# KASHMIROBSERVER

Saturday 02 March 2024 | Srinagar | Vol: 27 | Issue: 53 | Pages: 12 | Price: ₹3

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

# **Three-Day Wet Spell Begins** In Kashmir

Fresh Snowfall In Hills, Rains Lash Plains



### **Agencies**

Srinagar: The intermittent light rains lashed plains of Kashmir while the higher reaches witnessed a fresh snowfall on Friday.

The meteorological department has predicted widespread moderate rain or snow over most places of the Union Territory till March 3 with peak activity on March 1 night to March 2 night.

Several parts of Kashmir

including tourist resorts of Gulmarg, Gurez, Sadhna Top, Razdan Pass, Chowkibal Kupwara and Machil received fresh snowfall on Friday. The plains of the valley, including the summer capital Srinagar, were lashed by rains.

Director Meteorological department, Dr Mukhar Ahmad said that widespread moderate rain and snow is expected over most places of J&K till 3rd March (afternoon) with | More on P10

### **National Highway Closed**

he Srinagar-Jammu highway remained closed for vehicular movement on Friday after the fresh wet spell triggered shooting stones in Kishtwar.

"The traffic movement has been stopped at present due to the shooting stones at Kishtwar Pather on Srinagar-Jammu highway," the officials said, and appealed to people to avoid traveling on NH-44 till the weather improves and road is cleared.

# **Lok Sabha Polls**

# No Appeal On Caste, Religion **Basis: EC Warns Parties**

New Delhi: Ahead of the Lok Sabha polls, the Election Commission on Friday asked parties and their leaders to refrain from seeking votes on the basis of caste, religion and language, and not insult the devotee-deity relation or make any suggestion of a divine censure.

In an advisory warning the parties, candidates and star campaigners of stern action for any violation of Model Code of Conduct instead of the previous practice of only 'moral censure', the poll panel also said that temples, mosques, churches, gurdwaras or any

**Press Trust Of India** other place of worship should not be used for poll propaganda or electioneering.

It said that the star campaigners and candidates who have received notices in past will face stern action for repeat violation of model code.

The advisory comes days before the model code is expected to come into effect with the announcement of the Lok Sabha and four state assembly polls later this month, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar had recently emphasised that political parties should foster ethical and respectful political discourse which inspire rather than divide,

# PM To Address Rally At Bakhshi Stadium Srinagar On March 7

**KO Web Desk** 

Srinagar: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to address a massive public rally at Bakhshi Stadium in Srinagar during his Kashmir visit on

Sources said that the venue for the PM's rally has been changed from SKICC to Bakhshi Stadium. They said the arrangements both administrative and security, have been finalized for smooth and peaceful con-duct of the rally."PM Modi is scheduled to visit Kashmir valley on March 7, and will address a public rally at Bakhshi Stadium Srinagar," sources told Kashmir Observer.

They said that Bakhshi Stadium has been chosen as the venue because a large number of people are expected to attend PM Modi's programme.



Sources within the police said that security has been beefed up in the summer capital, especially around the Bakhshi Stadium, the new venue of his rally. The surveillance has been beefed up in other parts of Srinagar and additional check posts have come up for frisking to monitor movement of people

This will be Modi's first visit to the Valley since the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019. The last time the Prime Minister visited Kashmir was in February

During his visit to Kashmir on March 7, Modi is expected to announce the scores of developmental | More on P10

THE SURVEILLANCE HAS BEEN BEEFED up in other parts of

## **25 Cr People Out** Of Poverty In 10 Yrs: PM Modi

rime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said that his government's intention has been proved to be right as 25 crore people of the country have come out of poverty in the last 10 years. After inaugurating and laving the foundation stone for development projects worth over Rs 7,200 crore from West Bengal's Arambagh in Hooghly district, he said the poor, farmers, women and the youth are the priorities of the country. Modi said that in the last 10 years, 25 crore people of the country have come out of poverty. "This shows that our government's direction, policies and decisions are correct and the main reason for that is that our intention is | More on P10

# **Over 100 Killed Awaiting Aid In Gaza**

**India Expresses Shock** At Loss Of Lives

**Press Trust of India** 

New Delhi: India expressed deep shock at the loss of lives in Northern Gaza after over 100 people were killed there on Thursday when Palestinians around aid trucks for food.

"We are deeply shocked at the loss of lives in Northern Gaza yesterday during the delivery of humanitarian assistance," the Ministry of External Affairs said.

The MEA stated that the humanitarian situation in Gaza continues to remain a cause for concern.

"Such loss of civilian lives and the larger humanitarian situation in Gaza continues to be a cause for extreme concern. We reiterate our call for safe and timely delivery of humanitarian aid and assistance," the MEA said in a statement.

Palestinians died in a firing allegedly by Israeli troops, CNN reported quoting Palestinian officials and eyewitnesses.

The massacre began early Thursday when a convoy of trucks with supplies landed on Haroun Al Rasheed Street in western Gaza City's Sheikh Ajleen neighbourhood.

According to | More on P10

# Low Crime Rate Has Made J&K **Preferred Destination For Investors: LG**

Srinagar and additional check posts have come up for frisking

» Ease Of business operations

to monitor movement of people."

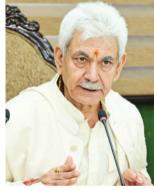
- » Transparent land allocation policies » Affordable electricity
- » Attractive incentives
- New industrial development scheme >> High Return On Investment (ROI)

# **Observer News Service**

Jammu: Lieutenant Governor Manoi Sinha on Friday reiterated the commitment of the UT administration to provide a vibrant environment for the growth of the industrial sector in Jammu Kashmir. Sinha was addressing the inaugural ceremony of the industrial unit of Bloomtex Industries Private Limited.

The LG congratulated Bloomtex Industries for starting the production within one year

"Progressive reforms for ease of doing business, revolutionary new industrial development scheme, transparent land allotment policy, best Incentives, Return On Investment (ROI),



affordable electricity for units and low crime rate have made J&K the preferred destination for the investors," he said.

MORE THAN RS 90,000 CR INVESTMENT PROPOSALS were received

in the last few years and Rs 14,000 cr worth investments are being

The LG further

**LG Releases Book On 'Abrogation** 

ieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday released a book titled 'Abrogation of Article 370-Supreme Court's Landmark Judgement' written by Prof. Hari Om. at Rai Of Article 370' Bhawan. The LG congratulated | More on P10

implemented on the ground.

### **102 Percent Growth In Capital Expenditure, Heartening: LG**

ieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chaired a review meeting on Budgetary Expenditure in the UT of Jammu Kashmir, at Civil Secretariat today. The LG took appraisal of the department-wise progress achieved in the Financial Year 2023-24 and called upon the officials for 100% utilization of funds available under Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Capex. It is heartening to see that capital expenditure has achieved 102 percent growth in 2023-24 as compared to 2018-19. "We have also registered an impressive increase in Excise and other Tax & nontax Revenue. These are the

indicators of a | More on P10

# Has Begun: Murmu **Press Trust Of India**

**Era Of Women-led Development** 

Odisha: President Droupadi Murmu on Friday said that an era of women-led development has begun in India as girls are taking centre stage in all spheres of nation building, and the trend is very encouraging for the country.
Addressing the 25th convo-

cation of Berhampur University at Bhanja Bihar in Ganjam district of Odisha, she said the participation of women in literature, culture, dance and music has been remarkable.

"The potential of our daughters is visible in every field from science and technology to the police and army. Now we are moving from the phase of women's development to women-led development," the president said.

Noting that around 45,000 students are getting education in Berhampur University's postgraduate departments and its affiliated colleges, she said more than 55 per cent of students are women.

Not only this, 60 percent of the gold medal winners are also women and "half of the researchers, who received doctoral degrees today are also girls," the president said.

"This is an excellent example of gender equality," Murmu said.



Noting that she came across many talented girls and women when attending different convocation programmes across that women who were confined to art, culture and other such spheres, now have started performing very high in the field of science and technology.

Even women are now leading in the police force and defence services, she pointed out.

As 49 per cent of the country's 140 crore population is women, their role in the economic, social and other sectors is now becoming prominent, the President said, expressing her happiness over the women's studies being a course at Berhampur University.

She said that there is no doubt that girls | More on P10

### **NC Demands White Paper On New Industries In J&K**

**Press Trust Of India** 

Jammu: The National Conference on Friday asked the Jammu and Kashmir administration to issue a white paper on the number of new industries set up in the Union Territory in the last five years.

Interacting with youth functionaries at the party headquarters here, NC Jammu president Rattan Lal Gupta said the youngsters of Jammu and Kashmir were frustrated due to the policies of the BIP-led government at the Centre.

He also claimed that the number of unemployed people in the Union Territory has crossed the seven lakh mark.

"The tall claims of signing MoUs worth Rs 80,000 crore continue to remain confined to papers. It is time for the administration to issue a white paper revealing how many industries have been established in J&K," Gupta said in a statement here.

Last year, Lt Governor Manoj Sinha said that Jammu and Kashmir would get investments worth Rs 80,000 crore soon as the administration is keen to establish an | More on P10

# HC Orders Status Quo On Waqf Rent Issues **Directs Constitution Of Tribunals For Disputes**

**M** Ahmad

Srinagar: Observing that civil and revenue courts lack jurisdiction concerning any dispute, question or other matters relating to waqf or its property, the J&K and Ladakh High Court has directed the government to constitute one or more Tribunals regarding the same in Jammu and Kashmir within two months.

Even as a bench of Justice Sanjeev Kumar dismissed on "maintainability" a number of petitions, essentially raising a dispute with regard to "arbitrary, irrational and exorbitant enhancement of monthly rent", it ordered "status quo" regarding the subject matter of these pleas.

..(the) writ petitions are held not maintainable and the same are, accordingly, dismissed," the court said, adding, "However, while dismissing the writ petitions and taking note of the chaotic situation created due to non constitution of the Tribunal or Tribunals, a direction is issued



to the Government of Union Territory to constitute one or more Tribunals, as it may think fit, in terms of Section 83 of the Act (Waqf Act, 1995) within a period of two months from the date of this judgment (read February 29)."

Till the Government constitutes Tribunal/Tribunals in terms of Section 83 of the Act, the court said, "there shall be status quo with regard to the subject matter of these writ petitions."

Earlier the court said from the reading of Subsection (1) of Section 83 of the Act, it clearly comes out that Government State each which would include Union Territory is under an obligation to constitute one or more Tribunals, as it may think fit, by issuing notification

in the Official Gazette. "The word 'shall' used in respect of the constitution of the Tribunal or Tribunals is mandatory in nature. It further comes out that the Tribunal/ Tribunals so constituted by the Government of State or Union Territory shall have jurisdiction to determine any dispute, question or other matter relating to a waqf or waqf property, eviction of a tenant or determination of rights and obligations of the lessor and the lessee of such property under this the court said, add-"Obviously, the dispute raised in these petitions falls within the determination of Tribunal. As is apparent from a reading of Section 85 of the Act, no Civil Court, Revenue Court and any other authority shall have jurisdiction to entertain any suit or other legal proceeding in respect of any dispute, question or other matter relating to any waqf property as also the matter which is required by or under the Act to be | More on P10

# **Wetland Reserves 'Out Of Bounds' For Public In Kashmir**



# **Auqib Javeed**

Srinagar: To ensure that the migratory birds remain safe from poaching, the Wildlife Protection Department of Jammu and Kashmir, on Friday, declared Wetland Reserves in Kashmir as "out of bounds" for the public.

According to an order, a copy of which lies with Kashmir Observer, the Wildlife Protection Department said that they have time and again published the prohibitions regarding venturing into the Protected Areas / Wetland Reserves.

"Now, through this Public Notice it is again reiterated and circulated for the information of general masses, that. In exercise of powers conferred / vested with the undersigned in terms of the Wildlife Protection Act, the protected areas and adjoining areas falling under the jurisdiction of Wetlands Division are 'Declared Out Of Bonds' for the general masses without valid permission in view of the migratory season," reads the notice.

The Wetlands | More on P10

# **MAHASHIVRATRI**

### **Migrant KP Employees Granted 3-Day Leave**

**KO WEB DESK** 

Srinagar- Jammu and Kashmir government on Friday granted 3-day special leave to Jammu based migrant and PM Package employees working in Kashmir in view of Mahashivratri.

According to an order, the special casual leave will be granted to the employees on 7, 9 and 11 of this month.

"Sanction is hereby accorded to the grant of three days Special Casual Leave on 7th. 9th and 11th March in favour of Jammu based Migrant and PM Package employees working Kashmir Valley, who desire to celebrate 'Mahashivratri' with their families at Jammu," reads the order.

Notably, Maha Shivratri, a Hindu festival is considered one of the most auspicious festivals, and is being celebrated with religious fervour across the country. For Kashmiri Pandits, the festival symbolises the unity of the divinity and the complementing nature of | More on P10

# **Cloud Clustering Patterns Reveal Increasing Severity Of Extreme Rainfall In Tropics**

Press Trust Of India

y studying cloud clustering patterns in a warming climate, scientists have shown that with rising temperatures, extreme rainfall events become more severe.

Focussing on the area of the tropics around the equator, the scientists from the Institute of Science and Technology Austria (ISTA) and the Max-Planck-Institute for Meteorology (MPI-M) in Germany used a climate model to study how cloud and storm clustering impacted extreme rainfall events.

They found that with warming climate, extreme rainfall events in the tropics increase in severity more than what was expected from the theory.

"We can see that when clouds are more clustered, it rains for a longer time, so the total amount of rainfall increases," said Jiawei Bao from ISTA, and the lead author of the study published in the journal 'Science Advances'.

"We also found that more extreme rain over high-precipitation areas happens at the cost of expansion of dry areas - a further shift to extreme weather patterns. This is due to how clouds and

storms cluster together,

which we could now simulate with this new climate model," said Bao.

Their model captures the complex dynamics of air movement and hence, simulates the climate with a much higher resolution than the previous ones that do not factor clouds and storms in as much detail, the researchers said.

These complex dynamics at play are involved in creating clouds and helping them congregate to form more intense storms, they explained. Climate models divide

the earth's atmosphere into three-dimensional chunks each with its own data about temperature, pressure, humidity, and many more physical properties.

Physical equations are then employed to simulate how these chunks interact and change over time to create a representation of the real world.

### **Public Notice**

This is to inform the general public that I, Nadeem Ahmad Malik, holder of Driving License No. JK-1620110003191 issued by the Regional Transport Office (RTO) Ganderbal, Kashmir, have applied for the correction of my name in the said license. The correct name should read as: Nadeem Ahmad Malik instead of Nadeem Ah. Malik Any objections or concerns regarding this correction should be submitted in writing to the said RTO within 7 days from the date of this notice. After the stipulated

period, the correction will be

# **Public Notice**

I have lost my high school certificate and now I intend to apply for a duplicate copy. If anybody has any objection he/she should contact the office of the principal Government Higher Secondary School Sholipora, Budgam were I was enrolled in 10th class in the year 2013, within tseven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Raziya Akhter D/o: Abdul Rahim Rather R/o: Sarathpora Batpora Bugdam

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

I have lost my Migration Certificate bearing registration number IUST0118011991 issued in the year 2021 by Islamic University of Science and Technology Awantipora somewhere.

Now, I want to apply for the issuance of the duplicate certificate. If anybody has any objection/query in this regard, he/ she shall approach the office of Dean Academic Affairs, Block IV, Islamic University of Science and Technology Awantipora within a stipulated time of 7 days from the date of publishing this notice. No objection shall be entertained after the given time period.

Syed Uzma Jan D/o Syed Farooq Ahmad Simnani R/o Qusbayar, Tehsil Rajpora District Pulwama

# Office Of The State Drugs Controller **Drug & Food Control Organization**

(UT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR)

Jammu Office: Patoli Mangotrian, 1st Floor, Combined Food & Drug Testing Laboratory Fax: 0191-2538527; Telephone: 2538527.Pin: 180007 Kashmir Office: Dalgate, Srinagar, Drugs Testing Laboratory complex. Pin: 190001 e-mail: controllerdrugsfoodjk@gmail.com; sdc-dfco@jk.gov.in

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Whereas, Drugs / Cosmetics Manufacturing License(s) were issued in favour of firms / units indicated in the below table under the provisions of Part VII & XIV of Drugs & Cosmetics Rules, 1945 (pre amended Rules):

S. No	Name & Style of the Firm	Address of the Firm	Mfg Lic. No. (Form No)	License Issuance Date	Activity
01	M/s MSG Pharma- ceuticals	Phase-1 Lane No.4 SIDCO Complex Bari Brahmna Jammu	JK/02/15-16/221 (Form 25) JK/02/15-16/222 (Form 28	30.10.2015	Manufacturing of Drug Formulations
02	M/s Virgo Surgical Bandages	Saria Dangerpora , Distt Bandipora J&K	JK/02/17-18/261 (F-25)	06.10.2017	Manufacturing of Surgical Bandages / Cotton
03	M/S Enn Dee Gases	Rangreth Distt Budgam J&K	JK/02/17-18/253 (F-25)	09.05.2017	Manufacturing of Medicinal Gases
	Barkat Gas Indus- tries	SIDCO Industrial Estate Phase-II Khanmoh	JK/02/05-06/85 (F-25)	08.02.2017	Manufacturing of Medicinal Gases
05	M/s Hassan Cotton Industries	I GC, Lassipora, Pulwama J&K	JK/02/16-17/234 (F-25)	26.08.2016	Manufacturing of Surgical Bandages / Cotton
06	M/s Prakash Cotton Industries	Phase-II, IGC SIDCO, Samba, J&K	JK/01/15-16/217 (F-25)	10.04.2015	Manufacturing of Surgical Bandages / Cotton
07	M/s Yahoo Manu- facturing	Industrial Estate, Phase III, Khanmoh, Srinagar, J&K	JK/02/15-16/218 (F-25)	08.09.2015	Manufacturing of Surgical Bandages / Cotton
80	M/s Acesys Indus- tries	Phase III, IGC Samba J&K	Jk/01/18-19/284 (F-25)	31.01.2019	Disinfectant Fluids
09	M/s Kanchan Industries	Phase III, Gangyal Jammu	JK/02/11-12/176 (F-32)	20.05.2011	Cosmetic
10	M/s Supreme Surgicals,	Village Dharp, Jammu	JK/01/54 (Form 25)	01.04.2003	Manufacturing of Surgical Bandages / Cotton
11	Allied Gases	SIDCO Indl. Complex Bari Brahmna Jammu	JK/01/65 (Form 25)	05.03.2005	Manufacturing of Medicinal Gases
12	Global Gases	Plot No. 24A &25 Udham- pur	JK/01/10-11/171 (Form 25)	09.02.2011	Manufacturing of Medicinal Gases

Whereas, the provisions of the Act & Rules there under provide for inspection of the Licensed Premises "not less than once a year" by the Inspector of Drugs appointed under the Said Act; &

Whereas, the concerned inspecting authority (ies) have reported that the above units are not in operation during their visits as also failure on the part of the Cosmetic Manufacturing unit / Manufacturing of Surgical Item Units to switch over from Old Licensing to New Licensing Regime; &

Whereas, Show Cause Notices were served upon the above manufacturers to explain their position as to why the License(s) issued in their favour shall not be cancelled for the observations explained herein above; &

Whereas, there is no record available in this office to suggest any response to the Show Cause Notices served upon the manufacturers indicated in the above table except for the firm figuring at Sr. No 09 of the table; &

Whereas, the Inspecting Authorities have recommended for cancellation of Licenses issued in favour of above units: & Whereas, on the basis of recommendations of empowered authorities, the License(s) of all above firms / units have been cancelled & official records have been updated accordingly.

Now, therefore all the Stakeholders / General Public & Public Procurement & Distribution Agencies are hereby informed through the medium of this Public Notice that they should not entertain the above manufacturing units as regulated entities under the provisions of the D & C Act, 1940 & Rules there under henceforth.

No. DFO/D-279/

DIPK-17284/23 Dt: 01-03-2024

(Lotika Khajuria) State Drugs Controller -cum **Licensing Authority** Drugs & Food Control Organization (J&K)

### **Government of India**

Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers **Department of Chemicals and Petrochemical** 

Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals invites applications for two post of Deputy Industrial Adviser, in Level 11 of pay matrix (Rs.67,700-2,08,700), on deputation including short-term contract basis.

Detailed requirement is given on the website www. chemicals.gov.in. Interested candidates may send their CV in the prescribed format through proper channel with in 60 days from the date of publication of this advertisement in the Employment News to the following address:

Manju Singh, Under Secretary (Admin), **Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals** Room No. 434, C-Wing, 2th Floor, Shastri Bhawan, Dr. R.P. Road, New Delhi-110001.

