

Is Kashmir's Long Dry Spell Finally Ending?

MeT Predicts Snow Relief For Kashmir

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Kashmir valley is likely to receive light snow and rain next week, bringing an end to the prolonged dry spell in the valley, the weather office said on Friday.

It said dry weather is likely to continue till January 24 with generally cloudy weather on Saturday evening.

There is a possibility of light snow at isolated places in the higher reaches of Jammu and Kashmir on January 25, an official of the MeT Department said.

He said from January 26-28, light rain or snow is likely over scattered places in J-K.

"From January 29-31, as per the indications of different models, the possibility of light to moderate rain/snow at many places is very likely, the official said.

A dry and largely snowless winter in Kashmir has resulted in freezing nights and warmer than usual days.

Kashmir is currently under the

grip of "Chilla-i-Kalan", a 40-day harsh winter period when a cold wave sweeps the region and temperatures drop considerably leading to the freezing of water bodies as well as water in pipes.

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

However, Kashmir has been going through a prolonged dry spell and a 79 per cent deficit in rainfall was recorded for December while there has been no precipitation in most parts of the valley in the first fortnight of January.

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

Srinagar city recorded a minimum temperature of minus 4.9 degrees Celsius on Thursday night, dropping slightly from the previous night's minus 4.6

| More on P6



6 FROM JANUARY 29-31, as per the indications of different models, the possibility of light to moderate rain/snow at many places is very likely,

Rise Of Natural Disasters In Border States Study Needed To Find If Enemies Involved: DM



Press Trust Of India

Dehradun: Expressing concern over the rising number of natural disasters in some border states and union territories, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Friday said there is a need for a detailed study to find out if India's adversaries are behind it.

Climate change is no longer just a weather-related phenomenon but is also linked to national security, he said.

He was addressing a gathering in the Dhak village near Joshimath after inaugurating

a bridge and 34 other border area infrastructure projects implemented by the Border Roads Organisation at Rs 670 crore for different states.

"The frequency of natural disasters has risen in some states and union territories like Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Ladakh. Experts believe it is linked with climate change. But I think a study needs to be conducted to find if there is also a role of our adversaries in it," Singh said, without naming any country. The rise in the frequency of | More on P6

CJI, SC Judges Invited for Ram Temple Ceremony in Ayodhya

Ambanis to Bachchan among those in state guest list of invitees

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: Five Supreme Court judges including present CJI D Y Chandrachud, who were part of the Constitution bench which paved the way for the construction of the Ram Temple at the disputed site in Ayodhya, are invited as state guests to witness the consecration ceremony on January 22.

While about 8,000 people are in the long list of invitees, the select list features just a few hundred people, including prominent politicians, leading industrialists, top film stars, sportspersons, bureaucrats and diplomats.

Besides the present CJI



Chandrachud, former CJs Ranjan Gogoi and S A Bobde and former judges Ashok Bhushan and S Abdul Nazeer were part of the bench which had delivered | More on P6

My Govt Draws Inspiration From Lord Ram: PM Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said his government is inspired by Lord Ram's principles of governance with honesty and urged people to light Ram Jyoti on January 22, stressing that it will be an inspiration to remove poverty from their lives.

"Modi's guarantee means 'guarantee puri hone ki guarantee'. Lord Ram taught us to honour commitments made and we are fulfilling | More on P6

Half-Day For Central Govt Employees

Central Government employees will get a half-day leave on January 22 so that they can watch a live telecast of the grand consecration ceremony at Ram Temple in Ayodhya.

Union Minister Jitendra Singh, according to an NDTV report, has confirmed that government offices will have a half-day on January 22. The government has also issued a notification in this regard. The ministers have been told to light lamps at their homes and feed the poor. They have | More on P6

AIIMS Jammu Set For Inauguration; AIIMS Kashmir Faces Delays

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: In a highly anticipated development, the unveiling of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Jammu is slated to be a highlight on the national stage. As per officials, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is to inaugurate the much awaited state of art tertiary Hospital in March or April this year.

Earlier this week, Dr Shakti Gupta, Executive Director of AIIMS Jammu said that they have completed 95 percent of the construction works and communicated to the higher authorities in New Delhi that the institution is ready for the inauguration.

However, its counterpart in the Kashmir Valley, the All India Institute of Medical Sciences AIIMS in south



Kashmir's Awantipora faces a challenging scenario. Despite its crucial role in advancing healthcare accessibility, the project faces an extended timeline. As per the government, it will be completed by 2025.

Earlier, The Union Health Ministry said that only 44

percent of the construction work had been completed, raising concerns about the timely completion of this vital health sector project.

"Due to security reasons, the construction got delayed," a senior official from the administration on anonymity said. He, however, said the | More on P6

New Guidelines For Coaching Centres No Intake Of Students Below 16 Years

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: Coaching centres cannot enrol students below 16 years of age, make misleading promises and guarantee rank or good marks, according to new guidelines announced by the Ministry of Education.

The guidelines for regulating coaching institutes have been framed to address the need for a legal framework and manage the unregulated growth of private coaching centres.

It comes following complaints received by the government about rising cases of student suicides, fire incidents, lack of facilities in coaching institutes as well as methodologies of teaching adopted by them.

"No coaching centre shall engage tutors having qualifications less than graduation. The

institutions cannot make misleading promises or guarantee rank or good marks to parents for enrolling students in the coaching centres. The institutes cannot enrol students below 16 years of age. Student enrolment should be only after secondary school examination," the guidelines said.

"The coaching institutes cannot publish or cause to be published or take part in the publication of any misleading advertisement relating to any claim, directly or indirectly, of quality of coaching or the facilities offered therein or the result procured by such coaching centre or the student who attended such class," it added.

The coaching centres cannot hire the services of any tutor or person who has been convicted of any offence involving moral turpitude. | More on P6

Incentives To Private Industrial Clusters Govt Amends Industrial Development Policy

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has amended its industrial development policy to ensure a slew of benefits to private enterprises willing to set up new industrial clusters in the Union Territory.

As per the revised policy, private developers and upcoming industrial clusters will get benefits such as up to 100 per cent reimbursement of stamp duty on land purchases, change of land use charges, and registration charges.

The amendments in the Jammu and Kashmir Private Industrial Estate Development Policy (PIEDP), 2021-30 were approved by the Administrative Council (AC) chaired by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday, an official spokesperson said.

The meeting was also attended by key officials including Advisor Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar and Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo.

This initiative seeks to ensure a fair playing field for private developers and prospective unit holders | More on P6

'We Miss Them' Muslim Neighbours Yearn For Return Of Kashmiri Pandits

Zehra Shafi

Srinagar: A garden looks beautiful with colourful flowers. Would it look as nice if we plant only white flowers?" A frail-looking old man poses the question as he goes for Friday prayers at a mosque in Srinagar's Habba Kadal locality.

For Mohammad Yousuf Khan, Kashmiri Pandits are the flowers that brought colour and life to the garden he calls home: Habba Kadal in Shahar e Khaas.

Khan and other residents of Habba Kadal believe the idea



GO WE WILL WELCOME THEM WITH OPEN ARMS. It's our moral duty to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with them. We will help them renovate their spaces."

of Kashmiriyat is incomplete without the neighbours they lost three decades ago but still long for. "We used to eat from

one plate. We will be more than happy if they return. We miss them," says Shafeeqa, a resident. Habba Kadal is | More on P6

Salt Emerges As A Leading Global Killer, Causing 1.89 Million Deaths Annually: WHO

If Taken In Excess Amounts, Sodium Increases The Risks of Heart Disease, Stroke, And Premature Death

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: In Kashmiri homes, the mornings are often accompanied by the aroma of 'Nun Chai', and throughout the day, salt continues to take the center stage in every main meal. The question is, how much of this culinary companion is too much?

The World Health Organization (WHO) says around 1.89 million people die each year because of too much salt, leading to high blood pressure and more heart problems. So, how much salt is too much? That's the big question.

Sodium, widely found in table salt, is an essential nutrient that helps maintain the normal functioning of cells. It is also



found naturally in a variety of foods, such as milk, meat, and shellfish. But if taken in excess amounts, sodium increases the risks of heart disease, stroke,

and premature death, states a report by WHO.

A report by the Harvard Medical School also states that excessive sodium intake leads

to high blood pressure, which further increases the risk of developing heart failure. It also causes complications in those with existing heart failure.

For adults, WHO recommends less than 2000 mg/day of sodium, which is equivalent to just under a teaspoon. However, for children, the dosage can be adjusted as per their energy requirements. WHO also suggests that salt consumed should be iodized (fortified with iodine) - essential for healthy brain development.

Let's agree that it is impossible to give up on salt as it may hamper the taste of the meals. This is why WHO recommends eating fresh, minimally processed foods and keeping a

check on the amount of salt you add to your meals. Also, avoid having salt as is on the sides.

Health experts in Kashmir have urged people to reduce salt intake as a preventive measure against heart attacks, especially during the cold winter months. They said low temperatures lead to the constriction of arteries, increasing the risk of heart attacks and strokes.

Dr Showkat Shah had said that narrowed arteries reduce blood flow to the heart, raising the risk of heart attacks, especially for those with a history of heart-related issues.

He highlighted the prevalence of high sodium content in Kashmiri traditional 'Nun Chai' (salt tea) and | More on P6

325-Km Long Gas Pipeline to Kashmir Regulatory Body Initiates Bidding Process



Nasir Azam

Srinagar: In a significant move, the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) has commenced a bidding process for laying 325-kilometre long Jammu-Srinagar gas pipeline.

Documents reveal that the

Board has invited bids for grant of authorization for laying, building, operating or expanding Jammu-Srinagar natural gas pipeline with an initial system capacity of at least 2.0 MMSCMD including common carrier capacity.

