

**SSR2024**  
27 October, 2023 to 9 December, 2023  
Election Commission of India

## Have you filled 'Desh ka Form'?

➔ Become a Voter or update details in Voter list ➔

Give a missed call on **8929441950** to know more



Sh. Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar  
National Icon of ECI

Follow

[/ecisveep](#) [/eci](#)

[/ECIVoterEducation](#)

[/Election Commission of India](#)

Log on to [voters.eci.gov.in](#)

Apply through **Voter Facilitation Center** or contact your **BLO**

Download the **Voter Helpline App**



## Centre Steps In To Resolve Power Crisis In J&K

### Allocates 293 MW Power To PDD To Meet Winter Demand



Observer News Service

Srinagar: The government of India has stepped in to diffuse the electricity crisis in Jammu and Kashmir by increasing power allocation to the Union Territory by about 293 MW, by transferring electricity from distant power houses in West Bengal, Bihar and even Bhutan.

& Kashmir Power Development Department (JKPDD), said that J&K being primarily dependent on hydroelectric power, faces significant fall in generation during winters due to low water level in rivers and therefore, around 85% of power supply during winters is sourced from thermal plants to compensate for the deficit during winters.

The spokesman reiterated that the UT is making every effort to ensure sustainable and firm power | [More on P6](#)

### Small Scale Industries Face Heat

#### Tourists Cancel Scheduled Kashmir Trips; Unit Holders Face Productivity Losses

Majid Nabi

The continuously worsening power crisis in Kashmir valley has had a negative impact on the houseboat and small-scale industries, resulting in losses worth crores to the two major sectors. While those associated with the tourism industry asserted that the worsening power crisis forced tourists both domestic and foreign to postpone their planned trips to Kashmir, small-scale business owners claimed to | [More on P6](#)

**IN AREAS WITHOUT SMART METERING**, the department is sustaining the same number of power supply hours as maintained during the previous year. Moreover, there is a curtailment schedule in effect which is diligently being published to prevent any inconvenience to the public,"

## Rain, Snow Ends Dry Spell In Kashmir



Srinagar: The three-week dry spell in Kashmir ended on Thursday with snowfall in the higher reaches of the Valley and rains in the plains, officials said here.

Snowfall was recorded in Gulmarg in north Kashmir and Sonamarg in the early hours of Thursday. The weather department has forecast more snowfall during the day.

Most parts of the Valley, including Srinagar city, received light rains, they said.

The rains have ended a three-week dry spell in the Valley which has resulted in a rise in cough and cold, especially among the children and elderly. However, the weather is expected to be dry for a week from Friday. The night | [More on P6](#)

## Have Embarked On Golden Decade For J&K: LG

- Divine Land Of J&K Transformed As 'Paradise On Earth': LG
- Says His Administration Is Determined To Create Fear-Free, Terrorism-Free UT

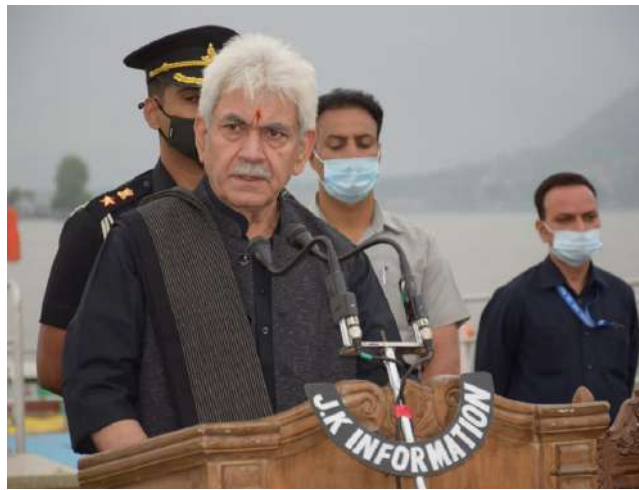
Observer News Service

Srinagar: Asserting that the divine land of Jammu Kashmir in a true sense has been transformed as a 'Paradise on Earth', Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said Thursday that his administration is determined to create a fear-free and terrorism-free Union Territory.

"Jammu Kashmir is growing at unprecedented rate with steadfast resolve and commitment to ensure welfare of the common man. "I am confident this decade will be the golden decade for J&K," Sinha said while addressing a conclave here on Thursday.

The conclave-'Rising Jammu Kashmir' Conclave was organized by Amar Ujala Group.

Highlighting the impressive strides in different sectors and the emergence of J&K as a



model Union Territory, the LG said that J&K was growing at an unprecedented rate with steadfast resolve and commitment to ensure welfare of the common man.

"Under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we are witnessing the rise of a developed Union Territory. This divine land in a true sense has been | [More on P6](#)

**OUR FOCUS IS NOT JUST FASTER** but also inclusive and sustainable growth. We are laying the foundation of industrialization and modern agriculture & allied sectors to create new opportunities for youth, farmers and women"

### Launches New Portal Of DIPR

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha launched the new portal of Department of Information & Public Relations (DIPR) here on Thursday. Sinha commended the endeavour of the Information Department to disseminate information to the media on administration's policies, programmes and new initiatives.

"Several new features for different modes of communication including press releases, fact sheets, photographs and infographics will streamline existing mechanisms and reduce the time taken for dissemination | [More on P6](#)

## Colleges In Valley To Hold Classes Online From Today

Agencies

Srinagar: With the early onset of winters, Jammu and Kashmir Higher Education Department Thursday ordered online classes in all government degree colleges of Kashmir region from December 1.

Special Secretary to the government Dr Ravi Shanker Sharma in a communique said, "Due to early onset of winter, students enrolled in Government Degree Colleges of Kashmir Division are facing major challenge in commuting to college and, thereby, attending classes."

"Situation has got compounded due to disruption to normal class work with inadequate heating arrangements," it reads.

The communique further states that with the implementation of admission based on merit and choice, students have to travel distances or stay in Hostel or stay in private accommodations which has put them to severe hardship due to early onset of harsh winter.

It reads, "In order to ensure unhindered academic delivery in adverse and extreme cold conditions, it is | [More on P6](#)

## Social Media Posts Promoting Disharmony Will Be A Crime: DGP



Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Posting any content on social media that promotes disharmony will be a criminal offence in Jammu and Kashmir, DGP R R Swain said on Thursday.

A new provision under Section 144 of the Code of

Criminal Procedure (CrPC) will be introduced into the effect, the J&K director general of police said.

Posting such messages or videos by "terrorists, separatists or anti-national elements" will be a crime, Swain said.

"Under (Section)144 CrPC, we have decided

### Says Conspiracy Being Hatched To Derail Peace

Statements -- whether those fall under freedom of expression and dissent or are linked to a conspiracy to escalate violence -- will be investigated, Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police R R Swain said on Thursday. Swain also made it clear that such statements will be investigated -- the communication traced and discussions and meetings scrutinised -- to uncover any "backdoor manipulation".

"The responsible or irresponsible statements -- whether it is part of freedom of expression and dissent or it is part of a

## ED Conducts Raids In Rs 250-Cr Money Laundering Case In J&K

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: The Enforcement Directorate on Thursday searched six places in connection with a Rs 250-crore money laundering case in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

The searches included the premises of the former chairman of Jammu and Kashmir State Cooperative Bank Limited, they said. Earlier the officials had mentioned that the case pertained to J-K Bank.

The fraud was in the name of the fictitious River Jhelum Cooperative Housing Building Society, the officials said.

According to them, the raids

were conducted by the ED's office in Srinagar under powers provided to the federal probe agency under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) for search and seizure.

The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) had already filed a charge sheet in the case against Hilal A Mir, the chairman of the fictitious housing society, the then chairman of J-K State Cooperative Bank Limited Mohd Shafi Dar and others for the commission of offences under relevant sections of Indian Penal Code and the Prevention of Corruption Act in August 2020.

According to the ACB probe, Mir had moved | [More on P6](#)

### CBI Files Charges Against Ex- Special Secy, 2 Others

The CBI has filed a charge sheet against former Jammu and Kashmir Special Secretary Agriculture Production Department Mohammed Farooq Dar and others in connection with a Rs 10 lakh bribery case, officials said Thursday. Along with Dar, the CBI has also chargesheeted then Chief Horticulture Officer, Jammu, Sarbjit Singh and a private person, Gohar Ahmed Dar, they said. In its charge sheet filed before the Special CBI court, Jammu, the CBI said Singh and Gohar Ahmed were arrested while accepting bribe of Rs 10 Lakh on | [More on P6](#)

## S H O R T

### Terrorist Killed In Pulwama Encounter

One terrorist has been killed in an encounter between government forces and terrorists at Arihal area of South Kashmir's Pulwama district on Thursday evening.

A senior police said that a terrorist has been killed, whose identification is being ascertained while the operation is on in the area. Earlier, an official said that a joint team of Police, Army and CRPF launched a Cordon and Search Operation (CASO) on specific information about the presence of terrorists in the area. He said that as the joint team of forces | [More on P6](#)

### Teenager Kidnapped, Murdered In Jammu

A teenager who had left home for computer training at Janipur area here was allegedly kidnapped and murdered earlier, officials said on Thursday.

Police arrested Kishwar native Satinder Kumar (23) for the crime on Thursday, they said. According to police, a man named Parhald Singh informed them that his 19-year old son Raghav Jammal alias Raghav of Nardani Raipur was kidnapped on Tuesday, they said. Officials said that Raghav went to Janipur for computer training but did not reach there. | [More on P6](#)

### 2 Terror Associates Held In Kupwara

Security forces on Thursday busted a Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) module in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district and arrested two terror associates, officials said.

"The police along with teams of the Army and CRPF busted a terror module of LET/TRF and recovered arms from Tutigund forest on the disclosure of terror associates Pervaiz Ahmad Dar and Showkat Ahmad Shergujri," they said. The officials said a case has been registered in this regard at the Handwara police station. The investigation has been | [More on P6](#)

### Aspiring Cricketer Dies Of Electrocution

A 26-year-old aspiring cricketer died after being electrocuted in Chamalwas in Banihal area of Ramban district, official sources said.

The victim Abrar Ahmed Sohail son of Mohammad Afzal came in touch with a live wire, reports said. "The youth was taken to a nearby hospital, where he was declared as brought dead on arrival", they said. The youth known for his cricketer skills in the district aspired to excel in the field. Meanwhile the whole area has been caught in melancholy following the tragic death of the youth. (KS)

KO Photo | Abid Bhat







### 3-Day State Level Philatelic Exhibition "KASHPEX-2023" Concludes At SKICC

Observer News Service

Srinagar: KASHPEX 2023 with colorful and enlightening cultural performances and award distribution amongst the winners of various events of KASHPEX concluded at SKICC here today.

The cultural event was marked by performances of Shafi Sopori, a renowned Sufi singer of Kashmir. Besides this mesmerizing musical performances and dance performances from artists depicting rich culture and folk dances of Jammu and Kashmir, thrilled the audience.

A special cover on the Thiksey Monastery, Leh was released by Col Vinod Kumar, Chief Postmaster General, J&K Circle along with Prof (Dr). Ruby Zutshi, Principal, Institute of Music and Fine Arts, University of Kashmir, Prof Ifthikhar Jaffar, Senior Instructor Music and Fine Arts was also present on the occasion.