CBC 02101/11/0002/2324

ازعدالت ایڈیشنل ڈسٹر کٹ جج ( بنک مقد مات )سرینگر بااجلاس:اروندشر ما

J&K Bank B/U Residency Road Srinagar

Mrs Aisha

Rs 10,93,065.03 دعويٰ وصوليا بي رقم مبلغ =1 اشتهار بمراد آگاهی بنام

Mrs Aisha W//o Deceased Barrowor Shabir Ahmad Ahanger (Son) Kausar Jan (Daughter) all legal heirs of the deceased barrowers who was the sole prop of M/S Golden
Auto Engineering Works namely Lt Abdul Rasid Ahanger S/o Late Ghulam Nabi Ahanger R/o Kushipora H.M.T Srinagar All legal heirs are residents of Khushipora H.M.T Sgr Showkat Ahmad Malik S/o Lt Abdul Salam Malik

R/o Umar Colony Lalbazar Sgr
5. The J&K Small Scale Industries Development Cooperation Lt Boulevard Sgr Dy General Manager

بقدمه مندرجه عنوان الصدر میں مدعاعلیہ/ مدعالیم کی تغمیل کرانے کی بسیار کوش والانه توپية جديد پرمدعاعليه/ مدعاليم دستياب ہوئے اور نه ہى بذريعة معن تعميل لا كى گئے۔بدین وجہ حسب استدائی مدعاعلیہ/مدعالیم جو بذر بعیدا شہار بذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم مبلغ

پیروی کریں ۔بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کاروائی بعمل لائی جائے گی تُحریر ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج بنک مقد مات سرینگر ij

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

J&K Bank B/U Khanyar Sgr

بنام

Zahoor Ahmad Dar دعویٰ وصولیا بی رقم مبلغ = ا

اشتهار بمراد آگاهی بنام Zahoor Ahmad Dar S/o Ghulam Nabi Dar R/o Hassanabad Rainawari Srinagar

مقدمه مندرجه عنوان الصدريين مدعاعليه/ مدعاليم كغيل كرانے كى بسيار كوشش كى گئ \_ إلا نەتۇپىة جديد پرمدعاعليه/ مدعاليم دستياب ہوئے اور نەبى بذريعة معن قبيل لا كى گئے۔ بدین وجد حسب استدائی مدعاعلیہ المدعالیم جو بذرایدا شتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے۔ کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم مبلغ

=/ Rs 177285 | Rs زیرساعت عدالت بذائے۔ لہٰذا آپ کو بذریعہ اشتہار بذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ بغرض بیروی ابراء بذا بعنوانِ بالاموري 2024-03-04 إصالتاً يا وكالتاً برونت كييري حاضرة كرمقدمه مذاك پیروی کریں۔بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کاروائی بعمل لائی جائے گی شحریر ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج بنگ مقد مات سرینگر

ازعدالت ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج (بنک مقد مات)سرینگر بااجلاس:اروندشرما J&K Bank B/U Residency Road Sgr بنام

Muazafar Ahmad Bhat دعوىٰ وصوليا بي رقم مبلغ = / Rs 2,75,344.00 اشتهار بمراد آگاهی بنام

Muazafar Ahmad Bhat S/o Mr Abdul Rehman Bhat R/o Lar Ganderbal Kmr مقدمه مندرجه عنوان الصدر میں مدعا علیه/ مدعالیم کی تعمیل کرانے کی بسیار کوشیش کی گئی ۔ اِلا نہ تو پیۃ جدید پر پر مدعاعلیہ اُ مدعالیم دستیاب ہوئے اور نہ ہی بذر لیدہ معن تعمل لائی گئے۔ بدین وجہ حسب استدائی مدعاعلیہ اُ مدعالیم جو بذر لیداشتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ لعنوان بالا اجراء لغرض وصولی رقم مبلغ

ہے۔ Rs 2.75,344.00 اس کا عت عدالت ہذا ہے۔ البذا آپ کو بذریعہ اشتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ بغرض پیروی ابراء ہذا العنوان بالاموری 2024-03-04 اصالتاً یا وکالٹاً بروقت کچیری حاضر آ کرمقدمہ بذاکی پیروی کریں۔بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کاروائی بعمل لائی جائے گی تحریر ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج بنگ مقد مات سرینگر

ازعدالت ایڈیشنل ڈسٹر کٹ جج (بنک مقد مات)سرینگر بااجلاس:اروندشرما J&K Bank B/U Khayam Sgr بنام Shabir Ahmad Dar دعويٰ وصوليا بي رقم مبلغ = إ اشتهار بمراد آگاهی بنام

Shabir Ahmad Dar S/o Mohammad Shafi Dar R/o Nawpora Khayam Sgr تقدمه مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں مدعا علیہ/ مدعالیم کی تعمیل کرانے کی بسیار کوشش کی گئی ۔ اِلا نہ تو پیۃ جدید پر مدعاعلیہ/ مدعالیم دستیاب ہوئے اور نہ ہی بذریعہ معن تعمیل لائی گی۔بدین وجہ حسب استدائی مدعاعلیہ المدعالیم جو بذر بعداشتہار بذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بخرض وصولی رقم مبلغ =/ Rs 101648 /جازية اعت عدالت بذائي . البذا آپ كوبذريعة اشتهار بذا مطلع كياجا تا ہے كه آپ بغرض پيروي ابراء مذابعنوان بالامورية 2024-03-04 إصالتاً يا وكالتاً بروقت كييري حاضراً كرمقدمه مذاكي

پیروی کریں۔بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کاروائی بعمل لائی جائے گی شخریر

ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج بنگ مقد مات سرینگر

ازعدالت ایڈیشنل ڈسٹر کٹ جج ( بنک مقد مات ) سرینگر بااجلاس:اروندشرما J&K Bank B/U Khanyar Sgr بنام Reyaz Ahmad Shah دعوىٰ وصولياني رقم مبلغ =/ اشتهار بمراد آگاهی بنام

Reyaz Ahmad Shah S/o Habibullah Shah R/o

Aqilmir Khanyar Sgr

مقدمہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں مدعا علیہ/ مدعالیم کی تعمیل کرانے کی بسیار کوشیش کی گئی \_ إلا نەتقى پەة جدىدىرىد ماعلىيە/ مەعالىم دستياب ہوے اور نەبى بذرىيە معن تقميل لائى | گئ۔بدین وجہ حسب استدائی مدعاعلیہ/مدعالیم جو بذرایعہ اشتہار بنرامطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم مبلغ

ے Rs 189379.00 رہے اعت عدالت ہذا ہے۔ البذا آپ کو بذریعیا شتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جا تا ہے کہ آپ بخرض پیروی ابراء ہذا بعنوان بالا موردنا 2024-03-03-10 اصالتاً یا وکالتاً بروقت کچیرِ کی حاضر آ کرمقد مدینیا کی پیروی کریں ۔بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کاروائی بعمل لائی جائے گی شخریر ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج بنک مقد مات سرینگر

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

Notice for General Public

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

Roll No: 32618266 Class 12th Pass

Registration: N18460260022 Name : Rafia Jan

Date of Birth:- 25-04-2005 Residenc:- Panjigam

According the candidate concerned has office for issuance of Duplicate Qualification /Ma Certificate/s, so before the same is processed and provided to the candidate, under rules, anybody having any objection in this regard, shall bring into the notice of Assistant Secretary of Certificate as well as Assistant Secretary Examination Unit I & III KD within the period of 10 & 7 days respectively, from the date of publication of this notice.

(Besides the above referred "Qualification / Marks Certificate/s" bearing No: 126673 be treated as "CAN-

Dated 29-02-2024

Certificates, KD.

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

I have applied for the issuance of DOB certificate in favour of my daughter, Hareez Bin Sajid, who was born on 12-07-2012. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Municipal Committee Magam within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Sajid Ahmad Bhat F/o Hareez Bin Sajid R/O H. No 239 Garden Lane Colony Chanpora Srinagar

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

I have applied for the issuance of DOB certificate in favour of my daughter , Zehra, who was born on 20-06-2022. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Municipal Committee Magam within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained Akhtar Rasool Hajam F/o Zehra

R/o Salman Abad Magam

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

My DOB has been wrongly written in my Aadhaar as 12-09-1970 while my correct DOB is 18-05-1962 which needs to be corrected. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file the same in the office of the Block Development Officer Beerwah within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Taja Begum

W/o Ali Mohammad Bhat R/o Hazarpora Aripanthan Beerwah

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Public Notice I have changed my name from Gulam Fatima Pandith to Fatima Pandith in future I will be known as Fatima Pandith. 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 no objection shall be entertained. Fatima Pandith

# New Campus Bemina Srinagar

Year & Session Annual Regular 2021

Father's Name: Shams U Din Kwaja Mother's Name : Shaheena Begum

No: F(Cer is-I-DQC)B/KD/24

**Assistant Secretary** 

# NOTICE

Najeeb Ahmad shah S/O Habibullah Shah R/O Ellahibagh Buchpora is applying for contractor card D class in the office of Superintending Engineer (R&B) Circle Srinagar/Budgam.Any person having objection in this regard may please submit it in the office of Superintending Engineer (R&B) Circle Srinagar/Budgam within three days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

I want to change the name on electricity bill bearing consumer ID No; 0206050014148 From Ghulam U Din Mir S/o Ghulam Mohammad Mir to (Mir Traders) Prop: Salman Ahmad Mir S/o Abdul Khaliq Mir To . If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file the same in the concerned PDD office within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be

Salman Ahmad Mir S/o Abdul Khaliq Mir

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

I have lost my D.O.B certificate issued by SMC Srinagar .Now I want to apply for its duplicate. If anybody has any objection he/she may contact Srinagar Municipal corporation Srinagar within seven days from the date of publication of this notice.No objection shall be entertained thereafter. Zaid Haneef Khan S/o Mohd Haneef Khan R/o Lachmanpora **Batamaloo Srinagar** 

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

Thave lost aadhar card bearing no 924423172130 PAN Card bearing no AFPPW2575Q and Driving License bearing no License No.: JK01 20200001173. It is informed that I will not be responsible if these documents are misused by someone . Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/ her objection in the concerned offices within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Name: Sheikh Aamir Wahid S/O: Sheikh Abdul Wahid R/O: Kawadara Srinagar Mobile No: 7889879309

NJ

DAY 2

# **Efforts On To Retrieve Body Of Elderly Man From Jhelum**

Indian Army's MARCOS Roped In To Assist SDRF, River Police

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The search operation to retrieve the body of a 55-year-old man, who jumped into the river Jhelum in Srinagar's Safakadal area yesterday (Friday) continued for the 2nd consecutive day, even as Indian Navy's MARCOS commandos have also been roped in, officials said on Friday.

They added that the search operation continued throughout the day, but no traces of the body were found

One Nazir Ahmed Matoo (55) of Eidgah, according to an official, jumped into the river Jhelum near Safakadal a day earlier.

They said that a massive rescue operation was launched to trace him. "Today morning, the search was resumed again, but there are no traces of his body," he added.

The official further said that on the second day, Indian Army's MARCOS commandos joined the operation, along with SDRF and River police from morning.

# **DIPR Condoles Former Deputy Director G.R Bandanas Demise**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The employees of Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) have condoled the demise of former Deputy Director, Information, Ghulam Rasool Badana (Azad), who passed away after a brief illness.

In a condolence meeting held in this regard, the employees remembered the outstanding services of the officer to this department and the literary landscape and who actively made an impact for the growth of the department.

The officials of the DIPR paid their rich tributes to the officer, prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and strength for bereaved family members to bear this loss.

Notably, late G.R Badana was a noted Urdu and Gojri scholar and writer. He was also a member of Jammu and Kashmir Information Gazetted service and served the department in various capacities from Information Officer, PRO Raj Bhawan, Deputy Director- Publications and other assignments.

# E Buses Make Travel Easier In **Srinagar, Commuters Demand More**

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: E-buses, and SRTC transport service has significantly eased daily travel experience with many giving up their cars to travel in public transport.

The development has addressed long-standing problems of commuters who experienced difficulties particularly during peak morning and evening hours.

People from far off areas or other districts who would visit Srinagar would be in a rush to catch vehicles or else they would have to stay away from home. But with

the introduction of J&K Road Transport Corporation's electric buses and the integration of Smart City Buses, commuters say the situation has changed substantially.

On Srinagar to Chadoora route, commuters were all praise while exchanging positives of the bus service.

"The introduction of Smart City Buses and green buses has been a game-changer for us. Earlier, we would worry about finding transportation in the evenings but now these buses have brought smiles to our faces," said Bashir Ahmad, who is a regular commuter on this route.

# **Work On 138 Smart City Projects** On In Srinagar, 60 Complete: SSCL

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: Over 138 smart city projects are currently underway in Srinagar city, with more than 60 projects already completed, according to the General Manager, Planning & Urban Development, Smart City Srinagar, Anuj Malhotra.

He said the remaining projects are progressing as scheduled and are expected to be finished on time, ensuring the city's transformation into a picturesque locale.

Malhotra said they are hopeful of the timely completion of all projects. "We are hopeful that Srinagar will be beautiful once the projects are completed," he said.

Providing further details, the General Manager said the work on smart city projects is in full swing and nearly in two to three months, many of the projects will be completed.

Malhotra said over 60 projects have already been concluded and the rest are in advanced stages of development. "The ongoing



The ongoing projects are approximately 70 to 80% complete, and we are hopeful that all the projects will be completed on time

projects are approximately 70 to 80% complete, and we are hopeful that all the projects will be completed on time," he said.

About the inauguration of projects, Anuj said it might take a few months. "We will ensure that no project misses its deadline."

The CEO, Smart City Srinagar, Dr Owais Ahmed, recently conducted a surprise inspection of the ongoing smart city projects in Shahar-e-Khaas, Srinagar during night hours and reviewed the progress made at various project sites.

# **IHRO Formally Opens Its J&K** Office At Rajbagh, Srinagar

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: The popular humanitarian voluntary organization, International Human Rights Organization (IHRO) on Friday formally opened its office at Rajbagh, Srinagar.

In a statement issued here, it said the J&K UT headquarters' office situated in Kursoo Rajbagh was inaugurated today by the Chief Advisor S.S Sandhu during a well decorated function.

Director IHRO Arshid Yousuf welcomed the Chief Guest and other dignitaries and described the mission and motto of the International Human Rights Organization. He said his voluntary team is working for the bet terment of society and it gives strong support to the exploited segments of the society.

"Chief Guest S.S Sandhu in his address hailed the efforts of the voluntary work of IHRO and said that IHRO is actively protecting the Rights of the people living across the globe. He im-

Industrial Complex Zainakote Srinagar 190012, Kashmir

pressed upon the office bearers and other volunteers to work with sincerity and dedication to ease out the public miseries," reads the statement.

He also assured full support from the National Headquarters and said people of Jammu and Kashmir have kept their hopes high on IHRO and we at the organization are working on to raise the public issues and concerns for its early redressal from the concerned quarters, it added.

Sandhu said IHRO apart from protecting and fighting for the Human rights also organize and conduct various vocational training programs to uplift the living standard of common masses. He said women empowerment and vouth development is the prime concern of IHRO and there are various projects and plans to be introduced and executed in coming days.

Pertinently, IHRO J&K chapter is organizing a mega event on the eve of International

Women's Day on 8 March where the day will start with a 3km Walkathon on Foreshore road followed by a colorful felicitation ceremony in Tagore Hall. IHRO will felicitate many women for their outstanding work in their respective fields as a mark of respect and honor for the brave hearts.

On the occasion, Zonal Coordinator J&K Bhat Altaf, President J&K Javid Iqbal and all other office bearers of the state unit and district bodies were present. Javid Iqbal while present-

ing a vote of thanks expressed his gratitude to the guests and dignitaries.

He said the office establishment was much awaited as it now gives easy access to people and beneficiaries getting in contact with IHRO for their help and assistance. Igbal assured that people from all walks who intend to help others are welcome and the mission is to be aware and empower men and women to achieve their goals.



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

PDD: 0194-2450213 FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES:

2479488,2452222,2452155 CAPD: 18001807011

SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081 Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +919484100200

### **AIRPORTS**

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

## **RAILWAYS**

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

OAZIGUND: 01951-296153

### **HIGHWAY STATUS**



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



**PRAYERS FAJR** 5:38 **ZUHR** 12:43 ASR 4: 45 Magrib 6:29 **ISHA** 7:49

# This Day In History

986- Louis V becomes King of the Franks.

1657- Great Fire of Meireki destroys 60-70% of the Japanese capital city of Edo, killing an estimated 100,000 people

1776 - American troops begin shelling the British in Boston

1796- Napoléon Bonaparte is appointed Commander-in-Chief of the French Army in Italy 1807- William Cavendish-Bentinck, Duke of Portland becomes British Prime Minister for the second time after the fall of William Grenville's Whig government

1815- Signing of Kandyan treaty by British invaders and Sri Lankan King

1819 Territory of Arkansas organized

1819- US passed its 1st immigration law

1855- Aleksandr Romanov becomes tsar of Russia 1858- Frederick Cook of New Orleans, patents a

cotton-bale metallic tie 1865 - British newspaper "Morning Chronicle"

begins publishing

1968 - USSR launches space probe Zond 4; fails to leave Earth orbit 1972 - NASA launches its Pioneer 10 space probe

to Jupiter 1978 - Soyuz 28 carries 2 cosmonauts (1

Czechoslovakian) to Salvut 6

1983 - Compact Disc recordings developed by

Phillips & Sony introduced. 1984 - Iran offensive against Iraq fails

1989 - 12 European nations agree to ban chlorofluorocarbon production by 2000.

1991 NC State Chris Corchiani becomes 1st NCAAer to get 1,000 assists

1991 - UN votes in favor of US resolutions for cease fire with Iraq

1995 - Space shuttle STS-67 (Endeavour 8),

launches 1997 - Saudi Arab billionaire Prince al-Waleed

bin Talal aquires 5% of Apple 1997 - Soyuz TM-24 returns to Earth (Russia)

1998 - Data sent from the Galileo spacecraft indicates that Jupiter's moon Europa has a liquid ocean under a thick crust of ice.

2002 - U.S. invasion of Afghanistan: US conventional forces first deployed as part of **Operation Anaconda** 

2004- War in Iraq: Al Qaeda carries out the Ashoura Massacre in Iraq, killing 170 and

wounding over 500 2004 - Rosetta space probe is launched by the European Space Agency to study comet

2011- One of cricket's great upsets; Kevin O'Brien scores fastest century in World Cup history off 50 balls (ends 113 off 63) to help Ireland beat England by 3 wickets in Bangalore

2014 - President Vladimir Putin receives unanimous approval from Russia's parliament to send troops to the Ukraine

2016- Longest non-stop scheduled commercial flight by distance, Emirates A380 flies 14,200km (8,824 miles) Dubai to Auckland in 17 hours, 15 minutes

2016 - Oldest known land fossil (Tortotubus -440 million years old) from Gotland, Sweden, revealed by British scientists

2016 - US astronauts Scott Kelly and Russian cosmonaut Mikhail Kornienko return to earth after nearly a year (340 days), setting an ISS record

2017- US Attorney General Jeff Sessions recuses himself from the investigation into Trump campaign contacts with Russia after revelations he met Russian ambassador

2018- Gunmen attack the French embassy and army HQ in suspected terrorist incident in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, killing 8 and injuring 80

2019- 37-year-old Swiss 20-time Grand Slam tennis champion Roger Federer beats Greece's Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-4, 6-4 to win his 100th ATP Tour title at the Dubai Championships

The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd. Government Of Jammu & Kashmir IAPM Department Zonal Office Budgam Directorate Of Tourism, Kashmir

e-mail: ddtreg123@gmail.com

Subject: - Retirement/Inclusion of partners from the Registration Certificate of "M/s Milli Group of Tour & Travels" situated at Baba Building the Bund Residency Road Srinagar."

# Public Notice.

Whereas, Mrs. Indu Rajbir Kour W/o Mr. Rajinder Singh, partner of the Travel unit namely M/s Milli Group of Tour & Travels, has requested this office for retirement one partner namely Mrs. Nahida Janan W/o Janan Ahmad Dejoo and Inclusion of another partner namely Mrs. Firdousa Akhter W/o Oaiser Ahmad Chachoo in the Registration Certificate of the said Travel unit under the J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12.

