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#### **LeT's Trained Sniper Killed** In Rajouri

**Press Trust Of India** 

Jammu: Two terrorists, including a top Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) commander trained in Afghanistan, were killed in a gunfight with security forces on Thursday in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, officials said.

On Wednesday, four army personnel, including two captains, were killed and two others injured in the operation against the terrorists in the Dharmsal

halted in the night and the area was put under cordon. Firing resumed on Thursday morning, and two terrorist were killed, they said and added that the operation is in its final phase.

Earlier in the day, a defence spokesman said in the firing, killed. Later, officials said anoth-

The area was cordoned off and more security personnel were deployed in the night to ensure the terrorists do not escape from the thickly forested area, the of-

ficials said. On the Pakistani terrorist killed, the defence spokesman said he has been identified as Quari, a Pakistan national and hardcore terrorist. "He has been trained on the Pakistan and Afghanistan front. He is a highly ranked terrorist More on P6

# LG Tells PDD To Strictly Comply With Curtailment Plans

Orders Uninterrupted Power In 100% Smart Metered Feeders, Timely Replacement Of Damaged Transformers



**Observer News Service** 

Jammu: The Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Thursday directed Power Development Department (PDD) to strictly comply with curtailment plans, provide uninterrupted and quality power in 100% smart metered feeders and timely replace damaged transformers to avoid any inconvenience to the people in Jammu and Kashmir.

directions were passed by LG while chairing a review meeting on the overall power supply situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

Chief Secretary Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Principal Secretary PDD H. Rajesh Prasad, Principal Secretary Finance Department Santosh D Vaidya, Principal Secretary to LG Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari and other senior officials attended the meeting.

Detailed discussions took place on various aspects to meet the high electricity demand in both Kashmir and Jammu Division, an official spokesperson said Thursday.

During the meeting, he said, Sinha asked the Principal Secretary, Power Development Department, H. Rajesh Prasad for strict compliance of curtailment plans, uninterrupted and quality power in 100% smart metered feeders a More on P6

**'HE TEAM ON THE GROUND MUST CLOSELY** monitor the situation and take proactive actions to meet the peak electricity demand. Sinha also took appraisal of the status of the installation of smart meters, manpower and power infrastructure.

## **KPDCL Goes Tough Against**

ntensifying its crackdown against defaulters, the Kashmir Power **Distribution Corporation** Limited (KPDCL) on Thursday recovered a whopping Rs 8 crore pending bills from consumers, besides disconnecting over 1000 electricity connections over non-payment of bills. The inspection drives have further been intensified across all the 10 districts of Kashmir Valley to curb incidents of hooking and power theft, which are primarily responsible for power outages and distress cuts. The massive crackdown against rampant power theft and defaulters comes at a time when the Union Territory administration is facing severe criticism over non-availability of electricity supply in nail biting cold.

As many as 566 drives were conducted across all 19 electric divisions and a penalty of Rs.7.84 lakh was imposed on those found hooking wires on bare conductor and bypassing the meters, a KPDCL spokesperson said Thursday. Besides it, over loading also damaged 64 domestic transformers (DTs) across the Valley on Wednesday. Giving more details about the inspections conducted, he said, that 183 drives were conducted in Circle II Srinagar, 60 in Circle I Srinagar, 123 in Circle Ganderbal, 71 in Circle Pulwama, 35 in Circle Bijbehara and 94 in Circle Sopore. "1082 domestic, commercial and industrial connections were also disconnected for non-payment of energy dues for more than three months. This includes 371 domestic, 549 commer-

#### **SC Asks Gol To Set Up Fresh Delimitation Panel**

**Press Trust Of India** 

New Delhi: The Supreme Court directed the Centre on Thursday to set up a fresh delimitation commission for ensuring a proportional representation of the communities specified as Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs), as mandated under the Constitution.

belt's Bajimaal area. The officials said firing was

a Pakistani terrorist has been er terrorist has been eliminated.

## **Defaulters, Snaps 1000 Connections**

**Observer News Service** 

cial and More on P6

While asking the Centre to set up the delimitation panel, the top court, however, said it cannot direct Parliament to amend or make laws for giving proper representation to other communities that form part of the STs as that would amount to "venturing into the legislative domain".

"For the court to direct that in addition to the reservation made ... Parliament must legislate to enact proportional representation for all other communities forming part of Scheduled Tribes, that would be venturing into the legislative domain," it said.

The directions were issued by a bench of Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra on a plea seeking a proportionate representation of the Limbu and Tamang tribal communities in the assemblies of Sikkim and West Bengal.

"We have made it clear that they (Centre) have to set up the delimitation commission," the bench said. It said the apex court has the power More on P6

## **Lal Singh Gets Interim Bail In Money Laundering Case**

**Need Proactive Measures To** 

**Maintain Peace: IGP** 

**Press Trust Of India** 

Jammu: A special court here on Thursday granted interim bail to former minister Lal Singh who was arrested in a money laundering case by the Enforcement Directorate earlier this month.

Singh, the chairman of the Dogra Swabhiman Sangathan Party (DSSP), walked out of Jammu district jail to a warm welcome by his relatives and supporters this evening.

The former minister was arrested from a house here on November 7, within hours after special judge, Anti-corruption (CBI cases) Jammu Bala Jyoti dismissed his anticipatory bail application.

Singh is under investigation by the ED in connection with the case against an educational trust run by his wife and former

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: The Inspector General

of Police (IGP) Kashmir, V. K.

Birdi on Thursday emphasized

the importance of close co-

ordination and collaboration

between security forces to ef-

fectively combat any potential

security threats in the Union

view meeting at Ananthag on

Thursday, the IGP also empha-

sized the importance of com-

munity engagement in pre-

venting crime and ensuring the

During his visit, the IGP held

meeting with police officers of

the district and discussed strat-

egies for maintaining Peace and

a security re-

Chairing



legislator Kanta Andotra.

petitioner has been able to carve out a strong prima facie bail as such the petitioner is admitted to interim bail, subject to furnishing surety for an amount of Rs 2 lakh with a personal bond of the like amount, on the conditions that he shall remain present before the ED as and when called and shall render all possible assistance

order in the district. His visit

was aimed to assess the securi-

ty situation in the district and to

ensure that the necessary mea-

sures are in place to address any

potential challenges, a police

A gardener collects fallen leaves of majestic Chinar trees inside a public park in Srinagar on a cold and foggy Thursday morning. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

## **Airborne Diseases Surge As Cold Wave Grips Kashmir**

Experts Advice Children, Elderly To Stay Indoors, Wear Warm Clothes

**Majid Nabi** 

ditions continue to sweep Kashmir Valley, bringing down mercury below the freezing point, the health experts on Thursday said

Exposure to particu-

late matter comprising

dust, dirt, and soot found

in the atmosphere, they

said, is known to have a

negative impact on health,

particularly for elderly peo-

ple with chronic heart and

spokesperson said. During the meeting, he said, that the number of airborne Birdi emphasized the importance winter illnesses resulting of close coordination and collabofrom 'particulate matration between the various secuter' has surged, making rity forces to effectively combat children and the elderly any potential security threats. vulnerable.

"He also stressed the need for proactive measures to maintain peace and stability in the district," he added

In discussions about investigations, the spokesperson said, Kashmir urged prompt resolution of pending cases. Emphasizing More on P6

lung disease, children, and

Srinagar: As cold wave con-The valley's major referral hospital, Sri Maharaja Hari Singh (SMHS) Hospital in Srinagar, sees over 300 patients a day, with an average of 35 to 40 patients being hospitalized.

The persistent dry and cold weather in the valley have caused a substantia rise in airborne diseases, with 35 to 40 people on an average being hospitalized, a senior resident doctor at SMHS Hospital told Kashmir Observer.

Particulate matter, he said, can infiltrate deeply into the respiratory system and reach the More on P6

R T

#### **Mercury Settles Below Freezing Point**

he minimum temperature settled below freezing point at most places in Kashmir valley where Shopian was the coldest place with a low of minus 3.3 degrees Celsius, officials said on Thursday. There was a slight rise in the minimum temperature on Wednesday night due to arrival of a western disturbance that is expected to affect the system later in the day. The rise in temperature has resulted in reduction in early morning fog that had affected the valley for the past three days. Srinagar More on P6

## **Kashmir Not As Cold As It Seems: Dir Education**

Says Atmosphere Is Lovely, Kids **Enjoying: Clapping Inside Schools** 

**Majid Nabi** 

Srinagar: A day after the Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Budhuri said the administration was considering early winter vacation in the valley schools, Director School Education, Tassaduq Hussain Mir on Thursday claimed that it's not as cold in Kashmir as it seems and the temperature dips more at night than the day.

The Director Education also said the children would not be able to attend schools had the situation been really so bad. He said the kids attending schools are enjoying and clapping without complaining of shivering from the cold.

However, he said, the government is sensitive to the circumstances and a formal decision regarding winter vacations for the primary classes in Kashmir will be made soon.

It is worth mentioning that Div Com Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri had a day earlier said the administration was considering phase-wise winter vacations in Kashmir schools in view of the change in weather conditions.

"As you can see it's not too cold in Kashmir. Had the situation been really so, kids would not be able to go to school? Look at the beautiful atmosphere and the way these kids play and clap— could this be conceivable for them in the event of harsh weather? Hussain said.

He was replying to a media query as to when the administration is More on P6

## **Police Bust Marriage Scam, Two Brothers Arrested**

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: Two brothers involved in a marriage scam were arrested on Thursday by police in North Kashmir's Baramulla district.

Mohammad Qasim and his brother Nisar Ahmad Bhat, both residents of Pattan, were arrested by a team of cops from Police Post Mirgund on the basis of a complaint from Ghulam Mohammad Bhat, a resident of Doda, for allegedly cheating him on the pretext of marriage, a police spokesperson said. Qasim had taken an amount of t Rs 1, 50,000 from the complainant for marriage. Giving more details of the case, the spokesperson said that the complainant alleged that when he sought the recoverv of the amount, the kingpin Mohd Qasim Bhat resorted to intimidation and threatened

him of dire consequences. Accordingly, he said, a case under relevant sections of law was registered in Police Station Pattan and investigation was set into motion.

"During the course of investigation, a police party of the Police Post Mirgund, through rigorous efforts, successfully tracked down More on P6

#### **Arms, Explosives Found In Akhnoor**

safety of the residents

ecurity forces on Thursday recovered arms, ammunition and explosives, including nine grenades and an IED, dropped by a drone along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu's Akhnoor sector, police said. It was all packed in a box found during a joint search operation by the police and the Army in Palanwallah near the LoC early morning, officials said. The box raised suspicion and the bomb disposal squad was called. An improvised explosive device (IED), a pistol, two magazines, 38 rounds of ammunition and More on P6

#### **Accidental Fire Kills Soldier**



n Army jawan was killed after his service rifle accidentally went off along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on Thursday, officials said. The incident took place at Phagwari gate along border fencing. Inquest More on P6

#### 'Ramayana The **Eternal Journey' Out**

S H O

he Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Thursday released a book 'Ramayana The Eternal Journey' authored by Jawahar Pandit, at Raj Bhawan here. The LG conveyed his best wishes to the author, an official spokesperson said. Meanwhile, Ms Tazeem Akhter, **Chairperson District Development** Council Poonch called on LG Sinha at Raj Bhawan. Besied it, Babu Jagjiwan Lal, former Minister and Member District Development Council Reasi, also More on P6

#### TAKES **Sonamarg All Set For Winter Tourism**

ith good tourist footfall during the summer season, the hoteliers and traders at the world-famous tourist destination Sonamarg anticipate increased arrivals during the winter months. The locals as well as tourism stakeholders have also hailed the government's decision to keep the

place accessible during winter for

the scenic beauty of the resort.

be closed for More on P6

tourists who are currently enjoying

In previous years, Sonamarg would

#### **Drug Peddler's Property Attached**

n a relentless effort to curb the menace of drug peddling, Handwara Police continued its proactive actions against offenders and on the second day, it attached property of a notorious drug peddler. A police spokesman said that a land measuring 7 Marlas belonging to a notorious drug peddler namely Favaz Ahmad Malla, son of Gh. Mohi-ud-Din Malla resident of Muqam Himwanpora Kralgund was attached under section 68-F of NDPS Act 1985. "The property was More on P6

#### **Mercury Settles** At 9.2 Deg C In Delhi

elhi's air quality was recorded in the "very poor" category on Thursday, while the maximum temperature settled at 26.7 degrees Celsius, normal for this time of the year. The minimum temperature was recorded at 9.2 degrees Celsius, two notches below the season's average. The weatherman has forecast a partially cloudy sky on Friday with shallow to moderate fog in the morning. The maximum and minimum temperatures would hover around 26 and 10 degrees Celsius respectively. More on P6



## To place an advertisement CALL +91-194 2502327

Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)

No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

KASHMIR OBSERVER 7 Srinagar | Friday | 24-11-2023

> ginal/revised bids up to closing date and time only. 251-Elect-T-44/2023-24

App. Cost. (in Rs.)

App. Cost. (in Rs.)

App. Cost. (in Rs.)

Earnest Money (in Rs.)

Earnest Money (in Rs.)

Completion period

Opening of tender

Website Particulars

Earnest Money (in Rs.)

Earnest Money (in Rs.)