The KASHPEX 2023 was marked by release of special covers on places of prominence and significant importance from Srinagar, Jammu and Leh.

The quiz competition

which was held on 2nd day of the exhibition for students from 09 schools was awarded by Chief Postmaster General, J&K Circle Moein-udin-Naqash, Mohammad Said and Ajmal from Kashmir Harvard Educational Institute were awarded trophy for first position while as Adeeba Bilal, Zainab Ruqaya and Muhammad Haziq Jan from St Paul's International Academy and Hadiya binti Altaf, Ambreena Khurshid and Afreen Bhat from Caset Experimental School were awarded trophy for second and third position, respectively.

The winners of the Painting competition, held today were also awarded on the occasion. The students competed in two categories viz. Category I students from Class V to Class VII and Category II for students from Class VIII to Class X.

In respect of Category I, Areeba Masoodi from GD Goenka Public School was adjudged first while Safa Zeehan from the same school finished second. Mutaharun Eshal from Birla Open Minds International School was adjudged third.



Kept in a wicker basket, girl buys Masal Tchot, a type of flatbread from a roadside vendor near Pratap Park at Residency Road amid fresh rainfall on a cold Thursday afternoon. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

### SMC, JMC Commissioners Appointed Corp's Administrators For 2 Yrs

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a significant move, the administration of Jammu & Kashmir on Thursday appointed commissioners of Srinagar Municipal Corporation and Jammu Municipal Corporation as their administrators.

The Housing & Urban Development Department (H&UDD) today appointed Commissioners of SMC and JMC as administrators of the respective corporations for a term of two years or until the establishment of the Corporation, whichever is earlier. The move was necessitated as the five-year term of elected representatives came to end on November 05 and November 14, respectively.

In a notification, the H&UDD ordered that the commissioners shall exercise the functions and

duties of the Corporation(s) as provided under the Municipal Corporation Act-2000.

The government had to issue the Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Corporation (Removal of Difficulties) Order, 2023 to remove

**The Housing & Urban Development Department (H&UDD) today appointed Commissioners of SMC and JMC as administrators of the respective corporations for a term of two years or until the establishment of the Corporation, whichever is earlier**

difficulties arising in giving effect to the provisions of the Municipal Corporation Act for the purpose of smooth administration and providing better services to public at large after the expiry of five-year term of the elected representatives of the Corporations.

Under section 427 of the Municipal Corporation Act, the government is empowered to issue such orders if any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of the Act or by reasons of anything contained in this Act to

any other enactment for the time being in force.

On Wednesday, the government appointed deputy commissioners and additional district development commissioners as administrators of municipal councils and committees respectively.

### Hazratbal, Lal Bazar Residents Demand Evening E-Rickshaw Services

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Residents of Hazratbal, Lal Bazar and adjacent areas have urged authorities for evening e-rickshaw services for the convenience of the people.

The residents said they have to face immense hardships during late night

commuting in absence of transport facilities.

"The existing public transport system is inadequate and fails to meet the area's needs. We urge the concerned authorities to introduce E-Rickshaw services on a pilot basis to address this issue," said Muneer Ahmad, a local from Lal Bazar in Srinagar.

### Com SMC Reviews Snow Preparedness Arrangements In Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Athar Aamir Khan today reviewed preparedness for snow clearance and dewatering exercise in an extensive meeting held at Central Office SMC, Karan Nagar.

The meeting was attended by all

Joint Commissioners, Executive Engineers, Chief Sanitation Officer, Chief Transport Officer SMC, Stores Officer and others.

During the meeting, a strategic plan was made for deployment of snow clearance vehicles/ tractors/dewatering motors in all the wards so that the people may not feel any kind of inconvenience in winters.

**Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited**  
Impaired Assets Portfolio Management Department

**J&K Bank**  
Serving To Empower

Zonal Office Budgam,  
Industrial Complex Zainakota  
Srinagar 190012, Kashmir  
Tel: 0194-249735, Ext.24, jaid.zoktvo@jkbml.com

#### Possession Notice

**Notice under Section 13 (4) of the SARFAESI ACT, 2002 read with Rule 8 (1) of the Security (Enforcement) Interest Rules, 2002**

Whereas, the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notice dated 04.04.2023 and published in the Daily Newspapers namely Rising Kashmir and Tameel-e-Irshad on 07.06.2023, thereby calling upon Mr. Aijaz Bashir Mandoo S/O Bashir Ahmad Mandoo R/O House No 63, Lane No 06 Rose Enclave Wanbal Rawalpura Rangreth Srinagar-190005 Prop: M/s Pay Easy Unit-I And II New Bus Stand, Budgam (Borrower Cum Mortgagee), Mr. Mohammad Iqbal Najar S/O Ghulam Mohammad Najar R/O Baba Mohalla Shopian (Guarantor), and Mrs. Afroza Mir W/o Feroz Ahmad Mir R/O Wanbal Rawalpura Srinagar (Guarantor) to repay an amount of Rs. 1,27,47,573.64/- (Rupees One Crore Twenty Seven lacs Forty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Seventy Three and Paise Sixty Four only) being the balance outstanding as on 31.03.2023 in the accounts of the Borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon.

The said borrower having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower in particular and the public in general that the undersigned being authorized officer of the J&K Bank Ltd has taken possession of the mortgage property described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on me under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on this 29th day of the November of year 2023.

The said borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the J&K Bank Limited for the amount in aggregating to Rs. 1,36,34,916.64, (Rupees one crore thirty six lac thirty four thousand nine hundred sixteen and paise sixty four only) together with future interest thereon from 01.11.2023 and other charges incurred or to be incurred.

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

#### Description of the Immovable Property

Residential house along with land underneath and appurtenant thereto measuring 13 1/2 marlas falling under Khasra No 1693 min, Khata No 1115 and Khawat No 776 situated at Ompora Tehsil and District Budgam standing in the name of borrower / mortgagee Mr. Aijaz Bashir Mandoo S/o: Bashir Ahmad Mandoo R/o: Wanbal Rawalpura Srinagar

**Authorized Officer**

Dated: 29.11.2023  
Place: Ompora, Budgam

Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir (UT)

**Office Of The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division South Awantipora**

Tele/fax: 01933/295537; Email Id: xenphemechsouthawp@gmail.com

**EXTENSION NOTICE 1st**

Subject: Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of electro-mechanical equipments at various water supply schemes of Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division South Awantipora under JMM.

Reference: This Office ENIT No.: 33 of 2023-24 Dated: 18-11-2023 issued vide No.: JSD/ MDSA/4905-17 Dated: 18/11/2023.

Due to no/poor response of the above subjected works, advertised vide this office eNIT No.: 33 of 2023-24, the date of downloading/uploading of the bids of these works is hereby extended upto 13/12/2023 (04:00 PM) and the opening date of the Technical Bid is 14/12/2023 (2:00 PM).

Other terms and conditions of the ENIT shall remain same.

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Jal Shakti (PHE) Mech. Division  
South Awantipora

No:- JSD/PHE/MDSA/5222-24  
DIPK-13079/23 Dated: 30/11/2023

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

**Jammu and Kashmir Power Transmission Corporation Ltd**

**Office of the Executive Engineer**

**Transmission Line Maintenance Division-I (TLMD-I), Bemina, Srinagar**

Ph. No. 0194-2492427, 9419181913 E-mail: tlm1tech@gmail.com

**Tender Extension Notice**

Subject: Tender Extension Notice for e-NITs mentioned below:

e-NIT No	Tender Ref ID	Work Description
17/JKPTCL/TLMD-I/ISGR/2023-24; Dated: 17.10.2023	2023_PDD_234051_1	Stabilization of existing EHV transmission line infrastructure by way of stringing / laying of conductor at various locations of 132kV D/C Habak-Badampora-Kangan-Sumbal transmission line along with fixing of missing members replacement of various line accessories and branch cutting within the line corridor
19/JKPTCL/TLMD-I/ISGR/2023-24; Dated: 25.10.2023	2023_PDD_234919_1	Galvanization of Super-structure in 132kV and 33kV Yards at Grid Station Habbak

Due to poor response, the last dates for submission of e-bid and opening of Techno Commercial bids for the e-NITs mentioned above are hereby extended as under:

1.	Last date for submission of e-Bid	11.12.2023 (02:00 PM)
2.	Last date for submission of Hard Copy of e-Bid in the office of the Executive Engineer TLMD-I, Bemina, Srinagar	12.12.2023 (04:00 PM)
3.	Date for online opening of Techno-Commercial e-Bid	13.12.2023 (02:00 PM)

All other terms and conditions remain same.

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer,  
TLMD-1<sup>st</sup> Bemina Sgr  
Transmission (Kashmir), JKPTCL, Bemina

No.: TLMD-I/TS/17A-19A/23-24/2672-76  
DIPK-NB-4539/23  
dated: 30-11-2023

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

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

**RAILWAYS**

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

**HIGHWAY STATUS**

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

**PRAYERS**

**HIJRI CALENDAR**

16 Jumada al-Awwal  
1445

FAJR	5: 50
ZUHR	12:17
ASR	3: 45
Magrib	5:26
ISHA	6: 49

### This Day In History

- 772- Pope Adrian I [Hadrian I] elected
- 800- Charlemagne judges the accusations against Pope Leo III in the Vatican.
- 1420- Henry V of England enters Paris
- 1626 - Pasha Muhammad ibn Farukh tyrannical govt of Jerusalem, driven out.
- 1640 - Portugal regains independence after 60 years of Spanish rule.
- 1641 - Massachusetts becomes the first colony to give statutory recognition to slavery.
- 1653 An athlete from Croydon is reported to have run 20 miles from St Albans to London in less than 90 minutes
- 1656 - Germany promises Poland aid against Sweden.
- 1708 - Great Alliance occupies Brussels.
- 1887 - Sino-Portuguese treaty recognizes Portugal's control.
- 1915 - The US requests that Germany withdraw its military and naval attaches from the Embassy in Washington.
- 1916 - There is virtual civil war in Greece as royalists fight Venizelist, and the Allies determine on a Venizelist victory
- 1917 Boys Town founded by Father Edward Flanagan west of Omaha Neb.
- 1918 - Danish parliament passed an act to grant Iceland independence under Danish crown.
- 1918 - Serbian-Croatian-Slovic kingdom proclaimed in Belgrade.
- 1918 - Yugoslavia declares independence; monarchy established
- 1941 - Japanese emperor Hirohito signs declaration of war.
- 1948 - Arabic Congress names Abdullah of Trans Jordan as King of Palestine.
- 1959 - The 1st color photograph of Earth received from outer space.
- 1961 - The independent Republic of West Papua is proclaimed in modern-day Western New Guinea.
- 1963 - Nagaland becomes a state of Indian union.
- 1970 - Independent People's Republic of South Yemen renames itself as People's Democratic Republic of Yemen
- 1971 - Cambodian Civil War: Khmer Rouge rebels. intensify assaults on Cambodian government positions, forcing their retreat from Kompong Thmar and nearby Ba Ray.
- 1973 - Australia grants self-government to Papua New Guinea.
- 1974 - Boeing 727 crashes in Upperville Virginia, 92 died.
- 1975 - Kuwait and Gulf and BP agree on terms of nationalization.
- 1988 - Benazir Bhutto named 1st female Prime Minister of a Muslim country (Pakistan)
- 1991 - Colorado party wins Paragway parliamentary election
- 1991 - Nursultan Nazarbayev sworn in as president of Kazakhstan
- 1991 - US 75th manned space mission "STS 44" Atlantis 10 lands
- 1991 - Ukrainian people vote for independence
- 1998 - Exxon announces a \$73.7 billion USD deal to buy Mobil, creating Exxon-Mobil, the world's largest company.
- 2002 - Davis Cup Tennis, Paris: Mikhail Youzhny beats Paul-Henri Mathieu 3-6, 2-6, 6-3, 7-5, 6-4 to give Russia 3-2 win over France; only time in event history that a 2-set deficit turned around in a live 5th rubber of a Final
- 2008 - The US economy has been in recession since December 2007, the National Bureau of Economic Research announces today
- 2012 - Ukrainian Anna Ushenina beats Antoaneta Stefanova of Bulgaria, 3½-2½ in 2 rapid tie breaks to win the World Women's Chess Championship in Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia
- 2016 - UN admits its peacekeepers were responsible for the cholera epidemic in Haiti in 2010 that killed 30,000