The bids were invited on January 12, 2023, | More on P6



PASSPORT LOST
I lost my passport bearing registration G6613509 while shifting from Madin Sahib Hawal to Baghwanpora Lal Bazar Srinagar somewhere.
Now, I want to apply for its duplicate. If anybody has any objections in this regard, they may contact the authorities within a period of seven days after the publication of this notice. After that, no objection will be entertained.
Sajid Hussain Beigh
S/o Altaf Hussain Beigh
R/o Madin Sahib Hawal Srinagar
At present, Baghwanpora Lal Bazar Srinagar

NOTICE
I have purchased a house at Bilal Masjid Lane, Ganai Doori Alamgari Bazar from Aga Sajjad Son of Aga Abdullah. Now I want to transfer the electricity connection bearing installation No. 36811, Consumer ID 02040400008890 of the said house in my name.
If anybody has any objections in this regard, they may contact the concerned authorities within a period of seven days after the publication of this notice. After that, no objection will be entertained.
Syed Nasir Ahmad
S/o Syed Hussain
R/o Donipora Alamgari Bazar, Srinagar

PUBLIC NOTICE
My DOB has been wrongly written in my Aadhaar Card while my correct DOB as per school records is 04-04-1984. Now I have applied for the correction of DOB in Aadhaar Card. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the Office of Social Welfare Department Kunzer Ward No 7 within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Bashir Ahmad Ganie
S/o Gh Rasool Ganie

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR KREERI
(Executive Magistrate 1st Class)
Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate.
PUBLIC NOTICE
The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoor) / chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of BUSHRA MEHRAJ D/O MEHRAJ- UD -DIN MIR R/O SALOOSA Tehsil Kreeri Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth, as 24/11/2021 and event has been shown to be occurred at S.D.H Kreeri for issuance of delay order. In this connection, if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained
sd/- Executive Magistrate
1st Class kreeri
kri

The Jammu And Kashmir State Board Of School Education
BRANCH OFFICE SOPORE
The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 10 th session Annual Pvt Bi-Annual 2019-20 under Below mentioned particulars Name: Tufail Farooq
Father's name: Farooq Ahmad Dar
Roll No: 3211489
Year 2019-20 Session Annual Private (Bi-Annual)
Now the candidate has applied for Duplicate Marks Card. Anybody (if) having any objection may file the same before undersigned with (07) Seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides, the original marks card is teated as cancelled.
Sd/ Assistant Secretary
Sub Office Sopore
bb

PUBLIC NOTICE
I have applied for the issuance of DOB certificate . As per Certificate issued by Headmaster Govt Middle School Gundipora Pulwama my DOB is 15-03-1962. If any body has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Naib Tehsildar Kakapora within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Abdul Rashid Ganaie
S/o Mohd Shaban Ganaie
R/o Gundipora Pulwama
laa

From the Office of Adv shuja Hussain Khan & Associates
District Court Complex Sgr.
In the case of:
1.Farooq Ahmad Mir S/O Mohammad Sidiq Mir R/O Saderbal Srinagar (Caveator)
2.Shameema W/O Mohammad Farooq Mir R/O Saderbal Srinagar (Non-caveator)
Public at Large
In the matter of: Caveat petition in terms of Section 148A CPC.
That the caveator has reason to believe/apprehension that the non-caveator(s) may file a suit or other type of proceedings before the Hon'ble High Court, District Court, or Special Tribunal, Srinagar on the ground of distorted facts/misrepresentation or cooked up story and may succeed in obtaining some relief/order at their back/exparte against the caveator(s) and in such eventuality the caveator(s) will be put to an irreparable loss & inconvenience. It would be proper that the caveator(s) is given an opportunity of being heard by this Hon'ble Court/Tribunal before passing any order.
nj

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Industrial Training Institute (Budgam)
Skill Development Department
website : www.itbudgam.org email : itjbudgam123 @gmail.com

ADMISSION OPEN FOR SKILL TRAININGS UNDER SANKALP
In pursuance to the approval accorded by District Development Commissioner Budgam vide Letter No DDCC/Skill/9331 dated:-03/01/2024, applications on prescribed registration form are invited from the unemployed/school & college dropouts for admission to below mentioned job oriented short term courses under SANKALP to be conducted at Govt. I.T.I Budgam/CIIT Baramulla/NIFT Budgam to be started from Feb 2024. The admission cum registration forms can be had from the Office of Principal Govt. I.T.I Budgam free of Cost from 20- 01-2024 to 30-01-2024. The application form completed along with the following self attested documents should be deposited in the Office of Govt. I.T.I Budgam by or before 31-01-2024.
1. Marks Certificate of qualifying exam prescribed for the trade.
2. Date of Birth Certificate preferably 10th class Diploma/Marks Certificate.
3. AadharCard.
4. Bank Pass book (Name of Bank, Address of Bank, Account Number, IFSC code)

Details of Short Term Courses:

S.No	Short Term Course/Qualification (Job role)	Duration	Location where the course will be conducted
1	GST Assistant Class 12th Pass + 6 months relevant work experience OR Class 10th Pass + ITI (2 years after Class 10th) OR Class 10th Pass and pursuing continuous regular schooling OR 3 year Diploma (after 10th) OR Previous relevant Qualification of NSQF level 3 + 2 years relevant work experience	480 Hours (3.5 Months)	ITI Budgam
2	Auto Maintenance & Repair (1- Month) Diploma/ ITI in Automobile Sector or Mechanical	1- Month	CHIT Baramulla
3	Up skilling in Fashion Design and Marketing ITI in Dress Making/ Sewing Technology	120 Hrs	NIFT Budgam

Training Program Benefits:
> Completely Free of Cost training.
> Transportation cost will be provided to candidates selected for the course to be conducted at CIIT Baramulla (at the Cost of Rs 3000 per candidate per month).
Instructions to Candidates:
> Strict discipline in accordance with the institute should be maintained throughout the course period
> For updates visit www.itbudgam.org or call on the mobile no (7006984406).

No.-ITI/Bud/Sankalp/922-25
DIPK-15405/23
dated:19-01-2024
Principal Govt. ITI Budgam

GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE, BUDGAM
Application Form
Application Form for Course:
PARTICULARS OF STUDENT
1. Full Name (Block Letters) (As per Matric Certificate)
2. Father's Name (Block Letters) (As per Matric Certificate)
3. Mother's Name (Block Letters)
4. Date of Birth
5. Permanent Address
6. Block Tehsil
7. Aadhaar No. Mobile No.
8. Religion
9. Category: Gen SC ST OBC
10. Belongs to: Rural Area Urban Area
11. Belongs to: Rural Area Urban Area
12. Previous Qualifications
Examination Year of Passing Name of Univ./ Board Name of School/ College University/ Board Roll No. Total Marks Obtained Max Marks % age of marks Remarks

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs.
(Establishment Section) Civil Secretariat, Srinagar/Jammu

PUBLIC NOTICE
The National Human Rights Commission has decided to hold a Camp Sitting and Open Public Hearing on grievances of the general public regarding alleged violation of human rights in the UT of Jammu & Kashmir from 7th February, 2024 to 9th February, 2024 in Srinagar. Those persons, who have a complaint of alleged violation of human rights by a public servant or of negligence by a public servant in prevention of such violation, may send their complaints to the Commission by Registered Post/Speed Post at the following address or through e-mail at registrar-nhrc@nic.in :
Registrar (Law)
National Human Rights Commission
Manav Adhikar Bhawan, Block C
G.P.O. Complex, I.N.A.
New Delhi - 110 023
Complaints can also be submitted using NHRC portal (www.hrcnet.nic.in) directly or through the nearest Common Service Centre.
The complainants must invariably mention their mobile numbers/e-mail id, etc. in their complaint for facilitating communication with them.
Last date for receipt of complaints in NHRC: 29th January, 2024.
Such complaints, as deemed fit for enquiry, shall be taken up at the Open Public Hearing. The parties shall be informed in due course about the date and venue of Open Public Hearing.

اطلاع نامہ
ہمیں و کشمیر انسانی حقوق کمیشن نے جنوں و کشمیر یو این علاقہ میں انسانی حقوق کی سپید خلاف ورزیوں کے خلاف عوام کی شکایتوں پر کل عام شہنائی کے لئے 7 فروری 2024 سے 9 فروری 2024 تک ایک بجپے کا انعقاد کرنے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے۔
ایسے اشخاص جن کے پاس کسی سرکاری ملازم کے ذریعے انسانی حقوق کی سپید خلاف ورزی یا ایسی خلاف ورزی کو روکنے میں سرکاری ملازم کی کوتاہی کے خلاف کوئی شکایت ہو تو وہ اپنی شکایت کمیشن کو رجسٹرڈ پوسٹ / اسپید پوسٹ کے ذریعے یا بذریعہ ای میل registrar-nhrc@nic.in پر بھیج سکتے ہیں۔
راجسٹر (قانون)
قومی انسانی حقوق کمیشن
مانواؤ جیکر بھون بلاک سی
جی۔ پی۔ او۔ بکس، آئی۔ این۔ اے
نی۔ دہلی۔ 110023
شکایت NHRC پر مل کا استعمال کے (www.hrcnet.nic.in) پر براہ راست بھی بھیج سکتے ہیں یا بذریعہ عام سروس سینٹر سے بھی بھیج سکتے ہیں۔
شکایت کنندگان کو اپنی شکایت میں اپنے موبائل نمبرات / ای میل آئی ڈی وغیرہ ہر صورت میں دیکھنے تاکہ ان کے ساتھ رابطہ کرنے میں سہولت پیدا ہو۔
NHRC میں شکایت موصول کرنے کی آخری تاریخ 29 جنوری 2024۔
ایسی شکایت جو تحقیقات کے لئے مناسب سمجھی جائے، کل عام شہنائی میں ان کی سماعت ہوگی۔ فریقین کو مناسب وقت پر عوامی شہنائی کی تاریخ اور جگہ کے بارے میں مطلع کیا جائے گا۔
Ashish Gupta
Additional Secretary To Govt
DIPK-15417/23
DATED: 19-01-2024