Tender No. 251-Elect-T-45/2023-24

Tender No. | 251-Elect-T-46/2023-24

Tender No. 251-Elect-T-47/2023-24

**NORTHERN RAILWAY** 

**E-Tender Notice** 

Sr. DEE/G/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders (www.ireps.gov.in) against below titled Tenders. Bidders will be able to submit their

Name of | Electrical work for Provision of Security Infrastructure Phase-I on Jammu-

Name of work Electrical work for Provision of Security Infrastructure Phase-1 at SVDK & JAT-SVDK section in c/w Security works of Multi-Disciplinary Committee Report

Name of | Electrical work in c/w Security infrastructure over Kashmir valley in Phase-I

Lakhanpur in c/w Security works of Multi-Disciplinary Committee Report

Electrical work in c/w Provision of illumination improvement and power backup to improve security in Jammu and Kashmir valley region

3.30.13.132.62

3,88,89,315.50

3,44,500.00

64,49,306,90

1,29,000.00

6,47,32,156.76

www.ireps.gov.in

11.12.2023 after 15:00 Hrs

3671/2023

bmg

4,73,700.00

06 Months

## **Ozone Hole Largest On Record Over Past 3 Years, New Research Finds**

**Press Trust Of India** 

ontrary to public perception, the Antarctic ozone hole has been amongst the largest on record over the past three years, new research has found.

The ozone hole above Antarctica has been remarkably massive and long-lived over the past four years and chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) are not the only things to blame, said researchers in their study published in the journal Nature Communications.

CFCs are greenhouse gases containing carbon, hydrogen, chlorine and fluorine and have been studied to contribute to ozone depletion. The ozone layer in the Earth's atmosphere blocks the harmful ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun to protect people from skin diseases.

According to the study's lead author Hannah Kessenich, PhD candidate at the University of Otago, New Zealand, the team

found much less ozone in the centre of the hole compared to 19 years ago.

This means that the hole is not only larger in area, but also deeper throughout most of spring," said Kessenich.

The team analysed the monthly and daily ozone



changes, at different altitudes and latitudes within the Antarctic ozone hole, from 2004 to 2022.

"We made connections between this drop in ozone and changes in the air that is arriving into the polar vortex above Antarctica. This reveals the recent, large ozone holes may not be caused just by CFCs," said Kessenich.

The researchers be-

lieve that there are complex factors contributing to the ozone hole, even as the 1987 Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer regulates the production and consumption of man-made chemicals known to deplete the ozone.

Therefore, they are raising concerns about how communications about the ozone layer over the last few years have given the public the impression that the 'ozone issue' has been solved.

"While the Montreal Protocol has vastly improved our situation with CFCs destroying ozone, the hole has been amongst the largest on record over the past three years, and in two of the five years prior to that.

"Ôur analysis ended with data from 2022, but as of today the 2023 ozone hole has already surpassed the size of the three years prior - late last month it was over 26 million square kilometres, nearly twice the area of Antarctica," said Kessenich.

Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir

#### Department of Information & Public Relations Office of Joint Director Information, Kashmir

REVISED QUOTATION FOR INVITATION OF RATES FOR COMMERCIAL LPG CYLINDERS

1. For and on behalf of the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, due to the poor response revised quotations in sealed cover are invited from authorized Dealers/Suppliers for the supply of filled commercial LPG cylinders (19 Kg), The rates should be inclusive of all Taxes viz., SGST/CGST and other charges such as freight, loading/unloading as applicable under rules on Government Approved Rates.

- 2. The Dealer/ Supplier will be selected based on the Lowest Cost Method (Highest Discount in percentage on approved company rates per cylinder).
- 3. The interested parties/firms are informed to quote their rates as %age discount to be given per cylinder in the sealed cover on devised format in the office of the Joint Director Information, Kashmir, Kothibagh Srinagar by or before 28.11.2023 till 1 p.m.
- 4. The Quotations so received will be opened on 28.11.2023 at 2 p.m. in the office of the undersigned in presence of the interested suppliers on the scheduled date.
- 5. The quotations must be accompanied with CDR amounting to Rs. 2000/= Rupees Two Thousand only pledged to the Joint Director Information Kashmir.
- 6. The supply is to be made immediately on placement of the supply order within the prescribed time period as per the requirement of the office.

7. The earnest money of the unsuccessful supplier/dealer will be released soon after the allotment of the contract to the successful dealer, whereas in case of the successful supplier, it will be treated as a part of security deposit and will be released after the full term supply of LPG for the winter season 2023-24.

Health & Medical Education Department

**Government Medical College, Anantnag** 

College Campus, Dialgam Anantnag J&K-192210

Email ID: admsection.gmca@gmail.com | gmcanantnag2018@gmail.com

Subject: Final Selection list of candidates for the engagement as Junior Staff

Nurse on academic arrangement basis under S.O-364 of 2020 dated

This office advertisement Notification No. 22 GMCvof 2022 dated

(Sd/-) Joint Director Information

No: INF/K -2213 /2023 DIPK-12744/23 Dated: - 23 -11-2023

09.12.2022

#### **FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAIN** In order to clear extra rush of passengers, Railways

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE** 

have decided to run the following Festival Special Express Train as per details given below:-

		erved Superfast Special Expres		Trips		
Train No.: 04075			Train No.: 04076			
ARR.	DEP.	♦ STATIONS	ARR.	DEP.		
	23:45	New Delhi	06:45			
11:40		Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra		18:50		
DATE OF RUN: 04075 from New Delhi on 25.11.2023 & 04076 from						

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra on 27.11.2023.

251-Elect/T.Notice No. 38-Elect/2023-24 Dated :- 20.11.2023

STOPPAGE: Sonipat, Panipat, Karnal, Kurukshetra Jn., Ambala Cantt., Ludhiana, Jalandhar Cantt., Pathankot Cantt., Jammu Tawi & Udhampur Stations.

ACCOMMODATION: AC-II Tier-cum-AC-III Tier, AC-2 Tier, AC-3 Tier Sleeper & General.

For any kind of information such as detailed Time-Table and stations enroute etc., passegers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in or NTES App.

Visit RailMadad Website :- www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in Download RailMada **NORTHERN RAILWAY** S Your Convenience - Our Concern

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

I have lost my 8th pass discharge certificate. Now I

have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/

her objection in the office of the Govt Higher Secondary

School Aripanthan within a period of seven days from

the date of publication of this notice. After that no

objection shall be entertained.

D/O Ghulam Rasool Kumar

R/O Badran Magam

Suraya Jan

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

I have applied for the issuance of DOB Certificate of my daughter Zehra Yousuf in the office of the Block Development Officer Sherabad Khore . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the above mentioned office within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Mohammad Yousuf Dar F/O Zehra Yousuf R/O Archanderhama

BMG

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

I have lost the number plate of my auto bear-After that no objection shall be entertained.

Riyaz Ahmad Shah S/o Abdul Khalig Shah fko R/o Palhallan Pattan Shah Mohalla

diss Mahotsov	NORTHERN	RAILWA	Y			
E-Tender Notice						
PM/GSU/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders (www.iresp.gov.in) against below titled Tenders						
idders wi <b>ll</b> l	idders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only.					
Tender	Name of Work	App Cost	Earnest	Completion	Opening	
No	Name of Work	(in Rs.)	Money (in Rs.)	Period	of tender	
27-GC/	Request for proposal (RFP) for appointment of General	2,29,13,839.06	2 64 600 00	40.84	21.12.2023	
3SU-T-01-	Consultant For Gati Shakti Unit, Firozpur Division.	2,29,13,839.00	2,64,600.00	18 Months	after 15:00	
2023-24					Hrs.	
Vebsite Particulars: www.ireps.gov.in Open Tender Notice No. 27-GC-GSU-T-01-2023-24 Dated: 23.11.2023 3686/2023						
3686/2023						
Serving Customers With A Smile						

Government of Jammu & Kashmir UT

### Office Of The Zonal Education Officer Aishmugam

zeoaqm@gmail.com

Subject: Engagement/Hiring of Helpers/AAYAs under ECCE in 82 schools for the year 2023-24 and extension of last date for filling application forms.

Reference: This office advertisement Notification issued vide No. ZEO/A/SmS/1610-1693/23 dated

#### **Extension of Last Date**

In view of the general public demand for extension of last date with regard to the submission of application forms for engagement/hiring of AAYAs/Helper in 82 approved schools of this zone, the last date for submission of Application Forms which was 20.11.2023 is now extended by seven (07) days and the last date shall now be 27/11/2023.

However, other terms and conditions as laid in above referred advertisement notification shall remain same.

**GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR** Office Of the Executive Engineer JS-PHE Deptt.

> Rural Water Supply Division, Ganderbal/Sgr. H.Q: Duderhama Ganderbal.

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

\*\*\*-0-\*\*\*

**EXTENSION NOTICE - II** 

NIT No. & date bearing tender ID mentioned above, the bid submission end and bid opening (online)

Due to Nil response for the works advertised/published vide this office above referred e-

Reference: This Office Fresh e-NIT No: 46/JS-PHE/RWSD/Civil of 2023-24, issued Under No: JS-

S.No:01, 02, 03, 07 & 08, bearing Tender id. 2023 PHE 235876 1, 2, 3, 7 & 8.

Last date of submission of Bids online 28.11.2023 up to 02:00 p.m. Date of opening of bids online 29.11.2023 at 03:30 p.m.

PHE/RWSD/Corrs/10086-11010, dated: 04.11.2023, Works figuring at

dates for the said works are hereby extended & re-fixed as under: -

All other terms and conditions of the e- NIT shall remain unchanged

Sd/-Zonal Education Officer, Aishmugam

Sd/

No. ZEO/A/SmS/ DIPK-12710/23 Dated: 23/11/2023

ing regd no: JK05H- 0334 . Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the ARTO Sopore within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice.

#### NOTIFICATION

Whereas, on the basis of marks obtained by the candidates in the written test held on 26.02.2023, the category wise shortlist of candidates for selection/engagement as Junior Staff Nurses on academic arrangement basis under S.O-364 of 2020 dated 27.11.2020, was issued vide this office Notification No. GMCA/Estt/Rec/2023/6248-51 dated 07-11-2023 for document verification; and

Whereas, the shortlisted candidates were called for document verification on 11-11-2023; and

Whereas, most of the candidates attended this office on the scheduled date alongwith all the original certificates/testimonials, which were scrutinized and found in conformity with the eligibility criteria laid down in the basic advertisement notification quoted above; and

Whereas, some shortlisted candidates did not report for the document verification on the scheduled date; and

Whereas, the shortfall caused due to non-appearance of some candidates for document verification has been made up from the candidates next in merit in the respective categories.

Now, therefore, on the basis of marks obtained by the candidates in the written held on 26.02.2023, physical scrutiny of the required documents and other facts and circumstances enumerated above, the category wise selection

list of the candidates for engagement as Junior Staff Nurse in GMC Anantnag on academic arrangement basis under S.O-364 of 2020 dated 27.11.2020 is hereby notified in Annexure-A to this notification.

The selected candidates are directed to report the office of Principal, Govt. Medical College Anantnag at Janglatmandi within three (03) days from the issuance of this notification for processing the verification of their Character and Antecedents through online mode.

#### ANNEXURE 'A'

Final Selection list of candidates for the engagement in GMC Anantnag as Junior Staff Nurse on Academic Arrangement basis under S.O-364 of 2020 dated 27.11.2020.

S. NO.	NO.	Form	Name	Cat.	D. O. B	Marks obtained out of 50
			OPEN MERIT (06 P	osts)		1 000 01 30
01	2028	10227	Seerat Jan	OM/ RBA	18-05-1999	39
02	2209	9488	Sumaya Maqbool	OM	11-04-1996	37
03	2022	8494	Saqib Bashir	ОМ	21-06-2000	37
04	2083	9447	Shahid Mohiuddin Khan	ОМ	01-09-1998	36
05	1971	10237	Saima Farooq	ОМ	20-02-1999	36
06	1026	10122	Aamina	ОМ	12-11-1995	35
			RBA (02 Posts	)		
01	1845	9285	Rifat Amin	RBA	10-03-1996	32
02	2402	11101	Zaraq Mushtaq	RBA	02-11-1998	32
1).						
			ST (01 Post)			
01	1615	9009	Mohmad Imran Mir	ST	11-10-1998	29
			ALC (01 Post)	)		
01	1755	8512	Nuzhat Rahman	ALC	07-05-2000	17
			SC (01 Post)			
			EWS (01 Post	)		
			PSP (01 Post	)		

Post of SC, EWS & PSP category remained vacant due to non availability of

Principal Govt. Medical College, Anantnag

يبخبرنهايت ہى دكھ كے ساتھ دي جاتى ہےكە فاطمدا بليد مرحوم محمد قاسم آخون سائنہ چکصدرہ بل حضرتبل سرینگر مختصر علالت کے بعداس دار فانی سے رخصت ہوگئی مرحومہ ایک نیک سیرت ملنسار خا تون تھی اللہ تعالیٰ مرحومہ كوجواررحمت مين حبكه عنايت فرمائين اور سوگواران كو به عظيم صدمه د داشت کرنے کی ہمت عطا فرمائے مرحومہ کی فاتحہ خوانی 7 2 نومبر 2023 بروز سومواراُن کے آبائی مقبرہ واقعہ چک صدر بل حضرتبل مرینگر میں جبح ساڑ ھےسات بھے انجام یذیر ہو گی بعدازاں ان کے گھر پر چک صدرہ بل حضر تبل میں دن بھر جلس وتعزیت پرسی جاری رہے گی۔ صاحب تعزيت \_فرزندان مرحومه فون نمبر -- 9906416880

ازعدالت الكيزيكيثيومجستريث درجهاول لمخصيل ساوته سرينكر عنوان: درخواست منجانب ساقب روف ولدروف احمد ساكنهُ كرسورا جباغ سرينگر بمراد عطائی پیدائش سرٹفکیٹ ہتقرر 27/08/71995

اشتہار بمرادآ گاہی ہرخاص وعام

معاملہ مندجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل کا درخواست ہے کہ سائل پدائش سرٹفیکیٹ نکالنے میں تا خیر ہوئی ہے۔سائل نے اس نسبت مونیل رجٹر رار سے رپورٹ اندراج حاصل کر کے سائل کا کاغذات پیش کی ہے رپورٹ مونیل رجٹرار SMC کے مطابق سائل کی پیدائش متعلقہ سکیشن میں اندراج نہیں ہوئی ہے اور سائل کی اسل پیدائش بتقرر 27-08-1995 ہے سائل کی پیدائش سرٹفیکیٹ دفتر ھذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے قبل از ۔ پید کاروائی ہر خاص ع عام کو بذریعہ اشتہار ھذامطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی مخص کوکوئی ذر یااعتراض ہوتو وہ سات دن کےاندراندر دفتر مذامیں پیش کرے بعد گزرنے معیاد کوئی ھى اعتراض قابل قبول نہيں ہوگا <sub>-</sub>

(Er. Samiullah Beigh) **Executive Engineer JS-PHE, RWS Division Ganderbal/Sgr.** 

No. JS-PHE/RWSD/Corrs. / 11691 - 11715 DIPK-12708/23 Dated: - 23.11.2023.

