05063	Jalna Chhapra Chhapra	23:35 22:15 16:15	Chhapra Pune Lokmanya Tilak (T.)	05:30 04:00 07:25	eekly Weekly We	Wednesday Friday Friday	upto 01.12.2023 upto 01.12.2023
01678 01677 02250 02249	New Delhi Gaya Jn. New Delhi (Rajdhani Spl.) Patna Jn. (Rajdhani Spl.)	23:00 08:10 07:35 19:10 09:00	Anand Vihar Terminal Gaya Jn. New Delhi Patna Jn. New Delhi	00:30 23:35 07:30 21:00	/ Date wise Bi-weekly Bi-w	Monday, Friday Tuesday, Saturday Tue, Thu, Sat, Mon, Wed Wed, Fri, Sun, Tue, Thu	24, 27.11.23 & 01, 04.12.23 21, 25, 28.11.23 & 02, 05.12.23 21, 23, 25, 27 & 29.11.23 22, 24, 26, 28 & 30.11.23	07651 07652 05063 05064	Jalna Chhapra Chhapra Lokmanya Tilak (T.)	23:35 22:15 16:15 12:45	Chhapra Pune Lokmanya Tilak (T.) Siwan Jn	05:30 04:00 07:25 03:15	y Weekly Weekly We	Wednesday Friday Friday Sunday	upto 01.12.2023 upto 01.12.2023 upto 03.12.2023
01678 01677 02250 02249 05283	New Delhi Gaya Jn. New Delhi (Rajdhani Spl.) Patna Jn. (Rajdhani Spl.) Muzaffarpur Jn.	23:00 08:10 07:35 19:10 09:00 18:11	Anand Vihar Terminal Gaya Jn. New Delhi Patna Jn. New Delhi Anand Vihar Terminal	00:30 23:35 07:30 21:00 11:00	weekly Date wise Bi-weekly Bi-w	Monday, Friday Tuesday, Saturday Tue, Thu, Sat, Mon, Wed Wed, Fri, Sun, Tue, Thu Wednesday, Saturday	24, 27.11.23 & 01, 04.12.23 21, 25, 28.11.23 & 02, 05.12.23 21, 23, 25, 27 & 29.11.23 22, 24, 26, 28 & 30.11.23 upto 18.12.2023	07651 07652 05063 05064 09417	Jalna Chhapra Chhapra Lokmanya Tilak (T.) Ahmedabad Jn	23:35 22:15 16:15 12:45 09:10	Chhapra Pune Lokmanya Tilak (T.) Siwan Jn Patna Jn	05:30 04:00 07:25 03:15 21:05		Wednesday Friday Friday Sunday Monday	upto 01.12.2023 upto 01.12.2023 upto 03.12.2023 upto 27.11.2023
01678 01677 02250 02249 05283 05284	New Delhi Gaya Jn. New Delhi (Rajdhani Spl.) Patna Jn. (Rajdhani Spl.) Muzaffarpur Jn. Anand Vihar Terminal	23:00 08:10 07:35 19:10 09:00 18:11 13:25	Anand Vihar Terminal Gaya Jn. New Delhi Patna Jn. New Delhi Anand Vihar Terminal Muzaffarpur Jn.	00:30 23:35 07:30 21:00 11:00 07:00	r Bi-weekly Date wise Bi-weekly Bi-w	Monday, Friday Tuesday, Saturday Tue, Thu, Sat, Mon, Wed Wed, Fri, Sun, Tue, Thu Wednesday, Saturday Thursday, Sunday	24, 27.11.23 & 01, 04.12.23 21, 25, 28.11.23 & 02, 05.12.23 21, 23, 25, 27 & 29.11.23 22, 24, 26, 28 & 30.11.23 upto 18.12.2023 upto 19.12.2023	07651 07652 05063 05064 09417 09418	Jalna Chhapra Chhapra Lokmanya Tilak (T.) Ahmedabad Jn Patna Jn	23:35 22:15 16:15 12:45 09:10 23:45	Chhapra Pune Lokmanya Tilak (T.) Siwan Jn Patna Jn Ahmedabad Jn	05:30 04:00 07:25 03:15 21:05 11:20		Wednesday Friday Friday Sunday Monday Tuesday	upto 01.12.2023 upto 01.12.2023 upto 03.12.2023 upto 27.11.2023 upto 28.11.2023