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار ساؤتھ سرتیگر
مضمون: درخواست منجانب رائیہ جان اختر مروجہ داٹا احمد ڈار ساؤتھ سرتیگر اور ای راجا سرتیگر برادر ابراہی لیر سرتیگر بھین والدہ متوفی بیوہ تاجہ سرتیگر 19-11-1980 سہ ماہیہ حفظہ دفتر
اشتیہار برادر آگاہی ہر خاص و عام۔
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سائل ہے کہ سائل کی والدہ متذکرہ بالا متوفی 19-11-1980 کو فوت ہوئی ہے اس نسبت سائل نے منقطع موٹیلی رجسٹرار SMC اینڈ ڈیپارٹمنٹ سے حاصل کر کے تامل عمل کی ہے۔ جس کے مطابق واقعہ سائل کی والدہ سہ ماہیہ حفظہ دفتر مروجہ داٹا احمد ڈار سرتیگر 19-11-1980 کو فوت ہو چکی ہے۔ سائل کی والدہ سہ ماہیہ حفظہ دفتر مروجہ داٹا احمد ڈار سرتیگر 19-11-1980 کو فوت ہو چکی ہے۔ جسے ہر خاص و عام مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ بعد مشتمل اخبار سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنے عذر یا اعتراض وادالت حذ کو دفتر کی اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے میاں کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
تخصیصدار nj

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار ساؤتھ سرتیگر
مضمون: اجرائی آمدنی انحصاری سرتیگر بھین سرتیگر حسین لون برادر بشیر لول و لد غلام حسن لون ساؤتھ سرتیگر چھٹی آمد از چانپوڑم شیر زینبری 28-11-2023 EST/PF-236/DTK/1323
اشتیہار برادر آگاہی ہر خاص و عام۔
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں چھٹی آمد از چانپوڑم شیر زینبری حاصل آگاہی پینڈت تین سائل حسین لون برادر غلام حسن لون ساؤتھ سرتیگر موصول ہوئی ہے کہ سائل اپنے برادر غلام حسن لون جو کہ سرکاری ملازم از دفتر نورم میں کام کرتا تھا اور اس وقت پینڈت تین سے اور سائل اپنے برادر پر ہی منحصر ہے۔ اور وہ کو وہ ملازم فارغ ہو گیا ہے برادر کو بطور مامی (nomiee) مقرر کر کے اسے نسبت سائل کو آگاہی پینڈت سرتیگر حاصل کرنے کے مطلوب ہے راقم نے اس نسبت پنداری سے رپورٹ طلب کی جس کے مطابق واقعی سائل اپنے برادر پر ہی منحصر ہے سائل کے رقم پینڈت راقم دفتر میں زیر کار ہوئی ہے قلمبند کاروائی اس میں آئی جاتے ہر خاص و عام مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ بعد مشتمل اخبار سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنے عذر یا اعتراض وادالت حذ کو دفتر کی اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے میاں کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
تخصیصدار nj

از عدالت ایجوکیشنل مجسٹریٹ درجہ اول نارہ مل ضلع بڈگام
عنوان: درخواست منجانب ارشاد احمد ڈار ولد عبدل عزیز ڈار ساؤتھ سرتیگر تحصیل نارہ مل ضلع بڈگام برادر عطائی اجرائی یوم پیدائش سند بحق دختران اشتیہار برادر آگاہی ہر خاص و عام
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں دفتر بڈگام ایک درخواست باہت حصول تاریخ پیدائش سرتیگر موصول ہوئی ہیں۔ سائل یوم پیدائش سند حاصل کرنے کا خواہ ہے۔ سائل اس سائل کو کوئی کرنا کرتا ہے کہ ڈھار شاد و فقہاء ارشاد دختران ارشاد احمد ڈار ساؤتھ سرتیگر کی تاریخ پیدائش 20-08-2010 | 20-08-2010 ہے اس نسبت ہر خاص و عام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ یوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔ میاں گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
نائب تحصیلدار کنز bmg

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار ساؤتھ سرتیگر
مضمون: درخواست منجانب مدثر احمد بٹ ولد مروجہ غلام نبی بٹ ساؤتھ سرتیگر برادر ابراہی لیر سرتیگر بھین والدہ سہ ماہیہ حفظہ دفتر
اشتیہار برادر آگاہی ہر خاص و عام۔
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سائل ہے کہ سائل کی والدہ سہ ماہیہ حفظہ دفتر مروجہ غلام نبی بٹ ساؤتھ سرتیگر موصول ہوئی ہے کہ سائل اپنے شادی شدہ بیوہ وار بوقت فوتگی متوفی نے بڈیل پیمانگان چھوڑے ہیں۔
سائل نے دفتر مروجہ غلام نبی بٹ 39 سال گھریلو شادی شدہ دختر متوفی مدثر احمد بٹ ولد مروجہ غلام نبی بٹ 25 سال بیکار بہر متوفی نارہ دختر مروجہ غلام نبی بٹ 34 سال ناتوان یا شادی شدہ دختر متوفی اس کے علاوہ کوئی افراد نہیں ہیں۔ سرتیگر کے ذریعہ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ بعد مشتمل اخبار سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنے عذر یا اعتراض وادالت حذ کو دفتر کی اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے میاں کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
تخصیصدار njr



Ensure Time Bound Completion Of Prestigious Projects In Srinagar: DC Direct Officers

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Deputy Commissioner (DC), Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat Friday directed the executing agencies to accelerate the pace of work and complete the prestigious project in the set timeline of April 2024.

DC undertook a tour of various City areas to inspect and oversee the progress of works being executed on construction of Flyovers at Bemina Junction, Sanant Nagar Chowk and Nowgam crossing.

The Deputy Commissioner accompanied by the Officers and Engineers of the line Departments and inspected the pace and progress of ongoing work on construction of flyover at the busy junction of Bemina being executed at a cost of Rs 31.49 crore by PWD.

The DC was informed that over 90 percent of works have been completed with an expenditure of Rs 25.0 crore and works on approach road from

Parimpora stretch is in its final stage.

Similarly, the DC also inspected progress on the Rs 29.52 crore project of Sanat Nagar Flyover and took stock of the pace of the works. The DC was informed that about 35 percent of the project work stands completed with the expenditure of Rs 6.25 crore.

Later, the DC visited Nowgam Chowk to oversee the progress of work on the 0.85 km span flyover, being carried out at a cost of Rs 39.0 crore.

On the occasion, the DC was apprised that over 80 percent of work has been completed and remaining work is being executed at an accelerated pace.

The DC stressed the Officers to speed up the pace of the works on all the flyovers by employing more men and machinery to ensure their time bound commissioning. He hoped that by making these flyovers motorable a considerable change in the movement of traffic flow will be seen.

Gupta Assures Enhanced Facilities For Visitors At SPS Museum

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Principal Secretary Culture, Suresh Kumar Gupta, today visited SPS Library M A Road, here and took stock of facilities being extended to the visitors there especially the aspiring student fraternity.

He was accompanied by Director, Archives, Archaeology & Museums, J&K and other officers of the department.

Director, Libraries and Research, Mohammad Rafi, briefed the Principal Secretary about the functioning of various libraries across the UT of J&K.

Principal Secretary inspected the Reading Rooms, Senior Citizen Section and Children's Section of SPS Library. He also inspected the Manuscripts Section of Oriental Research Library and manuscripts preservation section. He impressed upon the concerned officers for ensuring proper preserva-

tion and upkeep of the historic manuscripts.

Director Libraries and Research and Chief Librarian, Oriental Research Library, briefed the Principal Secretary that the SPS library has a rich collection of over 90,000 books on various subjects including civil service examination, JEE and NEET besides having over 5000 manuscripts which have been digitized.

Principal Secretary also interacted with the borrowers and readers of SPS library who demanded latest books for various competitive examinations.

He was briefed about the increasing footfall in the libraries due to availability of quality reading material and enhanced library working hours in central and district libraries. He was also informed about the functioning of the department and various libraries across Kashmir Division.

National Road Safety Month Awareness Campaign Held In Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: As part of the ongoing National Road Safety Month, the Regional Transport Office (RTO) Kashmir continued organizing an impactful awareness campaign in various locations, including Hazratbal Taxi Stand, Green Valley Taxi Stand, Parimpora, and other public places in the district.

This initiative aims to address the pressing issue of road safety and create awareness among drivers, passengers, and pedestrians about the importance of responsible road behavior.

A significant turnout, with taxi/bus drivers/conductors, commuters, and local residents actively participating.

During the awareness program, officials from RTO Kashmir conducted informative sessions, highlighting various road safety measures. The emphasis was placed on the crucial role of defensive driving techniques, wearing seatbelts, following traffic rules.

Participants were encouraged to actively engage in promoting road safety and set an example for others. They also highlighted the significance of respecting pedestrian rights and ensuring their safety on the roads.

The Jammu And Kashmir State Board Of School Education

SUB-OFFICE BANDIPORA

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 10th session Annual Regular 2016 issued by the board of School Education under Below mentioned particulars

Name: Shugufra Gani S/o: Abdul Gani Khan Roll No: 2605293

Year & Session: Annual Regular 2016

Now the candidate has applied for Duplicate Marks Card. Anybody (if) having any objection may file the same before undersigned with (07) Seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides, the original marks card is treated as cancelled.

Sd/ Assistant Secretary Board of School Education Sub Office Bandipora



As cold wave intensified across Kashmir, people warm themselves around a bonfire in Srinagar on Friday amidst persistent dry spell. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Preserving Water Resources a Collective Responsibility: VC LCMA

Observer News Service

Srinagar: There is a critical need to preserve water resources, including lakes, Vice Chancellor, Lakes Conservation and Management Authority (LCMA), Dr Bashir Ahmad Bhat said on Friday.