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DIPK-12740/23

dated: 23-11-2023



## KASHMIR OBSERVER<sup>™</sup> Srinagar | Friday | 24-11-2023

#### **Congress, PDP Hit Streets In Srinagar Against** 'Unscheduled' Power Cuts

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: Unprecedented power cuts in the Kashmir Valley on Thursday triggered protests in Srinagar, with political parties joining the chorus of discontent on Thursday.

For the past few weeks, residents have been braving the harsh winter without adequate electricity, leading to widespread frustration and anger.

Meanwhile, the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and the Jammu & Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) held separate protests against the prevailing power conditions in the valley.

Both parties demanded an immediate resolution to the power crisis, which has caused significant disruption to daily life.

PDP as well as JKPCC staged a protest at their respective party headquarters.

Protesters from both parties chanted slogans against the government, accusing it of failing to provide adequate electricity to the people of Kashmir.

"The power cuts have been attributed to a combination of including increased factors. demand during the winter months. There are a lot of patients in hospitals and homes, who rely on ventilators and need a continuous power supply. If the power supply issue is not fixed, we will hit the streets,' said Imtiyaz Khan, District Srinagar President of JKPCC.

"There has always been a high demand for power supply in Kashmir, and the people of Jammu and Kashmir are struggling with the power crisis at present. The government should immediately address this issue and provide an adequate power supply to all," said Rouf Bhat, Additional Spokesperson of PDP.

## **Noted Businessman Abrar Khawaja Passes Away**

**Observer News Service** 

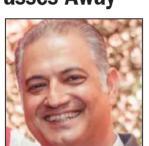
Srinagar: Noted businessman and social activist Abrar Hussain Khawaja passed away after a brief illness at a Srinagar hospital Thursday afternoon. He was in his early fifties.

Abrar Khawaja, son of Ghulam Muhammad Khawaja of Kamangarpora, in downtown Srinagar had contracted pneumonia at Delhi two weeks back and was on life support at Paras hospital in Srinagar for the last 12 days. He remained critical all these days and finally succumbed to the illness on Thursday afternoon, family sources said.

Abrar, brother-in-law of noted Kashmiri novelist Mirza Waheed, is survived by his wife, daughter and son.

Abrar's demise is being widely mourned and a large number of people joined his funeral prayers held at Imambargah Zadibal. He was later laid to rest at his ancestral graveyard situated near Islamia College, Hawal.

"Abrar was a pious, down to earth and staunch follower of Ahlulbait(a.s). His untimely death has shocked the whole community, family and friend circle." Syed Hamdani Abbas



wrote in a Facebook post.

Shia leader Imran Reza Ansari also condoled his demise. "Rest in peace my brother and friend. It's a personal loss to me but rest assured we stand by your family in this time of grief and for times to come. Until we meet again I am sure you will make heaven your home with your everlasting smile and brightness. Allah bless your soul" Ansari tweeted.

Former Mayor & Apni Party Leader Junaid Azim Mattu also condoled his death.

"After bravely fighting for life for days, our dear Abrar Khawaja took his last breath a short while back.A deeply personal loss. Have lost a very dear friend today. May Allah (SWT) grant you a place in Januar Abrar, Inna lillahi wa inna ilayhi raji'un"



amid a dense fog and severe cold on Thursday morning. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

## First FDI 'Mall Of Srinagar' To **Provide Jobs To 7500 Youth**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The 'Mall of Srinagar', which is the first Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Jammu and Kashmir, is going to create employment opportunities for more than 7000 persons, documents reveal.

Earlier in March this year, Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) lieutenant governor Manoj Sinha laid the foundation stone for a 250-crore mega shopping mall at Srinagar's Sempora area.

The Mall of Srinagar is being constructed by Dubai-based Emaar Group, the builder of the world famous Burj Khalifa in the United Arab Emirates. The foundation stone of the state-

of-the- art mall was laid almost a year after CEOs from several Gulf countries visited the Valley to explore investment opportunities. "Mall of Srinagar" as per the docu-

ments available, will create jobs for 7500 people, thereby becoming the first single mega job creating asset of Jammu and Kashmir. Documents revealed that "Mall of

Srinagar" is likely to be a state-of-the-

art shopping and entertainment destination, with an investment of Rs 250 Cr. "This will contribute to the region's economic growth by creating employment opportunities of 7500 for the local population," it said.

Launched by Emaar in collaboration with Magna Waves Buildtech, the mall is set to become operational by 2026.

Officials said the "Mall of Sri-

Officials said the "Mall of Srinagar", which is coming up in the outskirts of Srinagar, will get due promotion by the government throughout its promotional programs.

"Given that the mall is being constructed on 10 lakh square feet of area,

It will be like the Dubai mall, which is the largest mall in the world and equally famous for offering a unique experience to the visitors. The mall will be a one-stop shop for the people. It will be equipped with avenues of entertainment.

nagar" will become one of the prime attractions for people and tourists visiting the valley from different corners of the world.

"It will be like the Dubai mall, which is the largest mall in the world and equally famous for offering a unique experience to the visitors. The mall will be a one-stop shop for the people. It will be equipped with avenues of entertainment. It will be one of the largest malls in the region with over

it will have a direct relevance with the tourism sector of Jammu and Kashmir. While there are many investments coming in Kashmir, this particular mall will be a mega investment," they said.

Pertinently at the time of laying of foundation stone, Lieutenant Government Manoj Sinha said Mall of Srinagar will have a transformative impact on UT and boost infrastructure, employment generation and

#### **SKIMS Organizes Health Care Management Update 2023**

Azadi <sub>Ka</sub> **NORTHERN RAILWAY** Corrigendum Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/FS, Northern Railways, Firozpur for and on behalf of President of India Invites Tenders (Two Packet System) for Development of

GCT at Vijaypur Jammu, Railway Station, details as under: Please refer to the Essential Eligibility Criteria i.e. Item no. 02 of 17.2 (Page no. 12 of Tender Document) where in several changes has been made and reflected as under: Audited balance sheet of FY 2022-23 duly certified from Chartered Accountant. OR

Net worth Certificate of 2022-23 from Chartered Accountant. \*Note: • If not available, Audited balance sheets of FY 2021-22 alongwith declaration regarding non availability of balance sheet of 2022-23 duly certified by CA are

applicable. OR If not available, certificate of net worth of 2021-22 alongwith declaration of non-

availability of certificate of 2022-23 duly certified by CA is applicable. Pre-Bid meeting is on 11.12.2023 at DRM Office, Northern Railway, Firozpur Cantt. Punjab-152001. Fresh tender document has been uploaded on the Railway website ireps.gov.in. For further details please visit on Railway's website ireps.gov.in No. 2-AC/Goods-GCT-VJPJ-FZR/23 Date: 23.11.2023

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 3694/23

#### **Department Of Soil & Water Conservation** Office of the District Soil **Conservation Officer District Budgam**

M/s Showkat Ahmad Najar S/o Abdul Ahad Najar. R/o Narkara (Contractor)

#### Final Notice

No:: SCB/Bud/e-NIT/2023-24/481-84 DATED: 22-11-2023

Subject: Notice for execution of work under e-NIT No: 04 of 2023-24 Dated: 05-06-2023 at Balpora,

Whereas you offered the lowest bid for the work i.e laying of crate Wire structures at Khansahib as er the comperative statement down loaded from the web site JK Tenders.

Whereas after issuance of letter of intent by this division in your favour vide no; SCB/E-TEN-DER/2023-24/253 Dated: 24-07-2023 to start the work by you failed to start the work till date despite of repeated reminders served by this office vide letter no: SCB/E-TENDER/2023-24/363 Dated: 08-09-2023, No: SCB/E-Tenders/2023-24/402-A Dated: 08-10-2023 & No; SCB/E-TENDER /2023-24/478-80 Dated: 16-11-2023

Accordingly this division is giving you last chance to start the work within 03 days and complete it without further loss of time failing which action as warranted under rules shall be taken against you.

DIPK-12722/23 DATED: 23-11-2022

Assistant controller forests soil and water conservation District Budgam

Srinagar: Healthcare Management Update 2023 was organized by the Kashmir chapter of Academy of Hospital Administration (AHA) at SKIMS Auditorium today. The inaugural function was followed by daylong scientific sessions. Director SKIMS and Ex-officio Secre-

tary to Govt. Prof. Parvaiz A. Koul who was

chief guest on the occasion appreciated the organizers for conducting the event to train healthcare managers who he said have a critical role in healthcare facilities in hospital management. He stressed that technological advances and newer concepts need to be embraced and embedded in hospital management. He further added that the operational models in hospital management need to be locally relevant for efficient functioning.

#### Govt. Of Jammu & Kashmir

### **Office Of The District Youth Services** & Sports Officer Kupwara

Sub:- Conduct of Winter Cricket Championship in District Kupwara-Registration thereof

#### NOTICE

The Department of Youth Services & Sports, Kupwara is going to organize the Winter Cricket Championship at 4 Venues of the District. The Venues designated for the conduct of the said championship include Galizoo Stadium Kupwara, Sports Stadium Pandithpora, Cricket Stadium Haganiabad Punzwa & Sports Stadium Chamkoot Tangdar. In this connection the desirous teams are hereby informed to register their teams at the respective Zonal Physical Education Offices latest by 27th of November 2023 after fulfillment of all codal formalities. No form/team shall be entertained after the expiry date (27th November 2023). The registration forms are available at all the Zonal Physical Education Offices of the District during working hours

#### Terms & Conditions

- 1. The Tournament shall be conducted on Knock out basis.
- 2. The Tournament shall be carried out on T 20 Pattern. 3. The Team should comprise of the players belong to the respective Panchayat
- Halga/Municipality wards. 4. No team shall be allowed to participate without proper attire.
- 5. The age of the participant should not exceed 30 Years as on 31-12-2023. 6. Teams should have their own Sports Kit.
- 7. Cricket Balls will be provided by the department.
- 8. Umpires decision shall be considered as final. 9. The winner & runners up teams shall be awarded cash prizes
- 10. Best performers of the tournament shall be awarded.
- 11. Man of the match of every competition shall also be felicitated. 12. Semifinals & Finals shall be played at Galizoo Stadium Kupwara.
- 13. Two Matches per day shall be played at the designated venues subject to favourable conditions.

No:-DYSSO/Kup/Estt/2997 DIPK-12718/23 Dated:- 23/11/2023

> Sd/ District Youth Services & Sports Officer Kupwara



TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686 PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883

PDD: 0194-2450213 FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES: 2479488,2452222,2452155

CAPD: 18001807011 SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081

Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200 **AIRPORTS** 

#### SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



**RAILWAYS** SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259 ANANTNAG: 01932-228243 BARAMULLA: 0194-102029 BIJBHERA: 01932-228243 PAMPORE: 01933-294132 PATTAN: 01954-293507

#### **HIGHWAY STATUS**



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



**PRAYERS FAJR** 5:44 **ZUHR** 12:17 **ASR** 3:47 5:27 Magrib **ISHA** 6:51

### This Day In History

- 380 Theodosius I makes his adventus, or first formal entry, into Constantinople
- 1542 Battle of Solway Moss: English beat Scottish King James V
- 1587 Battle at Auneau: Henri de Guise wins
- 1639 1st observation of transit of Venus by Jeremiah Horrocks and William Crabtree - helped establish size of the Solar System
- 1643 Battle of Tuttlingen: Beiers army under Gen Mercy beats France
- 1800 Naturalists Alexander von Humboldt and Aimé Bonpland depart Caracas for Cuba where thev met fellow botanist John Fraser
- 1859 English naturalist Charles Darwin publishes "On the Origin of Species" radically changing the view of evolution and laying the foundation for evolutionary biology
- 1905 Moshav Hertzlia forms in Israel
- 1912 Conflict in the Balkans grows into an acute international crisis with major powers supporting either Austria or Serbia.
- 1914 Benito Mussolini leaves Italy's socialist party. 1916 - Mexican and US representatives sign a protocol at Atlantic City, under which Pershing's troops will withdraw and each nation's army will guard the border. President Carranza of Mexico will refuse to accept it.
- 1944 US bombers based on Saipan begin 1st attack on Tokyo
- el & iron industry nationalised 1950 - UN troops begin an assault intending to end
- Korean War by Christmas. 1950 - US infantry division conquers Chonju Korea.
- 1951 British auto manufacturers Austin and Morris Motors merge. 1954 - Air Force One, 1st US Presidential airplane,
- christened. 1954 - France sends 20,000 soldiers to Algeria.
  - 1955 1st test flight of Fokker's F-27 Friendship. 1958 - Mali becomes an autonomous state within
- 1965 Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu becomes President of Zaire.
- 1966 400 die of respiratory failure & heart attack in killer NYC smog.
- 1969 Apollo 12 returns to Earth. 1974 - Gerald Ford and Leonid Brezhnev sign the

French Community.

