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Kashmir In Grip Of Fog, Cold Wave

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Kashmir Valley continued to reel under intense cold as dense fog disrupted early morning life for the third consecutive day in the region on Wednesday, officials said here.

A dense layer of fog engulfed Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, and visibility in the city was less than 50 metres, they said.

The transport department has issued an extensive advisory for motorists in the city driving through what they termed as one of the worst foggy condi-

tions in recent memory.
Srinagar recorded a low of minus 2.6 degrees Celsius on Tuesday night, a slight increase from the previous night's minus 3.0 degrees Celsius, they said.

Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district recorded a

'Army Must Win Hearts, Avoid Mistakes': Rajnath Tells Troops

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Defence Minister

Rajnath Singh on Wednesday said he had full faith in the Indian Army that | More on P6

Reviews Security Situation Along LoC

efence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday visited the border areas of Jammu and Kashmir and reviewed the security situation along the Line of Control (LoC), officials said. Singh also carried out a firsthand | More on P6

THE INDIAN ARMY IS NOT CONSIDERED AN ORDINARY FORCE IN THE WORLD. The people accept that the Army

is much more powerful than ever and also well-equipped compared to the past. You are the guardians of the nation but

alongside protecting the country, you need to win the hearts of the citizens. It is a big responsibility on your shoulders."

Assures Justice To Families Of 3 Slain Civilians

efence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday assured justice to the families of three civilians who were found dead last week after being allegedly picked up by the Army following an ambush on | More on P6

Fresh Searches Underway Along IB, LoC

Confident Army Will

Wipe Out Terrorism

Savs He Is

From J&K

resh searches were launched along the border with Pakistan in Samba and Poonch even as cordon and search operations continued for the seventh straight day on Wednesday | More on P6

Arabia government officials said on Wednesday. The officials said they anticipate a yearly increment in the number, according to an official

statement issued by the country. Umrah is an Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca that can be un-

18 Lakh Indians

Umrah In 2023

New Delhi: A total of 18 lakh

Indian Muslims performed Umrah in 2023 -- the third

highest in the world, Saudi

Performed

Press Trust Of India

dertaken any time of the year. Indian Muslim Umrah performers ranked third highest among countries, reaching 18 lakh visitors, the officials said.

They did not mention the names of the top two countries accounting for the highest Umrah performers.

Highlighting the significance of India in the | More on P6

Govt Grants Amnesty To Settle Tax Arrears Of Pre-GST Regime



Observer News Service

Jammu: In a major relief to taxpayers, the Jammu and Kashmir administration on Wednesday granted amnesty for the settlement of tax arrears pertaining to the pre-GST regime in the Union Territory.

The decision in this regard was taken by the Administrative Council (AC) which met here under the chairmanship of the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, an official spokesperson said. The Finance Department had proposed the grand am-

"This step is going to provide relief to

the taxpayers in the form of waiver of interest and penalty besides recovery of the blocked revenue to the Government," the spokesperson said.

"Earlier all dealers could not take benefit of the erstwhile amnesty scheme issued vide Govt. order no. 39-FD of 2018 dated 05/02/2018 due to various reasons including Covid-19 pandemic," he added

As such, the spokesperson said, a large number of representations were received from the trade and industry sector for granting a one-time opportunity to the dealers for settlement of the outstanding arrears under the pre-GST | More on P6

Kashmir Inc Welcomes Move

he Federation of Chambers of Industries Kashmir (FCIK) and the Kashmir Trade Alliance (KTA) on Wednesday expressed gratitude to the Union Territory administration for settlement of assessed and reassessed demands raised against industrial units for the period under VAT regime. In a statement, the President FCIK Shahid Kamili thanked the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and other members of the Administrative | More on P6

PROXY PROBLEM

Govt Schools Directed To Display Pictures Of Teachers

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir School Education Department has directed all the government educational institutes to display photographs of teachers to 'prevent the practice of teaching staff by sending proxies on their behalf'.

Director of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) notified this in a communiqué to **Chief Education Officers** (CEOs) of the region.

An official at DSEK said, "As per the orders, it seems that there may be some teachers in the department who are sending proxies on their behalf. The concerned authorities may have accordingly issued the orders to curb such practices.

third Secretaries Conference is proposed to be held on December 27-29. The theme identified for this conference is 'Promoting Ease of Living' with a special focus on 'Ease of Schooling' to enhance access to schools and ensure quality of service delivered," it reads.

communiqué further reads, "One of the key action points identified for the matter is 'proxy teachers'-displaying of photographs of teachers | More on P6

Govt Bans Masarat Alam's Muslim League

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: A faction of Muslim League Jammu Kashmir, led by separatist leader Masarat Alam Bhat, was on Wednesday declared a banned organisation by the government under the stringent anti-terror law.

The ban comes as a response to the outfit's involvement in anti-national and secessionist activities in Jammu and Kashmir, with the intent to create a reign of terror in the country, the Union Home Ministry said.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, while announcing the ban under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. emphasised that the Modi

No Person Can Be Detained Under PSA On 'Vague' Allegations': HC

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh on Wednesday held that a person cannot be detained under preventive detention on the basis of "totally vague and unsubstantiated allegations".

A bench of Justice Sanjeev Kumar made the observations while quashing detention order under Public Safety Act against one Bashir Ahmad Koka, 49, of Achabal Anantnag passed by the Deputy Commissioner of the south Kashmir district in June last year.

Interestingly, the detaining authority had "primarily" detained Koka on the basis of allegations contained in FIR No. 11 of 2004 in which he was ultimately

acquitted by long back. He had been earlier booked under PSA on the same allegations and the court had already quashed the earlier detention order in 2021.

"It is on the basis of this FIR, as also the general allegations that because of his allegiance with proscribed terrorist organisation, there was apprehension that petitioner would disturb Holy Shri Amarnath Ji Yara, a detention

order was passed against the petitioner on 19th October, 2021. This order of detention ... was quashed..," the court said, add-

ing, "There is nothing on record, more particularly in the order of detention, that after the petitioner (Koka) was released pursuant to the order of this Court dated 19th April, 2022, the | More on P6

ATTENTION TAXPAYERS

DON'T FORGET THIS DAT

Last date to file ITR for A.Y. 2023-24 is



Hurry! Avoid any delay. Complete it today!

Revised Returns

Revised IT returns u/s 139 (5) of the Income Tax Act 1961 for AY 2023-24 may be e-filed by 31st December 2023 without late fee, if there is any omission or wrong statement in original ITR filed on or before due date

Belated Returns

Belated Income Tax Returns u/s 139 (4) of the Income Tax Act 1961 for A. Y. 2023-24 may be e-filed by 31st December 2023 along with late fee

Log on to the e-filing portal at www.incometax.gov.in to file your Income Tax Return, easily and securely.



Income Tax Department Central Board of Direct Taxes



For more information, please visit www.incometax.gov.in





No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

Government Of Jammu And Kashmir

Jammu And Kashmir Services Selection Board

CPO Chowk, Panjtirthi, Jammu/Zamzam Complex Rambagh, Srinagar (www.jkssb.nic.in)

Kaka Ram

H.No.48, Ward No.5, Kanga, Ramban.

FINAL NOTICE

Whereas, the J&K Services Selection Board, vide No. JKSSB-Scry/7/2023-03 (7259835) dated 09.11.2023, notified the Provisional Selection List for the post of "Driver/ Driver-I/ Driver-II/ Tractor Driver", advertised vide Notification No. 04, 05, 06 & 07 of 2020 and 01, 02, & 03 of 2021; and

Whereas, among others, your candidature figured in the Provisional list under SC category, which was, however, kept withheld subject to verification of Driving License from Issuing authority and its validity for the Item allotted; and

Whereas, the documents received in your case were found insufficient and, as a result, your case could not be cleared; and

Whereas, the case was deliberated in the 249th Board Meeting and it was decided to offer you an opportunity to fulfill the deficiency;

Now, therefore, through the medium of this Notice, you are hereby given a final/ last opportunity to submit a valid within-date Driving License (TRANS), within a period of 03 days on e-mail ID driverselection2023@gmail.com, from the date of issuance of this notice, failing which your candidature in the selection for the aforesaid posts shall be cancelled without any further notice

No. JKSSB-Scry/7/2023-03 (E-7259835)

Aijaz Ahmad Bhat

Mohd Ramzan Bhat H.No.54, Sodal, Handwara, Kupwara.

FINAL NOTICE

Whereas, the J&K Services Selection Board, vide No. JKSSB-Scry/7/2023-03 (7259835) dated 09.11.2023, notified the Provisional Selection List for the post of "Driver/ Driver-I/ Driver-II/ Tractor Driver", advertised vide Notification No. 04, 05, 06 & 07 of 2020 and 01, 02, & 03 of 2021; and

Whereas, among others, your candidature figured in the Provisional list under RBA category, which was, however, kept withheld subject to verification of Driving License from Issuing authority and its validity for the Item allotted; and

Whereas, the documents received in your case were found insufficient and, as a result, your case could not be cleared; and

Whereas, the case was deliberated in the 249th Board Meeting and it was decided to offer you an opportunity to fulfill the deficiency;

Now, therefore, through the medium of this Notice, you are hereby given a final/ last opportunity to submit a valid within-date Driving License (TRANS), within a period of **03 days** on e-mail ID <u>driverselection2023@gmail.com</u>, from the date of issuance of this notice, failing which your candidature in the selection for the aforesaid posts shall be cancelled without any further notice

nwal) JKAS,

No. JKSSB-Scry/7/2023-03 (E-7259835)

Danish Manzoor Manzoor Ahmad Mir

Gratiwalipora, Devalgam, Kokernag, Anantnag.

FINAL NOTICE

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Whereas, among others, your candidature figured in the Provisional list under RBA category, which was, however, kept withheld subject to verification of Driving License from Issuing authority and its validity for the Item allotted; and

Whereas, the documents received in your case were found insufficient and, as a result, your case could not be cleared; and

Whereas, the case was deliberated in the 249th Board Meeting and it was decided to offer you an opportunity to fulfill the deficiency;

Now, therefore, through the medium of this Notice, you are hereby given a final/ last opportunity to submit a valid within-date Driving License (TRANS), within a period of 03 days on e-mail ID driverselection2023@gmail.com, from the date of issuance of this notice, failing which your candidature in the selection for the aforesaid posts shall be cancelled without any further notice

wal) JKAS,

Dated: 26.12.2023

No. JKSSB-Scry/7/2023-03 (E-7259835)

Mohammad Safi Malik

Mohammad Shafi Malik H.No.275, Ward No.06, Bandipore.

FINAL NOTICE

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Whereas, among others, your candidature figured in the Provisional list under OM/ESM category, which was, however, kept withheld subject to verification of Driving License from competent authority; and

Whereas, the documents received in your case were found insufficient and, as a result, your case could not be cleared; and

Whereas, the case was deliberated in the 249th Board Meeting and it was decided to offer you an opportunity to fulfill the deficiency;

Now, therefore, through the medium of this Notice, you are hereby given a final/ last opportunity to submit a valid within-date Driving License (TRANS), within a period of 03 days on e-mail ID driverselection2023@gmail.com, from the date of issuance of this notice, failing which your candidature in the selection for the aforesaid posts shall be cancelled without any further notice



No. JKSSB-Scry/7/2023-03 (E-7259835)

DIPK-14305/23 Dated: 27-12-2023

M0792150 from (old name) Yasmeen to (New name) Yasmeen Salati. In future I will

be known as (New name) Yasmeen Salati now I want to re-issue my Passport for the same. If anybody is having any objection He/She may contact Passport Office, Srinagar within 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be

accepted.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to general public that due to inadvertent mis-take yesterday I,e 27/12/2023 published in this news paper that the Air tel company is going to install a tower over my land bearing khasra no 2357,2358. situated at khonmoh sgr when it is actually a jio tower instead of Airtel tower which is to be installed over my land .any body/person/persons is are having any kind of objection with regard to the same he/ she can claim the same with the authority concerned within the period of 7 days from the publication of this notice.failing which no objection shall be entertained

Mohammad Rajab dar S/o late Abdul ahad dar R/o khonmoh sgr

289/2023 u/s 279,304-A IPC

White beard/ Whitish

1805 hours

16.12.2023

Male

5'-7'

District Police Headquarters Anantnag

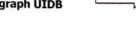
Phone No.01932-222836 Fax No. 01932-222271

Email: dpoanantnag-jk@nic.in

Public Notice for Identification of UIDB

On 16.12.2023 a vehicle bearing Registration No. JK19-6746 hit a pedestrian at Doonipora NHW-44 near Muskan Dhaba , Sangam District Anantnag and got him injured .The injured was shifted to hospital where he succumbed to injuries. The identity of the deceased has not been ascertained yet. The body is lying in the mortuary at Government District Hospital Anantnag for identification. Case FIR No. 289/2023 u/s 279, 304-A IPC stands registered in Police Station Bijbehara in this regard.

Photograph UIDB



- 1. FIR NO./DDR NO 2. Time of Recovery of UIDB
- 3. Date / Year 4. Sex
- Height

- 8. Any other information like ID mark, tattoo, circumcise etc. (Circumcised) 9. Details of clothes worn and other ornaments or articles on the body (Wearing and Belongings/ Items recovered) - Wearing Pharan and
- **Kurta Pojama** 10. Place of Recover = Doonipora NHW-44 near Muskan Dhaba, Sangam District Anantnag
- 11. Name of Police Station/Police Post = Police Post Sangam/ Police Station
- 12. PIN Code = 192124

Anybody having any information with regard to the identification of said dead body may please contact on following cell numbers.

