KASHMIR OBSERVER

Saturday 06 January 2024 | Srinagar | Vol. 27 | Issue: 05 | Pages: 08 | Price: ₹3

www.kashmirobserver.net ● twitter.com / kashmirobserver ● facebook.com/kashmirobserver ● Postal Regn: L/159/KO/SK/2014-2016

Jobseekers Beware: Work-from-Home Job Scams On Rise In Kashmir

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: In the dimly lit room of her modest home, Sana (name changed) sat hunched over her laptop, desperately seeking a source of income. The glow of the screen illuminated the fatigue in her eyes, a reflection of months spent fruitlessly job hunting. Amid the sea of rejection emails, an enticing Facebook post promising a lucrative work-fromhome opportunity caught her



attention. Excitement and hope filled

her as she read about a seemingly straightforward data entry job. The promise of payment based on hours worked felt like a lifeline. The email instructed her to provide personal details-bank information, Aadhar, and PAN for registration.

Apprehension gnawed at Sana's gut, but the allure of financial stability prevailed. Hesitantly, she keyed in her details and moments later, a link arrived in her inbox, urging her to complete the registration process. A quick tap,

and she was prompted to enter an OTP sent to her phone. As Sana entered the code, a

sinking feeling enveloped her. An invisible transaction had occurred in the digital realm, one that would soon unravel her sense of security. She checked her bank account, and the shock hit her like a punch to the gut—nearly 30,000 vanished without a trace. A sense of betrayal overwhelmed Sana as she frantically scanned the transaction history. The cruel reality dawned on herthe promising job was nothing but a sophisticated scam. The perpetrators, faceless and cunning, had preyed on her desperation, leaving her not only jobless but also financially devastated.

Sana isn't alone in falling victim to remote work scams, many others share similar experiences.

In June this year, Kashmir Observer reported on how work-from-home | More on P6

Shah Hails Improved J&K Situation At Police Chiefs Conference

Stresses On Linking Databases, Adopting Al-Driven Analytics To Tackle Security Challenges

Press Trust Of India

Jaipur: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday stressed the need for linking databases and adopting an AI-driven analytical approach for tackling emerging security challenges, besides bringing uniformity in the structures, size and skills of counter-terror mechanisms across the country.

Inaugurating the 58th conference of DGPs and IGPs here, Shah also pointed out that there has been an overall improvement in the security scenario in the country since 2014, especially the reduction of violence in the three critical hotspots --Jammu and Kashmir, the northeast and Left Wing Extremismaffected areas.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will interact with the country's top police officers before addressing them at a formal session, while Shah is going to be present throughout the conference spanning several sessions. Modi will attend the conference from January 6-7, his office said.

Shah highlighted two important decisions taken by the Modi government -- the National

अखिल भारतीय पुलिस महानिदेशक / महानिरीक्षक सम्मेलन - 2023 ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF DIRECTOR GENERALS/INSPECTOR GENERALS OF POLICE-2023

Education Policy and the enactment of three criminal justice laws to replace the British-era statutes -- and said the country has entered the "Amrit Kaal".

Shah said the new laws were focused on the delivery of justice instead of punishment and their implementation would transform the country's criminal justice system into the most modern and scientific one.

The home minister stressed the need for linking databases and adopting an AI-driven analytical approach to tackling emerging security challenges.

He also emphasised on uniformity of structures, size and skills of counter-terror mechanisms across the country.

Shah stressed the need for training of police officers from Station House Officer (SHO) or officer-in-charge of police stations to DGP levels and upgrading of technology from police stations to police headquarters for the successful implementation of the three new laws.

He also highlighted the role of internal security in realising Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of India becoming a developed nation by 2047.

The home minister observed that the conference has over the years emerged as a 'think tank', facilitating decision-making and formulation of new security strategies.

The conference will deliberate on a range of | More on P6

Terrorist Involved In Attacking KPs, Army Killed: Police

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: A Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorist, who was involved in the killing of an Army personnel and non-local labourers, was on Friday killed in an encounter with security forces in

Shopian district, police said. Acting on specific information about the presence of a terrorist in Chotigam village of the south Kashmir district, a cordon and search operation was launched in the early hours by security forces, a police

spokesman said. As the security forces ap-

proached the suspected spot, the hiding terrorist fired indiscriminately upon them, which was retaliated effectively, leading to an encounter, the spokesman said.

In the ensuing encounter, a terrorist was killed and his body was retrieved from the site of the encounter, he said. The spokesman identified the slain ultra as Bilal Ahmed Bhat, a resident of Chek Cholan, affiliated with the proscribed terror outfit LeT. Bhat was | More on P6

Village Guard Found Dead With Bullet Injury

he body of a village defence guard (VDG) with a bullet injury was found in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district on Friday, officials said. The deceased has been identified as Balwant Singh of Kharangal village in Gandoh tehsil, they added. Singh was found dead

Search Ops Underway In Poonch

ecurity forces launched cordon and search operations (CASO) in several villages in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on Friday | More on P6

Kashmir Highlands Likely To Receive Snow

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: The minimum temperature across Kashmir rose slightly to provide some respite from the intense cold conditions even as the weather office predicted the possibility of light snowfall in some higher reaches, officials said here on Friday.

However, the night temperature, which settled several degrees below the freezing point, was still below normal for this time of the season at most places.

The continued sub-zero temperature has led to the freezing of several waterbodies, including the Dal Lake, here as a thin layer of ice formed over their surface.

Srinagar city recorded a minimum temperature of minus 3 degrees Celsius on Wednesday night, compared to minus 3.8 degrees Celsius on the previous night, the officials said.

Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district | More on P6

BDC Member Falls In ACB Net

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The sleuths of Anti-Corruption Bureau on Friday arrested a Block Development Council (BDC) member in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district for demanding a bribe for issuance of disposal permit.

The anti-graft body received a written complaint against Majid Aziz, District Mineral Officer Ganderbal and Gowhar Ahmad Reshi, BDC Member, alleging that the duo were demanding a bribe for issuance of disposal permit to the complainant, an ACB spokesperson said Friday. The complainant had further stated that he was an authorized material supplier and had sought a disposal permit from DMO Ganderbal after completing all procedural formalities.

However, the spokesperson said, the issuance of permit was delayed on | More on P6

Mirza Waheed's 'The Collaborator' Set For **Cinematic Debut**

Farzana Nisar

Srinagar- The international bestseller 'The Collaborator' by London-based Kashmiri writer Mirza Waheed is set to captivate audiences in a cinematic adaptation. The poignant story that moved readers worldwide will now unfold visually, with its production having recently wrapped up.

Mulberry Films, a production house from the US, has joined hands with Metro Productions from Georgia to bring the acclaimed author's narrative set against Kashmir's tumultuous political backdrop in the 1990s, to life on the silver screen.

"The first | More on P6



SET ALONG THE LINE OF CONTROL, THE NOVEL REVOLVES AROUND AN UNNAMED KASHMIRI boy in his late teens, who serves as the protagonist. As the son of the village Sarpanch, he witnesses the gradual disappearance of his friends, who join the militancy one by one, leaving the once-thriving community devastated.

HC Upholds Dismissal Of Soldier, Over 2 Decades After Filing Petition

M Ahmad

Jammu: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has upheld dismissal of a BSF soldier, more than two decades after he filed the petition challenging his dismissal from the services.

The petitioner— P. K. Sunil while working as a Constable, was sanctioned fifteen days leave with effect from 14 August 2000 to 6 September 2000 but he "overstayed" the leave.

By virtue of order dated 18 June 2002 Sunil was dismissed from service. He had filed plea against the order before

2 HC Judges

Permanent

To Be

Recommended



the same was rejected vide order issued by the Chief Law Officer2 December 2002. It was this order which was assailed by him in the petition in 2003.

'This Court does not find that recording of reasons for returning a finding of guilty, was at

Khajuria Kazmi and Justice Rahul Bharti, Additional Judges of J&K and

Memorandum of Procedure, we have consulted Judges of the Supreme Court who

are conversant with the affairs of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh | More on P6

Ladakh High Court for appointment as Permanent Judges. "In terms of the

all the requirement of law," a bench of Justice Rajnesh Oswal said, adding, "Though it was vehemently argued by the learned Senior Counsel for the petition-

er that the petitioner (Sunil) had informed the respondents (BSF authorities) through telegram as also through the reply that his mother was ill, but equally true is that in the reply, it was stated by the petitioner that his mother was suffering from cancer disease whereas in the medical certificate annexed with the reply to the show cause notice, it was mentioned that she

was suffering | More on P6 he Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the names of Justice Moksha



Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: A local court on Friday sent a suspected Hizbul Mujahideen terrorist accused in 11 terror attack cases in Jammu and Kashmir to sevenday police custody.

Delhi Court Sends Terro

The Delhi Police's Special Cell on Thursday arrested Javaid Ahmad Matoo (32) from the national capital.

Metropolitan Magistrate Nabeela Wali sent Matoo to custody for a week on an application moved by the Delhi Police after he was produced before the court.

The accused, a highly indoctrinated terrorist carrying a reward of Rs 10 lakh, was arrested from Delhi's Nizamuddin area. He was driving a stolen car when he was apprehended, the police said.

Matoo is named in "11 known terror attack cases", including five grenade attacks and the killings of at least five police personnel | More on P6



PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my passport bearing no: M1747907 wherein my

name was wrongly written as Amin Seer S/o Qadir Seer

while my correct name is Mohd Amin Seer S/o Gh Qadir

Seer and my DOB was wrongly written as 01-01-1981 while

my correct DOB is 15-04-1981. Now I have applied for fresh

Passport with these correction. If anybody has any objection

in this regard he/she may file the same in the office of the

Regional Passport Office Srinagar within a period of seven

days from the date of publication of this notice. After that

Subject:-Grant of Registration of the Proposed Travel unit under the

name and style M/S" Al Kinza Tour & Travel" Situated at Alkudam

Mir Complex 90 feet Soura Srinagar.

Whereas, I Mr/Ms Shah Waseem S/O D/O W/O Mohd Latief

Shah R/O Ellahi Bagh 90 feet Soura Srinagar, Kashmir

intends to apply in the Department of Tourism for the Registration of

my proposed Travel unit under the name and style "M/S Al Kinza

Tour & travel Situated at Alkudam Mir Complex 90 Feet

Soura Srinagar, Kashmir under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011

12. Whereas, I will submit State Subject/Domicile Certificate,

Qualification Certificate Pan Card, Experience Certificate (Minimun

05 Years), Character Certificate (Police Department), Bank Statemen

(Minimum Balance 10000), Site Plan, Affidavit, Rent Deed duly

attested by Sub-Registrar, Printing Material (Letter Head/Visiting

Card), Photograph of the Unit (Indoor and Outdoor) and Two Passpor

size photographs to the Department of Tourism as per prescribed

checklist prior to Registration of my unit as un Excursion Agency/

Adventure tour operato .Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade

Act 1978/82/2011/12, before my case is processed for registration by

the Competent Authority, the matter is hereby notified for information

of general Public/Financial Institutions/Bank/Organization, etc for

objection, if any and the same should reach to the Deputy Director:

Tourism Registration (e-mail Id-ddtreg/123/@gmail.com) within a

period of 7 days from the publication of this notice in leading local

newspaper/newspapers of the valley. No objections beyond a period of

7 days shall be entertained.

Public Notice

fko

Medialine

no objection shall be entertained.

Mohd Amin Seer

S/o Gh Qadir Seer R/o Amshipora Shopian

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Office of the District Sheep Husbandry Officer, Anantnag

Tel/FAX No. 01932-222542 Email: dshoa.sheep@gmail.com

Subject: Establishment of Sheep units at Aspirational Block Larnoo under District CAPEX ABDP for the year 2023-24.

Reference: District Development Commissioner's order No: 503 DDCA of 2023 dated 28-12-2023

Advertisement Notice For Establishment Of Sheep Units

Consequent upon the release of funds vide above quoted reference to this Office / Department, applications on prescribed format are hereby invited from interested inhabitants of the Villages of Sheep Development Block Larnoo for establishment of sheep units (10 female hoggets), under District CAPEX ABDP, for the year 2023-24. The application forms can be collected from the office of the Veterinary Assistant Surgeon Sheep Development Block Larnoo, w.e.f 05-01-2024, on all working days during office hours and the same must be submitted to the same office after completion of all formalities by or before 15.01.2024. The detailed information about the scheme, including eligibility criteria, guidelines, terms and conditions can be had from the office of the Veterinary Assistant Surgeon Sheep Development Block Larnoo.