- SALT-2 treaty to reduce each side's number of nuclear weapons.
- 1977 France performs nuclear test at Muruora Island.

1981 - 1st air-launched cruise missile tested.

- 1989 Elias Hrawi elected president of Lebanon. 1991 - Rachmon Nabijev elected president of
- Tadzjikistan.
- 1991 US 75th manned space mission "STS 44" Atlantis 10 launched.
- 1992 Boeing 734 crashes into mountain in China, kills 141. 1993 - End of world, according to Ukrainian sect
- White Brotherhood. 2015 - Tunisia declares state of emergency after an attack on a bus in Tunis carrying presidential
- guards kills at least 12. 2015 - Turkey shots down a Russian fighter jet after
- claiming it had flown into Turkish airspace. 2016- International research team publishes discovery of 1,500 new viruses found in invertebrates
- 2017- Former First Vice President Emmerson Mnangagwa is sworn in as President of Zimbabwe, replacing Robert Mugabe's 30-year tenure
- 2017- Militant gunmen attack a Sufi mosque in Bir al-Abed on the Sinai Peninsula, Egypt, killing 305 people, government retaliates bombing the area
- 2018- Cruise boat sinks on Lake Victoria near Kampala, Uganda, killing at least 29 2018-ICC Women's Cricket T20 World Cup, Antigua:
- Ashleigh Gardner with 33 from 26 balls and 3 for 22 leads Australia (106/2) to 4th T20 WC; beat England (105)
- 2019 47th American Music Awards: Taylor Swift wins six awards, including Artist of the Year and Artist of the Decade

## KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Friday | 24-11-2023

## Stray Dog Menace

n the past six months, over 350 cases of dog bites have been reported in the Valley, making people cautious while walking on their own streets. Hospitals are grappling with an influx of 30 to 40 dog-bite cases daily. Over the past year, the valley witnessed a staggering 6,800 animal bite cases, with a startling 80% attributed to stray dog incidents, marking the highest count in three years. The vulnerable segments of society, the elderly and school children have been most affected. People are blaming the Municipal Corporation for what many perceive as inadequate action.

We have witnessed a surge in the dog population across the Valley, estimated between 50,000 to 60,000 in the city alone. Each mohalla has over a dozen strays. Dogs are intruding into hospital premises, schools, parks, markets, and community spaces, disrupting the fabric of daily life. Official data from the Anti-Rabies Clinic at Government Medical College (GMC) reveals a troubling trend, with 4,912 cases treated solely in the city.

The alarming rise in dog bites raises questions about the delay in establishing crucial Animal Birth Control (ABC) centers in Srinagar city, the absence of which has contributed significantly to this crisis. The Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) operates a lone functional center at Shuhama, capable of sterilizing a minimal number of dogs daily—far below the required rate. The delay in completing the second center in Tengpora, anticipated to perform 60 sterilizations daily with a capacity of 210 kennels, is a significant setback. Despite claims of being in the 'final stages' for months, the center remains unopened due to pending finishing tasks.

It is now clear that the Animal Birth Control program initiated in 2013 has failed to yield substantial results due to operational lethargy and insufficient infrastructure. Despite previous assurances, promised initiatives to sterilize and vaccinate 50,000 stray dogs within six months have not materialized on the ground.

True, the Municipal Corporation has joined forces with the Veterinary Department of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology to contain the growing dog menace. Their strategy revolves around the sterilization of stray dogs and administering anti-rabies injections—a concerted effort aimed at curbing their burgeoning population and mitigating the risks associated with rabies. But this will need to be expedited if streets have to be made safe for people. Government has a responsibility to do so.

#### OTHER OPINON

## Alarming countdown

he title of the United Nations' latest report, Broken Record, is a clever pun. Not only does it suggest that previous warnings of the consequences of rising greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) are being ignored but also that new ceilings are being breached. The annual emissions report, usually timed close to the beginning of the climate talks, reiterates in sharper language that progress, since the Paris Agreement (PA) of 2015, has been tardy. The stated goal was to keep temperatures from rising over 2°C, and 'as far as possible' below 1.5°C, of pre-industrial levels. In the last few years, much of the consensus has been that we should be directing all our efforts towards keeping it below 1.5°C. The Broken Record report, however, suggests that accounting for all commitments made by countries, as per the PA, to minimise their economies' reliance on fossil fuel, temperatures would still result in an overshoot of 2.5°C-2.9°C by the end of the century. To keep temperature below 2°C, emissions by 2030 must be cut 28% and for 1.5°C, they need to be shaved by 42%. Despite many countries having promised to be 'net zero,' meaning no net carbon emissions, the report does not think these promises are 'credible' and even in the most optimistic scenarios, the likelihood of keeping emissions below 1.5°C are 14%.

However, it is not as if the PA has been infructuous. GHG emissions in 2030 based on policies in place were projected to increase by 16% at the time of the adoption of the PA. Today, the projected increase is 3%. To keep temperatures below 1.5°C, annual emissions must reduce every year, until 2030, by 8.7%. What the report says is that the world collectively emitted 57.4 billion tonnes in 2022, an increase of 1.2% over 2021. The pandemic saw 4.7% drop in emissions but the projections for 2023 suggest that the globe is nearly back to pre-pandemic emission levels. The consequences of the globe's tardiness are writ large. As of October this year, 86 days were recorded with temperatures over 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. September was the hottest recorded month ever, with global average temperatures 1.8°C above pre-industrial levels. In terms of solutions, the report repeats sage advice that has been offered for years: the richest countries and those historically responsible for gobbling sparse atmospheric capacity for carbon must commit to greater and faster reductions. While legalese and nit-picking have been characteristic of climate summits, precious little time remains for the world to get its act together.

The Hindu

## MINDFUL FRIDAYS

# Islamic Insights

## Is There a Spiritual Significance of Gratitude in Mental Well-being?

Wasim Kakroo

ratitude, an emotion transcending politeness, possesses transformative power in shaping our mental terrain. Its profound impact extends beyond mere manners, unraveling a tapestry of wellbeing and dismantling the constricting threads of perfectionism. In this article, we will delve into the intricacies of gratitude's influence on mental health, uncovering its capacity to recalibrate perspectives and foster resilience. Beyond the secular lens, we venture into the Islamic viewpoint, where gratitude is not only a psychological tonic but a spiritual practice, weaving a connection between the earthly and the divine. In essence, this article unravels the threads that bind gratitude, mental health, and spiritual harmony.

#### **Understanding Gratitude**

Gratitude, a profound and multifaceted emotion, extends far beyond mere appreciation, transcending the surface of polite acknowledgment. It constitutes a state of mindfulness, requiring a deliberate recognition of the positive aspects woven into the fabric of our lives. This intricate process involves not only acknowledging grand gestures but also appreciating the subtleties and nuances of daily existence. It is the act of consciously reflecting on the blessings, both significant and seemingly insignificant, that populate our journey.

At its core, gratitude forms a foundational pillar in the architecture of our mental well-being. The intentional act of recognizing the good in our lives creates a ripple effect that resonates throughout our psyche. This positive resonance counteracts the often overwhelming currents of stress and negativity, fostering a mental environment conducive to resilience and emotional balance. By nurturing an attitude of gratitude, individuals cultivate a lens through which they can perceive and embrace the richness of their experiences, sowing the seeds for a more content and emotionally robust life.

#### Gratitude's Impact on Mental Health

As a transformative force, it is intricately intertwined with mental health, offering profound benefits that extend beyond mere appreciation. Scientific research consistently highlights the positive correlation between gratitude and mental well-being. One of the notable advantages is stress reduction; practicing gratitude enables individuals to recalibrate their responses to stressors. By cultivating an attitude of thankfulness, individuals can redirect their attention from what is lacking or stressful to the abundance of positive elements in their lives.

Moreover, the impact of gratitude extends to enhancing overall life satisfaction. When individuals consciously acknowledge and express gratitude for the blessings, both big and small, they create a mental shift. This shift involves a reevaluation of their perspective on life, focusing on the positive aspects rather than dwelling on shortcomings. In the face of life's challenges, this shift becomes a source of resilience, providing a psychological buffer against the adversities that may arise.

Embracing gratitude becomes a holistic approach to mental health, offering a powerful coping mechanism and fostering an enduring sense of contentment. By appreciating the present and recognizing the abundance in their lives, individuals empower themselves to navigate life's complexities with a positive and resilient mind-set. Gratitude becomes a guiding light, illuminating the path to improved mental well-being and a more fulfilling life journey.

#### Dismantling Perfectionist Tendencies:

Perfectionism, a pervasive obstacle to mental well-being, often compels individuals to relentlessly pursue flawless outcomes, setting unrealistic standards that can lead to chronic stress and anxiety. However, the practice of gratitude serves as a powerful antidote to the detrimental effects of perfectionism. Rather than fixating on unattainable ideals, individuals can redirect their focus towards appreciating progress, no matter how small.

The essence of gratitude lies in acknowledging and valuing the journey rather than fixating solely on the destination. This shift in perspective enables individuals to cultivate a mindset that embraces imperfections as integral parts of personal growth. By recognizing and celebrating incremental achievements, individuals dismantle the self-imposed pressure to attain an elusive perfection.

Moreover, gratitude fosters self-compassion, allowing individuals to treat themselves with kindness and understanding. As gratitude becomes a daily practice, individuals learn to navigate setbacks with resilience, viewing challenges not as failures but as opportunities for learning and development. In this way, the practice of gratitude becomes a transformative force, breaking down the barriers erected by perfectionism and paving the way for a more balanced, resilient, and

mentally healthy mindset.

#### Cultivating an Abundance Mindset

Cultivating an abundance mindset through gratitude is a transformative process that reshapes the lens through which individuals perceive their lives. In a world often overshadowed by a scarcity mentality, where the focus tends to gravitate towards what is lacking, practicing gratitude becomes a potent antidote. By acknowledging the abundance present in our lives, individuals disrupt the cycle of chronic dissatisfaction and anxiety. Gratitude becomes a catalyst for a profound shift in perspective, urging individuals to recognize the richness of their experiences, relationships, and opportunities. This shift is not merely about positive thinking; it's a fundamental rewiring of the mind that redirects attention to the myriad blessings a. Intentional Gratitude Amidst Daily Chaos:

In the midst of our hectic daily lives, fostering gratitude requires deliberate and consistent efforts. The fast-paced nature of modern existence often obscures the positive aspects of life. Intentionality is the first step towards cultivating a mindset that appreciates the richness of our experiences.

#### b. Journaling as a Pathway to Positivity:

A powerful method to instill gratitude is keeping a gratitude journal. Allocate a few moments daily to jot down expressions of thanks. This can range from major life accomplishments to the simplest of joys. The act of recording these moments not only creates a tangible record of positivity but also prompts reflective moments, fostering an awareness of abundance amidst life's challenges.



In Islam, gratitude transcends the realm of virtue; it stands as a fundamental pillar of faith. The Quran, reverberates with teachings that underscore the paramount importance of expressing thanks to Allah for the manifold blessings bestowed upon believers. The act of offering thanks, referred to as "shukr," is not merely a courtesy; rather, it is a profound spiritual practice intricately woven into the fabric of the believer's connection with the divine

that surround us. This mental reorientation has profound implications for mental well-being. It cultivates a positive outlook that serves as a buffer against stress and anxiety. When individuals operate from a mindset of abundance, challenges are viewed as opportunities for growth, and setbacks are seen as temporary detours on the road to success. This resilience, born out of gratitude, empowers individuals to navigate life's uncertainties with grace and composure. Moreover, a mindset grounded in gratitude unleashes creativity, as individuals freed from the constraints of scarcity are more open to exploration and innovation. In essence, gratitude becomes the cornerstone for building a life rich in positivity, resilience, and creative potential.

## Islamic Perspective on Gratitude In Islam, gratitude transcends the realm of

virtue; it stands as a fundamental pillar of faith. The Quran, reverberates with teachings that underscore the paramount importance of expressing thanks to Allah for the manifold blessings bestowed upon believers. The act of offering thanks, referred to as "shukr," is not merely a courtesy; rather, it is a profound spiritual practice intricately woven into the fabric of the believer's connection with the divine. "Shukr" becomes a transformative journey in the Islamic context, a sacred avenue through which individuals not only heighten their awareness of the countless blessings surrounding them but also foster their spiritual well-being. Gratitude is not a mere sentiment; it is a dynamic force that strengthens the bond between the believer and Allah, creating a channel for divine blessings to flow into their lives.