KASHMIR OBSERVER<sup>TM</sup>

Friday | 01-12-2023

## Election Uncertainty

With no signs of restoration of statehood in sight, the political parties in Jammu and Kashmir have been demanding an Assembly election. Apni Party president Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari in a statement on Tuesday has sought holding of state polls without delay. While expressing his readiness to fight polls, Bukhari said the core agenda of his party is to ensure statehood is returned to J&K. Earlier, J&K parties were sore when the government celebrated the Union Territory Day on October 31 with some pomp and show. The National Conference leader Omar Abdullah had said that the celebration was akin to rubbing salt into our wounds. He also challenged the Centre to conduct elections to see the "sankalp (resolve)" of the people of J&K.

But it is true that Assembly elections in J&K are unlikely to be held in the near future. It will be safe to presume now that there is no chance of elections until general elections being held in May next year. And it will depend on the priorities of the successor national government whether polls in J&K are held immediately after that or not. State polls could in all likelihood be further delayed should the BJP return to power, which it is favourite to do.

The pending verdict on Article 370 in the Supreme Court will also be a decisive factor. Whatever be the verdict of the Supreme Court, it could pave the way for, at least, the Assembly elections in J&K. But when? No one is sure about the timing. More so, when general elections are just six months away. During the hearings of the Article 370 case in the Supreme Court, the union government told the Supreme Court that it cannot give any exact time-frame and it would take "some time" for restoration of statehood in J&K while reiterating that the union territory status is "temporary".

But, for now, all eyes are fixed on the apex court's verdict on Article 370 which might come in the near to medium future. And that would determine J&K and Ladakh's future trajectory. In case of the SC's endorsing the withdrawal of Article 370 and the bifurcation of the former state into two union territories, the discourse will decisively shift towards Assembly elections and the subsequent grant of statehood - truncated or otherwise - as promised by the union home minister Amit Shah himself on the floor of parliament. Until then, both political parties and people of J&K have no choice but to wait.

OTHER OPINION

## Time for action

The next fortnight will see world leaders, industrialists, activists, and indigenous peoples converge at the 28th edition of the Conference of the Parties (COP). This annual affair is an attempt to inch ahead on getting at least 190 countries, all members of the United Nations climate framework, to act on weaning their economies off fossil fuels. The current goal is to make good on a collective commitment made by countries in Paris, in 2015, to strive to hold global temperatures to no higher than 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels by the end of the century and definitely below 2°C. Despite countries unanimously agreeing that humanity will collectively bear a huge price if these limits are breached, and nearly all major economies framing grand national plans to show how they are doing 'their bit', the science says that instead of being cut 8% annually, emissions have grown 1.2% from 2021-22. At this rate, the world will warm 2.5-3°C by the end of the century. There have already been 86 instances just this year of global temperatures breaching the dreaded 1.5°C threshold.

In the nearly three decades of COP meetings, the major economies have agreed on three broad principles. Countries that rapidly industrialised in the 20th century have disproportionately emitted more carbon than their 'fair share' given the population sustained. Economic growth premised on fossil fuel consumption, while cheaper per unit than renewable energy, spells disaster. And developing countries and those with minimal industrial infrastructure today must be compensated for adopting costlier, but cleaner, non-fossil fuel sources for growing their economies. There is also a consensus that the countries already weathering climate disasters must be compensated and also paid to bolster their infrastructure. However, getting all countries to actually act on these principles is onerous given the mutual suspicion, the spirit of de-globalisation, and the fear of political reprisal that heads of governments face within their constituencies. These themes are expected to play out this year too. Two major issues are expected to take the stage: the conclusion of the Global Stocktake and the operationalisation of the Loss and Damage Fund. However, there is no clarity on the size of the fund and the individual contributions by countries. While COPs, by nature, are self-congratulatory when all they deliver are agreements with elaborate caveats, COP28 must strive to live up to its declared goal of being a conclave that compels its signatories to take definitive action.

The Hindu



# Electoral Déjà Vu

Defeat in the upcoming state polls may not necessarily impact the BJP's 2024 prospects, as 2019 electoral pattern points out

RIYAZ WANI

“ Losses in a majority of these states, as seems likely, could further affect the BJP's 2024 chances. But at the same time, not necessarily so. As the record of the past over nine years shows, the reverses at regional level haven't dented the BJP's national popularity. 2019 could very well play out again

In the run up to the 2019 parliamentary election, Congress put up a stiff resistance to the BJP. Towards the end of 2018, the party won Assembly elections in Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. As a result, the saffron party didn't appear to be a favourite to win the general election. Most optimistic prediction was that the BJP would return with a reduced tally, forcing it to stitch together a weak coalition government, a throwback to the one run by Atal Bihari Vajpayee. from 2002-2007.

But the Pulwama attack on February 14, 2019 that killed 40 CRPF personnel changed everything. The subsequent military strike on Balakot by the Indian air force that followed soon after followed by the dog-fight hurled the BJP back to the centre stage. The party swept to victory in the general election held in May that year.

As India heads into five state elections, one can't help but feel a deep sense of déjà vu. Congress once again looks favourite to win in the majority of them except in Rajasthan. Should the results play out as expected, the BJP would once again find itself in a difficult spot, a la December 2018. But many people believe that the party could still pull it off in the national polls. And it could very well do it.

The reasons are not far to seek. Despite almost a decade in power, the party has skillfully evaded significant anti-incumbency backlash. Understanding this phenomenon could serve as a masterclass in electoral politics. True, media has played a major role in burnishing the BJP's image by zealously protecting it from all criticism, there are other factors at work. On the face of it, Hindutva, the party's ideology, seems to trump everything. It kills all political competition without even a fight. In fact, there is no alternative political ideology in the country at the moment. The

opposition no longer sees secularism as an electorally beneficial proposition and would rather buy into the Hindutva narrative as it resonates with the majority of the people. Congress has been the first to abandon its ideological space. It doesn't champion secularism, nor does it dare to woo Muslims, once its loyal vote bank. The reason for this is that, under the existing circumstances, the party sees secularism as its bane. In 2018, the UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi said that the BJP was winning the polls as it had managed to convince the people that the Congress is a Muslim party.

Similarly, Arvind Kejriwal, once a proponent of the so called post-ideological politics in the country, has chosen to rebrand himself as a Hindu leader. In 2020, he observed Laxmi Puja on Diwali together with his entire Council of Ministers, with his spouse by his side. Kejriwal was also the first to support revocation of Article 370. He didn't speak against the Citizenship Amendment Act. And as the AAP, Kejriwal's party, expands its footprint and looks set to step into the position of a national opposition party, his nods to the BJP's ideological vision have become more conspicuous.

Is there now a tacit consensus on Hindutva in the country? It does appear so. And this makes the BJP even stronger as the party remains the sole authentic purveyor of the ideology. And no matter how much other parties hew closer to the BJP creed, they will always be seen as counterfeit, opportunistic copies of the original.

Another existing political reality of the country that goes to the advantage of the BJP is the extinction of the parties adhering to socialist and communist philosophies. These parties were doggedly secular in their politics and had a national vision. Other than in Kerala, where communists run the

government, they are no longer a political force anywhere else in the country. They are not even the distant opposition in West Bengal, a former communist stronghold. So, the BJP has faced little political resistance during its tenure.

The saffron party offers a deft blend of a hardcore ideology and welfare governance. It has Modi as its overarching leader. And considering its electoral machinery, it has become all-encompassing. So, it would seem that the party has nothing to fear.

But the advent of the INDIA Alliance and with it the revival of caste politics is seen as a challenge to the saffron party. The alliance represents a diverse array of regional and national parties, which have historically been rivals but have set aside their differences for a common cause: to address the pressing issues affecting the country and challenge the BJP's nationalist platform. Other than the Congress, it boasts of some major regional parties and the leaders who command massive public following. Already, the opposition's wins in Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Karnataka have put some wind in the sails of political resistance to the BJP. And it is in this context that the upcoming state polls assume their significance. Losses in a majority of these states, as seems likely, could further affect the BJP's 2024 chances. But at the same time, not necessarily so. As the record of the past over nine years shows, the reverses at regional level haven't dented the BJP's national popularity. 2019 could very well play out again.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. The author is the Political Editor at Kashmir Observer



OBSERVER MAIL

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

MAIL YOUR LETTERS  
P.O. Box # 337, GPO, Srinagar-190 001  
email: editpage.ko@gmail.com

## Out of the Tunnel

Prayers of the entire nation towards rescuing the 41 workers trapped inside the Silkyara tunnel in Uttarkashi bore fruit after a 17-day ordeal. The mission that has been accomplished successfully, is a triumph of human labour over machinery as the rat-hole mining experts managed to manually break through the final 12 meters of rubble, using only hand

drills and pulleys. This extensive and challenging rescue work, spanning over 400 hours, showcases the resoluteness and determination of the rescuers and the indomitable spirit of the trapped workers. It also highlights the might of our nation and the combined spirit of its people to stand united in the face of any adversity, and we can go great strengths when it comes to the well-being of our people.

But as we watched on television the hardship and struggle over the operations, questions emerged as to whether the mountainous area in Uttarakhand can really withstand the level of this kind of heavy tunnelling work. Nevertheless, the Uttarkhand tunnel rescue operation stands as a testament to human resilience, teamwork and the relentless spirit of those involved. It is a story of overcoming

extreme hardship, with every setback met with increased determination, ultimately leading to a successful rescue that brought huge relief and bliss to the entire nation. The rescue team and the snared workers are our real heroes, and not the cricketers and film stars.

Sivakumar Kumar



Mindful Fridays

# EMOTIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

## Navigating Life's Rollercoaster With "RULER" Technique

Wasim Kakroo

Emotions, the intricate tapestry that colors our daily experiences, are a fundamental aspect of the human condition. From the joyful highs to the melancholic lows, our emotional landscape is a dynamic and ever-changing terrain. While it's undeniable that external factors play a significant role in shaping our emotional responses, it is crucial to recognize that, ultimately, our emotionality is our responsibility. In this article, we will delve into the multifaceted influences that mold our emotional selves, ranging from genetics and parenting to schooling, friendships, and childhood traumas. Additionally, we'll discuss the importance of the RULER technique, a framework designed to help individuals understand and manage their emotions effectively.

