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**Multi-Crore Investment Fraud** 

## **Police Conducts Midnight Raids In Srinagar**

**Electronic Gadgets, Documents Seized During Searches At Five Locations** 

**Majid Nabi** 

**Srinagar:** The cyber wing of Jammu and Kashmir Police conducted midnight raids at at least five locations in Srinagar, documents

electronic gadgets as part of an investigation into a multicrore investment scam. The move

comes a day after a 59 crore investment scam surfaced in Srinagar, shocking those who had invested their hard-earned money in the firm. The company exploited people by falsely claiming that their invest-ment would double in 15 days.

Sources within the police department told Kashmir Observer that a manhunt has been launched to nab the accused following the formal registration of a case at the Cyber Wing of Jammu and Kashmir Police.

The main accused involved in the scam linked to the private firm Curative Survey Agency, are reportedly on the run after the

**No Shortcut To Success: Div Com** 

'There is no shortcut to success', Divisional Commissioner

Wednesday, urging people to exercise caution and think

twice before falling for con artists, who he said, deceives

The Div Com Kashmir however said the police and se-

curity agencies were activated as soon as the multi-crore

**LET THE INVESTIGATION REACH ITS** 

and the agency cannot draw conclusions

(Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri said on

people by luring them with tempting schemes.

investment scam surfaced in the valley. | More on P6

until the facts are known. A massive hunt has

been launched to nab those who are absconding."

revelations came to light a day

This fraudulent company has subsidiaries located in various districts across Kashmir. A formal case (FIR number 39 of 2023) has been filed under sections 66D of the Information Technology Act and Indian

Penal Code tions 429 at the Cyber Station.

"All available human and technical resources are being employed to zero in on the accused, as part of extensive investigation into the multi-crore investment scam involving a private investment business. Documents and electronic gadgets have been seized during midnight raids in Srinagar," officials said.

Regarding the number of people accused of duping investors, the police said that since the inquiry is in its early stages, hasty conclusions cannot be drawn. "Let the | More on P6

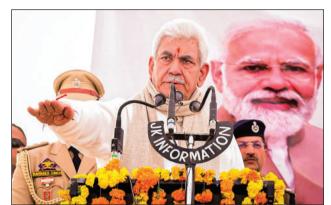
## **LG Stresses On Increasing Female** Literacy Rate In J&K

Says No Child **Should Be Deprived** Of Education

**Observer News Service** 

**Udhampur**: The Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Wednesday that the socioeconomic empowerment of the poor, women, farmers and marginalized sections of the society is essential to realize the goal of Viksit Bharat and Viksit Jammu Kashmir.

"Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is a resolve and guarantee of Prime Minister



Narendra Modi to fulfill the dreams of common man. It has a pivotal role in bringing transformation in the lives of

people by ensuring that all the benefits reach citizens and to bring holistic, inclusive development in rural and

urban areas," the LG said. Sinha, who joined the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra at Ballian Panchayat here on Wednesday, congratulated the people of J&K for overwhelming participation in the Yatra which aims to saturate government flagship schemes.

He said the socio-economic empowerment of the poor, women, farmers and marginalized sections of the society is essential to realize the goal of Viksit Bharat and Viksit Jammu Kashmir.

The LG called upon the elected representatives and political leaders for active participation | More on P6

#### 'Transform Youth Into Ambassadors Of A Progressive India'

**Attends Annual Day** School Nagrota

educational institutions and the teaching community to reinforce the ideals of nation building and transform the youth into the ambassadors of a progressive India. "Education nurtures future leaders. They are symbols of ambitious India, determined

#### **Celebrations Of Sainik**

ammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Wednesday called upon the to create a knowledge society and advance India's economic prowess in | More on P6

#### LS Passes 3 Key Bills To Replace IPC, CrPC; Evidence Act

Focus Is On Delivering Speedy Justice Rather Than Handing Down Punishment: Shah



**Press Trust Of India** 

New Delhi: Lok Sabha on Wednesday passed three key bills that seek to overhaul the criminal justice system, with Union Home Minister Amit Shah asserting that the focus rather than handing down punishment.

Replying to the debate, Shah said the three bills - Bharatiya

(Second) Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha (Second) Sanhita and the Bharatiya Sakshya (Second) Bill -- also have a clear definition of terrorism and scrap sedition as a crime while introducing a new section titled "offences against the State

Members of the Congress, DMK, TMC and other opposition parties were not present during the debate | More on P6

#### **Contractual Can't Be Sacked Without Opportunity** Of Hearing: HC

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has said that a contractual appointment cannot be terminated without affording an opportunity of hearing if founded on allegation of misconduct which casts a stigma on such an employee. A single bench of Justice M. A.

Chowdhary made the observation while allowing a petition filed by at least 16 persons for setting aside an order dated 16 September 2022 issued

by Managing Director of the regarding their disengaging. According to the petitioners, the petitioners were en-

gaged in the Corporation on

consolidated, contractual, need or contingency basis from time to time against different posts and were discharging their duties diligently. However, they said, on a complaint of some persons before the Anti Corruption Bureau against the then Managing Director, the ACB issued a communica-

tion, recommending disengagement of the petitioners for the reasons that these engagements have been made by the "abuse of authority by various Managing Directors

of the Corporation." They said that disengagement was done without affording any opportunity of being heard to the them when it was incumbent upon the Managing Director | More on P6

#### **J&K Gears Up To Tackle New Covid Variant**

**Observer News Service** 

**Jammu:** Two days after Centre asked states and union territories to maintain constant vigil amid an uptick in Covid-19 cases, the Jammu and Kashmir administration on Wednesday directed health department officials to activate Covid-19 testing facilities and conduct ample testing following the revised surveillance strategy.

Secretary Health and Medical Education (HME), Bhupinder Kumar also directed Chief Medical Officers (CMOs) and head of the departments (HODs) to meticulously report influ-enza-like illness (ILI) and severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) cases while adhering to recommended testing protocols.

He passed these directions while reviewing the Covid-19 situation and preparedness of the public health system across J&K particularly in light of the recent advisory issued by the Union Health Ministry concerning the emergence | More on P6

#### **Covid Strain JN.1 'Variant Of Interest': WHO**

**Press Trust Of India** 

Geneva: The World Health Organisation has classified COVID-19 strain JN.1 as a separate "variant of interest" given its rapidly increasing spread but said that it poses a "low" global public health risk.

The IN.1 variant was previously classified as a variant of interest (VOI) as part of the BA.2.86 sublineages, the parent lineage that is classified as a VOI, the world body said on Tuesday.

However, in recent weeks, JN.1 continues to be reported in multiple countries, and its prevalence has rapidly increased globally. India has also reported its first case of the JN.1 variant.

It now represents the vast majority of BA.2.86 descendent lineages reported to the Global Initiative on Sharing All Influenza Data (GISAID), according to the World Health Organisation (WHO).

"Due to its rapidly increasing spread, WHO is classifying JN.1 as a separate | More on P6

## Sonia Demands Immediate Statehood To J&K

**Press Trust Of India** 

New Delhi: Sonia Gandhi Wednesday said the Congress' position on Jammu and Kashmir has been clear and consistent, asserting that full statehood must be restored immediately and elections be held there at the earliest. She accused the government

of "strangulating democracy" by suspending MPs over a legitimate demand and said the Congress has its task cut out for next year's general elections both as a party and as INDIA bloc member. Noting that the assem-

bly election results being very disappointing is an understatement, the Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson urged party MPs to channel their disappointment into positivity for next year's general



elections.

This was the first time that Sonia Gandhi spoke on the recent assembly poll results.

Addressing party MPs at a meeting of the Congress Parliamentary Party in the Central Hall of Parliament, Gandhi said, "To say that the assembly election results in Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan have been very disappointing for our party is an understatement."

The Congress president has already had a first round of reviews to understand the reasons for our poor performance and to draw the needed lessons for our organization," she said.

"We are facing enormous challenges. Yet, I am confident that our fortitude and resilience will see us through. Our ideology and our values are our guiding light at this difficult time. We must never forget that our leaders fought against insurmountable odds with great courage and

fortitude to give us freedom." Gandhi told the MPs to "channel the disappointment into a positive drive for the coming general elections".

She told the Congress MPs that the Lok Sabha polls are to be held in the | More on P6

avouring a pre-poll alliance with the National Conference for the assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir, the PDP on Wednesday said the people of the Union Territory should unite to achieve the larger goal. PDP Parliamentary



#### **Harshest Winter** Period 'Chilla-i-**Kalan' Begins Today**

Press Trust Of India

he minimum temperature in Kashmir stayed several degrees below the freezing point as the valley braces for 'Chilla-i-Kalan' -- the 40-day harshest winter period, officials said on Wednesday. Srinagar city recorded a low of minus 4.4 degrees Celsius on Tuesday night, down from the previous night's minus 3.7 degree Celsius, the officials said. Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district recorded a minimum temperature of minus 6.3 degrees Celsius, they said. The famous ski resort of Gulmarg in | More on P6

**PDP Favours Pre-Poll Alliance** With NC

Board chairman Mohammad Sartaj Madni said the party wants | More on P6

#### **Blast In Poonch Police Compound**

n explosion occurred inside the compound of an armed police unit in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, prompting authorities to launch a probe, officials said on Wednesday. Windows of some vehicles parked near the compound were damaged due to the explosion that occurred on the intervening night of December 19 and 20 in Surankote area, they said.

#### **NIA Takes Up Kokernag Encounter Case**

he National Investigation Agency (NIA) has taken over the investigation of the Kokernag, Anantnag encounter case, on the directions of the Ministry of Home Affairs, sources revealed Wednesday. They said following the Ministry of Home Affairs notification, the NIA took charge of the case and registered it with FIR number RC-04/2023/NIA/JMU at | More on P6

#### **Copper Utensils Worth Rs 3L Stolen**

S H O R

lice have registered a case after thieves stole copper utensils worth lakhs of rupees in South Kashmir's Pulwama district. Reports said that burglars looted the copper utensil shop at Ratnipora village during the intervening night of Tuesday and Wednesday. The shop belonged to one Zubair Ahmed Ahangar who claimed that thieves decamped with | More on P6

#### **Migrant Worker Falls To Death**

TAKES

26-year-old worker from Bihar was killed after he accidentally fell to the ground from an under construction pillar of a bridge in Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district on Wednesday, police said. The labourer named Mohammad Israil was working on the bridge pillar at Ramsoo along the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway when he lost balance and fell to | More on P6

#### **Drug Peddler Booked Under PSA**

suspected drug peddler was arrested under the stringent Public Safety Act and sent to Central Jail-Kot Bhalwal on Wednesday, police said. Gurdit Singh alias Prince alias Pindi -- a resident of Gangyal -- was wanted for his alleged involvement in drug peddling and other criminal activities, a police official said. Four cases have been registered against | More on P6

#### **Man Bites His Wife's Nose Over Dowry**

man allegedly injured his wife by biting her nose over dowry demand, police said on Wednesday. Victim Ajmi (22), a resident of Maheshpur, lodged an FIR against six members of her husband's family at the CB Ganj police station on Tuesday. Bareilly Additional Superintendent of Police, City, Rahul Bhati said that Ajmi lodged an FIR against her husband Nazim, | More on P6



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

Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm) No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

## KASHMIR OBSERVER 1 Srinagar | Thursday | 21-12-2023 |

Government of Jammu and Kashmir Office of the Block Development Officer Qaimoh

#### Subject:

Invitation of Expression of Interest (EOI) /Dasti Quotations for Solid Waste Management including segregation/treatment of 23 Halqa Panchayats Comprising 29 villages of Block Qalmoh.

#### Background:

The Solid Waste Management program aims to implement effective and scientific waste management practices in block Qaimoh, in line with the Swacch Bharat Mission (G). Expression of interest(EOI) Dasti Quotations are invited from reputed firms or a joint venture or individuals for collection, transportation and segregation of solid waste in 23 Halqa Panchayats comprising of 29 villages of Block Qaimoh District Kulgam.

Sanitation and door to door collection of non-biodegradable waste from all below mentioned households of 23 Panchayats Comprising of 29 villages, shops, and other establishments etc. at least twice a week.