Islamic teachings prescribe various gratitude practices, emphasizing the importance of daily expressions of thanks (dua) and the acknowledgment of blessings during prayers. Gratitude, intimately intertwined with the concept of contentment (qana'a), encourages believers to seek satisfaction in the present rather than incessantly pursuing worldly desires. Through these practices, gratitude becomes a holistic and transformative journey, guiding believers toward a deeper connection with their faith and a profound sense of enriched spirituality.

Practical Steps to Embrace Gratitude:

c. Reflecting on Positivity:

Reflection on positive experiences serves as an amplifier for gratitude. Designate time to contemplate moments of joy, achievement, or growth. By revisiting these instances, individuals cultivate a positive perspective, anchoring themselves in the affirmative aspects of their journey.

d. Expressing Thanks to Cultivate Connection:

A vital dimension of gratitude lies in expressing thanks to others. Through simple gestures such as a heartfelt "thank you" or a thoughtful note, individuals create a ripple effect, fostering a culture of appreciation. This practice not only strengthens interpersonal relationships but also magnifies the reciprocal nature of gratitude—acknowledging the positive energy others bring into our lives

#### e. Reshaping Thought Patterns:

Collectively, these habits gradually reshape thought patterns, moving away from a focus on challenges and shortcomings. Embracing gratitude becomes a transformative journey, weaving positivity into the fabric of daily existence.

#### f. Embarking on a Transformative Journey:

As gratitude becomes an integral part of daily life, individuals embark on a transformative journey. This journey unlocks the doors to mental well-being and a more fulfilling life, emphasizing the profound impact of intentional gratitude practices on overall happiness and contentment.

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

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# 4 Ways to Weave Islamic Stories Into Your Child's Bedtime Routine

**AZEEZAT OLATUNDE** 

The idea of bedtime stories first crossed my mind during one of my regular evening routines with my siblings. We would gather and chat about general topics before heading to bed. At that time, I had recently bought a book titled, Men and Women Around the Messenger by Sa'ad Yusuf Abu Aziz but had not yet read it.

On this night, my 13-year-old brother pleasantly surprised me as he narrated the 'cool stuff' the companions of the Prophet had done in the book. I was amazed at his ability to recount the most intricate parts of the stories, to the extent of mentioning the smallest detail of each companion as related in the book. While we had discussed books from my library before, this was the first time he'd reviewed an Islamic book rather than watching Power Rangers. His thoughtful choice left me in awe.

Gradually, I began buying agespecific Islamic books for him that anchored our sporadic nightly book chat. This in turn positively influenced my youngest sibling, sparking his interest in reading Islamic books.

"It is Allah who has made the night for you to rest in." (Surah Al-Ghafir 40:61)

Ensuring a good night's rest involves creating a bedtime routine that is composed of healthy and calming activities to perform before sleeping. This routine is like a gradually slowing oscillating swing. While establishing this habit initially may seem challenging, I have discovered that maintaining consistency leads to a smoother bedtime experience.

What are the consistent activities that your children engage in before sleeping? Often, parents go to great lengths to ensure their children sleep at an appropriate time. Some lure their children with enticing practices that eventually make them get ready for bed. These rituals culminate in their bedtime routine, serving as a fantastic method to instil self-care in children, improve their sleeping patterns, and reinforce family bonds.

We frequently underestimate the benefits of a bedtime routine, viewing it as a series of boring repetitive actions. However, experts confirm that these consistent habits provide a sense of security, enhance cognitive skills, boost mood, reduce stress, and aid in behaviour regulation for children.



One of those relaxing activities is listening to bedtime stories. Children find delight in shared reading moments, whether you read together, read to them, or they read independently, as you snuggle up together in a comfy bed. Infusing reading into your bedtime ritual contributes to your children's literacy skills, language mastery, emotional intelligence, and vocabulary.

When you incorporate Islamic stories into your children's bedtime routine, you're not just putting them to sleep; you're awakening their hearts to the beauty of faith. Children are like sponges, absorbing knowledge, and values from their surroundings. Bedtime stories that convey Islamic principles can profoundly instil moral compasses that shape their character, and lead them to the path of righteousness.

In this article, we will dive into the various ways of incorporating Islamic stories into your children's 6

# ENSURING A GOOD NIGHT'S REST INVOLVES CREATING A BEDTIME ROUTINE THAT IS COMPOSED OF HEALTHY AND CALMING ACTIVITIES TO PERFORM BEFORE SLEEPING. This routine

is like a gradually slowing oscillating swing. While establishing this habit initially may seem challenging, I have discovered that maintaining consistency leads to a smoother bedtime experience

bedtime routine.

#### 1. START EARLY

Aisha Harun, a relationship coach based in Nigeria, started the tradition of bedtime stories with her child when he was six months old.

"I started early and reduced screen time to the barest minimum such that he was more drawn to listening to bedtime stories than watching cartoons. Then, I bought colourful illustrated books tailored to his age. I don't leave him to flip through the book alone, I engage him through a storytelling approach, and read some dialogues melodically to make it for "

Parents tend to believe that it is too early to read to babies that can't talk yet. However, that is a myth. You can read to children anytime, irrespective of their age; the key is to select an age-appropriate book for

when she was two years old.

them to comprehend. This will motivate your children to love reading

and facilitate their literacy level as they develop their language skills.

It is important to choose interest-

ing and engaging books for children.

You can choose narrations of the

prophets, sahabah (companions of

the Prophet #), Angels, and other

wondrous creations of Allah. Try ex-

ploring themes of adventures, fairy

tales, fantasy, memoirs, self-help,

You will be surprised to discover

that there are Islamic stories that fit

each genre and it's more remarkable

that they are non-fiction. The story

of Prophet Sulaiman (AS) and the

Ant could rival a fantasy story. You

can replace magic with miracles by

settling for historical tales of Prophet

Musa (AS) and the parting of the Red

Sea, Prophet Ibrahim (AS) remaining

unburnt by the fire he was thrown into, and water gushing forth in a

desert to satisfy Hajar and Ismail's

thirst. The accounts of Ashabul Kahf

(People of the Cave) would work as

an adventure while pictorial books

When our choice of books is ac-

cording to the children's interests

and age, it is easy to integrate bed-

Monsuroh Agboola has a six-year-

old cousin who lives with her fam-

ily. Monsuroh started reading to her

are a perfect fit for toddlers.

time stories into their lives.

and other suspenseful stories.

2. CHOICE OF BOOKS

"I choose books that align with her interests and ones she can easily comprehend. I also jot down the new words to explain to her the next day. Her favourite part of our reading routine is when I mimic the voice of the characters to make it more entertaining."

Children are naturally drawn to anything that is fun for them, it makes them look forward to the

next experience.

Be a great storyteller. You can imitate the voices of the characters, make whimsical facial expressions, and conclude each night on a suspenseful note. That way, they will be enthusiastic to listen to it the following day.

Being dynamic and avoiding a monotonous reading style can help prevent boredom and loss of interest. Take intermittent pauses and ask questions – ask them to predict the reaction of a character or the climax of the story. For instance, you can say "What do you think will be Queen Bilqees's reaction to Prophet Sulaiman's (AS) letter?" Answer their questions too because kids will always have questions.

#### 4. KEEP IT SHORT

Rasheedah Opere from Lagos, Nigeria, shares her experience of how her two kids extend their bedtime stories with their endless curiosity as they continue to ask more questions.

Aisha Harun recommends starting the kids' bedtime routine early to

manage their inquisitiveness.

"Mothers should persuade their kids to save their questions for the following day. They can promise to answer the questions before starting their reading rituals the next day. Mothers can also ask their kids questions then encourage them to

sleep on it and provide answers the

You have to be careful because books can get children excited and might even make them lose interest in sleeping once they regain full activity. Therefore, avoid reading for too long and end with an element of suspense when you don't finish a book.

Moulding the habit of bedtime stories can be challenging initially. However, by taking small consistent steps, we can solidify a sustainable routine. Bedtime is an incredible time to share meaningful moments with our children. Incorporating these Islamic stories not only offers them a sense of comfort and security but also allows us to forge a deeper connection. It's an incredible opportunity to learn and nurture their faith, literacy, and emotional development.

The article was originally published by Amaliah

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

# Young Americans Are Picking Up The Qur'an 'To Understand The Resilience Of Muslim Palestinians'

Alaina Demopoulos

egan B Rice loves reading. She started a romance novel club on the instant messaging platform Discord and posts book reviews on TikTok. Last month Rice, who is 34 and lives in Chicago, used her social media accounts to speak out about the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

"I wanted to talk about the faith of Palestinian people, how it's so strong, and they still find room to make it a priority to thank God, even when they have everything taken away from them," she said in an interview.

Some Muslim followers suggested she might be interested in reading the Qur'an, Islam's central religious text, for more context on the faith. So Rice, who did not grow up religious, organized a "World Religion Book Club" on Discord, where people of all backgrounds could study the Qur'an alongside her.

The more Rice read, the more the text's contents aligned with her own core belief system. She found the Qur'an to be anti-consumerist, anti-oppressive and feminist. Within a month, Rice took the shahada, Islam's official profession of faith, bought hijabs to wear, and became a Muslim.

Rice is not alone in wanting to experience the Qur'an. On Tik-Tok, young people are reading the text to better understand a religion that's long been vilified by western media, and to show solidarity with the many Muslims in Gaza. Videos under the hashtag "quranbookclub" – which has a modest 1.9 million views on the app – show users holding up their newly purchased texts and read-

are finding free versions online, or listening to someone sing the verses while they drive to work. Not all the people reading the Qur'an on TikTok are women, but interest overlaps with the #BookTok space, a subcommunity where mostly female users gather to discuss books.

cuss books.

Zareena Grewal is an associate professor at Yale who is working on a book about Islamic scripture and religious tolerance in American culture. She said that this TikTok interest wasn't entirely unprecedented.

After 9/11, the Qur'an became an instant bestseller, though at the time many Americans purchased it to confirm biases they held about Islam being an inherently violent religion. "The difference is that in this moment, people are not turning to the Qur'an to understand the October 7 attack by Hamas," Grewal said. "They are turning to the Qur'an to understand the incredible resilience, faith, moral strength and character they see in Muslim Palestinians."

That's what made Nefertari Moonn, a 35-year-old from Tampa, Florida, pick up her husband's Qur'an. Moonn considered herself spiritual, not religious, and described her husband as a nonpracticing Muslim. "I wanted to see what it was that made people call out to Allah when they stared death in the face," she said. "Seeing passage after passage resonated with me. I began to have such an emotional attachment to it."

Because of this, Moonn also decided to take the shahada, becoming a Muslim revert (a term some Muslims prefer for joining the religion).



"I can't explain it, but there's a peace that comes with reading the Qur'an," she said. "I feel light, like I came back to something that was always there and waiting for me to return."

Misha Euceph, a Pakistani American writer and podcast host who studies progressive interpretations of the Qur'an, has held her own Qur'an Book Club Instagram series since 2020. She says certain themes in the text align with the values of young, left-leaning Americans.

"The Qur'an is full of nature metaphors and encourages you to be an environmentalist," Euceph said. "The Qur'an also has this anti-consumerist attitude, the sense that we're all stewards of the earth who shouldn't establish an exploitative

relationship with the world or fellow human beings."

In the Qur'an, men and women are equals in the eyes of God, and Rice and other TikTok converts say their interpretations of the text back up their feminist principles. It also engages with scientific explanations for creation, with verses in the Qur'an covering the big bang and other theories.

"Usually, we're so used to the religious community combating science," Rice said. "Now I'm seeing a religion embrace science and use its holy texts to back it up."

Sylvia Chan-Malik was in graduate school after 9/11 amid a surge in hate crimes against Muslims and xenophobic language used in the media. "I was very interested in what was going on, compar-

ing it to the history of Japanese Americans after Pearl Harbor," she said. "I started to look into it on my own, meeting actual Muslims, and I was floored when I did my homework on Islam."

Along the way, Chan-Malik converted to Islam. She's now an associate professor at Rutgers University whose research focuses on the history of Islam and Islamophobia in the US. "I had a very similar experience to what's happening on TikTok now," she said. "At the time, I wondered why the people I met who were Muslim were so different than what I heard in the news. I'd never experienced such a vast disconnect between popular perception and the truth."

Grewal, the Yale professor, believes that people often begin

reading texts hoping to back up the worldview they already have. "Just as racist people are looking for verses to confirm their racial biases, people on the left are looking to this book to confirm progressive messages," she said. "Every scripture is complex and invites multiple readings," and TikTokers "are coming to the text looking for what they hope to find".

Growing up in the shadow of 9/11, Rice said, she rejected Islamophobia and discrimination that made targets out of Muslim Americans. "As a Black woman, I'm used to the American government spreading harmful stereotypes that lead to misconceptions that people outside of my community have on me," she said. "I never believed the stereotypes that were spread about the Muslim community post-9/11, but it wasn't until I started reading the Qur'an that I realized I sort of internalized those misconceptions, because I believed that Islam was a very severe or strict religion."

Reading the Qur'an began as a way for Rice to show empathy for Palestinians trapped in Gaza. Now, it's become a major element of her life. It doesn't have to be that revelatory for everyone. "I would say that it doesn't matter what your religious background is," she said. "You can grow empathy for someone by learning the most intimate parts of them, which includes their faith."