### I. GENETIC FOUNDATIONS:

The journey of emotional responsibility embarks with a profound acknowledgment of the role genetics plays in sculpting our emotional predispositions. Extensive scientific research underscores the significant influence of genetic factors on fundamental traits like temperament and emotional reactivity. These genetic underpinnings lay the groundwork for our emotional experiences, establishing a baseline upon which our responses are built. However, crucially, our genetic makeup does not dictate an unchallengeable emotional destiny.

In realizing the impact of genetics on our emotional framework, we empower ourselves to navigate our feelings with a nuanced understanding. This recognition serves as the initial stride towards emotional responsibility, as it prompts a conscious awareness that while genetics may provide a starting point, our responses are subject to modification and self-directed evolution. By comprehending this genetic component, we open the door to intentional emotional growth, fostering an environment where we can actively shape and guide our emotional responses, transcending the constraints of inherited predispositions. In essence, acknowledging the genetic facet of our emotional landscape is the inaugural step towards a journey of self-awareness and accountable emotional stewardship.

### II. PARENTING STYLES AND HOUSEHOLD ATMOSPHERE:

Childhood lays the foundation for emotional development, a crucial period where parenting styles and household atmospheres leave indelible imprints on a child's emotional landscape. Authoritative parenting, characterized by warmth and guidance, fosters emotional resilience and a healthy sense of autonomy. In contrast, permissive parenting may result in a lack of structure, potentially hindering emotional regulation. Neglectful parenting, marked by emotional detachment, can leave children navigating emotional complexities with-

out proper support, while authoritarian parenting, with its strict control, may give rise to anxiety and fear.

The emotional climate within the household plays a pivotal role in shaping a child's worldview. A nurturing environment cultivates emotional well-being, enabling a child to form secure attachments and navigate challenges confidently. Conversely, a hostile atmosphere may sow the seeds of maladaptive emotional patterns, hindering the development of healthy coping mechanisms. Taking responsibility for our emotions involves introspection, recognizing the impact of early experiences, and actively engaging in efforts to reshape negative imprints. By doing so, individuals can break free from the constraints of past influences and embark on a journey toward emotional well-being and self-discovery.

### III. SCHOOLING AND PEER RELATIONSHIPS:

The educational environment plays a pivotal role in sculpting our emotional landscape, extending beyond its primary function of knowledge transmission. Schools serve as microcosms of society, providing a rich social context where friendships bloom, social skills germinate, and emotional intelligence blossoms. Positive peer relationships become integral contributors to emotional well-being, fostering a sense of belonging and support. Conversely, instances of bullying or social exclusion wield a profound impact, etching lasting scars on the emotional canvas.

Embracing emotional responsibility necessitates a keen awareness of the enduring influence of school experiences. Recognizing the significance of these formative years, individuals are empowered to actively shape their emotional responses. Cultivating healthy social connections within the educational milieu becomes a cornerstone of this responsibility. By fostering empathy, communication, and resilience in the face of challenges, individuals not only navigate the complexities of school life more adeptly but also lay the groundwork for a robust emotional foundation that extends into adulthood. In this crucible of learning and social interaction, the seeds of emotional responsibility find fertile ground to flourish.

### IV. TRAUMA AND RESILIENCE:

Traumatic experiences, especially those weathered during childhood, wield a profound and enduring influence over emotional responses. Whether arising from physical, emotional, or psychological sources, the repercussions of such trauma can reverberate into adulthood, shaping how individuals perceive and react to the world around them. However, a crucial facet of emotional responsibility lies in resisting the tyranny of past traumas over present emotional reactions.

Taking responsibility involves a pro-



6 WHILE IT'S UNDENIABLE THAT EXTERNAL FACTORS PLAY A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN SHAPING OUR EMOTIONAL RESPONSES, it is crucial to recognize that, ultimately, our emotionality is our responsibility. In this article, we will delve into the multifaceted influences that mold our emotional selves, ranging from genetics and parenting to schooling, friendships, and childhood traumas

active engagement with one's emotional well-being, transcending the constraints imposed by past wounds. Seeking therapeutic support from a trained clinical psychologist serves as a beacon, providing a safe space to explore and understand the impact of trauma. Concurrently, practicing self-compassion becomes a vital tool, fostering a gentleness towards oneself in the process of healing. Furthermore, nurturing resilience emerges as an essential stride, empowering individuals to not merely survive but thrive beyond the shadows of their traumatic past. In this journey towards emotional autonomy, the recognition that one has the agency to shape their emotional responses becomes a beacon of hope, guiding individuals toward a future unburdened by the echoes of past trauma.

### V. THE RULER TECHNIQUE:

Developed by Marc Brackett and his colleagues at the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, the RULER technique provides a structured approach to understanding and managing emotions:

1. **RECOGNIZE:** The first facet of the RULER technique, "Recognize," is the foundation for emotional intelligence. It requires individuals to conscientiously acknowledge and identify their emotions. This involves a heightened self-awareness, a

deliberate effort to discern the subtle nuances of one's emotional state—whether it be joy, sadness, anger, fear, or surprise. Recognizing emotions goes beyond superficial acknowledgment; it entails delving into the intricate tapestry of feelings, understanding the triggers and contexts that give rise to each emotional response. This initial step lays the groundwork for a more profound emotional understanding, setting the stage for the subsequent components of the RULER technique. By developing the skill to recognize emotions accurately, individuals gain a crucial insight into their inner world, fostering the ability to navigate and manage their emotional responses effectively.

2. **UNDERSTAND:** The second step of the RULER technique is "Understand," urging individuals to delve into the intricacies of their emotions. This involves a reflective exploration into the origins and catalysts behind specific emotional responses. By questioning what triggers a particular emotion and examining its connection to past experiences or current circumstances, individuals gain profound insights into the roots of their feelings. Understanding is not just about surface-level recognition but

entails a deeper, more nuanced comprehension of the emotional landscape. This step encourages a mindful examination of the context, fostering self-awareness and allowing individuals to make informed decisions about how to navigate and respond to their emotions effectively. In essence, "Understand" serves as a crucial bridge between raw emotional experiences and the thoughtful comprehension that is vital for emotional intelligence and well-being.

3. **LABEL:** The third step in the RULER technique is "Label," where individuals are encouraged to articulate and name their emotions. This seemingly straightforward act holds profound significance in emotional intelligence. By assigning a name to one's feelings, whether it be joy, frustration, or sadness, individuals gain clarity about their emotional state. This clarity, in turn, facilitates better internal understanding and communication. When emotions are labeled, they become more tangible and manageable, allowing individuals to navigate their internal landscapes with increased self-awareness. Moreover, the act of labeling provides a foundation for effective communication with others, as it al-

lows individuals to express their emotions more precisely, fostering empathy and understanding in interpersonal relationships. In essence, the "Label" step serves as a linguistic bridge connecting the intricate realm of emotions to the conscious mind and the world beyond.

4. **EXPRESS:** The fourth element of the RULER technique is "Express." This facet encourages individuals to find constructive outlets for the articulation of their emotions. Recognizing that emotions are a fundamental aspect of the human experience, the Express component emphasizes the importance of externalizing these feelings. Whether through the written word in journaling, the creative expression found in art, or the spoken language of verbal communication, this step serves as a pivotal tool in processing and comprehending emotions. By encouraging individuals to articulate their feelings through various mediums, the Express aspect of RULER promotes self-awareness and introspection. It enables individuals to navigate the intricate terrain of their emotions, fostering a deeper understanding of their inner selves and facilitating effective communication with others.

5. **REGULATE:** The culminating aspect of the RULER technique, "Regulate," marks the pinnacle of emotional intelligence mastery. This phase underscores the imperative need to navigate and govern intense emotions effectively. It invites individuals to cultivate a repertoire of personalized strategies tailored to their emotional landscape. Whether through the practice of mindfulness, fostering a conscious awareness of the present moment, employing deep breathing techniques to restore equilibrium, or seeking support from trusted confidants, the art of regulation becomes paramount. This step transcends the mere acknowledgment and understanding of emotions, urging individuals to actively influence and modulate their emotional responses. By embracing diverse regulatory mechanisms, individuals empower themselves to navigate the complexities of their emotional terrain, fostering resilience and equilibrium even in the face of turbulent emotional storms.

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

## Overwhelmed? End the Year Without Burning Yourself Out

Homaira Kabir

As we're approaching the end of the year, you may be feeling that you need to run faster to stay in the game. There may be deadlines on projects, parties to organize and attend, gifts to buy for family and friends, and, if you're a mother, also keeping up with your children's end-of-year activities...

If you think the only way to manage it all is to keep doing one thing after the other, I want to remind you that unless you put some extra focus on looking after yourself, you'll start the new year feeling exhausted, depleted, and ill-equipped to pursue any goals or resolutions you make.

You may need some help in ways to truly look after yourself, given the messages we receive are from an over-trillion-dollar self-care and wellness industry that has left us feeling just as exhausted and depleted as ever.

In fact, women often tell me that weekly massages and scented candles have started to feel like one more item on an already overfilled to-do list that adds to their stress and makes them feel like a failure when they don't find time for them. Or they feel wrong or weird for not finding joy in them.

I'm going to share a couple of things for you to keep in mind as you prepare your own self-care protocol that nourishes you and helps you thrive, even in the busiest times.

### 1. KNOW YOUR SOURCES OF ENERGY.

Research on optimal human performance shows that energy isn't just what you put into your body; it's also what you put into your mind and soul. If you're always telling yourself that this is too hard or that no one ever supports you, or if you consider fun and playful activities to be frivolous, especially when there's so much to do, then you'll find it really hard to deal with what you're facing.

- ▶ It will feel like pushing a boulder up a mountain. Make it easy for yourself by fueling yourself at all levels:
- ▶ How will you take care of your physical energy? What are your nonnegotiables regarding sleep or exercise? Which foods energize you and which ones don't work so well?
- ▶ How will you take care of your emotional energy? What things will you stop saying to yourself, and what will you say more of? As they say, garbage in, garbage out.



- ▶ How will you take care of your mental energy? What new tasks or chores will you say no to, and what will you delegate, defer, or drop from what's already on your plate?
- ▶ How will you take care of your spiritual energy? What are some things that make you feel alive and connected to something more than just your to-do list?

### 2. SET INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL BOUNDARIES.

Once you know what fuels you and what leaves you flat-out tired and exhausted, it's time to set some boundaries.

For example, if you know that scrolling through your social media feeds at night is like entering a black hole that leaves you feeling grumpy in the morning, a boundary with yourself could look something like this: What time will you go to bed to wake up feeling refreshed, and how will you

make sure you stick to your intentions? You may want to leave your phone in the bathroom when you go to brush your teeth. Or create a soothing bedtime routine that helps you fall asleep faster.

You'll also need to set boundaries with others. For example: "I wouldn't be able to take on any new projects unless we delegate one of them to someone else." "I would like you to do the dishes at night because it's the only time I get to go out for a walk."