Whereas, the said Travel unit is registered with this office under the Jammu & Kashmir Registration of Tourist Trade Act, /Rules, 1978/82/2011-12 under No. Reg/T/232/3264/DTK/L-1 dated 21.07.2004 and is valid upto 31.03.2024 in the names of Mrs. Indu Rajbir & Mrs. Nahida

Whereas, the applicant submitted the following documents in support of their claim with regard to retirement/Inclusion of partners:-

1.Registration Certificate. 2.Deed of Retirement.

3. Deed of Reconstruction/Admission of new partner.

4. Experience Certificate of new partner. 5.Character Certificate of New Partner.

6.Non conviction Affidavit from new partner.

7.Qualification certificate of new partner.

8. State Subject of new partner. 9. ID Proof of new partner.

Now therefore, in exercise of powers conferred on me under section 39 of Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011/12, before the request of the applicant is considered for Retirement/Inclusion of a partner in the Registration Certificate, the matter is hereby notified for information of General Public/Financial Institutions/Bank/Organization, etc for objection if any. The same should reach this office within a period of 7 days from the publication of this notice in the local newspaper. Objections received beyond a period of 7 days will not be entertained and changes in the Registration/records shall be made under rules.

> Assistant Director Tourism, Registration (Kashmir).

No: Reg/T/12/899/DTK DIPK-17274/23 Dated: 01.03.2024



Tel: 0194-2497735 Ext :218: amid zoktwo@khmail.com **Possession Notice** Notice under Section 13 (4) of the SARFAESI ACT, 2002 read with

Rule 8 (1) of the Security (Enforcement) Interest Rules, 2002 Whereas, the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notice dated 30.10.2023 thereby calling upon Fayaz Ahmad Sheikh S/o Ali Mohammad Sheikh R/o Khag Budgam (Borrower-Cum-Mortgagor) Gul Mohammad Wani S/o Mohammad Akbar Wani R/o Khag Budgam (Guarantor), Ghulam Nabi Wani S/o Mohammad Abdullah Wani R/o Khan Mohalla Khag, Budgam (Guarantor), Fayaz Ahmad Wani S/o Mohammad Akbar Wani R/o New Colony Khag Budgam (Guarantor), Nazir Ahmad Wani S/o Mohammad Akbar Wani R/o Khag, Budgam (Guarantor), Abdul Gani Chopan S/o Ghulam Mohammad Chopan R/o Khag, Budgam (Guarantor), Mohammad Latief Bhat S/o Abdul Ahad Bhat R/o SugeYarinar Khag, Budgam (Guarantor) & Javeed Ahmad Sheikh S/o Ghulam Hassan Sheikh R/o Khag, Budgam (Guarantor), an amount of Rs.69,33,581.95 (Rupees. Sixty NineLacs Thirty Three Thousand Five Hundred and Eighty One& Paisa Ninety Five Only) being the balance outstanding as on 30.10.2023 in the accounts of the Borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon.

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

said Rules, on this the 28th day of February of the year 2024. The said borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the J&K Bank Limited for the amount in aggregating to Rs. 63,62,270.95 (Rupees Sixty Threelac Sixty Two Thousand Two Hundred Seventy and paisa Ninety Five only)together with future interest thereon from 29.02.2024and other charges incurred or to

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

01. "Registered mortgage of land measuring 08 Kanals & 16 Marlas falling under Khasra No.142/60 min (02 Kanal & 06 Marlas) of Khata No.40 and Khasra No. 146/51 min (04 Kanal ) of Khata No. 42 both of Khewat No. 20 and Khasra No. 108/79/57 min (02 Kanal & 10 Marlas Shamilat) of Khata No. 76 Khewat No. 34 situated in Mouza Awanpora Tehsil Khag District Budgam standing in the name of Fayaz Ahmad Sheikh".

02. Registered mortgage of land measuring 06 Kanals & 13 Marlas falling under Khasra No.1362/402 (02 Kanal & 09 Marlas) Khasra No. 1534/63 (02 Kanal& 03 Marlas ) Khasra No. 1697/406 (01 Kanal & 05 Marlas) and Khasra No. 1531/62 (16 Marlas) of Khata No. 281and 282 respectively of Khewat No. 55 situated in Estate SuginYarinar Tehsil Khag District Budgam standing in the name of Fayaz Ahmad Sheikh".

Mr. Javid Rashid (Authorized Officer)

Dated:28.02.2024 Place: Budgam

# **Firebrand Galloway** Wins UK By-election, Saying 'This is for Gaza'



**Agencies** 

LONDON: A veteran British political disruptor has won a special election in a town in northern England with a big Muslim minority following a contest that was mired in chaos and controversy and dominated by the war in Gaza.

George Galloway, 69, swept to victory in Thursday's contest, winning almost 40% of the vote in the parliamentary seat of Rochdale.

In his victory speech, Galloway took aim at Keir Starmer, the leader of the main opposition Labour Party, who according to opinion polls is likely to become Britain's prime minister at the general election this year.

"Keir Starmer, this is for Gaza," he said. "You have paid, and you will pay, a high price for the role that you have played in enabling, encouraging and covering for the catastrophe presently going on in occupied Palestine in the Gaza Strip.'

Galloway, a former Labour member of parliament who was expelled from the party in 2003, also declared "Labour is on notice" and a "shifting of the tectonic plates".

Labour said Galloway only won because the party pulled its support for its candidate, Azhar Ali,

**Manipur Assembly Passes** 

Of Citizens' Register

**Press Trust of India** 

IMPHAL: The Manipur as-

sembly on Friday passed a

resolution urging the central

government to implement the

National Register of Citizens

Speaker Th Satyabrata said,

"The House resolves to reaffirm

its previous resolution passed

on August 5, 2022, and also to

urge the Government of India

to implement NRC in Manipur

in the interest of the state in

particular and of the nation in

In another development,

Chief Minister N Biren Singh

informed the House that eight

FIRs have been filed regard-

ing the February 15 incident

(NRC) in the state.

general."

**Resolution For Implementation** 

for suggesting Israel was complicit in Hamas' attack on Oct 7. Without the backing of Labour,

Ali ended up coming fourth. Galloway's victory means that from next week, Parliament will once again be home to one of the most eloquent orators from the left wing of UK politics, who will clearly use his position to raise his opposition

to Israel's operation in Gaza. "George Galloway is someone who stokes up division and fear," said Ellie Reeves, Labour's deputy national campaign coordinator. "This isn't how we would have wanted this byelection to play out.'

The constituency of Rochdale has traditionally been a Labour seat, one where the governing Conservative Party makes little headway. Its candidate came in third.

Galloway, who now leads the Workers Party of Britain, started out his political career half a century ago as a firebrand leftwing Labour MP for a constituency in Glasgow.

He has been a controversial figure for decades, and faced widespread opposition for meeting in 1994 the then Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein and telling him: "Sir, I salute your courage, your strength, your in-

mob vandalised and partially

Responding to a calling at-

tention raised by Congress MLA

K Meghachandra, Singh said,

"Eight FIRs have been regis-

tered, of which two have been

He further mentioned that

six police personnel and 43 ci-

vilians sustained injuries dur-

ing the incident, and 20 people

involved in the violence have

been identified. Video record-

ings suggest the presence of

armed men, including those

carrying AK-47 rifles, among

the crowd. The government

is taking measures to prevent

such incidents from recurring,

torched the DC and SP

handed over to the CBI.'

# 33% Of Rajya Sabha MPs Have Declared **Criminal Cases: Report**

**Press Trust of India** 

NEW DELHI: Of 225 Rajya Sabha sitting members analysed, 33 per cent have declared criminal cases against themselves while the total assets of these sitting MPs stood at ₹19,602 crore, according to poll rights body ADR.

Also, 31 of them, or 14 per cent, are billionaires.

In an analysis conducted by the Association for Democratic Reforms and National Election Watch (NEW), two Rajya Sabha sitting members have declared cases related to murder under IPC Section 302, while four MPs have declared cases related to attempt to

murder under IPC Section 307. "Out of the 225 Rajya Sabha sitting MPs analysed, 75 (33 per cent) Rajya Sabha sitting MPs have declared criminal cases against themselves and 40 (18 per cent) Rajya Sabha sitting MPs have declared serious criminal cases," the report said.

The analysis also delved into the distribution of these criminal cases across different political parties. The BJP leads with 23 per cent of its 90 Rajya Sabha members having declared criminal cases against themselves.

The Congress follows closely behind with 50 per cent of its 28 MPs facing similar charges.

The ADR analysis said five (38 per cent) out of 13 Rajya Sabha members from TMC, four (67 per cent) out of six members from RJD, four (80 per cent) out of five MPs from CPI(M), three (30 per cent) out of 10 MPs from AAP, four (36 per cent) out of 11 Rajya Sabha members from YSRCP and two (20 per cent)



out of 10 MPs from DMK have declared criminal cases against themselves in their affidavits.

Moreover, when considering serious criminal cases, the trend persists, with significant percentages of MPs from various parties facing such charges.

"Ten (11 per cent) out of 90 Rajya Sabha MPs from BJP, 9 (32 per cent) out of 28 Rajya Sabha MPs from Congress, 3 (23 per cent) out of 13 Rajya Sabha MPs from TMC, 2 (33 per cent) out of 6 Rajya Sabha MPs from RJD, 2 (40 per cent) out of 5 Rajya Sabha MPs from CPI(M), 1 (10 per cent) out of 10 Rajya Sabha MPs from AAP, 3 (27 per cent) out of 11 Rajya Sabha MPs from YSRCP and 1 (10 per cent) out of 10 Rajya Sabha MPs from DMK have declared serious criminal cases against themselves in their af-

fidavits," the report said. The report said 11 (61 per cent) out of 18 Rajya Sabha members from Maharashtra, 8 (50 per cent) out of 16 MPs from Bihar, 9 (29 per cent) out of 31 MPs from Uttar Pradesh, 6 (33 per cent) out of 18 Rajya Sabha members from Tamil Nadu, 6 (67 per cent) out of 9 MPs from Kerala and 7 (44 per cent) out of

16 MPs from West Bengal have declared criminal cases against themselves in their affidavits.

The analysis covers 225 out of 233 Rajya Sabha members, with one seat from Maharashtra vacant and four seats from Jammu and Kashmir undefined. Three MPs were not analysed due to the unavailability of their affidavits.

In addition to the criminal background, the analysis also delved into the asset holdings of Rajya Sabha members. It was found that the average assets per MP stand at a staggering ₹87.12 crore.

Further dissecting the data, the report revealed significant disparities in asset holdings across different political parties.

Among major parties, 9 (10 per cent) out of 90 Rajya Sabha members from BJP, 4 (14 per cent) out of 28 Rajya Sabha members from Congress, 5 (45 per cent) out of 11 MPs from YSRCP, 2 (20 per cent) out of 10 Rajya Sabha members from AAP, 3 (75 per cent) out of 4 Rajya Sabha members from TRS and 2 (33 per cent) out of 6 MPs from RJD have declared assets valued more than ₹100

# **Modi Government Plans To Induct 25 Private Sector Specialists In Key Posts**

**Press Trust of India** 

NEW DELHI: Twenty-five private sector specialists will soon be joining key posts in the Centre as part of the Modi government's ambitious plan to infuse such talents to further improve ease of governance, officials said today.

They said the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the appointment of three joint secretaries and 22 directors/deputy secretaries in different central government

The officers who come through the lateral entry process become part and parcel of the government system.

The Personnel Ministry had in June 2018 invited applications against 10 joint secretaryrank posts through the lateral entry mode for the first time. The recruitment for these posts was done by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).

The Commission had again in October 2021 recommended 31 candidates for the appointment as joint secretaries (3), directors (19), and deputy sec-



departments.

Usually, the posts of joint secretaries, directors, and deputy secretaries are held by the officers of all-India services the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Police Service (IPS) and Indian Forest Service (IFoS) - and other Group A services, among others.

The latest induction is being done through the lateral entry mode - referred to as the appointment of private sector specialists in government departments - aimed at bringing fresh talent and perspective into the government, the officials said.

Under the lateral entry scheme, which was launched in 2018, recruitments are made at the level of joint secretary, director and deputy secretary. The officers at these levels play an important role in policyretaries (9) in different central government departments, the officials quoted above said.

A total of 38 private sector specialists - including 10 joint secretaries and 28 directors/deputy secretaries - have joined the government so far, they said.

At present, there are 33 such specialists, including eight joint secretaries, 16 directors and nine deputy secretaries, are working in key government departments, they said, adding two joint secretaries completed their full three-year tenure.

Under the lateral entry scheme, recruitments are made against the posts requiring domain specialisations either from the private sector or from the state government/ autonomous bodies/public sector un-

# **Poll Body Warning To Political Parties Ahead Of Lok Sabha Elections**

**Press Trust of India** 

NEW DELHI: Ahead of the Lok Sabha polls, the Election Commission on Friday asked parties and their leaders to refrain from seeking votes on the basis of caste, religion and language, and not insult the devotee-deity relation or make any suggestion of a divine censure.

parties, candidates and star campaigners of stern action for any violation of Model Code of Conduct instead of the previous practice of only 'moral censure', the poll panel also said that temples, mosques, churches, gurdwaras or any other place of worship should not be used for poll propaganda or electioneering.

It said that the star campaigners and candidates who have received notices in past will face stern action for re-

peat violation of model code. The advisory comes days before the model code is expected to come into effect with the announcement of the Lok Sabha



and four state assembly polls later this month, Chief Election Commissioner Raiiv Kumar had recently emphasised that political parties should foster ethical and respectful political discourse which inspire rather than divide, promote ideas instead of personal attacks.

The Commission's advisory has now formally set the stage for ethical political discourse and cut clutter in 2024 General Elections, an official said, adding the methodical approach to MCC violations has prepared the ground for civilised campaigning.

The EC warned the parties to maintain decorum in public campaigning and put additional responsibility on star campaigners and candidates, especially those who were issued notices in the past.

It asked the parties to raise the level of election campaign to issue-based debate and said the parties and their leaders should not make statements without factual basis or mislead the voters.

### **Government of Jammu and Kashmir**

## OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT SOCIAL **WELFARE OFFICER SRINAGAR PUBLIC NOTICE**

The District Social Welfare Officer, Old Secretariat Srinagar intends to provide mechanized Wheel Chairs to the Specially abled persons under District Mineral Fund. Now it is for the information of all eligible persons through the medium of this notice to report District Social Welfare Office. Block-COld Secretariat Srinagar along with following documents/certificates within seven days positively during office hours.

- Ration card (PHH/AAY)
- Aadhar Card 2.
- UDID Card having 80% locomotor disability.

NO:-DSW0/Sgr/2024/3834-36 Dated:- 01-03-2024

District Social/ Welfare Officer

Srinagar DIPK-17312-23 DT: 01/03/2024

# Case Against Madhya Pradesh Legislator **Over ₹1 Crore Extortion Attempt** Highlighting Dodiyar's

**Press Trust of India** 

**BHOPAL:** Madhya Pradesh MLA Kamleshwar Dodiyar, who heads the Bhartiya Adivasi Party (BAP), faced accusations of attempting to extort ₹one crore from a medical store proprietor, a charge denied by him.

Dodiyar, whose organisation represents tribal political factions in certain areas bordering Rajasthan, had stated in his political affidavit during assembly elections that he was contesting with a mere

Facing a possible arrest once police get clearance from the state Assembly Speaker, the 33-year-old legislator, in a defiant video statement, vowed to counter baseless charges, attributing them to a conspiracy by the ruling BJP government.

Dodiyar affirmed his commitment to exposing deceptive medical practitioners, like the one who filed the purportedly false complaint.

he added.

Claiming political vendetta, Dodiyar, the sole BAP member in the Madhya Pradesh Assembly, criticised the timing of the accusation, insinuating a smear campaign ahead of

Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Maharashtra.

of Police Rahul Lodha said charges including extortion, assault for monetary gain, violence, use of offensive language, criminal threats and common



the upcoming Lok Sabha

elections. The BAP, with three MLAs in neighbouring Rajasthan, advocates for a separate state for the Bhil tribe spanning Rajasthan, Ratlam Superintendent

intent under the IPC were

filed against Dodiyar.

the official said.

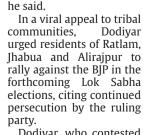
"Investigations are on.

After following the legal

procedure like informing

the MP assembly Speaker,

the MLA will be arrested,"



past history, Lodha indi-

cated his prior inclusion

in criminal record, empha-

sising ongoing legal bat-

tles including an alleged

to the recent accusation

came from the medical

store owner, Tapan Rai,

investigations,

The complaint leading

rape case.

following

Dodiyar, who contested the elections on a fundraising budget of 2.38 lakh, disclosed assets worth ₹18 lakh and liabilities of ₹10 lakh in his election affidavit, with a meager ₹10,000 in hand at the time, marking him as the financially weakest candidate.

# OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD(R&B) ELECTRIC HOSPITAL DIVISION KASHMIR

NIT No.: HDE 12 of 2023-24

E-mail: eernbelectric.hospitaldiv@gmail.com

Dated: <u>29/02/2024</u>

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor Union Territory of J&K, sealed bids (Two Cover) valid for 180 days are invited from Registered Electrical Contractors / firms / MSMEs etc. of appropriate class having sufficient experience of the relevant job (as per CVC guidelines) for the following works:

S. No.	Name of the Work	Estimat- ed Cost (in Rs Lacs)	Earnest Money De- posit (EMD) Amount (2%) (in Rs)	Cost of tender docu- ments (Rs) (Non – Re- fundable)	Head	Time of Comple- tion
1	Internal electrification for Setting up of NELS Skill Centre at Govt. Medical College Srinagar	14.86	30,000/-	500/-	Capex	30 days

The bidding document consisting of BOQ (Bill of Quantities), set of Terms and Conditions of Contract and other details can be seen / downloaded from the government website https://iktenders.gov.in.

	CRITICAL DATES					
1	Date of issue of Tender Notice	29/02/2024				
2	Document download Start Date	01/03/2024 at 12:30 p.m.				
3	Document download End Date	09/03/2024 at 3:30 p.m.				
4	Pre – Bid Meeting Date	04/03/2024 at 12:30 p.m.				
5	Bid submission Start Date (Online)	01/03/2024 at 12:30 p.m.				
6	Bid submission End Date (Online)	09/03/2024 at 3:30 p.m.				
7	Date and Time of Opening of Technical Bids (Online)	11/03/2024 at 12:30 p.m.				

- Sd -Executive Engineer. PWD(R&B) Electric Hospital Division, Srinagar

DIPK-17238-23 DT: 01/03/2024

# Why is AIIMS Awantipora still incomplete? Local demand probe

SRINAGAR: Two highly-anticipated All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) projects were approved simultaneously for Jammu and Kashmir in 2019. While the operations at AIIMS Jammu have started following its inauguration by Prime Minister Narendra Modi last month, the AIIMS project in Awantipora is lagging far behind completion, with approximately 45-50 percent of the work still pending.

According to details obtained by the news agency, the deadline for AIIMS Awantipora's completion is January 2025, yet a lot of work remains unfinished.

Officials informed that the deadline for the completion of AIIMS Awantipora is January 2025, but nearly half of the



work remains unfinished.

"It seems the AIIMS Awantipora won't be completed soon. If the government wants to complete this ambitious project on time, then there is a need to work in double shifts." they said, adding, "Over the past five years, only around 50 percent of the AIIMS Awantipora project has been completed. The authorities have a daunting task of finishing the

remaining work within the next 11 months."

Locals from Awantipora and neighbouring areas have urged the government to expedite the project's completion by December to alleviate their suffering due to the lack of treatment options for various diseases.

They also demanded a probe to know why the delay in the project.

Expressing disappointment

said both projects should have been completed simultaneously.

The people of Kashmir are suffering more for the want of treatments as compared to Jammu who have easy options to visit the AIIMS Delhi," the locals said, adding that the government should have given priority to AIIMS Awantipora.

Meanwhile, officials working on the AIIMS Awantipora project said the work is going in full swing and will be completed by January 2025. However, they said the project faced various challenges, including legal disputes over land acquisition, the aftermath of Article 370 abrogation, issues with nearby military installations, adverse weather conditions and the COVID-19 pandemic, which have hampered progress.

Despite these hurdles, of-

gained momentum over the past year.

The government has set a deadline of December 31, 2024, for the project's completion.

The AIIMS was approved by the Central government in 2019 at an estimated cost of Rs 1,828 crore. The project entails the construction of approximately 57 buildings, including a hospital, hostels, residential quarters, a football ground, tennis courts, and gardens with medicinal plants, among other facilities.