- 1. 9596777656 = SDPO Bijbehara 2. 9596777622 = SHO Bijbehara
- 3. 9596777636 = IC PP Sangam

No: CRB/L-1/2023/69815-19 DIPK-14332/23 dated: 27-12-2023

Dr. G.V.Sudeep Chakarvarthy - IPS Sr. Superintendent of Police District Anantnaga

Government of (U.T) Jammu & Kashmir

Office Of The Executive Engineer Jal Shakti(PHE)Deptt. Ground Water Division Srinagar Baghi-Ali-Mardan, Nowshara Srinagar. E-mail:-phegwd@yahoo.com, Tel./Fax No:- 0194-2411285

EXTENSION NOTICE 5th.

Sub: Construction of Gravel Packed Production Tube at Tokina Old Pulwama

Due to "No Response" for the above mentioned work issued vide E. NIT No. 36/JS-PHE/ GWDS/Mech. of 2023-24, issued under No:-JS-PHE/GWDS/Corrs./6439-52 dated:-07-11-2023 for the work bearing Tender ID No. 2023_PHE_236353_1 Which was scheduled to be downloaded till 26-12-2023 are extended as per the details given below:

S.No.	Item	FreshDate		
1.	Period of submission of bids	04-01-2024 up-to 02.00PM		
2.	Date of opening of tenders	05-01-2024 11.00 AM		

All other terms and conditions shall remain same as laid down in the aforesaid e-NIT issued vide above referred endstt: nos.

No:-JS-PHE/GWDS/Corrs./8724-34 DIPK-14327/23 Dated: -27-12-2023

Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE)Deptt.

Jammu & Kashmir Power Development Corporation Office Of The Executive Engineer Generation Division Ljhp Gantamulla Baramulla

Email: xeneljhp@gmail.com

EXTENSION NOTICE No. 02

Due to poor response to this office E-NIT No. 18 of 2023-24 dated 23-11-2023 issued vide this office No. GD/LJHP/1533-39 dated: 23-11-2023 for Replacement of existing Sodium vapour floodlights at Power House, Switchyard, Store yard, Forebay and Barrage by 100 W LED with LDR sensor. (Complete Job) (ID: 2023_SPDC_237990_1), the critical dates are re-scheduled as under:

S.No	Activity	Date already tendered	Dates as per new schedule		
1.	Date of Issue of tender notice	23.11.2023	23.11.2023		
2.	Bid document download start date	23.11.2023 to 26.12.2023	23.11.2023 to 05.01.2024		
3.	Bid uploading start date	23.11.2023	23.11.2023		
4.	Bid uploading last date	26.12.2023	05.01.2024		
5.	Last date for receipt of hard copies of techno commercial (RFQ) (one original plus one copy)	27.12.2023	06.01.2024		
6.	Opening of techno commercial bids(RFQ)	28.12.2023	08.01.2024		

All the terms and conditions shall remain the same

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, Generation Division LJHP, Gantamulla Baramulla

NO: GD/LJHP/1972-77 DIPK-NB-4991/23 DATED: 27-12-2023

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Azaidi Armin Mahotsav

Sr.DEN-IV/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date-18.01.2024 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manua ffers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on **www.ireps.gov.in** portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information logon to www.ireps.gov.in

l	Tender Type Open		Works Sir		Bidding System			
l					Sin	ngle Packet System Closing Date/Time		
l	26.12.2023 27.12.2023				Bid (
				04.01.20	24	18.01.2024/ 15:00 H		Hrs.
				04.01.20	24	18.01.2024/ 15:00 Hrs.		
l	S.N.	Tender No.		Details of Tender				
	357-2023-24- TRR (P) 4.56 km from km 15 to 15.560, km 19 to 23 on						n JAT-	
		UHP-DRM-FZR SVDK section under ADEN/UHP.						
ı	Advertised Value (Rs.) Farnest Money (Rs.) Validity of Offer Period of Complet							pletion

67,42,648.56/- 1,34,900/- 60 Days Similar Nature of work:- "CTR/TRR/TFR/TTR including Raising of track screening, distressing of track, pre & post works for track maintenance machin ike tamping machine/ballast screening/regulating machines & TTR by T-28"." 358-2023-24- TRR (P) 4.00 km from km 41 to 43 & km 49 to 51 on JAT-

UHP-DRM-FZR SVDK section under ADEN/UHP. Advertised Value (Rs.) Earnest Money (Rs.) Validity of Offer Period of Completion 66,97,612.02/- 1,34,000.00/- 60 Days milar Nature of work:- "CTR/TRR/TFR/TTR including Raising of track

creening, distressing of track, pre & post works for track maintenance machin ike tamping machine/ballast screening/regulating machines & TTR by T-28".". Note 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender

No.: 357 & 358-2023-24-UHP-DRM-FZR Date: 27.12.2023 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my Driving Licence bearing DL No: JK2220170000957 as Mohd Rafee Rather S/o Gh Hassan Rather R/o Mangi-pora Shopian while my correct name is Mohammad Rafee Rather Son in Law of Ghulam Mohammad Mir R/o Gahend Shopian which needs to be corrected. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the ARTO Shopian within a period if seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Mohammad Rafee Rather

Son in Law of Ghulam Mohammad Mir R/o Gahend Shopian

The Jammu and Kashmir **State Board Of School Education**

New Campus Bemina Srinagar Notice for General Public

The applicant/ candidate whose photograph is published in this notice and claiming to have lost her qualification certificate/s issued under as per below mentioned details:-

Roll No: 32162, Class 10th Year & Session Bi-Annual 1983 Registration: 1089-AG-IX-81 Name: Abdul Maieed Pahloo

Father's Name: Habibullah Pahloo Mother's Name: --Date of Birth:- 03-04-1965 Residenc:- Sadurkoot Paveen Aias According the candidate concerned has approach to this office for issuance of Duplicate Qualification / Marks Certificate/s, so before the same is processed and provided to the

notice of Assistant Secretary of Certificate as well as Assistant Secretary Examination Unit I & III KD within the period of 10 & 7 days respectively, from the date of publication

candidate, under rules, anybody having any objection in this regard, shall bring into the

(Besides the above referred "Qualification / Marks Certificate/s" bearing No: 2095 be treated as "CANCELLED") No: F(Cer is-I-DQC)B/KD/23 Dated 25-12-2023

ر خواست از جانب نثاراحد گنائی ولدغلام محمد گنائی ساکنه گوم احمد پوره مخصیل پیٹن بار جموله بمراد تصول D.O.B سرٹفکیٹ بحق سکینہ ثناروذ اکر ثنار۔ اشتهار بمرادآ گاہی خاص وعام

معامله مندرجه عنوان الصدر كےنسبت رپورٹ پنچایت سکٹری ونمبر دار دیہ وچوكيدارعلاقه وآشا ے موصول ہوئی۔مطابق رپورٹ عملہ فیلڈ سے عیاں ہوتا ہے کہ سائل کی دختر سلینہ نتار کی پيدائش مورند2007-05-15 و پسرذاكرناركي پيدائش مورند2008-06-10 كوموني ہے اور سائل مذکورنے تا حال کوئی بھی سند D.O.B حاصل نہیں کی ہے۔سائل مذکوراینے پسرو ہے۔ دختر کے تق میں D.O.B حاصل کرنے کا خواہاں ہے۔ اس بارے میں بذریعیا خباراشتہار مشتھر کیا جاتا ہےا گر کشی مخض کوکوئی اعتراض نسبت اجراء سرٹفکیٹ بوتو دفتر ھلڈ میں اندرسات یوم پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرنے میعاد کوئی عذریا اعتراض قابل

از نیابت گوم احمه پوره

درخواست از جانب سیدشوکت رضوی ولدسیداحمد رضوی ساکندگوم احمد پوره تخصیل پیش بار جموله بمراد حصول D.O.B مرتفکیک مجمق سیدواحد رضوی وسید باشم رضوی _ اشتهار بمرادآ گاہی خاص وعام

معامله مندرجه عنوان الصدر كنسبت رپورٹ پنجایت سكٹری ونمبر دارد ہدو چوكيدارعلاقه وآشا میڈم سےموصول ہوئی۔مطابق رپورٹ عملہ فیلڈ سے عیاں ہوتا ہے کہ سائل کے پسران سیدواحد رضویٰ کی بیدائش مورخہ2007-06-06 وسید ہاشم رضوی کی پیدائش مورخہ 22-06-2010 کوہوئی ہے اور سائل مذکور نے تا حال کوئی بھی سند D.O.B حاصل نہیں کی ہے۔ سائل مذکورا پنے پسران کے حق میں D.O.B حاصل کرنے کا خواہاں ہے۔ اس بارے میں بذریعیا خباراشتہار شقھر کیا جا تا ہے آگر کٹی تخص کو کو کی اعتراض نسبت اجراء سرٹفکیٹ ہوتو دفتر طفذ میں اندرسات یوم پیش کریں۔بعد گز رنے میعاد کوئی عذریااعتراض قابل

نائب تخصيلدار

ازعدالت ایدیشنل ڈسٹر کٹ جج (بنک مقد مات) سرینگر بااجلاس:اروندشرما J&K Bank B/U Soura Sgr

Waheeda

سنام

دعویٰ وصولیا بی رقم مبلغ = *ل* Rs: 1,03,001.21 اشتهار بمراد آگاهی بنام

_ إلا نه تويية جديد پر مدعاعليه / مدعاليم دستياب موئے اور نيہ ہی بذريعه عن عميل لا ئی گئے۔بدین وجہ حسب استدائی مدعاعلیہ/مدعالیم جو بذر بعداشتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم مبلغ =/ Rs 1,03,001.21 ارساعت عدالت مذاب -لہذا آپ کو بذر بعداشتہار ہذامطلع کیا جا تا ہے کہ آپ بغرض پیروی ابراء ہذا بعنوان بالامورخا 2023-12-28 إصالناً يا وكالناً بروقت كچيري حاضراً كرمقدمه مذاكي پیروی کریں _بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کا روائی بعمل لائی جائے گی ثخریر

ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج بنک مقد مات سرینگر



Over 12 Lakh Patients Visit SKIMS Soura In 2023

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Sheri Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) Soura, a premier medical institution in J&K, witnessed a huge influx of patients, with over 12 lakh individuals visiting the Out Patient Department (OPD), including Accident and Emergency (A&E), in the past year.

Data shows that 501,690 repeat patients sought care in the OPD, while 387,088 new patients were registered.

97,796 patients visited Gynae and Obstetrics department, while the total number of registrations in Accident and Emergency is 267,180, taking the total outpatient attendance including A&E to 1253,754, the data reveals.

In terms of inpatient attendance, the institute recorded 57,277 routine admissions, 25,384 emergency admissions, and 7,362 Gynae

E-Tender Notice Tender No. 354 & 355-2023-24-SrDEN-C-FZR

and Obstetrics admissions, totaling 89,973 admissions.

Hospital performance indicators revealed an average daily admission of 246, with a bed occupancy rate of 81 percent. The gross death rate was reported at 3.8 percent, while the net death rate stood at 1.83 percent.

The surgical activities in the institute were robust, with a total of 7.151 routine surgeries, 4,577 emergency surgeries, 3,901 Gynae and Obstetrics surgeries, 15,629 major surgeries and 3,688 minor surgeries performed in the past year.

Major surgeries were distributed across various departments, with notable contributions from Cardiovascular and Thoracic Neurosurgery, Surgery. General Surgery, Pediatric Surgery, Plastic Surgery, Surgical Gastroenterology, Urology, Gynae and Obstetrics, Surgical Oncology, and Orthopedics.

Date: 22.12.2023



Shalimar Canal Project Advancing Under SSC Initiative: CEO SSCL

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Chief Executive Officer, Athar Aamir Khan of Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL) provided an update on Wednesday regarding the progress of the Shalimar Canal project, a noteworthy undertaking within the broader scope of the Srinagar Smart City initiative. Khan conveyed that the project is currently advancing at a vigorous pace, expressing optimism about its timely completion.

The commitment to full-scale efforts reflects the dedication of SSCL to realize the objectives of the Srinagar Smart City initiative, showcasing the organization's determination to deliver on crucial urban development projects for the benefit of the community.

Athar Aamir Khan highlighted the pivotal role the Shalimar Canal would play in connecting Shalimar Garden to Dal Lake via

the new Northern Lake Front.

He expressed satisfaction with the ongoing pace of construction, affirming that the project is advancing at full throttle.

"The Shalimar Canal project is a vital component of our commitment to enhance the urban infrastructure of Srinagar under the Smart City initiative. This canal will not only serve as a picturesque waterway but will also bolster connectivity between two iconic locations, Shalimar Garden and Dal Lake," Commissioner Athar Khan stated.

He further elaborated on the technical aspects of the project, emphasizing that meticulous planning has been undertaken to ensure environmental sustainability and minimize any potential impact on the surrounding areas.

"The canal's route through the new Northern Lake Front has been carefully chosen to inte-

grate seamlessly with the existing landscape, preserving the natural beauty of the surroundings. Our focus is not just on completing the project efficiently but also on creating a lasting asset that adds value to the city and its residents," Khan explained.

Regarding the timeline for completion, CEO Athar Khan conveyed optimism, stating, "Our teams are working diligently, and I am pleased to announce that we are on track to finish the Shalimar Canal project within the next couple of months. This is a testament to the dedication and collaborative effort of everyone involved in this venture."

The Shalimar Canal project aligns with the broader vision of the Srinagar Smart City initiative, which aims to transform Srinagar into a technologically advanced, sustainable, and citizen-friendly urban center.