But implementing the boundary isn't enough—you'll also need to make sure you maintain it because your overworked boss may still try to add the project to your plate. Or your partner or child may still try to

get out of doing the dishes or may genuinely forget. It's on you to gently remind them again and to thank them when they remember so it reinforces the new behavior.

### 3. CREATE A SELF-CARE PROTOCOL.

Given your unique preferences and situation, it's time to create a daily structure that will fuel all levels of your energy. I find that when times are busy, stressful, or chaotic, the greatest control you have is over your morning and evening routine. What will you do in those moments to recharge or get yourself ready for a great day?

During the day, what are some reminders you'll set yourself to not let the tasks and chores weigh you down? For example, you may change your screensaver to something motivating or put a sticky note on your laptop that says: "Good enough IS good enough!"

Remember, you will get through this; the question is not if but how. The structures you put in place now to nourish and restore yourself can become lifelong habits that help you engage with every moment with joy and rise to your challenges when the going gets tough.

*- Psychology Today*



## Centre Steps

availability throughout the year. He said in today's digital era, modern tools and software enable power transfer and management in an automated manner without requiring any human intervention, depending upon the demand, availability, and of course the network feasibility.

"In this direction, during the current financial year, the UT has entered into historic Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) for 1600 MW of Solar power, 900 MW from Hydro, and an additional 500 MW from thermal plants, currently in progress following the decision of the UT Administrative Council under the Shakti policy," he said.

"This will not only lead towards resource adequacy for the region, but will also provide an optimal mix of Hydro, Thermal, Solar generation, while the efforts are underway to harness wind power as well so that the strength behind renewable energy is utilized to the maximum," he added.

Addressing concerns raised in a recent news item published in one of the local news dailies on Thursday highlighting a surge in interruptions in J&K, the spokesperson reiterated that a persistent issue contributing to these interruptions is the non-disclosure of actual electric load by consumers.

Regarding the hours of power supply to consumers, he conveyed that smart metering is under implementation in mission mode and focus is on ensuring uninterrupted and regular power supply in areas saturated with smart meters, while also curbing losses.

"In areas without smart metering, the department is sustaining the same number of power supply hours as maintained during the previous year. Moreover, there is a curtailment schedule in effect which is diligently being published to prevent any inconvenience to the public," the spokesperson said.

He further emphasized that contrary to the mention of Hammams in the news item, electricity remains the primary and preferred source for heating, with people using crude nichrome wires or non-thermostat fitted heaters which remain operational throughout the day.

Recognizing the urgency, the spokesman emphasized on discontinuing the use of obsolete and environmentally unfriendly electric heating systems. He also mentioned that numerous crude heaters which have been banned by the department were recovered by the enforcement squads of KPDCIL in the recently conducted inspection drives.

"In addition to maintaining reliable power supply amidst extreme weather conditions, the Power Development Department (PDD) is proactively engaged in eradicating instances of illegal hooking. In the last seven days itself, inspection teams of KPDCIL have conducted 7585 number of inspections in different districts of Kashmir region and imposed a fine of Rs.68 Lakhs on the defaulters," the spokesperson said.

## Small Scale Industries

have suffered productivity losses worth crores.

The unscheduled power cuts ranging from 4 to 8 hours a day have badly affected the houseboat industry in Dal Lake which is one of the iconic tourist attractions in Srinagar.

"We are tirelessly working to promote the tourism sector in order to draw more and more tourists to Kashmir, but how could a tourist stay on a houseboat in the middle of a very cold climate? Unfortunately, our objective has been severely hampered by the escalating power issues," Manzoor Pakhtoon, President Houseboat Owners Association, told Kashmir Observer.

We promise visitors with contemporary amenities, but when they arrive, they tremble from the cold and feel frightened by the complete darkness. This is what a houseboat owner has been dealing with for more than a month, he added.

Although tourists visit other well-known tourist destinations in Kashmir in addition to Dal Lake, the HBOA president said it is challenging to figure out the exact number of visitors who visited Kashmir up until the end of this month.

The administration, he claimed, continues to boast about the growth in tourism in Kashmir, but in reality, tourists tend to shorten or postpone their trips amid worsening power crises.

Revealing the specific number of tourists may not be possible, he said, as houseboats in Srinagar's Nigeen Lake and Jhelum River also carry tourists, and guest houses also accommodate a sizable number of visitors during the high season.

"I can state with authority that power outages have had a major negative influence on our clients in the houseboat sector. Since the valley started to experience power outages, there have been reports of tourists cancelling their trips to Kashmir," Pakhtoon said, adding our associate travel agents keep cancelling the scheduled trips to Kashmir citing extreme power crises.

Besides Dal Lake, Pakhtoon said, other popular tourist spots including Gulmarg, Sonmarg, and Pahalgam have also been impacted by the situation brought on by the worsening power crises.

He, however, hoped that the electricity situation in Kashmir will improve before the two important events, Christmas and New Year's, adding that if the administration does not make coordinated efforts in this respect, the situation would worsen.

"Visitors never come alone as they are accompanied by their families, including kids. They feel better when the houseboat has all the facilities they need, such as internet, heating and entertainment. And all this is possible when there will be a consistent power supply," he said.

Farooq Ahmad Kathoo, president Travel Agents Association of Kashmir (TAAK), claimed that spontaneous power outages have had a detrimental effect on the tourism industry in the region and that the visitors who had made reservations in advance have begun to cancel their planned trips to Kashmir.

"Tourists visiting Kashmir belong to tropical areas where the occasional high is above 45 degrees Celsius, how are they going to survive the bitter cold here? Is it possible for them to endure below freezing temperatures? If there had been a sufficient supply of electricity for both commercial and domestic users, the circumstances would have been different," Kathoo told Kashmir Observer.

The government should at least learn from the past experiences, he said, since the lack of necessary facilities for customers during their stay negatively affects the business.

Speaking to Kashmir Observer, President Small Scale Industries Association of Kashmir, Fazal Illahi, said the unscheduled power cuts, ranging between two to three hours a day, have cost the unit holders crores of rupees.

It has become difficult for the unit holders to manage the 800 personnel that work at various units, according to Illahi. He said in addition to machinery break-down, unit holders also lose 20% of their earnings every hour in absence of electricity.

"Would a typical firm be able to pay its employees' wages under these conditions? When the Industrial Estate's electricity is cut off, the unit holders incur 20 percent losses per hour," he said, adding that the machinery breaks down and the production is hampered.

In addition to the problems with electricity, the increased power tariffs, Illahi claimed, has broken the back of the small-scale industrialists in Kashmir.

"We would like to know how we could increase our production and create jobs in this situation. The Industrial Estate Baghi-Ali Mardan Khan has been facing annoying power outages that last between two and three hours every day," Illahi added.

He said the administration, especially KPDCIL, is duty bound to provide round the clock electricity to the industrial estate, as the 107 unit holders pay monthly electricity bills on time.

"We suffer because the Industrial Estate has seen significant losses in productivity and output as a result of the unplanned power outages. Our workers and machines break down, and we are unable to manufacture stuff as a result of the unscheduled power cuts," he added.

## Rain, Snow

temperature rose significantly at several places in the Valley with Gulmarg being the only weather station where the Mercury settled below the freezing point on Wednesday night.

The minimum temperature in Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, was 5.3 degrees Celsius while Qazigund recorded a low of 5 degrees Celsius. Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district recorded a low of 1.5 degrees Celsius while the mercury in Gulmarg settled at minus 1 degree Celsius.

High altitude areas of Jammu region, particularly Kishtwar, Doda, Ramban, Reasi, Poonch, Rajouri and Kathua district, witnessed snowfall. Rains lashed Jammu city since Wednesday evening, intensifying the cold, they said.

Snowfall Closes Mughal Road Officials said on Thursday that the Mughal road, which connects Shopian in the Kashmir Valley to Poonch of Jammu region, was closed for vehicular traffic following fresh snowfall in the high-altitude areas of the region.

The three-week dry spell in Kashmir ended on Thursday with snowfall in the higher reaches of the Valley and rains in the plains. Most of the hills in various districts in the Jammu region also received fresh snowfall while the rains lashed Jammu city.

The Mughal road has been blocked due to heavy snowfall in high-altitude areas between Poshana and Pir ki Gali area, officials said, adding no vehicle will be allowed to move towards the Valley from Poonch and Rajouri till the weather clears up.

## SM Posts Promoting

to bring a law on the posting of any type of content message, video, audio which will instigate communal disharmony and terrorise or threaten anyone.

"Whether they are terrorists, separatists, or anti-national elements, posting such messages and videos will be a crime as per the law," Swain told reporters in Jammu.

The DGP said before the law is enacted it will be placed in the public domain for feedback.

He added that those forwarding and sharing such content will also face legal consequences. Swain urged people to report such content to the nearest police station.

"People who post videos, including those aimed to harm the respect of the Prophet (Muhammad), and those who forward it will be committing a crime," he stated.

"We will index such people, ensuring they face disadvantages for having done such a thing," Swain said.

Highlighting the "disruptive impact" of such content, the DGP said it causes "fear" that leads to the closure of colleges and schools.

Swain said that Pakistani social media handles generate and post content that are "shared by some elements locally to create trouble and harm peace".

He said that the police would work with the people of Kashmir to "isolate such miscreants".

## Says Conspiracy

conspiracy or a collusion with certain elements to further increase the circle of violence -- is something which will be a matter of investigation," Swain told reporters.

He further said, "It can be found out, the communication can be traced, discussions and meetings can be investigated -- if it has happened backdoor -- to forward it."

Swain was replying to a question about statements by various political leaders, including People's Democratic Party (PDP) chief Mehbooba Mufti.

He also spoke on the protests that erupted at NIT-Srinagar on Tuesday over a student's alleged social media post that hurt religious sentiments. The protesters demanded stringent action against the non-local student, who has since been sent home on leave.

"All I can say is that the wheels of law will operate in the sense that if the particular action has been done deliberately with the malicious intent to further a certain falsehood and (whether) that falsehood leads to loss of life, property, further violence and attacks on individual citizens, fear, terror and intimidation, the law itself makes it very clear that they will be held responsible," Swain said.

The Jammu and Kashmir Police chief pointed out that the correlation between statements and violence has been established in some National Investigation Agency (NIA) cases and the court accepted it.

"I clearly remember in one of the NIA cases, the honourable judge accepted this as evidence," he said.

Referring to freedom of expression in such situations, Swain said public figures have to see whether there is truth in it when making the statements.

"There are many nuisance statements. Even if it is true, but the statements have the potential to deteriorate the situation and create an environment for violation or increase violence, there should be reasonable restraint as per law. The aim is to stop violence," he said.

He said those who make innocent remarks about a particular situation as a viewpoint are different and that will not be part of any police investigation.

Swain said, "We want to make it clear between freedom of expression and right to dissent -- statements based on falsehoods and half-truths and out of context or designed to further violence will not fall in that category. We will make a distinction with the powerful tools of investigation and intelligence that we have."

The Union Territory's police chief also appealed to the public to maintain calm and not get misled by those trying to foment trouble.

The police will also ensure respect for all religions and protect the dignity of the majority community in the Valley, Swain said on the NIT-Srinagar incident and assured action against the accused.

He further said the police will ensure law and order prevails in the Valley.