Eligibility criteria:

All inhabitants of the Villages of Aspirational Block Larnoo are eligible to avail the benefit of the scheme.

Applicants must be in the age group of 18-55 years on 01-01-2024 (both dates included). 3.

Only one person from a house hold can apply to avail the benefit under the scheme.

The applicant must have minimum infrastructure/landholding and must possess minimum where withal of sheep rearing/ farming.

The selection of the beneficiaries shall be conducted through draw of lots by the District Level Selection Committee, for which the date shall be notified separately.

The applicant must attach self attested Xerox copies of Aadhaar Card/Domicile Certificate/PRC/Ration card with details of the family members, with the application form.

The persons/households, who have already availed the benefit in the past of any scheme of Sheep Husbandry Department/Tribal affairs department, ARE NOT ELIGIBLE.

On verification at Block level and at District level if it is found that the application/form is incomplete in any respect, the application will be rejected straight away.

Further, funds are to be utilized either for procurement of Mobile Ambulatory unit or for establishment of sheep units. So, it should be noted that if this office receives the authorization for procurement of Mobile Ambulatory unit, the funds will be utilized for its purchase and no beneficiary / applicant will claim the benefit whatsoever.

Subject:- Invitation for Expression of interest (EOI) for Solid Waste Management in District Budgam.

S/d= District **Sheep Husbandry Officer Anantnag**

No: DSHOA/Tech/Estt of units/2023-24/5833-42 DIPK-14765/23 Dated: 05-04-2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Firdousa Manzoor, W/O: Manzoor Hussain Dar.R/O: Rakhi Asham (Gunchipora), Tehsil: Sumbal Sonawari, District: Bandipore. Wants to inform the general public that due to unintentional mistake, me and my husband's name recorded in Bank account details as Firdousa Bano W/O: Manzoor Ahmad Dar instead of above said names. Now I want to rectify this mistake. So, If any nerson have valid objection in regards this matter please contact Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd. (B/U Gamdoo) within seven days from date of publication, no objection shall be valid after the given time period.

Before The Hon'ble Court Of Principal District Judge Pulwama

Caveat Application NO.....

IN THE MATTER OF:-Syed Mohammad Iqbal Simnani

S/o Syed Abdul Rashid Simnani R/O Qusbayar Rajpora Pulwama

IN THE MATTER OF:

....CAVEATORS

VERSUS Public At Large

NON-CAVEATOR Caveat Petition of the Caveators above named

under Section 148-A of the Code of Civil Procedure. MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH: That the Caveators are filing the instant caveat application

before this Hon'ble court as a matter of right guaranteed to them under

the statute. That the Caveator apprehends that a false and fabricated suit/appeal may be filled by anyone on false and fabricated grounds.

That the Caveator has apprehension that the Civil Suit or any other proceeding might be filed against him without any reason and rhyme in order to hamper the rights of the Caveator.

That in case the non Caveators filed any suit or proceeding before this Hon'ble court and succeeds in getting ex-parte against the Caveator, the Caveator shall be put to an irreparable loss and injury.

That in compliance with the requirements of valid Caveat, copy of the Caveat Petition has been put in the course of transmission published in newspaper with acknowledgement due, for service on the Proposed Plaintiffs. Filed herewith and marked as Annexure-A is the copy of Publication in newspaper evidencing the fact as proof of Service. **PRAYER**

In the premises, it is therefore, prayed that in case if any one file any suit, proceedings or any other action against the Caveator, in that eventuality the Caveator be given an opportunity of being heard before any ex-parte orders is passed against the Caveator.

AND FOR THIS ACT OF KINDNESS THE APPLICANT AS IN DUTY BOUND SHALL EVER PRAY.

Caveator Through Syed Waris & ASSOCIATES

PLACE: PULWAMA

F. No. N-2206/89/2022-NI **Government of India**

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment **Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities**

Room No. 517, 5thfloor, Antyodaya Bhawan, CGO Complex New Delhi 110003

Appointment of Director. National Institutes

Applications are invited for the post of Director of 05 National Institutes (Autonomous Bodies) under the administrative control of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India. Post is to be filled up on deputation/contract basis and carries pay as per Pay Level 13 (Rs. 123100-215900) of Pay Matrix for deputation and consolidated remuneration of Rs. 1,75,000/- per month for contract basis.

2. Detailed advertisement is available on the website of the Department https://depwd.gov.in and on the website of the respective Institutes. The last date for receipt of applications would be 45 days from the date of publishing of the advertisement in employment news.

Vineet Singhal

CBC-38117/11/0050/2324

On behalf of the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Expression of Interest (EOI) from the eligible and interested agencies are hereby invited for the

execution of a Solid Waste Management Plan in Block Nagam of District Budgam. The Solid Waste Management program aims to implement effective and scientific Waste Management Practices in Block Nagam, in line with the Swachh Bharat Mission (Gra-

meen). The programme will cover 18 Panchayat Halqas of Block Nagam Having 6433 in the following three clusters

		The details of households of B		
S.No.	Cluster	Name of Panchayat Halqa	No. of Households	Total No. of Households
1		Nagam A	295	
2.		Nagam B	230	
3.		K. Sarie	356	2223
4.		Dalipora	381	
4. 5.		Oazipora	476	
6.		Hayatpora A	244	
7.		Hayatpora B	241	
8.		Badipora	503	
9.		Nowpora	312	
10.		Hafroo A	278	2135
11.		Hafroo B	298	2.55
11. 12.		Chowdrigund	503	
13.		Borwah	241	
14.		Buzgoo	442	
15.	III	Ladden	335	
16.		Watakuloo	676	2075
17.		Lolipora	297	
18.		Brinian	325	

2. SCOPE OF WORK:

The contracting agency will be responsible for the following processes:-SOLID WASTE COLLECTION:

Sanitation and Door-to-Door collection of both biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste from all households viz. covering all households, shops, factories, industrial establishment, etc. at least thrice a week A Panchayat-Halqa-Wise schedule of waste collection shall further be notified in consultation with the concerned Panchayat level officials.

The intending agency shall collect all types of wate-door-to-door waste, waste from already installed dustbins, and agency waste so that the objective of ODF Plus is obtained.

Ensuring Segregation of waste preferably at the household level and mandatorily at the already constructed segregation shed sites.

Effective and scientific management and disposal of collected waste in an environmentally sustainable manner. A weekly review/report shall be submitted in the office of undersigned to ascertain the effectiveness of weekly disposal.

*REVENUE COLLECTION:

a) Conducting a fresh survey, in consultation with the field functionaries of this Block to update the household data and include commercial factories, business units, institutions, shops etc. Collection of monthly fees/Charges from the households preferably in digital mode.

b)Revenue generation through sustainable waste management practices, such as selling segregated dry waste to authorized dealers. c)X% (to be decided through EOI) of the fee/user charges so collected has to be deposited in the bank account

of the concerned Gram Panchayat on a monthly basis.

a)Maintenance and upkeep of 03 (THREE) departmental garbage collection vehiclesused for waste collection and ensuring their decided use only for solid waste management purposes.

b)The vehicles used for waste collection shall be departmental only and the agency has to use these vehicles by engaging its own staff and ensuring the vehicle's maintenance in all respects. c)The intending agency shall be responsible for the smooth handing over of all assets (Vehicles/machinery/Civil

Structures and possession of the sites in good condition to the concerned department after completing the allotment of one year (without any damage).

*MANPOWER &MACHINERY

a) The contracting agency has to engage sweepers/waste collectors, Drivers and Management staff with a unique Logo, the design and details of which shall be conveyed to the contracting agency later.

b) The contracting agency has to operate and maintain all the e-carts, garbage collection vans, and machinery at its own level and has to bear the electricity, POL and maintenance/repair charges of the machinery. The contracting agency will be required to obtain necessary permissions/approvals from the office of undersigned for repair and maintenance of the existing machinery, if required, at any time.

*DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND PENAL PROVISION:

a)In case of any dispute, the undersigned of this office shall be the first appellate authority, the 2nd appellate authority shall be the Assistant Commissioner Panchayat (ACP), Budgam and the third appellate & Final authority shall be the District Level Committee for implementation of SBM-G with Deputy Commissioner Budgam

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Office Of The Block Development Officer Nagam

Email: bdonagam@gmail.com Contact No.: 01951-258014

b) The contracting agency shall have to report to the office of undersigned in case of any violation by any Household/establishment for imposing a fine. Further, the agency may be required to paste color-coded c)In matters pertaining to any disputes, or repercussions arising, the Budgam District Court shall hold exclusive jurisdiction and serve as the ultimate deciding body. 'Repercussions' in this context refer to any adverse conse-

*IEC ENDEAVORS AND INCITING BEHAVIORAL CHANGE:

a)The contracting agency shall chalk out a plan for a sustained IEC compaign for inciting behavioral change among the people through various means. The means could be composing appealing and effective sanitation jingles played through overhead speakers of waste collection vehicles on a regular basis, organizing special sanitation drives by involving local youth clubs, students, and Self Help Groups, organizing monthly felicitation ceremonies for best cooperative and complying Panchayats in consultation with the undersigned and the District administration, etc...Monthly IEC Plans, 10 days in advance, to be submitted to the office of undersigned for

b)The contracting agency shall influence the general public through its best possible sanitation services and shall motivate and convince them to segregate the waste at the source besides reducing the use of Single Use

*ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

The contracting agency must meet the following criteria:

a) The agency can be a sole proprietor, registered contractor, registered partnership firm, limited liability partnership, public limited company, private limited company, society or NGO, etc.

b) The agency must have an average annual turnover of more than Rs:50,00,000 (Rupees Fifty lakh) for the

c)Previous experience in managing public utilities as a PPP/outsourcing and knowledge of waste management, including running decentralized solid waste management processes, will be advantageous.

d)Additional experience in community mobilization and IEC activities will be preferred.

e)The agency must deposit a Cash Deposit Receipt (CDR) of Rs: 50,000/- (Rupees Fifty thousand only) pledged

4.CONTRACTING PROCESS:

a) Interested agencies must submit their EOI in sealed envelopes addressed to the office of undersigned by 15th January, 2024 upto 2 PM. b) The envelopes will be opened on the next day 16th January, 2024 at 3 PM in the presence of the bidders or their

c) The EOI will be followed by Technical Evaluation and Financial Evaluation

5) GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS: a) The selected agency will be awarded a one-year contract, which may be extendable based on its performance

and the necessity of the Department b)The agency shall adhere to all the terms and conditions specified in the EOI document. c) The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any EOI without assigning any reason thereof, in the interest

of the Government, Department and Public funds. 6.SUBMISSION OF EOLAND CONTACT INFORMATION:

a)Interested agencies must submit their sealed envelopes containing the EOI to the following address: Office of the Block Development Officer,

Nagam District Budgam. Email:-bdonagam@gmail.com

b) For any inquiries or clarifications regarding the EOI, interested agencies may contact Block Development Officer. Nagam at the above-mentioned address or via email

7.NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS:

*The results of the EOI evaluation will be communicated to the eligible agencies through official communication

8.LEGAL AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

a) The selected agency must comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and ethical standards during the execution of the Solid Waste Management project in Block Nagam.

b) The contracting agency has to adhere to a) the environment Protection act 1986, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974 and the bylaws drafted and passed by the Gram Panchayats in letter and spirit. c)Sub-contracting shall not be allowed and shall be considered illegal. d)The contracting agency has to submit an affidavit duly attested by a Judicial Magistrate affirming therein the

commitment to bear all costs related to damage, theft, or loss incurred to the vehicles/machinery of the department during the execution of the SWM project. e)In matters pertaining to any disputes, or repercussions arising, the Budgam District Court shall hold exclusive iurisdiction and serve as the ultimate deciding body, 'Repercussions' in this context refer to any adverse conse-

The process of technical Evaluation will be done by a designated committee based on the score for the solutions & procedures provided by the agencies to transform the entire solid waste management into an efficient, effective and sustainable one of this Block