01678 01677 02250 02249 05283 05284 09097	New Delhi Gaya Jn. New Delhi (Rajdhani Spl.) Patna Jn. (Rajdhani Spl.) Muzaffarpur Jn. Anand Vihar Terminal Bandra Terminus	23:00 08:10 07:35 19:10 09:00 18:11 13:25 21:50	Anand Vihar Terminal Gaya Jn. New Delhi Patna Jn. New Delhi Anand Vihar Terminal Muzaffarpur Jn. Jammu Tawi	00:30 23:35 07:30 21:00 11:00 07:00 08:35	eekly Bi-weekly Date wise Bi-weekly Bi-weekly	Monday, Friday Tuesday, Saturday Tue, Thu, Sat, Mon, Wed Wed, Fri, Sun, Tue, Thu Wednesday, Saturday Thursday, Sunday Sunday	24, 27.11.23 & 01, 04.12.23 21, 25, 28.11.23 & 02, 05.12.23 21, 23, 25, 27 & 29.11.23 22, 24, 26, 28 & 30.11.23 upto 18.12.2023 upto 19.12.2023 upto 26.11.2023	07651 07652 05063 05064 09417	Jalna Chhapra Chhapra Lokmanya Tilak (T.) Ahmedabad Jn	23:35 22:15 16:15 12:45 09:10	Chhapra Pune Lokmanya Tilak (T.) Siwan Jn Patna Jn	05:30 04:00 07:25 03:15 21:05		Wednesday Friday Friday Sunday Monday	upto 01.12.2023 upto 01.12.2023 upto 03.12.2023 upto 27.11.2023
01678 01677 02250 02249 05283 05284 09097 09098	New Delhi Gaya Jn. New Delhi (Rajdhani Spl.) Patna Jn. (Rajdhani Spl.) Muzaffarpur Jn. Anand Vihar Terminal Bandra Terminus Jammu Tawi	23:00 08:10 07:35 19:10 09:00 18:11 13:25 21:50 23:20	Anand Vihar Terminal Gaya Jn. New Delhi Patna Jn. New Delhi Anand Vihar Terminal Muzaffarpur Jn. Jammu Tawi Bandra Terminus	00:30 23:35 07:30 21:00 11:00 07:00 08:35 10:10	V Weekly Bi-weekly Date wise Bi-weekly Bi-w	Monday, Friday Tuesday, Saturday Tue, Thu, Sat, Mon, Wed Wed, Fri, Sun, Tue, Thu Wednesday, Saturday Thursday, Sunday Sunday Tuesday	24, 27.11.23 & 01, 04.12.23 21, 25, 28.11.23 & 02, 05.12.23 21, 23, 25, 27 & 29.11.23 22, 24, 26, 28 & 30.11.23 upto 18.12.2023 upto 19.12.2023 upto 26.11.2023 upto 28.11.2023	07651 07652 05063 05064 09417 09418 05616	Jalna Chhapra Chhapra Lokmanya Tilak (T.) Ahmedabad Jn Patna Jn Guwahati	23:35 22:15 16:15 12:45 09:10 23:45 18:00	Chhapra Pune Lokmanya Tilak (T.) Siwan Jn Patna Jn Ahmedabad Jn Udaipur City	05:30 04:00 07:25 03:15 21:05 11:20 21:05		Wednesday Friday Friday Sunday Monday Tuesday Sunday	upto 01.12.2023 upto 01.12.2023 upto 03.12.2023 upto 27.11.2023 upto 28.11.2023 upto 26.11.2023
01678 01677 02250 02249 05283 05284 09097 09098 09523	New Delhi Gaya Jn. New Delhi (Rajdhani Spl.) Patna Jn. (Rajdhani Spl.) Muzaffarpur Jn. Anand Vihar Terminal Bandra Terminus Jammu Tawi Okha	23:00 08:10 07:35 19:10 09:00 18:11 13:25 21:50 23:20 10:00	Anand Vihar Terminal Gaya Jn. New Delhi Patna Jn. New Delhi Anand Vihar Terminal Muzaffarpur Jn. Jammu Tawi Bandra Terminus Delhi Sarai Rohilla	