S.No.	Block	GP	Village	Total population of village	Total number of HHs in village	
1		Ashmuji A	Kapora Mirpora	2148	402	
2		Ashmuji B	Herpora & Check Ashmuj	2210	382	
3	QAIMOH	Balsoo	Balsoo/Paljan	817	151	
4		Bhan	Mah/ Mah Gund	2593	232	
•			Bhan	2180	417	
5	1	Bogund	Bogund Shangund	2549	433	
		T	Buchroo	1973	322	
6	1	Buchroo	Wazirpora	184	27	
	-		Danew	1766	302	
7	1	Danow	Makandpora	652	110	
8	1	K Bazar	Badderpora/Kawakibazar	1506	279	
9	1	K Chadder	Khrewan chadder	3746	401	
10	1	Khudwani	Khudwani	2353	404	
11	1	Matalhama	Matalhama	2177	269	
12	1	Qaimoh	Reshipora muqdampora	1879	325	
1000	1		Rampora	445	71	
13		Rampora	Hawoora	1814	293	
14	1	Redwani	Redwani	2320	389	
15	1	Redwani Paveen	Ghat	988	158	
16	1	Rehpora	Rehpora	1397	235	
17	1	Sonigam	Sonigam	1926	343	
18	1	Srandoo	Srandoo /Kulpora	3156	583	
19	1	Tarigam	Tarigam	3239	538	
20	1	Thokerpora	Gufbal Gretbal	1910	292	
21	1	TN Pora	TN Pora	2506	429	
22	1	Wanigund	Wanigund	983	167	
23	1		Wanpora	1534	268	
		Wanpora	B Tachloo	745	119	
			Udipora	266	47	
				51962	8388	

The EOI/ Dasti quotation should reach the office of the undersigned within a period of 07 days from the publication of this notice strictly as per the following terms and conditions:

- 1. The validity/term of contract will be up to 31/03/2024 in first instance and shall be extended after satisfactory performance of the firm/individual and also subject to the availability of funds.
- 2. This office shall provide 2 Garbage Hopper's for Door to Door Waste Collection, however, the agency shall engage Drivers and Helpers themselves.
- 3. The POL charges and timely service/ maintenance shall be solely borne by
- 4. The contracting agency shall influence the general public through its best possible sanitation services and shall motivate and convince them to segregate the waste at the source besides reducing the use of Single Use Plastics.
- 5. That this office shall provide all the requisite equipment'sviz hand carts, shovels, spades, safety gears etc. to the work force of the agency.
- 6. The segregated Plastic waste shall be supplied to plastic Waste Management unit at Ashmuji A for further processing and forward linkage.
- 7. Source of funding is mainly from SBM scheme/beneficiary monthly user fee
- 8. Previous experience in managing public utilities as a PPP/outsourcing and knowledge of waste management, including running decentralized solid waste

management processes, will be advantageous.

- 9. Identification of Garbage Collection points to the extent of three to five per Ward will be the responsibility of the contractor in consultation with the PRI/VW & SC/RDD officials.
- 10. The participants can apply for entire Block or Panchayat Wise at their own will and quotation shall be submitted along- with a CDR of rupees 5000/pledged to BDO Qaimoh.
- 11. Additional experience in community mobilization and IEC activities will be
- 12. All the disputes shall be settled as per the JK Panchayat Raj Act and SBM-II guidelines within the jurisdiction of District Kulgam with Assistant Commissioner, Panchayats Kulgam as the chief negotiator.
- 13. Interested agencies must submit their EOI in sealed envelopes addressed to the Block Development Officer, Qaimoh by 26-12-2023 up to 2:30 PM.
- 14. The Dasti envelope/quotations shall be opened on 27-12-2023 on 3:00 PM in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives.
- 15. The EOI will be followed by Technical Evaluation and Financial Evaluation.
- 16. The undersigned shall be competent to cancel the invitation at any point of time without prior notice.
- 17. Modus operandi for collection of sanitation free will be decided in consultation with the PRI/VW & SC/RDD officials only after receiving the IOE.
- 18. The mode of contract will be PPP only (public private partnership mode.
- 19. Back tracking from the contract once signed shall involve penal action.
- 20. The logistics as admissible under different schematic norms will be put in place in the Halqa as per availability of funds and schematic norms, to make the project/program me a grand success.

DIPK-14035/23 dated: 20-12-2023



**GOVT. OF JAMMU & KASHMIR** 

Office of the District Social Welfare Officer Bandipora E.Mail:- dswobandipora001@gmail.com. Fax:- 01957-225360

Subject: Short List of candidates for the post of District Mission Coordinator, District Hub for Empowerment of Women "DHEW" and inviting objection thereof.

Reference 1:- Advertisement Notice No:-DSWO/Bpr/Estt/2023-24/179-84 Dated: 17/06/2023

WHEREAS, an advertisement for hiring of manpower for District Hub for Empowerment of Women (DHEW), was issued vide No:-DSWO/Bpr/Estt/2023-24/179-84 Dated: 17/06/2023, wherein applications were invited for one post of District Mission Coordinator for District Hub for Empowerment of Women "DHEW" Bandipora purely on contrac-

AND WHEREAS, in response to the said advertisement notice a total of 15 application forms were received by this office from the various candidates as on closing date.

AND WHEREAS, out of the applications so received 05 candidates were cumulatively shortlisted for the post of District Mission Coordinator in the proportion of 1:5; by a committee constituted for the purpose.

NOW THEREFORE, on the basis of the academic merit and other notified parameters, the tentative shortlist of candidates is appended herewith this Notification as Annexure- "A" for publication in connection with inviting objections/claims, if any, from the candidates who had applied against the said notification in the form of written representation and addressed to the office of District Social Welfare Officer, Bandipora, within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice for consideration and no claim whatsoever shall be entertained after the said date.

No; - DSWO/Estt/2023-24/ Dated: 20-12-2023

District Social Welfare Officer,

Bandipora.

#### Annexure – A

Shortlist of candidates for the post of District Mission Coordinator, District Hub for Empowerment of Women "DHEW" Bandipora. Advertisement No.: DSWO/Bpr/Estt/2023-24/179-84 Dated: 17/06/2023

S.No.	Name	Parentage/Spouse		Merit Points (On Pro-Rata Basis)
01	Jabeena Mohammad	Ghulam Mohammad Sheikh	Ajar Bandipora	66.55
02	Tahira Tabasum	Ali Mohammad Wani	Ajar Bandipora	64.94
03	Shabeena Mohammad	Ghulam Mohammad Sheikh	Ajar Bandipora	63.80
04	Quratul Ain	Ghulam Mohammad Malik	Nowpora Bandipora	63.16
05	Nergis Ayoub	Hashim Ahad	Asham Sumbal	62.53

**Chief Education Officer** Bandipora.

District Social Welfare Officer, **Bandipora** 

DIPK-14027/23 DATED: 20-12-2023 District Programme Officer Poshan, **Bandipora** 

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

#### Office Of The Divisional Forest Officer Special Forest Division Tangmarg

TENDER NOTICE

e-NIT NO: 19 of 2023-24 DATED: 19-12-2023 For and on behalf of the Hon'ble President of India, e-tenders (Two cover system) are invited from registered, reputed and resourceful Contractors/Firms registered with Jammu & Kashmir Govt./Central Govt. Organizations for the following works: -

S. No.	Name of Work	Adv. cost	<b>Bid Security</b>	Class of	Cost of	Time of
		(Rs. in Lakh)	(EMD) INR (Rs.)	Contractor	Tender Docu- ment (Rs)	Completion
01	Construction of Insitu Boundary Pillars in Khar- pora Forest Comptt. 66-C/ Gul Block Gogaldara SPSP Range Beerwah (CAMPA Year 2023-24)	4.98	9960	'D 'Class Civil Contractor		40 Days

The position of codal formalities in respect of above work(s) is as under:

Position of AA/TS

Accorded vide No.235/CF/(sgr) of 2022 Dated.22/08/2022

The e-NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, scope of work, Bills of Quantities, (B.O.Q), Terms& Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the website: -www.jktenders.gov.

·	
Publishing Date:	19-12-2023
Download Start Date:	19-12-2023from 6.00 P.M
Bid submission Start Date:	19-12-2023 from 6:00P.M
Bid submission End Date:	6-01-2024 Up to 6:00 P.M
Date of Opening of Technical Bid through	08-01-2024 at 11:30AM in the office of the office
online:	of Conservator of Forests Srinagar Circle Srinagar.
Date of Opening of Financial Bid through	To be opened (Online) after technical evaluation
online:	is completed.
	•

**TERMS & CONDITIONS** 

The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website: https://iktenders.gov.in. 2. Bids uploaded must accompany Govt. Treasury Receipt (cost of tender document) in the shape of Treasury Challan for the amount shown against the work above to be deposited in Govt. Treasury under Account Head 0406-Forest and Bid Security in the shape of EMD(CDR) for requisite amount and pledged to Divisional Forest Officer. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids.

The bidders have to submit their Technical & Financial bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No Technical or financial bid will be accepted in physical/hard form. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents i.e., Bid security in shape of

(EMD in form of CDR). Valid Registration Card issued by PWD/CPWD/duly renewed for the current year 2023-24, PAN, Valid GST Registration, Govt. Treasury receipt (Cost of Tender Document), Affidavit cum undertaking. As per rule 171 of GFR-2017, Performance Security shall have to be deposited by successful bidder to the order of 3% of the value of contract and if there are compelling circumstances, performance security in excess of three percent may also be demanded.

The Department will not be responsible for any delay in online submission of the bid due to any reason (technical or otherwise).

The Department shall not be held responsible for selection criteria/policy matter being adopted by the Directorate of Information regarding publishing the NIT, in any of the newspaper under circulation. The Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning

All other terms and conditions shall remain same as per PWD form 25 (double leaf) and as per the **Detailed Tender document** 

Divisional Forest Officer,

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The name and DOB of my daughter in school records has been wrongly written as Mutakee Jan, DOB 16-03-2014 while her correct name and DOB is MalikMutakee and DOB :16-03-2012 which needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the National Innovations Public School Zainapora within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

**Khursheed Ahmad Malik** F/o Malik Mutakee R/o Chowdarigund Shopian

fko

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

I want to change the name on electricity bill bearing consumer ID No; 0213040003282 from Ghulam Ahmad Mir S/o Sonaullah Mir to Mohammad Ashraf Mir S/o Ghulam Ahmad Mir. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may contact concerned PDD Office within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Mohammad Ashraf Mir S/o Ghulam Ahmad Mir R/o Wanigam Payan

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Mistakenly my wards name & parentage mentioned in school records as Akeel Ashig S/o: Ashig Hussain Sheikh instead of Akeel Ashaq S/o: Ashaq Hussain Sheikh which needs to be corrected at school level. If any person having any objection in this regard He/ she may submit the same in the office of the Principal Igbal Memorial Public School, Potushai Lolab, within week's time. No objection shall be entertained after expiry of given stipulated period.

Ashag Hussain Sheikh Father of Akeel Ashag Class: 1st Roll No: 4

SU

#### From Office Of The Advocate Zaffar Qadri Lic. No.165 /018

CHMABER NO 70 HIGH COURT PH NO: 9149459655 Amir Fayaz S/o Fayaz Ahmad Tenga R/o Maharaj Bazar, A/P Azad Basti Natipora Srinaga

**PUBLIC AT LARGE** 

In the matter of: Caveat petition in terms of section 148-A of C.P.C The caveator has reason to believe/ apprehension that non caveator may file a suit or any other type of proceeding before the Hon'ble court and on the ground or Distorted facts/misrepresent and cooked story and may succeed in obtaining some relief/order at irreparable loss and inconvenience it would be proper that caveator is given opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble court before passing any order.

#### From Office of the Advocate Ghulam Jeelani Kukiloo In the case of

Mehraj ud din Sheikh S/o Gulam Mohammad shiekh R/o Khalapora Buchwara Dalgate Srinagar

(Caveator)

V/s Public at large

In the Petition in terms of Section 148-A

The caveators have reason to believe that Non-Caveator may file any Application, Petition, Ap-peal, Suit or any other type of proceeding before the Hon'ble Court and on the ground of distorted facts/misrepresentation and cooked story and may seed in obtaining some relief/order at their back/in exparte against the caveators and in such eventuality the caveators will be put in irrepa- rable loss and inconvenience. It would be proper that caveators be given an opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble court before passing any order.

Sd/advocate

## From Office of the

Advocate Rahila Aziz Bhat

In the case of Abdul Rashid Ratta S/O Late Haji Ghulam Mohammad Ratta. address:- Abikarpora dallake ghat no 3 houseboat Colombo opposite hotel vintage.

Present address Amore Inn syedpora darbagh harwan. (Caveator)

Public at large In the Petition in terms of Section 148-A

The caveators have reason to believe that Non-Caveator may file any Application, Petition, Ap-peal, Suit or any other type of proceeding before the Hon'ble Court and on the ground of distorted facts/misrepresentation and cooked story and may seed in obtaining some relief/order at their back/in exparte against the caveators and in such eventuality the caveators will be put in irrepa- rable loss and inconvenience. It would be proper that caveators be given an opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble court before passing any order.

Sd/advocate

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ازعدالت ایدیشنل ڈسٹر کٹ جج ( بنک مقد مات )سرینگر بااجلاس:اروندشر ما J&K Bank B/U Lal Bazar بنام M/S Parveena Trading دعوىٰ وصولياني رقم مبلغ = ال Rs: 1109894.37 اشتهار بمراد آگاهی بنام مقدمه مندرجه عنوان الصدر میں مدعاعلیہ/ مدعالیم کی تنمیل کرانے کی بسیار کوشش

۔ اِلا خاتو پید جدید پر مدعاعلیہ مدعالیم وستیاب ہوئے اور نہ ہی بذریعیمعن تعمیل لائی گئے۔ بدین وجہ حسب استدائی مدعاعلیہ/ مدعالیم جو بذریعیا شتبار بذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم مبلغ =/ Rs 1109,894.37 جرات بذائب . البذا آپ کو بذر لیداشتهار بذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ بغرض پیروی ابراء بذا بعنوان بالامورخا 2023-12-21 إصالتاً يا وكالتاً بروقت كچيري حاضر آكر مقدمه بذاكي پیروی کریں۔بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کاروائی بعمل لائی جائے گی تحریر ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج بنک مقد مات سرینگر

NO: - DFO/TNG/Acctts/2023-24/144-49

DIPK-14012/23 Dated: 20/12/2023



## KASHMIR OBSERVER Srinagar | Thursday | 21-12-2023 |

#### **Srinagar Based Paper Mache Artist Exports Christmas Items Abroad**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A Srinagar based paper mache artist crafts Christmas decorative items like Santa, Christmas trees and Christmas bells and claims to receive orders from across the globe.