No:BDO/BN/2944-48 DIPK-14738/23 Dated:-05-01-2024

Sd/-**Block Development Officer,** Nagam.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my marks card of B.Com Final year under Roll No 15330172 Registration No: 330172-IC-15 Session 2015-2020. If anybody has found return on below mentioned address otherwise I have applied for its duplicate anybody having any objection regarting the same may communicate to the concerned authority within a week time after that no objection will be

ADIL FAROOQ S/O FAROOQ AHMAD BHAT R/O Eidgah Wanganpora Srinagar

JM

PUBLIC NOTICE

My father's name in my school records has been wrongly written as Shujad Ali Balti while his correct name is Shujat Ali Balti which needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Syed Jaffer Public School within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Name Sakeena Banoo D/O Shuiat Ali Balti R/o: Nilgrath Kangan

fko

ر حنواست از جانب نزیراحمد حره ولد مجمد عبدالله حره ساکنه مله بوچیس مخصیل پیش بار جموله بمراد حصول Income dependencپرٹفکیٹ۔ اشتہار کی خاص وعام معاملہ مندرجۂ عنوان الصدر کے نسبت اول رپورٹ پٹواری حلقہ سے طلب کی گئی۔ رپورٹ پٹواری حلقہ سے عیاں ہوتا ہے کہ سائل نزیرا تھ ترہ ولد ٹھڑعبداللہ حرہ کی آیدنی پر درج ذیل افراد

				- 0: 2.0
عمر	پیشہ	رشته	ام	نمبرشار
60سال	Handicaped	والد	محمد عبداللدحره	1
27سال	گھر بلو کام	زوجه	سیده گلشن رضوی	2
1 سال	طفل	بخز	زهراگلشن	3

بائل income dependency سرٹفکیٹ حاصل کرنے کا خواہان ہے۔ س بارے میں بذریعہ اخباراشتہار مشتھر کیا جاتا ہے اگر کشخص کوکوئی اعتراض نسبت اجراء ىرلىفكىپ ہوتو دفتر ھذٰ میں اندرسات يوم پیش كریں۔ بعد گزرنے میعاد کوئی عذریااعتراض قابلُ قبولنہیں ہوگا۔

quences, claims, disputes, legal actions, or related incidents that may arise.

Urs Hazrat Abu Bakr Sidiq (RA) Observed With Fervor

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Devotees from various parts of the Kashmir thronged Dargah Hazratbal shrine in large numbers to participate in the special prayers on the annual Urs of Ameer-ul-Moomineen Hazrat Abu Bakr Sidiq (RA) on Friday.

Amidst a serene ambiance, men, women, elderly and children thronged the shrine, expressing their reverence by offering prayers, reciting verses from the Holy Quran, and seeking blessings for Almighty.

As soon as the holy relic was displayed, emotional scenes were witnessed as the devotees were seen in tears and seeking mercy from Al-

The historic Dargah Hazratbal, a sacred shrine nestled on the banks of Dal Lake. resonated with prayers and chants as devotees paid homage to Abu Bakr Sidiq (RA), the first Caliph of Islam after Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

The devotees express their joy and happiness. "The annual Urs of Ameer-ul-Moomineen Abu Bakr Sidiq (RA) holds immense spiritual importance for us. It's a moment of unity and faith for the entire community," said Zahoor, a devotee from Habba Kadal, Srinagar.

"Being here at Dargah Hazratbal during the Urs fills my heart with peace and spiritual warmth. It's a moment where my prayers and devotion resonate with the collective faith of our community, a bond that transcends differences and spreads love,' said Zahida Begun from Khanyar Srinagar.

5 Lakh Passengers Travelled In Smart Electric Buses Since Nov

Observer News Service

The Srinagar Smart City Electric Bus Service, inaugurated by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, has garnered a positive response from locals, witnessing a remarkable milestone of 5 lakh passengers within the first 60 days of its launch.

Residents, who spoke to

News Observer (KNO), expressed relief and appreciated the service's operational hours, which extend into late-night periods, and various amenities provided.

Mohammad Nadeem, a Lal Bazar resident, said these buses have technological features that ease winter travel. Its battery-powered operation also contributes to environ-

After Major Metropolitan Cities, Srinagar Becomes First To Have NMS

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Following four metropolitan cities of India, Lal Chowk, the major commercial hub of Srinagar, saw the installation of Noise Monitoring System (NMS), a first-of-its-kind initiative to reduce the noise levels and its detrimental impacts in the overcrowded area.

Officials said that traffic noise has a detrimental influence on urban settlements and the installation of a Noise Monitoring System is expected to mitigate this impact by transmitting data to relevant authorities on a day to day basis.

Noise pollution control and abatement measures, they said, are essential for lowering ambient noise levels in urban settlements, where passenger buses, light motor vehicles (LMVs), taxis, and two-wheelers are major contributors to both air and noise pollution.

The process of monitoring noise levels is measuring and quantifying the amount of sound in a specific area using specialized equipment. such as Noise Monitoring System,' Ramesh Kumar, Member Secretary of J&K Pollution Control Board told Kashmir Observer.

"The mitigation strategies are used to protect the immediate surroundings from the negative impacts of noise pollution," he said, adding that the objective of NMS is to assess the effects of noise pollution and ensure that rules are followed.

He said that Jammu does not currently have any such facility in place as of now, and the Lal Chowk



The process of monitoring noise

levels is measuring and quantifying the amount of sound in a specific area using specialized equipment. such as Noise Monitoring System

of Srinagar became first to have a noise Monitoring System after four Indian metropolises

"NMS was introduced at Lal

Chowk under Srinagar Smart City Ltd. This is a really positive move, since it helps lower the noise levels brought on by traffic. Every day, NSM gathers data on the amount of noise produced during the day and the night. After the data is sent to the headquarters, it is measured, and a plan is then implemented in response," said Kumar.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Traffic City Muzaffar Ahmad Shah welcomed the initiative and said that the NMS would help reduce noise pollution caused by the heavy traffic at Lal Chowk

When asked if the system would assist the traffic department in any way, he responded that it would be premature to comment because the NMS had just been installed at Lal Chowk to measure noise levels

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

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

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

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

RAILWAYS



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

HIGHWAY STATUS



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

CALENDAR 23 Jumada al-Sani 1445

PRAYERS FAJR 6:08 **ZUHR** 12:35 3:57 **ASR** Magrib 5:37 ISHA 7:03

This Day In History

- 1661 The Fifth Monarchists unsuccessfully attempt to seize control of London
- 1781 Battle of Jersey: Major Francis Peirson and his men defeat invading French troops
- 1784 Turkey & amp; Russia sign treaty in Constantinople
- 1809 Napoleonic Wars: Invasion of Cayenne, by combined British, Portuguese and colonial
- Brazilian forces, begins
- 1842 4,500 British & amp; Indian troops leave Kabul, massacred before reaching India 1853 - Franklin Pierce, the President-elect of the
- United States at the time, and his family are involved in a train wreck in Massachusetts
- 1857 Patent for reducing zinc ore granted to Samuel Wetherill, Penn
- 1887 ` Abd-allah II of Harar opens the Battle of Chelengo with an attack on the camp of the
- Shewan army of Negus Menelik II 1896 - 1st US women's 6-day bicycle race
- starts, Madison Square Garden
- message from a submerged submarine, by Simon
- Event of interestEvent of Interest
- 1907 Maria Montessori opens her 1st (Montessori) school (Rome)
- 1912 New Mexico becomes 47th state of the Union - Alfred Wegener, geophysicist and meteorologist, presents his controversial theory of
- continental drift in a lecture at a the Geological Association (Geologischen Vereinigung) at the
- Senckenberg-Museum, Frankfurt.
- 1921 The Iraqi Army is formed 1925 - Mussolini forms a cabinet composed entirely
- of Fascists in Italy 1929 - Mother Teresa arrives in Calcutta to begin a
- her work amongst India's poorest 1930 - 1st diesel engine automobile trip (in a
- Packard sedan) completed
- 1931 Thomas Edison submits his last patent application
- 1941 US President Franklin Roosevelt makes his "Four Freedoms" speech (freedom of
- and worship; freedom from want and fear) during
- his US State of Union address 1950 - Britain recognizes Communist government
- of China 1951 - Ganghwa massacre: Hundreds of South
- Korean communist sympathisers are slaughtered 1953 - The first Asian Socialist Conference opens in
- 1968 Surveyor 7 (last of series) launched by US for soft-landing on Moon
- 1971 Berkeley chemists announces 1st synthetic
- 1972 Vladimir Bukovski is exiled from USSR
- 1976 China performs nuclear test at Lop Nor, PRC 1980 - Indira Gandhi's Congress Party wins
- elections in India 1986 - STS 61-C scrubbed at T-31sec because of
- liquid oxygen valve problem 1987 - Astronomers at University of California see
- 1st sight of birth of a galaxy 1993 - Jean Mueller discovers comet Mueller/1993a
- 1993 55 Kashmiri civilians are killed in Sopore,
- Jammu and Kashmir by Indian Border Security Force units
- 1995 A chemical fire in an apartment complex in Manila, Philippines, leads to the discovery of plans for Project Bojinka, a mass-terrorist attack.
- 2009 Israel begins an assault on the Gaza Strip 2012 - A suicide bomber blows himself up at a police
- station in Damascus, Syria, killing 26
- people and wounding 63 2014 - Truce begins between Free Syrian Army and
- forces loyal to President Bashar al-Assad in northern Damascus 2016 - North Korea states that they have successfully conducted their fourth nuclear test,
- it was a hydrogen bomb in a claim disputed by most international experts.

the news agency-Kashmir mental conservation, he said. **State Taxes Department Conducts** UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR,

Observer News Service

Srinagar: State Taxes Department today continued the inspection drives across district Srinagar and Ganderbal districts to ensure compliance by business establishment to the provisions of J&K Goods

Inspection Drives In Srinagar, Ganderbal

and Services Tax Act, 2017, prevent tax evasion and to create awareness among the consumers about their rights under the tax.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir Office of the Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospitals Division Baramulla

Fax No: 01952-234426 e-mail, id, xenmhdbla@gmail.com

CORRIGENDUM

Subject: - Extension of Critical Dates of e-NITS No. 25/1 of 2023-24 Dated: - 04-12-2023. Reference: - Tender ID: - 2023_PWDJK_238997_1

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

5. NO	Description	Re- Scheduled date
1	Date of Downloading	04-12-2023 (06:15 PM) to 12-01-2024 (06:00 PM)
2	Date of uploading	04-12-2023 (06:15 PM) to 12-01-2024 (06:55 PM)
3	Due date of opening of tender	13-01-2024 (01:00 PM)

Sd/-**Executive Engineer** Mechanical & Hospitals Division Baramulla

No: - M&HDB/TS/2430-32 DIPK-14751/23 Dated: - 05-01-2024

पंडित दीनदयाल उपाध्याय राष्ट्रीय शारीरिक

दिव्यांगजन संस्थान

दिव्यांगजन संशक्तिकरण विभाग

(सामाजिक न्याय और आधिकारिता मंत्रालय)

4, विष्णु दिगम्बर मार्ग, नई दिल्ली - 110002

cbc 38103/12/0012/2324





Page - 1 Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya National Institute for Persons with Physical Disabilities (Divyangjan)

Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) (Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment) 4, Vishnu Digamber Marg, New Delhi-110002

VACANCY CIRCULAR

Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya National Institute for Persons with Physical Disabilities (Divyangjan) is an autonomous Institute under administrative and financial control of Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India. The Institute invites ONLINE APPLICATIONS for the various posts on Deputation Basis & Direct recruitment basis.

S. No	Name of the Posts	No. of Posts	Pay Matrix	Mode of Recruitment	Reservation point in case of Direct recruitment
1.	Administrative Officer	01 (One)	Pay matrix level-7	Direct Recruitment Basis	UR
2.	Demonstrator (OT)	01 (one)	Pay Matrix Level - 6	Direct Recruitment	UR
3.	Occupational Therapist	02 (Two)	Pay Matrix Level - 6	Direct Recruitment	UR-01 OBC-01
4.	Physiotherapist	01 (One)	Pay Matrix Level - 6	Direct Recruitment	EWS
5.	Jr. Caliper Maker cum PO Technician Gr. III	01 (one)	Pay Matrix Level - 2	Direct Recruitment	EWS
6.	Staff Car Driver	01 (One)	Pay Matrix Level - 2	Deputation Basis failing which by Direct	UR
7.	Lower Division Clerk	01 (One)	Pay Matrix Level - 2	Direct Recruitment	ST
8.	Jr. Limb Maker cum PO Technician Gr. III	01 (one)	Pay Matrix Level - 2	Direct Recruitment	UR
	Total	09 (Nine)			

For detailed advertisement, educational qualifications, experience etc., visit www.iphnewdelhi.in. The last date for receiving the applications online will be 21 days from the date of publishing the advertisement in Employment Newspaper.