RAILWAYS

TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686 PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883 PDD: 0194-2450213

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES: 2479488,2452222,2452155 CAPD: 18001807011

SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081 Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

> SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259 ANANTNAG: 01932-228243 BARAMULLA: 0194-102029 BIJBHERA: 01932-228243 PAMPORE: 01933-294132

PATTAN: 01954-293507

QAZIGUND: 01951-296153



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



PRAYERS FAJR 6:06 **ZUHR** 12:32 **ASR** 3:51 Magrib 5:33 ISHA 6:58

This Day In History

- 418- St Boniface I begins his reign as Catholic Pope 457- Roman armies proclaim Majorian Emperor of the Western Roman Empire
- 801- Louis the Vrome occupies Barcelona
- 1065- New church devoted to St Peter the Apostle built by Edward the Confessor - later called the 'west minister' consecrated in London (rebuilt mid 13th century)
- 1308 The reign of Emperor Hanazono, Emperor of Japan, begins
- 1612 First observation of Neptune Galileo observes and records a "fixed star" without realising it is a planet
- 1614 Sperm whale beached at Noordwijk
- 1732 1st known ad for "Poor Richard's Almanack" (Pennsylvania Gazette)
- 1781 Comte de Rochambeau and Nicolas Luckner are the last generals to be made Marshal of France by Louis XVI before the Revolution
- 1828 6.8 earthquake strikes Echigo Japan, 30,000
- 1832 John C. Calhoun becomes 1st VP to resign (differences with President Jackson) 1877 - John Stevens, applies for a patent for his
- flour rolling mill. 1904 - 1st daily wireless weather forecasts
- published (London).
- 1908 Earthquake strikes Messina, Italy, killing nearly 80,000.
- 1914 Turks are repulsed by the Russians after fighting in Armenia for we
- 1926 Imperial Airways begins England-India mail & passenger service.
- 1948 US announced a study to launch an Earth satellite.
- 1950 Chinese troops cross 38th Parallel, into South Korea.
- 1957 USSR performs atmospheric nuclear test.
- 1962 UN troops occupies Elizabethstad Katanga.
- 1968 Israeli assault on Beirut Airport.
- 1970 -Yemen Arab Republic (North Yemen) adopts constitution.
- 1973 US President Nixon signs Endangered Species
- Act into law.
- 1973 Comet Kohoutek at perihelion.
- 1974 6.3 earthquake strikes Pakistan: 5200 killed. 1975 - Earthquake in Pakistan, 4,000 die.
- 1983 US say they will leave UNESCO on Dec 31, 1984.
- 1985 Warring Lebanese Muslim & Christian leaders sign peace agreement.
- 2001 OPEC oil ministers meeting in Cairo agree to reduce their crude oil output quotas by a combined
- 1.5 million barrels per day. 2007 - Nepal declared a federal democratic Republic by interim parliament, abolishing the
- 2009 43 people die in a suicide bombing in Karachi, Pakistan, where Shia Muslims were observing the Day of Ashura.
- 2013 Early signs of Ebola epidemic: 2 year old child in Guinea dies of an unidentified haemorraghic
- fever; mother, sister and grandmother soon follow. 2014 - Indonesia AirAsia Flight QZ8501 crashes in bad weather in the Java Sea, killing all 162 people on board.
- 2015 Japan and South Korea reach agreement over WWII "comfort women", Japan apologies and pays 1bn yen compensation.
- 2017 -Iranian woman Vida Mohaved arrested for protesting against policy of compulsory hijab, sparking other protests
- 2017- Protests in Mashhad, Iran against price rises and corruption
- 2018- British New Year's honours list include Knights for author Philip Pullman and comedian
- Michael Palin, a Dame for Twiggy and a Order of the Companions of Honour for Margaret Atwood
- 2018- UFC bantamweight champion Amanda Nunes of Brazil moves up in weight and KOs dominant featherweight Cris "Cyborg" Justino just 51 seconds into the opening round at the Forum, Inglewood, CA; first female to win UFC titles in multiple weight classes

President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date 23.01.2024 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tenders, and any such manual offer eceived shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on www.ireps.gov.in portal like net banking, debil card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft Banker Cheque Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information logon to www.ireps.gov.in **Tender Type** Tendering Section **Bidding System** Open Works Single Bid System **Date of Uploading Tenders Bid Starting Date** 23.01.2024/15:00 Hrs 09.01.2024 S.N Tender No **Details of Tender** Manufacturing and supplying of 45,000 cum 65 mm gauge stone 354-2023-24allast (Mechanically Broken) duly stacked and loading into Sr DEN-Railway Wagons in quarry siding in Sub-Depot-I & II at KATHUA n PTK-JAT section under ADEN/JAT. C-FZR Advertised Value Earnest Money Validity of Offer Period of Completion 2,66,47,200.00/- 2,83,200.00/- 60 Days 06 Months illar nature of work:- "Supply of machine crushed stone ballast for railway/highway/roads" Manufacturing and supplying of 45,000 cum 65 mm gauge stone ballast (Mechanically Broken) duly stacked and loading into Railway Wagons in quarry siding in Sub-Depot-I at HIRANAGAR on PTK-JAT section under ADEN/JAT. 355-2023-C-FZR Advertised Value Earnest Money Validity of Offer Period of Completion 2,66,47,200.00/- 2,83,200.00/- 60 Days ote 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tend SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Sr. Divisional Engineer/Coordination/FZR acting for and on behalf of The

Office of the Executive Engineer, Trans, Line Maintt. Division-7 JKPTCL Bemina Srinagar- 190010

Ph. No: 0194-3516481 E-mail: tlmd7.jkptcl@gmail.com

This division is test charging 220kV Double Circuit Alusteng-Mirbazar Power Transmission Line upto GIS Haripora Harwan on 29-12-2023 at 3:00 PM.

The line passes through following areas Rangil, Baba Daryadin, Khamulla, Shu-

hama, Dignibal, Hadura, Khimber, Chaterhama, Danihama, Saidpora and Darbagh to Hari-The public in general and the residents of above areas in particular are informed

to take precautions and not to venture out near the transmission line towers to avoid any untoward incident else the department will not be responsible for any consequences. DIPK-NB-5000/23 Issued by

Dated: 27-12-2023

Rs:1.49.629

Executive Engineer TLMD-7 Srinagar.

ازعدالت ایڈیشنل ڈسٹر کٹ جج (بنک مقد مات) سرینگر ازعدالت ایڈیشنل ڈسٹر کٹ جج (بنک مقد مات) سرینگر بااجلاس:اروندشرما J&K Bank B/U Khanyar Sgr بنام Raja Bano

دعوىٰ وصوليا بي رقم مبلغ = [

اشتهار بمراد آگاهی بنام Raja Bano W/o Ghulam Rasool Kah R/o Kaha Mohalla Khawaja Bazar Nawhatta مقدمه مندرجه عنوان الصدر میں مدعاعلیہ/ مدعالیم کی قبیل کرانے کی بسیار کوشیش کی گئی ِ إلا نه تو پية جديد پر مدعاعليه/ مدعاليم وستياب مونے اور نه ہى بذر يعيم عن تعميل لا كَي گئے۔ بدین وجہ حسب استدائی مدعاعلیہ/ مدعالیم جو بذریعہ اشتہار منرامطلّع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم متبلغ

-/ Rs 1,49,629 /= البذاآپ کوبذر بعداشتهار مذامطلع کیاجا تا ہے کہ آپ بغرض پیروی ابراء مذابعنوان بالامورى 2023-12-28 إصالتاً ما وكالتاً بروفت كيرى حاضراً كرمقدمه بذاك پیروی کریں۔بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کاروائی بعمل لائی جائے گی تحریر ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج نبک مقدمات سرینگر

۔ ۔ إلا نه تو پيد جديد پر مدعاعليه/ مدعاليم دستياب ہوئے اور نه ہى بذر يعيم عن فقيل لا كى گئ۔ بدین دبیر حسب استدائی مدعا علیہ/مدعا کیم جو بذر بعیداشتبار بذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم مسلغ پیروی کریں۔بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کاروائی بعمل لائی جائے گی تحریر ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج نبک مقدمات سرینگر

بااجلاس:اروندشرما

J&K Bank B/U Khanyar Sgr

بنام

Mymoona Manzooi

دعوىٰ وصوليا بي رقم مبلغ = / Rs: 1,82,253

اشتهار بمراد آگاهی بنام

مقدمہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں مدعاعلیہ/ مدعالیم کی قبیل کرانے کی بسیار کوشش کی گئی

Mymoona Manzoor W/o Manzoor Ahmad Sofi R/o

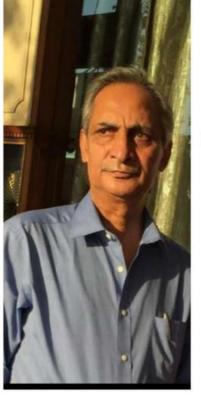
Khanyar Sgr

ازعدالت ایڈیشنل ڈسٹر کٹ جج (بنک مقد مات) سرینگر بااجلاس:اروندشر ما J&K Bank B/U Naidyar Sgr بنام Shameema Akhter دعويٰ وصوليا بي رقم مبلغ =**ا** Rs:93,306 اشتهار بمراد آگاهی بنام Shameema Akhter W/o Mushtaq Ahmad Bhat R/o

Naidyar Raingwari Sgr مقدمه مندرجه عنوان الصدر میں مدعا علیہ / مدعالیم کی قبیل کرانے کی بسیار کوشیش کی گئی لِ إلا نه تو پية جديد پر مدعاعليه/ مدعاليم دستياب هوئے اور نه ہى بذر لعيم عن تعميل لا كى گئ_بدين وجه حسنب استدا كي مدعاعليه/ مدعاليم جو بذريعه اشتهار بنرامطلِّع كيا_.جا تا ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم =/ Rs 93,306 (ريباعت عدالت بذاب للذاآپ كوبذر بعداشتهار مندام طلع كياجا تائے كه أپ بغرض پيروى ابراء مندالعنوان بالامورني 2023-12-28 إصالتاً ياوكالتاً بروتت كجيري حاضرة كرمقدمه بنداك پیروی کریں۔بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کاروائی بعمل لائی جائے گی تحریر ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج بنگ مقدمات سرینگر

ازعدالت ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج (بنک مقدمات)سرینگر بااجلاس:اروندشرما J&K Bank B/U Soura Sgr بنام Mrs Dilshada Bano دعوى وصوليا بي رقم مبلغ = ال Rs: 1,26,526.29 اشتهار بمراد آگاهی بنام Mrs Dilshada Bano W/o Ghulam Rasool Dar R/o Batapora Nayshera Sgr مقدمه مندرجه عنوان الصدر ميس مدعا عليه / مدعاليم كي قيل كرانے كي بسيار كوشيش كي گئ

۔ إلا نه تو پية جديد پر مدعاعليه/ مدعاليم دستياب ہوئے اور نه ہى بذر لعب^{م عن} تعم^{يل} لا كى گئی۔ بدین وجہ حسب استدائی مدعاعلیہ مدعالیم جو بذر بعداشتہار بزامطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم مسلف =/ Rs 1,26,526.29 زيرياعت عدالت مذاہے۔ لبذا آپ كوبذر يعداشتهار مذامطلع كيا جاتا ہے كه أب بغرض پيروى ابراء مذابعنوان بالامورخ 2023-12-28 إصالناً يا وكالناً بروقت كييري حاضراً كرمقدمه مذاكي پیروی کریں _بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کاروائی بعمل لائی جائے گی تحریر ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج بنگ مقد مات سرینگر





WE SURELY BELONG TO ALLAH AND TO HIM WE SHALL RETURN

Rasm-e-Chaharum

With profound grief & sorrow , we inform the sad demise of Muhammad Yousuf Bhat, son of Late Abdul Gani Bhat, former Chief Engineer and Vice Chairman, Srinagar Development Authority (SDA) on December 24. The 'Chahrum' of the deceased will be observed at their ancestral graveyard on Thursday December 28, 2023, at Khawaja Bahauddin Sahab, near, Mukdhdoom Sahib entrance gate, Srinagar at 11 AM sharp.

A Taziyati Majlis would also be held for the departed soul at our residence Convent Road, Rajabgh, Srinagar.

Bereaved **Family and Friends** 9419071947



GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Jammu And Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) CPO Chowk, Panjtirthi, Jammu/Zamzam Complex, Rambagh, Srinagar. www.ikssb.nic.in

Subject: Document Verification of candidates falling under consideration zone for the post of Sub Inspector, Home Department - Supplementary Document Verification thereof.

NOTIFICATION

All such candidates (Jammu Centre Based) who are falling under consideration zone and were called for Document Verification for the post of Sub Inspector, Home Department (UT Cadre), advertised vide Advertisement Notification No. 06 of 2021, under Item No. 668, vide this office Notification No. JKSSB-COE0EXAM(UT)/54/2022-03 (7057013) dated: 19-12-2023, but could not appear before the Document Verification Committee(s) w.e.f. 21-12-2023 to 27-12-2023 due to various reasons, are hereby given last and final opportunity to appear before the Document Verification Committee(s) on 28-12-2023 at JKSSB, Central Office, CPO Chowk, Panjtirthi, Jammu at 11.00 AM sharp, failing which no claim in this regard shall be entertained at any stage.

> Reyaz Ahmad Malik) JKAS Controller of Examinations J&K Services Selection Board

No.: JKSSB-COE0EXAM(UT)/54/2022-03 (7057013) DIPK-14351/23 Dated: 27-12-2023

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Thursday | 28-12-2023

Curb Canine Population

he escalating crisis of stray dog attacks in Kashmir, particularly in Srinagar, demands immediate and comprehensive action from authorities. The statistics paint a grim picture: a staggering 4695 reported cases of canine bites in the valley last year, with Srinagar alone accounting for 3448 cases, indicating an alarming surge in incidents.