Nayeem Mir said his artistic prowess has garnered attention beyond borders. "I get orders from abroad and sell my products in the global market through online marketing apps like Flipkart and Amazon," he said.

"My commitment to preserving the centuries-old tradition of paper machie art while infusing it with festive motifs has earned me accolades and orders from across the globe, turning my quaint workshop into a hub of global Christmas fervor,' he added,

According to Nayeem, each meticulously crafted piece carries the essence of Kashmir's heritage, which is intricately designed to radiate the festive cheer of Christmas.

"The valley itself becomes a canvas during this festive season and gets adorned with vibrant decorations," Mir said, adding, amidst the snow-capped mountains, his art serves as a testament to the artistic brilliance thriving in Kashmir.

#### **DC Holds Mega Public Grievance Redressal Camp At Ranbirgarh Pratapgarh**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In order to listen the Public Grievances at their doorsteps and ensure their time bound redressal. the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad Wednesday undertook an extensive tour of Ranbirgarh Pratapgarh area in the outskirts of Srinagar District and presided over a Public Grievance Redressal Camp as a part of Public Outreach Program under weekly Block Diwas.

The Program witnessed a large participation of peo-

ple from Ranbirgarh Pratapgarh, Mirgud, Panzianra and other adjoining areas of the Tehsil Shalteng of Srinagar

The Public Grievance Redressal Camp was attended by Chief Planning Officer, Chief Medical Officer, Chief Agriculture Officer, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Chief Education Officer, Horticulture Officer, Chief Horticulture Officer, District Social Welfare Officer, Assistant Labour Commissioner, Tehsildar Shalteng and other Zonal and Sectoral Officers of the District.

Subject: Grant of Registration of the Proposed Travel Unit under the name and style " M/S: Executive Travels" situated at Hamdania Coloney Bemina Srinagar

Whereas I Mr:Shahid mushtaq magray S/O Mr Mushtaq Ahmad Magray, R/o: Bemina Srinagar Kashmir intends to apply in the department of tourism for registration of my proposed Travel Unit under the name and style " M/S: Executive Travels" situated at Hamdania Coloney Bemina Srinagar under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12.Whereas, i will submit State Subject/Domicile, Qualification certificate, PAN card, Experience certificate (Minimum 05 years), Character certificate(Police Department), Bank statement(Minimum balance 10000), Site plan, Affidavit, Rent deed duly attested by Sub- registrar, Printing material (Letter head/Visiting card), Photograph of the unit(Indoor and Outdoor), and two passport size photographs to the department of tourism as per prescribed checklist prior to registration of my unit as an Excursion agency. Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011/12, before my case is processed for registration by the Competent authority, the matter is hereby notified for information of general public/Financial institutions/Bank/Organisation etc.for objection, if any and the same should reach to the Deputy Director Tourism registration (e-mail ID:ddtreg123@gmail.com) within the period of (07) days from the publication of this notice in leading local newspapers of the valley. No objections beyond a period of (07) days shall be entertained.



Zeenat Javeed دعوىٰ وصوليا بي رقم مبلغ =1 Rs: 149250.00

اشتهار بمراد آگاهی بنام Zeenat Javeed D/o Javeed Ahmad Durgaroo R/o Aklmir Kawa Mohalla Khanyar

مقدمہ مندرجیعنوان الصدر میں مدعا علیہ/ مدعالیم کی تعمیل کرانے کی بسیار کوشش کی گئی الانەنۇپية جديدېرىدعاعلىي/ مدعالىم دستياب ہوئے اور نەبى بذرىعة معن تغميل لائي گئی۔ بدین وجہ حسب استدائی مرعاعلیہ/مدعالیم جو بذر بعہ اشتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم مبلغ =/ Rs 149250.00 أجات عدالت ہذاہے۔ البذا آپ کو بذریعہ اشتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ بخرض بیروی ابراء ہذا بعنوان بالامورخ 2023-12-12 اصالتاً يا وكالتاً بروفت كچيري حاضرآ كرمقدمه مذاكي پیروی کریں۔بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کا روائی بعمل لائی جائے گی تحریر

> ازعدالت ایڈیشنل ڈسٹر کٹ جج ( بنک مقد مات ) سرینگر بااجلاس:اروندشرما

الديشنل دسركث جج بنك مقدمات سرينگر

J&K Bank B/U Khanyar Srinagar

بقد مەمندرچەعنوان الصدر میں مدعا علیہ/ مدعالیم کی قبیل کرانے کی بسیار کوشش کی گئی الانہ تو پیہ جدیدیر معاعلیہ/مدعالیم دستیاب ہوئے اور نہ ہی بذریعہ معن تعمیل لائی

و مدویت بودید پادف مسیم المرف او سیاب او سے اور در تب بار رمید مل میں ماں کا گئی۔ بدین وجہ حسب استدائی مدعاعلیہ مدعالیم جو بذر بعیداشتہار بذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ کخ الف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم مبلغ المبدا آپ کو بذر یعیاشتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ بغرض پیروی ایراء بذا بعنوان المبدا آپ کو بذر یعیاشتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ بغرض پیروی ایراء بذا بعنوان بالا مورج کا محتار کے دولت کچری حاضر آکر مقدمہ بذاکی الله مورج کی دولت کچری حاضر آکر مقدمہ بذاکی پیروی کریں ۔بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کا روائی ُبعمل لائی جائے گی نُخریر ایڈیشنل ڈسٹر کٹ جج بنک مقدمات سرینگر



Clad in (Pheran) a traditional Kashmiri winter attire, an elderly man enjoying hubble-bubble in Dal Lake amidst intense cold on Wednesday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

## **Fateha Of Mrs Mustafa Ansari Observed**

#### Mirwaiz, EJAC Offer Condolences To Sajjad Haider

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: A large number of people from different sections of the society, including political leaders, leaders of the trade and religious organizations, bureaucrats, converged at the residence of the Editor Kashmir Observer, Sajiad Haider at Shalimar to attend fateha of his mother, Sayeda Hameeda.

She was the widow of prominent scholar, late Maulana Mustafa Hussain Ansari and daughter of late Aga Syed Muhammad Shah Jalali. She passed away here on Sunday, December 17 and was laid to rest at Baba Mazar, Zadibal

ferent walks of life converged at the residence of Sajjad Haider to attend Chaharum of his mother. Congregational Fatiha Khwani was offered at Baba Mazar at 8 AM and

A large number of people from dif-

later a day-long memorial service continued at Gulshan-e-Ali Shalimar. Meanwhile, the representatives of

Development of Green space and 138.33

Position of AAA: Accorded, Technical Sanction: Accorded

Upgradation of Inner Links at JLNM

allied works at Achan Dumping site

Development of Road and other

Date of Bid opening

Tender document fee

Name of the Bank: -

Branch: -Bank Account No: -

Hospital Rainawari

J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the below mentioned works.

96.53

Date of publication of e-portal
Date of Downloading of bid documents for said e-NIT

Date of uploading of bid document / bid submission starts

Adv. cost in Earnest

Money (In

Rs.) 276660

193060

downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per the date schedule given below

Note: - (The Date of EMD/Challan must be from the date of start of bid upto Bid Submission End date,

Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd. Balgarden, Srinagar 0216010200000007 JAKA0GARDEN

190051008

Awami Action Committee (AAC) and Employees Joint Action Committee (EJAC) visited the residence of Sajjad Haider to offer their condolences.

AAC expressed grief over the demise of mother of Kashmir Observer editor-in-chief Sajjad Haider who was also the aunt of Ittehadul Muslimeen Chairman Moulana Masroor Abbas Ansari.

On the directions of AAC Chairman Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, a delegation visited the residence of Sajjad Haider in Shalimar and conveyed the condolence message of Mirwaiz-e-Kashmir to him. The delegation conveyed Mirwaiz-

e-Kashmir's condolence message to Sajjad Haider, Moulana Masroor and expressed solidarity with the bereaved family members

The delegations prayed for Jannatul-Firdous to the departed souls and forbearance to the bereaved families at this hour of grief.

Employees Joint Action Committee Jammu Kashmir (EJAC) president, Fayaz Ahmad Shabnam also expressed

**Srinagar Municipal Corporation** 

Office Of The Executive Engineer Right River Works Division

Regal lane Lal Chowk Srinagar

Email: -eerrwdsmc@gmail.com

SHORT TERM

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER No. 38of 2023-2024

Dated: 19.12.2023

For and on behalf of the Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Commissioner, e-tenders are invited on a percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with

12 Months

The NIeT consists of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q) set of terms and conditions of contract other details can be seen/

Date of Submission of Uploaded documents (Hard Copies) by Successful Bidder including Bid Security (CDR/FDR), 05.01.2024 up to 04:00 PM

1. The intending tenders should attach a call deposit receipt equivalent to 2% of the advertised cost / total cost of the work shown against each work pledged to the Executive Engineer Right River Works Division, SMC, drawn from any scheduled Bank without which no tender will be entertained.

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in the shape of Bank Receipt / challan as a tender fee paid in the Municipal Account No. 0216010200000007 payable at J&K Bank Branch Dood Ganga Balgarden, Srinagar payable at Srinagar (with NIT No and Serial No of work mentioned and Division name Viz RRWD) and Earnest Money/ bid security in the shape of CDR/FDR (The date of Bank Receipt/ Challan and earned money/bid security should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date). The tender fees is

non-refundable and can also be paid through online mode via NEFT/RTGS in favour of F./A/ Chief Accounts officer, Srinagar Municipal Corporation with Bank Details as given below:

Head of Account Class of AA order No

Order No. 1400

of 2023 dated:

Date from to

19.12.2023 19.12.2023 from 06:00 PM 19.12.2023 from 06:00 PM 03.01.2024 at 06:00 PM

04.01.2024 at 11:00 AM

National clean Air AYY

National clean Air AYY

rogram NCAP

Cost of tender Time of

immense grief and sorrow over the sad demise of the mother of editor Kashmir Observer, Sajjad Haider.

While expressing condolences on the demise, Favaz Ahmad Shabnam in his condolence message said that the EJAC leadership shares the grief of the bereaved family. Fayaz Ahmad Shabnam prayed

to almighty Allah to bestow Jannat ul Firdous to the departed soul and grant patience and strength to the family to bear this irreparable loss.

Meanwhile, Shabnam visited the house of the deceased to express condolences and sympathies with the bereaved family especially with Sajjad Haider.

Anjuman Sharie Shiayan leader Agha Syed Mujtaba also visited the bereaved family to offer condolences.

Agha Syed Hadi al Musavi has also expressed solidarity with the bereaved family. In a statement he paid rich tributes to the mother of Sajjad, Shahid and

T.S. Order No. dated

Technical Sanction

No. 32 of 2023-24

Order No. 1399 of 2023 Technical Sanction No.23

Dated:-08-12-2023

of 2023 Dated:-18-12-202

**Executive Engineer** 

Right River Works Division Srinagar Municipal Corporation

TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686 PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883 PDD: 0194-2450213 FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES:

2479488,2452222,2452155 CAPD: 18001807011 SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081

Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +919484100200

**AIRPORTS** SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

**RAILWAYS** 

SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259 ANANTNAG: 01932-228243 BARAMULLA: 0194-102029

BIJBHERA: 01932-228243 PAMPORE: 01933-294132 PATTAN: 01954-293507 QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

#### **HIGHWAY STATUS**



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



PRAYERS					
FAJR	6:02				
ZUHR	12:28				
ASR	3: 48				
Magrib	5:29				
ISHA	6: 55				

#### This Day In History

- 1866 Fetterman Massacre: Lakota, Cheyenne, and Arapaho Indians kill all 81 US Army soldiers in the worst military disaster ever suffered by the U.S. Army on the Great Plains
- 1894 Mackenzie Bowell becomes the 5th Prime Minister of Canada
- 1898 French Scientists Pierre and Marie Curie discover radium
- 1906 British Parliament pass two important pieces of social legislation: The Trades Disputes Bill, legalizing peaceful picketing, and The Workingmen's Compensation Act, broadening employers' liability for accidents
- 1907 Dutch government of De Master falls due to war budget
- 1910 Explosion in coal mine in Hulton England, 344 mine workers dies
- Denmark, Norway & Sweden declare neutrality in Comende war
- 923 -- Nepal changes from British protectorate to independent nation 1932 Giants sign former outfielder Billy Southworth
- as a coach 1933 - Dried human blood serum 1st prepared,
- University of Pennsylvania 1933 Fox Films signs Shirley Temple aged 5, to a
- studio contract
- 1933 Newfoundland reverts to being a crown colony of Great Britain
- 1936 Bradman's 2nd consecutive Test Cricket duck!
- Australia all out for 80 1937 - The first full-length animated feature film and the earliest in the Walt Disney Animated
  - Classics series, "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs", premieres at the Carthay Circle Theatre 1937 - Chicago Black Hawks left wing Paul Thompson becomes first player in NHL history to score a goal against his brother; scores on bro Cecil of the Boston Bruins with just 9 seconds left in
- regulation; Bruins win though, 2-1 1939 - Adolf Hitler names Adolf Eichmann leader of "Referat IV B", responsible for evictions and Jewish

#### From KO Archives

### Mehdi Hasan Anxious To Sing Again

AHORE- Severe mental stress, excessive use of pan with tobacco contents, smoking and fluctuating blood pressure are some of the factors which led to severe paralysis stroke to world's renowned singer and Ghazal Maestro, Mehdi Hasan who is currently under treatment at Sheikh Zaid Hospital here.