> (Dr. Jitendra Sharma) Director

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) DIVISION QAZIGUND

e-NIT No. 32 OF 2023-24 No: PHEQ/CC/: 5090-5110 Dated: 04.01.2024

Standard Bidding Document

For Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Pipe network of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bores along

with pipe fittings and control valves Construction of Service Reservoirs (SRs), Slow Sand Filtration Plants. ...at various Water Supply schemes of PHE Division Qazigund of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Qazigund invites e-tenders from reputed and resourceful Bidders/ Firms/Companies/ of all classes registered in JKPWD/CPWD/Railways or any other state Government for below mentioned works at various Water Supply schemes of PHE Division Qazigund of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

e-NIT No. 32 OF 2023-24 No: PHEQ/CC/: 5090-5110 Dated: 04.01.2024

The bidding process shall be completed online on www.jktenders.gov.in in two covers viz. Cover 1st consisting of General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and Cover 2nd consisting of Financial Bid on overall percentage rate basis, in the prescribed BOQ.

Sr No	Particulars of the workTender fee(in Rs)		Earnest money Deposit		Time of Completion of work (days)
1.	Laying & fitting of delivery mains consisting of GMS Tubes ductile iron pipes of different nominal bores along with pipe fitting and control valves incl other allied works Execution of ancillary civil	As per Annexure-I to this bid docu- ment-	03% of the	180 days	As per ANNEXURE-I to this bid docu- ment.
	works like spring covers boundary walls, SRs Slow sand filtration plants, protection works etc at				
	various water supply schemes of PHE Jal Shakti				

Position of funds: Approved Under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)

The tender inviting authority is Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Qazigund The awarding authority is District Jal Jeevan Mission (DJJM).

Division Oazigund

S.No Name of WSS Description of work

Critica	untical dates:						
	Publish Date	05.01.2024 9.00 AM					
ii	Document Download/sale start Date	05.01.2024 9.00 AM					
Ш	Bid submission start date	05.01.2024 9.00 AM					
IV	Bid submission end date	10.01.2024 4.00 PM					
V	Date and time of Bid opening	11.01.2024 10.00 PM Ex. Engineer					

Bid documents can be accessed and downloaded from the website www.iktenders.gov.in The whole bidding process shall be completed online on tender portal www.jktenders.gov.in. The intending bidders can download the bid document from the tender portal and can submit their bids by uploading them on the tender portal.

The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer PHE Division Qazigund. Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 4 & 5

of the table and shall be payable at Srinagar. a. The cost of tender documents should be in form of DD/TR/e challan in favour of Executive Engineer PHE Divi-

sion Qazigund The hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of TR/e-challan, Earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR/BG and other relevant documents shall be obtained from the bidder who is declared as L1 after

opening of financial cover. The bid shall remain valid for a period of 180 days from the last date of submission of bids. If any bidder withdraws his bid before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the same shall be considered to be in violation of bid security declaration and shall be dealt with accordingly and the bid shall be declared non-responsive.

Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website www.jktenders.gov.in. Queries by email if any should be made at qazigundphedivision@gmail.com

ANNEXURE-I SCHEME WISE LIST OFWORKS e-NIT No. 32 OF 2023-24 No: PHEQ/CC/: 5090-5110 Dated: 04.01.2024

				cost Lacs	•		completion days
	MUQAM (Under JJM).	Laying and fitting of pipes, Construction of Chain Link Fencing around Structures, Construction of 03 No Sluice Chambers and Construction of Pump Operator Quarter For WSS LISSER MUQAM (Under JJM).	JSD Qazigund	60.6	93	AAY	60 days
	(R.A) (Under JJM)	Construction of 0.25 Lac gallons SR, Construction of Pump operator Quarter GI puff type, Construction of 01 No sluice chamber, Construction of Chain Link Fencing and Laying and fitting of pipes WSS	JSD Qazigund	32.45	59	AAY/BEE	45 days

Estimated Class of Time for

DIPK-14797/23 **Executive Enginee** JSD PHE Division Qazigund dated: 05-01-2024

Bridging Educational Divides

The Need for a Common Curriculum in Jammu and Kashmir

Ummar Jamal

he call for a uniform curriculum across all schools in Jammu and Kashmir has resonated for years, aiming to bring standardization and equity to the education system. Despite the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) issuing a fresh circular in December 2023, this marks the fifth attempt in as many years, underscoring the persistent challenges in implementing a common curriculum.

In its latest order, the Board warned of a disciplinary action and imposition of a penalty up to 50,000 or both against those schools recommending books besides the one prescribed by the Board.

The recurrent circulars from 2016 to 2023 signify the board took initiative to establish a common curriculum. However, challenges persist, with the crux of the issue lying in the ongoing tug-of-war between government initiatives and the resistance posed by private schools. This perennial struggle has impeded the smooth implementation of a standardized educational structure.

Non-cooperation by private schools

Despite the board's directive to adopt the prescribed curriculum, private school owners have chosen to resist for years, opting to maintain their existing educational frameworks. This persistent violation raises concerns about the effectiveness of the board's regulations and the willingness of private institutions to comply with standardized educational guidelines.

The opposition from private school owners stems from various factors, such as a desire to retain autonomy over their curriculum, desire to set private schools apart by prescribing different curriculum from that of government schools and concerns about potential financial implications. The continuous violation of the circular not only challenges the authority of the JKBOSE but also raises questions about the overall compliance culture within the private education sector. This continuous defiance highlights a contentious relationship between the private education sector and regulatory authorities, as these owners resist the implementation of the board's guidelines.

Bookseller's concerns

In response to the recent circular, the association of booksellers also has voiced its grievanc-



The continuous violation of the circular not only challenges the authority of the JKBOSE but also raises questions about the overall compliance culture within the private education sector

es, expressing concern over the potential impact on their businesses. The booksellers are urging the government to reconsider its decision in order to safeguard their livelihoods.

The move towards a common curriculum comes in the wake of allegations against private schools, accusing them of exploiting parents by prescribing textbooks from private publishers at exorbitant rates. These textbooks, not readily available in the open market, are exclusively supplied to specific bookshops. The JKBOSE's decision seeks to address this issue by standardizing the curriculum across all schools.

The association of booksellers argues that a common curriculum might lead to a reduction in the demand for a variety of textbooks, affecting their sales. They emphasize the importance of considering the economic implications on small businesses in the educational supply chain.

Need and advantages of uniform curriculum The advantages of a shared ed

The advantages of a shared educational

framework are multifaceted. A common curriculum promotes consistency, ensuring that students receive a comparable quality of education regardless of the institution they attend. It minimizes disparities in learning outcomes, fostering a more equitable educational landscape.

A common curriculum ensures that all students, regardless of their school's affiliation, have access to the same quality of education. It eliminates disparities in learning outcomes and levels the playing field for diverse learners. Standardizing the curriculum helps establish a baseline for educational expectations. It ensures that essential knowledge and skills are uniformly taught, enhancing the overall academic standards across institutions.

A shared curriculum fosters consistency in what students are taught. This consistency aids in creating a more seamless educational experience for students who may transition between schools. A common curriculum encourages collaboration among educators. Teachers can share best practices, resources, and insights, leading to a more robust educational community.

Standardizing the curriculum enables educational authorities to focus on refining and enhancing the quality of the content. This, in turn, contributes to a more comprehensive and effective learning experience for students. By ensuring that all schools follow the same curriculum, the socio-economic and geographical factors that often contribute to educational disparities are mitigated. This supports a more inclusive and equitable educational system.

A common curriculum facilitates uniform assessments, making it easier to gauge student progress and educational effectiveness. This streamlined approach aids in the identification of areas that may need improvement.

The implementation of a common curriculum emerges as a fundamental requirement for the advancement of education. It addresses the needs for equity, standardization, and consistency, ultimately leading to improved quality and accessibility. Recognizing the importance of a unified educational approach is essential for fostering a more inclusive and effective learning environment across diverse schools

Conclusion

While the intent behind the recent directive to prescribe BOSE-published textbooks is commendable, the real challenge lies in effective enforcement. The intention behind the circular is to alleviate the financial burden on parents and ensure accessibility to affordable educational materials, the implementation of such policies has faced hurdles. Ability of BOSE authorities to implement these directives on the ground will determine the success of the initiative. The past track record, marred by unsuccessful attempts, raises questions about the efforts taken for its proper implementation.

The government's failure to effectively enforce its own circulars, contributing to the complexity of the situation. The government's initiative to curb the alleged exploitation by private schools is commendable; however, the effectiveness of the policy lies in its seamless implementation. It remains highly imperative to take decisive action to enforce its circular and ensure compliance among private schools.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer Author is a Kashmir based columnist. He tweets at ummar_jamal and can be reached at umarjamal968@gmail.com

n the vast world of medical conditions, online gaming addiction is considered a given reality. Yet it remains under-recognised by the Indian government and its policymakers. The World Health Organization (WHO) has given due acknowledgment to the addictive nature of online gaming. However, not only has it been left unchecked in India, a large part of online gaming has mutated and morphed into online gambling, adversely impacting the nation's younger generation.

The convergence of gaming and gambling not only jeopardises the mental and physical health of our future generation, it also steals their most productive asset-their attention. Meanwhile, lobbyists for online gaming and gambling have been making misleading claims, labelling their activities as a sport and pledging to self-regulate. To check against their potential harm to future generations, however, this exponentially growing ecosystem requires tighter regulation and control involving inputs from multiple stakeholders including clinical psychologists, behavioral economists, and think tanks.

In India, the distinction between online gaming and gambling has blurred. The two platforms, once distinct, have now converged. Gaming-gambling convergence takes shape in terms of social casino gaming, loot boxes, skin betting, esports betting, play-to-earn video gaming, and plain vanilla stakes for games. Recognised as a disease, addiction to online gaming or gambling has surged, sparking numerous issues stemming from excessive participation. The 11th revision of the International Classification of Diseases, published in 2019, defined 'gaming disorder' for the first time, acknowledging both online and offline forms. Scientific studies have further confirmed that the addiction related to online gambling mirrors substance abuse.

The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders fifth edition (DSM-5) even introduced a new category for non-substance behav-

The Indian Online Gam(bl)e

China's success in regulating online gaming could serve as a crucial lesson for India

K Yatish Rajawat

ioural addiction within the substance addictions category, accommodating online gaming and gambling addictions. Substance Abuse Disorders are addiction to cannabis, cocaine, and heroin-like substances. Numbers for India are not available as none of these platforms shares data of users with the government.

South Korea is often cited as an example of a nation whose youth fell victim to online addiction. The socioeconomic loss due to excessive internet use in the Republic of Korea was estimated at between \$1.5 and 4.5 billion in 2009 (Lee, Kim, & Lee, 2011). Online gaming has been identified as the largest health problem experienced by young people by Korea's Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning and the National Information Society Agency (2015).

A substantial part of India's online gaming predominantly involves gambling. Lobbyists often attempt to depict it as a sport, obscuring the reality with disinformation campaigns about these as involving skill and distanced from gambling as game of chance. Surprisingly, both retired and serving policymakers appear to be going along with this narrative, with many of them considering self-regulation for these companies rather than recognising the inherent risks and challenges associated.

This imitative panorama of the online gaming industry, alarmingly, is not being recognised in India as online gambling, despite every game being The convergence of gaming and gambling not only

gambling and gambling not only jeopardises the mental and physical health of our future generation, it also steals their most productive asset-their attention. Meanwhile, lobbyists for online gaming and gambling have been making misleading claims, labelling their activities as a sport and pledging to self-regulate

played for stakes. Advocates within the sector sermonise about 'responsible gambling', an echo of the 'responsible gambling' mantra. Even online platforms have jumped onto this bandwagon, touting their 'responsible acts'. Figures of trust have been co-opted into this advocacy and argue that online gaming platforms can, indeed, behave responsibly.