According to data compiled by the Anti-Rabies Clinic at SMHS Hospital, the numbers are distressingly consistent month after month, underscoring the persistent threat faced by the residents. Civil society groups have emphasized the unrelenting nature of this menace, lamenting the toll it takes on innocent lives. The risk of fatal rabies looms large, with victims enduring excruciating pain and often succumbing to this deadly disease.

Over the past decade, Anti-Rabies Clinic SMHS has registered an overwhelming 60,000 dog bite cases, a staggering testament to the gravity of the issue. The proliferation of stray dogs, primarily attributed to open garbage dumping sites, compounds this crisis. Srinagar's daily generation of 450 metric tons of garbage, lacking proper segregation and scientific disposal, significantly contributes to the burgeoning population of strays.

The failure of the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) to initiate a large-scale sterilization program has exacerbated the problem. Conservative estimates suggest an alarming count of over one lakh stray dogs within Srinagar alone, intensifying the frequency of dog bites and attacks.

Tragically, these incidents have not just caused injuries but claimed lives as well. In June, a case involved the tragic death of a 10-year-old boy mauled by stray dogs in Pattan, Baramulla district, sparking justified outrage among locals. The documented cases, include the fatal attack on a lawyer at Dewanbagh Baramulla, underlining the severity of these encounters, leading to multi-organ failure and, in some instances, coma and eventual demise.

The psychological trauma inflicted on victims cannot be overstated. The lived experiences of those bitten by dogs evoke feelings of psychological and emotional instability. The attacks not only pose physical threats but also lead to significant economic repercussions, including loss of wages and out-of-pocket expenses for medical care.

The urgency of addressing this issue cannot be overstressed. The directives from the High Court of J&K and Ladakh earlier this year to the Srinagar Municipality Corporation underline the pressing need for immediate action. SMC's commitment to initiating a sterilization process on a larger scale, aiming to eradicate the stray dog population within six to seven years, is a step in the right direction. However, criticisms of the government's tepid efforts and the decade-long struggle to implement effective sterilization programs demand immediate rectification.

It's imperative for policymakers to prioritize the lived experiences of dog bite victims, providing comprehensive support through education, counseling, and the implementation of cost-effective mass dog vaccination programs. The onus is on the authorities to urgently address this escalating public health crisis and prevent further loss of life and wellbeing due to unchecked stray dog attacks.

OTHER OPINON

Debt debate

he Finance Ministry, last Friday, issued a statement titled 'Factual position vis-a-vis IMF's Article IV consultations with India'. For context, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), under its Articles of Agreement, holds bilateral discussions with members, usually every year. IMF staffers collect economic and financial information, and discuss policies with top officials, before preparing a report that is discussed by the Fund's executive board. The Ministry statement, four days after the IMF released its latest India consultation details, noted that "certain presumptions have been made taking into account possible scenarios that does not reflect factual position". In particular, the Ministry was referring to an IMF view that adverse shocks could lift India's general government debt to, or beyond 100% of GDP in the medium-term (by 2027-28). The Ministry asserted this was only a worst-case scenario and not a fait accompli, and emphasised that other IMF country reports show much higher extreme 'worst-case' scenarios, for instance, at 160%, 140% and 200% of GDP, for the U.S., the

U.K. and China, respectively. The combined debt of central and State governments stood at 81% of GDP in 2022-23, from 88% in 2020-21. Under favourable circumstances, the IMF reckons this could even go down to 70% by 2027-28. The shocks faced by India so far in this century were global, and affected the entire world economy, be it the 2008 financial crisis or the pandemic, the Ministry pointed out. Reacting to initial news flashes, it further clarified its statement was not a rebuttal to the IMF but "an effort to arrest misinterpretation or misuse" of its comments to imply that General Government debt would exceed 100% of GDP in the medium term. Semantics experts may argue whether the communiqué was confrontational or clarificatory. India's Director on the IMF Board had already placed on record reservations about its staff's conclusions on debt risks ["sounds extreme"], and some other aspects of the economy. In the broader picture, IMF staff's perceptions of India's fiscal position have actually improved over the past year. From arguing in 2022 that India's fiscal space is at risk, they now believe sovereign stress risks are moderate. This is in no small part due to the ability of the Centre, whose debt levels were about 57% of GDP last year, to meet fiscal deficit targets in recent times. Reducing debt and spends to stay the course on its commitment to bring the deficit to 4.5% of GDP by 2025-26 from an estimated 5.9% this year, is critical. While reacting to an adverse detail in a report sometimes ends up drawing more attention to it, actions tend to always speak louder than words.

The Hindu

No Trash Talk

S.Sarwar.Malik

aste-generating-population is on the increase and so is the sale of the harmful polythene, in spite of the ban. Need for adequate waste disposal facilities is being felt strongly in every district of J&k, nowadays.

It is true that the generation of waste matter is unavoidable. Wherever man sets his foot, stinking- garbage surfaces like wild mushrooms (-better say like Shingles) and so do packs of stray dogs, swarms of insects and the nuisance value thereof.

Our streets, leading from any habitation, any market, any institution, speak a tell tale sign; Tourist places being no exception; including places of pilgrimage. On the banks or even on the surface/ in the bowels of water bodies, we leave the ugly signs of our visit; even on the highest mountain Mount Everest; that ultimately harms our ecology & environment, impacting our very life negatively.

True, packed food and bottled water is

True, packed food and bottled water is an almost inseparable part of modern living but that should not be complacent to give us justification of license. Efforts are needed for minimizing it. Also its proper disposal after treatment is to be ensured.

Achen (: phonetically I prefer dashes between syllables e:g ...A-ts-hen; but play of words interests me not, this moment) - the infamous garbage dumping site of district Srinagar, is widely known; surrounding-residents whereof are often heard cursing their stars, administrators and politicians for their "sanoo kee" attitude but conveniently forget what havoc is created by building houses or facilities in un-planned manner or by our lack of civic sense, that is galore.

If we have to do anything for waste disposal it is to be done on this earth; not on some distant planet. If not in A-ts-hen, then suggest where? Provide a viable alternative. Finding fault is easy. Giving a solution alone is true citizenry. We are the generators of tons of garbage but we don't contribute even an iota towards good governance but go on complaining & waiting endlessly for the government to act, even for small steps that can be taken if social responsibility is realized by all.

Lot of heat is generated when authorities try to take some step in driving home civic sense. Though Srinagar Municipal Corporation has pressed into service scores of vans for collecting garbage from door steps, daily, at a publicized time, against nominal monthly charges; besides hundreds of hard working sweepers but hard-to-mend people still litter streets & roads; of course some feet away from their own door. Selfishness galore! Keeping our house clean is good but why can't each household keep three different buckets for storing different types of the waste generated in home and why NGOswho thrive on our money, can not adopt different areas or for that matter why Citizen Councils/ Mohalla Committees of each Electoral segment can not participate meaning. fully in good governance in this era of decentralization? Let these apolitical councils also help the Municipal / Town area committees, in identifying suitable garbage dumping sites; treatment plants, in sharing innovative ideas about recycling reusable portion, in running various drives on self-help-basis, or at least let us appreciate the excellent cleaning drives that are being carried by Srinagar Municipal Corporation, segment-wise, on every Sunday. Just see the fleet of Trucks that make rounds from the designated dumps to the final disposal plant, day & night and at least acknowledge the great contribution of the man power involved in this work who toil, braving sun or snow, up in pre-dawn hours, on dusty, stinky spots that can be perilous for their health; that makes our environ clean & livable.

Segregation at the source point would enable revenue generation through sale of recycle-able waste (paper, plastic, tin, iron, rags etc) to dealers. Dry waste could be used as fuel. Compost could be made out of wet wastelike vegetable/ fruit peelings, leftover food, etc



66

Finding fault is easy. Giving a solution alone is true citizenry. We are the generators of tons of garbage but we don't contribute even an iota towards good governance but go on complaining and waiting endlessly for the government to act, even for small steps that can be taken if social responsibility is realized by all

in small pits or organic-manure out of Lakeweeds etc.

During the annual Haj pilgrimage when over 20 lakh muslims visit Mecca & Medina for nearly 40 days, the Saudi government manages to keep these holy cities extremely clean because they have with passage of time mastered the art. Of course thousands of sweepers, mostly hailing this sub continent, supplement the machinery put in service, and the mega-

disposal-plants.

Thankfully gone are the days when humans used to carry night soil tins, at least in Srinagar city. This menial job did not behoove human dignity. Even from the past 5-6 years poor non kashmiri garbage pickers/sorters keep their body & soul together by

doing the job for which we owe gratitude to them because otherwise our Firdous ba rooye zameen would turn into a stinking Jahnum in a few days.

This reminds me of a sardar teacher, whom I saw seated dejectedly in the parking lot of SKICC, in 2002, (-at the time a mega-event was going on there) with a small 'self invented indigenously fabricated machine (portable-model)' that he had brought all the way from Tral where in, he claimed, macadam like tiles (+ sulphuric acid as byproduct) could be made by mixing sand with the molten used-polythene- carry bags; about which we all are so worried for its ill effects. If that gentleman happens to read these lines, I am sure THIS NEWSPAPER would welcome and publicize his invention, after demonstration, if the Science & Technology department clears it. ///

Tail-piece

Few lines from my poem, OF DOTS, DASHES & SLASHES, are hereby presented, dear reader.

See what they litter on the scalded street,// When innards of their house spill outwards:// Gutter scum, stinky refuses, crumbs left over// Filth, shit and rags in black poly bags//

scattered and strewn on the street//
Reminding of ugly negatives//
Like: vanity, triviality, deceit, bigotry,//
Craft, stupidity, prejudice, hatred,//
Violence, greed ...;//
The stuff people are made of ...///

Parting Shot / in Lighter Vein:

An acquaintance of mine, barged in where, we- a couple of friends, were conversing, and announced a 'news', in all seriousness:

"Listen guys! Government has prepared a directory of 'Animal Lovers & Animal Rights Activists of J&K' and by April 2nd, 2024, all stray dogs will be apportioned for adoption among them, as per their individual vocal chord-decibel-rating, with regular free supply of poultry waste to them, as bonus".

 $\label{lem:constraints} Acknowledge\ your\ gift-parcel\ ,\ please.$

The author is a penman & Columnist, who contributes to various English Dailies, from two decades



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

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Work Life Imbalance

Infosys co-founder Narayana Murthy's recent suggestion for "70-hours-work-a-week" among Indian youngsters will no doubt boost productivity, but it will certainly affect the balance of work-life approach, which is equally important. Unsurprisingly Mr. Murthy's comments have evoked a nationwide controversy, with many have

criticised his idea. In fact, a Bengaluru-based Cardiologist wrote in his X (formerly Twitter) account saying, "such an inhumane working hours can create a whole generation with a host of heart-related comorbidities." The Cardiologist's comment gains prominence, as WHO says that India accounts for at least one-fifth of the 17.9 million cardiovascular disease-

related deaths globally, especially in the younger generation. Currently, India's labour codes mandate that workers put in 8-hours of work a day, capping the weekly work hours at 48. Despite this, global data shows that India ranks fifth in the world among countries with long working hours. Research has revealed that productivity falls sharply after 50 hours per

week, and drops off a cliff after 55 hours. Rather than extended working hours, a streamlined approach with set working hours will work for large enterprises that have plentiful resources.

Ranganathan Sivakumar

The Beauty in Suffering: How Adversity Spurs Creativity

Aijaz Ahmad Mir

reativity is often considered the outcome of joy, happiness, and sound physical and mental health. However, this is not always the case; creativity can be born out of suffering and misery. We have heard that suffering forces people to commit suicide, but it is also true that suffering has produced the best minds and personalities in the world throughout history since the dawn of human civilization. The great prophets, philosophers, theologians, and scientists suffered extreme suffering and pain. It was through this pain and agony that humankind received the best teachings and insights re-garding morality, society, values, inventions, and discoveries. Sufferings help the sufferer to open up to new perspectives and ideas. It was through pain and suffering that some best pieces of art were produced. The idea of turning suffering into something constructive is applicable in all fields. Some of the thought-provoking philosophies emerged when a philosopher went through agony and pain. Suffering played a significant role in shaping the philosophy of the ancient Greek philosopher Plato, who believed that suffering helps us in gaining wisdom and knowledge. Plato believed that suffering was the result of a lack of knowledge and ignorance about the nature of reality. However, he believed suffering acts as a catalyst for gaining knowledge and true wisdom. Socrates, the wellknown philosopher and the teacher of Plato, believed that suffering was a part of life and a means for personal growth and self-discovery. Socrates believed that suffering could help a person to question their fixed beliefs and assumptions and can help in better understanding themselves and the world around them. And sufferings assist us in becoming compassionate and empathetic towards other people.

Schopenhauer also believed that suffering is inherent in humans, and it is through suffering that one can understand the true nature of reality. Schopenhauer himself suffered from different physical and emotional ailments throughout his life. He, like Gautam Buddha, also believed that suffering was the product of our desires. Friedrich Nietzsche, a German post-modernist philoso-pher also influenced by the philosophy of Schopenhauer, had also gone through immense physical and mental suffering. He believed suffering is integral in human lives, and it is through it that one learns to become stronger and more resilient. He said that one could not escape suffering but could confront it. Suffering leads to self-awareness and provides the opportunity to build inner strength. It was during his mental suffering



that Nietzsche was able to create some masterpieces, such as "Thus Spoke to Zarathustra" and "Beyond Good and Evil", among other writings. Similarly, other philosophers such as Rousseau, Immanuel Kant, and Martin Heidegger have suffered throughout their lives. But this suffering acts as a catalyst for their artistic expression and creativity.