00:30 23:35 07:30 21:00 11:00 07:00 08:35 10:10 10:10	Veekly Weekly Bi-weekly Date wise Bi-weekly Bi-we	Monday, Friday Tuesday, Saturday Tue, Thu, Sat, Mon, Wed Wed, Fri, Sun, Tue, Thu Wednesday, Saturday Thursday, Sunday Sunday Tuesday Tuesday	24, 27.11.23 & 01, 04.12.23 21, 25, 28.11.23 & 02, 05.12.23 21, 23, 25, 27 & 29.11.23 22, 24, 26, 28 & 30.11.23 upto 18.12.2023 upto 19.12.2023 upto 26.11.2023 upto 28.11.2023 upto 28.11.2023	07651 07652 05063 05064 09417 09418 05616 05615	Jalna Chhapra Chhapra Lokmanya Tilak (T.) Ahmedabad Jn Patna Jn Guwahati Udaipur City	23:35 22:15 16:15 12:45 09:10 23:45 18:00 13:45	Chhapra Pune Lokmanya Tilak (T.) Siwan Jn Patna Jn Ahmedabad Jn Udaipur City Guwahati	05:30 04:00 07:25 03:15 21:05 11:20 21:05 23:30		Wednesday Friday Friday Sunday Monday Tuesday Sunday Wednesday	upto 01.12.2023 upto 01.12.2023 upto 03.12.2023 upto 27.11.2023 upto 28.11.2023 upto 26.11.2023 upto 29.11.2023
01678 01677 02250 02249 05283 05284 09097 09098 09523 09524	New Delhi Gaya Jn. New Delhi (Rajdhani Spl.) Patna Jn. (Rajdhani Spl.) Muzaffarpur Jn. Anand Vihar Terminal Bandra Terminus Jammu Tawi Okha Delhi Sarai Rohilla	23:00 08:10 07:35 19:10 09:00 18:11 13:25 21:50 23:20 10:00 13:20	Anand Vihar Terminal Gaya Jn. New Delhi Patna Jn. New Delhi Anand Vihar Terminal Muzaffarpur Jn. Jammu Tawi Bandra Terminus Delhi Sarai Rohilla Okha	00:30 23:35 07:30 21:00 11:00 07:00 08:35 10:10 10:10 13:50	y Weekly Weekly Bi-weekly Date wise Bi-weekly Bi-w	Monday, Friday Tuesday, Saturday Tue, Thu, Sat, Mon, Wed Wed, Fri, Sun, Tue, Thu Wednesday, Saturday Thursday, Sunday Sunday Tuesday Tuesday Wednesday	24, 27.11.23 & 01, 04.12.23 21, 25, 28.11.23 & 02, 05.12.23 21, 23, 25, 27 & 29.11.23 22, 24, 26, 28 & 30.11.23 upto 18.12.2023 upto 19.12.2023 upto 26.11.2023 upto 28.11.2023 upto 28.11.2023 upto 29.11.2023	07651 07652 05063 05064 09417 09418 05616 05615 05537 05538 09183	Jalna Chhapra Chhapra Lokmanya Tilak (T.) Ahmedabad Jn Patna Jn Guwahati Udaipur City Darbhanga Jn Daurai Mumbai Central	23:35 22:15 16:15 12:45 09:10 23:45 18:00 13:45 13:15 23:45 22:50	Chhapra Pune Lokmanya Tilak (T.) Siwan Jn Patna Jn Ahmedabad Jn Udaipur City Guwahati Daurai Darbhanga Jn Banaras	05:30 04:00 07:25 03:15 21:05 11:20 21:05 23:30 22:30 06:50 10:30		Wednesday Friday Sunday Monday Tuesday Sunday Wednesday Saturday Sunday Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday	upto 01.12.2023 upto 01.12.2023 upto 03.12.2023 upto 27.11.2023 upto 28.11.2023 upto 26.11.2023 upto 29.11.2023 upto 09.12.2023 upto 10.12.2023 upto 29.11.2023
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OUTPOST