The institute will add 1,000 beds to its current capacity in Kashmir, including 300 superspeciality beds. The ambitious project also includes a Medical College with a capacity of 100 students and a Nursing College with a capacity of 60 students-(KNO)

He stated that no admission fee was

charged but only an advance fee which

was collected from the students on ac-

count of Tuition Fee, Annual Fee and

side then the remaining amount shall

be refunded or adjusted." FFRC said that

The committee further ordered that

resentative on Feb-15.

# Govt. launches Livelihood Prog on Papier Mâché in Kulgam

**KO NEWS SERVICE** 

KULGAM: NABARD has launched 15 days Livelihood Enterprise Development Programme (LEDP) for 90 females from various SHGs in Pahloo area

The programme was inaugurated by Deputy General Manager NABARD, Surinder Singh in presence of District Development Manager (DDM) NAB-ARD, Rouf Zargar and Lead District Manager, Parvez Rashid. The project will focus on skill development training on papier machie craft and its value addition enabling the members to set up their own enterprise.

Speaking on the occasion, DGM NABARD said that LEDP is a focused training programme which provides end to end support to SHG members thus enabling them to take up income generating activity for livelihood. The programme involves intensive training and handholding on various aspects, including understanding market, potential mapping and ultimately fine-tuning skills and entrepreneurship to manage the enterprise.

# Jt. Director Inf condoles demise of Ex. Deputy Director

KO NEWS SERVICE

KUPWARA: The Joint Directorate of Information Kashmir Friday condoled the demise of Ex. Deputy Director Information, Gh. Rasool Badana (Azad) who breathed his last in Srinagar after prolonged illness.

Gh.Rasool Badana hailing from Hachmarg Chowkibal in Kupwara district was also a noted scholar, prominent fiction writer of Urdu and Gojri languages. In this connection, a condolence meeting was chaired by Jt. Director Information Kashmir, M Aslam wherein he lauded the role of the ex. Officer of the department.

The Joint Director in his address expressed deep sorrow and grief over the demise and offered sympathies with the bereaved family and prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul.

# Govt. Holds Security Audit Training For Websites And Apps

**KO NEWS SERVICE** 

JAMMU: The J&K e-Governance Agency (JaKeGA) organized a two day training cum hand holding session on Security Audit of departmental websites for nodal officers of government departments.

The session aimed at providing assistance for onboarding of security audit agencies so that necessary security compliance of their applications and websites is ensured by the concerned departments. The session was attended by 43 officers and officials from 36 departments.

The session was organized under the supervision of Chief Executive Officer, JaKeGA, Anuradha Gupta while a team of officials including Saima Mir, Project Manager JaKeGA and Arun Panotra, Analyst IT, JaKeGA conducted the training and handholding session.

It was highlighted during the session that as per Information Technology Act, it is mandatory to get the security audit of all the web applications and web services being carried out in order to be eligible for hosting in Data

The security audit reduces vulnerabilities and minimizes damage from cyber incidents and most importantly it aims at protecting government data hosted in SDC. Therefore, it is imperative that websites and applications are audited and updated with latest security certificates on periodic

### Admission Fee in violation of statute are warned to desist from doing it," it basis as per the guidelines issued by the Cert-In. **SRINAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**

**LEFT RIVER WORKS DIVISION** 



Executive Engineer,

Left River Works Division

Srinagar Municipal Corporation

Ph. No. 0194-2458118 Email: lrwdsmc@gmail.com

FRESH SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

Dated: 28-Feb-2024 For and on behalf of the Srinagar Municipal Corporation, e-tenders are invited on Percentage Basis from approved and eligible Contractors for the

Sl. No.	Name of work	Est. Cost (In Lacs)	Cost of Tender Document (Non-refundable)	Earnest Money (CDR)	Time of Completion in days/ Weeks	Class of Contractor (Civil)	Technical Sanc- tion/ Dated	Head of Account
1.	Construction of Retaining walls at Kawa Mohalla.	Rs. 3.17/-	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 2760/-	14 Days Strictly	DEE	266 Dated: 22-01-24	URBAN DEV.CAPEX
	Construction of wall fencing of Graveyard at Mansoor Colony and Shah Colony Fruit Mandi.	Rs. 2.84/-	Rs. 200/-	Rs.7420/-	14 Days Strictly	DEE	276 Dated: 27-01-24	BUDGET 23-24
3.	Construction of Surface Drain from the h/o Ghulam Nabi Karaipak to the House Syed Altaf At owaisabad Housing Colony Bemina.	Rs. 1.38/-	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 2760/-	14 Days Strictly	DEE	280 Dated: 27-01-24	
	Construction of Drainage Work at Kumar Lane From the h/o Abdul Majid Kumar to Ab Rashid Sheikh at Rawalpora	Rs. 3.10/-	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 6200/-	14 Days Strictly	DEE	229 Dated: 22-01-24	
5.	Construction of lane from the h/o Shakeel Ahmad upto the h/o Mohammad Ayoub Dar at lane No.13 Alnoor Colony Chanapora.	Rs. 3.61/-	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 7220/-	14 Days Strictly	DEE	232 Dated: 22-12-23	
	Construction of Ramp at SMC office Lal Nagar Srinagar {IN- TER RESOURCE 23-24}	Rs. 0.22/-	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 440/-	14 Days Strictly	DEE	220 Dated: 21-12-2023	URBAN
	Upgradation of lane No.09 Sector 1st from h/o Zahoor Ahmad Dar upto the h/o Tariq Ahmad at Firdousabad Batmaloo.	Rs. 2.23/-	Rs.200/-	Rs. 5160/-	14 Days Strictly	DEE	234 Dated: 22- 12-2023	DEV.CAPEX BUD- GET23-24
	Re-Construction of Surface Drain from h/o Abdul Rashid Khan upto h/o Farooq Ahmad Dar at Firdous Colony Boatman Colony Bemina.{CAPEX BUDGET 23-24}	Rs. 1.50/-	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 3000/-	10 Days Strictly	DEE	70 Dated: 30-09- 2023	GE123-24
٧.	Construction of Storm Water Drain from H/o Gowher Ah- mad Sector B Gulshan Nagar Nowgam Masood to h/o Arshid Hussain Monga at Basharat Colony Sector B Gulshan Nagar Nowgam	Rs. 03.81/-	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 6200/-	18 Days Strictly	DEE	284 Dated: 27-02-24	
	Construction of Cement Concrete Drain and rasing of Main Holes at Bathar Colony Tengpora Bypass	Rs. 3.32/-	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 6640/-	15 Days	DEE	141 Dated:- 30-09-2022	Capex Budget 2023-2024
	Construction of Lane from Abdul RAzaq Khan to Mohammad Abdul Khan at Arjuman Lane RAmpora (Near Bike Machine Shop Qamarwari)	Rs. 1.20/-	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 2400/-	15 Days	DEE	111 Dated:- 30- 09-2023	Capex Budget 2023-2024
12.	Construction of Road/ Lane from Link Road Via House of Mo- hammad Qasim House of Mohammad Maqbool Mala/ Primer School Upto the House Ghulam Mustafaf mir at Fazula Abbad Khamani Chowk	Rs. 2.30/-	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 4600		DEE	80 Dated:- 30- 09-2023	Capex Budget 2023-2024

Other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

	,	CRITICAL DATE SHEET
1	Publish date	28-02-2024
2	Document download date	28-02-2024 06:00 PM
3	Bid submission/uploading date	28-02-2024 TO 05.03.2024 06:00 PM
4	Bid Opening date	0603-2024 12:00 AM
5.	Submission of hard copy for successful bidder	07-03-2024 10:00 AM To 04:00 PM

**TERMS & CONDITIONS:** 

The Earnest Money (EMD) in respect of the advertised Cost of the work should be 2% in shape CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer LRWD SMC. EMD2% of the successful bidder will be discharged when the bidder has signed the Agreement & furnished the required Performance Security

TheL-1contractor shall have to furnish the performance security @5% in shape CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer LRWD SMC of the value of allotted Cost valid till DLP before issuance of LOA / LOI. In case of L-1 failing to provide performance security @5% for the works within 7 days after being notified, his bid shall be cancelled and work shall be executed through other sources U/R at the risk , cost and responsibility of L1.

In Case of Holidays/office happens to be closed on the date of opening of bids. Bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and The intending tenderer /bidder should attach sales tax clearance certificate with upto date Validation without which no tenders/bids will be

entertained.

The bid shall be opened online in the Office of Executive Engineer LRWD, SMC at Old Funds office Building Karan Nagar near National School Municipal Park on 06-03-2024 12:00 PM.

Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Bank Receipt/ e- Challan pledged in favour of Chief Accounts Officer SMC in the Municipal Account No: 0216010200000007 payable at J&K Bank Brach. Scanned copy of the same with mention of NIET No. & Serial no. to be uploaded along with all other documents. The bidder shall be barred / black list as per law for tender fee in form of Bank Receipt, tender fee receipt and other relevant documents including Bid Security (CDR/FDR) dully filled up, if found with any ambiguity or unattested, correction / overwriting for any work, such tender / bid shall be considered as invalid bid and shall be out rightly rejected and action U/R shall be initiated. The Bid shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the Bid due date.

No.SMC/EELRWD/2768-77 Dated: 28-Feb-2024. DIPK-NB-5883-23 DT: 01/03/2024

# **Northern Command Chief Assesses LoC Security Situation**

**Agencies** 

SRINAGAR: Army Northern Command Commander, Lieutenant General MV Suchindra Kumar, conducted a comprehensive review of operational readiness and security conditions in the hinterland during his visit to the Pir Panjal region on Thursday, marking the second day of

He also visited National Rifles formations and the Romeo Force Headquarters in Palma. Earlier, on the first day of his visit, he inspected Line of Control (LoC) structures in Rajouri and Poonch

According to the reports received by the news agency, during his interactions with the troops, Lieutenant General MV Suchindra Kumar not only assessed the overall situation along the LoC but also delved into the security dynamics of the hinterland.

In addition to the forward areas, he closely examined the security arrangements in the hinterland, in collaboration with White Knight Corps Commander Lieutenant General Naveen

**CEO Reviews Preparedness** 

cer (CEO), Jammu and Kashmir, and development of an extensive

Pandurang Kondbarao Pole, on training program tailored for As-

formulation of a comprehensive material management plan, ef-

ficient and secure route mapping

sistant Returning Officers (AROs) Assistant Electoral Registration

Officers (AEROs) and designated

nodal officers to ensure extensive

to establish robust control rooms

in their respective districts to

monitor various aspects of the

election process, including track-

ing EVM-carrying vehicles, com-

munication from polling sta-

tions, monitoring print and social

media while acting as point of

contact in case of any emergen-

To maximize public partici-

pation in the electoral process,

Pandurang instructed the AROs

cies during the elections.

preparation for the elections. The CEO instructed the DEOs

**For Lok Sabha Election** 

**KO NEWS SERVICE** 

**SRINAGAR:** Chief Electoral Offi-

ficers to review preparations being made for General Lok

A detailed review of the Dis-

trict Election Management

Plans for Pulwama, Budgam,

Ganderbal and Srinagar districts

was undertaken. The meeting

was attended by the District

Election Officers and SSPs of all

discussion was held on imple-

mentation of electoral roll pro-

cess, assessment of logistical

requirements, manpower management plan, risk management

Among other facets, detailed

the concerned districts.

Sabha Election 2024.

aired a meeting of of-

# FFRC Warn Pvt Schools Of Charging **Hefty Admission Fee**

**SRINAGAR:** The Jammu and Kashmir Committee for Fixation and Regulation of Fee Of Private Schools (FFRC) has warned private schools for charging hefty admission fee. Besides, the Committee also ordered that the schools shall not indulge in charging advance fee.

According to the news agency FFRC said this while passing the directives to one of the leading private schools of Srinagar. The Committee said that it received a series of complaints against R.P School LawayPora in respect of admission fee being charged by the School. "It was alleged in the complaints that Rs 45000 were charged from the students as admission fee."

It is pertinent to mention that FFRC had issued a circular to all the schools not to charge admission fee as it was

that those schools who demand admis-

sion fee without any receipt the matter

barred under the statute. "It was also observed in the circular

said." The committee said that after receiving the complaints from the various candidate notices were issued to the school management to submit their reply. It also said that in this behalf, they were directed to appear before Committee for Fixation and Regulation of Fee of Private Schools J&K on Feb-15-2024. "Their representative appeared before the committee, informed and admitted that Rs. 45000 are charged from the can-

However, he denied that any admisreads. FFRC further said that the reprefee for a period of six months on acand registration fee. In order to clarify tive, the principal and other members to appear before the Committee on Feb-

didates from the current session.

sion fee was charged from the school," it sentative stated that it was an advance count of tuition fee, annual fee, bus fee this statement made by the representaof the management were summoned 26-2024. "The principal of the school affirmed the statement made by the rep-

Transport Fee for a period of six months," it reads. In this case, the Committee after deliberation finds that tuition fee, annual fee and transport fee is fixed on the higher side, the students will have to pay the differences. "Committee fixed the fee on the lower

in view of the stand taken by the School Management and undertaking submitted Rs 45000 collected by them is to be treated as advance fee on account of Tuition Fee, Annual Fee and Transport Charges. the schools shall not indulge in this type of practice in charging Advance fee in future. "The schools charging hefty

# 06 Private Tour **Operators Allotted** Seats For Haj-2024

**KO NEWS SERVICE** 

SRINAGAR: The Ministry of Minority Affairs, Govt. of tors) in Kashmir for registration Haj-2024 after they were found eligible. This was stated as per communication OM No.Haj-15/28/2022-HAJ-MoMA dated: 29-02-2024 of Ministry of Minority Affairs, Govt. of India. For the information of the public in general and aspiring Haj Pilgrims of Haj-2024 in particular, the names of these HGOs (Private Tour Operators) are hereunder.

M/s Sahar Tours and Travels, Sulaiman Complex, Dalgate; File No. JK02487024 has been allotted 50 seats under category II.

M/s Universe Travel Corporation, Dr. Ali Jan Complex, M.A. Road, Srinagar; File No. JK02527224 has been allotted a seat quota of 50 under category II.

M/s Labaika Haj & Umrah Services, 2nd Floor, MS Shopping Mall, Residency Road, Sgr; File No. JK02544624 has been allotted 50 seats under category II

M/s Al Ghazali Tour & Travels, Madina Chowk, Gawkadal, Sgr, File No. JK02456124 has been allotted 50 seats under category II.

M/s Fly High Tours and Travels, Mir, Complex, S.K. Colony, Anantnag; File No. JK02459024 has been allotted a seat quota of 50, under category II.

M/s Al Hayat Hajj and Umrah Travel Services, Crescent City Centre, 1st Floor, Main Road, Budgam; File No. JK02449924 has been allotted a quota of 50 seats under category II.

plan, transportation of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs), pollfor implementation of wideing staff and security personnel, spread awareness campaigns at security arrangements both in the booth level by engaging BLOs, sports personalities, government plains and border areas. The meeting further deliberemployees, youth icons, influated on allocation of sufficient encers and by organizing sports Human Resources, implementaevents, rallies, competitions, tion of SVEEP plan at booth level, door-to-door campaigns etc.

# Int'l Border Offers 40 Homestays With Zero Line View

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** In a bid to boost tourism along the International Border (IB), 40 homestays have been identified, providing tourists with a unique opportunity to witness farming activities on the zero line and experience life near the border firsthand.

This initiative, aimed at promoting border tourism, is set to redefine the tourism landscape in the region.

According to the reports received by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), under the joint collaboration between the Samba District Skill Committee and the School of Business Studies of the Central University, young entrepreneurs will receive specialized training to enhance their skills and manage homestays efficiently.

A formal agreement was signed between University Vice Chancellor Professor Sanjeev Jain and Samba District Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma to kickstart this initiative.

The homestays, designed in a bunkerlike fashion, offer tourists not only a comfortable stay but also a chance to immerse themselves in the local culture and lifestyle. Additionally, plans are underway to establish libraries and gyms in Ramgarh and transform community bunkers into model bunkers in Samba, further enhancing the tourism experience.

The initiative has sparked enthusiasm among border residents, particularly young entrepreneurs, who are now embracing the opportunity to capitalize on the burgeoning tourism potential of the region. With the support of both the Central and Union Territory administrations, the homestay scheme is gaining momentum, with tangible benefits already beginning to emerge.

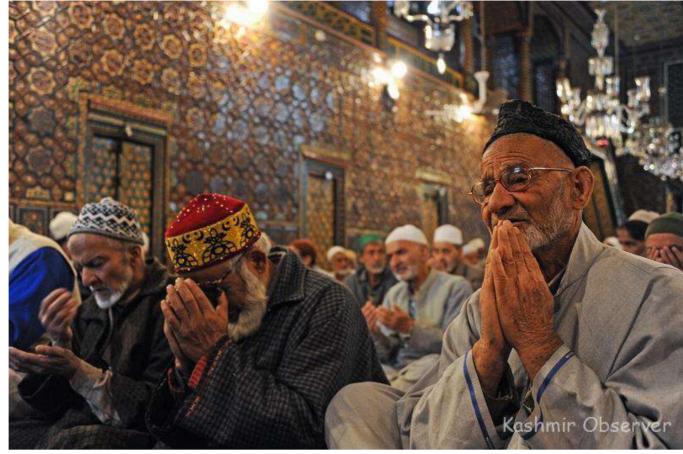
Speaking about the initiative, Chamliyal resident Des Raj expressed gratitude towards Prime Minister Narendra Modi for fostering peace along the border, which has paved the way for economic opportunities and tourism development. He noted that the cessation of cross-border shelling has instilled a sense of security among villagers, opening up new avenues for growth.

The locals also highlighted the transformative impact of border tourism on the region. They emphasized the importance of showcasing the ground reality to tourists, providing them with an authentic experience and fostering cultural exchange.

Billu Chaudhary, President of Baba Chamliyal Teerth, expressed optimism about the influx of tourists to the region, noting the potential for economic upliftment and cultural exchange. He emphasized the significance of homestays in promoting social interaction and understanding among visitors, further cementing the bonds of friendship and camaraderie along the border.

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During the course of Islamization of Kashmir, history has seen Shia Sunni clashes right from the date of advent of missionaries and religious figures, from 1480 AD onwards, right through Chak rule, when bigotry and intolerance, is said to have touched a new crescendo.



# Scholars, Saints and the Syncretic Strain - PART 1

A Historical Overview Of The Different Faiths In The Hospitable Land- Kashmir



S.Sarwar Malik

missaries and teachers, who travelled, during the early stage of Islam, almost fourteen centuries back, to the neighbouring lands of Arabia, played a great role in its propagation. Depending on their speciality they came to be called, hufaaz, mubaligs, muhaddis and muffasir etc that is memorizers/ reciters; propagators; narrators of the statements of the holy Prophet and commentators/exegesisexperts of the holy verses, respectively.

But there was another type of men, characterised by their impressive temperament, having distinctive character that commanded reverence, far and wide. They were the Sufi missionaries who traversed long distances and went as far as Africa, Persia, India etc. They did not merely sow the seed of Islam but impressed whoever came in contact with these meditating, contemplating, pacifists, mystics, who taught disciples in their own distinct teaching-sessions/ sermons; initiating seekers to the gradual upward march.

Within Islam there was the orthodox element that saw the imbibing of local elements by the sprouting sufi schools as an alien element while as the Sufi's cited the handful of men present in Mecca during the nascent stage of Islam, or those found 'mostly seated within the premises of the Holy Mosque of Medina, usually occupying-the-platform / ahle-sawoof as the precursors while some even saw the overnight stays of holy Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w) in the Hira cave, in the pre-prophethood-declaration stage, as the seed of Tasawoof but not all sects see it as a favourable strain. This mysticism was more popular outside Arabia, especially in Iraq, Persia, Central Asia etc, and grew in India too.

The conservative orthodoxy, at some places, gave lot of trouble to these mystics, opposed their philosophy vehemently, even persecuted many and hence we come across some names, who for having 'offended powerful muslim clergy-nigh to corridors of power'; and suffered ill treatment, say for example, the most-talked about, Mansur al Hallaj, who pronounced Ana- al- haqq that cost him his very life.

Besides the clashes of the orthodox and the mystics, differences among the various sects within Islam(- 72 firqay) surfaced during the course of history, but glaring differences between the Shia/ Jafferi sect and the Sunni sects (- that led to the darkest and most sad event, karbala, within the very first century of Islam) have not been fully reconciled in these 14 centuries and not only no matrimonial ties are forged between the two, but 'mosques are different and so are aalims & moulanas and Paishnimazi-imams as well as practices'.