Preserving water resources, according to Bhat, are a collective responsibility of all responsible citizens. He shed light on various aspects of lakes' conservation, from catchment processes to tackling water scarcity challenges.

"Preservation of all our water resources, including lakes and others, is a crucial step and stakeholders need to be responsible and work accordingly in line with their responsibilities," Dr Bhat said.

He said the conservation of lakes involves various processes like catchment, preservation or different works. Regarding water scarcity, he termed it a serious issue, saying LCMA has a

water budget that needs to be maintained.

"About 70 to 80 percent of the water budget is snow-bound and is supplied by Nalla Tailbal," he informed. "The basic idea is to preserve the water sources for long-term sustenance, and there's a hope that water scarcity won't be a problem," he said.

Responding to a query about climate change and technology for the prevention and preservation of lakes for future generations, the VC LCMA said the head of the lake is maintained, and the outflow channels are regulated.

"In Dal Lake, there's channel management at different places like Nalai Amir Khan, Brar Nambal and other locations, which help maintain water levels," he said.

About prohibited construction in Dal Lake, Dr Bashir said the law is the same for everyone. If there's any violation, people should inform us and we will take action, he urged.



Preserving water resources, according to Bhat, are a collective responsibility of all responsible citizens.

He shed light on various aspects of lakes' conservation, from catchment processes to tackling water scarcity challenges.

Conservation of lakes involves various processes like catchment, preservation or different works.

If there's any violation, people should inform us and we will take action, he urged.

"Regular demolitions have been conducted, with more than 600 demolitions carried out last year. Repair permissions are granted, and if any violations occur, they will be addressed," he assured.

Speaking about the ban on houseboat renovation, the officer said it has a proper mechanism monitored by the court. "Last year, 17 houseboat renovation orders were provided, which were later granted permission by the court," he said.

On the poaching of migratory birds, he said the Wildlife Department handles it, and if any complaints are received, they inform the department and necessary action is taken, according to the law.

Dr Bhat further said the LCMA has started the bio-digester project which is almost complete. "Around 90 percent of the work has been done, and it will be operational soon and will connect all houseboats to sewage lines," he said.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Notice Inviting Tender
 Sr. DEE/TRD/FZR acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders for the works as under. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date **12.02.2024 at 15.00 Hrs.** only Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall not be considered.

Tender No.	Name of work	App Cost (Rs.)	Cost of Tender form (Rs.)	Date & time for submission of tender	Earnest Money # (Rs.)	Completion period	Opening of tender	Website Particulars
524-TRD-FZR-2023-24	TRD work in c/w provision of new washing Line No. 10 at Badgam (BDGM) yard over Firozpur division	1,63,29,558.87p	NIL	Upto 12.02.2024 15:00 Hrs	2,31,700/-	Six (06) Months	12.02.2024 after 15:00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.in

Note:-# Tenderer (s) may please note that offers received without Bid Security either in cash through e-payment gateway or as Bank Guarantee bond from a scheduled commercial bank of India or as mentioned in tender documents (as per Annexure-21) valid for a period of 90 days beyond the bid validity period, will be considered as incomplete & invalid offer and for which contractor shall have no claim on Railway.
No.: 524-TRD-FZR-2023-24 Dated: 19.01.2024
Serving Customers With A Smile 237/2024

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
 AWANTIPORA, KASHMIR.
 Tele: 01933-247954/247955. Website: www.iust.ac.in

ADMISSION NOTIFICATION FOR POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES
 It is notified for information of all concerned that IUST shall admit candidates for Post Graduate Programmes for the Academic Session 2024 based on their performance in the CUET-PG 2024 Test shown against each as mentioned below:

S. No.	Programme (s)	CUET-PG 2024 Test Paper Code	S. No.	Programme (s)	CUET-PG 2024 Test Paper Code
1	M.Sc. Statistics	SCQP27	9	M.A. English Language & Literature	LAQP01
2	Master of Computer Applications - MCA (2-Year)	SCQP09	10	M.A. Economics	COQP10
3	M. Sc. Information Technology	SCQP09	11	M.A. International Relations (P&CS)	HUQP18
4	M.Tech. Food Technology	MTQP06	12	M.A. Journalism & Mass Communication	COQP17
5	M.Sc. Chemistry	SCQP08	13	M.A. Islamic Studies	COQP11
6	M.Sc. Physics	SCQP24	14	Master of Business Administration (MBA)*	COQP12
7	M. A Political Science	HUQP18	15	MBA-International Business (MBA-IB)*	
8	M.A. Arabic Language & Literature	LAQP05			

Candidates who are desirous to seek admission at IUST in any of the above mentioned programmes, need to submit the online application form on <https://pgcuetsamarth.ac.in> to appear in the test conducted by NTA.
 *see the detailed notification available on www.iust.ac.in.

IMPORTANT DATES:
 Last date for submission of Online Application Form through CUET-PG 2024 Website <https://pgcuetsamarth.ac.in/> **24th January, 2024 (upto 11:50 P.M.)**
 No: IUST/DAA-Acad/24/124 Dated: 19-01-2024 **DIPK-NB-5324/23 dated: 19-01-2024** Sd/- Assistant Registrar Academics

Your FINANCIAL
 The Big Trade
Gold, Silver, and Copper
 Irshad Mushtaq

Gold, silver, and copper are three of the most valuable and desirable metals in the world. These metals have been used for centuries as a means of exchange and as a store of value. In recent years, the trading of these metals has become increasingly popular, with the introduction of various financial instruments such as margin trading, futures and options (FNO), and commodity trading.

The Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) is the leading commodity trading exchange in India, where traders can buy and sell a variety of commodities, including gold, silver, and copper. Margin trading allows traders to trade commodities with borrowed money, amplifying their potential profits but also increasing their potential losses. FNO trading allows traders to hedge their positions and take speculative positions in the commodities markets.

In commodity trading, the lot size refers to the standardized quantity in which a particular commodity is traded. For example, one lot of gold on the MCX may be 1 kg, while one lot of silver may be 30 kg. The lot size is important because it determines the minimum quantity of the commodity that can be traded and the margin required.

MCX also offers a mini version of gold, silver, and copper contracts, which have lower lot sizes compared to their regular counterparts. This allows smaller investors to participate in commodity trading with lower capital requirements.

Expiry refers to the date on which the contract for a particular commodity expires. After the expiry date, the contract is settled, and the trader must either take or make delivery of the underlying commodity or close out their position. It is important for traders to be aware of the expiry date of their contracts to avoid any unnecessary complications.

In conclusion, gold, silver, and copper are valuable commodities that can be traded on the MCX using margin trading, FNO, and other financial instruments. The lot size and expiry dates are important factors to consider when trading commodities on the MCX. These commodities offer significant potential for profits but also carry a high level of risk, making it essential for traders to have a thorough understanding of the market and the various trading instruments available.

— Author is NISM qualified, Mutual Fund advisor and distributor having experience of 18 years in financial market.

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

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

PRAYERS
 FAJR 6: 07
 ZUHR 12:42
 ASR 4: 11
 Magrib 5:52
 ISHA 7: 16

HIJRI CALENDAR
 08 Rajab
 1445

Unjust Discontinuation and Delayed Stipends

The Plight of MANF Scholars

Ummar Jamal



Now when the fellowship has already been discontinued, the existing MANF fellows from Kashmir and across the country have to face a lot of difficulties because of the issue of delayed stipend payments and other issues. The supposed monthly stipend has turned into a biannual. The last instalment received by students was in September after a six-month delay, underscoring the growing trend of irregular stipend disbursements

Last year the decision by the Centre to discontinue the Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF), a scholarship aimed at supporting students from minority communities pursuing MPhil and PhD, sparked concerns about the accessibility of higher education for thousands of aspiring scholars from minority communities of India. Launched in 2009 under the UPA regime as a response to the Sachar Committee recommendations, MANF played a crucial role in providing financial assistance to underprivileged students from Buddhists, Christians, Jains, Muslims, Parsis, and Sikhs.

For many students, particularly those from minority religions, MANF served as a lifeline in their pursuit of higher education. The sudden termination of this fellowship, without addressing potential overlaps with other schemes, leaves a significant void in educational opportunities for these individuals.

Now when the fellowship has already been discontinued, the existing MANF fellows from Kashmir and across the country have to face a lot of difficulties because of the issue of delayed stipend payments and other issues. The supposed monthly stipend has turned into a biannual. The last instalment received by students was in September after a six-month delay, underscoring the growing trend of irregular stipend disbursements. Even during the pandemic until 2022, MANF, once a regular fellowship, experienced its longest gap of two months in stipend disbursement.

Scholars have expressed their disappointment over the lack of a promised framework by the Ministry of Minority Affairs to regulate and expedite the stipend disbursement process. This delay jeopardizes the economic independence and dignified life prospects of thousands of minority students, especially girls, who depend on these scholarships to pursue higher education. Number of MANF scholars from Kashmir and across the country are distressed over the delay of payments saying the delay in payments is causing them a lot of vexation. They are not able to meet their daily expenses in absence of the stipends.

Compounding the issue is impending Revision of MANF Scheme fellowship amounts and their alignment with UGC and other fellowship schemes. On June 26, 2023, the Department of Science and Technology (DST) issued Office Memorandum No. DST/PCPM//Z-06/2022, highlight-



ing the need for a revision in research fellowship. Subsequently, higher authorities, including the Ministry of Education, CSIR, UGC, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, and Ministry of Tribal Affairs, acknowledged the importance of adjusting the emoluments of research personnel in the country.