Some of the western religious figures have found suffering a catalyst for change. Suffering has played a significant part in the life and theology of Saint Augustine. As a young man, he felt spiritual emptiness and experienced personal suffering, forcing him to turn to God and find solace in Christianity. Saint Augustine has two views regarding suffering; the first is that suffering is the punishment for our sins, and secondly, suffering can act as a medicine that helps us to learn humility and compassion. Thomas Aguinas, who was influenced by the teachings of Saint Augustine, believed that suffering is part of human existence and it serves several different goals. Suffering can lead us to a deeper appreciation of the valuable things in life, such as health, wealth, and relationships. Suffering can make us humble and can cultivate a feeling of gratitude in us. Thomas Aquinas also believed suffering could make us virtuous and bring us closer to God. In a nutshell, suffering assists us in increasing wisdom, faith, and virtue.



THE IDEA OF TURNING SUFFERING INTO SOMETHING CONSTRUCTIVE IS APPLICABLE IN ALL FIELDS. Some of the thought-provoking philosophies emerged when a philosopher went through agony and pain

In the eastern tradition of philosophy, many philosophers suffered. Gautam Buddha suffered immensely before achieving enlightenment. He was born into a wealthy family, but he abandoned his privileges and riches and started a journey to seek the truth about suffering. Buddha believed one could end suffering through the Four Noble Truths and by following the Eightfold Path. Ialaluddin Rumi, a great Persian Sufi mystic and poet, experienced great suffering after the death of his mentor Shams Tabrizi. This suffering and loss inspired him to write some great works which explore and revolve around the themes of love grief, and the search for meaning in life. Confucius was a great Chinese philosopher who lived during a time of great political and social unrest. He saw the collapse of Zhou Dynasty and the emergence of various opposing states. This political turmoil

and social unrest motivated Confucius to write about the importance of social harmony, good governance, and ethical leadership in China. Al-Farabi, a 9th-century Muslim philosopher, also went through immense suffering. He was regarded as the famous philosophical authority after Aristotle in the Muslim world. His own personal sufferings and his experiences with illness and poverty contributed to the development of his philosophy and ideas related to the relationship between reason and revelation. Al-Ghazali was an 11th-century Muslim theologian, philosopher, and mystic. He is considered one of the important intellectual figures in Islam. He endured a unique kind of suffering and went through a "spiritual crisis," and he felt a deep sense of dissatisfaction with his intellectual pursuits and studies. He even quit his job as a professor at Madrassa Nizammiya and lived in seclusion for four years in order to examine Islamic injunctions from the Sufi perspective. Finally, he was able to overcome his sufferings by merging himself deep into Sufism. Thus, suffering has shaped the ideas and philosophy of Al-Ghazali throughout his life.

throughout his life. Suffering has been a great source of inspiration for various poets throughout history. It helps them to articulate and share their emotions and experiences. It gives them a meaning to write and express themselves in a beautiful way that resonates with the people. Romantic poets such as William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge often wrote about their suffering, loneliness, depression, and alienation. It was in this state of great suffering that William Wordsworth produced a masterpiece, namely "Ode: Intimations of Immortality from Recollections of Early Childhood," which explores the relationship between childhood, the natural world, mortality, and the human condition. He states that the particular association of childhood with nature has lost forever, but the subconscious memories of those associations are still a source of wisdom and knowledge. Emily Dickinson, a prolific American poet, wrote over a thousand poems. Her poems often explored the themes of grief, loss, death, and mortality. It is said that she suffered from mood swings and undiagnosed depression. Similarly, poets like Sylvia Plath, Langston Hughes, and Maya Angelou wrote about their experiences of suffering.

There were many natural scientists who experienced pain and suffering in their lives. Some of them include the great physicist Stephen Hawking, Merrie Curie, Rosalind Franklin, and Richard Feynman. Stephen Hawking went through immense suffering when he was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), which made his whole body paralyzed. Despite this suffering, he communicated his precious knowledge regarding the universe, the big bang, and black holes. Marie Curie was another famous scientist who endured suffering and discrimination throughout her career. Being a woman, she faced additional bias and prejudice. She lost her husband unexpectedly in a tragic accident. Despite all these odds, she didn't give up and became the first woman to win the Nobel prize in physics and chemistry. Her contributions helped the world to understand radioactivity.

Rosalind Franklin is a well-known British scientist who is known for her immense contribution in the discovery of DNA. She also contributed and told about the structure of viruses that laid the foundations of structural virology. She, as a woman and as a Jew, faced discrimination from her colleagues. Richard Feynman was a great American physicist who suffered from abdominal cancer. Despite his struggles with cancer, he contributed immensely in the field of quantum mechanics and electrodynamics. In 1965, Feynman shared the 1965 Nobel prize in physics with Julian Schwinger and

Shin'ichir Tomonaga. Suffering has acted as a catalyst for inventions and discoveries throughout the history of the world. The pain and suffering experienced by people motivated scientists to produce painkiller medications. The suffering and pains caused by injuries and neurological diseases led to the establishment of medical imaging. The agony and suffering caused by infectious diseases helped scientists develop the germ theory to understand the causes of diseases spread by bacteria and viruses. And the suffering caused by natural disasters drove scientists to explore space and mitigate the causes of these disasters.

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

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What to Know About the New Covid Variants

Dana G. Smith

Por the past year, Covid-19 variants have circulated in a sort of alphabet soup. Right now, two variants, JN.1 and HV.1, comprise more than half of Covid cases in the United States.

JN.1 accounted for 44 percent of cases as of late December, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. On Dec. 18, the World Health Organization named it as the latest "variant of interest," meaning it has genetic changes that give it an advantage and that its prevalence is growing globally.

The second leading variant, HV.1, emerged in the United States at the end of the summer and was the most prevalent variant for much of the fall. By late December, it accounted for 22 percent of cases. Both HV.1 and JN.1 are distantly related to the original Omicron strain that emerged at the end of 2021.

Here's what to know about JN.1, HV.1 and the variants they emerged from, which also continue to circulate.

EG.5 & HV.1

The first notable variant of the fall was EG.5, which became dominant in the United States in August. Its numbers have slowly declined after peaking in September, and are now down to about 5 percent.

EG.5 — also called Eris — is a descendant of the Omicron variant XBB.1.9.2 and has one notable mutation that helps it to evade antibodies developed by the immune system in response to earlier variants and vaccines. That mutation meant that more people were susceptible to EG.5 when it emerged, said An-

drew Pekosz, a professor of molecular microbiology and immunology at Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health.

HV.1 is descended from EG.5 and carries the same immune-evading mutation. It was the leading variant in the United States from October until mid-December. Given the overlap between the two variants, it's unclear exactly how HV.1 overtook EG.5, but one of the few

at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston.

Neither EG.5 nor HV.1 appear to be more contagious or more likely to cause severe illness than earlier variants. Diagnostic tests and treatments such as Paxlovid also continue to be effective against them. Perhaps more important, recent research, published as a preprint paper in December, shows that antibodies produced in response to the new vaccines,

nicknamed Pirola. This variant worried experts because of the number of mutations it carries in the spike protein, which is what the virus uses to infect human cells and what our immune systems use to identify it.

According to Jesse Bloom, a professor at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center who specializes in virus evolution, the mutations in BA.2.86's spike protein represent "an evolutionary jump" as big as the dif-

an evolutionary jump as big as the unit

additional mutations in HV.1 likely gave it an edge over its predecessor.

"Whenever a new variant dominates, then by definition it has an advantage," said Dr. Dan Barouch, the head of the Center for Virology and Vaccine Research which target a related XBB variant, are protective against both EG.5 and HV.1.

BA.2.86 & JN.1

Another variant that scientists started keeping a close tab on this fall is BA.2.86,

ference between the original coronavirus strain and the first Omicron variant.

Adding to the concern, early data indicated that the new vaccines may not be very effective against BA.2.86. However, evidence has since emerged that

the boosters stimulate a modest number of antibodies that recognize BA.2.86, suggesting that the vaccines do provide some protection. Another study found that BA.2.86 may not be as transmissible as other forms of the virus.

BA.2.86 did not take off like scientists initially feared, but the variant evolved to produce JN.1, which has spread quickly. According to preliminary research released in November, JN.1 carries an additional mutation that gives it extra immune-evading capabilities.

The preprint paper testing how the new vaccines performed against HV.1 also showed that they produced antibodies effective against JN.1, but not as many. "Vaccinations or recent infections decrease but do not fully eliminate the risk" from JN.1, Dr. Bloom said in an email.

It is not yet known whether JN.1 has other evolutionary advantages that might affect its ability to infect people or cause more severe illness, compared to other variants. According to the C.D.C., hospitalizations for Covid are on the rise again, but that may be because infections always increase during the winter months.

More than the risk conferred by any individual variant, it is the rapid rate of virus evolution that is most concerning to Trevor Bedford, a professor in the vaccine and infectious disease division at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center. "No single variant has been that impactful," he said, "but the overall accumulation of these mutations is having significant impact."

The article was originally published by

Historic Town Mattan Radiates Enthusiasm As Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra Unfolds

Observer News Service

Anantnag: In a remarkable demonstration of unwavering commitment to national progress, the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra made a historic entry into the ancient tourist town of Mattan, Anantnag.

This monumental journey stands as a testament to the government's dedication to citizen welfare and the transformative impact of developmental initiatives.

the ongoing yatra, During Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Anantnag, Sandeep Singh Bali actively engaged with local residents, assessing the progress of various Central Government Schemes in the

Key initiatives such as Pradhan

Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, Ayushman Bharat, Kisan Samman Nidhi, and others were vividly showcased through impactful events. The "Meri Kahani Meri Zabani" sessions allowed individuals to share firsthand experiences, highlighting the real impact of these schemes on their lives.

ADC personally interacted with beneficiaries, presenting certificates for schemes like Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (G) and PM Awas Yojana (U). Appreciation letters were conferred for notable achievements under Jal Jeevan Mission, PMeGP, and Swachh Bharat Mission.

Participants attentively listened to the Prime Minister's recorded message, while beneficiaries shared success stories, emphasizing the tangible benefits derived from government welfare schemes.

Addressing the gathering, ADC highlighted Prime Minister's visionary goals for the Viksit Bharat Sankalp emphasizing widespread awareness, reaching the unreached, facilitating the utilization of government welfare schemes, and achieving saturation under citizen-centric programs.

ADC administered the 'Hamara Sankalp Viksit Bharat' pledge to officials, PRI members, students, and citizens. Local school students presented cultural programs and quizzes, sensitizing the population about the objectives of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra.

The event culminated with ADC inspecting stalls set up by various government departments, interacting with officers, and reviewing progress

Meanwhile, the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has exceeded

under different schemes on the ground.

expectations, bringing together over 2.30 lakh enthusiastic participants in District Anantnag. This extraordinary journey has seamlessly united citizens from every corner of Anantnag, extending its reach across 335 Gram Panchayats and 10 urban local bodies, with momentum steadily growing each passing day.

Traversing through 16 diverse blocks and 10 municipalities, including areas marked by a vibrant tribal presence, the Yatra paints a compelling picture of empowerment and community engagement, fostering a collective vision for national development.

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra

camps in District Anantnag have transformed into vibrant hubs, pulsating with activity as people enthusiastically engage in events and avail themselves of on-the-spot services. The health camps, a crucial facet of the Yatra, played a pivotal role by offering screenings to 93,000 individuals, addressing prevalent health concerns including TB, sickle cell anemia, and non-communicable diseases.

Diversifying from its agricultural focal point, the Yatra proactively involved farmers through a comprehensive outreach, encompassing 44 enlightening drone demonstrations and hundreds of in-depth Soil Health Card demonstrations. Government flagship schemes celebrated significant milestones, including instances achieving 100% JJM (Jal Jeevan Mission) saturation and ODF+ (Open Defecation Free Plus) status.

In recognition of outstanding contributions, accolades were bestowed upon noteworthy contributors, including remarkable women, dedicated students, local artists, and accomplished sports personalities. This acknowledgment not only celebrates individual excellence but also underscores the diversity and inclusivity inherent in India's developmental journey.

At the core of this enchanting event were the myriad tales of individual triumphs, as 10,000 beneficiaries poured their hearts into the 'Meri Kahani Meri Zubani' sessions. These heartfelt narratives wove a tapestry of touching accounts, illustrating the profound and transformative impact of government schemes on their lives.

CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

Kashmir In Grip Of

temperature of minus 4.6 degrees Celsius, marginally up from the previous night's minus 4.7 degrees Celsius, they said. It was the coldest recorded place in the Kashmir Valley.

Gulmarg, a famous ski resort in Baramulla, recorded a low of minus 2.8 degrees Celsius, dropping slightly from previous night's minus 2.4 degrees Celsius, the officials said.

Qazigund recorded a low of minus 3.2 degrees Celsius, Kokernag town saw the mercury settle at minus 2.2 degrees Celsius and Kupwara recorded a minimum of minus 4.2 degrees Celsius.

The Met department said the weather is likely to remain mainly dry till the end of the month. Foggy conditions are many towns of the Valley, including Srinagar.

The visibility in the city has reduced to less than 50 metres due to the fog cover. There was less than usual traffic on roads in the morning while vehicles were seen moving at low speeds due to the reduced visibility.

"The visibility in Srinagar at 8.30 am was less than 50 metres due to the fog cover. The motorists should drive carefully due to the low visibility," an official of the local meteorological office said.

Kashmir is currently under the grip of 'Chilla-i-Kalan' 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 Dal Lake and the water supply lines, in several

parts of the Valley.