During the course of Islamization of Kashmir, history has seen Shia Sunni clashes right from the date of advent of missionaries and religious figures, from 1480 AD onwards, right through Chak rule, when bigotry and intolerance,is said to have touched a new crescendo.
Shah Miris, who were 'Dards of

Swat' ruled Kashmir. Sultan Sikander Shahmiri, the 7th Sultan, who ruled from 1389 to 1413 AD, has gone down in history as 'the iconoclast' and it is said that in his time a considerable section of the populace of Kashmir,had to adopt Islam. However the period of his grandson's (Zainul Abideen) was peaceful. It is also said that the post 1483 period of Chak Clan(-Dardic descent) witnessed strife and feuds.

A word of caution from my teacher:

"Researchers need to bear in mind the fact that almost all historians of bygone era, everywhere, were hired-pens who penned down things in an exaggerated manner,who saw things from their angle; even twisted facts, so as to suit their pay masters as well as to secure their personal interests. The braggings of one Musa Raina,the Prime Minister, need not be wholly true and researchers need to write about the period of Sultan Hassan Shah and Mohmmad Shah, with extra caution."

Anyway, in recent times, that is post 1947, except for some small events(- that too were fueled and fanned by politicians), the overall situation is calm. However, it is noted with pain, that the social ties of the two sects are still weak.

Readers are reminded that Kashmir not only played host to Islam, as revealed by its history, but also to Buddhism in ancient times and to Sikhism in recent times. Thus proving that there was some unique absorbing capacity inherent in this place which not only moulded its socio-religious and cultural fabric in its peculiar way but also spread its fame, rendering it attractive for the outside world -- wherever the word travelled.

This land gained fame as the Sharda Peeth of yore, Land of SARASWATI-the goddess of learning; where, from very early times, the great Pandits of Hinduism, scholars of the divergent schools of Buddhism etc could discuss, debate, and foster a sort of hybridisation on syncretic lines, in its unique atmosphere. Hinduism and Buddhism influenced each other but the latter exhibited a metamorphosis on such a scale that its Tantra school took a colour, completely alien to the primordial Buddhism of Lord Buddha. This happened in a comparatively peaceful manner but mad moments were not always far behind.

Not that violent-streaks had been completely washed off elsewhere; history is replete with events where one religion or school remained dominant for a period, followed by back lash, resurgence, brutal killings, gaining dominance, plundering religious sym-



Readers are reminded that Kashmir not only played host to Islam, as revealed by its history, but also to Buddhism in ancient times and to Sikhism in recent times. Thus proving that there was some unique absorbing capacity inherent in this place which not only moulded its socio-religious and cultural fabric in its peculiar way but also spread its fame, rendering it attractive for the outside world -- wherever the word travelled

bols and centres. Likewise in Kashmir some kings, professing AND patronising Trika Shaivism, not only destroyed the Buddhist temples but were harsh on the followers. Thus, sadly we have lost the Buddhist Viharas and Stupas of Kashmir.

History tells us that in the first century AD, Central Asian Kushans invaded India under Hushika. Juska and Kanishka,conquering Kashmir as well. Kanishka propagated Mahayana Buddhism with great zeal and his Empire included Ladakh, Kabul, Yarkand, Agra, Punjab as well as Kashmir. Here The Buddhist Council was held at Kundalvan (possibly Harwan) monastery of Kashmir, thereafter MAHAYANA rose as the powerful school; whose founder was Asvagosha; the propounder of Shunyavada theory. (About the just mentioned Shuniyayada, readers can read my writeup; that appeared in a local English daily on 18 Jan 2024). Asvagosha was succeeded by Nagarjuna who founded The Madhyamika school. Nagarjuna, it is said, caused weakening of the dominant Naga faith in Kashmir; that was in essence, Hinduism with local colour. By 100 AD Buddhism was split into Mahayana and Hinayana. After Kanishka, Abhimanu ruled Kashmir. The traditional rites and customs of the Naga faith dwindled.

In its heyday, many Buddhist teachers/monks from kashmir had sown the seeds of this religion in fertile soils like China, Tibet etc. Here are the names of some great Teachers of Kashmir: Sanghabuti 381 AD, KumarJiva 385, Dharmayasa 397, Punyatrata 404, Shakyashri Bhadra 405, Vimalaksha 406, Guru Varman 431 AD and Tributa, Jina Mitra, Ananda etc. (Those interested in Buddhism of Kashmir, especially the Parihaspora site, can study Stein's work of 1892 and that of Indian archaeologists, done in 1925; besides reading the literature available about Lamaism of Ladakh. Nilmatpurana- The National Epic of Kashmir, also known as Kasmira Mahatmva: written around the 6th-8th century, speaks about these Nagas while narrating the legend of Satisar. (Nila was the Supreme lord of all the Nagas).

The legend says that lord Vishnu had allocated this land to Nagas while Lord Brahma had given boon to the lake demon, Jalodbhava. The lake itself had been created exclusively for the gods and goddesses but this demon would make it his safe refuge after terrorising the populace. At the end, Lord Vishnu & Lord Ananta drained out the water of Satisar, and killed the demon. Later in time Nagas, Pisacas and Manavas are said to have cohabited here.

Hieun Tsang too is believed to have borrowed the legend of Satisar lake from

this Nilamata Purana. So did our Annals, Kashmir's pride: Rajatarangni, penned by Kalhana in the 12th Century; translated into English by Sir Marc Aurel Stein, in 1900.

Kalhans book contains information about the 'history ' of Kashmir from 7th century AD to 1150 AD, that of Jonaraja(dvitiya =part ll of Rajatarangini) from 1100 to 1400 AD, that of Srivasa(tritya=part III) from 1400 to 1490 and that of Prajna Bhatta(chaturthi=4th) upto 1590. All in Sanskrit.

However, it has to be kept in view that in spite of the praise showered by modern historiographers on Kalhan, the fanciful accounts and the legendary part borrowed from Nilamatapurana, and that given in the first three cantos of Rajatarangini; obviously borrowed chiefly from some then-existing-chronicles, can not be strictly treated as history, though useful.

Rajatarangni starts with King Gonanda -I (- Mahabharata time, as per internal evidence) and it is said 52 kings preceded him. (It is said to mention goddess Sharda & River Vitasta in Tarang 1, Shivratri in Tarang 8, and bridges in Tarang 3,5,7.)

During King Nara's reign, (around 190 AD), it is said, the enraged Nagas levelled the Buddhist temples to the ground and burnt thousands of Viharas. It also happened under the Hun ruler Mihir Kula(-died in 612 AD). Readers may recall that in the fall of Gupta dynasty Kashmir went in the hands of Huns when Mihir Kula, after being expelled from the Punjab, first found refuge here, then usurped power. Reins of government remained in the hand of these Huns till the Karkota (Nagas) Dynasty came to power in the first half of the seventh century, beginning with the rule of DurlabhaVardana. In 2nd half of the 7th century AD PartapaDitya son of DurlabhaVardhana, ruled Kashmir. This last mentioned Karkota king had three sons: Vajraditya Chandrapida, Udayaditya Tarapida and Lalitaditya Muktapida. Chandrapida (711-719 AD) sent an envoy to the Chinese emperor asking for aid against Arabs, as Muhammad bin Qasim had probably reached the frontiers of Kashmir but before he could enter Kashmir he was recalled and died soon, thereafter. Tarapida ruled from 720-724 AD, whereafter Lalitaditya, the great Karkota king ruled till 760 AD. The latter is said to have conquered Kanuj in Central India; area upto Orissa, possibly Deccan, Punjab, Dardistan & parts of Tibet, Ladakh etc but modern writers have labelled it as exaggeration. It must be borne in mind that Sahi's ruled in Kabul and Kandahar (Gandhara) that time and the Muhammadan invaders of Arabia were advancing towards North India from Sindh. Lalitaditya is said to have died either in Afghanistan, or during the onslaught on Tibet. Famous Martand temple of Kashmir is attributed to this Lalitaditva.

Chaotic affairs Continued during the last 50 years of Karkota dynasty; thereafter Avintivarman of the Utpala dynasty ascended to the throne in 855 AD and the dynasty continued till Lohara Dynasty came to power in 1003 AD. The period from 1003 to 1170 was marred by internal conflicts. In the 12th century Kashmir was conquered by the muslims; around 1316 Sikander ruled Kashmir and in 1323 AD a prince of Ladakhi origin Rinchen came to the scene bearing a Muslim name.

A Mohammedan adventurer of Swat, Shah Mir, employed by Kashmir's then Prime Minister cum Commander in chief, Ram Chandera, overthrew the Lohara queen Kota Rani in 1339AD. Rinchen (-a refugee; bestowed with Jageer of Lar Valley), was also waiting for an opportunity. Invasion by a Tartar chief from Central Asia, Dulucha, who ravaged Kashmir forced Kashmiri king Suhadeva, to flee to Kishtwar, Dulchana and Rinchen attacked Srinagar town from East and North, respectively. For eight months Dulucha ravaged the Valley but left thereafter; Rinchen killed RamaChandra treacherously, in Lar fort; married his daughter Kota and with the help of Shah Mir usurped the throne, restored peace & happiness and as per some writers (-not Jonaraja) embraced Islam after initiation by Saint Bulbul Shah. Rinchen is said to have died of the sword wounds inflicted by his enemies in 1323 AD. Udyananda (brother of King Suhadeva) ruled from 1323-1338 AD and married Kota Rani. She soon became the real ruler and bestowed favours on the sons of Shah Mir.

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

The author is a Srinagar based Penman, Columnist & Det, who has been contributing non-political writeups to newspapers & Det amp; literary journals, from over two decades

# Unveiling the Menace of Online Discrimination in Today's Connected World

### Faria Bhat

The fight against discrimination has shifted online beyond physical boundaries as the world revolves around digital connections. Following Zero Discrimination Day, it is essential to address the hidden problem of digital discrimination and its widespread impact.

### The Rise of Online Hate Speech

Hate speech on social media platforms has become a significant issue in the connected world. Discriminatory comments, particularly those that target specific communities and genders and dehumanise individuals, have become prevalent and are causing harm.

Examples of such content range from derogatory remarks and offensive memes to deliberate misinformation that targets specific groups.

Unfortunately, the consequences of such actions go beyond individual feelings; they can escalate into real-world tensions, affecting social harmony and amplifying

India has witnessed a growing hate speech menace online. It is home to various ethnic groups or communities, leading to more chances of group violence and communal fights between different

For instance, Uttar Pradesh, India's largest state, has seen a massive 400% jump in hate speech-related violence between 2021 (147) and 2022 (581). Although there are several laws, including Section 66 (A) of the Information Technology Act, defining and penalising online hate speech, the hate speeches and resultant violence continue to flourish in the absence of effective policing and robust political response. (1)

**Cyber-Racism** 



Cyber racism refers to the manifestation of racial discrimination and prejudice in the digital or online environment. It involves using digital platforms, such as social media, websites, blogs, or other online spaces, to promote discriminatory practices based on race, ethnicity, or re-

For example, racism can occur on social media platforms, such as offensive jokes or comments, name-calling or verbal abuse, harassment or intimidation, or public commentary which incites hostility towards certain groups.

Due to the widespread dissemination of racist content on the internet, some individuals may begin to believe that hate speech is acceptable. Exposure to harmful language regularly may even desensitise people to its effects, leading to increased tolerance of such behaviour online and in real-life communities.

### Cyberbullying

In the past few years, incidents of cyberbullying have escalated among the youth. Due to advanced technology, young people are increasingly engaged with social media. Along with this increased usage, online bullying has become more

As of July 2021, over 60% of the world's population, or 4.8 billion people, used social networks. This resulted in an annual growth rate of 5.7%, meaning that 700k users were added daily (Digital Around the World, 2021).

As the number of social media users increases, so does the prevalence of cyber-

UNICEF conducted a poll in which more than 33% of the youth admitted they had been bullied online in 30 selected countries across the globe (UNICEF, 2020). This has made one in five students skip school because of fears of cyberbullying and vio-

In India, as per 2020 data, 50,035 reported cases of cybercrime consisted of 1614 cases of cyberstalking, 762 cases of cyber blackmailing, 84 cases of defamation, 247 cases of fake profiles and 838 cases of fake news. The crime was found to have increased by 63.48% from 27248 cases (in 2018) to 44548 cases (in 2019). It increased by 12.32% in 2020 (from 4,45,48 cases to 5,00,35 cases). (2)

### **Ensuring Inclusive Online Spaces**

Creation of inclusive online spaces can be very hard, yet few champions can achieve this goal alone. All participants in the society should be involved in this process. Places must showcase proactive efforts in policy enforcement for antidiscrimination, hiring diversified moderation teams, and technology investment for automatic identification and curbing of discriminatory content. The advantage of having simple report systems is that all individuals would be involved in making a safer digital environment.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, the need to address digital discrimination is undeniable, especially given that the evolution of discrimination has moved to the giant world of the internet. Today, as we celebrate Zero Discrimination Day, let us propel ourselves towards a future where the digital world mirrors the principles of diversity, empathy, and

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

# Shraddha Barot Amariei

It is a question that has been debated heatedly for years. Women have made significant strides in terms of equality in the workplace but numbers show that only 3 per cent of female leaders make it to top positions in the Middle East. And yes, women have it harder. But mostly because of the way we are biologically wired.

In most cases, if not always, women tend to be the primary caregivers when raising a family. And while men are (finally) stepping into their roles and supplanting contribute to this. Sometimes the the work of high-achieving women, it is still not the norm. From the same vantage point, women have to overcome insur- overwhelming, leaving women mountable obstacles as they shoulder the

despite the multi-faceted advancement in choices, their appearance, and their proworking cultures around the world, the expectation still remains largely the same. excel in all areas of life all the time can take And the perceptions about people who value their families aren't too great.

The reality is that most women still face

managers, and long working hours all pressure to succeed both professionally and personally can feel feeling stretched too thin and partners and access to affordable

significant barriers to achieving a truly integrated life — one where they are progressing professionally while remaining fully committed to a holistic family life. Rigid working environments, unsupportive

ers, can strive to find a better work-life integration that gives them the freedom to focus on both work and family While it's easier for men to put aside their familial concerns and

ed of their male counterparts. Even today, harshly than men for their parenting oritise families over professions – if they ab- have it all but only when they have the flexfessional performance. And the pressure to its toll and emerge in the form of burnout,

anxiety, and depression. This brings us back to the original question. Can women really have it all? The answer is not that straightforward. For most women, true balance is an elusive idea. At best, women, particularly working moth-

For me personally, living a full life has been my unwavering dream — an idea that became a commitment later in life and inspired life-changing decisions. Just like most women today, my career started with working crazy hours but it wasn't long before I realised that if I ever hoped to enjoy

solutely need to choose one. This is why womibility to make their lives work better for en must show up in their careers differently.

For a working woman, this means hav- in positions of power, we need to continue ing a flexible schedule, working weekends, to push for and adopt cultural changes that working from home, and working 'bizarre support women's ability to succeed both hours', as I call them, when the children are professionally and personally, without sacasleep or before they arise. Flexibility can be a real game-changer and make women function optimally while not opting out on raising a family.

important to recognise that every woman's definition of "having it all" is different. For some, it may mean pursuing a relatively low-key career with pay cuts to raise a family. For others, it may mean prioritising better work-life integration and changing careers if their original plans don't support their idea of a content life.

themselves. Overall, as leaders or people

rificing one for the other. But ultimately, it's

There is no one-size-fits-all answer to this question, and it's up to each individual to de-



# **Fusion Of Cloud Computing And Cutting-Edge Technologies Emerges In Tackling Deepfake Menace**

ANI

n an era dominated by digital advancements, the rise of deepfake technology poses a significant threat to the integrity of information and media. Deepfakes, synthetic media created using artificial intelligence algorithms, can convincingly manipulate audio and video content, raising concerns about misinformation, identity theft, and the erosion of trust in media. As this challenge looms large, the marriage of cloud computing and cuttingedge technologies emerges as a crucial defence against the deepfake menace.

Cloud computing, with its scalable infrastructure and processing power, plays a pivotal role in both the creation and mitigation of deep fakes. Numerous alarming incidents employing deepfake videos were reported in India in 2023. One such occurrence was actor Rashmika Mandanna, whose face was placed on that of a British-Indian social media celebrity.

According to "2023 State of Deepfakes Report" by "Home Security Heroes", a US-based web security services provider, deepfake films have increased fivefold since 2019, underscoring the urgency of addressing this evolving threat.

How do cloud-based threat



intelligence platforms contribute to proactive defence strategies against deepfake?

Ashish Laddha, Chief Delivery Officer at Quarks Technosoft explains, "Cloudbased threat intelligence platforms play a crucial role in coordinating responses to emerging deepfake challenges and contribute to a proactive defense against deepfake threats.

These platforms leverage the collective intelligence gathered from various sources, includ-

ing global network traffic, user behaviour, and known threat databases. In the context of deepfakes, cloudbased threat intelligence platforms can analyse patterns and identify potential threats by monitoring the dissemination of deepfake content across cloud networks. By continuously updating threat databases and sharing real-time insights. these platforms enable a coordinated response among cloud service providers, security professionals, and law enforcement agencies. This proactive defence approach allows for the rapid identification and mitigation of deepfake threats before they can cause significant harm, he added.

How can global collaboration enhance the effectiveness of combating deepfake threats on a worldwide scale?

Bhaskar Ganguli, Director of Marketing and Sales at Mass Software Solutions Pvt Ltd, highlights the effectiveness of collaboration on cloud platforms in creating a global

network of expertise. Cloudcollaboration foster instantaneous information exchange and group problem-solving, facilitating seamless global cooperation among security experts. This global network enables the quick sharing of threat indicators, detection approaches, and responses, forming a united front against ever-evolving deepfake techniques.

How does adaptability play a crucial role in addressing the challenges posed by the constantly evolving deepfake landscape?

Ratan Dargan, co-founder and CTO of ThoughtSol Infotech, said, "As the deepfake landscape continues to evolve at a rapid pace, adaptability emerges as our greatest ally in confronting its myriad challenges. Cloud computing's inherent flexibility empowers us to swiftly embrace advancements in detection technologies, staying ahead of

By seamlessly integrating modern algorithms and machine learning models into our cloud systems, we not only enhance our detection capabilities but also foster an environment of constant innovation. In this ever-changing landscape, adaptability isn't just advantageous — it's imperative, he added.

How does cloud computing contribute to the mitigation of deepfake threats?

# 'Better Air Quality Linked To **Reduced Suicide Rates'**

Press Trust Of India

Lower air pollution levels may be associated with reduced suicide rates, according to a study conducted in China.

Researchers at the University of California, Santa Barbara, estimate that China's efforts to reduce air pollution have prevented 46,000 suicide deaths in the country over just five years.

The team used weather conditions to tease apart confounding factors affecting pollution and suicide rates, arriving at what they consider to be a truly causal connection.

The results, published in the journal Nature Sustainability, unearth air quality as a key factor influencing mental health.

Issues like air pollution are often framed as a physical health problem leading to a spectrum of acute and chronic illnesses such as asthma, cardiovascular disease and lung cancer, the researchers said.

The research team had previously studied the effect of temperature on suicide rates in India, finding that excessive heat drives those rates up.

The team was curious to notice that the suicide rate in China dropped far faster than its decline in the rest of the world.

In 2000, the country's percapita suicide rate was higher than global average but two decades later it has fallen below that average, which itself is declining, the researchers said.

At the same time, air pollution levels were plummeting, they said.

"It's very clear that the war on pollution in the last seven to eight years has led to unprecedented declines in pollution at a speed that we really have not seen anywhere else," said study colead author Tamma Carleton, an assistant professor at UC Santa Barbara.

Carleton and co-lead author Peng Zhang, a former UC Santa Barbara doctoral



student, teamed up with researchers in Xanghai and Beijing to examine the effects of China's recent crackdown on air pollution on suicide rates across the country.

They gathered demographic data from 2013 through 2017 from the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention and meteorological data from the China Meteorological Data Service Center.

The team compared suicide numbers across 600 counties between weeks with inversions and those with more typical weather, running the data through a statistical model.

# **New Waste Management Tech Could** Improve Life In Rural India: Study

Press Trust Of India

new technology for waste management could help **L**villages in India reduce indoor air pollution, improve soil health, and generate clean energy, according to a study.