The article was originally published by The Guardian

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

# **Div Com Reviews Availability Of Basic Facilities Inside Fenced Areas Along LOC**

Says border villages are first priority villages for development

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri Thursday convened a meeting, here to review availability of basic amenities and services to the people living in the habitations ahead of the fenced line along the LOC in border districts of Kashmir Division.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioners of Baramulla, Kupwara and Bandipora along with district officers of PMGSY, Health, Education, PDD and PHE besides officers of BEACON.

Addressing the meeting, Div Com directed officers to ensure that border villages are provided all the basic facilities viz. roads, electricity, mobile connectivity



and internet services besides educational institutions and health centres so that these areas are not left behind on the developmental front.

He enjoined concerned PHE officers to connect every household through JJM Schemes to provide potable water to residents of fenced areas.

Bidhuri maintained that

border villages should not be treated as last habitations but these are our first priority and are considered first villages.

The Div Com impressed the officers to conduct frequent field visits to these villages to address the developmental requirements so the residents of these areas do not face hardships.

The Deputy Commissioners

on the occasion informed the meeting about the number of villages of their respective districts falling in this zone and the current scenario of basic amenities available to the people there.

To execute all the developmental works ahead of the fencing line, Div Com instructed HoDs to work in close synergy with the security agencies.

# Workers may be rescued in few hours or by tomorrow: NDMA on Silkyara tunnel collapse

New Delhi: Workers trapped in Uttarakhand's Silkyara tunnel for the last 11 days are likely to be rescued in the next few hours or by tomorrow, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) member Lt Gen (retd) Syed Ata Hasnain said on Thursday evening.

The drilling work to pull out 41 trapped workers encountered obstacles, which resulted in a temporary stoppage of rescue efforts.

"I expect that in the next few hours or by tomorrow, we will be successful in this operation," Hasnain said in a media briefing.

The NDMA member also said that the horizontal drilling to rescue workers may face 3-4 more hurdles.

He also noted that it would not be fair to speculate on the timeline for rescue operations as it is just like fighting a war.

Hasnain further said that 41 ambulances, one each for trapped workers, are in place at the tunnel site, and facilities are in place to airlift workers in serious condition.

The men have been trapped for the past 11 days after a portion of the under-construction tunnel on the Uttarakhand Char Dham route collapsed, cutting off its exit. Rescue operations to evacuate the workers resumed on Thursday morning after an overnight hurdle delayed the drilling by several hours.

Hasnain further said the workers trapped inside are safe, and there is no shortage of light or oxygen. Food, water, clothes and medicines are being supplied to them.

According to him, a better communication channel with the workers has now been established, due to which the authorities, including psychosocial workers, are able to directly talk with the trapped men.

Hasnain said National

Disaster Response Force (NDRF) teams are at the site, conducting rehearsal and practice for the recovery of the trapped men

covery of the trapped men.
"When the rescue is done,
a medical checkup of workers
will be done; anyone with a
serious medical condition will
be airlifted and flown to AIIMS,

Rishikesh," he said.

The NDMA member added,
"There was a report of a possible
earthquake which had happened,
very low-intensity, very low on
Richter scale. It was missed by
everyone at that particular time."

The NDMA member also said that equipment and resources that were being supplied from different places are continued.

"As soon as the machines arrive, efforts through other means will also start, in the interest of having redundant options available, in case the primary approach through horizontal drilling does not meet with success," he said.

### CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

#### **LeT's Trained**

leader of the Lashkar-e-Taiba," he said.

Quari, a top LeT commander, was active in Rajouri-Poonch along with his group from past one year, police said, adding that he is also believed to be mastermind of Dangri and Kandi attacks.

He was sent to revive terrorism in the region, they said. Quari was an expert in IEDs, a trained sniper and operated from caves

The identity of the other terrorist is being verified.

The two injured army personnel -- a major and a jawan -- are admitted at the Army's Command Hospital in Lidhampur

Those who lost their lives include Captain M V Pranjal of 63 Rastriya Rifles, a resident of Karnataka, Captain Shubham of the Special Forces, resident of Agra in Uttar Pradesh, Havaldar Abdul Majid of the Special Force, a resident of Poonch in J-K, and Lance Naik Sanjay Bist of Nainital in Uttarakhand.

In a post on X, the White Knight Corps of the Army said based on specific intelligence, joint operations were launched in the Kalakote area of Gulabgarh forest in Rajouri on Sunday

"Contact established on 22 November and intense firefight ensued. The terrorists have been injured and surrounded and operations are in progress, amidst acts of valour and sacrifice by their own brave hearts in trying to prevent collateral damage to women and children in the highest traditions of the Indian Army," it said.

The encounter in Rajouri comes close on the heels of another gunfight in Behrote in Budhal area on November 17, in which one terrorist was killed.

Two earlier ambushes in the Mendhar area of Poonch and Kandi forest of Rajouri on April 20 and May 5, respectively, had claimed the lives of 10 soldiers.

According to officials, 46 deaths have been recorded in terrorism-related incidents in the twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch and nearby Reasi district since January this year.

While 23 people, including seven terrorists and nine security personnel, were killed in Rajouri, 15 terrorists and five security personnel in Poonch district. Three terrorists were killed in Reasi district.

#### LG Tells PDD

nd timely replacement of damaged transformers to avoid any inconvenience to the people.

The LG, he said, also stated the team on the ground must closely monitor the situation and take proactive actions to meet the peak electricity demand. Sinha also took appraisal of the status of the installation of smart meters, manpower and power infrastructure.

#### **KPDCL Goes**

157 industrial consumers," he said.

Exhorting consumers to treat DTs as their own assets, the spokesman said 64 DTs were reported damaged across all Electric Divisions. "While those fully damaged are being transported to Central Workshop at Pampore, the rest are being repaired at divisional-level workshops," he said, adding that KPDCL is committed to replace the damaged transformers within the stipulated timelines.

KPDCL has also urged all domestic, commercial and industrial consumers to pay their long-pending energy dues or face disconnection.

"The Corporation is actively pursuing recovery of pending arrears and Rs.8.00 crore were collected on Wednesday alone from the consumers," he said, adding that KPDCL will make all out efforts to achieve the target of revenue realization fixed by the Government.

#### SC Asks Gol

of judicial review to determine whether a provision enacted by Parliament is unconstitutional, but "this court will go beyond the line".

Dealing with proportionate representation of communities in the West Bengal Assembly, the bench said it would require using the power under the Delimitation Act, 2002. The law provides for a readjustment of the allocation of seats in state assemblies, the total number of Assembly seats and the division of each state and Union Territory hav-

ing a legislative Assembly.

"In regard to the state of West Bengal, it has been submitted that ... additional seats have to be made available in the state Assembly for the Scheduled Tribes in order to accommodate the principle of proportional representation," the bench said.

"The above circumstance makes it abundantly necessary for the Centre to take recourse to power under the Delimitation Act, 2002 to ensure that the provisions under articles 332 and 333 of the Constitution are duly implemented," it added.

The bench made it clear that its verdict "shall not be read to interfere with the elections to Parliament or state assemblies since elections are an overarching mandate and they have to be carried out on time".

The top court on Wednesday said the Centre must take a "considered view" on the reconstitution of the delimitation commission to ensure a proportional representation of the Limbu and Tamang tribal communities.

It had said the demand of the communities for the grant of proportional representation has a constitutional foundation, which can be found in articles 330 and 332.

"Though we are conscious that we cannot direct Parliament to enact a law, we are of the view that the Union of India must take a considered view if the delimitation commission should be reconstituted to ensure justice to those communities who have been designated as Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes," it had said.

The court had asked the Centre to discuss the issue

The court had asked the Centre to discuss the issue with the chief election commissioner and respond to it by Thursday. The Centre on Thursday said the issue has to be left to Parliament.

"Once we start, the benefit (of reservation) has to be given across the country and there are already demands from various states. It has to be done across the country," the Centre's counsel said, adding that 52 communities, which were in the general pool earlier, have been added to the list of SCs and STs.

The top court was hearing a plea moved by the Public Interest Committee for Scheduling Specific Areas (PICSSA), an NGO, which argued that the Limbu and Tamang communities, both belonging to the ST category, have been denied a proportionate representation in West Bengal and Sikkim.

Advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing in the court on behalf of the NGO, had earlier claimed that there was a rise in the ST population in Sikkim and West Bengal and not reserving seats for them proportionate to the growth amounted to a denial of their constitutional rights.

In its plea, the NGO has claimed that the population of the Limbu and Tamang communities in Sikkim was 20.6 per cent in 2001 and had risen to 33.8 per cent in 2011. It has also said that in the Darjeeling area of West Bengal,

the ST population rose to 21.5 per cent in 2011 from 12.69 per cent in 2001.

The PIL has sought directions to the Centre, Election Commission (EC) and the two states to take steps for a proportional representation of the STs, as guaranteed under articles 330 (reservation of seats for SCs and STs in the House of People) and 332 (reservation of seats for SCs and STs in legislative assemblies of states) of the Constitution, to prevent a violation of Article 14 (equality before law).

The petition said in the Tribes Advisory Council established in West Bengal on March 6, 2012, there were no elected ST members from the three hill area subdivisions of Darieeling district.

"Moreover, the state Assembly election in 2016 had no reserved ST seat and hence, had no implementation of articles 170 and 332 of the Constitution notified as per census 2011. The delimited Assembly seats in the Darjeeling hills presently consist of elected non-ST members," it has pointed

#### **Lal Singh Gets**

in the due investigation of the case," said Principal Sessions Judge (Special court, designated under PMLA), Jammu Sanjay Parihar in a 15-page order.

The court directed Singh not to indulge in repetition of the offence and to refrain from intimidating or harassing the prosecution witnesses.

"In the event of any such claim of the respondent, the concession of bail is amenable to withdrawal. Besides (he) shall surrender his passport before the ED," the court said, listing the case for hearing on December 14.

The money laundering case stems from an October 2021 chargesheet filed by the CBI in this case which alleged criminal connivance in the issuance of land between January 4 and January 7, 2011, without mentioning details in respect of violation of the ceiling limit of 100 standard kanals imposed under Section 14 of the Jammu and Kashmir Agrarian Reforms Act. 1976, thereby giving undue pecuniary advantage to trust.

Based on this, the trust acquired multiple pieces of land of about 329 kanals via three gift deeds executed on January 5 and January 7, 2011, the CBI chargesheet claimed.

"Property that is alleged to have resulted in yielding of crime proceeds has been valued at the time of transfer at Rs 16 lakh only, which is far less than the prescribed value of one crore as provided under proviso to Section 45."

"Considering the fact that petitioner is not involved in the predicate offence and the allegations of threat and intimidation sought to be attributed against the petitioner on the strength of statements given by donor under section, that too being not on oath, would not be deemed as a sufficient material to come within the purview of reasonable grounds for believing the petitioner to be guilty," the principal sessions judge said.

The court said there may be accusation that petitioner is involved in a serious offence, however, the material so produced in the report given by the respondent when examined on the touchstone of grant or declining of bail, leans in favour of petitioner who is presumed to be innocent until proven guilty by due process of law.

The judge said even otherwise also his role is attributed only as an attorney because the transfer has been affected by the donor in favour of the Trust. So, parties thereto are to be held accountable for undervaluation and not the petitioner.

"In that background denial of bail to the petitioner would give him an impression that he is being held guilty without trial," the court said, asserting that his continuous incarceration is not going to serve the cause of the respondent. Later, Singh was released from Amphalla jail where he

was shifted on November 18 on a 14-day judicial remand by the special judge anti-corruption (CBI cases). Dozens of his party activists and relatives turned up to accord a warm welcome to the former minister on his release from the jail this evening.

"We are thankful to the judiciary and have full faith in our courts all Dogras and every other person who believes in the system of justice will welcome our leader's release," DSSP General Secretary Hari Dutt Shishu told PTI outside the jail

He said the party activists were waiting for this day and had voluntarily come to meet their leader. "His arrest was an attempt to suppress the democratic voice but ultimately the truth prevails. The courts are the ray of light."

the truth prevails. The courts are the ray of light."

Jammu district president of DSSP Vijayant Pathania while welcoming the release of Singh on interim bail said "the party activists will celebrate Diwali today."

#### **Need Proactive**

police-public relations, he said, Birdi encouraged a public-centric approach, advocating service-oriented policing to build trust and bridge the gap between the Police and the Public

Deputy Inspector General of police (DIG) South Kashmir, Rayees Mohammad Bhat, SSP Anantnag Dr. G.V. Sundeep Chakravarthy, SP operations Anantnag Furqan Qadir and other officers were present in the meeting.

#### **Airborne Diseases**

lungs, causing short term health issues like irritation of the eyes, nose, throat, and lungs in addition to coughing, sneezing, runny nose, and shortness of breath.

"The weak immune systems of the elderly and children make them vulnerable to airborne diseases and the dry, cold conditions can at times prove fatal for them as incidences of the heart attacks and brain hemorrhages are often reported in winters when temperature drops below freezing point," he added.

Dr Navid Nazir Shah, leading pulmonologist and Head of the Department at Chest Diseases (CD) hospital advised people of all ages to wear warm clothes and cover their faces with masks to protect themselves from airborne winter diseases.