Taking the Colombian cartel analogy, it's as if they have pledged to dis-

tribute cocaine responsibly, ensuring that no one receives enough to become an addict. Further leaving us agape, they guarantee to cap prices to prevent the harmful effects of resulting addictions, despite the demonstrated plausibility of money laundering on these platforms.

It is surprising how gullible the regulator can be, except for the fact that there is no regulator. One may wonder what came of the talks about appointing a self-regulatory organisation for the sector. Many self-defined organisations applied, but none was finally selected. The government is now thinking about regulating these companies directly. The crucial question therefore is what will be regulated and how will it be regulated.

Will online gaming be regulated as gambling companies, sporting companies, entertainment companies, or just internet intermediaries? The policymakers ought to have learned by now that tech platforms are masters on how to avoid any form of regulation. Examples besides online gaming include social media, e-commerce, communication apps, and several super apps that now manipulate the market in several sectors.

The most straightforward path to regulation is initially licensing these companies, as is customary for gaming or casino businesses-since they ultimately share similarities. The lingering dilemma among policymakers is identifying who will "bell this cat" and call out the problem in its true nature.

The crux of this quandary lies in the abundance of money involved.

Unregulated purse or pool collections occur daily for these companies. Noticing this, the finance ministry smartly brought these collections under the GST net. Despite this, the companies remain unregulated by any government department, as no licences for operating online casinos or gaming currently exist. In contrast, worldwide licensing is commonplace for online gaming platforms.

Just recently, in December, China

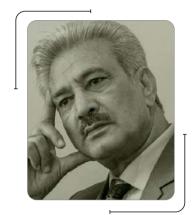
Just recently, in December, China released draft norms to curb addiction on gaming platforms. Their ability to accomplish this feat hinges on their established licensing process for all online gaming platforms. Under China's online gaming approval system, companies must obtain an "Online Publishing Service License" to operate legally. Why not consider and learn from such established systems?

No doubt, China's control over the internet is excessive by any benchmark; it has, nonetheless, managed to create an effective regulatory framework for online gaming that keeps addiction in check. Multiple scientific studies have confirmed the severity of addiction arising from these platforms. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has directly addressed this issue on several occasions in his radio dialogues.

Moreover, the ED, CBI, and RBI have highlighted the ways in which these platforms can be exploited. Chinese firms, in particular, are allegedly using online gaming as a means of laundering money from India. Yet, credit should be given where it's due: China's success in regulating online gaming could serve as a crucial lesson for India in addressing its related challenges.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. The article was originally published by Financial Express

AN OBITUARYunrecited, yet



S.Sarwar.Malik

eath is inevitable, so is the appearance of press releases or speeches, by way of tribute or obituary; more true by politicians or those resembling their ilk-ever ready with the stereotyped stuff; doling-out such statements as "vacuum created"... "I was shocked".... "He was an embodiment of virtues & qualities" etc. Readers, as well as the writers, know how honest the statements are yet nobody feels uncomfortable. Probably there exists logic in uttering even blatant lies at such formal occasions. It is after all a mere formality with most of them; 'where the heart needs not speak'. Thus these statements are expectedly drab.

Probably that is the reason, till my retirement from Govtt. service and before donning my present day white-hairedlook, I usually extended excuses and apology when called to speak at formal functions held on retirement of office mates or demise of acquaintances. Not that I always escaped such ordeals when my friends & acquaintances expected materials similar to "26 Jan. mushaira " or welcome addresses " eulogizing chief guests (who other than Hon'ble VIP>s?)- I hardly knew or liked (even for that matter; during my active Government service, superior officers/bureaucrats)". Thanks to the shadow-writing pastime, of yore, it is less painful to re-read the pieces carried under the name of someone else or hear the words thrust into the address, system by somebody else-while I stole a nap or silently consoled myself by words "untrue...false...fake...lies and nothing

For reasons like these I was not at all particular to hear what people had written or said by way of obituary or tribute when famous persons died. But...but...but...

One big exception & one somewhat not so big one. First one, today, I mention very





READERS, AS WELL AS THE WRITERS, KNOW HOW HONEST THE STATEMENTS ARE YET NOBODY FEELS UNCOMFORTABLE. Probably there exists logic in uttering even blatant lies at such formal occasions. It is after all a mere formality with most of them; 'where the heart needs not speak'. Thus these

briefly, but in bold font, because it concerns my soul, viz:

statements are expectedly drab

One day, that year, I "One day, that year, I was sitting with some conversing friends-who had dropped in for teemardari & haal chaal deryaft kernay kay liye; (somewhat disinterested in the topic of conversation; but more so because of my back ache...) When one of them informed me thus: Mustafa saebbin anniversary manaven Hussaini halluss manz.

It so happened that my head & heart corroborated during late hours that day and an urdu poem was born. I contacted one of the sons of Moulana Mustafa Ansari Saeb, Who agreed to my request about its recitation on the said date and

also published it in this Newspaper, which you are holding in your hands dear reader. [[Some time, readers might see what this humble- penman wrote some days back, (and mailed it too; that might see the light of day, later), when the revered mother of Sajjad, & S and H Ansari's; passed away.]].

Now back to the other Person, who was part and also subject of my recently published write ups part IV... about Sahir Ludhyanvi's anti war poem, parchhaivaan; rechristened by me as PSALMS OF PEACE, in my Rendition. (I had to request the Opinion Editor of K.O to hold back this part of my already- mailed article and to wait for incorporation of

appropriate lines, here & there). You remembered it rightly but guess who?.... ves Amrita Preetam; the well known Punjabi poetess.

During the month, when Amrita Pritam (1919-2005), left the literary scene, I regretted not hearing promptly what her close associates had said. So one evening,I was consoling myself: imagining Sahir Ludhianvi repeating in heaven what earlier Amrita Pritam had said on Sahir's demise.

[Caution :I have never verified the veracity of the report and even today I do not consider it necessary to do so because deep inside I see that such genuine sentiments and expressions of uncensored feelings can come from a person like Sahir

or Amrita, alone.]

It is said that the news of his death first left her speechless -the most profound response. Later in the day she narrated an incident of bye-gone days when both of them, along with some other men of repute were invited to a function, organized to honour them with robes. Engrossed in the tete they had to be goaded to hurry and don the robes as the time of function was approaching fast. As they were the last to enter the green room Sahir and Amrita hurriedly put on the robes only to discover on the dais that the one carrying the name of Amrita was donned by Sahir and vice versa-triggering mischievous smiles from spectators. Relating this, Amrita said on the day of Sahir's demise:

.....probably the Angel of death read the name ,Sahir Ludhianvi, on the robe; not knowing the wearer was actually Amrita, whose death has come, today".

So O'Amrita, on this day of 2024, from this valley of Kashmir, one unknown penman is writing: ...I know not of "lakhaan teeyain" of Punjab but I hear a voice of

"Tu dhaktay hovay aariz ki shoayein layker.

gulshudah shammein jalanay ko challi

aayee hai ..isn't it the same old Sahir?

Dear reader, hear with me and recite with me, the words of Warris Shah before I bid you farewell, today, including English rendition of a poem of Amrita, as tailpiece:

'When you leave for the next world,

Do a favour unto me. Do not steal a glance

Of my face, please."//

Now the translation: Inscribed on my palm, a pledge resides,/

Agony's script, where love abides./ Faith's line soars above the rest,/

Love speaks in silence, unexpressed.// "How long will love endure?"/ You

seek to know, Love thrives wordlessly, its essence aglow.

No need for speech in love's grandeur,/ Its wealth beyond words, a silent gran-

Breath fleeting, bound to life's decree,/ Yet our love etched in eternity./

No rehashed tales from the past's de-

Love's story is fresh, in each unique

Anguish's arrows sting and stab,/ Hope flickers where edges grab./ Amidst pain's grasp, amid the strife,/ Hope awakens, breathing life.//

The History of Going for a Walk

Lauren Colley

oing for a walk is always a good idea. Perhaps, if you are lucky enough, this might be a hike along ragged cliffs or trudge along a chilly beach with family. Many of us however, have to take to the pavements of Britain's towns and cities for our post-lunch walks.

As a researcher of pedestrianism, I am fascinated by the changing culture of how, where and why we walk. This includes the tacit pavement etiquette that has both endured through the centuries and changed to reflect the cultural concerns of the age.

You might be surprised to hear that "going for a walk" wasn't really a thing until the late 1700s.

The term "pedestrianism" may have Latin roots, but in the 1800s its first association would have been a sporting one. "Professional pedestrianism" or "race-walking" was fiercely competitive by the 1850s.

Tournaments in America took place over six days, with entrants walking the equivalent of 450 miles, taking naps in tents by the track and sipping champagne en route. The stringent "heel-to-toe rule" still in place states that "the advancing leg must be straightened from the moment of first contact with the ground."

Walking as a leisure activity came about around the 1780s. Until this point walking had been an act of necessity, associated with poverty, vagrancy and even criminal intent. Many individuals would live and die never having seen beyond a few square miles of bleak cityscape and only slightly further for those in the country.

Along with the rural appreciation of the Lake poets - including Wil-



liam Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge - at the turn of the century, famous walkers such as Charles Dickens brought the pastime of walking into vogue.

DIRTY ROTTEN STREETS

Much has been written of the religious zeal with which Dickens took to his daily "walking work". He averaged 12 miles a day and at a remarkable pace of over four miles an hour - sufficient for others to "draw aside as the great writer - who seemed always to be walking a match against thought - strode on.'

Walking was an essential cog in Dickens's creative process: a time to absorb, almost by osmosis, the idiosyncrasies of the streets. From forays into the London slums to insomniadriven marches through the night, his encounters furnished the eccentric brilliance of his characters - the street snapshots retained "in regular order on different shelves of my

brain, ready ticketed and labelled to be brought out when I want them".

In the 1800s, when pavements were in their infancy, taking a walk was a whole different experience. An estimated 300,000 horses traversed the London streets, depositing over 1,000 tonnes of manure every day. Worse matter was also regularly tipped into the rat-ridden gutters of the slums – the word "loo" itself is suggested to be derived from the pre-warning "gardyloo", or French "regardez l'eau" (watch out for the water) heralding the emptying of a chamber pot from an upper storey.

The sorry state of city streets created a demand for all sorts of workers, including "pure finders" who would have scooped up dog poo and sold it in bulk to local tanneries (places where leather skins were processed). This was just one of the unappealing occupations that social historian Henry Mayhew referred to as "street cleansers" - a motley crew

of crossing sweepers, night soil men and mudlarks (people who sifted anything that they could sell from the banks of the Thames) who made their living from street waste.

Thankfully, social reform and urban planning has moved on dramatically, and going on an urban walk is a much more pleasant experience now.

PROFESSIONAL PEDESTRIANISM

While the pavements have changed, many of the codes of conduct governing Victorian pedestrian etiquette remain relevant today.

In 1780, an article tucked discretely among the news and advertisements of the popular London Magazine outlined "Rules of behaviour, of general use, though much disregarded in this populous city." Among its 12 points, pedestrians were advised "to be cautious of staring in the faces of those that pass by [...] for an overbearing look has the air of a bully, and a prying one that of a bailiff."

So as you take your walks, do as Dickens did, and avoid committing these pedestrian faux pas:

- Inconsiderate whistling or humming
- Walking arm in arm
- Loitering in conversation Hindering all behind with a "sauntering gait"

While the bugbears and implicit rules may alter with the ages (distracted phone-users, I'm looking at you), there is much about the pavements that retain their Victorian decorum. They are a place of multiplicity and variety, culture and commerce - a strip of land to be celebrated all year round.

By arrangements with The Conversation

Iran Signals Retaliation with Red Flag on Jamkaran Mosque After Kerman Attack

AGENCEIS

Tehran: In a potent act of symbolism, Iran has hoisted the red flag of revenge atop the prominent dome of Jamkaran Mosque. This dramatic gesture signifies a determined call for retaliation following a devastating attack near a revered cemetery in Kerman. Notably, this is only the second instance of such a display, the first being after the high-profile assassination of Iranian General Qasem Soleimani on January 3, 2020.