The UGC, under the Ministry of Education, took a proactive step on October 16, 2023, by releasing an official notice to revise fellowship amounts for JRFs and SRFs under its designated schemes. In line with this, the NFOBC Scheme and NFSC Scheme, implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, as well as the NFST Scheme implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, followed suit and revised their fellowship amounts accordingly.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) approved a hike in research fellowships this year. The stipend for JRF has increased from 31,000 to 37,000, and for SRF from 35,000 to 42,000, following persistent demands from students. However, MANF scholars have been left in limbo, without any information or updates on the anticipated hike.

Considering these developments, MANF Scheme fellowship amounts too need to be urgently revised and brought at par with the UGC Scheme and other fellowship programs. The guidelines of the MANF Scheme explicitly state that "the rate of fellowship for JRF and SRF will be at par with the UGC fellowship as amended from time to time." Therefore, aligning MANF Scheme fellowship



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Azad National Fellowship. They emphasize the disparity between MANF and other fellowships such as UGC JRF, NFOBC, and NFSC/ST, highlighting the need for equal treatment in education irrespective of religious affiliations.

The discontinuation of MANF not only affects the current scholars but also raises questions about the inclusivity of educational policies. By providing clarity on potential overlaps with other schemes and expediting stipend disbursements, the government can demonstrate its commitment to fostering equal opportunities for all students, regardless of their religious affiliations.

The discontinuation of Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) has cast a shadow on the inclusive ethos of education in India. The delay in stipend payments further exacerbates the plight of minority scholars, threatening their economic independence and academic pursuits. The withholding of the MANF hike underscores the urgency for parity with other fellowship programs. If the government is not ready to reinstate MANF, at least they should ensure timely disbursement of stipends and hike stipends of MANF scholars in line with revised schemes.

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

Author is a Kashmir based columnist. He tweets at ummar_jamal and can be reached at ummarjamal968@gmail.com

The online gaming industry in India has seen remarkable growth in recent years, having clocked a CAGR of 28% to a value of over Rs 16,000 crore in FY23. It is expected to cross Rs 33,000 by FY28, with a CAGR of 15%. The industry has been a major contributor to job creation, technological innovation, and foreign investments, having attracted close to Rs 23,000 crore in funding over the last five years.

Despite the huge potential the industry offers, some concerns around the prospect of illegal offshore betting operators masquerading as legitimate online games and the potential for money laundering in the sector have come to the fore. Further, while there is no real evidence or data to corroborate concerns around addiction, there is a perception and apprehension around it.

However, the gaming industry possesses a unique advantage as it can actively harness technology to combat concerns around excessive gameplay as well as mitigate concerns about money laundering. The desired outcome can be achieved more effectively and quicker if the trinity of industry, government, and society at large work in collaboration towards building a thriving and responsible gaming industry.

The gaming industry plays a fundamental role in ensuring a safe gaming environment for all. Many companies have taken a proactive approach towards promoting and implementing responsible gaming practices by adopting the Voluntary Code of Ethics for Online Gaming Intermediaries. Further, account verification should be carried out by employing stringent KYC protocols to verify age and identity. Geolocation can be used to confirm whether a user is where they claim to be.

Gaming Responsibly

Nilaya Varma,

Apart from this, continuous monitoring of various aspects of gameplay should be carried out even post-verification to flag suspicious accounts. Companies can build tools to identify at-risk players and should provide them with counselling support. Options to limit the amount of money and time players can spend on, should also be made available to users. Innovative approaches such as detox periods and stopping marketing messages to vulnerable players can also be adopted.

Providing resources for a better understanding for users, their parents/caregivers (if the player is a young adult), lawmakers, policymakers, and the healthcare and mental health community should be a priority. Information on self-help tools, telephone hotlines, and mental health advisory services should be prominently posted and readily available on gaming platforms. Moreover, building a central repository of legitimate online gaming websites/apps can help consumers recognise safe and trusted online gaming sites. Collaborating with third-party service providers that specialise in fraud protection, anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing also becomes crucial.

Designing a regulatory framework that acknowledges the economic potential of the online

gaming sector while keeping consumers at its centre is the fine balance the government must strive to achieve. Some aspects to keep in mind while framing such a policy could include having a rational tax policy that does not render a sunrise industry financially unviable due to an unreasonable tax burden. The government should adopt a progressive approach to regulation and taxation.

Other aspects to keep in mind can include making regular monitoring mandatory, especially concerning vulnerable groups. Such at-risk groups must be identified and provided centralised assistance or counselling options. Moreover, the Centre can work with state IT departments for capacity-building-cum-awareness sessions for government officials on the various nuances—potential and scope, challenges, and lacunas, etc. of online gaming.

Further, continuous research on the impact of excessive gameplay on health and behaviour should be carried out to incorporate any further preventative measures needed. CSCs can act as important touchpoints across different cities and towns for generating awareness around the broader topic of using digital tools responsibly, of which online gaming should also be a part.

Apart from efforts from the industry and government, responsible online gaming involves maintaining a healthy balance between enjoyment and mindful behaviour. With the right usage, online gaming can help hone vital skills such as critical thinking, strategic planning, collaboration, and adaptability. Through workshops and masterclasses organised by schools and colleges, parents and young adults can be apprised of its various advantages, potential pitfalls, and ways to ensure one's safety online.

Further, students and young players should be apprised of the possible health and socioeconomic ill effects of overindulging in online gaming and should be encouraged to reach out and seek professional help if they feel overwhelmed or lost at any point of time in the online space. Teachers and parents can play a vital role in promoting a holistic approach to life, emphasising the importance of physical activity, social interactions, and diverse interests.

Given the significant potential of the sunrise sector to contribute to the economy, the onus of helping promote responsible gaming becomes a shared responsibility of all stakeholders including the industry, government, and society. To ensure sustainable growth of the industry, a wider stakeholder commitment is the need of the hour to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for consumers and to sustain the benefits the gaming industry provides to the economy.

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

The Riveting Rainier Meadow

Riyaz Kazmi

We have been under the weather due to drastic climate changes lately. It seems as if the gloom has descended from the skies. It shouldn't beat us why this is happening. The protracted dry spell is the outrageous outcome of our aberrated behaviors and sadistic pleasure that we derive by playing foul with nature. It is eventually going to cost us big and result in the crisis deepening. The grim scenario is going to affect every walk of life and livelihood. Our ecology, agriculture and tourism will not be spared or saved due to the insidious impact of underlying factors. It is poignant and painful to witness such a sad state of affairs and sombre scenes.

After the hard fought battle of Covid-19, we had been luckiest to have survived the toughest times. We didn't have to bear its brunt unlike others. Notably, Kashmir became a haven for tourists which led to an unprecedented surge in footfalls. It became an opportune time for tour operators and other stakeholders to capitalize and encash the opportunity. There was a windfall in earnings as well in eminence due to the Tourism bloom in the valley. There seemed no looking back. Infrastructure expansions and exhibitions for promoting tourism in Kashmir are still in full swing but the snowless winter of 2024 has almost led everything to a grinding halt and has cast a dark shadow over the future.

Unplanned urbanization, enormous emission of harmful gases and dreadful deforestation are one of the many man made creations that are creating havoc. Can we justify and glorify the rapid progress we are making at the cost of nature? Calamities and dire consequences are going to hover over unless we mend



our ways. We learn our lessons. We seek respite and beseech for the infinite mercies of Almighty to bring end to these discomfiting trends and tensions.

In the ravishing and rugged realms of nature, we are rigorously tested and souls richly nourished to discover and transform us into more calmer, wiser, resilient and responsible human beings. Seriously and sincerely, if we are determined to play our pivotal role, the different elements of nature will eventually find their right course. We have to take a step in the right direction and fix our responsibilities.

The nature/adventure lovers are the right people who can understand and judge what it means when there is a quick receding of glaciers. When the gurgling of meandering streams vanish in thick air. When defor-

estation becomes the order of the day. When there will be no more snow covered winter wonderlands. The naked landscapes are staring at us and stirring up the qualms of our conscience to reflect on our wrongdoings. Deep down our heart- there is still a hope. Hope for mercy. Hope for a better tomorrow. Hope for the swathes of snowfall. Hope to see HIS scenic marvels which we would never stop to explore.

Keeping that firmly in mind we embraced the unknown and embarked on yet another remarkable journey to the mesmerizing meadow of Rainier located at an Elevation of 3240 Mts in the vast and varied landscape of Hirapora Shopian. This bewitching meadow is famously known as Switzerland of Kashmir. It is the 2nd largest meadow after Tosamaidan. It was a collabora-

Unplanned urbanization, enormous emission of harmful gases and dreadful deforestation are one of the many man made creations that are creating havoc. Can we justify and glorify the rapid progress we are making at the cost of nature? Calamities and dire consequences are going to hover over unless we mend our ways

tion trek between 'Badamwari Athletes' and All Jammu Kashmir Mountaineering Foundation (AJKMF). The enthusiastic trekkers from different parts of the valley participated in this trek. They were eagerly waiting for it to seek a refuge from the rarely seen and felt winter worries.

On a crispy cold morning of 14th January 2024, we started the trek at around 10 AM. We took a steep route from Pattan Dubjan and traversed through the dense forest of Maandi. We had a tea break at Rainier Base where we cherished ample time and shared countless past memories. The Elevation gain was 1052 m. The best part of this trek was that we witnessed swathes of snow covered slopes. It was an out of the world experience. The Mighty Kolohai Peak, Harmukh Peak and Brahmasakli were looking very

profound and conspicuous. The scintillating Topi peak was just a half an hour trek away wherein at its adjacent lies serene Sunder Top. The route to Dakhyar Shopian can be also taken from here. It was icing on the cake to see and feel the snow as the harshest day spell has even rendered the world famous Gulmarg snowless and ski-less destination.