"It is highly recommended that children not be sent outside until the afternoon, as the air droplets they inhale have the potential to cause infection. It would be better to keep them home in the evening to prevent airborne illnesses," Dr. Navid said, adding during the winter, the cold, soiled air might irritate their lungs and airways, causing wheezing, coughing, and dyspnea

An individual, he said, may suffer breathing difficulties, tightness in the chest, dyspnea, or a sense of suffocation when it's cold outside.

"Vaccination against influenza and pneumonia is highly recommended for the high risk patients to keep themselves protected. Wearing warm clothes and a face mask is equally important to combat the cold conditions which otherwise leads to multiple health issues," Dr Navid said.

In the winter, he said, people seal their rooms and use heating devices that release toxic gases into the air, while inadequate ventilation allows infectious organisms to flourish, which increases the risk of diseases.

These days, Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial (JLNM) Hospital in Srinagar sees an average of 250 patients every day, many of whom suffer from chronic asthma, cardiac conditions, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

"We see 250 patients a day on average. Patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), heart problems, and chronic asthma are among those seeking treatments," said a doctor at JLNM Hospital.

Intense cold conditions, he said, may exacerbate a variety of illnesses, including acute lung disorders like asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and acute lung infections like pneumonia.

"Early medical consultation is usually advantageous for high-risk individuals. Vaccination and flu shots are always beneficial. Individuals who have diabetes, high blood pressure, or high cholesterol should take their medications on a regular basis during winters," he told Kashmir observer.

#### **Mercury Settles**

city recorded a low of minus 0.8 degrees Celsius, which was one degree higher than the previous night, while Pulwama recorded a low of minus 2.1 degrees Celsius.

While Pahalgam tourist resort in south Kashmir recorded a minimum temperature of minus 1.8 degrees Celsius, Gulmarg ski resort in north Kashmir recorded a low of 0.4 degrees Celsius.

#### **Kashmir Not**

going to announce winter vacations in Kashmir. Director education went on to say the authorities have to

abide by the rules before taking any call in this direction. "See the students of primary classes get 220 institutional days, and the classes up to 10th get 200 institutional days to complete their academic session. So the rules have to be abided. We have to fill learning gaps as well. Rest the higher-ups have spoken on the matter and the news in this regard stands published," Hussain told media on the side-

lines of a function.

The Union Territory administration, he said, is considering winter vacations in Kashmir and that a formal announcement in this direction will be made soon.

"We are sensitive to the situation, and the matter is under the active consideration of the government. The administrative higher-ups also spoke on the matter. A formal decision in this regard will be taken by the government soon," the Director added.

#### **Police Bust**

and arrested the primary accused. Moreover, his accomplice brother, namely Nisar Ahmad Bhat, was also apprehended in connection with the case. Both accused persons have been shifted to the police station where they remain in custody," the spokesperson said.

Further investigation into the matter is ongoing," he said. The spokesperson urged the individuals who may have fallen victim to similar scams to come forward and report such incidents to the nearest police station.

#### **Arms, Explosives**

nine grenades were found, the officials said.

It is believed that a drone dropped the consignment for use by terrorists, they said. The box in which the arms and explosive material was kept is similar to what had been dropped by terrorists based across the LoC in the past, they

The Khour police station registered an FIR and investigation has begun.

#### **Accidental Fire**

proceedings have been initiated, they said.

#### 'Ramayana The

called on the LG and apprised him on various development issues of District Reasi.

"The Lt Governor assured the public representatives of appropriate action on the issues and demands projected by them during the interactions," the spokesperson added.

#### **Sonamarg All Set**

traffic movement during the winter season due to heavy snowfall and avalanches, particularly in the Hung area along the road from Gagangeer. However, with the completion of the Z-Morh tunnel, which bypasses the avalanche-prone area, the administration is making efforts to make

Sonamarg a winter tourist destination in Kashmir.

An official of the district administration said that all concerned departments are actively engaged in providing the basic infrastructure needed during winter, including electricity and water supply.

"This initiative of administration has brought cheers to the faces of hoteliers, traders and even tourists from various parts of the country who are keen to enjoy the picturesque beauty of 'Meadow of Gold'.

Tourists are praising the hospitality of the local people and the cooperation of traders and hoteliers. Some returning visitors, who hadn't been to Kashmir in the last three years, have noticed significant changes on the ground, including the development of infrastructure and roads.

"Once the destination will be thrown open during winter,

the people of various villages who used to migrate for long periods during these months," the official said.

District Commissioner Ganderbal and Director of Tourism, during their recent visit to Sonamarg, called for providing all necessary facilities to tourists, including heating arrangements in hotels, water, and electricity. They directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Sonamarg Development Authority (SDA) to devise a proper mecha-

it will not only boost the economy but also provide relief to

nism for its wide publicity as a winter tourist destination.
CEO SDA Ilyas Ahmed said to attract tourists, which will further enhance the overall experience.
"The opening of Sonamars during winter is anticipated to

"The opening of Sonamarg during winter is anticipated to not only boost the local economy but also provide relief to villagers who used to migrate for extended periods during the winter months," Ahmed said—(KNO)

#### **Drug Peddler's**

identified as illegally acquired property during the course of investigation/enquiry conducted by Police Handwara. The property was prima facie acquired from illicit trafficking in narcotic drug and psychotropic substances by the owner. Pertinently the said drug peddler is involved in Case FIR numbers 67/2020 and 73/2022 of PS Kralgund," police said.

The notorious drug peddler is currently detained under PIT-NDPS Act and lodged at Central Jail Kot Balwal Jammu, police said, adding that this action reaffirms the commitment of Police to combat the drug menace.

Meanwhile, local people of the area have hailed the initiative of Police with regard to the attachment of immovable property, which has been raised, used from illicit trafficking of narcotics by the drug peddlers in the Police

## District Handwara. Mercury Settles

The 24-hour Air Quality Index (AQI) stood at 390.

An AQI between zero and 50 is considered "good", 51 and 100 "satisfactory", 101 and 200 "moderate", 201 and 300 "poor", 301 and 400 "very poor", and 401 and 500 "severe".

Delhi has been witnessing a steep increase in AQI levels after a marginal improvement on Sunday. The city recorded an AQI of 394 on Wednesday, 365 on Tuesday, 348 at 4 pm on Monday and 301 on Sunday.

The increase in AQI levels comes after the Centre on

The increase in AQI levels comes after the Centre on Saturday removed stringent curbs, including a ban on construction work related to linear projects and the entry of polluting trucks in Delhi, following a drop in pollution levels due to a favourable wind speed and direction.

## **J&K Cong Concerned Over Terror Activities** In Rajouri-Poonch

**Press Trust Of India** 

**JAMMU:** Terming the situation as alarming, the Congress party on Thursday raised serious concerns about the escalating terror activities in Rajouri and Poonch and said that the party stands firm with security in the campaign to combat terrorism in J-K.

The party expressed deep shock at the loss of four army personnel, including two captains, in a militant attack in the Kalakote area of Rajouri district last evening, a party spokesperson said.

The party highlighted the alarming increase in terrorism, particularly in the twin border districts. "It is an alarming situation and we are very concerned about increasing terror activities in the region," the spokesperson said.

JKPCC President Vikar Rasool Wani, Working President Raman Bhalla, Senior Vice President Ravinder Sharma and other senior leaders paid tributes to the martyred brave iawans and extended sympathies to the bereaved families.

They also offered prayers for the swift recovery of the injured personnel.

Emphasising their unwavering support for the security forces, the party declared its commitment to thwart the reemergence of militancy in the Rajouri-Poonch border belt, as indicated by a series of incidents.

Congress leaders revealed that the party had previously issued warnings based on local intelligence regarding the presence of terrorists in the Kalakote area and its surroundings.

In the recent past, they had urged the strengthening of the security network.

The Congress party had even communicated these concerns to the Lt Governor, advocating for an upgrade in security measures and the establishment of security posts in vulnerable areas due to the perceived serious threat.

Affirming their solidarity with the army and security forces, the party reiterated its dedication to combating the menace of terrorism and ensuring the safety of both civilians and jawans.

### **Omar, Mehbooba Pained Over** Officers, Jawans Killings

SRINAGAR: Former chief ministers Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti on Thursday expressed grief over the killing of four soldiers in an encounter with terrorists in Rajouri area of Jammu and

"Terrible news from Rajouri where 4 army personnel in-cluding 2 officers have laid down their lives in the line of duty. While condemning the continuing efforts to spread militancy into hitherto peaceful areas of Pir Panchal region I send my sincere condolences to the families of those who offered the ultimate sacrifice today," Abdullah, the vice president of National Conference,

posted on X late on Wednesday. Mehbooba said it was heartbreaking to see officers and jawans lose their lives in the line of duty.
"Heartbreaking to see offi-

cers & jawans lose their lives in the line of duty despite GOIs misleading false claims that all is well in J&K. The price of this facade is being borne by them & innocent civilians who've become collateral damage in unabated violence. My deepest sympathies with their families & loved ones," the PDP president said in a post on X.

A terrorist has also been killed in the encounter that started on Wednesday.

## PDP, Congress Protest Against **Power Crisis In Kashmir**

**Press Trust Of India** 

**SRINAGAR:** People's Democratic day. Kashmir has plunged into Party (PDP) leaders and work- darkness due to the worsening Thursday staged a protest outside the party office here against the electricity crisis in

Kashmir, officials said here. The PDP workers, led by Asiea Nagash, Abdul Qayoom Bhat and Arif Laigroo tried to march from the PDP office near Sher-e-Kashmir Park here towards Lal Chowk to protest against the electricity shortage in the valley at the be-

ginning of the long winter period. However, a posse of policemen prevented the protestors, holding placards and posters demanding an end to power cuts, from marching beyond the adjacent General Post Office (GPO).

"To wake the administration from a deep slumber, the

PDP workers and leaders from Srinagar staged a protest topower crisis." PDP spokesperson Mohit Bhan said.

"The residents are enduring endless hardships, and the J-K administration's incompetence is glaring. Basic necessities have been compromised and yet the ones in charge seem oblivious to it," Bhan added.

Meanwhile, Pradesh Congress Committee workers also tried to stage a protest against the power crisis at Maulana Azad Road here but were prevented by police from leaving their party office.

"There is no electricity supply even in hospitals while they (officials) are spending money on driving around the town," one of the protesters said.



RAJOURI ENCOUNTER

## 'Proud Of His Martyrdom', Says Slain Commando's Uncle

**Press Trust Of India** 

AJOTE (POONCH): The uncle of Havaldar Abdul Majid who was killed in an encounter with the terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district said he feel proud of his nephew's martyrdom.

Majid, a para commando, was among four army personnel killed in the operation against the terrorists in the Dharmsal belt's Bajimaal area on Wednesday.

"We are proud of his martyrdom while fighting terrorists in the Kalakote area. His brother, a soldier of the Jammu and Kashmir Light Infantry (JKLI), also achieved martyrdom in 2017 in Bhimber Gali area of Poonch. We are ready to lay down our lives for the nation", Majid's uncle Mohmmad Yousef said.

Majid's family lives in the Ajot hamlet located between zero-line and border fencing along the LoC.

Two terrorists, including a top Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) commander trained in Afghanistan, were killed in a gunfight with security forces in Rajouri on Thursday.

Yousef who retired as a soldier of the army's Jammu and Kashmir Light Infantry (JKLI) said that we are a family of the



soldiers living on the LoC to defend the nation.

"We have 30 to 40 family members who are serving or have retired from the Indian Army. Serving in the Army is in our blood. My son is also serving in the forces. It feels proud to be a soldier," he said.

Angered over the repeated mischievous acts of Pakistan, the former soldier calls for a befitting reply to the neighbouring nation so that they do not dare to repeat it again.

Hundreds of people and relatives thronged the Majid's house to stand by his family and were proud of his martyrdom.

Majid's wife said he had told her about his visit to home in the next few days but news of his martyrdom has rattled her.

"Just a day ago he called me and told me that he will soon visit home. I called him a number of times vesterday but his

mobile was off. In the evening, I was told by the Army that he was injured in an encounter and is in hospital," she said.

Sunil Kumar Sharma Naib Sarpanch Ajote said that the entire belt is proud of him. "Our son and brave jawan

has achieved martyrdom in an encounter in Kalakote. Entire area is proud of him".

"Pakistan is everyday engineering mischief and killing innocent people here. Pakistan should be given a befitting reply so that they don't dare to repeat such acts," Sharma said.

Those who lost their lives in

the Wednesday encounter include Captain M V Pranjal of 63 Rashtriya Rifles, a resident of Karnataka, Captain Shubham of the Special Forces, resident of Agra in Uttar Pradesh, Havaldar Abdul Majid of the Special Force, a resident of Poonch in J-K, and Lance Naik Sanjay Bist of Nainital in Uttarakhano

## JKSSB To Conduct PST, PET For **Sub-Inspector Post From Dec 2**

**Observer News Service** 

JAMMU: The J&K Service Selection Board has scheduled conduct of Physical Standard Test (PST) and Physical Endurance Test (PET) for the post of Sub-Inspector (Home Department), tentatively from December 2, 2023 at Jammu and Srinagar centres.

According to a notice issued here today by SSB in this regard, all candidates, who have opted for Kashmir as test centre for the post of Sub Inspector, Home Department (as per the application form) and are desirous of appearing in PST and PET at Jammu centre, have been called upon to represent before the Board through offline mode only at J&K Services Selection Board office Zam-Zam Complex, Rambagh Srinagar, within 03 days from issuance of this notice i.e. up to 25-11-2023, in the prescribed format.