A Tale of Retribution and Retaliation

In response to the provocative killing of Soleimani, Iran had launched a ballistic missile assault on the Ain Al-Assad American base in Iraq. The red flag, emblematic of a solemn vow to avenge a fallen figure, was later removed after the retributive action. The recent hoisting of the red flag once again underscores Iran's unyielding intent to seek payback for the Kerman attack. However,



the specific details surrounding the attack and the form of the intended retribution remain shrouded in mystery.

President Raisi's Solemn Pledge

Amidst the brewing tensions, Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi joined the mourners for the funerals of the victims. He voiced a resolute vow that revenge would be exacted at 'the time and place determined by our

forces.' The President's words echoed the nation's sentiment and further fueled the anticipation of a looming retaliation.

The Geopolitical Chessboard

The incident adds another layer to the intricate web of tensions between Iran, the US, and Israel. With ISIS claiming responsibility for the bombings, the geopolitical dynamics in the region are expected to realign. Iranian officials have suggested

possible Israeli and US involvement in the attacks, heightening the stakes in this high-pressure chess game of diplomacy and power.

The funeral procession took place at the Emam Ali mosque in Kerman, where President Raisi also paid homage at Qasem Soleimani's grave. As the red flag of revenge waves menacingly over the Jamkaran Mosque, the world holds its breath, watching the unfolding scenario. (BNN)

Delhi HC Reduces 20-Yr Jail Term Awarded To Man For 'Digital Rape' On Minor Girl

Agenceis

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court on Friday reduced to 12 years the 20-year jail term awarded to a man convicted for "digital rape" on a four-year-old girl in 2014.

Justice Amit Bansal said the appellant, aged 38, has a "substantial life ahead of him" as well as an aging mother to look after, and his conduct in jail was satisfactory.

"The trial court had sentenced the appellant for 20 years of rigorous imprisonment observing that the appellant had committed digital rape' on a child of four years at the time of the incident," the

Digital rape refers to the act of penetration by using fingers.
The court upheld the con-

viction of the appellant under POCSO Act but added, "In my considered view, ends of justice will be met if the sentence of the appellant is reduced to 12 years. In this view of the matter, I deem it appropriate to reduce the sentence of the appellant from 20 to 12 years.

The fine of Rs 15,000 awarded by the trial court is retained."

The appellant, the brotherin-law of the victim's tutor, was awarded a 20-year jail term in 2021 under Section 6 (aggravated penetrative sexual assault) of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and the Indian Penal Code along with a fine of Rs 15,000 by the trial court.

The court stated that under POCSO Act, penetrative sexual assault can occur if there is insertion, to any extent, of an object or body part of an accused into the vagina, urethra, or anus of a child and in the present case, the appellant failed to successfully rebut the "presumption" against him by leading evidence or discrediting the evidence of the prosecution.

Penetrative sexual assault qualifies as aggravated penetrative sexual assault under certain situations such as the victim being less than 12 years of age.

The court observed that the trial court rightly held that just because the defence witness, the tuition teacher who was

related to the appellant, turned hostile, the statements of the victim child cannot be ignored.

Absence of external injuries on the private parts as well as the hymen of the victim being intact did not mean that she was not subjected to penetrative sexual assault, opined the

The court also observed that there was no straight-jacket formula under the criminal law for sentencing an accused and its objective should be to create a deterrence as well as bring a reformation.

It noted that the appellant has undergone more than nine years in prison, during which he has been working as a langar sahayak' and his conduct was satisfactory.

"He has not been involved in any other offence. It is also relevant to note that the appellant was a young man of around 28 years at the time of commission of the offence. As on date, he is around 38 years of age and has a substantial life ahead of him. He also has an aging mother to look after," the

CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

Jobseekers Beware

jobs provide a means of livelihood for Kashmiris amid job shortages. Although the growing popularity of remote work jobs post Covid-19 brought numerous opportunities for people seeking flexible employment from the comfort of their homes, it has blurred the boundaries between genuine job opportunities and dubious schemes.

Many realistic looking job sites with company logos convince job-seekers of their legitimacy. Scammers posing as human resource (HR) officials from well-known firms typically initiate scams using messages on social media platforms.

"I was tricked into participating in surveys in exchange for a substantial payment. But after completing the surveys, they requested me to pay a charge in order to collect the wages, or they won't pay at all," Wahid Ahmad, a job seeker from south Kashmir said.

Wishing anonymity, another victim said that she was offered a well-paid data entry task; but, after paying registration fees, she discovered that the job was fake and the material sent to her was riddled with errors. "Fortunately, the registration fee wasn't much, but imagine how many others might have fallen prey to this," she said.

Unemployment Woes

Job seekers have linked the problem to rising unemployment, which according to them makes them vulnerable to job scamming. "In the face of rising unemployment, the desperation for jobs has driven many of us to seek alternatives in the online sphere. The fact is that we have limited job opportunities and this renders us vulnerable to the pitfalls of job scamming," Wahid said.

"One has to be extremely cautious when pursuing online job opportunities. However, the harsh reality remains that we have to make a living," Wahid added.

By March 2023, Jammu and Kashmir had the third highest unemployment rate in India -23.1 per cent, as per the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE). In July of this year, the unemployment rate in the Union Territory was 18.3, according to Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai. Recent data reveals that around eight lakh unemployed individuals registered with the Labour and Employment Department.

Decoding The Scam

Sheikh Asif, a Srinagar-based IT specialist while talking about the tactics employed by some scammers said, "To win the confidence of their victims, these companies invite them to like and follow social media profiles and even proceed to send daily payments to the victims' accounts, giving the impression that they are part of a genuine enterprise."

"Subsequently, victims are added to a Telegram group where scammers establish sophisticated crypto trading platforms, urging individuals to invest and perform tasks to purportedly multiply their funds," Asif said.

He added that, to further deceive victims, scammers create fake virtual wallets to give the impression that their money is safe and secure. Tragically, victims find themselves trapped in this scheme, sometimes losing their life savings.

According to Asif, scammers take advantage of the privacy features offered by platforms like Telegram. "They exploit these features, such as the ability to communicate in groups without disclosing their phone numbers. This anonymity grants them a certain level of protection and makes it difficult for law enforcement or individuals to trace their whereabouts or uncover their true identities.

Furthermore, scammers often go to great lengths to cover their tracks by regularly deleting all their chats and account information.

The cyber wing of Jammu and Kashmir Police has registered a number of cases following complaints from victims of online frauds, having lost millions of rupees to scammers posing as online employers.

"Using group emailing tactics to reach out to a large audience has become an easy task for the scammers. They also disguise their identities and create phony emails and websites to lure the naive audience," an official at the Cyber Wing of J&K police told Kashmir Observer.

He said the bank scams have become a common way for scammers to obtain the financial and personal data of victims. This is achieved by employing deceptive techniques to coax individuals into revealing confidential information, including passwords and bank account

Law enforcement agencies, he said, are helpless because they lack a magic wand that would help them foresee who the con artists will target next.

"How could we predict beforehand as to who may be the next target of the con artists, it's for the people to think as to how they could protect themselves from scammers, who lure them in to be tricked," he added.

He said that the police are looking into a number of instances pertaining to online employment frauds in Kashmir, asserting that while many of the cases have been solved, some are still being investigated.

In 2020, the J&K police's cyber wing detained a shopkeeper from north Kashmir's Baramulla for illegally using over fifteen Facebook profiles to defraud and trick women. Under the guise of giving the victims work, the accused has amassed millions of rupees through his vile and cunning schemes. In another similar case, a man from Anantnag, claiming to be a journalist, had created a fake website of a government department to dupe gullible job

Weeks ago, a major scam involving financial fraud worth crores surfaced in Kashmir valley after investors alleged that they were duped of their hard earned money by a private company.

Notably, various recruitment firms have stepped up efforts to educate people on social media about the signs of job scams and emphasized that they do not ask for money for jobs.

Kashmir Highlands

recorded a minimum temperature of minus 4.5 degrees Celsius, up from the previous night's minus 5.1 degrees Celsius, they said.

Gulmarg skiing resort in north Kashmir recorded a low of minus 3.5 degrees Celsius up from the previous night's minus 4.2 degrees Celsius, the officials said.

Qazigund recorded a low of minus 3 degrees Celsius while Kokernag town saw the minimum settle at minus 2 degrees Celsius and Kupwara recorded a minimum of minus 2.6 degrees Celsius.

Kashmir has been going through a prolonged dry spell, and December month was 79 per cent deficit on rainfall.

There has been no snowfall in most plain areas of Kashmir while upper reaches of the valley have also received lesser than usual amount of snow by the end of December.

The meteorological department has said there is a possibility of very light snow over isolated extreme higher reaches on Friday.

While the weather would remain mainly dry weather till January 7 evening, there is a possibility of light snow over isolated areas in the higher reaches of Jammu and Kashmir on January 8-9, it said.

BDC Member

one or the other pretext to the complainant. "When he approached DMO Ganderbal Majid Aziz, the complainant was asked to visit BDC member Gowhar Ahmad and do whatever he demands," he said, adding that the complainant accordingly approached BDC member who demanded a bribe of Rs 50,000 for the issuance of document out of which Rs 10,000 was to be paid in advance today.

"The complainant chose not to pay a bribe and instead approached the Anti-Corruption Bureau for taking legal action against the accused public servant as provided under law. On receipt of the complaint, a Case FIR No. 01/2024 Û/S 7 PC Act 1988 was registered at PS ACB Srinagar and investigation taken up," the spokesperson said.

During the course of investigation, he said, a team was constituted that laid a successful trap and caught the accused BDC member red handed while demanding and accepting a bribe amount of Rs 10,000 from the complainant. He said that the bribe money was recovered

from the accused on spot. "Role of DMO Majid Aziz in the matter is being investigated. Further investigation into the case is going on," the Bureau spokesperson

Shah Hails Improved

security-related issues of critical importance, including the security of borders, cyber threats, radicalisation, fraudulent issuance of identity documents and threats emerging from AI.

It is being held in a hybrid mode with DGPs, IGPs and chiefs of Central Police Organisations attending physically in Jaipur. Over 500 police officers of various ranks are participating virtually. Technology in policing, Left Wing Extremism, prison reforms, activities of pro-Khalistan groups and terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir are other key issues to be discussed, a Union Home Ministry official said.

The conference will also deliberate on futuristic themes in policing and security like the challenges posed by new technologies such as AI and deepfakes, and ways to deal with them.

It provides an opportunity to identify tangible action points and monitor their progress, which is presented before the prime minister

The conference is the culmination of extensive deliberations involving police and intelligence officers from the district, state and national levels on identified themes, another

Since 2014, the prime minister has taken a

Free-flowing thematic discussions over breakfast, lunch and dinner have also been planned this year. This will provide an opportunity for senior police officials to share their views and recommendations with the prime minister.

Till 2013, the annual meet was held in New Delhi. After the Narendra Modi government assumed office the next year, it was decided to hold the event, organised by the MHA and the Intelligence Bureau, across the country.

The conference was organised in Guwahati in 2014; Dhordo, Rann of Kutch, in 2015; the National Police Academy, Hyderabad, in 2016; the BSF Academy, Tekanpur, in 2017; Kevadiya in 2018; IISER Pune in 2019; Lucknow in 2021; and at the NASC, Delhi, in 2023.

Before 2014, the deliberations largely focused on national security matters. Since then, the conferences have focused on both national security and core policing issues, including prevention and detection of crime, community policing and improving the police's image, another official said.

Earlier, the conference was Delhi-centric with officers coming together only for the

Residing on the same premises over two to three days has served to build a heightened sense of unity among the officers since 2014, the official added.

Direct interaction of the police's top brass with the head of government has resulted in a convergence of views on crucial challenges faced by the country and the emergence of doable recommendations, the official further

In the past few years, the topics have been selected after detailed discussions with the highest echelons of the police service.

Once selected, several interactions on presentations are held before committees of DGPs to encourage participation and incorporate ideas from the field and also from younger

As a result, all presentations are now broadbased, content-intensive and carry a set of cogent and actionable recommendations.

Since 2015, detailed follow-up of recommendations of past conferences has become the norm and is the topic of the first business session, attended by the prime minister and the Union home minister, the official said.

Terrorist Involved

involved in several terror crime cases, including the killing of local Army personnel Umer Fayaz, A resident of Sudsan Kulgam and had hurled a grenade upon non-local labourers in Hermain, resulting in the death of two labourers, the spokesman said.