This is what his doctors said while talking to The Nation newspaper on Monday. This did not come as a surprise to the great singer as he had already suffered a mild stroke of paralysis almost a year back when he was in India in connection with some musical concert. He has been under treatment since then

weakness in his right leg, his son Kamran told this scribe. "I underwent a similar low intensity attack of paralysis as far back as in 1968 but recovered soon by the grace of God Almighty, Mehdi Hasan himself told in a stumbling tone while recalling his past medical history.

"The stroke affected left side of his brain where lies the speech area and thus paralyzed the rightside of the body including the tongue", said Dr.Farrukh Iqbal who is closely monitoring the health of the great singer of the subcontinent. Khan Sahib is also suffering from asthma and has difficulty in breathing, he further said, adding that he is being nebulized every six hours to ease his breathing.

Kashmir Observer, 21 December, 1998)

Any payment for Tenders fees through online mode shall necessarily mention the following information. (Sender Name, Account No of Sender/Beneficiary, Transaction ID, Reference ID, Transaction date and time, The Remarks should necessarily mention NIT NO, SNO and RRWD viz. NIT 03, SNO. 10, RRWD) For one particular work, only one bank Receipt / challan (not more than one) of the exact amount of tender fees (neither lesser nor greater) as shown against that particular work must be paid and uploaded with the tenders. The same tender fees paid and uploaded for a particular work should not be again used/uploaded for any other work in the NieT (i.e. one Bank Receipt / Bank Challan for one work only) Tender Fee and other relevant documents including Bid security (CDR/FDR) duly filled up, if found uploaded, with any ambiguity or un-attested correction/over writing for any work such tender /bid shall be considered as invalid bid and shall be out rightly rejected and action under rules shall be initiated.

Further use of pencil in writing (NIT No and S. No) on tender fees and EMD must be avoided.

بنام Sabreena

دعوی وصولیا بی رقم مبلغ = ا اشتهار بمراد آگاهی بنام

Registration card and its latest renewal.

Verification of Registration Card from competent Authority Latest GST clearance.

EMD in the shape of CDR and EDR.

Correspondence Address of the Agency with active Mobile No. Bank Account details (16-digit Bank Account No, Branch office, IFSC code) Any other document required to be uploaded as per the NIeT.

The date and time of opening of bids shall be notified on website www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an E-mail message on their email address. The bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on the same website in the office of the Executive Engineer, Right River Works Division, SMC (Regal Lane, Lal Chowk, Srinagar) or in the office of the Informatics officer, SMC (Karan Nagar Srinagar). In case of holidays/ offices happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids, or there is any Net problem the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

The participating agencies/ contractors are advised in their own interest not to resort to any cheating while submitting and uploading the tender document Fees or any other document The bidders are requested to uploadfollowing documents:

4. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of technical bids.

5. The lowest successful bidder has to furnish 5% of the contract value/ allotted cost cost as performance security in the shape of CDR/FDR immediately after opening of tenders. The performance security required as per NIT conditions shall be released after DLP is successfully over. Earnest money in the shape of CDR/FDR shall be released after performance security required as per NIT conditions shall be released after DLP is successfully over.

mance security is received. The earnest money in favour of the unsuccessful bidder shall be released only after submission of Bank Receipts/challans.

6. The earnest money shall be forfeited, if: a) Any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any Modifications to the terms and conditions of the bid.

Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit. Failure of successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process

No: SMC/EERRWD/ 2051-2057 DIPK-NB-4888/23 Dated: - 20-12-2023

## KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Thursday | 21-12-2023

## Opposition Unity Struggles

In the latest meeting of the INDIA alliance, the echo wasn't of unity but rather the fresh differences within the opposition bloc. From the crucial issue of seat sharing to the face for Prime Ministerial candidacy, the gathering laid bare the challenges confronting these 28 Opposition parties. As the country gears up for the next Lok Sabha elections around May next year, it's becoming increasingly evident that unless these hurdles are swiftly overcome, victory might remain a distant dream for the opposition.

Seat sharing, a persistent stumbling block for the alliance, is yet to begin despite the elections being around the corner. The reluctance of certain parties, chiefly the Congress, to expedite this process risks marring the unity crucial in what would be a difficult electoral contest in which the BJP will participate as a favourite party. The disagreement over seat-sharing loom large, particularly in states like Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, West Bengal, and Delhi, underlining the urgency of reaching a consensus before fissures deepen irreparably.

Amid this quandary, Mamata Banerjee's unexpected proposal to nominate a face for the alliance sparked skepticism and intrigue. While her suggestion to project Mallikarjun Kharge as a potential leader raised eyebrows, it also fueled suspicions and divisions within the coalition. The timing of this proposal, juxtaposed against unresolved seat-sharing issues, added further complexity and fueled speculation regarding ulterior motives.

The differences of opinion witnessed during the meeting highlighted not only the internal fault lines but also a lack of enthusiasm and camaraderie among the alliance members. Instances of friction, such as the disagreement over EVM resolutions and linguistic differences, highlighted the need for a cohesive front. The absence of key leaders from the post-meeting discussions once again brought forth the challenge of presenting a united front to the public.

The Congress's efforts to form a national alliance committee is a recognition of the need for inclusivity and accommodation within the coalition. However, past instances of refusal to accommodate allies and the cancellation of joint meetings have sown seeds of discontent, emphasizing the imperative for the Congress to exhibit magnanimity and collective vision.

The urgency of the hour lies in the opposition's ability to swiftly resolve seat-sharing discrepancies, chart a common agenda, and foster a genuine unity. The upcoming Lok Sabha elections demand a robust, coherent opposition—one that addresses internal discord, articulates a shared vision, and presents a compelling alternative to the electorate. But that doesn't seem to be happening. Any further delay in doing so will only give the BJP a walkover in a contest in which it already has achieved a psychological victory over the opposition, as its recent wins in the three major states would have you believe.

#### OTHER OPINON

## India's Challenge

he Delhi summit comes when the revolution in AI is set to accelerate at a dizzying pace and produce long-term social, political, economic and military consequences for the world. Many nations — from mighty America and China to tiny Singapore and the UAE — are scrambling to intensify their national quests to develop AI and broaden international partnerships. In his opening remarks at the forum, Prime Minister Narendra Modi recognised the salience of the moment and laid out a broad set of markers for India's national development of AI and outlined a balanced global approach to promoting the beneficial uses of the new technology and limiting its potentially massive harms.

Translating PM's goals into practical outcomes will, however, test the cumbersome ways of India's administrative state that must now deal with a rapidly changing technological landscape in artificial intelligence and respond to the policy imperatives it presents. The NDA government's successful recent push on semiconductor manufacture in India gives hope; but the scale of the effort involved in AI is far more demanding. The Indian enthusiasm for AI at the level of highest political leadership and the popular level will need to be matched quickly to overcome critical weaknesses. One is the lack of massive computing power—"compute" in the AI jarson.

In his address to the forum, PM Modi referred to the planned launch of the national AI mission that aims to strengthen India's compute capabilities. AI systems need large volumes of data to train on. PM Modi hinted that the government agencies could release the large volumes of data in their possession. He will have his hands full, though, in compelling the Indian state to shed its entrenched habit of hoarding data. India must also invest massively in basic sciences, including mathematics, material sciences, computer sciences, linguistics, and neurosciences.

Delhi must also focus on multiplying manifold the number of engineers in AI-related technologies quickly. The demands on the external front, too, are immense. Through 2024, India will preside over the work of GPAI in developing norms for the responsible development and use of AI. This is a deeply contested arena not just between the democracies and autocracies but also within the West and between North and South. That Delhi has not decided on how exactly to proceed in the global governance of AI is reflected in its reluctance to sign several recent declarations on responsible civilian and military uses of AI. If India wants to lead in constructing a new global architecture for AI, it must shed some of its past multilateral baggage and develop an approach rooted in the first principles of national interest and collective global good.

The Indian Express

# **Globalising Kashmiri Literature Through Translations**

Translated works, even if they exist, are either poorly done or passed down to publishers with no national, let alone an international outreach. The result has been obvious: the disappointing absence of our literary stalwarts from the global literary scene



Amir Suhail Wani

In my opinion, if we want Kashmiri literature to have a niche in the international literary landscape, translation needs to go alongside literary creation. Our poets should be celebrated when they're alive. Translators and worthy scholars should not wait for the demise of the author to publish her in translation posthumously

iterature moves people and stirs their emotions in the deepest possible way. The translations of literary works carry this effect far and wide, enabling people from different cultural and linguistic backgrounds to participate in universal pathos and joys of humanity. The importance of translation literature cannot be undermined. If the West enjoys Igbal and Tagore and the East celebrates Dante and Goethe, it is all because of the translation works that have carried these writers beyond their native lands far and wide and spread the aura of their literary works across the globe. Such translations are cultural bridges, enabling people to connect and experience human diversity.

Though shrouded in obscurity and oblivion, Kashmiri poetry has had some instances of its voices being carried far and wide. With the arrival of Britishers in the valley Kashmiri language and literature immediately caught their attention. They were at once drawn to the rich literary heritage of the valley. It was in continuum to this trend that Sir RC Temple wrote a book as wonderful as, "The Word of Lalla": J.Holton Knowles compiled "A Dictionary of Kashmiri Proverbs and Sayings"; and Sir George Greirson rendered invaluable services to Kashmiri linguistics. Additionally, travelogues, surveys and memoirs written by English travellers also helped popularise the cultural charm of Kashmir and enlarged its literary bank.

The tradition of translation has survived to this day in Kashmir. The tireless work of the likes of Shafi Shauq, Mufti Mudasir Farouqi, Huzaifa Pandit, and Mushtaque Barq has been catalytic in Globalising Kashmiri literature and placing Kashmiri classics in the transnational orbit.

The intrinsic beauty, the universal import and heightened poetic sensibilities found in Kashmiri literature have been discussed for long. Comparisons have been drawn between Keats and Rusul Mir, Wordsworth and Mahjoor, Jami and Mehmood Ghami, Sa'adi and Sheikh Ul Aalam and others. Such comparisons, though contestable, aren't entirely misplaced. If anything, they reflect the intrinsic richness and global flavour present in our own vernacular poetry.

However, what has often prevented our poets from reaching the rest of the world is that the translation of their works is not given the attention that it deserves. Translated works, even if they exist, are either poorly done or passed down to publishers with no national, let alone an international outreach. The result has been obvious: the disappointing absence of our literary stalwarts from the global literary scene.

A year ago, I lamented on the death of the doyen of Kashmiri literature, Rehman Rahi, who had been lost without being translated. A year later, we now have a translation of some of his writings in the book, "The Vyeth is Not Asleep".

In my opinion, if we want Kashmiri literature to have a niche in the international literary landscape, translation needs to go alongside literary creation. Our poets should be celebrated when they're alive. Translators and worthy scholars should not wait for the demise of the author to publish her in translation posthumously.

Kashmir is blessed with contemporaries like Farooq Nazki, Naseem Shifayi, Shahnaz Rasheed and a cluster of other poets who deserve to go global. But this can only be realised only through a robust culture of coming up with good translations.

I recall sharing one of the poems of late Rahi sung by Vijay Malla with one of my non-kashmiri friends. Moved by the rendition, my friend asked me for its translation, which to my great dismay, I could not furnish. Even as the poem is one of Rahi's famous and oft-quoted poems, there was no translation of it at the time. These handicaps come in our way of exporting our literature and pitching it at a scale where it can have the widest possible reach

If we are enjoying the works of Chekhov & Tolstoy, Shakespeare & Milton, Firdausi & Rumi and many others by means of translation, we need to equally pay back to the world and introduce them to our literary stalwarts, past and present, so that we carve for our selves a place of prominence in the niche of international literature, which Kashmir undoubtedly deserves. Those of our writers like Agha Shahid Ali, Basharat Peer, Mirza Waheed and others who chose English as their medium of expression, received global acclaim for it. This only proves the inherent merit which our writers carry. If literature is to have a future, Kashmir needs to take its well deserved place. But the caveat remains: Who will bell

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer The author is a Srinagar-based columnist



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### Urgent Need to Educate the Public on Earthquake Safety Measures

am writing to highlight a critical aspect that demands immediate attention in the wake of the recent seismic activities that have shaken our region. The recent earthquakes have underscored the urgent need for comprehensive education and awareness programs on earthquake safety measures within our communities.

Earthquakes, unpredictable and often catastrophic, remind us of the necessity to be adequately prepared. It is concerning to note that despite living in regions prone to seismic

activities, many individuals lack essential knowledge on what to do before, during, and after an earthquake strikes. This knowledge gap puts countless lives at risk and jeopardizes our collective ability to effectively respond to such natural disasters.

Therefore, it is imperative that educational initiatives be implemented at various levels, starting from schools and extending to workplaces and community centers. These programs should encompass practical guidance on creating emergency kits, developing family communication plans,

securing household items, and understanding safe evacuation procedures.

Furthermore, public campaigns utilizing multiple mediums such as workshops, seminars, informational pamphlets, and digital platforms should disseminate crucial information on identifying potential hazards in buildings and the importance of retrofitting structures to withstand seismic activity.

Local authorities, along with community leaders and organizations, play a pivotal role in spearheading these efforts. They should collaborate to ensure that resources, training, and educational materials are readily accessible to all members of the community, regardless of socio-economic background.