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

'Chilla-i-Kalan' will end on January 31. However, the cold conditions will continue after that with a 20-daylong 'Chilla-i-Khurd' (small cold) and a 10-day-long 'Chilla-i-Bachha' (baby

it will wipe out terrorism from Jammu and Kashmir, even as he urged the troops to not make any such "mistakes" that may hurt the citizens of the country.

It is the responsibility of the troops to win the hearts of the people while performing their duty towards the security of the nation, said Singh, who arrived in Jammu and Kashmir earlier in the day to review the security situation.

Singh was on a day-long visit to Rajouri and Jammu following a terrorist ambush in Poonch.

The minister's statement comes amid the outrage that sparked in the wake of three civilians being found dead in Poonch district on December 22 allegedly after they were picked up by the security forces for questioning in connection with an ambush on two army vehicles that had left four soldiers dead a day earlier.

The defence minister, accompanied by Army chief General Manoj Pande and Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, flew to Rajouri district soon after his arrival in Jammu to review the security situation, especially in the twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch where terror attacks and infiltration attempts from across the Line of Control (LoC) have witnessed a spike this year.

Addressing the troops at a military garrison in Rajouri, the defence minister lauded the troops for their bravery.

"I believe in your bravery and steadfastness Terrorism should be finished from Jammu and Kashmir and you need to move forward with this commitment. I have full faith that you will achieve victory," Singh, flanked by General Pande and Lt Governor, said.

Four soldiers died and three others were injured when their vehicles were ambushed by terrorists at Dhatyar Morh between Dhera Ki Gali and Buffliaz in the Surankote area of Poonch on December 21.

Three civilians, aged between 27 and 42, were allegedly picked up by the army for questioning following the attack. They were found dead the next day. Soon, video clips purportedly of torture of the detained civilians

went viral on the social media. "Such incidents (ambush) cannot be taken for granted. I know you are alert to the situation but feel more alertness is required. I want to assure you that the government stands with you and your welfare is our top priority," Singh

In an apparent reference to the killing of three civilians, the defence minister asked the troops to avoid "mistakes that hurt the citizens of the country."

"The Indian Army is not considered an ordinary force in the world. The people accept that the Army is much more powerful than ever and also well-equipped compared to the past. You are the guardians of the nation but alongside protecting the country, vou need to win the hearts of the citizens. It is a big responsibility on your shoulders," the minister said.

"There is a need to do it with more seriousness and it can be achieved by meeting the people, listening to their problems and raising those issues at appropriate level for redressal," he

Singh paid his tributes to the fallen soldiers and prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured personnel.

"I want to assure you that given the seriousness of the incident, required and appropriate steps would be taken. For us, every soldier is a part of the family and his life is very precious any one eyeing our soldiers is not acceptable to us," he said.

"The government treasury is open for further beefing up the security and the intelligence gathering," he said.

"The sacrifice of the soldiers is unparalleled and cannot be compensated with money. The void can never be fulfilled," he added.

Reviews Security

assessment of the ongoing counter-terror operations in Rajouri and Poonch districts, they said.

The defence minister's visit comes nearly a week after four soldiers were killed when their vehicles were ambushed by terrorists in the Surankote area of Poonch on December 21.

Accompanied by Army chief General Manoj Pande and General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Northern Command Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi and Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, the defence minister flew to Rajouri district this afternoon immediately after his arrival here.

On his return from Rajouri, Singh visited Raj Bhawan and held a closed door security review meeting, the officials said.

They said the defence minister was briefed on the prevalent security situation, counter-infiltration grid and operational preparedness.

The aspects associated with the operating challenges were discussed by Singh with the commanders on ground, the officials said, adding he called for professional conduct and due diligence while carrying out

operations. Singh expressed satisfaction for the high level of synergy between the security forces, civil administration, J&K Police, Central Armed Police Forces and other security agencies in projecting a clear message of resoluteness towards improving of the security environment that is conducive to fostering a new era of development in the Union territory.

He also complimented the local people for their steadfastness and contribution towards joining the mainstream efforts undertaken by the government of India.

In the meeting, it was emphasised that the unity in thought process, alignment and collective resolve for the good of the nation is the most important foundation for achievement of shared aspirations of peace and development in the UT.

On December 25, Army chief Gen Pande had visited Rajouri-Poonch sector and exhorted all ranks of the Army to conduct operations in the most professional manner while remaining resolute and steadfast against all challenges.

He had also underscored the commitment of the Indian Army to respecting human rights and zero tolerance for violations in any form.

Assures Justice

two of Army vehicles in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district.

Singh, accompanied by Army chief General Manoj Pande and Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, reached Rajouri district this afternoon, where he met the families of the deceased and also visited the Government Medical College (GMC) to enquire about the health of four other "torture" victims.

District Development Several Council (DDC) members, former legislators and civil society members were also present at the meeting between the defence minister, Lt Governor and the families of the deceased civilians.

"Please have faith in us. Nobody can bring back to life of those who have died. But there will be justice," Singh told five members of three families of

Singh further said that they are all pained at the loss of lives in Poonch. "We all - I, LG Sahib and Prime

Minister Ji - are pained," he told the kin in presence of Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar and IGP Anand Jain. "Whatever has happened...there

will be justice," the defence minister told reporters at the GMC hospital where he had reached after meeting the families of the deceased civilians at Dak Bungalow.

Four soldiers lost their lives and three others were injured when their vehicles were ambushed by terrorists at Dhatyar Morh between Dhera Ki Gali and Buffliaz in the Surankote area of Poonch on December 21.

Three civilians -- Safeer Hussain (43), Mohd Showket (27) and Shabir Ahmad (32)-- were allegedly picked up by the Army for questioning following the attack and they were later found dead on December 22. Video clips purportedly showing torture of the detained civilians went viral on

social media. "The defence minister met the families of the civilians, civil society and assured action against the guilty after an inquiry into the incident. MLC Shahnaz Ganai, who was present in the meeting at Dak Bungalow, told

She said they are hopeful that the victim families will get justice, given the visit of the defence minister to share the pain and his assurance.

"While condemning this incident, we also pay our tributes to our brave soldiers and express our condolences to their families. We the people of Rajouri-Poonch will not allow the inimical elements within or outside the country to take benefit of such type of incidents," Ganai said.

Malik, DDC member, Surankote, said the defence minister assured them that all those responsible for the incident would be dealt with as per the law of the land.

The incident had triggered an outrage with the people demanding justice, compensation and jobs for the victim families, Malik said, expressing satisfaction over the visit of the defence minister and his assurance to

Fresh Searches

to track the terrorists involved in last week's ambush that killed four soldiers in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

"Security forces are continuing the cordon and search operation to track down the terrorists involved in the ambush on Army vehicles," a senior official told PTI.

The operation includes sniffer dogs. surveillance equipment and aerial mechanisms. Additional forces have been deployed to plug seven infiltration routes amid area domination operations in the area.

Mobile internet services will remain suspended in Rajouri and Poonch for the fifth day in a row.

Security forces and special operation groups have launched search operations at three places along the International Border (IB) in Samba district since this morning, officials said.

They said that this has been done as a precautionary measure due to the intense fog along the borderline, they

Security forces have also launched fresh search operations along the LoC in Kirni sector in Poonch following

reports of suspicious movement in the area, they said. The operations are going on, they said. **18 Lakh Indians**

Umrah sector, Saudi Arabia's Minister of Hajj and Umrah, Dr Tawfiq bin Fawzan Al-Rabiah, made the firstever visit to India in early December.

The minister participated in an introduction meeting organised by the unified government platform 'Nusuk' from December 4 to 6.

The event showcased the platform's unique services and facilities to Muslim guests worldwide, with a special focus on those from India. Dr Al-Rabiah addressed concerns, proposed initial solutions, and set the stage for collaboration.

Nusuk has been launched by Saudi Arabia to streamline the process of obtaining electronic visas and automating access procedures for Umrah and visits to the Prophet's Mosque.

The platform engages in extensive partnerships through regional and international roadshows.

A representative from an Indian Travel and Tourism Agency emphasised that Nusuk will significantly contribute to facilitating Umrah for Indian visitors, elevating service standards.

Hasan Al-Dabbagh, President of APAC Markets at the Saudi Tourism Authority, highlighted the platform's role in developing an integrated ecosystem for the Umrah sector.

This allows the private sector in Saudi Arabia and globally, particularly in India, to serve the guests of the Rahman, benefiting from the platform's services, he said.

Since its launch, Nusuk has empowered the private sector by sharing data, providing training courses, and strategically connecting service providers with visitors.

Govt Grants

tax legislations. He said that the amnesty scheme provides relief to dealers by 100 per cent waiver of penalty and interest under Taxation acts for assessment/ reassessment up to 2017-18 for all and

2017 for liquor dealers, 100 percent

waiver of penalty and interest under

VAT 2005, and Central Sales Tax Act for assessments up to 2017-18. It also gave waiver of interest and penalty to 100 per cent payment of principal tax in the manner and within the prescribed time as per the scheme, settlement of demands for Industrial Units under repealed VAT and other tax acts in respect of assessed, reassessed demands, including yet to be

assessed cases with certain conditions to be notified in the scheme. "This decision on the part of the government will result in minimising tax dispute cases and winding up pre-GST cases etc. The time limit for receiving the applications for this amnesty will not be more than six months from the date an order is issued in this regard," the spokesperson added.

Kashmir Inc Welcomes

Council for considering the long pending demand of the organisation to provide clean slate to the industry for pre-GST regime during the period industrial units were exempted from payment of VAT under remission mechanism.

He said that the industrial units had been put to great inconvenience and trouble by irrational demands raised by assessing authorities against them through unilateral assessments and reassessments.

"Many of the cases had been referred to the recovery wing which had caused great stress to the already stressful entrepreneurs," he said.

Kamili termed the amnesty as the first gift to the industry and trade from the incumbent Chief Secretary Atal Duloo with whom the authorized representatives of FCIK including Presidents of all industrial estates of the valley had taken up this vital issue in a marathon meeting last Friday. He hoped that, with the firm assurance given by the CS, all genuine demands made by FCIK in a comprehensive memorandum would get resolved

The President FCIK has hoped that

the guidelines issued under the amnesty will be simple and provided "clean slate" to the industry as was promised before transition into the GST regime.

"All the cases pertaining to VAT regime needs to be closed for the simple reason that industry would not charge any tax from their customers during this period under remission policy in vogue," he added.

Whereas the amnesty granted to-day will likely settle all frivolous demands created against the MSMEs for Pre-GST regime, the FCIK has demanded for a strong recommendation from the J&K Government to the GST Council and Union Government for grant of amnesty for defaults of MSMEs in the GST regime mostly happening during the troubled period of reorganization and Covid restrictions.

Meanwhile, Kashmir Trade Alliance (KTA) has also conveyed its heartfelt gratitude to the LG-led dispensation for approving amnesty to settle assessed and reassessed demands against business establishments during the VAT regime.

The approved amnesty provides a clean slate to the business community for the pre-GST regime, particularly during the period when businesses were exempted from VAT payments under the remission mechanism," President KTP, Aijaz Shahdhar said in a statement.

Describing the amnesty as the first gift to the industry and trade, Shahdhar credited LG Sinha, Chief Secretary Atal Duloo for this positive development.

'The decision is expected to bring relief to Kashmir business fraternity that have been adversely affected by the burden of unfounded demands and assessments," he said.

Govt Schools

DSEK accordingly has requested CEOs to take necessary action in this regard

"The photographs of all the teachers may be displayed in all the schools of your (CEOs) respective districts and provide an updated status of it by mentioning the total number of schools and total number of teachers covered under this initiative whose photographs have been displayed in the prescribed format," it reads.

Pertinently, the orders were issued on the directions of the Ministry of Education (MoE) for Government of India (GoI) on December-19. (KNO)

Govt Bans Masarat

government's message is clear that those who act against the unity, sovereignty, and integrity of the nation will face the full wrath of the law and will not be spared.

Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction) is declared as an 'Unlawful Association' under UAPA. This organisation and its members are involved in anti-national and secessionist activities in J&K, supporting terrorist activities, and inciting people to establish Islamic rule in J&K," Shah said in a post on 'X'.

Masarat Alam Bhat is known for his anti-India and pro-Pakistan propaganda.

Bhat became the chairman of the hardline faction of the Hurriyat Conference following the death of Syed Ali Shah Geelani. Currently, he is incarcerated.

The Union Home Ministry, in a no-

tification, stated that the objectives of the Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction) are to attain freedom for Jammu and Kashmir from India, merge it with Pakistan, and establish Islamic rule. The organisation's members have been involved in secessionist activities,

including Pakistan and its proxy organisations, to support terrorist activities and sustain stone-pelting on security forces in Jammu and Kashmir. The home ministry emphasised that the Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction) and its members

raising funds through various sources.

show disrespect towards the constitutional authority and setup of the country. Their unlawful activities undermine the integrity, sovereignty, security, and communal harmony of India.

Additionally, there have been indications of the Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction) having linkages with banned terrorist organisations.

The outfit and its members have been supporting terrorist activities with the intent to create terror in the country, thereby endangering its security and public order.

Their anti-national activities demonstrate disregard and disrespect for the constitutional authority and sovereignty of India, the ministry said.

The Central government believes that immediate action is necessary against the Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction) to curb its unlawful activities, which pose a threat to the territorial integrity, security, and sovereignty of the country.

The outfit is likely to continue advocating the secession of Jammu and Kashmir from India, promoting false narratives, and inciting anti-national sentiments among the people of the region, which could disrupt public safety.