Bhat was also involved in the killing of Kashmiri Pandit Sunil Kumar Bhat, and injuring another Kashmiri Pandit Pretimber Nath, both residents of Chotigam Shopian.

He was also involved in the attack on local Bal Krishan alias Sonu, a resident of Chotigam.

"Bhat was involved in instigating local youth to join terrorist ranks and induced 12 local youth into the ranks of terrorists. Besides other terror crimes, he was also involved in the killing of an arrested terrorist who was leading the search party during a cordon and search operation at Nowgam in 2022," the spokesman

Incriminating materials, arms and ammunition, including an AK series rifle, and three magazines were recovered from the site of the encounter. All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation and to probe their complicity in other terror crimes, the spokesman said.

Village Guard

under mysterious circumstances early this morning near his house, the officials said. The VDG's body had a bullet injury and his rifle was found lying near him, they said.

The body has been shifted to a hospital and the police have launched a probe to ascertain what led to his death, they added.

Search Ops Underway

following reports of suspicious movement in the area, officials said.

The operations are underway in villages the border belt of Mendhar sub-division, they

Further details are awaited.

Mirza Waheed's

novel I wrote many years ago is being adapted into a film," Mirza Waheed wrote on X.

According to Variety, a Los Angeles based entertainment news magazine, British actor Rudi Dharmalingam, known for 'The Lazarus Project' and 'Wakefield,' takes on the role of Captain Kadian, while newcomer Nikhil Singh Rai secured the part of the Boy after a rigorous two-year search. The film also features talents like Nitin Ganatra, Vikram Kapadia, and Meera

The executive producers of the film are MxW Ventures and CnR Films, and its international sales will be handled by Locomotive Entertainment. Travis Hodgkins, producer of A New Christmas, makes his directorial debut with this project.

The project stands as the second collaboration this year between producers Rashaana Shah and Cristy Coors Beasley, following their work on the sports drama "American Underdog." The film boasts a talented crew including cinematographer Johan Holmqvist, editor Jamie Kirkpatrick, and composer Wayne

"Âs war rages in India's volatile border region of Kashmir, a young boy is recruited by an Indian army officer to perform a grim task, to go into the valley where Kashmiri rebels have been killed and retrieve their weapons and ID cards," reads the description of the film on IMDB.com.

Set along the Line of Control, the novel revolves around an unnamed Kashmiri boy in his late teens, who serves as the protagonist. As the son of the village Sarpanch, he witnesses the gradual disappearance of his friends, who join the militancy one by one, leaving the

once-thriving community devastated. Amidst the chaos, the boy remains one of the few individuals who choose to stay behind. However, his life takes an unexpected turn when a Captain of the Indian Army enlists his help in tracking the soldiers' kills. His grim task involves collecting IDs from the deceased, fearing, each day, that he will discover one of his friends, lying amongst the dead. Caught between loyalty to his community and the complexity of his new role, the young protagonist finds himself embroiled in a dangerous game.

Waheed's unflinching portrayal of moral dilemmas amid conflict through deeply human

characters had struck a chord with readers worldwide. Through its complex characters and nuanced exploration of a sensitive period, the novel provided an intimate glimpse into Kashmir's realities. The novel explores the fragile dynamics of trust, the harsh realities of war, and the impact of armed conflicts on individuals and communities.

The Collaborator, was an international bestseller, a finalist for the Guardian First Book Award and the Shakti Bhat Prize, and was longlisted for the Desmond Elliott Prize. In 2011, Waterstones selected it as part of its big literary debut promotion, 'Waterstones 11'. It was also a book of the year for The Telegraph, New Statesman, Financial Times, Business Standard, and Telegraph India, among others.

'The book shattered and shredded me emotionally," Mulberry Films Producer Gopi Sait had said in a newspaper interview in 2013 when the novel was acquired for a film by the New York-based independent film company.

"Before reading 'The Collaborator', I read many pieces on Kashmir and had seen some Indian films on the Kashmir issue. But I was quite disappointed that in all that melodramatic nonsense the rich meaning of a story like this was being lost," Gopi was quoted as saying by the Kashmir Reader.

"I re-read 'The Collaborator' again over a period of month, slowly taking in the ideas and larger context of the story. I was left speechless with what Mirza has achieved and brought to life with such honesty and integrity," Gopi said. "I felt that this was important on so many levels. Mirza had done something extraordinary, something so special here with this book that I was compelled to ask him if we could possibly tackle this book into a feature film adaptation of his beloved work.

Gopi had informed back then that the film will be shot in English and local dialects, but predominantly it will be in English since the book is also available in English. "We want to reach out to as far as the littlest corner around the earth with this film, so English makes more sense.

HC Upholds

from diabetes mellitus and hypertension."

The Court also observed that it finds that the order dated 2 December 2002 was passed by the Director General of BSF after perusing the relevant record of the proceedings.

"No reasons in fact were required to be furnished for rejecting the statutory petition of the petitioner in terms of section 177 of the BSF Act," the court said

The Court observed that it has also examined the proportionality of the punishment vis-à-vis act of misconduct of Sunil, the soldier. "After perusing the record, this Court finds that the punishment awarded to the petitioner (Sunil) is not shockingly disproportionate to the act of misconduct on the part of the petitioner, which may warrant interference by this

2 HC Judges

court.'

with a view to ascertain the fitness and suitability of Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi and Justice Rahul Bharti for being appointed as Permanent Judges", reads the resolution of Collegium headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud.

A committee of two Judges of the Supreme Court constituted by the Chief Justice of India assessed the judgments of Justice Kazmi and Justice Bharti and rated the quality of their judgments as "good, reasonably well written and fairly reasonable," it reads further.

"Having taken into consideration all aspects, the Collegium is of the view that they are fit and suitable for being appointed as Permanent Judges", the resolution said while recommending their names for being appointed as Permanent Judges of J&K and Ladakh High

Delhi Court Sends

in separate incidents, in Jammu and Kashmir, the police said.

He is a member of the Hizbul Mujahideen and Al Badr terror outfits, they said. Dozens of police personnel have also been injured in attacks led by Matoo, the police added.

GMC Anantnag Adds 11 More DNB Seats For 2024 Session

Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: Government Medical College (GMC) Anantnag has made remarkable strides in postgraduate education, securing accreditation for an additional eleven (11) DNB seats from the National Board of Examinations (NBEMS) New Delhi for the 2024 session.

This accomplishment elevates the total count of accredited seats to an impressive sixty-three (63).

Prof (Dr) Anjum Farhana, the Principal of GMC Anantnag, expressed appreciation for the pivotal roles played by various departments, including Orthopedics (3 seats), Pathology (3 seats) Microbiology (3 seats), and Physiology (2 seats). She emphasized the dual impact of these additions, enriching academic pursuits and enhancing the quality of patient care.

NC Asks J&K Admin To Come Clean On **Leasing Electricity** To Rajasthan

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The National Conference on Friday asked the Jammu and Kashmir administration to come clean on leasing electricity from the Ratle Power Project to Rajasthan.

National Conference (NC) spokesperson Imran Nabi Dar said the administration needs to clear the air on the agreement between Jammu and Kashmir State Power Development Corporation (JKSPDC) and Rajasthan Urja Vikas and IT Services Limited as it has created a lot of "misgivings" among the people here. Dar said the agreement has stirred a "hornet's nest" as the terms and conditions on the face of it are seemingly to the "disadvantage" of Jammu and Kashmir.

"Normally, power purchase agreements usually last for a maximum of 20 years. However, in this case, they are signing it for 40 years at a pre-negotiated price which is also unknown. There has been a feeling of betraval amongst the people of J-K that their resources are being bartered away," he said in a statement.

Woman Among Five Drug Peddlers Held

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Five drug peddlers, one among them a woman was arrested by police on Friday in North Kashmir's Baramulla district, a police spokesperson

A team of cops from Police Station Baramulla at a checkpoint established at Kralhar intercepted a Tata Venture veĥicle (IK05D-3072) with five persons including a lady on board, he said. During search, he said, 45 grams of brown sugar & 345 grams of Charas like substance was recovered from their possession.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE **EXECUTIVE ENGINEER** (R&B) DIVISION **Pulwama**

CANCELLATION CORRIGENDUM

is for the information of all concerned that due to No-response for the works figuring at Sr No. 1,2,3,5,6,7,8,9 advertised vide this office NIT NO: Fresh/212/11690-11700/ EEP/RNB/of 2023-24 Dated. 11-12-2023,

As such all the said works are hereby cancelled and put to fresh tenders

No: T-1/EEP/12673-77 Dated: - 04 -01-2024

Head Draftsman

DIPK-14713-23 DT: 05/01/2024 **Executive Engineer R&B Division Pulwama**

Tech. Officer



TWO WOMEN COVERING THEIR FACES with shawls pass through Jehangir Chowk in Srinagar on a cold Friday morning as the sun rises in the background.. KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

INDIA Bloc Will Win All 6 LS Seats In J&K, Ladakh: Cong Leader

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The INDIA bloc will win all six Lok Sabha seats in the Union territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh, senior Congress leader Bharatsinh Solanki said here on Friday.

Solanki, who was recently appointed the party's in-charge for Jammu and Kashmir, said the Con-

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Advisor to Lieutenant Gov-

ernor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar on Fri-

day called upon the management of

JKHPMC to optimise its operations and explore new ways and technologies for

maximizing its reach and make them-

selves competent with present indus-

tries of food sector. The Advisor made

these remarks while chairing a meeting

to review the performance and func-

The meeting was attended by Prin-

cipal Secretary, Agriculture Production

department, Shailendra Kumar; Man-

aging Director, JKHPMC, Imamuddin

and other senior officers of the corpo-

Addressing the officers in the meet-

ing, the Advisor made out that the

corporation has lot of potential to con-

tribute towards the horticulture sector

ration and allied departments.

tioning of JKHPMC.

cide the number of seats the party would contest as part of the INDIA

"A committee has been formed and has held meetings with leaders from here. Now the high command will decide." he said.

He expressed confidence that the alliance will win all the six seats --

Advisor Bhatnagar Reviews

Performance Of JKHPMC

two seats of Jammu region, three of

Highlighting the significance of Jammu and Kashmir, Solanki said, "Although J-K has six seats in Parliament and 90 in assembly, it is the most important state for its strategic and secular characters." He exhorted the party cadre to prepare for the upcoming elections

While reviewing the progress of ongoing projects like Food Processing

and Packaging Unit Baramulla, Food

Processing and Packaging Unit at Fruit

Transhipment centre Narwal, Integrat-

ed Hitech Sorting, Grading and Packag-

ing centre Bijbehara and other units of

the corporation, the Advisor directed

the MD JKHPMC to expedite the pace

of work on all ongoing projects so that

they can be operational within estab-

lished timelines.

Kashmir valley and one of Ladakh.

CS Listens To DDC Chairpersons From Jammu

Assures Them Of Extending Every Possible Help To Strengthen The Institution



Observer News Service

IAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo on Friday while listening to the issues put forth jointly by the District Development Council (DDC) Chairpersons of Jammu division assured them of extending every possible help by the LG Administration to strengthen this democratic institution in the UT.

During this meeting the Principal Secretary Finance and Commissioner Secretary, RDD and Housing & Urban Development Departments were also present.

During this meeting these Chairpersons jointly submitted a memorandum to the Chief Secretary for his consideration. They also raised the issues pertaining to their respective districts with him for their early resolution.

The Council Chairpersons

raised the demands related out other developmental to the revalidation of their works in their areas. savings out of their grants for carrying out other welfare

Dulloo further made out that he is personally going measures in their constituto visit their respective arencies. They also individueas in weeks ahead to have ally asked for more grants interaction with public repfor schemes under execuresentatives and local peotion in their districts. These ple there. He also shared representatives also sought that they should play a resolution of other develgreater role in the crucial activities of planning and opmental requirements in monitoring necessary for their areas with focus on generating employment op-

development of any area. Moreover he told them to work in coordination with the administration for the overall development of their areas. He called them a vital link between people and administration and acknowledged their role in resolving peoples day to day affairs for which they would be given greater say in all the relevant aspects of governance in their respective DDC constituencies across I&K.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, **ELECTRIC DIVISION-IST, SRINAGAR.**

portunities for youth.