As responsible citizens, we owe it to ourselves and our communities to be well-informed and prepared for any eventuality, especially natural disasters like earthquakes. By investing in education and proactive measures, we can significantly mitigate the risks and ensure a safer, more resilient society.

Wani Mudasir

## WHEN TRUST BETRAYS

## The Dark Side of Influencer-Backed Scams

Dr Mudasir Ahmad Gori

nline scamming can occur in any region, and Kashmir too is a fallen victim of such scams. These can take various forms, such as phishing, fake websites, identity theft, investment fraud, and more. It's important for individuals to be aware of common online scams and take measures to protect themselves. Here are some general tips to avoid falling victim to online

- Be cautious with emails: Avoid clicking on suspicious links or downloading attachments from unknown sources. Phishing emails often appear legitimate but may lead to fraudulent websites designed to steal your personal information.
- Use strong, unique passwords: Create strong and unique passwords for your online accounts. Avoid using the same password across multiple platforms. Consider using a password manager to generate and store complex passwords.
- Secure your devices: Keep your devices, including computers and smartphones, updated with the latest security patches and antivirus software. This helps protect against malware and other security threats.
- Verify websites: Before providing any personal or financial information online, make sure the website is secure. Look for "https://" in the URL and check for a padlock icon in the address bar. Be cautious of fake websites that mimic legitimate ones.
- **Beware of investment scams:** Be skeptical of unsolicited investment opportunities, especially those promising high returns with little risk. Research and verify the legitimacy of investment opportunities before committing any funds.
- Protect personal information: Avoid sharing sensitive information, such as Social Security numbers, bank account details. or credit card information, un-



less it is absolutely necessary and the website is secure.

- Educate yourself: Stay informed about common online scams and fraud tactics. Being aware of the latest scams can help you recognize and avoid potential threats.
- Monitor your accounts: Regularly review your bank statements, credit reports, and online accounts for any unauthorized or suspicious activity. Report any discrepancies to your financial institution immediately.

If people have been influenced or misled by social media influencers promoting fraudulent companies, they should take several steps to protect themselves and report the fraudulent activity. Here's what individuals can do:



#### IT'S IMPORTANT FOR INDIVIDUALS TO TAKE SWIFT ACTION TO PROTECT THEMSELVES AND OTHERS FROM THE **CONSEQUENCES OF FRAUDULENT PROMOTIONS.** Social

media platforms, when informed, may take actions against influencers who violate their policies

#### **► STOP ENGAGING:**

- Cease any further interaction with the fraudulent company or its promoters.
- Do not make any additional payments or provide more personal information.
- **▶** DOCUMENT EVERYTHING:
- Save screenshots of the influ-

#### encer's posts or promotions related to the fraudulent company. Keep records of any communi-

cation, including messages or

REPORT TO SOCIAL MEDIA

#### **PLATFORMS:**

- Report the influencer and the fraudulent content to the social
- media platform. Most platforms have mechanisms for reporting fraudulent or misleading con-
- Provide details and evidence of the misleading promotions.

#### **WARN OTHERS:**

Share your experience on social media to warn others in your

- network about the fraudulent activity.
- Encourage others to be cautious and skeptical of promotions from influencers, especially those related to financial investments or services.

#### **CONTACT AUTHORITIES:**

- Report the fraudulent activity to relevant authorities, such as local law enforcement agencies or consumer protection agencies.
- Provide them with the evidence you have collected.

#### **SEEK LEGAL ADVICE:**

- Consult with legal professionals to understand your rights and
- In some cases, legal action may be possible against both the fraudulent company and the influencers involved.

#### **REVIEW FINANCIAL STATE-**

- If you have made any payments to the fraudulent company, review your financial statements carefully.
- Contact your bank or credit card company to report unauthorized transactions and seek their guidance on potential charge-

#### **STAY INFORMED:**

Keep yourself informed about common scams and fraudulent activities to avoid falling victim to similar schemes in the future. It's important for individuals to

take swift action to protect themselves and others from the consequences of fraudulent promotions. Social media platforms, when informed, may take actions against influencers who violate their policies. Additionally, reporting to law enforcement and other relevant authorities helps in investigating and taking legal actions against fraudulent companies and individuals.

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

## Supervising A

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

#### Siddharth Pai

bout a month has passed since the kerfuffle at OpenAI which saw Sam Altman booted out as its boss, only to triumphantly return three days later. The last bastion of 'responsible' artificial intelligence (AI) seems to have fallen, as I have written else-

Let me explain: OpenAI was first a non-profit research lab whose mission was to safely develop AI that was at a human level or beyond, often called artificial general intelligence or AGI (and "singularity" the point where AI is beyond human intelligence).

The emphasis was on "safety" to avoid what historian Yuval Noah Hariri said some years ago in the Financial Times: "Once big data knows me better than I know myself, authority will shift from humans to algorithms".

The structure was governed by the original non-profit board, which answered only to the goals of the original mission, and had the power to fire Altman, as he himself said once in an interview. The truth is that Altman was not in fact replaceable by the board, as we have seen. Now that the old boss is back and most of the board is gone, a new board that will probably be more pliant has taken over. This means we are in a free-for-all.

We are now back to the point where we must look at voluntary safeguards set in place by these companies (OpenAI, Amazon, Microsoft, Google, and others) to keep us from the point where AI can become a horror.

For instance, OpenAI has now announced early results from its "superalignment"

team, its voluntary, in-house initiative to prevent a computer with superintelligence—one that can outsmart human beings-from going off unsupervised and creating harm.

Today, the primary method used by these models (primarily generative AI models such as ChatGPT and Google's Gemini) is reinforcement learning via human feedback. Simply stated, human testers give the model high scores when they see output they like and low scores when the output seems subpar to them (as human beings). This is partly what contributes to their output being so engaging. According to OpenAI's su-

peralignment team, however, co-led by Ilya Sutskever, OpenAI's chief scientist (who was supposedly behind the board's push to fire Altman), the issue with this method is that it requires human beings in the first place to tell the model what is desirable and what is undesirable-but the team thinks that a supermodel will go off and do things that a hu-

The team proposes to use older models to supervise

man is unable to score.

newer ones. So, for example, instead of human beings, GPT-2 (a five-year-old product) would supervise GPT-4. The flaw in this reasoning is plain to see, but according to OpenAI's superalignment team, if this could be pulled off, then it may be evidence that similar techniques could be used by humans to supervise superhuman models. I'm still foxed; maybe you can understand

this reasoning better than I. Apart from such internal and voluntary methods, there is nothing else seeking to rein in the horrors that unbridled

AI development may rain on us (save a few bleatings by governments). Now, hope is centered

around the European Union's AI Act which would require extra checks for "high risk" uses which have the most potential to harm humans.Europeans led the way around data privacy legislation a few years ago, and the hope is that they will light this technology path yet again. Two and a half years after it was mooted, after gruelling negotiations and much back and forth, the EU's lawmakers have reached a deal

and moved the AI Act into law. As with data, the Europeans will become the world's guard dogs around AI. The rest of us

will follow. Not to be outdone, the US also issued a proclamation on October 30, 2023, in the form of an executive order. I say proclamation since the US' legislative bodies are in polarised disarray and can barely stay in business, let alone ratify laws, and it's likely that a change in an incoming President next year could also topple the current executive order.

That said, in the current ex-

ecutive order, President Joe Biden says: "In the end, AI reflects the principles of the people who build it, the people who use it, and the data upon which it is built." He has also said "We need to govern this technology. There's no other way around it in my view. It must be governed."

The executive order makes many statements like these, and touts voluntary safeguards, but in my opinion, somewhat like my columns, lacks enough specifics on how the rules show be enforced.

AI can become a horror long before we reach the point of singularity, which is when machines theoretically become smarter than humans. Jobs, while front and centre in our imaginations, are far from what should be worrying us the most about the advances in AI. To my mind, the AIbased development of autonomous weaponry, which can decide for themselves when to take human lives, is far more frightening.

According to The Independent, the UN says military drones may have already attacked humans without being instructed to. As Ifeoma Ajunwa, an expert in this field, says, "The actual present danger is not AI becoming too intelligent. It's more that humans are using AI in ways that are counter to our democratic beliefs about equal opportunity and equal protection." And that's exactly the point. Let's have humans govern humans first-before we worry about machines governing machines.

The article was originally published by Financial

#### **Police Conducts**

investigation reach its conclusion; it's a massive scam, and the agency cannot draw conclusions until the facts are known. A massive hunt has been launched to nab those who are absconding," a police official told Kashmir Observer, adding that not everyone seen in the office is necessarily guilty, and some may even be paid staff members who are unaware of the fraud.

"We appeal to the victims to remain calm and cooperate with the police until the investigation is completed and the accused are arrested," said the police official, assuring that those at the helm of the firm will be behind bars soon.

The officials, however, said the amount might increase as the investigation is still in progress.

Initially, the company made good on its promise which brought in more investors and the scheme was promoted by at least two local YouTubers adding to its popularity.

Soon after, the owners of the company disappeared, officials said, adding that they found the Karan Nagar office locked

One of the YouTubers, Idris Mir, said he could not be held responsible for the fraud as he had featured the company on his channel as a paid promotion.

"It was not only me who did it. There are others as well. We have our own checks to see whether the company is a legal entity. Only then we promote the company. This company was in operation for nearly one year with branches in Jammu, Srinagar, Pattan. and Sangrama. What was happening during all this time?" he asked. (With PTI inputs)

#### **No Shortcut**

He said those who had been tricked would soon have their money back.

"I find it surprising that people are so easily tricked; con artists prey on naïve individuals by luring them with enticing schemes, and one must exercise extreme caution to fall victim to their evil plans. Our police and security agencies are actively investigating the matter, which came to our notice yesterday only. All available technical resources are being used in this direction," Div Com Kashmir told reporters on the sidelines of a function at SKICC

Many naïve people, he claimed, have already fallen for similar con artists who offer to double their money in fifteen days, and they should think twice before falling for such tricks.

The fraudsters, according to the Div Com, lure unsuspecting people with tempting schemes before siphoning off millions of rupees.

"This incident should serve as an eye opener for all of us. The matter is being investigated as of now and we try our best for the law to prevail and those duped have their money back,"

Replying to a query about frauds of this nature have begun in Srinagar as well, while the scheme was promoted by some social media influencers, he said the investigation is on and the facts will come to fore once investiga-

Prevention, Bidhuri said, is better than falling prey to the evil plans of scammers, who he said, entice people by luring them with enticing schemes only to grab their hard-earned money.

"It's best that we exercise caution since con artists are constantly looking for unsuspecting victims to fall prey to their evil plans. To prevent falling for such frauds, awareness is essential," he added.

#### **LG Stresses**

to achieve saturation of government schemes and generate awareness among the people

"Healthy competition among the districts must be ensured to make J&K a top performer in the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra programme," he said

He emphasized on increasing the female literacy rate and ensuring that no child is deprived of education.

"Every girl child deserves a good education and it should be the paramount goal of the community in Panchayats. Administration's mission is to ensure primary school in every panchayat for quality education," Sinha added.

The LG also shared the efforts of his administration to increase the input credit to farmers, and providing 5 marla land to poor landless beneficiaries under PMAY including eligible members of Gujjar Bakerwal community.

Responding to the demands projected by PRI members, the LG assured that the issue of drinking water supply in Udhampur city will be redressed soon. He also directed Deputy Commissioner Udhampur to address the issues pertaining to Udhampur Master Plan at the earliest, Sinha asked the District Administration and the PRI members for identification of eligible beneficiaries from Udhampur for the Mega camp of the Social Welfare

department to be held at Jammu. Manmohan Raina, Sarpanch Panchayat Ballian and beneficiaries from the Panchayat also shared their experiences and success stories.

#### 'Transform Youth

the world," Sinha said. He was addressing students and teachers on the Annual Day celebration of Sainik School, Nagrota, here on Wednesday.

"Sainik School Nagrota has always lived up to its motto of "Gyan, Veerta aur Anushasan" - Knowledge, Bravery and Discipline and its alumni are rendering distinguished service to the nation in various other sectors," he said.

The LG called upon the educational institutions, teaching community to reinforce the ideals of nation building and transform the youth into the ambassadors of a progressive India.

"We have to ensure that our education system strengthens the culture and ethos and is empowered to create a strong, prosperous and Viksit Bharat," he said, while advising students to focus on life skills, find their inner voice, learn through own experiences and collaborations.

"Discipline, strong character and self-confidence to overcome challenges will guide you towards a glorious future," Sinha added.

The LG reiterated the commitment of his administration to provide necessary support to the Sainik School. He also extended his felicitations to the Cadets of Sainik School Nagrota who excelled in the prestigious NDA examination.

On the occasion, the LG handed over the 32 seater school bus costing Rs 21.38 lakh, sponsored by the UT Administration, to the officials of the Sainik School. Besides, he also inaugurated the Arts and Science Exhibition and visited the School's IT Computer Lab and Atal Tinkering

Earlier, the LG received the ceremonial Guard of honor from the students and presented the academic awards to meritorious cadets.

Lt Gen Sanjeep Jain, GOC 16 Corps Nagrota; Maj Gen Shailendra Singh, Chief of Staff & Chairman Local Board of Administration; Capt (IN) AK Desai, Principal Sainik School Nagrota: officials of Army and UT administration; teachers, students and parents were present.

#### LS Passes 3 Key

after 97 of their colleagues were suspended from Lok Sabha for "unruly" behaviour in the House.