"Some are out to trigger trouble. We will request people to be vigilant about them. Communal harmony has been a hallmark of Kashmir," he said.

Swain claimed a conspiracy is being hatched to derail peace and the public should be alert, adding no protests on the roads will be allowed.

## 'Pak Handlers

identified some individuals and are in process to identify more," the official said. Notably, following the massive protest, the administration had to announce the winter vacation for NIT and asked the students to vacate the hostels with immediate effect. The police official said an attempt is being made from the handlers based in Pakistan to disturb law and order and the toolkit is operating across the border.

"A number of fake X handles have been created from the past few days and continuously post anti-national content on social media following the incident in NIT. But we are closely monitoring them and the investigation is going on," the official said.

These handles, he said, have been created after October 23.

The cyber police requested people to be responsible and appropriately use social media and restrict from using "unlawful content".

"We will take strict action against those people who are trying to disrupt peace in the city," the official said. The official further said they have

registered a separate FIR against the individuals who posted "hateful content" against the girl in the NIT incident.

"We have received a complaint from the family of the girl and have registered an FIR. We will take action against those who posted pictures of the girl and dragged her into the incident," the official said.

## Have Embarked

transformed as a "Paradise on Earth," he said.

Sharing the key initiatives of his administration to ensure ease of living for citizens, the LG said that the acceleration of J&K's all-round development and the empowerment of the common man are benefiting all sections of society.

"Our focus is not just faster but also inclusive and sustainable growth. We are laying the foundation of industrialization and modern agriculture & allied sectors to create new opportunities for youth, farmers and women," he said, adding that the UT administration is determined to create fear-free and terrorism-free J&K.

He said the administration has been successful in dismantling the ecosystem of conflict profiteers, terrorists, secessionists, and terrorism is now breathing its last breath.

Senior officers of Civil and Police Administration, senior journalists, prominent personalities from different walks of life, and people in large numbers were present.

## Launches New

of accurate and correct information," he said.

He also bid farewell to the outgoing Chief Secretary Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta and applauded his sincerity, dedication and commitment to discharge his responsibilities without fear or favour.

"I wish him a long, happy and healthy life ahead," Sinha said.

The LG expressed gratitude to the Haryana Government for its support and cooperation in developing the new Portal.

Perna Puri, Commissioner Secretary to Government, Information Department highlighted the key features of the portal. She informed that the new "Subscribe to Press Release" feature also enables the general public to subscribe to press releases and get notified on their mobile phones. She said the integration of the Rebuttal Mechanism will help to counter fake/false news on a real time basis.

Outgoing CS Dr Arun Kumar Mehta; Additional Chief Secretaries, Administrative Secretaries and senior officials of Civil and Police Administration

were present.

## Colleges In Valley

impressed upon all the Principals of Government Degree Colleges of Kashmir Division that classes will be conducted via online mode from December-01-2023 till December-31-2023 or till winter vacations are announced, whichever is earlier."

"Further, the Principals of Govt. Degree Colleges of Kashmir Division are directed to ensure that the faculty will attend their respective colleges regularly and take their classes online from the colleges in order to complete the syllabus as per academic calendar," the official said.

It also said that all internal examinations and semester-end examinations will be conducted as per notified schedule of universities or institutions.

## ED Conducts Raids

an application to the Secretary Cooperatives, Administration Department of Co-operative Societies, where he sought directions to the J-K Co-operative Bank Ltd for a grant of financial assistance to the tune of Rs 300 crores for taking over possession of 37.5 acres of land in the outskirts of Srinagar for construction of a satellite township.

The application was endorsed to the Registrar of Cooperative Societies Jammu and Kashmir for taking up the matter with J-K State Cooperative Bank.

Accordingly, the J-K Co-operative Bank in Srinagar sanctioned a loan to the tune of Rs 223 crores without adhering to any codal formalities, that is obtaining the details of the society such as balance sheet, profit and loss, account business, activities being done by the society, PAN number, Income Tax return, details of Construction of the Board Resolutions.

The inquiry revealed that River Jhelum Cooperative House Building Society has not been even registered with Registrar Co-operative Societies, Jammu and Kashmir, and Mir by acting in league with Dar and others had prepared a fake and fictitious registration certificate in the name of the society and managed the sanction of loan.

The loan amount was disbursed into the accounts of the land owners but the land has not been mortgaged to the bank.

Further, an investigation conducted by the ACB has been successful in unearthing the siphoned-off funds to the tune of Rs 223 crore and an amount to the tune of Rs 187 crore has been frozen by the bureau.

## CBI Files Charges

behalf of Farooq Dar who was then posted as Special Secretary, Agriculture and Production Department in Jammu and Kashmir government.

The bribe was allegedly demanded from the complainant for his posting and to resolve his departmental issues, including promotion, a CBI Spokesperson said in a statement.

"It was found during investigation that the private person (Supplier/Contractor of Agriculture & Production Department) (Gohar) allegedly acted as a middleman for collection of bribe. It was also alleged that official information pertaining to transfer/posting of Complainant was being passed on by the Special Secretary (Dar) to the middleman who further passed on the same to Chief Horticulture Officer (CHO), Jammu (Singh)," the spokesperson said.

The CBI said Dar allegedly initiated the proposal for transfer of the complainant and allegedly recommended his name initially for CHO, Doda, and later for CHO, Rajouri, in "gross disregard" of the recommendation of inquiry officer, according to which, the complainant could not be posted to any sensitive post.

## Terrorist Killed

approached towards the suspected spot, the hiding militants fired upon them, which was retaliated, triggering an encounter. (KNO)

## Teenager Kidnapped,

Police parties immediately fanned out in the area and found out that Raghav had not reached the computer training centre at Janipur, they said.

An FIR was registered in connection with the incident and police through human and technical intelligence were able to zero in on the kidnapper.

The kidnapper was nabbed at his rented accommodation at Patoli, they said.

Raghav's body was recovered from a jungle area with no habitation adjoining Raipur Khari-Jagti link road, they said.

The victim's mobile phone was recovered from his possession. The accused was alone in the crime, they said.

The accused admitted to killing Raghav by smashing his head with a stone. He said they knew each other for the past 4-5 years, officials said.

Police have shifted the deceased's body to Jammu's GMC Hospital for post-mortem. Further investigation is on to unravel the circumstances leading to the crime, officials said.

## 2 Terror Associates

taken up, the officials said, adding more arrests and recoveries are expected in the case.

**Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir**  
**Office Of The Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal**  
 NOTICE INVITING TENDERS  
 FRESH NIT No.98 of 2023-24/R&B Sumbal Division  
 (Single Cover System)

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following work:-

S.No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)	Time of Completion	M.H of Account	Class of Contractor
1	Construction of Foot Culvert at Parray Mohalla Hajin near H/O Ali Mohammad Parray.	2.55	200/-	5100/-	20-Days	14TH F.C	DEE

**Position of AAA: - Accorded**  
**Position of Funds: - Available**

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

S.No	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	Period of downloading of bidding documents	Bid Submission Start Date	Bid Submission End Date	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)
1		30.11.2023 from 1.00P.M	30.11.2023 from 1.00P.M	08.12.2023 upto 4.00 P.M.	09.12.2023 at 11.00 A.M in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal.

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in the shape of Treasury Receipt/e-Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal (The Date of Treasury Challan and CDR must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End Date. Any deviation shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.
- The successful Bidder has to produce Performance Security Deposit @3% of contract value in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG within 02 days after opening of Bids, which shall be released after successful completion of work with DLP. This will replace the EMD @ 2% of the Advertised cost uploaded by the Bidder.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal (tender receiving authority).
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the technical bid.

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

- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
- Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal (The date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date) pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The original Treasury Challan (cost of tender document), and other relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of contract.
- Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually.
- Price escalation and Taxes:- The %age quoted by the bidder shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.
- Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.
- In case of CRF and any other specified project, the relevant guidelines / standard bidding document shall be followed.
- Instructions to Bidder (ITB)
- All bidders shall upload the following information and documents along with qualification criteria / qualification information with their bids:-
- All bidders shall upload Copies of original documents defining constitution/ legal status, place of registration and principal place of Business with Cell No. and Correspondence address.
- Scanned copy of Registration Card with latest renewal on JKPWDOMS portal.
- All bidders shall upload Treasury Challan.
- All bidders shall upload CDR/FDR/BG @ 2% of advertised Cost pledged to opening authority.
- All bidders shall upload Valid Registration card front and renewal Side (Latest), Valid GSTIN No. & PAN No.
- All bidders shall upload Scanned Copy of GSTIN Registration and latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B i.e. latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B and read circular issued by finance deptt. Vide his No:-FD-CODE/371/2021-02, Dated:-24-02-2023
- The bidder at his own responsibility and risk should visit and examine the site of work and its surroundings before submission of bid.
- All documents relating to the bid shall be in the English Language.
- Bidder must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including tender documents fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid. No document (s) which has /have not been uploaded shall be entertained in the form of hard copy. However, in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.
- All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form) and detailed NIT issued.
- Treasury Challan should indicate tender document cost deposit in-between commencement date and end date of NIT. For the authentication of Treasury Challan it is mandatory to record on it either/any one among the following. Name of the work with S.No of NIT/Advt. Cost/NIT No and also address to tender inviting authority.
- For drawing of agreement of the contract and memorandum of an agreement relating to sake of bill of exchange one rupee for Rs.10,000/- or part thereof shall have to be realized/deposited by the Contractor at his own to revenue Head of Accts.0030/Stamps of Deputy Commissioner Stamps J&K UT. No. R&B/SB/23/4650-56.

DIPK-13073/23  
 Dated:-30-11-2023.

Sd./  
Camp Clerk

Sd./  
Draftsman TO

Sd./  
Executive Engineer  
R&B Division Sumbal



## PM Praises Jammu Sarpanch For Her Dedication

Observer News Service

**NEW DELHI:** The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi interacted with beneficiaries of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra via video conferencing on Thursday.

He also launched Pradhan Mantri Mahila Kisan Drone Kendra. During the program, the Prime Minister dedicated the landmark 10,000th Jan Aushadhi Kendra at AIIMS, Deogarh.

Further, Shri Modi also launched the program to increase the number of Jan Aushadhi Kendras in the country from 10,000 to 25,000.

The Prime Minister announced both these initiatives, providing drones to women SHGs and increasing the number of Jan Aushadhi Kendras from 10,000 to 25,000 during his Independence Day speech earlier this year. The program marks the fulfilment of these promises.

Balveer Kaur, Sarpanch of village Rangpur and a farmer from Arnia in Jammu district informed the Prime Minister that she has availed of the benefits of multiple government schemes namely Kisan Credit

Card scheme, Farm Machinery Bank Scheme and Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojna. She further added that her village is located near the border. Shri Modi congratulated her for being the owner of a tractor that was purchased using Kisan Credit Card.

The Prime Minister complimented her on having data of her area on her finger tips, she replied 'Aap se hi seekha hai grassroot par kaam karna. Kaam karti hoon aur bhoolti nahi hoon.' (I have learnt from you to work at the grassroot and not forget details of the work).

He emphasized the need to create awareness about attaining saturation of government schemes and suggested Kaur reach out to ten neighbouring villages and spread the word. The Prime Minister underlined the belief that all the benefits reach the last person standing in the queue.