Another highlight of the day was snowboarding by Syed Yawar Abass who took pains to teach others and let them enjoy the real thrill. We had our time on the glittering steep slopes. The panoramic view of the snow covered peaks and meadows gave a heavenly feel to see such grandeur and glory of Nature. We captured these lifetime memories in pictures and videos. We had a snow slides and sumptuous lunch to make our day even more memorable and meaningful.

With a heavy heart, we left this piece of paradise and took the risky route of Kaandi. Although we walked very gingerly otherwise the frozen stream and frozen sidelines could never be trusted. The slippery surfaces are highly accident prone areas. The lessons we learnt after a few members hit a patch of ice and went into a skid are:

Never take a risk which can put your life at stake or the damage of injury is irreparable. Always prefer to wear helmets. Use ropes and crampons. Don't be in a hurry and negotiate icy patches or places with utmost care and cooperation of others. Always take the safest route even if it's a lengthy one.

The well spent and great learning day with around 10Kms to and fro trek distance came to an end on a very high note at Gonaed where all the participants returned safely.

The writer is a founding member of 'Badamwari Athletes' club

The Paradox Of Ignorance And The Quest For Knowledge

Aubaid Ahmad Akhoo

Ignorance, often deemed bliss, is a sentiment we've all encountered in our lives. The idea that being unaware of certain truths can provide a sense of contentment and happiness is intriguing. However, as the veil of ignorance lifts and reality dawns, we may grapple with profound regret for the pleasures derived from ignorance.

THE PLEASURES OF IGNORANCE

In the embrace of ignorance, we often find comfort. It shields us from the harshness of reality, the weight of responsibility, and the burden of knowledge. Ignorance becomes a sanctuary where we indulge in simple pleasures, free from the complexities of the world. This blissful state allows us to live in the moment, without dwelling on the past or worrying about the future.

THE PAINFUL AWAKENING

However, reality cannot be ignored forever. The awakening can be triggered by various life events – the stark truth about a relationship, a profound realization about one's health, or a sudden understanding of societal injustices. This awakening can be a rude shock, shattering the comforting cocoon of ignorance.

THE REGRET OF LOST BLISS

As reality dawns, the initial pleasure of ignorance can turn into deep regret. Regret for not having acted sooner, for not making better choices, and for squandering precious time in blissful ignorance. It's a regret that can linger, casting a shadow over our lives.

THE POWER OF KNOWLEDGE

Yet, it's important to acknowledge that ignorance is not a sustainable or healthy way to live. Knowledge, even when painful, empowers us to make informed decisions and inspires change. While awakening may bring



regret, it also brings the opportunity for growth, meaning, and purpose in our lives.

ISLAM AND THE PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE

In Islamic thought, the pursuit of knowledge is highly valued. The first word revealed to the Holy Prophet was a revelation of the Holy Qur'an was "Iqra," which translates to "read in the name of the Lord." This was a call to the believers, the Muslims, to seek knowledge and remove darkness from their lives and the lives of others. Yet, as history has shown, not all Muslims responded positively to this call.

Hairat hain ki taileem wa tarakee mai hain peechay, jis kaum ka agaz hai iqra se huwa tha "Alama Iqbal" "Allama Iqbal, the famous revolu-

tionary poet, used his poetry to inspire Muslims towards education. In one of his poems, he expressed surprise at the lack of progress in education and civilization among the Muslim community, despite the fact that their journey towards knowledge and enlightenment began with the word 'Iqra' (Read!). He was trying to encourage Muslims to rediscover their love for learning and to strive towards greater educational and cultural achievements."

Instead, some chose to ignore the message and remain in the dark, listening to the "Kathas" and "Dastans" of others, including anti-Islam non-Muslim propagandists, ignorant Muslim preachers, politicians, writers, and culturalists.

THE ROLE OF KNOWLEDGE IN ISLAM

Islamic tradition emphasizes that understanding the implications of rulings, like those found in the Qur'an and hadith, requires deep knowledge. Scholars dedicate years to studying the Qur'an and hadith to establish principles for understanding the shari'ah (Islamic law).

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF LAYPERSONS

For those who are not scholars, seeking knowledge is encouraged. When faced with complex questions related to Islam, it's essential to consult reputable scholars. The Quran instructs believers to "ask the people of knowledge if you do not know" (Surah Al-Anbiya: vs. 7).

Some research is required to ensure the credibility of the scholar you consult.

The paradox of ignorance and knowledge is a complex facet of the human experience. It underscores the value of knowledge and the importance of living intentionally, even if it means confronting uncomfortable truths. While the transition from blissful ignorance to the reality of life can be painful, it can also be transformative and ultimately lead to a more fulfilling existence. In the end, wisdom often outweighs the fleeting pleasures of ignorance.

EMBRACING KNOWLEDGE

Embracing knowledge is a fundamental aspect of personal growth,

and our ability to navigate the complexities of the world. Here are some key points to consider:

EMPOWERMENT: Knowledge empowers individuals to make informed decisions and take control of their lives.

CRITICAL THINKING: Knowledge fosters critical thinking, enabling the evaluation of information and the avoidance of bias.

PERSONAL GROWTH: Learning leads to personal growth and a sense of accomplishment.

ADAPTATION: Knowledge allows for adaptability in a rapidly changing world.

PROBLEM SOLVING: Knowledge equips individuals with problem-solving skills.

INFORMED DECISION-MAKING: Informed choices are crucial in health, finances, and relationships.

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS: Knowledge enhances the ability to connect with others and fosters empathy.

INSPIRATION: Learning from the achievements of others can spark creativity and motivation.

LIFELONG LEARNING: Commitment to lifelong learning keeps individuals engaged and curious.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY: Informed individuals are more likely to engage in civic life and contribute to society's betterment.

In summary, embracing knowledge is not just about accumulating facts and information but adopting a mindset that values learning, curiosity, and the pursuit of wisdom. It leads to personal fulfillment, improved decision-making, and a more enriched, purposeful life. So, the next time someone asks a challenging question related to Islam, strive to consult reputable scholars, or if you don't know, don't hesitate to say, "I don't know."

The author is a Columnist and Associate Editor of the Weekly Publication 'Education Quill.'

DGP Sanctions Welfare Relief In Favor Of 56 Retired Policemen

KO NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Recognizing the importance of providing support and assistance to retired police personnel and martyred Police personnel/SPOs under J&K Police's well organized and comprehensive welfare schemes, the Director General of Police, J&K R. R. Swain has sanctioned an amount of Rupees around 26 lakh as welfare relief in favour of 56 retired police personnel and 31 NoKs of martyrs Police personnel/SPOs as to assist them financially. The amount has been sanctioned under two different orders issued by Police headquarters.

Under an order, Rupees 10.65 lakh has been sanctioned in favour of 35 retired J&K Police personnel for their self treatment or for the treatment of

their dependents and Rupees 2.20 lakh has been sanctioned in favour of 07 retired police officials to ease up their financial distress.

Under the similar order, Rupees 3.15 lakh has been sanctioned in favour of 14 retired police personnel to aid in the marriage expenses of their sons and daughters.

Under another order, The DGP has sanctioned Rupees around 10 lakh in favour of 31 NoK of martyred Police personnel and SPOs to ease up their financial distress. It is worth noting that the welfare relief offered is non-refundable.

For SPOs, welfare relief is allocated out of J&K Police Pariwar Fund and for retired Police official, the fund is allocated out of retired Policemen Welfare fund.

Health Department Establishes Panel to Review Hospital Equipment

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The Health and Medical Education Department has constituted a committee to review essential equipment as may be required in all hospitals in J&K.

"Sanction is hereby accorded to the constitution of a committee to furnish the recommendations for notifying Essential Equipment List (EEL) of Health and Medical Education Department," reads an order.

As per order, Principal, Government Medical College Srinagar/Jammu and Director Health Services Kashmir/Jammu will be members of the committee while Managing Director, J&K Medical Supplies Corporation Ltd will be convenor of the committee.

"The Committee may co-opt



any other member / HoD of the specialties which are equipment intensive like Anesthesiology, Radiology etc. so as to finalize the EEL," it reads.

"The committee shall furnish a detailed report with specific

recommendations regarding the list of essential equipment as may be required in all the hospitals of J&K including the medical college hospitals within 20 days from the issuance of the order," it added.

CUK'S EC Meeting In New Delhi Approves Key Initiatives And Policies



KO NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI: The 29th meeting of the Executive Council (EC) of the Central University of Kashmir (CUK) was held in New Delhi with Vice-Chancellor, Prof. A Ravinder Nath in the chair.

The meeting was attended by members including, Dr. Ravi Shankar Rai, Special Secretary to the Govt. (J&K) Higher Education Department, Mr. Mriganka Sekhar Sarma, from University Grants Commission (UGC), Prof. Ajay Kumar Singh, Department of Commerce, Delhi School of Economics, Prof. Vandana Mishra, Professor, School of International Studies, JNU, Prof. Shahid Rasool, Dean Academic Affairs, Prof. Abdul Gani, Head Department of Management Studies and Dean School of Languages, and Prof. M Afzal Zargar Registrar, (secretary of EC).

Addressing the EC members, Prof. A Ravinder Nath, gave an

overview about the working of the university and informed the members about numerous measures and steps taken to further improve upon the administrative, academics, and research ecosystem of the university. He referred to the progress made in the recent past. Prof. A Ravinder Nath, during the interaction provided an overview on campus development (constructions) and informed the members that the executing agencies have been strictly told to complete the works within the stipulated time frame.

The Executive Council approved the revised Masterplan and the DPR for Construction of buildings under Phase-1 which was earlier recommended by the University Building Committee (UBC) and the Finance Committee. Besides, other construction work as approved by the UBC, FC and other bodies were also approved.

SEBI Chair Launches CDSL's Multi-Lingual Business Initiatives for Investors

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: In celebration of its silver jubilee year, Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL), Asia's first listed depository, proudly announces the launch of two unique multi-lingual initiatives to signify its commitment to inclusivity and accessibility in the capital market landscape.