While many opposition parties have been critical of the bills that seek to replace the IPC, CrPC and the Evidence Act, only a handful of non-NDA members, including Hyderabad MP and AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi, MPs of the Biju Janata Dal and Bahujan Samaj, were present in the House.

"I am astonished at how some people defend and save the lives of terrorists in the name of 'human rights'. Remember, this is neither the rule of Britishers nor of Congress. This is

"No arguments to save terrorists will be entertained here," Shah said, adding the Modi government has explicitly brought 'terrorism' under the purview of the criminal justice system.

"We have changed the definition of Sedition from 'Rajdroh' (offences against the government) to 'Deshdroh' (offences against the Nation)," he said noting IPC Section 124, or the Sedition Law, has been repealed.

The purpose of the new law is "not o save the government, but to save the country. In a healthy democracy, everyone has the right to criticise the government, but we will not allow anyone to say anything demeaning about India," Shah said.

"The sedition law made by the British, under which Tilak, Mahatma Gandhi, Sardar Patel... many of our freedom fighters remained in jail for years and that law continues till date.

"When they were in opposition, they used to protest, but when they came to power, they misused it. For the first time, the Modi government completely abolished the sedition law," he said.

Shah said the first duty of the state is justice. "Judiciary, Executive and Legislature are the three pillars of democracy. The makers of our Constitution divided the work among these three to give strong administration to the country. Today, for the first time, these three together will give the country a justice-centric criminal system and not a punishment-centric one," he said,

For the first time, laws are going to be made according to the spirit of our Constitution under the leadership of

"I am proud to have changed these three laws after 150 years. Some people used to say that we do not understand them, I tell them that if you keep your mind as an Indian then you will understand. But if your mind is of Italy, vou will never understand.' Shah said in a swipe at the opposition Congress.

The new laws are framed by keeping in mind the core values of our Constitution- individual freedom, human rights and equal treatment for all, Shah said.

The bills were first introduced during the monsoon session of parliament in August. After the standing committee on home affairs made several recommendations, the government decided to withdraw the bills and introduced their redrafted version last

Replying to the debate, which started on Tuesday and continued on Wednesday, Shah said three major amendments have been brought in the bills and these include giving relief to medical professionals who sometimes

face intimidation from kin of patients. Shah said the three proposed laws were drafted after comprehensive consultations. "I personally had 158 meetings. Not only every line, I have read every comma and every full stop of the bills," he said.

Highlighting achievements of the Narendra Modi government, the home minister said it delivers on every promise it makes. "We had said that we would remove Article 370 and 35-A, we removed it. We had promised that we would end terrorism.. and give a free hand to the security personnel, we delivered.

"We have said we will construct the Ram temple in Ayodhya and as promised the idol of Lord Ram will be consecrated on January 22," he said amid 'Jai Shri Ram' chants by members of the treasury benches.

Participating in the debate, Owaisi alleged that the new criminal bills are a threat to the civil liberties and rights of the people as they give sweeping powers to the police to act as "judge, jury and executor".

He said several provisions have been incorporated in the BNS which were "very dangerous".

Speaking in the same vein, Shiroman Akali Dal (SAD) leader Harsimrat Kaur Badal said such important bills should not be passed in such a way.

"Such an important bill is being discussed. It should be done in a fair and transparent manner with everybody allowed to air their views and here there is only the ruling party and a handful of us opposition people," she

Shah said no one should try to protect anyone involved in terrorism citing the clause of freedom of speech because terrorism is the worst human rights violation. "Anyone involved in terrorism must be given harsh punishment," he said.

He said the existing criminal laws were reflective of the colonial mindset with the intention to punish and not impart justice. They prioritised acts of "looting the treasury", "uprooting rail tracks" and "insult to the Crown" over crimes against women and children, human rights, border security, and the

Listing the features of the bills, he said, "This bill punishes mob lynching with the death penalty.

"(Congress leader P) Chidambaram kept asking me what about mob lynching. He does not understand the BJP and our mentality. Why did you not penalise mob lynching during your

"The three bills reflect the spirit of the Constitution...but those with an Italian mindset will never understand it," he said asserting that the three proposed laws were based on justice, transparency and fairness.

"This is the first government which has fulfilled the promises it has mentioned in its manifesto. We have revoked Article 370, removed AFSPA in 70 per cent areas in the northeastern states, banned triple talaq and gave 33 per cent reservation to women in Parliament," he said.

On the criminal justice system, the home minister said the timeline has been the biggest barrier to securing justice in the country.

"Justice is not delivered tarikh pe tarikh milti hain (prolonged trial) ...everyone keeps shifting the blame on each other," he said.

"For the poor, the biggest challenge to get justice is finance... now, we have made many things clear in the new laws...there will be no lingering on," he said.

Shah said that now an FIR will have to be filed within three days of receiving the complaint and the preliminary enquiry will have to be finished within 14 days...

"The judges will not be able to reserve judgement for more than 45 days.. the accused will get seven days to file a plea for acquittal... The judge has to hold the hearing in those seven days, and in a maximum time of 120 days, the case would come to trial.

There was no time limit for plea bargaining earlier. Now if one accepts their crime within 30 days of the crime then the punishment would be less..., he said.

The minister said a provision for "trial in absentia" has also been introduced.

Shah said those who have fled the country after committing crimes, killing hundreds of people in bomb blasts or those who are hiding in Pakistan after carrying out terror attackas will not be spared.

"Whether you come or not, the trial will be continued, there will be punishment and their property will also be confiscated," Shah said.

#### **Contractual Can't**

to provide an opportunity of being heard to the petitioners by following the principle of natural justice and due course of law.

Counsel representing said the disengagement of services was "abuse of powers by appointing authority" and same attaches a stigma to the petitioners and was punitive and cannot be done without holding a proper

However, senior AAG said that contended that the law was settled that the contractual employment has no vested right to continue and it is not open for the Courts to direct an employer to continue the contract or to change the status of the contractual employment in any manner, once the

same has been accepted by consent of both the sides without any demur.

After hearing both the sides, the court said that if an order is founded on allegations, the same is stigmatic and punitive.

"Services of an employee cannot be dispensed with without affording him an opportunity of defending the accusations/allegations made against him in a full-fledged inquiry," the court said, adding, "Hence, it is settled law that even a contractual appointment cannot be terminated without affording an opportunity of hearing, if founded on allegation and/or misconduct, which casts a stigma on such an employee.'

Subsequently while quashing the order by MD, the court directed officials to allow the petitioners to perform their duties as was assigned to them on being engaged on consolidated/ need/contractual/contingency basis in the Corporation. "They be granted all the service benefits including wages etc., to which they are entitled to," the court said, adding, "Respondents are directed to release the withheld wages, if any, duly earned by the petitioners, for the period their services had been utilized."

However, the court made it clear that the quashment of the order will not prevent the authorities from initiating action against the alleged illegal engagements of the petitioners in accordance with the rules, if warranted in the facts and circumstances.

#### J&K Gears Up

of a new variant, JN.1, an official spokesperson said.

During the meeting, he said, the Secretary directed all stakeholders to take proactive measures to ensure full preparedness to handle any potential scenarios.

He said that the State Surveillance Officers (SSO) of Jammu and Kashmir briefed the Secretary on the previously conducted mock drills in health institutions and the data collected.

During the meeting, the spokesperson said, directions were issued to all stakeholders to conduct gap analysis regarding the logistics for testing, treating and contact tracing. The Secretary, he said, also directed for raising timely demands for logistics like testing kits, drugs, PPE kits and others with MD JKMSCL.

"He also asked them to strengthen Community Based Surveillance for early detection of unusual events in the community. All the HODs were advised to do mock drills regularly for checking the functioning of Oxygen generation plants by the Secretary," the spokesperson said.

During the meeting, he said, Kumar laid emphasis on reassessing the readiness of all facilities to ensure operational preparedness. The Secretary, he said, directed the officers to review the availability of medicines and other essential supplies in advance to ensure that everything is in place at the grassroots level should the need arise.

#### **Covid Strain**

variant of interest (VOI) from the parent lineage BA 2.86" the global health body said in a post on X.

The WHO evaluated the additional global public health risk posed by JN.1 as "low, based on the available yet limited evidence," but warned, "It is anticipated that this variant may cause an increase in SARS-CoV-2 cases amid a surge of infections of other viral and bacterial infections, especially in

countries entering the winter season." The JN.1 variant has been reported in the USA. China. Singapore and India. according to India's Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Seven cases of the variant have been reported from

The strain has caused an uptick of cases in various countries, including Singapore, which reported a 75 per cent jump with 56,043 cases last week, according to its Ministry of Health

The vast majority of the growing cases in the city-state are infected by the JN.1 variant, the ministry said.

The first JN.1 case in India was detected in a sample taken from a 79-year-old woman in Kerala with mild symptoms on December 8.

Earlier, a traveller from Tamil Nadu's Tiruchirapalli district was found to be infected with the JN.1 variant in Singapore.

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Wednesday reviewed the preparedness of health facilities and impressed upon the states to be alert and increase surveillance.

Assuring the states of receiving all support from the Centre, he said, "We need to be on the alert but there is no need to panic." In a letter to states and union territo-

ries, Union Health Secretary Sudhansh Pant on Monday urged states to ensure effective compliance with the detailed operational guidelines for a revised surveillance strategy for COVID-19, as has been shared by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

They were also advised to ensure adequate testing in all districts per COVID-19 testing guidelines and maintain the recommended share of RT-PCR and antigen tests.

Pant also attached details about the variant in an annexure, which stated that JN.1 (BA.2.86.1.1) emerged in late 2023 and is a descendant of the

BA.2.86 lineage (Pirola) of SARS-CoV2. BA.2.86 carries more than 30 mutations in the spike (5) protein, indicating

a high potential for immune evasion. The annexure stated that it is not currently known whether the JN.1 infection produces symptoms different from other variants.

In general, symptoms of COVID-19 tend to be similar across variants, and there is also no indication of increased severity from JN.1.

The existing treatment line for COVID-19 is expected to be effective against JN.1 infection, and updated vaccines are expected to increase protection against the variant, it said.

In late 2020, the emergence of variants that posed an increased risk to global public health prompted WHO to characterise some as VOIs and variants of concern (VOCs) to prioritise global monitoring and research and to inform and adjust the COVID-19 response.

#### **Sonia Demands**

next few months and "we have our tasks cut out both as a party and as INDIA group member."

About the suspension of over 140 opposition MPs from Parliament who have been demanding Home Minister Amit Shah's statement on the December 13 Parliament security breach, Gandhi said never before have so many Opposition MPs been suspended and that too for raising a "perfectly reasonable and legitimate" demand.

All the opposition MPs asked for was a statement by the home minister in the Lok Sabha on the extraordinary events of December 13, but "there are no words to describe the arrogance with which this request was treated". she said.

"What happened on December 13 is inexcusable and cannot be justified. It took four days for the prime minister to address the nation and express his views on the incident and he did so outside Parliament.

"By this, he clearly indicated his disdain for the dignity of the House and his disregard for the people of our country. I leave it to you to imagine how the BJP would have responded had they been in opposition today," she noted.

Later in the day, Congress MPs held a protest against the suspension of opposition members outside Mahatma Gandhi's statue in the Parliament The former Congress chief targeted

the BJP government at the Centre over the "soaring" inflation and said the poor are suffering and economic inequalities are rising. "There is a significant gap between the prime minister's boasts on economic growth and ground reality," she said. Gandhi also said the passage of the Women's Reservation Bill in

Parliament with a rider was an eyewash to mislead women and garner their votes. There is no time to waste and reservation for women must be implemented immediately, she said. She said the Congress' position on

Jammu and Kashmir has been clear and consistent, asserting that full statehood must be restored immediately and elections be held there at the earliest. Gandhi said the Congress has

launched an innovative campaign to strengthen its finances and noted that the importance of this drive cannot be minimized.

"I am confident that each and every one of you will do your part to ensure that it remains a sustained and successful effort," she told the party MPs.

The Congress has launched its "Donate for Desh" crowdfunding campaign and said that it will generate resources for the party ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha election.

All Indians above the age of 18 years can donate a minimum of Rs 138 or in multiples of 138, such as Rs 1,380, Rs 13,800 and so on, to the campaign. The crowdfunding initiative, the party said, was inspired by Mahatma Gandhi's historic "Tilak Swaraj Fund", which was launched more than 100 vears ago in 1920-21.

#### **PDP Favours**

the constituents of the Peoples' Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) to remain together.

'The PAGD was formed after Mehbooba's struggle. She brought all together. Mehbooba is the anchor of the PAGD. So, we do not want any rifts in it. There will be nothing from our side to suggest that we do not want the alliance. We want that all the people of J-K get united for a larger goal to achieve that goal," Madni told report-

He was responding to a question on the leaders from the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and the National Conference (NC) trading barbs publicly and whether a pre-poll alliance was a possibility.

When asked if the party had finalised the candidates for the Lok Sabha polls next year, the PDP leader said the parliamentary board will decide that in another meeting. Responding to a question about the government's claims of an improve-

ment in the security situation, Madni said if all is well, then let them conduct the elections. "They have deferred the panchayat and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) polls. If

or assembly polls not taking place? We

want all to be well so that elections are conducted and the people get their government," he added.

Commenting on the Supreme Court's recent ruling on Article 370 issue, Madni said the party has pinned its hopes with God.