Throwing light on the purpose of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, the Prime Minister said that it aims to learn from the experiences of the existing beneficiaries and also encompass those who have not yet availed the benefits.

## GI Tag Will Benefit Community, Boost Economic Growth: LG

Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Reiterating his administration's commitment to foster innovation and promote intangible assets like IPs and GIs for unique products of Union Territory, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Thursday said that 10 handloom & handicraft products and 5 products of Agriculture & Allied Sector have received GI tag and it will benefit community as well as boost Jammu and Kashmir's economic growth.

He was addressing a gathering on the inauguration of two-day National-Level Intellectual Property Rights conclave 'IP Yatra' here on Thursday.

In his address, the LG applauded the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises and PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry for their collective effort to create awareness about Intellectual Property Rights and its critical role in fostering innovation and economic growth.

"IP Yatra conclave will lead the way for MSMEs, innovators and Startups to effectively use the various instruments of Intellectual Property Rights such as GI tags, patents, trademarks, copyrights for protection and development of their trade and businesses," he said.

At the inaugural session,



Sinha reiterated the commitment of the J&K Administration to foster innovation and promote intangible assets like Intellectual Properties and Geographical Indications for unique products of the Union Territory.

He said as many as 10 products of handloom & handicraft and five products of Agriculture & Allied Sector have received GI tag and it will benefit community as well as boost the economic growth of Jammu Kashmir.

"I consider Intellectual Properties as a catalyst for the progress of J&K and we are developing a robust Research & Development and legal framework for its protection and IP

facilitation centre of the UT will provide handholding to entrepreneurs, MSMEs, Startups in filing IPRs and assist innovators in registration process," he added.

The LG impressed upon all stakeholders and young entrepreneurs to pay special attention for commercialization of intellectual property.

"We must nurture the growth of IPs to fully realize the potential and achieve the goal of Creative India, Innovative India," he said.

He also shared the key initiatives of the Universities and Higher Educational Institutions of the UT to promote innovation and startup culture in Jammu Kashmir.

## CS Office Bids Farewell To Outgoing Chief Secretary



Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** The office of the Chief Secretary, J&K on Thursday bade farewell to the outgoing Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta on his superannuation at the Civil Secretariat, Jammu.

Speaking on the occasion Dr Mehta recalled his tenure as the Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir and expressed his appreciation to the contribution and support provided by the staff of the office.

Dr. Mehta also acknowledged the contribution of the General Administration Department in

promoting coordination within the administrative team of Jammu and Kashmir. He urged upon all officers and support staff to feel proud on the success of their efforts in promoting transparency and efficiency in J&K.

On this occasion, the staff extended warm wishes on retirement filled with health and happiness.

The event was attended by the Special Secretary, Additional Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries, Under Secretaries, Private Secretaries besides other gazetted and non-gazetted staff of the twin sections of the Civil Secretariat here.

## Court Rejects Bail To Man For Creating Fake Govt Website

M Ahmad

**SRINAGAR:** A court in Srinagar on Thursday rejected the bail application of a person, accused alongwith others, of creating a fake website in the name of Health and Medical Education Department and uploading fake orders to deceive unemployed youth in J&K.

"Taking note of all the facts and high magnitude of the case and the fact that the investigation in the matter is at its initial stage, I opine, that if at all the accused is released on bail at this stage the same would frustrate the investigation as well as shake the confidence of general public in the judicial system," said Ms. Fozia Paul, City Magistrate Srinagar, while rejecting bail plea for the accused, Sajad Hussain Zargar of Hamdania Colony Bemina Srinagar.

"Keeping in view, the entire factual matrix and the material on record, the accused person at this stage is not entitled to the concession of bail and as such instant bail application is 'rejected'."

The court said that while fake orders referring to the Health and Medical Education Department have been created and uploaded on the website, "this being a scam wherein official website of Health and Medical Education Department has been cloned by the accused alongwith other persons who are still absconding and there-

by issuing fake appointment orders to innocent people who have become victims of this fraud, is a matter of serious concern."

In addition, the court said, it is a techno crime punishable under section 66 of IT Act which is a social economic offence quite rampant and pervasive social wrong doing.

"Undoubtedly, it is the most consequential threat to a nation's economy at large and law in particular," the court said, adding, "In the instant matter, the act of the accused person in connivance with other persons seems to be a well planned and cultivated act, which hampers the well being of a society since such crimes have the effect of alluring innocent people who fall victims into the hands of such fraudsters on the pretext of employment."

Sajad Hussain Zargar was arrested in connection with case (FIR No. 16/2023) of police Cyber Police Station Kashmir Zone Srinagar for offences u/s 66-D IT Act, 34, 120-B, 468 IPC, according to prosecution said.

The Police Station, the prosecution said, received a written communication from Deputy Secretary to the Government Health & Medical Education Department for registration of FIR for creation of a clone or fake commercial website with URL https://jk-gov.com in the name of Health and Medical Education Department by some unknown persons.

## Pledges To Change Destiny Of J&K In Amrit Kaal

Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Asserting that rapid development and performance of various sectors show the limitless potential of Union Territory, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Thursday that his administration is determined to transform this potential into reality to change the destiny of Jammu and Kashmir in Amrit Kaal.

"Speedier execution of programmes is providing a tremendous boost to J&K's economy, playing an important role in maintaining standards of transparency and accountability for an effective and efficient public delivery system," he said.

The LG was interacting with the citizens through virtual mode during "LG's Mulaqaat"- Live Public Grievance Hearing, at Civil Secretariat here on Thursday.

He also took note of the complaints filed by the citizens on JK-IGRAMS and directed for time-bound resolution of their grievances and necessary steps for improving implementation.

"The rapid development and per-

formance of various sectors show the limitless potential of Union Territory and we are determined to transform this potential into reality to change the destiny of J&K in Amrit Kaal," Sinha said.

Responding to the complaint of Pralad Singh, a resident of Attina, Budgam pertaining to the poor condition of a road in his locality, the LG directed the Deputy Commissioner Budgam to take appropriate measures to address the issue at the earliest.

On the grievance regarding the completion of the water supply project (Reservoir) in the Chandraseer Tilgam to Wanigam Payeen area, the Additional Chief Secretary, Jal Shakti Department briefed the LG that the work on the said water supply project will be completed by the end of December this year.

A complainant namely Vidyut Vats, a resident of Dhar Road, Udhampur drew the attention of the authorities towards the blocked drain at Goal Mela near Jagannath Temple.

Sinha directed the Deputy Commissioner Udhampur to ensure the clearance of the drain within 10 days.

## Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra Triumphs In Shopian's Keller Block

Observer News Service

**SHOPIAN:** Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY), a transformative initiative on Thursday celebrated the successful culmination of its journey in the far-off block Keller in Shopian.

The events across the block, which were held from 26 to 29 November, garnered an overwhelming response witnessing a total of 40, 847 enthusiastic participation of people from diverse walks of life across 22 panchayats. More than 4000 people shared feedback on government flagship schemes through Meri Kahani, Meri Zubaani.

Health Camps took center stage during the Yatra, with an impressive number of individuals undergoing screenings for prevalent health concerns including NCD and TB. A total of 4,622 people were screened for Tuberculosis, while 3,713 individuals were tested for sickle cell anemia, reflecting the commitment to holistic healthcare in the region.

In a bid to usher in advancements in agriculture, the events across the block showcased a remarkable drone demonstration for agricultural operations, emphasizing the transition towards smart and sustainable farming practices. This demonstration garnered significant attention, highlighting the potential for technology to revolutionize the agricultural landscape in Block Keller. 22 drone demonstrations were conducted.

## OFFICE OF THE ZONAL EDUCATION OFFICER DEVSAR

NO.ZEO/D/1957/2023 Date: 30-11-2023

Subject:- Tentative Selection List of AAY/Helper Ref: Directorate of Samagra Shiksha J&K EDU/SPD/SMS/ECCE/HELPERS/1861-1905/2023 Dated 06.06.2023

Whereas, Chief Education Officer Kulgam vide No. CEO/Kul/Smm/AAYA/23/2503-11 dated 20.06.2023 directed this office to engage/hire Helpers/AAYs, under Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), in 45 Schools of this Zone as per the guild lines/directions of the Directorate of Samagra Shiksha J&K's order No. 07 of Chirag 2023 dated 09.01.2023

1. Whereas Eligibility Criteria for selection of these post was notified that:  
8th Pass BPL Female Candidate domicile of concerned village/Ward with age between 18-45 year as on 01.01.2023  
a. Preference shall be given to BPL Candidates first case Widow then Divorced then Orphan by both parents, orphan by single parent then any candidate among the BPL category in the village/ward.  
b. In case of Tie-up, preference shall be given to the elder candidate.

2. Whereas, this office has accordingly invited the application form eligible desired candidates through a public Notice issued vide No. ZEO/D/4263/2023 dated 11.07.2023, in terms of Director Samagra order under reference, and has been given publicity as per guidelines through print Media and concerned HOIs.

3. Whereas the last date of submission of forms has been fixed as 25.07.2023

4. Whereas, in response, this office has received various application of candidates and undersigned framed a three (03) member committee vide this office Order No.ZEO/D/4378-82 /2023 dated 31.07.2023 for scrutinize the documents of applied candidates.

5. Whereas, undersigned has visited of nominated schools in consultation of concerned Sarpanch/ Municipal Ward have framed merit list of candidates of 3 Schools.

6. Accordingly, list has been perused by the undersigned and accordingly tentative list of eligible candidate figure at s.no. 01 as per merit/preference in pursuance to above reference order has been framed and is hereby issued as annexure "A" for these schools.

7. The tentative selection is subject to the verification of documents, if any documents submitted by the applicant found fake/ forged at any stage, her selection/engagement will be cancelled in abinitio. Moreover the selection is subject to outcome of any case pending in any Honourable court of law and clarification/verification at any stage, regarding the same.

8. If anybody feels, aggrieved with the tentative selection of Helpers/AAYA as given in annexure "A", an appeal shall be submitted in this office within seven days after publication of tentative list along with a valid reason supported with relevant documents, if any. No objection/appeal shall be entertained at this office; however He/she may prefer 1st appeal before the CEO (first appeal/ate authority) within 07 days from the date of selection/issuance of order.

All the remaining terms and condition shall remain same as mentioned in order under reference.

OFFICE OF THE ZONAL EDUCATION OFFICER DEVSAR

Subject:- Tentative List of Candidates provisionally Selected for AAYs/Helpers of Zone Devsar

S.no	Name of Candidate	Parentage	Residence/Ward	D.O.B	Age as on 01.01.2023	Qualification	Whether Widow / Divorced /Orphan/ Poorest of the Poor	Remarks	Result	School where Engaged
1	NAYEEMA NOOR	Abdul Noor Deedar	Pachgam	10-03-2001	21 years 10 months 23 days old	8th	Divorced	Divorced	1	MS Pachgamnand
2	SHAISTA AKRAM	Mohamad Akram Wani	Pachgam	15-03-2003	19 years 10 months 19 days old	12th	Orphan	Father Dead	2	PS Deedatbasti
3	SAREENA AKHTER	W/o Shabir Ahmad Tass	Pachgam	06-06-1995	27 years 07 months 28 days old	8th	BPL		3	Koolymohallah Pachga

DIPK-13088-23 DT: 30/11/2023

Zonal Education Officer Devsar

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.  
**JAMMU AND KASHMIR PHARMACY COUNCIL**  
Constituted in terms of Section (19) of Pharmacy Act 1948  
**COMBINED DRUG & FOOD LAB, PATOLI MANGOTRIAN, JAMMU.**  
EMAIL: presidentjkipharmacycouncil@gmail.com, Tel: 0191-2536043.