Study Reveals How Hunger Influences Decision-Making

Agenceis

A study on mice has shown how gut-produced hunger hormones can influence decision-making and drive an animal's behaviour. The researchers said that the findings demonstrate how the hunger hormone can cross the blood-brain barrier and directly impact the brain to drive activity, controlling a circuit in the brain that is likely to be the same or similar in humans.

The blood-brain barrier is known to strictly restrict many substances in the blood from reaching the brain. The study findings are published in the journal, Neuron Researchers put mice in an arena that had some food, and looked at how the mice acted when they were hungry or full.

While all the mice spent time investigating the food, only the hungry ones would begin eating, the researchers at University College London, UK, found.

They also used brain imaging to study activity in the mice's ventral hippocampus, which is a decisionmaking part of the brain understood to help form and use memories to guide behaviour.

The researchers found that activity in a subset of brain cells in the ventral hippocampus increased when the mice approached the food and that this neural activity inhibited them from eating.

However, when the mice were hungry, less neural activity in this brain region was observed and therefore, they were not inhibited from eating. The researchers also found that this corresponded to high levels of the hunger hormone ghrelin circulating in the blood.

Further, by activating these ventral hippocampal neu-rons, the researchers were able to experimentally make mice behave as if they were full and therefore stopped eating. Researchers also said that the findings could contribute to research into the mechanisms of eating disorders, along with other links between diet and other health outcomes such as risk of mental illnesses.

The scientists said they are continuing their research by investigating whether hunger can impact learning or memory by checking if mice perform non-food-specific tasks differently depending on how hungry they are.

Global one-day temperature spikes above 2C for first time: EU monitor

lower limit to avoid major cli-

mate impacts, such as heat-

waves, super hurricanes and

They defined warming as

"the increase in the 30-year global average" relative to the average from 1850 to 1900.

The current climate is con-

sidered to have warmed by

nearly 1.2C compared to that

2C target is part of a series of

records this year: October was

the warmest ever recorded

globally, as was every month

The first day to exceed the

melting ice caps.

reference period.

SRINAGAR | TUESDAY | 21.11.2023

Agenceis

PARIS: The global average temperature on Friday was more than two degrees Celsius hotter than pre-industrial levels for the first time on record, Europe's Copernicus climate monitor said Monday.

Months of extraordinary heat is expected to make 2023 the hottest year in history, with droughts, massive wildfires and fierce storms ravaging swathes of the planet.

According to provisional data, global temperatures on November 17 were 2.06C above the pre-industrial average, Samantha Burgess, Deputy Head of the EU's Climate Change Service (C3S) said on X, formerly known as Twitter.

"This was the first day when global temperature was more than 2C above 1850-1900 levels," she added.

The 2015 Paris Agreement enshrined the goal of holding the increase in the global average temperature to "well below" 2C above pre-industrial levels and to aim for a safer 1.5C.

One day above 2C does not mean that the Paris threshold has been breached -- the deal instead refers to change measured over decades.

Climate experts have since urged the world to aim for the

since June, according to Copernicus, which said that 2023 would with "near certainty" surpass the hottest year on record set in 2016.

Beyond these official records, scientists say proxy data for the climate going back further -- like tree rings or ice cores -- suggests the temperatures seen this year could be unprecedented in human history, potentially the warmest in more

than 100,000 years. October was 1.7C warmer than an estimate of that month's average for the pre-industrial era, Copernicus said earlier this month.

And global average temperatures since January have been the highest in records going back to 1940, the monitor added, registering 1.43C above the 1850-1900 pre-industrial average.

Leaders meeting November 30 to December 12 in the United Arab Emirates for the COP28 conference will have to respond to a damning progress report on the world's Paris pledges after major scientific studies have made clear the world is far off track. The conference is expected

to draw up the first official assessment of the Paris Agreement and, if possible, corrective measures.

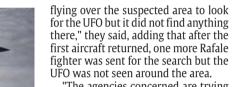
2 Rafale Jets Were Dispatched After Reports Of UFOs Near Imphal Airport

Agenceis

The Indian Air Force (IAF), soon after receiving information about the sighting of an unidentified flying object near the Imphal airport on Sunday, scrambled its Rafale fighter aircraft to search for them.

The Unidentified Flying Object was sighted over the Imphal airport around 2:30 pm yesterday after which a few commercial flights were affected.

"Soon after information about the UFO near the Imphal airport was re-



"The agencies concerned are trying to find out the details of the UFO as there are videos of the UFO over the Imphal airport," they said.

Soon after the Imphal airport was cleared for flying, the Shillong-headguartered Eastern Command of the Indian Air Force stated that it had acti-

vated its Air Defence response mechanism without giving any specific details of the steps taken by it.

Eastern Command, in a post on 'X' (formerly Twitter), said, "IAF activated its Air Defence response mechanism based on visual inputs from Imphal airport. The small object was not seen thereafter.

The Rafale fighters of the Indian Air Force are deployed at the Hashimara air base in West Bengal and keep flying from different air bases in the eastern sector along the China border.

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ceived, a Rafale fighter aircraft from a nearby airbase was scrambled to go and search for the UFO," defence

sources told ANI.

"The aircraft equipped with ad-vanced sensors carried out low-level

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