"The last court, above the Supreme Court, is there and we have pinned our hopes on that. Let us see what God

does," he said. When asked if the PDP has any further plans, Madni said the party leadership will sit and discuss the issue first and then see what can be done.

The former minister, when asked about the suspension of several MPs, said this is an issue about the Parliament, but "I think that the book of the Constitution has been shut in our country".

#### **Harshest Winter**

Baramulla district recorded a low of minus 4.4 degrees Celsius, the officials

Qazigund recorded a low of minus 4 degree Celsius, Kokernag town saw the minimum settle at minus 3.3 degrees Celsius and Kupwara recorded a low of minus 3.5 degrees Celsius.

The weather office has forecast generally dry weather over the next few days in Kashmir as the minimum temperature is expected to dip further.

The drop in temperature has resulted in freezing of many slow moving water bodies. It has also resulted in freezing of water supply pipes in some

With electricity supply erratic in many areas of Kashmir, people have resorted to use of 'kangri', an earthen firepot, to beat the chill.

The drop in temperature has resulted in an increase in respiratory problems among the children and elderly.

The 'Chilla-i-Kalan' is the 40-day harshest winter period when a cold wave grips the region and the temperature drops considerably leading to the freezing of water bodies, including the famous Dal Lake here as well as the water supply lines in several parts of the valley.

The chances of snowfall are the most frequent and maximum during this period and most areas, especially the higher reaches, receive heavy snowfall.

While 'Chillai-Kalan' begins on December 21, it will end on January

The cold wave continues even after that in Kashmir with a 20-daylong 'Chillai-Khurd' (small cold) and a 10-day-long 'Chillai-Bachha' (baby cold).

#### **NIA Takes Up**

the Jammu Police Station of the agency. "The agency will initiate a detailed investigation into the encounter case," they said.

The Kokernag encounter that took place on September 13 this year claimed the lives of three senior officials from the Army and J&K Police. In the seven-day-long encounter, Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) commander Uzair Khan was also killed along with

#### another terrorist—(KNO) **Copper Utensils**

utensils worth over Rs 3 lakh. He said that besides 8 'samovars' and other utensils, burglars have sto-

len over 60 'tramis'. He said police have taken cognizance of the incident after he reported

#### the incident to them. KNT **Migrant Worker**

the ground, said a police official.

The official said that the injured labourer was rushed to the Ramban district hospital where he later succumbed to his injuries.

The labourer's co-workers protested the lack of adequate safety measures at the site and demanded adequate compensation to the next of kin of the deceased, he added.

#### **Drug Peddler**

Singh since 2018 under various sections of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act and the Indian Penal Code at various police stations, he added.

A warrant of arrest under the Public Safety Act (PSA) was issued against Singh by the Jammu district magistrate on December 12. The warrant was executed by a team from the Gangyal police station, the official said.

The PSA is an administrative law that allows detention without charge or trial for up to two years in some

#### cases. **Man Bites His**

father-in-law Sabir, family members Rihan, Rukhsar, Majid Hussain and Saeed Ahmed on Tuesday for dowry harassment and injuring her.

In her FIR, Ajmi said that she was married one-and-a-half years ago and had a five-month-old son.

After marriage, her in-laws allegedly started harassing her for bringing less dowry. She said that her husband beat her

several times and threw her out of the house, but due to the Panchayat, a compromise was reached every time. Even after this, the accused remained adamant on the demand for dowry, she alleged.

Ajmi alleged that on December 15, her in-laws beat her, and her husband all is well, then why are these elections Nazim injured her by biting her nose. Police is probing the matter.

## **Atal Dulloo Given Rousing Welcome At Srinagar Secretariat**



**Observer News Service** 

**SRINAGAR:** Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo was given a rousing welcome by hundreds of employees on reaching Srinagar Civil Secretariat here on Wednesday for the first time after assuming the charge of the post at the beginning of this month.

Atal Dulloo, 1989 Batch IAS officer has served in J&K for most part of his service. He has earlier been the Administrative Secretary of many important departments including Health & Medical Education, Finance, Agriculture besides being Deputy Commissioner of several

districts of J&K. Before being elevated to the post of Chief Secretary he was serving J&K as Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department and has been instrumental in devising of Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) aiming at revolutionizing the Agri sector with manifold increase in farmers' income.

Cheque Bounce Case

## **Court Sentences Trader To 2-Year Imprisonment**

SRINAGAR: A local court in South Kashmir's Shopian district has awarded two-year imprisonment and imposed a fine of Rs 10 lakh to an accused in a cheque bounce case.

Chief Judicial Magistrate Shopian in its judgment observed that: "I hold the accused guilty for the commission of an offense under section 138 Negotiable Instrument Act, as such is convicted who shall undergo for the imprisonment of 2 years and double the cheque amount with 10% interest with Rs. 50,000 as compensation from the date of its issuance which shall be paid to the complainant."

The court directed ecuting officer to take custody of the accused so that he shall serve imprisonment.

The court judgment came in response to a petition filed by the complainant Zahid Amin Malik, a resident of Chowgam Shopian wherein he through his Counsel stated that he is dealing in busi-

ness of electrical appliances having godown at Bijbehara besides having an office at Nowgam, Srinagar. The accused 'ANT Enterprises Srigufwara Anantnag whose proprietor is Nisar Ahmed Thukroo of Kanelwan Bijbehara purchased certain electrical goods from him including wires, cables etc for an amount of Rs. 7,46,326 and in order to satisfy the above legally enforceable debt of said amount the accused issued three cheques bearing No.830559 dated 21.08.2023 for an amount of Rs. 4,57,568, bearing no: 830560 dated 25.08.2023 for an amount of Rs. 1,44,379 and another cheque bearing no: 830561 dated 830561 for an amount of Rs. 1,44,379 to the complainant to be enco at JK Bank Ltd B/U Court Road, Shopian but the concerned bank returned the cheques due to insufficient funds.

The accused admitted his crime in the court of law, however, the court didn't oblige and said in a criminal case there is either acquittal or conviction. (KNT)

#### JAL JEEVAN MISSION

### 38495 Households Connected With Tap Water In Bandipora

121 Schemes Taken For Execution In Mission Mode

**Observer News Service** 

**BANDIPORA:** As part of the initiative to enhance water accessibility both qualitatively and quantitatively on a long term basis, district Bandipora has made substantial strides by connecting 38495 households out of 47358 targeted households.

While sharing details, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad said that under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) program, 121 Water Supply Schemes (WSSs) have been taken up for execution on mission mode in the district. He said that the infrastructure consists of 38 Rapid Sand Filtration Plants, 22 Over Head Tanks, 18 Borewells and 149 pipe network, Service Reservoirs and allied works. Out of total 47358 FHTCs, 38495 households stand

connected till date (81.22%). The DC further said that every tap water connection provided is being reported on IMIS portal with full beneficiary detail in public domain. About 768 women have been trained for use of Field Testing Kit (FTK's) in checking the quality of water and reporting the results online through WQMS Portal. Under the WQM&S, the UT is at 4th Rank at National Level.

Moreover, 16 WSSs have so far been completed and are under different stages of testing and commissioning. Be-

sides, other schemes are at various stages of completion and are expected to be completed before the closure of the current financial year 2023-24 subject to fair weather conditions. Presently 220 civil works and 84 Mechanical works are apace besides 13 Borewells stand drilled and are being developed.

thorities said that ad-TPI Agency and Consul-

The concerned auherence to guiding principles/ JJM guidelines for execution are being maintained. Proper Monitoring by tants/DPM Unit is being done to ensure Quality of works. Technical issues, Impediments (if any) flagged by concerned PHE Divisions for safe and smooth execution of works are being coordinated with better synergy by the DPM unit with the proactive intervention of

District Administration.

him in congregation to his of-Later he also took round of the Secretariat and interacted with the employees working in different departments here. He enquired about their work and other facilities available to them for smooth functioning of

During his visit the Chief Secretary was accompanied by Commissioner Secretary Science & Technology; Commissioner Secretary Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs; Secretary, Youth Services & Sports; Secretary Tourism and Culture; Director Estates, Kashmir besides other senior civil

On reaching Srinagar Secre-

tariat this afternoon the Chief

Secretary was received by hun-

dreds of employees in Secretar-

iat premises who accompanied

fice chamber.

official work.

and police officers. Chief Secretary also listened to grievances of several delegations and gave on spot instructions for their resolution and early disposal.



A MAN BREAKS ICE to make way for his boat in the interiors of Dal Lake on a freezing Wednesday morning. KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

#### Unmasking The Scam

## **Meet The Tech Influencer Who Exposed Curative Survey**

**Syed Mohammad Burhan** 

**SRINAGAR:** While controversies have ensued over some Kashmiri content creators promoting the dubious company caught up in a multi-crore scam, a tech influencer is gaining widespread appreciation for being the first to uncover the truth behind Curative Survey.

Hailing from South Kashmir's Kulgam district, 25-year-old Nafi Javaid, a computer engineer creates tech videos on social media platforms by the channel name 'NAFxx Tech'. On 16th of December, Nafi posted a video on his handle cautioning people against investing in the firm. He had found that the company's website was full of grammatical errors and there was no information about the owner.

In a conversation with Kashmir Observer, Nafi said that his viewers, who were familiar with the type of content he creates, had sent him messages and emails, urging him to investigate a company named Curative Survey

"I received a lot of mails and messages from people who were about to invest money to make a video on Curative survey. It took me around four days to investigate and I found out it was a scam. The company had no proper information about their business model," Nafi said, adding that many investors started to abuse him

**Agencies** 

SRINAGAR: AASH-'the hope of

Kashmir' on Wednesday con-

ducted a mass marriage ceremo-

ny of 50 couples at Khansahib

area of central Kashmir's Budgam

district. Quratul Ain Masoodi,

founder of the NGO while talk-

ing to the news agency—Kashmir

News Observer (KNO) said that

at least 50 couples from different

areas of Khansahib tehsil have



after he exposed the fraud.

"People questioned me about how I could label it a fraud when they had been earning from it for the past year. Some very popular social media influencers and some journalists from Kashmir had promoted it on their social media platforms," he said.

Undeterred by the accusations of seeking views and fame, Nafi emphasized the responsibility he felt toward his audience. The aftermath was swift, he said. "As soon as I uploaded the video, the fraudsters anticipated people withdrawing their money, so the next day, Curative Survey stopped the withdrawal process. By Monday, their offices were shut, and no one was to be

seen," the content creator said. This, however, is not the only scam he has exposed, as he had previously unveiled the deceit of Star Ocean Mall, another fraudulent company. "I am not a stranger to exposing fraudulent activities. About nine months

overall marriages so far to over

"Most of these brides are or-

phans and their financial con-

dition is quite dire. Financially

sound individuals come forward

and donate generously, allowing

us to continue our work but this

is our last mass marriage func-

has conducted scores of func-

tions throughout Kashmir, in

which it has helped the youth to

tie the knot, adding that the NGO

is now planning to shift the focus

from mass marriages to mental

She further added that AASH

**50 Couples Tie Knot In Mass** 

250," she added.

tion," she added.

**Wedding At Budgam** 

back, I unearthed the reality behind another company."

Following the exposure of the scam, Nafi's following has soared across social media platforms. His Facebook followers have reached an impressive 74,000, and on YouTube, he is swiftly approaching 10,000 subscribers. The video uncovering the fraudulent company has garnered widespread attention, accumulating over 1.5 lakh views, highlighting the expanding impact of Nafi's influential expose.

Nafi emphasizes that online platforms promising quick doubling of money are deceptive, asserting that earning money is inherently challenging. He categorizes such schemes as money circulation scams, where investors' funds are merely shuffled among themselves.

Advocating for responsible content creation, Nafi said, This scam gained traction with the endorsement of influential figures in J&K. So, Content creators need to understand the amount of impact their endorsements have on the general public".

"With great power comes

great responsibility," he added. According to Nafi, his motivation to create scam awareness videos stems from witnessing people in Kashmir falling prey to deceit. "I do it to protect them. With numerous scams prevalent online, this won't be the last one." he said.

health and child development.

"When we started conducting

mass marriage functions years

ago, there were only a few organ-

isations working on this cause

but now there are a number of

such NGOs helping the poor peo-

She appealed to people to make

Nikkah ceremony simple to pro-

mote simple marriage in Kashmir,

saying that it is unfortunate that

the people don't shy away from

wrong and non-permissible hab-

its, but have been showing reluc-

tance to promote and accept the

culture of simple Nikkah

ple to tie the knot," she added.

### **DGP Swain Visits Railway** Headquarters Jammu

Reviews Security Of Railways And Functioning Of GRP In UT

**Observer News Service** 

**JAMMU:** The Director General of Police J&K, R.R Swain on Wednesday visited the Government Railway Police Headquarters Jammu where he chaired the officers meeting and reviewed the overall security of Railways and functioning of GRP in the UT of Jammu and

While addressing the meeting, the DGP said that in order to enhance the level of surveil-

control at various railways stations and on the periphery of the railway stations to check any attempt of transportation of weapons, explosive or narco-substances. He said that he is well aware that lot of efforts are being made but a lot more needs to be done to enhance the preventive and detective capabilities of Railway Police for which he also gave thrust on enforcement, investigation and intelligence gathering. The DGP directed the officers



lance, it is very necessary to identify the 'deficient capabilities' by all of us particularly at supervisionary level and of-ficers should strive to fill the gaps through technology and intelligence gathering. The filling of the gaps of these capabilities will yield better results. He directed to dive deeper into the past incidents of different natures and try to find the present status, whereabouts of the persons involved and those behind that particular incidents. He advised the officers to inculcate the habit of curiosity of looking for and checking all the possibilities of any information and look into all angles of investigations of any

incident. The DGP advised for making best use of CCTNS and usage of such software through which desired 'search' is easy. While dwelling on the challenges and responses, the DGP gave thrust on strengthening of accessfor smart identification of resources which can be projected for funding.