These initiatives were launched by SEBI Chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch at the silver jubilee function held on 17 January 2024.

Empowering inclusion with Multi-Lingual CAS: CDSL introduces a revolutionary upgrade in investor CAS, enabling investors to receive their statements in their preferred language amongst 23 diverse Indian languages. This 'Apka CAS - Apki Zubaani' initiative is a testament to easier accessibility, offering investors a consolidated view of their securities held in demat account in a language of their choice.

Breaking communication



barriers with 'CDSL Buddy Sahayta 24*7' Chatbot: A unique multi-lingual chatbot on CDSL website, 'CDSL Buddy Sahayta 24*7,' aims to simplify investors' journeys toward 'Atmanirbharta' or self-sufficiency. By offering support in currently four languages to begin with, the chatbot becomes a constant companion, providing round-the-clock assistance to investors navigating through the nuances of our securities markets.

CDSL's on-going efforts to deepen the market awareness in the areas of cybersecurity and financial literacy were also showcased with -

Unveiling of Thought Leadership Report on 'Reimagine Digital Trust in Capital Markets': The report, prepared in

collaboration with knowledge partners KPMG, is a culmination of key takeaways from CDSL's Cyber Security Symposium held recently and it underpins a significant stride in understanding digital trust, global financial interconnectiveness, and resilience against emerging cyber threats.

Successful completion of 'Neev' - A 25 city Pan-India Financial Literacy Campaign: As part of its 25th-anniversary celebrations, CDSL successfully concluded the 'Neev' campaign, spreading financial literacy across 25 cities. Touching lives in diverse communities, including armed forces and rural areas, this initiative embodies the commitment to spread financial literacy awareness across breadth and depth of the country.

Speaking on the silver jubilee event, Nehal Vora, MD & CEO said, "As we celebrate 25 years of our incredible journey, it is our distinct honor to witness the SEBI Chairperson launch CDSL's pivotal initiatives.

DC B'la Conducts Extensive Tour Of Border Villages Of Uri

KO NEWS SERVICE

BARAMULLA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, accompanied by various District Officers on Friday conducted an extensive tour of border villages of Sub Division Uri of district Baramulla to take first hand appraisal of administrative initiatives and grievances pertaining to the region.

Minga Sherpa visited the Dachi area of Uri, a remote village where four residential houses were gutted in a devastating fire incident on the intervening night of 17th and 18th Jan.

The DC took a comprehensive assessment of the damages caused by the fire incident and expressed sympathy on behalf of the District Administration while assuring them every kind of possible support for their rehabilitation.

Minga Sherpa, in addition, instructed the concerned officers to address the matter concerning the road leading to Dachi

village for proper accessibility which could help in providing assistance in quick time in case of any emergencies.

He also assured the villagers that their concern regarding unavailability of fire tender in the area would be taken up with the fire department to help in any firefighting efforts in future.

Further, the DC visited Shadra Ziayat, Uri where he engaged with the locals who presented their demands ranging from proper wash-room facilities for the visiting devotees at the Dargah and also demands for sufficient staff at High School Shadra. He assured them that their demands will be taken up with the relevant departments for redressal.

The DC also visited other border villages including Dhani, Udoosa and others where he interacted with the delegations, listened to their demands and affirmed them of district administrations resolve to address their issues.

DC Bandipora Inaugurates Hi-Tech Walnut Nursery

KO NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Shakeel Ur Rehman Rather on Friday visited Sumbal subdivision to review the functioning of various horticulture units established under various developmental schemes viz. CAPEX, HADP, HDP and MIDH.

During the visit, the DC inspected various cultivation structures, including Hi-Tech poly house, High tech Nurseries, Mother Blocks and other initiatives taken under various developmental schemes of Horticulture Development.

Rather took stock of the process of production of quality fruit plants of different fruit crops and their further distribution among the farming community and realization of the revenue.

Chief Horticulture Officer Bandipora briefed the DC about the initiatives taken under various schemes in the

district. The DC also inaugurated Hi-tech walnut Nursery established under CAPEX at Rakhi Asham.

CHO informed that Hi-tech walnut nursery has been established on 05 kanals of land with a project cost of 15 lac, for which 7.5 lac were provided by the department as assistance.

The DC, on the occasion, lauded the owner of a high-tech walnut nursery for taking benefit of Govt. Sponsored scheme.

Rather also visited Modified High Density Plantation at Shilvat and Asham.

It was informed that High Density plantation at Shilvat has been established on 15 kanals of land with project cost around 29 lacs for which 14.85 lac has been provided by department as assistance and High Density Plantation at Asham has been established on 08 kanals of land with project cost Rs. 15.84 lac and assistance of Rs. 7.92 lac.

NC Denounces Power Curtailment Schedule By 2 To 2.5 Hours

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Provincial President, Kashmir Nasir Aslam Wani on Friday said the increase in power curtailment by 2 to 2.5 hours has highlighted the agony levels of consumers across Kashmir division.

Echoing the sentiments of people, Nasir said that outages have

reached new extremes over the past few months. "The move will increase the ongoing winter torments of people. Responsibility has to be fixed. Govt cannot get away with its carelessness. Why did the government let the alarm about dip in water discharge in dams go unheard and didn't prepare a proposal to purchase from the Northern Grid?" he said.

Accusing the government of failing to tackle the power crises, Nasir said, "Unscheduled power cuts & prolonged outages in the Kashmir Valley have reached an alarming level, causing widespread disruptions. The lack of consistent electricity supply has led to significant losses in multiple sectors, impacting businesses, education, healthcare, and overall quality of life."

Government of Jammu and Kashmir J&K POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE

Winter Office: November-April Parivesh Bhawan, Gladini, Transport Nagar. Narwal Jammu-180006 Ph./fax. 191-2476925
Summer office: May-October Sheikh-ul-Alam campus. Behind Govt. Silk factory, Rajbagh, Srinagar (J&K) 190008
Ph./Fax.0134-2311165 | mail:membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

KIND ATTENTION ALL BRICK KILN OWNERS, J&K

The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India vide Notification GSR 143 (E) Dt. 22nd February 2022 read with Notification GSR 895 (E) dated 15th December 2023, has prescribed the following environmental standards for operation of brick kilns under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986:

Particulate matter in stack emission	250 mg/Nm ³
Minimum stack height (other than Vertical Shaft Brick Kiln)	
▶ Kiln capacity less than 30,000 bricks per day	24 m
▶ Kiln capacity 30,000 bricks per day or more	27m
Minimum stack height (Vertical Shaft Brick Kiln)	
▶ Kiln capacity less than 30,000 bricks per day	14m (at least 7.5 m from loading platform)
▶ Kiln capacity 30,000 bricks per day or more	16m (at least 8.5 m from loading platform)

New brick kilns shall be allowed only with zig-zag technology or vertical shaft or use of piped Natural Gas as fuel in brick making. Existing brick kilns located within 10 km of non-attainment city boundary (Jammu and Srinagar Municipal Corporation area) must convert to Zig-zag technology/ Vertical shaft technology/ piped natural gas by or before 23 February 2024. In the rest of the UT of J&K, existing brick kilns must convert to Zig-zag technology/ Vertical shaft technology/ piped natural gas by or before 23 February 2025.

For further details regarding environmental standards pertaining to Brick Kilns, please visit the website of J&K PCC <https://jkpc.nic.in> under Standards > Industry Specific > Brick Kiln.

Further, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in OA No 594/2022 titled "Syed Riyaz V/s UT of J&K and Others" in its order dated 04.01.2024 has, inter alia, issued the following directions:

"7. All the concerned District Magistrates and the superintendents of police in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir are directed to ensure that no brick kiln is set up and operated without obtaining CTE/CTO from JK PCC and without due compliance with environmental norms." Accordingly, all Brick Kiln owners are advised to adhere to the environmental standards for operation of brick kilns under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, and the directions of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in the matter.

Violation of prescribed norms is punishable under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environmental (Protection) Act 1986.

Issued in public interest by
Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee

DIPK-NB-5314-23
DT: 19/01/2024



Government of Jammu and Kashmir SCHOOL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT CIVIL SECRETARIAT, J&K.

Dr. Samina Yaqoob,
Senior Lecturer, Islamic Studies,
BHSS, Zadibal, Srinagar.

Subject: Final Notice,
No: Edu-Lect/124/2022-01

Dated: 15.01.2024

Whereas, you had applied for 15 days Child Care Leave w.e.f 25.04.2022 for the treatment of your child and the leave was sanctioned in your favour w.e.f 25.04.2022 to 08.05.2022 by the concerned DDO;

Whereas, you had to resume your duties after availing 15 days CCL on 09.05.2022, but failed to resume your duties till date and your whereabouts are un-known;

Whereas, show cause notices dated: 14.05.2022, 08.08.2022, and 20.08.2022 were served upon you by the Principal, BHSS Zadibal, Srinagar and final notice 15.12.2022 has been served upon you by the Administrative Department;

Whereas, your case for un-authorized absence has been forwarded to the Administrative Department by the Director, School Education Kashmir vide letter No. DSEK/Estt-I/E-181664/3216 dated: 28.10.2022, whereunder, it has been intimated that in response to 3rd show cause notice served upon you on 20.08.2022, you had informed that you are busy in processing your admission at the University of Manitoba Canada in August, 2022 for pursuing M.Ed, course.

Whereas, it has also been intimated by the Director, School Education, Kashmir vide above quoted letter that you are habitual of proceeding outside country on your own will and without seeking departmental permission and;

Whereas, you left the country at your own will and without getting prior permission to leave the station from the competent authority, which shows that your conduct is irresponsible and lacking in devotion towards duties.