To: Mr. Fairoze Ahmad Dar. S/o Mr. Ab Majeed, R/o Buchoo, Kokernag-Anantnag (Kmr). Pin: 192202, Cell no: 9149772411. Email: darfairoze81@gmail.com  
No: JKPC/VERF-Estt-1389-1402 Dated:29.11.2023.

Subject: Registration as Pharmacist under the Pharmacy Act. 1948.  
Reference: 1. This Office letter no: JKPC-VER/6932/RP/1322, Dated: 16.01.2023.  
2. IFTM University Letter/Mail no: IFTMU/2023/256, Dated: 17.11.23.

You will refer your online application no: PHAR006932 on the captioned subject.  
The competent authority, Director, Faculty of Pharmacy, IFTM University, Moradabad, U.P has intimated vide their communication/mail no: IFTMU/2023/256, Dated: 17.11.2023 that Mr. Fairoze Ahmad Dar (Roll no.23033587) S/o Ab. Majeed was not the student of D.Pharma course in IFTM University, Moradabad. The documents were not issued by the university to the candidate and comes under the category of Fake.  
In light of above, your application on the captioned subject is hereby rejected.  
(Lotika Khajuria)  
(Ex-Officio) President  
Jammu & Kashmir Pharmacy Council.

DIPK-NB-4533-23 DT: 30/11/2023

75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav  
**TEMPORARY CANCELLATION/PARTIALLY CANCELLATION/ REGULATION/RESCHEDULING/ CHANGE OF ORIGIN & DESTINATION OF TRAINS DUE TO TRAFFIC BLOCK**

In order to upgrade the existing infrastructure and enhanced the safety standards, Railways will undertake the Pre-Non-Interlocking and Non-Interlocking work in connection with Rishikesh Yard Electronic Interlocking work. To execute this work, Railways will take traffic blocks from 05.12.23 to 12.12.23. During this period the following trains will temporarily be affected as under:-

Train No. & Train Name	Date of Cancellation (from originating station)
04361/04362 Haridwar-Rishikesh-Haridwar Special	06.12.2023 to 12.12.2023
04363 Haridwar-Rishikesh Special	05.12.2023 to 12.12.2023
04364 Rishikesh-Haridwar Special	05.12.2023 to 11.12.2023

Train No. & Name	Train to Short Terminate/ Originate at/from station	Train to Partially cancelled between Stations	Date of Cancellation (From Originating Station)
04359 Chandausi-Rishikesh Exp. Spl.	at Haridwar	Chandausi-Haridwar	05.12.23 to 11.12.23
04360 Rishikesh-Chandausi Exp. Spl.	From Haridwar	Haridwar-Chandausi	05.12.23 to 11.12.23

**REGULATION OF TRAIN**

Train No. & Name	Regulation of Train (from originating station)
04359 Chandausi-Rishikesh Exp.Spl.	Train will be Regulated for 120 min. enroute on 12.12.23

**RESCHEDULING OF TRAIN**

Train No. 04364 Rishikesh-Haridwar Special will be rescheduled at 18.55 hrs instead of 18.25 hrs from Rishikesh on 12.12.2023

**CHANGE OF ORIGIN FROM RISHIKESH TO YOG NAGRI RISHIKESH**

Train No. & Train Name	Date of originating station
14816 Rishikesh-Shri Ganganagar Express	05.12.2023 to 12.12.2023
14609 Rishikesh-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Hemkunt Exp.	05.12.2023 to 12.12.2023
14887 Rishikesh - Barmer Express	05.12.2023 to 12.12.2023

**CHANGE OF DESTINATION FROM RISHIKESH TO YOG NAGRI RISHIKESH**

Train No. & Train Name	Date of destination station
14610 Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra-Rishikesh Hemkunt Exp.	04.12.2023 to 11.12.2023
14888 Barmer - Rishikesh Express	04.12.2023 to 11.12.2023
14815 Shri Ganganagar - Rishikesh Express	05.12.2023 to 12.12.2023

For any kind of information, passengers are advised to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or may visit Indian Railways website https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in or NTFES App.

RailMadad Helpline No. 139 Visit RailMadad website: www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in Follow us on :- Download Railmadad App

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
Your Convenience - Our Concern  
Visit us at: www.indianrailways.gov.in

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE



## University Of Kashmir Wins Inter College Football Tournament

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The finale of the Inter College Football Tournament 2023 concluded Thursday at Synthetic Turf TRC, witnessing an intense clash between University of Kashmir and D C Baramulla.

In a nail-biting encounter, University of Kashmir, coached by internationally acclaimed coach Sajid Yousuf, secured the lead in the 38th minute with an exceptional shot from out-

earned the Golden Gloves, and Basit of D C Baramulla was awarded the Golden Ball.

University of Kashmir was awarded a cash prize of Rs 50,000 along with the Winning Trophy and medals, while D C Baramulla received a cash award of Rs 25,000 and medals.

Dr. Nadeem Ahmed Dar, Coordinator DPES, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, and Dr. Mohammad Farooq was the Guest of



side the penalty box, stunning the Baramulla defenders. However, Afnan from D C Baramulla delivered an equalizer just moments before the final whistle, pushing the game into a penalty shootout.

The University of Kashmir emerged victorious in a tense penalty shootout, prevailing over D C Baramulla by 6 goals to 5. The tournament honored outstanding players: Mohd Nayeem of Kashmir received the Golden Shoe, Saleem Yousuf of University of Kashmir

Honour. This tournament was organised by the Directorate of Physical Education and Sports in collaboration with Reliance Foundation Youth Sports.

During the inaugural ceremony, members of J&K Football Association and DFA Srinagar, including Nazir Ahmed, Andrabhi Chairman JKFA, Waseem Aslam Ex Chairman and Chief Coordinator JKFA, Bashir Ahmed Malik President DFA Srinagar and Naseem ul Gani, senior member JKFA, interacted with the teams.

## Rohit Skips SA Tour, Could Lead In T20 WC



Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** Rohit Sharma's request to the BCCI for a break from white-ball cricket in South Africa despite being offered T20 captaincy has been accepted, while Jasprit Bumrah has been named his deputy for the two Tests starting December 26.

Virat Kohli's request for a break from limited-overs games too has been accepted as Suryakumar Yadav and KL Rahul will lead the national team in T20Is and ODIs respectively.

However, it is understood that Hardik Pandya is no longer an automatic choice for T20 captaincy in the T20 World Cup next year if Rohit decides to play the shortest format.

"Rohit has been offered T20 captaincy but he is in UK on a holiday and wants an extended break after four months of gruelling season till end of the World Cup. But as captain, he has the highest respect for the dressing room and if he agrees to lead India in T20 World Cup,

he will lead," a BCCI source told PTI on condition of anonymity.

After the T20 World Cup in 2022, Rohit had actually been reluctant to play the shortest format as he focused on 50-over cricket.

Interestingly, most of the players selected for ODIs don't feature either in Tests or T20Is.

Only three players have been selected in all three squads -- Shreyas Iyer, Mukesh Kumar and Rituraj Gaikwad.

Axar Patel has been dropped from the T20 squad and Ravindra Jadeja is the new T20 vice-captain for the series.

**KL RAHUL SET TO KEEP WICKETS**

The national selection committee, on expected lines, has not included Kona Bharat in the Test squad as KL Rahul will now don the big gloves in the Test matches.

Rahul as keeper also opens two middle-order slots -- for Shreyas Iyer and reserve batter Gaikwad -- in the Test lineup.

It is understood that Moham-

med Shami has a chance to get fit before the Test series starts late in December.

**Squads: Tests:** Rohit Sharma (c), Shubman Gill, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, Rituraj Gaikwad, Ishan Kishan (wk), KL Rahul (wk), Ravichandran Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja, Shardul Thakur, Mohammed Siraj, Mukesh Kumar, Mohammed Shami, Jasprit Bumrah (vc), Prasad Krishna.

**T20Is:** Yashasvi Jaiswal, Shubman Gill, Rituraj Gaikwad, Tilak Varma, Suryakumar Yadav (c), Rinku Singh, Shreyas Iyer, Ishan Kishan (wk), Jitesh Sharma (wk), Ravindra Jadeja (vc), Washington Sundar, Ravi Bishnoi, Kuldeep Yadav, Arshdeep Singh, Mohd. Siraj, Mukesh Kumar, Deepak Chahar.

**ODIs:** Rituraj Gaikwad, Sai Sudharsan, Tilak Varma, Rajat Patidar, Rinku Singh, Shreyas Iyer, KL Rahul (c, wk), Sanju Samson (wk), Axar Patel, Washington Sundar, Kuldeep Yadav, Yuzvendra Chahal, Mukesh Kumar, Avesh Khan, Arshdeep Singh, Deepak Chahar.

## India Look To Seal Series In 4th T20I Against Australia

Press Trust of India

**RAIPUR:** India's young bowling unit, which has been under the pump, will look to better its death overs performance while utilising Glenn Maxwell's absence to its advantage in the fourth T20 International against Australia here on Friday.

India's second-string attack did not paint a good picture of itself by not defending 40-plus runs in the final two overs in the third match which the Australians won while chasing a daunting 223-run target.

There is a possibility of a minor tweak in the Indian lineup after Prasad Krishna gave away 68 runs in four overs, including 21 in the final over.

Deepak Chahar is back in the T20 mix and his ability to move the new ball should be considered for his inclusion

finisher Rinku Singh select themselves.

India will also look to exploit the absence of a marauding Maxwell who pulled off a heist of sorts to singlehandedly bring Australia back into the five-match series with a win in a last-ball finish in Guwahati.

But the hosts will fancy their chances with Maxwell, and other influential players such as Steve Smith and Adam Zampa not figuring in the playing XI here, having left for home after a long stay in the country where they won their sixth World Cup title recently.

Cricket Australia (CA) released many of its top players including Maxwell midway into the series keeping in mind their workload and fitness ahead of the T20 World Cup.

The Suryakumar Yadav-led second-string India are smart-



in the playing XI along with death overs specialist Mukesh Kumar, who is back after one-match break.

In the batting line up, Shreyas Iyer's comeback means only Tilak Varma looks a candidate who could be benched as five others -- Yashasvi Jaiswal, Rituraj Gaikwad, Ishan Kishan, skipper Suryakumar Yadav and

ing from a classic Maxwell innings, and the home team bowlers will be relieved that he will not walk out to bat at the Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Stadium.

Instead, they will probably be bowling to players such as Tim David, Josh Phillippe and big-hitter Ben McDermott.

Match starts at 7pm IST.

**MAZBOOTI SE BANI HAR**  
— DEEWAR SE JHALAKTE HAI —  
**DIL KE EHSAAAS**

**KHYBER CEMENT**  
Dil se banao



Spectrum Adv | 9697000698