Therefore, exercising the powers conferred by the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, the Central government has declared the Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction) as an unlawful association with immediate effect, the ministry said.

The ban will remain in effect for a period of five years from the date of its publication in the official gazette, unless otherwise ordered. Bhat has been in jail since 2010 for

his alleged involvement in violent protests in the Kashmir valley. His release in 2015 became the first impediment in PDP-BJP alliance when the then chief minister Mufti Mohammed Sayeed got him released

immediately after taking oath. Under pressure from its ally BJP, the then state government had to rearrest him on charges of sedition and waging war against the state after alleged raising pro-Pakistan slogans at a rally.

role in organising violent protests in Kashmir in 2010, which resulted in the deaths of over 100 youths. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the guidance of Home Minister Amit Shah, the

Bhat was accused of playing a key

tolerance policy against terrorism, the ministry said. This year alone, four organisations have been banned under the anti-terror law UAPA, and six individuals have been declared as terrorists, according

government has maintained a zero-

to a home ministry official. **No Person Can**

petitioner indulged in new activities till the passing of impugned order of detention.

There is not even a whisper about

the prejudicial activities. Koka indulged in w.e.f. 19th April, 2022, till the passing of order of detention dated 25th June, 2022, the court said. "I also see no reason to press into service an FIR registered in the year 2004,

more particularly when the petitioner has already faced trial in the aforesaid FIR and has been acquitted by the competent Court of jurisdiction," the court said, adding, "Interestingly, the Detaining Authority has not shown any awareness about the acquittal of the petitioner in the aforesaid FIR."

It is a "foregone conclusion", the court said that the Detaining Authority did not take into consideration the relevant material to derive its subjective satisfaction with regard to the necessity of placing Koka under preventive detention.

"A person cannot be detained under preventive detention on the basis of totally vague and unsubstantiated allegations," the court said, adding, "The Detaining Authority could have come clear with regard to the prejudicial activities, the petitioner had indulged in, after his release from earlier detention pursuant to the order of this Court dated 19th April, 2022, till the passing

of the impugned order of detention." Subsequently, the court quashed the detention order PSA and ordered authorities to release him forthwith from the preventive custody provided he is not required in any other case.

Magisterial Probe Ordered Into Death Of Man In Jammu

Press Trust Of India

IAMMU: A man died after he was detained by police on the basis of a court warrant in Jammu district following which authorities have ordered a magisterial probe, an official said on Wednesday.

While the relatives of the man raised questions on the circumstances surrounding his death, police denied any foul play.

There is misinformation floating on social media platforms regarding the death of a person in police custody in Police Post Jorian in Jammu, a police spokesman said.

Sunil Kumar alias Sonu of Garhi-Bishnah in Jourian was brought to Jourian police post in compliance with a warrant issued by Additional District Judge Jammu and was to be produced in the court last Friday.

Sources said the case was related to a money dispute.

He was shifted to a community health centre (CHC) at Jourian as he was not responding, where doctors declared him dead, the spokesperson said, adding a magisterial inquiry has been ordered by Deputy Commissioner Jammu.

The post-mortem was conducted by a board of doctors in GMC Jammu in the presence of the magistrate and videography has also been done, the spokesperson said.

Sources said the entire premises including the lockup of police post Jourian, are under CCTV surveillance

NBWL Okays Key Tourism Infra Projects In J&K

SRINAGAR: In a significant move, the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) has given its go-ahead for three key proposals aimed at upgradation and redevelopment of tourism infrastructure in the Union Territory.

The documents reveal that these proposals for use of land of wildlife sanctuaries at Gulmarg, Jammu and Pahalgam was cleared by the standing committee of NBWL during its meeting held on November 17, 2023 under the chairmanship of Union Minister for Forests, Environment and Climate

As per minutes of the meeting, NBWL has given its green signal for use of 3.2 hectares of land from Gulmarg wildlife sanctuary for upgradation and re-development of hotel Ashok, whose construction work was left midway by the Indian Tourism Development

Corporation (ITDC). The construction work on

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: National Conference

pectations from Defence Minis-

ter Rajnath Singh's Jammu and

Kashmir visit but hoped that in-

cidents like the civilian deaths in

his visit. Can he bring back the

dead? Does he have that power? But he can do this much that such

injustice is not repeated," Abdullah told reporters in Kulgam, 80

Abdullah said Singh was visit-

ing "because our people were

killed" and that the minister will

"apply balm on the wounds of the

affected families." Three civilians

were found dead after they were

picked up by the Army for question-

ing following a terrorist ambush on

two Army vehicles in Poonch last

Observer News Service

RAJOURI: Secretary, Health and

Medical Education Department,

Bhupinder Kumar, on Wednes-

day inaugurated vital healthcare

facilities during his visit to Ra-

He also took a comprehensive

review of patient care services

fortifying blood transfusion ser-

of community involvement,

Secretary directed the Chief

Medical Officer to actively pro-

mote voluntarily blood donation

Secretary also inaugurated a

vices within the institution.

iouri district.

Thursday that killed four soldiers.

kilometres from Srinagar.

"I have no expectations from

Poonch will not be repeated.

No Expectations From DM's

president Farooq Abdullah on ant Governor Manoj Sinha and Wednesday said he had no ex- Army chief Manoj Pande to review

Secretary Health Inaugurates Vital

Healthcare Facilities In Rajouri

J&K Visit: Dr Farooq

Hotel Ashok commenced in the 1980s and was abandoned midway by ITDC after militancy broke out in the region.

Currently, a dilapidated and half-finished civil structure lies on the site. In its justification, the JKTDC has submitted that they intend to award a 60-year concession (via public-private partnership mode) for operating a 75-85 rooms luxury resort on the land.

The NBWL has also recommended the proposal for use of 3.1 hectares of land from Ramnagar wildlife sanctuary for upgradation and re-development of Hotel Ashoka at Jammu.

According to JKTDC, the Hotel Ashok at Jammu was built in early 1970s as per the then prevailing standards and bench-

In its justification, the JKTDC has submitted that it intends to award a 60-year concession for operating eco luxury resorts with 60-70 rooms with upscale positioning on the same parcel

The defence minister has flown to Rajouri to visit ground zero on

Wednesday along with Lieuten-

the security situation following

the terror attack on the Army ve-

hicles. On Congress' Bharat Nyay

Yatra that was announced earlier

on Wednesday, the NC president

said Rahul Gandhi "is trying to

"He is trying to remove the

mistrust and hatred between

communities. We were part of

this effort earlier and we will be part of it again," he added.

Asked about his remarks on

Kashmir turning into Gaza, a de-

fiant Abdullah hit back and said,

"What will happen if the two coun-

tries do not find a way for friendly

relations? We have terrorism. Chi-

na is also sitting over our heads. If

there is a war here, where will the

bombs fall? Will the bombs ex-

ulty members, delving into a

thorough review of patientcare

facilities. The staff apprised him

of the challenges they are facing,

receiving assurances that their

concerns would be promptly ad-

dressed to ensure the delivery of

high-quality services to patients.

their unwavering dedication and

Secretary lauded the staff for

plode in the air or fall on us?"

unite the country".



A GROUP OF MEN walk over a railway track in Central Kashmir's Budgam district on a cold and foggy morning. KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

Govt Okays Construction Of Nallahs To Plug **Pollution In Tawi River**

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration approved Rs 26.87 crore on Wednesday for the construction of "nallahs" from Peerkho to Dounthly here for abatement of pollution in the Tawi river, an official spokesperson said.

The approval for the project on the right bank of the river, to be funded under the Capex Budget, was given by the administrative council that met here under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, he added.

The spokesperson said the project was prepared in compliance with the instructions given by the National Green Tribunal (NGT) and Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) for abatement of pollution in the river by diverting the untreated waste water falling into it from storm-water drains and



treating the same before discharging into the river.

"This will ensure a proper drainage and sewerage network for the area and directly benefit the households or local inhabitants, besides ensuring compliance with the directions of the NGT and CPCB regarding abatement of pollution in the Tawi river," the

Katra Shuts Down Against Proposed Vaishno Devi Ropeway Project



Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: A complete shutdown was observed on Wednesday against a proposed ropeway project in Katra, the base camp for the pilgrims visiting Shri Mata Vaishno Devi shrine atop the Trikuta hills in Jammu and

Several thousand shopkeepers and other stakeholders also staged a protest rally in the town and dispersed on the assurance of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) that the second meeting will be held with them next month to address their concerns before starting

The pilgrims, meanwhile, had a tough time due to the closure of the market with many of them saying that

they were returning without

The SMVDSB had approved a Rs 250-crore passenger ropeway project between Tarakote Marg to Sanji Chhat along the 12-km track to the revered

The shopkeepers and other service providers are apprehensive that the construction of the ropeway will render them jobless. They are also concerned about the ongoing work on the Delhi-Katra Expressway, and said an attempt is being made to connect the road directly to Tarakote and sideline the his-

toric town of Katra. After taking out a rally in the town, the protesters staged a peaceful sit-in outside the shrine board office and later a group of them met the officials before dispersing off peacefully.

"The ropeway project is a decision of the board to ensure better facilities to the pilgrims due to limited capacity of helicopters and the court's directive to provide alternate facilities on the track. A meeting is proposed with the stakeholders in January after the yearend rush and all their concerns will be addressed to their best satisfaction." he said

He said the work on the Katra-Delhi Expressway is being undertaken by the National Highway Authority of India and the issue could be discussed with the divisional commissioner, Jammu.



Kashmir's Reasi district.

the work on the project.

SMVDSB CEO Anshul Garg said the ropeway is meant to facilitate elderly, medically unfit and the physically challenged.

Union Territory Of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Department Mechanical Irrigation Division Anantnag, H/Q Awantipora.

CANCELLATION

SUBJECT: Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Submersible Pumping Unit at Tube Well Station Satrimaidan with allied works REFERANCE: E NIT NO 55 OF 2022-23 Dated: 29.11.2023

Due to Poor response, the above referred E Nit is hereby cancelled. No MIDA/ 3747-53 DIPK-14333/23 Date: 27.12..2023

sd/= **Executive Engineer,** Jal Shakti Deptt Mech. Irri. Div., Anantnag H.Q. Awantipora

Sonamarg All Set To Host Two-Day New Year Festival

Festival To Commence On 31th December; DC **Reviews Arrangements**

Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir today convened a meeting of officers and stakeholders to review the arrangements for organizing mega New Year fes-

tival at Sonamarg.
At the outset, CEO, Sonamarg Development Authority briefed the DC about the arrangements to be put in place for organizing two-day New Year Festival at Sonamarg.

In the meeting it was revealed that the festival shall start on 31th December during which several activities including winter sports and cultural activities will be held on both the days.

The DC sought the details regarding the arrangements to be put in place including identification and beautification of venue, accommodation, water and power supply, cultural activities, health facilities, heating arrangements, transport, parking, operationalization of Z-Morh Tunnel and other related facilities to be put in place for successful conduct of the

While finalizing the arrangements, the DC maintained that we are expecting huge rush of tourists including locals on the new year and said that Collaborative efforts and coordination of all stakeholders is necessary to provide seamless facilities to the tourists who are coming to attendant the event.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani, CEO, SDA; Joint Director Tourism, Executive Engineers of various wings, representative of Hotelier Association Sonamarg, various Officers/ Officials of District Administration and other stakeholders.

J&K Bank Opens Extension Counter At Khangral In Kargil

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Carrying forward its ease-of-banking mission to rural areas of Ladakh, J&K Bank on Wednesday opened an Extension Counter of Chiktan branch at Khangral area of Kargil thereby adding one more outlet to its network in the UT.

SDM (Shakar Chiktan) A G Zargar inaugurated the Extension Counter in presence of Councillor (Chiktan) Liyaqat Ali Khachoo, President LBA Bodhkharboo Skarma Dadool amid a gathering of valuable customers and notables from the area besides Zonal Head (Ladakh) Dorjey Angchuk, Cluster Head (Kargil) Ishfaq Ahmad Hakak and other officials of the Bank.

While hailing the role of J&K Bank in serving the people of Ladakh especially those from rural areas, SDM A G Zargar urged the unemployed youth of

the area to take full advantage of various flagship government programmes aimed at creating increasing number of selfemployment ventures. "People also need to inculcate habit of saving with the Bank because the Bank is also lending generously for the overall economic growth of the UT", he said.

Speaking on the occasion, Zonal Head (Ladakh) thanked the distinguished guests and the people of the area in particular for banking with J&K bank and assured that the extension counter will provide best banking facilities along with its responsive and innovative products and services. He said, "The Extension Counter will extend best customer services to the people of the area because they deserve the best.'

Cluster Head (Kargil) presented the vote of thanks on the occasion.