In a paper published in the journal Science of the Total Environment, resaerchers produced a detailed breakdown of how a process called pyrolysis could turn biomass waste like rice straw, manure and wood into a solution for three common problems at once.

Pyrolysis is a kind of chemical eycling that turns leftoyer organ ic materials into their component molecules. It works by sealing the waste inside an oxygen-free chamber and heating it to more than 400 degrees Celsius, producing useful chemicals in the process.

In the paper, the researchers

ازعدالت ایڈیشنل ڈسٹر کٹ جج ( بنک مقد مات ) سرینگر

بااجلاس:**اروندشر ما** 

J&K Bank B/U Khayam Sgr

بنام

Shadow The High Designer

وعوى وصوليا في رقم مبلغ = / 6,63,398 : الشنهار بمراد أكاهى بنام

M/S Shadow The High Designer Boutique Prop: Mrs. Shagufta D/o Abdul Khaliq Dar R/o Azad Basti Near Airtel Tower Lane Nowpora

مقدمہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں مدعا علیہ/ مدعالیم کی تمیل کرانے کی بسیار کوشیش کی گئی

۔ اِلا نہ تو پید جدید پر مدعاعلیہ/ مدعالیم دستیاب ہوئے اور نہ ہی بذریعی<sup>معین تع</sup>میل لائی

گئے۔ بدین وجہ حسب استدائی مدعاعلیہ/ مدعالیم جو بذراجہ اشتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم مسلغ

-لہذا آپ کو بذر بعیاشتہار ہزامطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ بغرض پیروی ابراء ہذا بعنوان

بالامورخا 2024-03-04 اصالتاً يا وكالتاً بروفت كچيري حاضر آكر مقدمه مذاك پیروی کریں \_بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کاروائی بعمل لائی جائے گی تحریر

ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج بنگ مقد مات سرینگر

ازعدالت ایڈیشنل ڈسٹر کٹ جج ( بنک مقد مات ) سرینگر بااجلاس:ا**روندشر ما** 

J&K Bank B/U Residency Road Sgr

بنام

Sajad Ahmad Bhat

اشتهاز بمراد آگاهی بنام

ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج بنک مقد مات سرینگر

Sajad Ahmad Bhat S/o Gh Rasool Bhat R/o

Chanda Para Habba Kadal Sgr

دعوىٰ وصوليا بي رقم مبلغ = *ل* 

=/ Rs 6,63,398 (ساعت عدالت بذا ہے۔

from the University of Glasgow in the UK outlined how three products of pyrolysis -- bio-oil, syngas and biochar fertiliser -- could help villagers live healthier and greener lives with more productive farmland. The research also lays out a series of recommendations for maximising the system's economic viability.

The project began with a survey of nearly 1,200 rural households across Odisha, investigating their experiences of cooking, powering their homes, and farming.

Over 80 per cent of those surveyed wanted to switch from cooking indoors with smoke-producing coal to cleaner ontions and access to reliable grid electricity was a priority for almost all respondents.

About 90 per cent said they would be willing to sell agricultural waste to support bioenergy, the researchers found.

The feedback helped inform the team's design for a communitylevel pyrolysis system called "BioTRIG" which would run on waste and provide a series of benefits for rural communities who live below the poverty line.

The syngas and bio-oil would help heat and power the pyrolosis system in future cycles, with surplus electricity used to power local homes and businesses, the researchers said.

The clean-burning bio-oil could also be used to replace dirty cooking fuels in homes, and biochar could be used to store carbon while improving soil fertility, they said.

Computer simulations of effective the BioTRIG system could be in real-world applications showed that it could help drop greenhouse gas emissions from communities by nearly 350 kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent per capita per annum.

# Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, **Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir**

Nirvachan Bhawan, Railhead Complex, Jammu

Subject:- Appointment of 10 Data Entry Operators in the Election Department (Chief Electoral Officer's Office J&K). Reference: - Letter No: JKSSB-Scry/19/2023-03(E-7325564) dated 19-01-2024 from J&K Service Selection Board.

> Order No: CEO/Estt/2024/80 Dated:29-02-2024

On the recommendation of the J&K Service Selection Board, sanction is hereby accorded to the appointment of 10 candidates enclosed as per annexure "A" as Data Entry Operators in the Election Department (Chief Electoral Officer's Office J&K), UT Cadre in the Pay Level -2 (19900-63200).

The appointees shall report in the office of Chief Electoral Officer, J&K Nirvachan Bhawan, Rail Head Complex, Jammu within a period of twenty one (21) days from the date of issuance of this order and such candidates who fail to join within the stipulated time, shall forego their right to appointment and the same shall be deemed to have been cancelled ab-initio without any further notice.

The appointees shall be allowed to join only on the production of following certificates (in original) to be verified subsequently:-

Academic/Qualification Certificates.
 Matriculation/Date of Birth Certificate.

3. Health Certificate from the concerned Chief Medical Officer of the District.

Domicile Certificate issued by Competent Authority
 Valid relevant Category Certificate, if any applicable

The appointment of all candidates mentioned as per Annexure "A" shall further be subject to the following conditions:

(a) Each appointee shall give an Undertaking in the shape of an Affidavit to the affect that if on verification, his/her qualification/date of birth/reserved category certificate from the concerned issuing authorities is found fake/forged, his/her appointment as Data Entry Operator in the J&K Election Department (Subordinate Service) shall be deemed to have been cancelled ab-initio and the legal action as warranted under rules shall be initiated against him/her

(b) That if the candidate has taken loan for self employment from DIC/Employment Department, to be ascertained from District Industries Centre (DIC) and District Employment and Counseling Centre of the Domicile district, he/she shall relinquish the proprietorship of the unit /enterprise and also stakes, if any, in such self employment unit/enterprise before joining the Government Service. He/she shall be required to repay the entire loan liability in the suitable EMIs to be worked out by DDO concerned from his/her salary. DDO concerned shall obtain an affidavit from the concerned appointee regarding both relinquishment of proprietorship and stakes, if any, in such a self employment unit/enterprise and recovery to be made and also personally monitor its recovery

(c) The salary of the appointees shall not be drawn and disbursed to them unless the satisfactory report in respect of genuineness of Qualification/Date of Birth/Relevant Category Certificate is received from the concerned Authorities/Agency.

(d) The appointees shall be initially on probation for a period of two years.

(e) The appointment of the candidates shall be governed by the "New Pension Scheme" as notified vide SRO-400 of 2009 dated 24-12-2009.

(f) The inter-se-seniority of the appointees in the J&K Election Department (Subordinate Service) shall be determined as per the J&K Civil Service (Classification,

Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956.

(g) The appointment of all the appointees mentioned in the Annexure "A" shall be subject to outcome of writ petition(s), if any pending before Competent Court of law

(Pandurang K. Pole) IAS Chief Electoral officer J&K,

No. CEO-EsttOGF/25/2023-1/4240-488 DIPK-17267/23 Dated:01-03-2024

Annexure "A" to order No:CEO/Estt/2024/86

dated: 29-02-2024

Special Secretary,

Bak, Jammu

O/o Chief Electoral Officer,

S.No	Name of the appointee S/Sh/Mrs.	Parentage S/Sh.	Address	Category	
1. Vikram Kumar		Kasturi Lal	H.No 101,W.No 04 Dangri Lower Rajouri-185132	PSP	
2.	Tarun Shamra	Narinder Kumar	W.No. 02, Sehar, Kathua-184104	ОМ	
3.	Rajat Gupta	Vinod Kumar	Matto, Khour Jammu-181203	ALC/IB	
4.	Harish Chander	Sham Lal	Surjan, Bani, Kathua-184206	ST	
5. Mudasir Ahmad Wani		Gh. Mohd Wani	H.No. 906, Wani Mohalla, Khanpora Wakura, Ganderbal- 193501	RBA	
6.	Mukesh Rana	Puran Chand	H.No.106, Ramgarh, Kamore, Samba-181141	sc	
7.	Manik Sharma	Rajesh Sharma	H.No 51, lane No.1 Patoli, Mangotrain, Jammu-180007	OM/EWS	
8.	Amit Kumar	Des Raj	Chatha Farm, Satwari Jammu- 181101	sc	
9.	Anushika Sharma	Rajesh Sharma	H.No 51 Patoli Mangotrian Jammu- 180007	EWS	
10.	Hussam ud Din	Salam Ud Din	Ajas Bandipora -193502	ST	

۔ اِلا نہ تو پہنہ جدید پر مدعاعلیہ/ مدعالیم دستیاب ہوئے اور نہ بی ہزریعیم عزیقتیل لا کی گئے۔ بدین وجہ حسب استدائی مدعالیم الدعالیم جو بذر بعداشتہار بذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ نے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم مبلغ =/ Rs 12.39.132 جازيساعت عدالت بذائي -لبذا آپ كو بذرا يعداشتهار بذا مطلع كياجا تائي كه آپ بغرض پيروي ابراء بذا بعنوان بالامورخا 2024-03-04 اصالتاً يا وكالتاً بروفت كچيري حاضراً كرمقدمه مذاكي پیروی کریں \_بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کا روائی بعمل لائی جائے گی ۔نح سر

# Before The Hon'ble High Court Of Jammu & Kashmir And Ladakh At Srinagar

Caveat no.... ..../2024

IN THE CASE OF:

Abdul Qayoom Lone, Age 32 Years S/o Abdul Aziz Lone R/o Kangan, Ganderbal (Originally from Tullail)

Caveator.

Versus Public At Large

Non Caveators.

IN THE MATTER OF:

Caveat application in terms of the Section 148-A of the Code of

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR The caveator humbly submits

3. That the caveators apprehend that Non-caveators may file a writ petition, revision, LPA or any other proceeding before this Hon'ble court against the order dated 13/02/2024 passed by the Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal against the caveator and may succeed in getting an ex-parte order. Therefore, this caveat.

4. That in the event any such writ Petition, revision, LPA or any other proceedings being preferred by the non-caveatorss against the caveator, the caveator may kindly be given an opportunity of being heard.

In the premises, it is therefore prayed that in the event of filing of writ petition, revision. LPA or any other proceeding by the noncaveators, the caveators may be put on notice before passing of

> Caveators through Counsel Adv. Umar Rashid, Sabrina Fayaz 7006690817

# **J&K Bank Shines At MSME Banking Excellence Awards-2023**

Wins Best MSME Bank Award, Second Best Award for Promoting Government Schemes



**SRINAGAR:** Adding another feather of excellence to its cap, J&K Bank won the 'Best MSME Bank' Award on Thursday night at MSME Banking Excellence Awards (2023) - an event organized by the Delhi-based Chamber of Indian Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (CIMSME). The Bank also received the Second Best Award for Promoting Government Schemes under 'Private Bank' category in the country.

MD & CEO Baldev Prakash received the prestigious award at the hands of the Justice Deepak Verma in presence of President (CIMSME) Mukesh Mohan Gupta and the Bank's General Manager (Credit) Ashutosh Sareen at a high profile event held on

Thursday evening in New Delhi.
Dedicating both the awards to the commitment of Bank staff, MD & CEO said, "I feel proud to attribute this achievement to the entire J&K Bank Family, whose ever-growing commitment to fostering en-trepreneurship and economic

growth continues to be acknowledged and appreciated at prestigious forums like these in the country. These awards will further boost our motivation to continue our mission of empowering MSMEs and broadening the socio-economic development across our operational geographies."

encourage the MSME growth in the country."

"As of now, J&K Bank has over 3.61 lac accounts in MSME segment with an exposure of over Rs 19,000 Crore, out of which 75000 MSME units are led by women that involve the funding amount of over Rs 2000

Highlighting the Bank's contribution towards encouraging inclusive growth in the MSME sector, MD & CEO said, "In terms of contribution towards MSME sector, our numbers speak louder than our words. We have always been on the forefront of creating employment opportunities in the sector and have robust numbers to

# 'Tourism Deptt Working On Renewed Plan To Make J&K A **World Famous Tourist Destination'**



**Observer News Service** 

**JAMMU:** In a meeting on Friday called to take a peek into the renewed tourism development plan by the Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, several new innovative steps were highlighted by the concerned department to make I&K the most popular tourist destination in the country

Commissioner Secretary, Tourism, Yasha Mudgal elucidated several aspects of this strategy under development for the cognizance of the Chief Secretary.

During this meeting it was made out that the Department is in a process of working out different progressive concepts for substantial increase in footfall to our tourist destinations and making J&K hub of tourism all over the country.

Among several other initiatives, the department is contemplating to take up projects in Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode in both the divisions for increasing tourist footfall to such locations besides adding variety of activities to perform there.

It has also decided to conduct a 3-day conference inviting high profile domain experts in areas including Administration pitality, Tourism Academia, eco Tourism, IT, Travel Trade Associations, Film and Industrial sectors.

It further intends to hold shows like Grand F4 Car shows in association with private players. The department in order to showcase the stunning beauty of J&K wants to create a brand ad film and song of its own featuring it as a premier tourist destination in India besides having a brand ambassador of high repute promoting the brand J&K all over the world.

# **GST Revenues Grow 12.5 Pc** To Rs 1.68 Lakh Cr In Feb, 4th Highest Since Rollout

**Press Trust Of India** 

**NEW DELHI:** GST collections rose by 12.5 per cent to Rs 1.68 lakh crore in February 2024 compared to the yearago period buoyed by an increase in domestic sales as well as imports.

With this, the gross GST collection in April-February of the current fiscal stood at Rs 18.40 lakh crore, up by 11.7 per cent year-on-year.

"Gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue collected for February 2024 is Rs 1.68,337 crore, marking a robust 12.5 per cent increase compared to that in the same month in 2023. This growth was driven by a 13.9 per cent rise in GST from domestic transactions and 8.5 per cent increase in GST from import of goods," a finance ministry statement said.

The average monthly collections in the current fiscal stood at Rs 1.67 lakh crore, higher than Rs 1.5 lakh crore in the previous fiscal.

GST revenue net of refunds for February 2024 is Rs 1.51 lakh crore, a growth of 13.6 per cent over February 2023. The central government

settled Rs 41,856 crore to Central GST and Rs 35,953 crore to State GST from the Integrated GST collected. This translates to a total revenue of Rs 73.641



crore for CGST and Rs 75,569 crore for SGST after regular settlement in February.
The highest-ever GST col-

lection was recorded at Rs 1.87 lakh crore in April 2023, followed by Rs 1.74 lakh crore in January 2024, and Rs 1.72 lakh crore in October 2023. In February 2024, the collections came in at Rs 1.68 lakh crore, the fourth-highest monthly collections so far.

Deloitte India Partner M S Mani said coming on the back of the robust GDP numbers for the third quarter, the impressive GST collection is reflecting the broad-based consumption increase across sectors.

"Almost all major states have shown an impressive increase in GST collections ranging from 8 to 21 per cent demonstrating that the consumption growth is across states as GST is a destinationbased consumption tax," Mani added.

KPMG in India Partner and National Head, Indirect Tax Abhishek Jain said the GDP growth and GST revenue numbers collectively show the robustness of the Indian economy and domestic consumption story going strong.

N.A. Shah Associates, Partner, Indirect Tax, Parag Mehta, said the collection is proof of Indian economy moving to-wards all-time high.

"GST has stabilized. Strict compliance by trade, dealing only with registered and lawcompliant vendors, has been a major reason for increasing turnover. Besides the authorities have been very vigilant and sharing of information between various government departments has ensured control and strict action against

# 97.62 Pc Of Rs 2,000 Currency Returned; Rs 8,470 Cr Worth Of Notes Still With Public: RBI

**Press Trust Of India** 

MUMBAI: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Friday said nearly 97.62 per cent of the Rs 2,000 bank notes have returned to the banking system, and only about Rs 8,470 crore worth of the withdrawn notes are still with the public. On May 19, 2023, the RBI

announced the withdrawal of Rs 2,000 denomination bank notes from circulation.

"The total value of Rs 2000 banknotes in circulation, which was Rs 3.56 lakh crore at the close of business on May 19, 2023, when the withdrawal of Rs 2000 banknotes was announced has declined to Rs 8,470 crore at the close of business on February 29, 2024," the

RBI said in a statement. Thus, 97.62 per cent of the Rs 2,000 banknotes in circulation as of May 19, 2023, have since been returned, it added.

"The Rs 2,000 banknotes continue to be legal tender," the RBI added.

People can deposit and/or exchange Rs 2,000 bank notes at the 19 RBI offices across the country. People can also send



Rs 2,000 bank notes through India Post from any post office to any of the RBI Issue Offices the 19 offices of the RBI. for credit to their bank accounts in India. Public and entities hold-

ing such notes were initially asked to either exchange or deposit them in bank accounts by September 30, 2023. The deadline was later extended to October 7, 2023. Deposit and exchange services at bank branches were discontinued on October 7, 2023.

Starting October 8, 2023, individuals have been provided with the choice of either exchanging the currency or hav-

ing the equivalent sum credited to their bank accounts at

The 19 RBI offices d iting/exchanging the bank notes are in Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Belapur, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jammu, Kanpur, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Nagpur, New Delhi, Patna and Thiruvananthapuram.

The Rs 2,000 bank notes were introduced in November 2016, following the demonetisation of the then-prevailing Rs 1,000 and Rs 500 bank



# **Markets Record Rally Makes Investors Richer** By Rs 4.29 Lakh Cr

**Press Trust Of India** 

**NEW DELHI:** Investors became richer by Rs 4.29 lakh crore on Friday as markets fired on all cylinders with the BSE Sensex rising sharply by 1,245 points or nearly 2 per cent.

The 30-share BSE benchmark jumped 1,245.05 points or 1.72 per cent to settle at a new closing high of 73,745.35. During the day, the benchmark zoomed 1,318.91 points or 1.81 per cent to reach an all-time high of 73,819.21.

The market capitalisation of BSE-listed companies soared by Rs 4,29,339.75 crore to Rs 3,92,25,029.98 crore (USD 4.78 trillion).

"The strong resilience in India's Q3 GDP growth numbers propelled Sensex & Nifty to fresh record highs amid a rally in index heavyweights such as Reliance Industries, Tata Steel and banking stocks," Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research) at Mehta Equities Ltd, said.

Among the Sensex firms, Tata Steel jumped 6.46 per cent while JSW Steel climbed 4.46 per cent. Larsen & Toubro, Titan, İndusInd Bank, ICICI Bank, Maruti and Tata Motors were the other major gainers. HCL Technologies, Infosys and Tech Mahindra were the

India's economy grew by better-than-expected 8.4 per cent in the final three months of 2023 -- the fastest pace in one-and-ahalf years.

The growth rate in October-December was higher than 7.6 per cent in the previous three years, and it helped take the estimate for the current fiscal (April 2023 to March 2024) to 7.6 per cent, according to the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on Thursday.

"Better than expected Q3 FY24 GDP and ease in US inflation added buoyancy in both domestic and global markets. As the general election draws closer, stellar economic growth data raised confidence among investors for a pre-election rally, Vinod Nair. Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, said.

India's manufacturing sector growth climbed to a five-month high in February amid a sharper uptick in factory production and sales, supported by both domestic and external demand, a monthly survey said on Friday.

The seasonally adjusted HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rose from 56.5 in January to 56.9 in February, pointing to the strongest improvement in the health of the sector since September 2023.

# **Direct Benefit Transfer Worth** Rs 34 Lakh Cr Facilitated By **PFMS: Sitharaman**

**Press Trust Of India** 

**NEW DELHI:** Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday said Direct Benefit Transfer of Rs 34 lakh crore has been facilitated by the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) and asked accounts officers to further enhance efficiency and transparency of the system.

troller General of Accounts (CGA) and the Indian Civil Accounts Organisation (ICAO) on the occasion of the 48th Civil Accounts Day, Sitharaman said PFMS has been the cornerstone of establishing an efficient fund flow system alongside a robust payment and accounting network.

PFMS is the management information system used by officers of the Indian Civil Accounts Service to maintain the accounts of the government.

It is also used to transfer funds

to beneficiary accounts of various government schemes via

Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). "The Direct Benefit Transfer mechanism, facilitated through

PFMS, has led to the transfer of Rs 34 lakh crore from the government. This is a testament to the system's effectiveness in eliminating inefficiencies and ensuring that the benefits are delivered directly to the citizens without any leakages," Sitharaman said in her message, read out by Finance Secretary T V Somanathan at the Civil Accounts Day event.

She also highlighted that 1,081 different schemes, including those of state governments, have been seamlessly integrated into the DBT. PFMS, which is developed and implemented by the Controller General of Accounts under the Department of Expenditure, has played a pivotal role in revolutionising the financial administration of the government.