In his remarks the Chief

Secretary advised them

to fast-pace their plan-

ning and start tendering

process well ahead of the

start of working season in

the month of April. He as-

sured them that the savings

made through competitive

tendering process, if com-

municated early, would be

approved by the Finance

department for carrying

Email: xen.ed1st@gmail.com | Tel No. 0194-2452079 | Fax No.0194-2452079

e-TENDER ABBREVIATED NOTICE

e-NIT No. 056/EDI,dt:04-01-2024

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Executive Engineer, Electric Division-1st, Srinagar invites online e-bids from registered A-Class Contractors/firms

1 Illumination of various buildings on the occasion of Republic d		0.00
0-1-1-1	3.33	

The complete tender document is available at website http://jktenders.gov.in. Interested bidder/ tenderers may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below. Bidding Documents contain Qualifying Criteria for Bidders, Specifications, Bill of Quantities, Terms and Conditions of Contract and other details. Date and Time of downloading /

i)	Sale (Start) of Tender Document	04.01.2024; 16:00 Hrs
ii)	Date & Time of Download/ Sale (End) of Tender Document	15.01.2024; 16:00 Hrs
iii)	Date & Time of Bid Uploading (Start/ End)	04.01.2024; 16:00 Hrs to 15.01.2024; 16:00 Hrs
iv)	Commercial/Technical Bid Opening Date & Time	16.01.2024 at 13:00 Hrs
v)	Financial Bid Opening	Shall be declared later on for the technically qualified bidders
vi)	Venue ofCommercial/	Electronically on J&K Government e-Procurement System
VI)	Technical BidOpening	websitehttp://jktenders.gov.in
vii)	Cost of e-Bid document	Rs.200.00 (Rupees Two Hundred Only) (Non-refundable)
VII)	oost of c Bid document	[Treasury Receipt Only]
viii)	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 6,700/= (Rupees Six Thousand Seven Hundred Only)

Sd/ DIPK-NB-5106-23 **Executive Engineer** DT: 05/01/2024 Electric Division 1st, Srinagar

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI e-NITNo. 1040F2023-24 No: PHEB:13600-12 Dated:-04.01.2024

of Jammu and Kashmir and therefore

modern mechanisations and techno-

logical interventions should be em-

ployed in the corporation to maximize

He advised the management of the

corporation to optimise its operations

and use of assets as well as explore

modern ways to maximize its profits. He

called upon the officers to upgrade units

of corporation so that they can compete

with present industries of food sector.

its impact on the sector.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti(PHE) Division Bijbehara invites e-tenders from reputed and

resourceful Bidders/Firms/Companies/of all classes registered in JKPWD/CPWD/Railways or any other state Government for below mentioned works at various Water Supply schemes of PHE Division Bijbehara of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM). The bidding process shall be completed online on www.iktenders.gov.inin two covers viz. Cover 1st consisting of General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and Cover 2ndconsisting of Financial Bid on overall percentage rate basis, in the prescribed BOQ.

Sr No	Particulars of the work Tender fee (in Rs)	Estimated cost	Earnest money Deposit	Bid Validity	Time of Comple- tion of work (days)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Laying and fitting of G.I/D.I pipes, Construction of 1.50 lac gallons S.R , chainlink fencing,Retaining wall and Stablization and Development of source by way of lining of Brah Cannal for WSS RambirporaKehirbal under JJM	As per Annexure-I	03% of the estimated cost	180 days	As per ANNEX- URE-I to this bid document.

Position of funds: Approved Under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) The tender inviting authority is Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Bijbehara The awarding authority is District Jal Jeevan Mission (DJJM).

Critical Dates:

I	Publish Date	06.01.202409.00AM
ii	Document Download/sale start Date	06.01.2024 09.00 AM
III	Bid submission start date	06.01.2024 09.00 AM
IV	Bid submission end date	13.01.2024 04.00 PM
V	Date and time of Bid opening	15.01.2024 11.00 PM
	·	

- Bid documents can be accessed and downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in The whole bidding process shall be completed online on tender portal www.jktenders.gov.in. The intending bidders can download the bid document from the tender portal and can submit their bids by uploading the month etender portal.
- 3. The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Special Sub Division Bijbehara. Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 4 & 5 of the table and shall be payable at Srinagar. The cost of tender documents should be in form of DD/TR/e challan in favour of Superintending Engineer Hydl Circle Anantnag.
- The hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of TR/e-challan, Earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR/BG and other relevant documents shall be obtained from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial cover.
- The bid shall remain valid for a period of 180 days from the last date of submission of bids. If any bidder withdraws his bid before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the same shall be considered to be in violation of bid security declaration and shall be dealt with accordingly and the bid shall be declared non-responsive.
- Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website www.jktenders.gov.in. Queries by email if any should be made at phebijbehara230@gmail.com

Executive Engineer JSD PHE Division Bijbehara

ANNEXURE-I **SCHEME WISE LIST OF WORKS**

	S.No	Name of WSS	Description of work	Division	Estimated cost (in Lacs)	Class of contract	Time for com- pletion days
	1	WSS Ranbirpora Kehirbal	Laying and fitting of G.I/D.I pipes, Construction of 1.50 lac gallons S.R , chainlink fencing, Retaining wall and Stablization and Development of source by way of lining of Brah Cannal for WSS RambirporaKehirbal under JJM	JSD Bijbe-	216.70	AAY	90 days
L							0.17

Sd/ DIPK-14718-23 **Executive Engineer** DT: 05/01/2024 JSD PHE Division Bijbehara



The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd. IAPM Department Zonal Office Budgam, Industrial Complex Zainakote

Tel: 0194-2497735. Ext.:218; amid.zoktwo@kbmail.com

Srinagar 190012, Kashmir

Ref. No. JKB/IAPMD/2023-

Parvaiz Ahmad Kasana S/O Ghulam Mohi Ud Din Kasana

R/O Hariganiwan, Kangan

IAPM DEPARTMENT

PIN CODE-191202 (Mortgagor cum Guarantor) Subject: Notice for Redemption of the property in terms of right vested with Borrower under

Section 13(8) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 ("SARFAESI Act, 2002") hereinafter called "the Act."

As you are aware that the Authorised officer of the Bank had issued a Demand Notice on 23.04.2021 under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 against secured asset mentioned therein, which has been offered as security by you towards your/borrower's loan facility/ies.

Subsequently, the Authorised Officer took possession of the secured assest in the nature of residential house along with land measuring 01 Kanal underneath & appurtenant thereto on 11.05.2022 under Section 13(4) of the Act.

Whereas you have failed to satisfy your liabilities to the Bank even after receipt of Notice under Section 13(2) and 13(4) of the Act. Therefore, the Bank in exercise of its rights granted under the Act and Rules made thereunder, intends to initiate process of sale of secured asset for recovery of the amount due.

You are hereby called upon to discharge in full your liabilities with respect to secured assets amounting to Rs. 77,34,228.98 (Rupees Seventy Seven Lakhs Thirty Four Thousand Two Hundred Twenty Eight and Paisa Ninety Eight only) as on 30.11.2023 with further interest thereon from 01.12.2023 and other charges incurred/to be incurred within 30 days from the date of this Notice, failing which, the Bank shall proceed to realize the outstanding dues by sale of the secured asset. May note that your right to redeem the mortgaged property shall extinguish on the day the Bank issues Notice of Sale as per Act and Rules made thereunder.

> Yours faithfully, **Authorised Officer**



J&K Bowled Out For 100 Runs In Ranji Opener

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The J&K senior men's cricket was bowled out for a paltry 100 runs against Himachal Pradesh in the 2024 Ranji Trophy opener on Friday at IKCA Hostel Ground in Jammu.

All-rounder Abid Mushatq top-scored for the team, with 28 (28). For Himachal Pradesh, Vaibav Arora took 4 wickets, as the J&K batters failed to get go-

ing at home turf, before being bundled out in 35.3 overs.

In reply, Himachal Pradesh were 47 for no loss in 9 overs at the end of Day 1. They trail J&K by 53 runs, as Ekant Sen 27* (34) leads the charge for his

J&K has three IPL players in the team, Sunrisers Hyderabad duo Umran Malik and Abdul Samad, and Rajasthan Royals' Abid Mushtaq.

J&K Softball Teams Leave For Senior Nationals



Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal Shyambir on Friday flagged-off both boys and girls softball teams, marking their journey to participate in the 14th Senior National Softball Cricket Championship 2023-2024.

The championship is scheduled to take place in Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, from January 9 to January 13.

In an interaction with the students, the DC extended his best wishes for the success of the teams in the championship.

The contingent is being led by the General Secretary of J&K Softball Cricket Association and the Joint Secretary of Softball Cricket Federation of

T20 WC 2024: India Play Pakistan On June 9 In NY



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The riveting cricketing rivalry between India and Pakistan will reach planet's biggest show city New York on June 9 when the arch-rivals go against each other there in a Group A match of the ICC T20 World Cup 2024.

The schedule for the showpiece was revealed on Friday, and India are clubbed with Pakistan, Ireland, Canada and co-hosts USA in Group A for the league stage games.

India will open their World Cup campaign with a match against Ireland on June 5 in New York.

After facing Pakistan, India will stay back in New York to take on the co-host nation on June 12, and then will travel to Florida to play against Canada in their final group assignment on June 15.

The tournament is being cohosted by the West Indies and the USA with 20 teams, divided into four groups of five sides each, making it the largest ever T20 World Cup. Sixteen teams contested in the last edition in 2022 in Australia.

The tournament will start on June 1 with a match between the USA and Canada. The semi-finals are scheduled for June 26 in Guyana and June 27 in Trinidad while Barbados will host the final on June 29.

England are the title holders, having beaten Pakistan in Melbourne in November 2022. The group stage matches

will be played from June 1 to 18 while the Super 8 games are slotted from June 19 to 24. The top two teams from

each group will enter the Super 8, where the teams will be clubbed into two groups of four each.

The top two teams in each Super 8 group will advance to the semifinals.

A total of 55 games will be played across six venues in the West Indies -- Kensington Oval, Barbados; Brian Lara Cricket Academy, Trinidad; Providence Stadium, Guyana; Sir Vivian Richards Stadium, Antigua; Darren Sammy Cricket Ground, St Lucia; Arnos Vale Stadium, St Vincent -- and three stadiums in the USA Eisenhower Park, New York; Lauderhill, Florida and Grand Prairie, Texas.

Group A: India, Pakistan, Ireland, Canada, USA.

Group B: England, Australia, Namibia, Scotland, Oman. Group C: New Zealand, West Indies, Afghanistan, Uganda, Papua New Guinea.

Group D: South Africa, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Netherlands, Nepal.

Haaland, De Bruyne, **Doku Close To Man City Returns**



Agencies

MANCHESTER: Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola said Erling Haaland, Kevin de Bruyne and Jeremy Doku trained well this week, but he is unsure of their availability for Sunday's FA Cup thirdround match against Huddersfield Town.

Haaland, the league's joint top scorer with 14 goals, has not played since Dec. 6 due to a bruised foot. "Jeremy feels really, really good and Kevin as well. And Erling is also a little bit better," Guardiola told reporters on Friday.

"In the two or three training sessions they feel good and are improving. I don't know about Sunday or Newcastle (a Jan. 13 Premier League match) but for the rest they will be ready. "No major setbacks, that would be the worst for Kevin or Jeremy or Erling, that is the most important.

De Bruyne, who is recovering from hamstring surgery, had not featured for Guardiola's team since the opening day of the Premier League season before returning to the bench for their Dec. 30 game against Sheffield. Doku has been sidelined with a hamstring injury since early December.

Guardiola said John Stones has not returned to training since injuring his ankle last week and midfielder Rodri will not be available to face Championship side Huddersfield. "His grandad passed away so he is away in Madrid," the manager said. "He will not be with us for the next few days. Family is the most important thing.'

Last year's treble winners are third in the Premier League standings, five points adrift of leaders Liverpool. "I would love (De Bruyne) to play the way he played the last eight years he has with me, I would love it," Guardiola said.

"I think he's not going to change his qualities there, but of course the injury is a big one and what I'm concerned the most is to try to avoid (re-injury)." After playing nine games in December, City only have four in January.

"I think the Premier League took a great decision to make Boxing Day intense and then have a break," Guardiola said. "We won a lot even in the tough period. It is good now to have the FA Cup, an important game at Newcastle and then two weeks after to refresh our minds."

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