ازعدالت ایُدیشنل ڈسٹر کٹ جج (بنک مقد مات) سرینگر بااجلاس:اروندشرما J&K Bank B/U Khanyar Sgr دعوىٰ وصوليا بي رقم مبلغ =/ اشتهار بمراد آگاهی بنام Farida W/o Abdul Qayoom Lone R/o Aquilmir مقدمه مندرجه عنوان الصدر میں مدعاعلیه/ مدعالیم کی تغیل کرانے کی بسیار کوشش کی گئی _ إلا ندتو پید: جدید پر مدعاعلیه/ مدعالیم دستیاب ہوئے اور نہ ہی بذر ربعہ معن تغیل لائی گئی۔بدین وجہ حسب استدائی مدعاعلیہ/ مدعالیم جو بذر بعداشتہار بذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم مبلغ =/ Rs 1,60,964 جازية عدالت بذائب -للذا آپ كوبذر يعداشتهار بذامطلع كياجا تائب كه آپ بغرض پيروي ابراء بذا بعنوان بالامورخي 28-12-28 إصالتاً بإوكالتاً بروقت تيجيري حاضراً كرمقدمه بذاكي پیروی کریں _بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کا روائی بعمل لائی جائے گی ۔ تُحریر ایڈیشنل ڈسٹر کٹ جج بنک مقد مات سرینگر

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to change the name on electricity bill bearing consumer ID No: 0204020006539 From Nissar Ahmad Wani S/o Mohammad Yousuf Wani R/o Daenbagh Rainwari to Shameema W/o Bashir Ahmad Mattoo R/o Rainawari Srinagar . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the PDD Sub Division Rainawari within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Shameema W/o Bashir Ahmad Mattoo R/o Naid Booni Rainawari Srinagar Srinagar

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

Adv Faizan UI Hag Matto Adv Imtiyaz Aziz Baigh

Adv Manzoor Sadiq Ganie Adv Sirnawaz Thakur

1. Asif Ali Ganie S/O Ali Mohmmad Ganie R/O Khalid Bin Waleed Colony Natipora Srinagai

Public at large (Non-Caveators)

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

The caveator has reason to believe/apprehension that non caveators may file an application /case /revision or any other proceedings before this hon'ble court on the ground of

distorted facts / misrepresentation and cooked up story, therefore may succeed in obtaining some relief / order at their back /ex parte against the caveators and in such eventuality the caveators may suffer an irreparable loss and injury which can't be compensated by any means later on . Therefore it would be proper to put caveators on notice so that an opportunity of being heard is given to the caveators before passing any such relief / order.

triya Bal Swasthya Karyakram.

throughout the district.

launching the District Early Intervention Centre Under Rashsided over a meeting with fac-

thalassemia care centre besides Bhupinder Kumar also pre-

encouraged them to being extended to the ailing in further elevate pa-One of the notable initiatives tientcare services, during the visit was inauguraemphasizing the need to meet the tion of blood components centre at GMC and AH Rajouri, aimed at expectations of the general public. Subsequently, Recognizing the importance

Bhupinder Kumar conducted a tour of Government Medical College Rajouri, directing the department to expedite the pending works on the building. He interacted with the staff obtaining valuable insights into the operational aspects

of the institution.

Elgar Ton Helps SA To 11-Run Lead Vs India

PRETORIA: An unbeaten century from veteran Dean Elgar and fifty on debut from David Bedingham allowed South Africa to take an 11-run lead with five wickets in hand over India when bad light ended play on the second day of the first test at Centurion on Wednesday.

The 36-year-old Elgar is retiring from international cricket after the two-test series but played one of the best innings of his long career as he scored an emotive 140 not out to help the hosts to 256-5 in reply to India's first innings total of

He will resume on Thursday with Marcio Jansen, who has three, with South Africa seeking to build a substantive lead. Elgar, who took over the captaincy after Temba Bavuma pulled his hamstring fielding on Tuesday, played some unusually flamboyant front foot strokes in a chanceless



innings against a fearsome attack on a track set up for the seamers.

He scored a 14th test century but his first at Centurion, which is his home ground. Elgar brought up his ton in 140 balls and featured in two important partnerships -- first 93 runs for the second wicket with Tony de Zorzi, which set a good foundation, and then 131 with Bedingham for the fourth wicket. The 29-year-old Bedingham looked assured and confident on debut as he scored 56 before being bowled by Mohammed Siraj, who finished the day with figures of 2-63. Jasprit Bumrah also took two wickets, squaring up De Zorzi (28) and forcing a

thick edge to third slip and

then bowling Keegan Pe-

Siraj had taken the first wicket of the innings when Aiden Markram went cheaply for five in the fourth over of South Africa's knock.

Earlier, KL Rahul completed his century before India were dismissed for 245 in their first innings, moving on from 208-8 overnight with play commencing 25 minutes late because of light drizzle.

Cummins Leads Australia Fightback After Pakistan Take Early Honours

MELBOURNE: Pakistan threatened to take charge of the second test after dismissing Australia for 318 and were making a good start to their reply on Wednesday but were reduced to 194 for six at stumps after the intervention of home skipper Pat Cummins. The tourists looked in fine shape at 124-1 an hour after tea but will resume on day three of the match 124 runs in arrears with hopes of a first test win in Australia since 1995 to level the series at 1-1 fading fast.

Cummins (3-37) changed the day in two overs, brilliantly catching Abdullah Shafique for 62 off his own bowling and dismissing dangerman Babar Azam for one with a sublime delivery that had the Melbourne Cricket Ground crowd roaring in delight. Off spinner Nathan Lyon also played a leading role in Australia's fightback, breaking an obdurate opening partnership between Imam-Ul-Haq and Shafique before returning to remove Shan Masood for 54.

Masood had played a gutsy captain's innings for his eighth test half century but frittered all his good work away when he tried to club the ball back over Lyon's head only to balloon it to Mitch Marsh at point. Josh Hazlewood then chipped in to bowl Saud Shakeel for nine and Cummins returned



late in the session to have Agha Salman caught behind for five.

Mohammad Rizwan was unbeaten on 29 at the close of play with Aamer Jamal two not out from 26 balls at the other end.

The rain which had disrupted the opening day of the Boxing Day test stayed away but conditions still favoured the bowlers and Pakistan were able to wrap up Australia's first innings before lunch. Jamal led the way with 3-64 as the tourists, who have lost 15 successive tests in Australia since 1995, took the last seven wickets at the

Marnus Labuschagne top scored with 63 but the 52 extras Pakistan conceded was a reminder of a sloppiness that Australia were always going to be happy to exploit. Pakistan belied that tendency early in their innings, particularly as Shafique and Masood put on 90 runs for the second wicket with brave and disciplined batting in the face of Australia's world class pace attack.

Australia won the first test by an emphatic 360 runs in Perth two weeks ago. The third and final test will take place in Sydney in the

JKCA Invites Registrations For Junior Carrom Nationals



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The J&K Carrom Association announced Tuesday that it will be registering players for selection and screening for the J&K Carrom Team to compete at the 48th Junior National Carrom Championship. The tourney will be held from February 10 to 13, 2024, at SRM Engineering College in Madu-

rai, Tamil Nadu. The team will be by the screening committee of the J&K Sports Council and J&K Carrom Association, The championship is being organised by the All India Carrom Federation and hosted by the Tamil Nadu Carrom Association and Madurai District Carrom Association.

As per JKCA, players born on or after 11.02.2006 can

take part in Junior (Under-18) events, while players born on or after 11.02.2003 may take part in Youth (Under-21) events.

"Entries shall be accepted with valid legal age proof only. Hence players are advised to carry the original age proof during the trails and screening process," the association said in

"In this regard, all the desired players, interested schools, institutions, clubs of I&K are requested to register their players on email jkcarrom@gmail. com for the said championship with the format: Name, Parentage, DOB, Institution, Contact No. & Email ID on or before 10th January 2024, for any information contact Association on 9906767529, 9070000093,"

JKFA To Hold Super League, **A-Division Finals On Dec 31**

J&K's professional football

scene includes a four-tier league

system, with the Srinagar Pre-

mier League considered the top

state-level league. The Super

Division League forms the sec-

ond-tier of professional football

in the region. The A-Division

League is the third-ranked tier

of pro football, while the B-Di-

vision League forming the low-

The leagues are based on

the principles of promotion

and relegation, with the win-

ning team moving to a higher

league, while the lowest per-

forming sides are relegated to a

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The J&K Football Association and DFA Srinagar are set to hold the final matches of the Srinagar Super Division League 2023 and the Srinagar A-Division League 2023 on Sunday, December 31, at Synthetic Turf TRC here.

In the A-Division final, Muslimeen United FC will lock horns with Syed Hyder Stars FC. The game will kick off at

In the Super Division final, Kashmir Arrows FC are scheduled to take on Northall United FC. The fixture will kick off at



est level.

2:30 PM.

The winning teams will be promoted to a higher division, making these games crucial for the football clubs involved.

The winner of the Premier Division League are promoted to I-League 3, the fourth tier of Indian professional football league system, below I-League 2.

IOA Forms Ad Hoc Committee To Run Affairs Of Suspended WFI

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) on Wednesday constituted a three-member ad hoc committee to run the dayto-day affairs of the WFI after the sports ministry suspended the wrestling national body for not following the provisions of its own constitution while taking decisions.

Wushu Association of India president Bhupinder Singh Bajwa will be the chairman of the panel with hockey Olympian M M Somaya and former international shuttler Manjusha Kanwar being the other two members.

The Sports Ministry on Sunday suspended the WFI, three days after it elected new office bearers with Brij Bhushan Singh loyalist Sanjay Singh as president, and also asked IOA to constitute an ad-hoc panel to manage the affairs of the sports body.

The IOA said in a release that he newly-elected president and officials of WFI have made arbitrary decisions in violation of their own constitutional provisions and also flouted principles of good governance.

The ad hoc committee was tasked to oversee and supervise WFI's operations, which include athlete selection, submitting entries for athletes to partici-



ganizing sports activities, handling bank accounts, managing the website, and other related responsibilities.

Bajwa was also one of the members of the earlier ad hoc committee formed by the IOA in April to run the affairs of WFI and to conduct its elections. After repeated delays due to court cases, elections were finally held on December 21 with Brij Bhushan's close aide Sanjay winning the presidential poll.

as WFI President on Thursday Sanjay had announced that age group national championships will be held from December 28 in Gonda in UP, which is BJP MP Brij Bhushan's constituency.

The government, while suspending the WFI, cited its "hasty announcement" of organising the U-15 and U-20 nationals "without following due procedure and not tlers" for preparations.

The ministry felt the new WFI body was working under the complete control of its former office-bearers, which was not in conformity with the National Sports Code.

Sanjay's election as WFI chief led to Rio Olympics medallist Sakshi Malik announcing her retirement from wrestling as she said she would not continue the sport with a close aide of Brij Bhushan at the helm of the na-Hours after getting elected tional federation. Tokyo Olympics bronze winner Bairang Punia also returned his Padma Shri to the government. World Championships medallist Vinesh Phogat followed suit as she returned her Khel Ratna and Arjuna Award.

The trio had led a five-monthlong protest of wrestlers at Jantar Mantar, accusing Brij Bhushan of sexually exploiting several women grapplers.

United moved up to sixth place,

three points behind defending

champion Manchester City in fifth.

City has played two fewer games

Liverpool is back at the top of the

Nunez ended a 12-game scoring

drought to set up Jurgen Klopp's team

for a 2-0 win against Burnley and

Liverpool moved two points clear

Nunez curled a shot from distance beyond Burnley goalkeeper James

of second-place Arsenal, which has a

game in hand against West Ham on

Trafford in the sixth minute at Turf

Moor, having failed to find the back

Having drawn back-to-back league

games against Manchester United

and Arsenal, Liverpool failed to make

the most of its dominance as it saw

of the net for his club since Nov. 1.

overtake Arsenal in the standings.

league and Darwin Nunez is again

than United.

among the goals.

LIVERPOOL LEADS

United Beats Villa In Comeback Delight, While Liverpool Stays Top

Agencies

MANCHESTER: Welcome to Manchester United, Jim Ratcliffe.

In the space of 90 minutes, and in front of soon-to-be director Dave Brailsford, Old Trafford witnessed the best and worst of Erik ten Hag's

Two days after confirmation that British billionaire Ratcliffe will buy a stake of up to 25% in the club, United trailed by two goals inside 26 minutes against Aston Villa and was booed by the home crowd on Tuesday. Ten Hag's players then produced a spectacular second-half comeback to win 3-2 and spark celebrations rarely seen at its famed stadium during a troubled season

"We said 'Keep going. Believe it, in ourselves.' That is what I demand from the team," Ten Hag said afterward. "We said it before the game and during halftime, 'Keep believing and we will win this game."

Going into the game on the back of a run of four matches in all competitions without a win or a goal, United took to the field for the first time since Ratcliffe, one of Britain's richest people, secured an agreement worth around \$1.6 billion to buy into the club he has supported from childhood.

Brailsford is the director of sport for INEOS Sport, which Ratcliffe owns, and on Tuesday it was confirmed he will be a director of United

once the deal is completed.

He got a taste of the sense of frustration among the 20-time league champions' fans — with United last winning the title in 2013 – and the animosity toward American owners the Glazer family, who put the club up for sale last year.

Ratcliffe will take charge of soccer operations as part of his investment and Brailsford is expected to play a big part in a new structure.

While it will take more than one win to turn a season around that has already seen United eliminated from the Champions League and the English League Cup, the atmosphere in the second half was a taste of what can be achieved by bringing the good times back to Old

"We're looking forward. I think it is positive for the club that they are stepping in. They have a lot of experience in sport at the highest level F1, a cycling team, football clubs," Ten Hag said. "They can only help us and support us to get our targets. We are looking forward. They want to work with us and we want to work with them.'

Villa went ahead through firsthalf goals from John McGinn and Leander Dendoncker.

Alejandro Garnacho sparked United's revival with two goals in the second half and Rasmus Hoilund scored his first league goal to win the

Third-place Villa had been un-



beaten in 10 games going into the

"Two weeks ago I was asked if we

were contenders to the title and said said. "Today we missed an opportuno, and was thinking the same as I nity to have that consistency against am now," Villa manager Unai Emery one of the top ten teams. This can

two goals disallowed and Mohamed Salah hit the bar. Substitute Diogo Jota eventually

ended any concerns of a Burnley equalizer with a goal in the 90th. 'We've created a lot of chances re-

cently and haven't used an awful lot of them but in the end it's about performing," Liverpool manager Klopp said. "We've played four games in 10 days and you just have to get