# FIU Imposes Rs 5.49 **Cr Fine On Paytm Payments Bank**

**Press Trust Of India** 

**NEW DELHI:** Financial Intelligence Unit-India (FIU-IND) has imposed a Rs 5.49 crore penalty on Paytm Payments Bank for violating anti-money laundering rules, the Finance Ministry said on Friday.

FIU-IND initiated a review of Paytm Payments Bank on receipt of specific information from law enforcement agencies in respect of few entities and their network of businesses engaged in a number of illegal acts, including organising and facilitating online gambling.

The money generated from these illegal operations, i.e. proceeds of crime were routed and channelled through bank accounts maintained by these entities with the Paytm Payments Bank Ltd, the ministry said.

The Financial Intelligence Unit-India (FIU-IND),... has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 5.49 crore on Paytm Payments Bank Ltd with reference to the violations of its obligations under the PMLA (Prevention of Money Laundering Act)," the ministry said.

The FIU passed its order imposing the

penalty on February 15. The FIU action follows RBI's January 31 directive barring Paytm Payments Bank from accepting fresh deposits or credits in the accounts of its customers from February 29. The date was later extended to March 15.

# **Mahadev App Case: Probe Agency Freezes Assets** Worth ₹ 580 Cr

**Press Trust Of India** 

**NEW DELHI:** The Enforcement Directorate has frozen security holdings of more than ₹ 580 crore of a Dubai-based "hawala operator" and seized cash and valuables worth ₹ 3.64 crore after fresh raids in the Mahadev app-linked money laundering case, official sources said on Fri-

day.
The latest raids were launched on February 28 at various premises in Kolkata, Gurugram, Delhi, Indore, Mumbai and Raipur.

Enforcement Directorate probe in the Mahadev online gaming and betting app has indicated purported involvement of various high-ranking politicians and bureaucrats from Chhattisgarh.

The sources said the agency identified a "hawala operator", Hari Shankar Tibrewal in this case. He hails from Kolkata but currently resides in Dubai. He partnered with the promoters of the Mahadev app and also owned and operated an alleged illegal betting app -- skyexchange.

Security holdings worth ₹ 580.78 crore "beneficially owned" by Tibrewal have been frozen by the Enforcement Directorate under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), they said.

Cash worth ₹ 1.86 crore and valuables worth ₹ 1.78 crore were recovered by the agency during these searches, according to the sources. The agency had earlier

> legal funds generated by the Mahadev app were used to pay bribes to politicians and bureaucrats in Chhattisgarh, from where the main promoters and op-

said that the alleged il-

So far, the Enforcement Directorate has filed two charge sheets in this case, including against the two main promoters of the alleged illegal betting and gaming app Sourabh Chandrakar and Ravi Uppal. It had conducted multiple raids in the case earlier.

eratives of the app hail.

The projected proceeds of crime in this case are about ₹ 6,000 crore, according to the Enforcement Directorate.

# Maruti, Hyundai, Tata Motors Register Robust Sales In Feb

**Press Trust Of India** 

**NEW DELHI:** Leading automakers Maruti Suzuki, Hyundai and Tata Motors on Friday reported robust sales for February as demand for sports utility vehicles continued to remain

Mahindra & Mahindra, Toyota Kirloskar Motor and Honda Cars also witnessed higher vehicle dispatches to dealers last month. February turned out to be the

third-best month for sales for the in-The highest-ever passenger vehicle

wholesales in a month was reported in January this year with dispatch of 3.94.500 units.

It was followed by October 2023, with wholesales of 3,91,811 units. Maruti Suzuki India said its total

domestic passenger vehicle sales grew 9 per cent to 1,60,271 units in February against 1,47,467 units in the month a year ago. Sales of utility vehicles, including

Brezza, Ertiga, Grand Vitara, and XL6, rose 82 per cent to 61,234 units last month compared to 33,550 units in February 2023. However, dispatches of mini seg-

ment cars, comprising Alto and

S-Presso declined to 14,782 units

against 21,875 units in February 2023.

Similarly, sales of compact cars, including Baleno, Celerio, Dzire, Ignis, Swift, Tour S, and WagonR, also declined by 10 per cent to 71,627 units compared to 79,898 units in the yearago month. In a virtual press conference, Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) Senior Executive Officer (Marketing and Sales) Shashank Srivastava said the passenger vehicle industry saw the best-ever monthly sales performance for February. "The streak of best-ever monthly

sales also continued for the 14th straight month," he noted. The auto major exceeded the 16 lakh sales mark during the current fiscal year in February, Srivastava said. "For 2023-24 fiscal, the industry

estimate is now 42.1 lakh units and the share of SUVs in this is estimated to be around 50.5 per cent, although in February 2024, it was around 51.5 per cent," he said.

Srivastava noted that SUVs account for 21.5 per cent of the company's total sales at the moment and should go up a little bit in March.

"So, we might fall short of the 24 per cent mark, which we had set for this fiscal year," he noted.

Last month, Tata Motors took over the second spot in terms of passenger vehicle sales with a dispatch of 51,321 units, a growth of 19 per cent year-on-year compared to February

Hyundai Motor India said its domestic wholesales grew 7 per cent to 50,201 units last month from 47,001 units in the year-ago period. Hyundai Motor India COO Tarun

Garg told reporters that the company's SUV sales continue to do well in the domestic market.

He noted that SUVs now accounted for 67 per cent of the company's overall sales in February.

Garg also noted that rural sales

now account for 20 per cent of its overall dispatches in the market. Mahindra & Mahindra said its passenger vehicle sales in the domestic market rose 40 per cent to 42,401

units last month against 30,358 in February last year. Toyota Kirloskar Motor reported its best-ever monthly wholesales at

25,220 units in February. Honda Cars said its domestic sales stood at 7,142 units in February, a

growth of 17 per cent year-on-year. MG Motor India said its retail sales grew an 8 per cent increase in retail sales at 4,532 units in February com-

pared to the same month last year. In the two-wheeler space, Hero MotoCorp said its wholesales grew 19 per cent to 4,68,410 units compared to

3,94,460 units in the year-ago period.

# CUKashmir holds workshop on 'Socio-Economic impact of Startups Initiative'

Kashmir (CUKashmir), in collaboraised a one-day workshop on "Socio-Economic impact of the Startups Initiative in select Areas of North India" under a sponsored Research Project, at varsity's Ĝreen campus here.

I/c Vice Chancellor, and Head Department of Management Studies, Abdul Gani, inaugurated Professor, Delhi School of Business, research scholars and students.

Ganderbal: Central University of (VIPTS-TC), Prof. Meghna Chhabra, Director CEO, Centre for Innovation tion with the Indian Council of Social and ED, Islamic University of Science Science Research (ICSSR), Friday organised a one-day workshop on "Socio-Ahmad Mir, Head Deptt of Sociology, CUHP, Prof. Anil Kumar, Associate Professor, University of Kashmir, Dr. Farzana Gulzar, Project Coordinators and Directors ICSSR, Short Term Project, Deptt of Tourism Studies, Dr. Ramjit and Deptt of Politics and Governance, CUkashmir, Dr. Hima the event which was attended by Bindu Mukhtipudi, faculty members,

Abdul Gani, underscored the need for continuous and sustained industryacademia collaborations for promoting the entrepreneurship culture. "Through the industry-academia collaborations, entrepreneurs gain access to a wealth of resources, including mentorship, funding opportunities, and cutting-edge technologies. Moreover, these partnerships foster a culture of innovation, where ideas are nurtured, refined, and transformed into viable ventures," Prof. Gani said. He said that

Addressing the participants, Prof. while academia serves as the cradle of the Government of India. "The flag- business venture. knowledge and research, industries offer real-world applications and market insights. Prof. Gani further added that those aspiring to start their own business ventures have to be innovative, creative and ready to take calculated

Speaking on the occasion, Professor, Delhi School of Business, (VIPTS-TC), Prof. Meghna Chhabra, said, the number of startups across the country have increased manifold due to the strategic initiatives and policies framed by

ship schemes including, Startup India, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, Atal etc aim to foster a culture of entrepreand resources, promote innovation, and create a conducive ecosystem for startadvantage of these schemes in order sustainable growth and prosperity of to realise their dream of establishing a the country.

In his presentation, Prof. Pervez Ahmad Mir, showcased the stories of Innovation Mission, Pradhan Mantri the students who have been successful Yuva Yojana, Invest India, Credit in starting their ventures after graduat-Guarantee Fund Scheme for Startups ing from the IUST. "Those intending to start any entrepreneurial unit should neurship, facilitate access to finance necessarily have a strong will power, perseverance, and focus to achieve the required goal," Prof. Pervez said. He ups to flourish in India," she said. Prof. further said that fostering an entrepre-Meghna asked the students to take full neurship culture is essential for driving

# CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

### **Three-Day**

peak activity on 1st night to 2nd night of

He said that a few places may experience heavy to very heavy snow particularly over higher reaches of north Kashmir, Central & South Kashmir & Pirpanjal range of Jammu division during 1st March night to 2nd March late night.

"Plains of Kashmir may receive moderate rain and snow while plains of Jammu may receive moderate rain with possibility of heavy Rain over Ramban, Udhampur & Reasi districts during 1st March to 2nd March late night," he

A few places may experience thunder, lightning, hailstorm accompanied by gusty winds (30-40 KMPH) during 1st & 2nd March, he said, adding that no significant weather activity thereafter till 10th March is expected.

However, he said that there is a possibility of light rain and snow at scattered places during the night of 6th March to 7th March.

In this regard, the weatherman has issued an advisory, saying that in view of heavy to very heavy snowfall over few middle & higher reaches, the travelers, tourists are advised to plan accordingly & follow administration, traffic police advisory.

"General public over hilly areas are advised not to venture in avalanche prone areas & slopy areas. Follow avalanche warnings & advisories," the advisory reads, adding that there are chances of landslides, mudslides and shooting stones at few places.

The farmers are advised to suspend farm operations till 3rd March.

Owing to the adverse weather advisory, the authorities in the valley have extended winter

vacation for students in schools. The classes will now resume on Monday.

### **PM To Address**

projects and also interact with the beneficiaries of various national schemes and programmes in the Valley.

BJP had been looking forward to a mega public rally, to be addressed by PM Modi, in south Kashmir's Anantnag district that would announce the party's poll campaign in Kashmir. However, there is still no official confirmation on whether the Prime Minister will address a rally in Anantnag or not.

Earlier, PM Modi visited Jammu on February 20. He inaugurated and laid the foundation of developmental projects worth Rs 32,000 including the 48.5 Km extension of Railway service from Banihal town to Sangaldan and the inauguration of AIIMS in Vijaypur in Samba district. He addressed a mega public gathering in Jammu and also interacted with the beneficiaries of various national flagship programmes in J&K.

The Prime minister expressed his satisfaction at the success of his Jammu visit and also appreciated the efforts made by LG Manoj Sinha in ensuring that the benefits of the national developmental programmes reach the common man.

A large number of the Pahari community came out on February 20 to thank Modi for granting ST status to them.

# 25 Cr People Out

right," he said.

'We have always taken steps aiming at welfare of the poor, the result of which the world is watching today," he said.

Stating that India in the 21st century is marching ahead at a fast pace, the prime minister said, "We have all taken up the goal to make India a developed country by 2047."

Modi said that India has shown the world how development can be done in an environment-friendly manner.

He said that the Haldia-Barauni crude oil pipeline is an example of this, which will access three refineries through the four states of West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand and Odisha.

"It will save cost and will reduce environment-related concerns also," he said.

The prime minister inaugurated Indian Oil's 518-km Haldia-Barauni crude oil pipeline developed at a cost of about Rs 2,790 crore. He dedicated to the nation projects worth

about Rs 2,680 crore for expanding rail transport facilities in the region. The projects include the third rail line con-

necting Jhargram- Salgajhari (90 kms), doubling of Sondalia-Champapukur rail line (24 kms) and doubling of Dankuni-Bhattanagar-Baltikuri rail line (9 kms).

"Our effort is to make development of the railway in West Bengal take place like it is happening in other parts of India," Modi said. Modi dedicated to the nation and laid the foundation stone of multiple projects for strengthening infrastructure at Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata worth about Rs 1000 crore.

He also inaugurated Indian Oil's LPG bottling plant with a capacity of 120 TMTPA at Vidyasagar Industrial Park, Kharagpur, which has been developed at a cost of more than Rs 200 crore.

Inaugurating three projects related to wastewater treatment and sewerage in West Bengal, the prime minister said that these will benefit lakhs of residents of Howrah, Baranagar and

Kamarhati on both banks of River Hooghly. These projects, developed at a cost of about Rs 600 crore, have been funded by the World Bank, according to a government release.

Modi said that if an infrastructure project is started in a state, it opens up several avenues for the development of people there.

Stating that the Centre has provided a budget of Rs 13,000 crore this year for the development of railway infrastructure in West Bengal. he said that this is over three times more than what used to be provided to the state prior to

"In the last 10 years, several projects which remained stopped for many years were completed in West Bengal," he said.

The prime minister said that more than 3,000 km-length of railway tracks have been electrified in the last 10 years in the state.

He said that nearly 100 railway station West Bengal are being redeveloped under the Amrit Bharat station project.

He said that in the last one decade, more than 150 new train services began in the state, adding that five new Vande Bharat trains are giving the people of West Bengal a new experience of train travel.

"I believe that with the association of the people of West Bengal, we will also achieve the goal of a developed India," he said. PTI

# **Over 100**

witnesses, people swarmed around the newly arrived relief vehicles when Israeli soldiers opened fire. According to one version, several died after being hit by lorries.

An eyewitness informed CNN that as relief

trucks attempted to flee the scene, others were mistakenly rammed, resulting in further deaths and injuries.

Israel Defence Forces spokesperson Lt Col Peter Lerner, in response to the deadly incidents, clarified that the aid trucks involved belonged to "international aid by governments that came on in private truckloads to move north. We need to do everything to alleviate the humanitarian situation".

Meanwhile, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres expressed strong condemnation for the devastating incident as the Gaza health ministry said over 100 lives were lost.

"The desperate civilians in Gaza need urgent help, including those in the besieged north where the United Nations has not been able to deliver aid in more than a week," stated Stephane Dujarric, spokesperson for the UN chief. While the UN was not present during the incident, it has called for a thorough investigation into the tragic events.

Expressing his dismay at the death count of Gazans in the ongoing conflict, Mr Guterres noted that the health ministry reported a death count surpassing 30,000, with over 70,000 injured.

The UN chief said, "Tragically, an unknown number of people lie under rubble," reinforcing the urgent need for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire and the unconditional release of all Israeli hostages in Gaza.

### **Low Crime Rate**

added that the compliance burden has been reduced to facilitate the ease of doing business. Today we can fulfil the 70% land need of the industries. Earlier, availability of land was an issue, but now we are making dedicated efforts to reduce the land deficit.

Sinha highlighted the investments received in both Jammu and Kashmir divisions in the industrial sector. More than Rs 90,000 cr investment proposals were received in the last few years and Rs 14,000 cr worth investments are being implemented on the ground.

The LG also highlighted the growth journey

Directors and office bearers of Bloomtex Industries Private Limited and industrialists from different parts of the country were

# **102 Percent Growth**

streamlined financial prudence system in place in the Union Territory," he said

The LG further added that J&K is touching greater heights today as the focus on massive infrastructure development is towards meeting the aspirations of people and building 'Atma-Nirbhar' J&K.

He asked the Administrative Secretaries and senior officials to ensure the timely submission of Utilization Certificates. The Lt Governor directed the departments to explore all possibilities to further improve revenue realization and follow the instructions of the administration to adhere to the austerity measures to cut the expenditure.

An integrated system should also be developed by all the departments for procurement of products from Self Help Groups and MSMEs, he said.

On the sidelines of the meeting, the Lt Governor directed the Administrative Secretaries and senior officials of the Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation & Reconstruction Department and PWD (R&B) to closely monitor the progress on Transit accommodations for PM Package employees.

The meeting was attended by Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Dheeraj Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary Forests; Santosh D Vaidya, Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Administrative Secretaries and senior officials.

### **LG Releases Book**

the author for his notable work and extended his best wishes.

### **Era Of Women**

have the potential to outperform boys if given equal opportunities.

They have already made their marks in different national and international sports and the performance by the girls in the recently held Republic Day show was excellent, she said, adding that women have now become fighter pilots.

She told the students that convocation is not just a celebration of receiving degrees, but also a celebration to recognise their hard work and

This opens doors to new dreams and possibilities, Murmu said.

She also said that getting a degree is not the end of education, and students should have a passion for learning throughout their lives.

## **NC Demands White**

industrial ecosystem that will help the local youth achieve their dreams.

"The kind of enthusiasm I see and the kind of proposals we are getting, I am sure that in the coming days, we will get investments of Rs 75,000 crore to Rs 80,000 crore. It will provide employment to five lakh people," Sinha said at

The National Conference leader claimed that due to the "wrong policies" of the government, nobody is coming forward to invest in Jammu and Kashmir as the region continues to be marred by "instability and uncertain environment amid heights of misgovernance".

The NC leader said even Union Home Minister Amit Shah had committed on the floor of parliament to bring more industries in Jammu and Kashmir to boost the economy and create jobs for the unemployed youth but "the ground situation reveals nothing has been

"It was during the National Conference regime that industrial units were established in Samba, Bari Brahamana, Digiana, Kathua, Udhampur and elsewhere. By establishing these industries, thousands of jobs were created and youth adjusted while the job opportunities got reduced to a bare minimum under the incumbent government," he said.

"It is really an irony of J&K that despite the availability of a professionally qualified army of youth they continue to crave jobs due to the administration's callous attitude," he said.

"The already set up industrial sector is on the verge of closure for which the government is wholly and solely responsible as it is pursuing anti-industries policy," he added.

# **HC Orders Status**

determined by the Tribunal."

The court also observed it was aware that dismissal of these writ petitions on the ground of maintainability under Article 226 of the Constitution of India would in the present circumstances render the petitioners

However, having regard to the predicament faced by the petitioners or may be faced by similarly situated persons in future, the court said, "I deem it appropriate to remind the Government of the Union Territory of its statutory duty enjoined on it under Section 83 of the Act and to take requisite steps for constitution of one or more Tribunals, as it may think fit, so that persons aggrieved are not rendered remediless."

### **Wetland Reserves**

include Hokersar, Hygam, Shallabugh, Mirgund, Chattlum, Fashkoori, Manibugh and

It further states that any person found venturing inside these Wetland Conservation Reserve illegally without valid permission shall be dealt with sternly under the relevant provisions of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

Thousands of birds come to Himalayan region during winter when freezing temperatures in their summer habitats in Central Asia and Russia make food scarce. They start arriving in October and stay until the end of April but the birds that seasonally visit Kashmir's wetlands are being rampantly hunted.

Altaf Husaain Dentoo, Wildlife Warden, Wetlands, Kashmir told Kashmir Observer that a move has been initiated to ensure that the migratory birds remain safe from poachers.

There was apprehension that some people would kill the birds for fun. They are still here for a month remaining here so we want that nobody should harm them and they return to their destinations safely," Dentoo said.

He further said they have taken strong action against the poachers and have registered a few FIRs and recovered guns from them. Pertinent to mention, the unabated poach-

ing of the Migratory birds has remained a challenge for the officials. The birds include teal, common pochard,

merganser, northern shoveler, northern pintail, Eurasian wigeon, red-crested pochard, tufted duck, sheldrake duck, mallard, coot, gadwall, Brahminy duck, cormorant, Greylag

These birds can be found in many wetlands across Kashmir such as Hygam, Pampore, Badi Nambal, Shallabugh, Anchar, Dal-Lake, Wular Lake, Chatlum, Kranchoo, Manibugh, Freshkhoori, Hokersar, and Mirgund

Regrettably, hunters have been reported to employ homemade guns to illegally hunt these birds before dawn, posing a significant threat to their conservation.

Apart from poaching, climatic change and encroachment of the wetlands have shrunken their space in the valley. Kashmii Observer earlier reported that with authorities pumping men and machinery to restore the pristine glory of wetlands, the valley is witnessing a huge number of new birds spotted for the first time in the wetlands by the birdwatchers.

Notably, the Union territory administration this year undertook a mega project to rejuvenate Hokersar Wetlands, one of the eight Ramsar sites in the valley. The authorities are developing the wetland as an ecotourism destination as it attracts lakhs of migratory birds.

# **Migrant KP**

consciousness and feminine energy that together lead to creation.