ADGP Railways Sunil Kumar gave a powerpoint presentation in which he highlighted the role of different forces viz GRP, RPF, Police , CAPFs and private agencies. During the meeting duties and responsibilities of stakeholders were also discussed. The administrative and structural setup of GRP was discussed. Discussions were also held on the security plan for Katra Banihal Section of 111 Kilometers of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Railway Line.

The DGP, J&K later planted a sapling in the lawns of the GRP, Headquarters.

The review meeting was attended by ADGP railways Sunil Kumar, DIG Railways, Haseebur-Rehman, DIG Traffic Shridhar Patil, SSsP of GRP Jammu/ Kashmir/Katra and SO to ADGP

## **Railways Achieves** Major Breakthrough On **USRBL Project**

Last Tunnel Work On Tunnel-1 Was Most Challenging: Railway Board Member

**REASI:** Northern Railways has achieved a major milestone on most difficult section with the breakthrough of 3.2-km-long single tube tunnel, located at Gunni -Sherwad in Katra-Reasi section of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link Project, top officials said on Wednesday.

A top Northern Railway official said that under the US-BRL project, a key milestone has been achieved with the breakthrough of 3209-meter long Tunnel-1 constructed by Konkan Railway Corporation Limited for Northern Railway between Katra-Reasi stations.

With this breakthrough of Tunnel-1, Railways completed all the tunnels on the 111-kilometer-long Katra-Banihal railway line, the official said, adding that the work was held up

on this crucial tunnel for over three years since 2017.

"The lining work and pages of water seepages in Tunnel-1 was the most challenging tasks. The varied Himalayan geology and the presence of deep riverine gorges in the section posed the toughest challenge for completing the tunnel work," official added.

Railway Board Member (Infrastructure) Roop Narayan Sunkar said, "We had to work on 111 kilometres, with 97 kilometres dedicated to tunnelling. The work on the Chenab Bridge, the world's highest railway bridge, and the Ajni Bridge, the first cable-stayed rail bridge in the Katra-Banihal section, has been completed."

"The work on Tunnel-1 was the most challenging due to its topography. Finally, a breakthrough has been achieved," he said-(KNO)

#### "In the 5th phase today, we have achieved the target of 50 marriages, taking the number of

**J&K** Bank

tied the knot today.

Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited **Estates Department** Zonal Office Pulwama Website: www.jkbank.com

#### PREMISES REQUIRED The Jammu & Kashmir Bank invites offers from owners of premises for outright purchase/on lease basis for housing its

Branch Keller Shopian			
Carpet Area of Premises	Location		
10 marla land for outright purchase or Apprx.2200-2800 sft Built Up Space	Keller		

Shopian on lease (Preferably Ground Floor) The interested parties/persons owning the premises (built up space or land) and having a clear title over the property should submit their offers in format prescribed by Bank by or before 31 January, 2024.

The tender documents and the terms and conditions relating to same can be obtained in person from Zonal Office mentioned above during working hours and also can be downloaded from www.jkbank.com from December 21,2023. The Bank reserves the right to cancel/reject any/all offer(s) without assigning any reason thereof.

Dated: December 21, 2023

DIPK-NB-4889-23 DT: 20/12/2023

In Charge Estates & Engineering Dept. Zonal Office Pulwama.

Registered office: Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India CIN: L65110JK1938SGC000048; T:+91 (0)194 2481 930-35; F:+91 (0)194 248 1928; E:info⊚jkbmail.com; W: www.jkbank.com

#### Government of Jammu & Kashmir **OFFICE OF THE FLORICULTURE OFFICER DISTRICT SRINAGAR DEPARTMENT OF FLORICULTURE KASHMIR**

GIST OF SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE: 02 of 2023-24

e.mail: fosrinagar123@gmail.com

DATED: 20 / 12/2023

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K, sealed tenders affixed with Rs.6/-(Rupees six only) Revenue Stamps are invited through Registered/speed post/ Courier services/by hand from Government approved suppliers/Contractors on the prescribed tender form for below mentioned job:

Name of work	Estimate quantity	Cost of tender document (Non-refundable)	Cost of Call Deposit Receipt pledged to Floriculture Officer District Srinagar	Date for issue of tender document	Last date for receipt of bids on prescribed tender form.
Supply of Wild Brooms 4-5 feet of 10 sticks per bunch (Berberis	3000 Nos	Rs.100/-	Rs.1800/-	From 17/10/2023 till 28/12/2023	30/12/2023 upto 4.00 PM

The tenders will be opened by the Local Purchase Committee on the same day or next working day convenient to committee. However, in case of any eventuality, the tender issue/receipt/opening date will be considered the next working day without any change of fixed time

The tenderer shall have to keep (Technical bid) containing Copy of Registration with upto date Renewal, GST Registration, Latest GST clearance, PAN Card & Call Deposit Receipt in sealed envelop marked as "A". The Financial bid duly filled in and pasted with Revenue Stamps worth Rs.6/- should be kept in separate Sealed Envelope marked as "B"

and both technical bid envelope "A" and Financial Bid envelope "B" should be put together in large Envelope addressed to the Floriculture Officer, Pologround Park Srinagar

No: FOS/DOF/GS-NIT-02/2239 Dated: 20/12/2023 Mubashir Ahmad Wani) DIPK-14064-23 Floriculture Officer, DT: 20/12/2023 Department of Floriculture District, Srinagar.

### **Ministry Of Youth Affairs & Sports Announces National Sports Awards 2023**





coaches for Dronacharya award in

the regular category and three in

life-time category will be con-

The Dyan Chand award in the

Guru Nanak Dev Univer-

sity, Amritsar is the recipient of

the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad

(MAKA) Trophy 2023, while Love-

ly Professional University, Punjab

and Kurukshetra University, Ku-

rukshetra are the first and second

National Sports Awards are

List of National Sports Award

winners: Major Dhyan Chand

Khel Ratna Award for 2023: Chirag

Shetty and Satwik Sairaj Rankired-

Arjuna Awards for 2023: Ojas Pravin Deotale (archery), Aditi

Gopichand Swami (archery), Mu-

rali Sreeshankar (athletics), Parul

Chaudhary (athletics), Mohameed

Hussamuddin (boxing), R Vaishali

(chess), Mohammed Shami (crick-

et), Anush Agarwalla (equestrian),

Divyakriti Singh (equestrian dres-

sage), Diksha Dagar (golf), Krishan

Bahadur Pathak (hockey), Sushila

Chanu (hockey), Pawan Kumar (kabaddi), Ritu Negi (kabaddi),

Nasreen (kho-kho), Pinki (lawn

bowls), Aishwary Pratap Singh To-

mar (shooting), Esha Singh (shoot-

ing), Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu

(squash), Ayhika Mukherjee (table

tennis), Sunil Kumar (wrestling),

Antim (wrestling), Naorem Roshi-

bina Devi (wushu), Sheetal Devi

(para archery), Illuri Ajay Kumar

Reddy (blind cricket), Prachi Yadav

(para canoeing).

given every year to recognise and

reward excellence in sports.

dy (badminton).

life-time category.

ferred to three persons.

**Press Trust of India** 

**NEW DELHI:** The Sports Ministry on Wednesday put its stamp on the nominations for the annual sports awards, confirming the prestigious Khel Ratna honour for badminton players Satwik Sairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty and the Arjuna award for 26 sports persons, including pacer Moham-

The awards will be conferred on the athletes by President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on January 9.

med Shami

Chirag and Satwik are Asian Games gold medallists, World Championships bronze winners and Commonwealth Games silver medallists. On the other hand, Shami, 33, had a spectacular run in the ODI World Cup, where India finished second-best, losing to Australia in the final. Shami was the leading wicket-taker in the World Cup, with 24 wickets to his name in seven outings.

The athletes selected for this year's Arjuna award include hockey players Krishan Bahadur Pathak and Sushila Chanu, archers Ojas Pravin Deotale and Aditi Gopichand Swami, boxer Mohammad Hussamuddin, chess player R Vaishali, golfer Diksha Dagar, shooters Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar and Esha Singh, wrestlers Antim Panghal and Sunil Kumar, paddler Ayhika Mukherjee and para archer Sheetal Devi, among

The athletes were nominated for the awards by a government panel on December 13.

The ministry also cleared five

## **India Face South Africa** In Deciding 3rd ODI

Press Trust of India

PAARL: With a similar storyline of faltering opening combination running through the first two matches, India's hopes of registering their second ODI series triumph in South Africa will revolve around a sturdy start from the openers in the third and final match here on Thursday.

India's lone ODI series win in the Rainbow nation came in 2018, and for an encore they require a robust beginning from Ruturaj Gaikwad and B Sai Sudharsan as a pair. Sai Sudharsan has been impressive in his two outings in the series so far, notching up 55 and 62. But Gaikwad could not support him from the other end. The right-hander fell for five and four as India's first-wicket alliance ended at 23 and four at Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth.

In contrast, South African openers Tony de Zorzi, who cracked his maiden century, and Reeza Hendricks milked 130 runs to kill the chase. Similarly, Tilak Varma, who showed some early promise in his career, seemed to have



tapered off a bit in the last couple of months.

elegant left-hander who packs a punch struggled to touch his peak in the home T20I series against Australia and the struggle seemed to have followed him to South Africa as well. The Hyderabad batter is yet to hit his peak here.

It is important for Gaikwad and Varma, unless he is replaced with uncapped Rajat Patidar for tomorrow's match, to rediscover their range because India no longer have Shreyas Iyer in the middleorder to shore up the innings. The 30-year-old Patidar usually bats at No. 4 for Madhya Pradesh. Iyer had joined an inter-squad match to prepare for the upcoming Test series after the first one-dayer. However, these top order batters can draw some solace from the Boland Park pitch, which often tends to lean towards batsmen.

Match starts at 4.30 PM IST.

## **Amid Conflicting Reports, Punjab Kings Say They Picked Right Player**

**Press Trust of India** 

**NEW DELHI:** Punjab Kings on Wednesday issued a clarification that they had picked the right cricketer during the IPL auction in Dubai, contrary to reports that they had bid for a 'wrong' player because of confusion in the name.

Shashank Singh was bought during the later part of the auction on Tuesday with fran-

chises looking to add a few uncapped Indian players in the base price range of Rs 20 lakh.

When the auctioneer announced Shashank's name, PBKS co-owner Preity Zinta raised the paddle and the cricketer was quickly sold. According to reports, the franchise later 'realised' that it had made a mistake and approached the auctioneer to reverse the deal

In its clarification, PBKS said, "Media have reported on Shashank Singh being bought erroneously by Punjab Kings. The Kings would like to clarify that the player was always on

our target list. The confusion was due to 2 players of the same name being on the list. We are delighted to have him on board and see him contribute to our success," said the PBKS statement.

### **Shubman Loses Top ODI Batters Spot To Babar Azam**

**Press Trust of India** 

**DUBAI:** India opener Shubman Gill's reign at the top of of the ODI batters' list was shortlived as he was replaced by former Pakistani skipper Babar Azam in the ICC Player Rankings issued on Wednesday.

The Indian attained the top spot during the ODI World Cup last month, but since then he has not played any ODI. Babar is back at the top with 824 rating points, while Gill (810) is the second spot followed by teammates Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma. Shreyas Iyer has dropped to 12th, while KL Rahul has moved a spot to 16th.

In the bowlers' chart, South African spinner Keshav Maharaj remains at the top followed by Australia pacer Josh Hazle-wood. Fast bowler Mohamone spot among T20 bowlers, becoming only the second English spinner after Graeme Swann to do so.

Rashid has replaced Afghanistan's Rashid Khan, thanks to his seven-wicket haul in four T20Is against the West Indies, while Ravi Bishnoi (3rd) is the top-ranked Indian.

Shakib leads the chart among T20 all-rounders, with Pandya (4th) being the highest-ranked Indian.

New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson dominates the number one spot among Test batters, followed by Joe Root (2nd) and Steven Smith (3rd).

Australia's Usman Khawaja has risen to the fourth spot following a stellar show in the opening Test against Pakistan in Perth. Rohit (10th) is the highest-ranked Indian.



med Siraj (3rd), Jasprit Bumrah (5th) and Kuldeep Yadav (8th) are the other Indians to feature in the top 10.

Mohammad Shami is at the 11th spot, while spinner Ravindra Jadeja is ranked 22nd.

The all-rounders' list remains relatively unchanged, with Bangladesh's Shakib Al

Hasan staying at the top spot. Jadeja (12th) and Hardik Pandya (17th) are the only Indians in the top 20. In T20Is, India's Suryakumar Yadav remains atop the batting chart. Adil Rashid holds the number

Veteran India off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin tops the Test bowlers' chart, followed by Kagiso Rabada, Shakib and Jadeja. A few Aussies have scaled heights, with skipper Pat Cummins climbing to the third place, followed by Nathan Lyon (5th), Mitchell Starc (8th) and Josh Hazlewood (10th), thanks to their dominant display against Pakistan.

In the all-rounders' chart, Jadeja remains at the summit, followed by Ashwin in the second spot, while Axar Patel is ranked fifth.

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