Whereas, in response to the final notice dated 15.12.2022 you have submitted your response and the same has been examined in the department and the case was placed before the Committee meant for Unauthorized absence on 12.09.2023 and the Committee decided to serve final notice to you as to why your services shall not be terminated in view of prolonged un-authorized absence from the legitimate duties.

Therefore, you are afforded a final opportunity as to why your services shall not be terminated in view of prolonged un-authorized absence from the legitimate duties, as you have, left the station and pursuing higher studies outside the country without seeking prior permission from the Competent authority. The response in the matter should reach the Administrative Department within a period of 15 days from the date of issuance of this final notice, failing which, it shall be presumed that you have nothing to say in this regard and termination process of your service shall be initiated accordingly.

(Neha Bakshi) JKAS

Under Secretary to the Government
School Education Department

DIPK-15438-23
DT: 19/01/2024

India Start Under-19 World Cup Against Bangladesh Today

Press Trust of India

BLOEMFONTEIN: The most successful team in the Under-19 World Cup history, defending champions India will embark on a quest to add another trophy to their collection when a fresh bunch led by Uday Saharan takes on Bangladesh in their tournament-opener here on Saturday.

Placed in Group A, the five-time winners will begin their campaign against the Asian rivals here at the Manguang Oval before they head into the other group fixtures against Ireland and the USA.

Having won their first trophy in 2002 under Mohammad Kaif, Indian teams have since gone on to win the U-19 World Cup in 2008, 2012, 2018 and 2022.

The event, which was moved from Sri Lanka to South Africa in a late adjustment by the ICC, features four groups of as many teams each.

The top three teams in each group will qualify for the Super Sixes, followed by the semifinals on February 6 and 8 with the final to be played at Benoni on February 11.

With prodigious talent in Maharashtra all-rounder Arshin



Kulkarni, wicketkeeper-batter Aravelly Avanish, left-arm spinner and vice-captain Saumy Kumar Pandey and Saharan, India will feel they have adequate arsenal to go the distance.

Among these players, Kulkarni (Lucknow Supergiants) and Avinash (Chennai Super Kings) have already landed IPL deals and will be keen to make their mark on the

biggest stage before they graduate to top-flight cricket.

Among bowlers, each of Aaradhya Shukla, Pandey and Kulkarni were among the top wicket-takers in the U-19 Challenger Trophy before the Indian team made its way to South Africa.

The team's form also favours India with this bunch winning each of their four matches in the U-19

tri-nation series in South Africa. The final against the hosts was washed out.

But India will also guard against complacency against Bangladesh having lost the U-19 Asia Cup semifinal in a largely one-sided contest in December. The team defeated Australia in its final warm-up game.

Time: 1:30pm IST.



J&K's Rohit Sharma Takes 5 Against Odisha In Ranji Trophy

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: J&K senior men's cricket team bounced back on Friday against Odisha on Day 1 of the Ranji Trophy match being played at DRIEMS Ground in Tangi, Cuttack. After two straight home draws to kick start their 2024 Ranji campaign, the J&K pacers set the tone as the home side was bundled out for 130 after 47.2 overs. Govinda Poddar 55 (62) top scored for Odisha. For J&K, medium-pacer Rohit Sharma returned impressive figures of 5/12.

Team India pace sensation Umran Malik took two wickets while pacer Umar Nazir Mir also took two.

In reply, J&K batters were reeling at 45/4 in 18 overs, still trailing by 85 runs at stumps. Skipper Shubham Khajuria made 24 (30), and alongside Vivrant Sharma 14 (33) had taken the visitors to 39 for no loss. However, the team lost both its openers and then two other batters to go 43/4. Sunil Roul took two wickets for Odisha.

The Day 2 of the four-day Test will be crucial for J&K's

chances in this Ranji Trophy fixture.

BRIEF SCORES:

Odisha: 130/10 in 47.2 overs (Govinda Poddar 55, Rohit Sharma 5/12)

Jammu and Kashmir: 45/4 after 18 overs (Shubham Khajuria 24, Sunil Roul 2/8).

J&K PLAYING XI:

Vivrant Sharma, Shubham Khajuria (C), Abhinav Puri, Shubham Pundir, Abdul Samad, Fazil Rashid (WK), Abid Mushtaq, Aquib Nabi, Rohit Sharma, Umar Nazir Mir, Umran Malik.



PM Modi Declares Open Khelo India Youth Games In Chennai

Press Trust of India

CHENNAI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared open Khelo India Youth Games here on Friday and said the government is striving to host the 2029 Youth Olympics and the 2036 Olympic Games in the country.

Welcoming the participants, the prime minister remarked that they were together "showcasing the true spirit of 'Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat'" and said that for Indian sports, "the Youth Games is a great way to start the new year 2024".

Lighting the traditional torch to

mark the beginning of the games, he said it is estimated that the size of the Indian sports industry in the coming years would touch nearly Rs 1 lakh crore. Tamil Nadu's hospitality "will win your hearts", he said, adding that the Khelo India Games would certainly provide sportspersons with an opportunity to showcase their skills and also help them make new friendships that last a lifetime.

On the occasion, Prime Minister Modi also launched 'DD Tamil', the revamped version of the regional language Doordarshan channel DD Podhigai.

Khelo India Winter Games Could Be Postponed: Reports

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The lack of snowfall in Kashmir Valley could impact the 2024 Khelo India Winter Games, scheduled to begin from February 2 in ski-haven, Gulmarg.

The Winter Games will also be held in Leh, Ladakh. However, with both places devoid of snow, the J&K Sports Council, Youth Services & Sports and Sports Authority of India, will need to make tough decisions.

As per a report in the NewIndian-Express, the sporting event might be deferred till the third week of

February. Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri also chaired a meeting on Friday regarding the games. Although, no official word had come out when this report was filed.

The lack of snow has hit the winter destination of Gulmarg badly, with hotels claiming that 40% of their bookings have been cancelled.

In this fourth edition of the Khelo India Winter Games, Gulmarg will host competitions in Skiing and Snowboarding, while Ice Skating and Ice Hockey events will take place in Ladakh.



Bandipora Cricket Initiative: Final Of 12-12 Tourney Held



Observer News Service

BANDIPORA: The Bandipora Cricket initiatives, The final of the 12-12 cricket tournament, held under the "Bandipora Cricket Initiative", was held on Friday at S.K. Stadium here.

Deputy Commissioner Bandipora Shakeel Ur Rehman Rather was chief guest on the occasion while Padmashree Faisal Ali Dar, ADC Umar Shafi Pandit were guests of honour. Besides, Tehsildar and SHO Bandipora were also present.

The final was played between United Cricket Club Plan and Ha-keem Cricket Club Kunan and was won by United Cricket Club plan.

Raja Saleem was declared as Man of the Tournament, while Adil Za-

hoor was declared as Man of the Match.

The tournament was organised jointly by Ali's Sports Academy and Bandipora Youth Federation under Bandipora Cricket Initiative.

The 12-12 cricket tournament held at S.K. Stadium witnessed participation of 48 teams from across the district.

Speaking on the occasion, DC highlighted the importance of sports for a healthy lifestyle and curbing drug menace.

Padmashree Faisal Ali Dar who is also chairman of Ali's Sports Academy said that the major goal of the 'Bandipora Cricket Initiative' is to promote physical and mental health among youngsters.



Iraq Stun Japan To Seal Asian Cup Last-16 Spot

Agencies

Iraq claimed their first victory over Japan in 42 years when they won their Asian Cup Group D encounter 2-1 on Friday to qualify for the knockout stage thanks to a first-half double from Aymen Hussein.

Japan were unbeaten against the West Asian side in their last nine games and Iraq's victory propelled them to the top of the group standings with six points from two games while Hajime Moriyasu's side have

three points. Roared on by thousands of Iraqi supporters in the stadium, Iraq got on the board inside five minutes when Japan goalkeeper Zion Suzuki failed to deal with a cross, parrying the ball straight to Hussein who headed it into the top corner.

Iraq's strategy to unsettle Japan was to stay compact and use their physicality early on, which worked to an extent until the East Asian side began using their pace and finding space on the wings to put crosses into the box. But Iraq doubled their

lead on the stroke of halftime when Ahmed Al-Hajjaj skipped past his marker and floated in a cross that was headed home from point-blank range by Hussein as the Iraqi fans at the Education City Stadium went delirious.

Moriyasu made five substitutions after the restart and, although Japan had a penalty claim denied after a VAR check, they did not test the keeper until the 94th minute when Wataru Endo headed home at the far post from a corner.

Australian Open: Novak Djokovic Sorms Past Etcheverry



Agencies

MELBOURNE: Top seed Novak Djokovic on Friday with his high-class and all-around display inside Rod Laver Arena eased past Tomas Martin Etcheverry 6-3, 6-3, 7-6(2) in the third round of men's singles event at the Australian Open 2024. It took the top seed and ten-time champion two hours and twenty-eight minutes to win the third set tie-break, breaking some late resistance from Etcheverry.

He did not face a break point dur-

ing the match. This was his 100th Australian Open match. The 24-time Grand Slam champion will face 20th seed Adrian Mannarino at the hard-court major in the fourth round. Mannarino registered a win in five thrilling sets against Ben Shelton to move into the fourth round, 7-6(4) 1-6 6-7(2) 6-3 6-4.

In his previous two rounds in Melbourne, Djokovic had to overcome Dino Prizmic and Alexei Popyrin in four sets and with a lot of perseverance. However, the 36-year-old handled a potentially difficult opponent

the 30th-seeded Etcheverry with ease.

The 24-time Grand Slam champion found constant angles to keep his opponent moving while hitting the ball cleanly from a distance. The Serbian struck with speed and depth that week, focusing especially on Etcheverry's backhand to control rallies. In the first two sets, Djokovic broke three times. To win the third set, he played a remarkably controlled tie-break match. Throughout the match, the Serbian served with accuracy, winning 86 per cent of the games with his opening serve. (ANI)