# The methods used to consume news have changed over time from newspapers, to television, to the Internet on our computers to carrying the news around with us

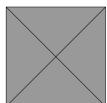
24/7 on smartphones in our pockets. Kashmir Observer, with 25 years of experience in news gathering is now available 24x7 on all digital platforms like laptops, cell phones or via Bluetooth

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**OR SCAN** 



# He's The New Ravi Ashwin: Vaughan On Shoaib Bashir

LONDON: Former England captain Michael Vaughan feels England have discovered a "worldclass superstar" in young off-spinner Shoaib Bashir, who has the skills to emulate the success of India's Ravichandran

Despite England's five-wicket loss in Ranchi, 20-year-old Bashir, playing only his second Test, impressed as he returned with a match haul of eight wickets. His magnificent performance included a five-wicket haul in the first innings.

Ashwin, on the other hand, is regarded as one of the best offspinners in the history of Test

The senior spinner recently became only the second Indian bowler to snare 500 wickets in the longest format and is set for



his 100th Test in Dharamsala next week against England.

"One of the great weeks, celebrating another world-class superstar that we've unearthed. Shoaib Bashir. That's what we're celebrating. Second Test match, eight wickets, he's the new Ravi Ashwin, and we've unearthed him.

"So, we're celebrating a new superstar in English cricket," Vaughan said on Club Prairie

first series defeat under coach Brendon McCullum and skipper

Fire's YouTube channel. India handed England their

Ben Stokes after winning the

fourth Test in Ranchi to take a

3-1 lead in the ongoing series. Vaughan backed England to win the dead rubber in Dharamsala.

"They will go with their best XI. It's going to be cold in Dharamsala and it will suit England. I expect England to win," Vaughan said.

### England Fans Will Be Thankful Kohli Is Not Playing: James Anderson

James Anderson, who has had memorable duels with Virat Kohli in the past, said England fans would be thankful that he was not a part of the series.

England legend James Anderson said "it's a shame" that he didn't get the opportunity to bowl at Virat Kohli during the five-match Test series against India. Kohli withdrew from the entire series for the birth of his second child.

# J&K Bank To Play Galaxy FC In 92.7 Big FM Tourney Final

**Observer News Service** 

SRINAGAR: J&K Bank XI will clash with Galaxy FC on Sunday, March 3 in the final match of the 92.7 Big FM Knockout Football Tournament 2024. Both teams booked their spots for the title game after winning their respective semifinal matchups on Friday at Synthetic Turf TRC here.

In the first semifinal, J&K Bank clashed with Jhelum FC, who gave the heavyweight side a run for their money. However, the experienced J&K Bank XI emerging victorious over Jhelum with a close 2-1 win.

In the second semifinal showdown, Syed Tajudin FC Natipora went head-to-head



against Galaxy FC. While STFC were considered favourites in the tie, Galaxy FC dug deep and secured a narrow 1-0 victory to book a spot in the

tournament's finale. The tournament is being organised by 92.7 Big FM, J&K Football Association and J&K

# Netflix To Release Docuseries On India-Pakistan Cricket Rivalry

**Observer News Service** 

Netflix is all set to release a cricketing rivalry between India and Pakistan. The first-look trailer for "The Greatest Rivalry" docuseries has been released by the OTT platform. The announcement video features iconic moments throughout the years between the two great rivals.

The teaser featured glimpses of India captain Kapil Dev and Pakistan skipper Imran Khan holding their respective World Cup trophies. It also added imagery from the 1947



border, hinting at the historic significance of the rivalry. Although, the release date

for the series is yet to be announced, Netflix's announcement video suggests it could come out soon, especially with the two set to face off at the upcoming T20 World Cup. The India versus Pakistan clash will take place in New York on June 9.

# **Ireland Clinch First Test Victory With Win** Over Afghanistan

Treland claimed their first test victory when they beat fellow minnows Afghanistan by six wickets on Friday in a one-off match in Abu Dhabi after skipper Andy Balbirnie took charge in the run chase with an unbeaten half-century. Ireland, who acquired test status along with Afghanistan in 2017, had lost seven straight matches before they eventually beat the Asian side in a low-scoring affair that finished inside three days.

but Afghan skipper Hashmatullah Shahidi (55) helped them post 218 to give Ireland a modest target of 111 runs to win.

Ireland found themselves in deep trouble at 13-3 when Naveed Zadran dismissed Peter Moor and Curtis Campher for ducks in the second over, but Balbirnie led from the front with an unbeaten knock of 58. Lorcan Tucker also came in and steadied the ship (27 not out) as they patiently stitched together a 72-run partnership before Tucker hit the winning runs for



"A lot of our guys didn't get to a famous victory. play test cricket. Hopefully peocricketers. We knew it would be attritional stuff," Balbirnie said. "There's a lot of cricket in the world... We've created results, and created history. The monkey is off our back, very special to do that.

After dismissing Afghanistan for 155 in the first innings where seamer Mark Adair picked up five wickets (5-39), Paul Stirling (52) helped guide Ireland to a total of 263 to give them a 108run lead. Adair picked up three more wickets to clean up the top order in the second innings

"I'm buzzing. Obviously very nice to get a chuffed," said Adair, who was named player of the match.

"Last year Test cricket was pretty difficult, we finished every time on the losing side. This is a really stepping stone for us. The way we showed the length and depth of our batting is excellent and the way we finished it off was top-draw. We've got a really good bowling group and that's what matters and probably the most experienced bowling group in a long time. New guys are coming in but the experienced ones are our core," Adair said.

# **Short TAKES**

# 'I Congratulate The BCCI For Taking This Much Needed Step'

**▼**A few players will suffer, but let it be," said legendary former India captain Kapil Dev on Friday as he backed the BCCI's decision to terminate central contracts for lack of commitment to domestic cricket, calling it a muchneeded step to protect marquee first-class events like the Ranji Trophy.

"I congratulate the BCCI for taking the much needed step to protect the status of domestic cricket. I was sad to see domestic cricket being given the skip by players once they had established themselves in international cricket,"

"It was high time the message was given and this strong step by the BCCI will go a long way in restoring the prestige of domestic cricket," he added.

# Iyer In Spotlight As Mumbai Play TN In Ranji Semifinal

Out-of-favour India batter Shreyas Iyer will be motivated to prove a point and serve a timely reminder of his skillset as he gets back to domestic action when the record 41-time champions Mumbai take on Tamil Nadu in the Ranji Trophy semifinal here on Saturday.

Dropped from the Indian Test side and discarded from BCCI's list of contracted players after he did not make himself available for the Ranji Trophy quarterfinal due to groin and back trouble, Iyer has recovered completely to join Mumbai for the key clash.

# Green, Lyon Put Australia In Command Of NZ Test

The almost comical run out of Kane Williamson for a f I second-ball duck was one of many setbacks suffered by New Zealand on the second day of the first test Friday as it fell 217 runs behind Australia.

That was until the very end of the day when Australia batted for a second time after passing up the chance to make New Zealand follow on. Tim Southee dismissed Steve Smith and Marnus Labuschagne to have Australia 13-2 in its second innings after it had led by 204 on the first.

At stumps Usman Khawaja was 5 not out and nightwatchman Nathan Lyon was 6 not out. (AP)

# Williams Brothers Lead Bilbao Into Copa Del Rey Final

Brothers Inaki and Nico Williams scored to help Athletic Bilbao secure a 3-0 semi-final win over Atletico Madrid on Thursday and a 4-0 aggregate victory that sent the Basque side into their third Copa del Rey final in the last

Bilbao, who reached their 40th Spanish cup fi-nal, will bid to end a 40-year title drought in Seville on April 6, when they face Mallorca who beat Real Sociedad 5-4 on penalties on Tuesday. Ernesto Valverde's Bilbao team punished the visitors with clinical counter-attacks, playing with the advantage of having won the first leg 1-0 in Madrid.

# Bellingham Will Play At Valencia, Says Real Madrid Coach

 $R^{\rm eal}$  Madrid star Jude Bellingham will be ready to play at Valencia after recovering from an ankle injury that has sidelined him for three games, coach Carlo Ancelotti said

"(Bellingham) has not trained much with his teammates. but everything he has done individually he has done well," Ancelotti said. "He is ready to go and will play tomorrow." Madrid visits Valencia on Saturday seeking to protect its six-point lead over Girona in La Liga.

Bellingham leads the league with 16 goals after the 20-year-old England midfielder joined Madrid from Borussia Dortmund last summer.

Madrid hosts Leipzig in the return leg of their Champions League pre-quarterfinal tie next week. (AP)

# Disney-Reliance Merger Will Substantially Reduce Bargaining Power, Says Advertising Industry

**Press Trust of India** 

**NEW DELHI:** The merger of the Indian media business of Walt Disney with Reliance Industries' Viacom18 will create a "significant dominant player", which might reduce the bargaining power for media buying agencies, the country's advertising industry has said. The Rs 70,000-crore behemoth, created post-merger may enable it to exert greater control over pricing and inventory of media rights and also influence over content, advertising industry leaders said.

According to the experts, the merged entity will almost have a monopoly in sports properties as it will collectively control 75-80 per cent of the Indian sports market, in both linear TV and digital platforms and may uptick the rates.

nture, which is expected to receive approvals by the first quarter of 2025, will have over 70 channels from Star India and 38 TV channels from Viacom18 in



eight languages, along with two large OTT platforms -- Jio Cinema and Hotstar -- and two film studios owned by each of them.

'The Star-Viacom merger will substantially reduce the bargaining power of the media buying agencies," Rediffusion Chairman andeep Goyal told PTI.

Last year, media buyers and clients reduced rates during the Indian Premier League (IPL), playing the broadcaster versus the digital rights holder, he said.

That will not happen now. This year, I think there will be an uptick in IPL rates," Goyal added. Expressing similar views, Dent-



su South Asia CEO Harsha Razdan said this combination "heightens competition and enhances the negotiating power of the newly merged entity, enabling it to exert greater control over pricing and inventory"

"Once it has cleared all industry-specific regulation protocols, the combination should create a significantly dominant player in the market, wielding substantial influence over content creation, distribution, and consumption trends," he said.

According to a joint report from industry body Ficci and EY, the Indian advertising industry crossed

the Rs 1 lakh crore-mark in 2022. The report estimates the ad

industry to grow at 11 per cent till 2025 and expects it to cross Rs 1.42 lakh crore by 2025, in which traditional media, such as TV, will have a 46 per cent contribution and the remaining 54 per cent will be from new age digital media.

Razdan further said the newly merged entity presents a dual prospect of opportunities and challenges for the advertising and marketing sector.

On the positive side, it provides extensive reach to the industry with its diverse portfolio of channels and platforms, but it also enhances the negotiating power of the newly merged entity.

"I hope that in the coming years, the merger achieves a balanced outcome. It is crucial to maintain two or three major players in the market to foster a healthy and competitive environment, which ultimately should serve the end consumer," he said. Elara Capital Senior Vice-President. Karan Taurani said the monopoly in sports properties may lead to higher ad revenues of the merged entity.

Disney and Jio collectively control 75-80 per cent of the Indian sports market across both linear TV and digital platforms, he added.

"This dominance in sports, primarily cricket, will help command a substantial share of the overall ad market, showcasing strong growth in an industry where sports is a key viewership driver for both linear TV and digital platforms," said Taurani.

In CY22, sports advertising expenditure in the country stood at Rs 7,100 crore jointly for TV and digital, in which Disney India had a contribution of 80 per cent.

The combined entity will have lucrative sports properties, including the IPL (both TV and digital), ICC cricket tournaments (both TV and digital), Wimbledon, Pro Kabaddi League, and BCCI domestic cricket.

# **Dhoni Among Stars At Anant Ambani Wedding**



**Agencies** 

 $M^{\mbox{\scriptsize S}}$  Dhoni was among the cricket stars that arrived in Jamnagar, Gujarat, for Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant's three-day pre-wedding festivities. Dhoni arrived with his wife Sakshi for the event themed as "An Evening in Everland".

Suryakumar Yadav was also in attendance with his wife Devisha. Suryakumar is recovering from a surgery for sports hernia and is expected to make his comeback during the 2024 season of the Indian Premier League. Afghanistan star Rashid Khan was also among the

Wicketkeeper-batter Ishan Kishan, who was not considered for a central contract by the BCCI, was pictured

arriving in Jamnagar. Former West Indies all-rounder Dwayne Bravo was the only international cricketer papped on Day 1 of the

# "Pity Us": Deadly Scenes As Desperate Gazans Rush Aid Trucks



denying the army had turned its tanks

convoy -- neither from the air nor from

the ground," he said.

ficial Israeli figures.

"We did not fire at the humanitarian

Outside Kamal Adwan Hospital, four

women in headscarves wailed while

clutching at the lifeless body of a beard-

At Al-Shifa hospital in Gaza City, doc-

tors were "unable to deal" with the flood

of casualties "as a result of weak medical

Israel has vowed to eliminate Hamas

The Hamas attack resulted in the

Umm Hamdan Abu Sultan, a displaced

"Our children are dying of hunger,

Israel's withering military response

to the October 7 attack has now killed at least 30,035 people, mostly women and children, according to the health

ministry, which does not specify how

devastation in Gaza and severe short-

For months, aid workers have warned

of an increasingly desperate situation

for Gazan civilians, and on Monday an

official from the UN humanitarian of-

fice OCHA said widespread starvation

UN estimates show that 2.2 million

people -- the vast majority of Gaza's

population -- are threatened with fam-

ine, particularly in the north where de-

struction, fighting and looting make the

estinian refugees, UNRWA, just over

2,300 aid trucks entered the Gaza Strip

in February, a drop of about 50 percent

compared with January.
That is an average of well below 100

trucks per day, down from around 500 that were entering daily before the war.

It was precisely that scarcity that

Aerial footage distributed by the

Israeli military showed large groups

swarming a line of moving trucks on

drove crowds to rush the trucks at Nabulsi roundabout on Thursday, a wit-

ness told AFP.

delivery of food almost impossible. According to the UN agency for Pal-

ages of food, water and medicine.

'Under siege'

was "almost inevitable

many fighters are included in the toll. The offensive has caused widespread

we go to get a bag of flour to feed our

woman waiting for aid near the scene,

said: "They are the terrorists, not us."

children and they fire at them."

after it carried out an unprecedented

attack on October 7 on southern Israel.

deaths of around 1,160 people, mostly

civilians, according to an AFP tally of of-

and human capacities", Qudra said.

ed man wrapped in white cloth.

Palestinian Territories: Thousands of Palestinians flocked to an aid distribution point early Thursday, desperate for food amid Gaza's looming famine, only to be met with lethal chaos including

live fire by Israeli troops.

By mid-afternoon the Hamas-run health ministry said more than 100 people were reported dead in the grisly incident which underscored worsening shortages in the war-ravaged Palestinian territory.

"There were crowds of people, but the occupation (forces) kept firing towards us," one young man told AFP while lying on the dirty, crowded floor at Kamal Adwan Hospital waiting for treatment.

He was among those wounded in the chaos. But there were conflicting reports on what exactly unfolded in the hours before dawn.

Ali Awad Ashqir, who had gone to get some flour for his starving family, had been waiting for two hours when vio-

lence erupted. "At approximately 4:00 am the trucks began to arrive. The moment they arrived, the occupation army fired

artillery shells and guns," he told AFP. "I was hit by a bullet in the left foot and taken to Al-Shifa Hospital. I was later discharged because my injuries

were moderate.' Hossam Abu Safiya, director at Kamal Adwan Hospital, said all the casualties were hit by "bullets and shrapnel from occupation forces".

Ashraf al-Qudra, spokesman for Gaza's health ministry, denounced what he called a "massacre" at Gaza City's Nabulsi roundabout, saying 112 people were killed and 760 wounded.

He blamed Israeli troops, and Israeli sources confirmed to AFP that the Israeli forces at the scene did open fire, having perceived the crowds near the trucks as a "threat".

But a spokesman for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said many of the dead were crushed by the trucks themselves.

"Aid trucks were overwhelmed by people trying to loot and drivers ploughed into the crowd of people, ultimately killing tens of people," said the spokesman, Avi Hyman.

- Gazans storm trucks -

Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari, an Israeli army spokesman, said on Thursday night that "thousands of Gazans" swarmed the trucks bearing aid from Egypt, "violently pushing and even trampling other Gazans to death".

Israeli tanks escorting fired warning

# 12.5 Million Children In India Obese In 2022, Up From 0.4 Million In 1990: Study

SRINAGAR | SATURDAY | 02.03.2024

New Delhi: Obesity among children in India has spiked sharply with about 12.5 million of those between the ages of five and 19 overweight in 2022 compared to 0.4 million in 1990, according to a global analysis published in The Lancet journal.

Of the 12.5 million, 7.3 million were boys and 5.2 million girls.

The total number of children, adolescents and adults worldwide living with obesity has surpassed one billion. These trends, together with the declining prevalence of people who are underweight since 1990, make obesity the most common form of malnutrition in most countries, the researchers said.

Obesity and underweight are both forms of malnutrition and are detrimental to people's health in many ways. The latest study provides a highly detailed picture of global trends in both forms of malnutrition over the last 33 years.

The analysis by the NCD Risk Factor Collaboration (NCD-RisC) -- a global network of scientists -- and the World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that among the world's children and adolescents, the rate of obesity in 2022 was four times the rate in 1990.

"It is very concerning that the epidemic of obesity that was evident among adults in much of the world in 1990 is now mirrored in school-aged children and adolescents," said senior author Professor Majid Ezzati, from Imperial College London in the UK.

"At the same time, hundreds of millions are still affected by undernutrition, particularly in some of the poorest parts of the world. To successfully tackle both forms of malnutrition it is vital we significantly improve the availability and affordability of healthy, nutritious foods," Ezzati said.

Among adults, the global obesity rate more than doubled in women and nearly tripled in men. In total, 159 million children and adolescents and 879 million adults were living with obesity in 2022, according to the study.

In India, adult obesity rate increased from 1.2 per cent in 1990 to 9.8 per cent in 2022 for women and 0.5 per cent to 5.4 per cent for men. Nearly 44 million women and 26 million men had obesity in 2022.

Between 1990 and 2022, the proportion of the world's children and adolescents who were affected by underweight fell by around one-fifth in girls and more than one-third in boys. The proportion of the world's adults who were affected by being underweight more than halved over the same period.

The obesity rate increased from 0.1 per cent in 1990 to 3.1 per cent in 2022 for girls and 0.1 per cent to 3.9 per cent in 2022 for boys. The researchers analysed weight and height measurements from over 220 million people aged five years or older (63 million people aged five to 19 years, and 158 million aged 20 years or older), representing more than 190 countries.

Over 1,500 researchers contributed to the study, which looked at body mass index (BMI) to understand how obesity and underweight have changed worldwide from 1990 to 2022.

From 1990 to 2022, global obesity rates more than quadrupled in girls and boys, with increases seen in almost all countries, the study found.

The proportion of underweight girls fell from 10.3 per cent in 1990 to 8.2 per cent in 2022, and for boys, it fell from 16.7 per cent to 10.8 per cent, the researchers said. Among girls, a decrease in the rates of underweight was detected in 44 countries, whilst among boys, a decrease was noted in 80 countries, they said.

The total number of children and adolescents who were affected by obesity in 2022 was nearly 160 million (65 million girls and 94 million boys), compared to 31 million in 1990. Whereas 77 million girls and 108 million boys were underweight in 2022, decreasing from 81 million for girls and 138 million for boys in 1990.

In adults, obesity rates more than doubled among women and nearly tripled in men between 1990 and 2022. The proportion of adults who were underweight halved between 1990 and

In all age groups, the combined burden of both forms of malnutrition increased in most countries between 1990 and 2022, driven by increasing obesity rates.

nutrition declined in many countries in South and Southeast Asia, and in some countries in Africa for men, where the rate of underweight fell steeply.

"The impact of issues such as climate change, disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the war in Ukraine risk worsening both rates of obesity and underweight, by increasing poverty and the cost of nutrient-rich foods," said Guha Pradeepa, study coauthor from the Madras Diabetes Research Foundation.

"The knock-on effects of this are insufficient food in some countries and households and shifts to less healthy foods in others. To create a healthier world, we need comprehensive policies to address these challenges," Pradeepa

In total, an estimated nearly 880 million adults were living with obesity in 2022 (504 million women and 374 million men), four and a half times the 195 million recorded in 1990 (128 million women and 67 million men), the re-

Combined with the 159 million children living with obesity in 2022, this is a total of over one billion people affected by obesity in 2022.

Despite global population growth, 183 million women and 164 million men were affected by underweight in 2022, 45 million and 48 million fewer. respectively, than in 1990.