The document reads that no further request in this regard shall be entertained beyond

# Khyber Industries Hosts Visit For Diploma Civil Engineering Students, Teachers Of GPC Budgam

**Observer News Service** 

**SRINAGAR:** Khyber Cement, a prominent cement brand in Jammu & Kashmir, had recently launched its new logo with the tagline 'Dil se banao'. Recently, the organization hosted a total of 21 students, accompanied by three faculty members Shah Suehail, Mushkoor Bashir, and

The young minds had the privilege of exploring the operations and facilities at Khyber Cement Industries Private Limited. This visit was a valuable opportunity for the students to gain practical insights into the real-world application of their academic knowledge.

Throughout the visit, the students were provided with a comprehensive overview of the cement manufacturing process, safety protocols, and the latest technologies employed in the industry. The interaction with the experts at Khyber Cement allowed the engineering students to broaden their un-



derstanding and witness the firsthand challenges and innovations within the cement manufacturing sector. The students were greatly impressed by the proactive measures taken by Khyber Industries Private Limited to mitigate the impact of its operations on the surrounding environment. The noteworthy observations made

by the students were the impressive pollution preventive measures implemented at the factory.

The students unanimously acclaimed this trip as the best among all. During this session Prof. Dr. Shafquat said "It is initiatives like these that empower students to apply theoretical knowledge to real world careers. At Khyber Cement, education

holds the key to unlocking a brighter future for our beloved community. The organization wholeheartedly believes in empowering local children with enhanced educational opportunities at Khyber Cement. With great passion and dedication, Khyber Cement actively establishes and supports government schools, nurturing young minds poised to become future leaders and catalysts for positive change.

Riaz Tramboo the director of operation - Khyber Cement, said, "At Khyber Cement, we are dedicated towards the betterment of our region and people in all ways possible. It was a heart-warming experience for all of us to welcome the faculty members and the students of Government Polytechnic College, Budgam, who are our future. Our small contribution in shaping their career has been

scenarios, preparing them for the challenges of their future a true honor and is one of the many initiatives at Khyber Cement to enrich the lives from our region."

Khyber Cement continues its stride towards enhancing the well-being of Jammu and Kashmir, persistently striving to rehabilitate the environment. While following ethical and visionary practices, helping the company successfully expand into several businesses they also provided sponsorships to numerous organizations and an assortment of noteworthy

The Kashmiri conglomerate is also well-known for supporting causes like SAAYA (Shadow of Hope), the O-Sport Foundation, events including Buland Hosla, the Mixed Martial Arts Association of J&K, the O-Sport Foundation of India, and many more. Khyber Cement adheres to the ideology of contributing value by making meaningful buildings that have a positive impact not just on people's hearts but also on the environment.

## **Over 9 Lakh Tourists Enjoyed Gondola Ride At Gulmarg This Year**

**Observer News Service** 

**SRINAGAR:** More than nine lakh tourists have enjoyed the Gondola ride at Gulmarg this year and the figure is expected to cross more than million mark by the end of this year. Tourists describe the experi-

ence as surreal and alluring.

Managed and operated by J&K Cable Car Corporation, the Gulmarg Gondola is the flagship attraction of Kashmir tourism. It is possibly India's most popular ropeway, and at a

stakeholder of J&K tourism. He said the corporation is committed to improve tourist experience by giving them easy, hassle free and safe ride. He assured Tourists of even better facilities in the upcoming winter season and appealed to Tourists to book tickets through online mode only and adhere to timings mentioned in the ticket to avoid any inconvenience.

It may be mentioned here that the Gulmarg Cable Car comprises two phases; one from Gulmarg resort to Kong-



height of 14,000 ft, it is Asia's highest operating cable car.

The Corporation, this year, improved and enhanced the service delivery by improving the ticket issuing mechanism, undertaking several safety tests and overhauled the second phase of the Gandola with latest technology.

Managing Director, J&K Cable Car Corporation, Raja Yaqoob said the Corporation is sensitized to its role as a prominent dori valley and the second from Kongdori to Apharwath Peak. The ropeway has in total 108 cabins and 18 towers.

The first stage transfers from the Gulmarg resort at 2,650 m (8,694 ft) to Kongdoori Station in the bowl-shaped Kongdori valley. The second stage of the ropeway takes to a height of 3,980 m (13,058 ft) on Kongdoori Mountain, a shoulder of nearby Afarwat Peak (4,200 m

College On Wheels-Day- 5

### **J&K Students Visit Mumbai** Naval Base, Dockyard; **Witness Maritime Wonders**



**Observer News Service** 

MUMBAI: A pioneering move, Kashmir under the leadership of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has launched the "College on Wheels" initiative, an extraordinary educational odyssey aimed at uplifting and empowering young minds hailing from various parts of the Union Territory. This innovative program, inspired by the transformative spirit of Mahatma Gandhi, has garnered praise for its commitment to fostering holistic education and experiential learning.

A contingent of enthusiastic students from the Varsities and Colleges of Jammu and Kashmir, on Day 5 of their College on Wheels odyssey today visited the Mumbai Naval Base and Naval Dockyard and got a briefing on India's naval prowess.

The expedition provided the enthusiastic students an extraordinary opportunity to delve into the maritime world, with highlights including a visit to the heritage hall and up-close encounters with INS Vikrant, INS Deepak, and INS Visakhapatnam.

The students were privileged to receive detailed briefings about the intricacies of the naval vessels, gaining insight into the cutting-edge technology and historical significance that these ships embody. The immersive experience extended to exploring a submarine, adding an extra layer of fascination to the educational sojourn.

One of the standout moments was the contingents visit to the heritage hall, where they absorbed the rich naval history and its glorious ethos. The Naval Base and Dockyard, usually off-limits to the public, opened their gates to the aspiring minds, allowing them to witness firsthand the operations and infrastructure that safeguard the country's maritime interests.

The hallmark of the day was the first hand encounter with cutting-edge technology as the

contingent toured a submarine. This experience left an indelible mark on the participants, for the significance of the nation's naval forces.

Following this enriching experience, the contingent transitioned to the historic Gateway of India in the heart of Mumbai. Against the backdrop of this architectural marvel, students had the chance to absorb the city's cultural and historical significance, further enhancing their holistic learning experience.

The Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu Prof Umesh Rai, who is constantly monitoring the journey of students from Jammu, conveyed in a message, 'I am sure that this trip was truly an amazing experience for our students to step into the usually restricted domains of the naval forces.

The insights gained and memories created during this visit will undoubtedly leave a lasting impact on their academic and personal journeys."

The contingent that visited the Naval Base, Naval Dockyard and Gateway of India comprised 780 students along with their mentors and the administrative staff from the University of Jammu, University of Kashmir, Cluster University of Jammu, Cluster University of Kashmir, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Katra, Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University Rajouri, Islamic University of Science and Technology, Kashmir, affiliated colleges of JU and KU and Cluster Innovation Centre (CIC), New Delhi. The trip to Naval Base and Naval Dockyard was organized under the supervision of Guneet Sudan, Nodal Officer III.

The College on Wheels initiative aims to broaden the horizons of students by providing unique and hands-on learning experiences beyond the confines of traditional classrooms. This visit to the Naval Base and Dockyard exemplifies the program's commitment to fostering a curiosity-driven approach to education.

## **J&K Lose To Karnataka** In Vijay Hazare Opener



**Observer News Service** 

**SRINAGAR:** Centuries from the opening pair of Mayank Agarwal and Samarth R helped Karnataka to a 222-run humiliation of J&K in the opening Group C match of the 2023-24 Vijay Hazare Trophy at the Narendra Modi Stadium Ground B in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, on Thursday.

The opening pair put on a 267-run partnership to propel Karnataka to 402/2 in 50 overs. Rasikh Salam and Sahil Lotra

In reply, J&K was bundled out for 180. Vivrant Sharma was the top scorer with 41 (46).

were the only wicket-takers.

## 10 J&K Cricketers Listed In **IPL 2024 Mini-Auction**



**Observer News Service** 

SRINAGAR: A total of 10 J&K cricketers have been shortlisted for the IPL 2024 auction, which will be held in Dubai on December 19.

A total of 590 players will take part in the IPL auction this time. J&K cricketers include Mujtaba Yousuf, Rasikh Salam,

Parvez Rasool, Qamran Iqbal Fazil Rashid, Henan Malik, Abid Mushtaq, Nasir Lone, Auqib Nabi, and Vivrant Sharma.

Parvez Rasool has a base price of Rs 50 lakh and was unsold in the previous three auctions.

Abdul Salad and Umran Malik are the only two J&K cricketers to be retained by Sunrisers Hyderabad for Rs 4 crore each.

## Surya Shines As India **Beat Australia In Thriller**



**Agencies** 

VISAKHAPATNAM: Josh Inglis smashed Australia's jointfastest century in Twenty20 Internationals before Suryakumar Yadav powered India to a two-wicket victory in a thrilling series opener on Thursday. Suryakumar, captaining India for the first time, hit an assured knock of 80 as the hosts chased down 208 in Visakhapatnam and secured a small measure of

revenge for their painful defeat by Australia in the 50-overs World Cup final on Sunday.

Ishan Kishan (58) and Suryakumar shared a 112-run partnership, but India lost momentum after both players departed and the chase went down to the final ball of the match when Rinku Singh guided his team over the line.

Australia had racked up an impressive total after being put in to bat after Inglis hit 11

fours and eight sixes in his 110 from 50 balls.

The 28-year-old's century came from 47 balls, tying Aaron Finch's Australian record. Inglis was ably supported by Steve Smith (52), another of the seven players from Australia's World Cup-winning squad to remain in India for the T20 series, in a 130run second-wicket partnership.

The second match in the five-game series is in Thiruvananthapuram on Sunday.

## **Bullet Point Previews Of Premier League Matches**

**Agencies** 

Match-by-match facts and statistics ahead of the next round of Premier League fixtures from Nov. 25-27 (all times GMT):

#### Saturday, Nov. 25 Manchester City v Liverpool (1230)

► Liverpool are one of the only two clubs City striker Erling Haaland has not scored against in the top flight.

► City's Kevin De Bruyne,

John Stones, Nathan Ake, Sergio Gomez and Mateo Kovacic will likely remain on the sidelines due to injuries. Brazilian goalkeeper Ederson and Norway's Haaland, who missed

games on international duty. are expected to feature in the

top-of-the-table clash ▶ Liverpool forward Mohamed Salah has netted seven times in 12 league appearances against City, who have won their last 23 home games across all competitions.

#### Newcastle United v Chelsea (1500)

► Chelsea will look to carry on their momentum after victories over London rivals Tottenham Hotspur and drawing with City when they take on seventh-placed Newcastle. who lost their last two games in all competitions.

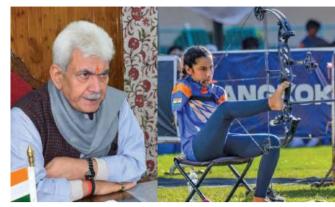
► Callum Wilson, New-

castle's leading scorer for the past three seasons, joined a long list of injuries at St James' Park. Harvey Barnes, Sven Botman, Jacob Murphy, Dan Burn, Elliot Anderson and Matt Targett were al-

ready on the sidelines. ► Chelsea, 10th, received

a boost with the return of captain Reece James, while Frenchman Christopher Nkunku and Romeo Lavia edge closer to making their debuts for the Stamford Bridge side following injury setbacks.

## **J&K LG Hails Para Archers For Asian Championship Performance**



**Press Trust of India** 

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday congratulated the para archers from the Union Territory for their "incredible achievement" at the Asian Para Archery Championships 2023 in Bangkok.

"What an incredible achievement! Para archers from Jammu and Kashmir scripted history and brought glory to India by winning six medals including four gold, one silver and one bronze at the Para Asian Archery Championship in Thailand. The consistent performances of our Archers reflect hard work & perseverance," Sinha wrote on X.

"The outstanding performances of Sheetal, Rakesh and Sarita after admirable achievement at the Asian Para Games, exemplify the true spirit of sportsmanship. This is just the beginning of a new sporting era. My best wishes to all the athletes for their future endeavours," he added.

Trained and groomed at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board Sports Complex, the para archers -- Rakesh Kumar, Sheetal Devi and Sarita -- have once again held the country's flag high as India topped the medals tally with nine medals at the Asian Para Archery Championships.

Rakesh Kumar led the In-

dian challenge with a hat-trick of gold by clinching the men's compound open crown with a win over Indonesia and partnered Suraj Singh to win the men's compound open doubles against the Chinese contestants besides winning the mixed team gold with Sheetal Devi defeating Indonesia. The fourth gold for Team India was contributed by Sheetal Devi along with Jyoti in the women's compound open team event against Korea. However, she had to settle for silver in the tie-breaker against Singapore. Sarita had won a bronze in the women's individual compound category.

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board Chief Executive Officer Anshul Garg expressed immense pride in the accomplishments of the para archers at the international arena and congratulated them for bringing laurels to the country, Jammu and Kashmir and the shrine board with the blessings of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi.

He underlined that the glory earned in the games would give new impetus to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Sports Complex

and budding sportspersons.
Garg said the shrine's para archers had been felicitated by the lieutenant governor, who is also the chairman of the shrine board at a ceremony held at the Raj Bhawan earlier on No-

Dil se banao

# **MAZBOOTI SE BANI HAR** — DEEWAR SE JHALAKTE HAI — DIL KE EHSAAS



