27 year OF PUBLICATION KASHMIR OBSERVER

Sunday 03 March 2024 | Srinagar | Vol: 27 | Issue: 54 | Pages: 12 | Price: ₹3

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

Over 1.9 Million Children To Receive Polio Vaccine In J&K Today Vaccines Dispatched To Snow-affected Areas Through Choppers

Jahangir Sofi

Srinagar: The Directorate of Family Welfare MCH and Immunization in Jammu and Kashmir is set to launch Pulse Polio vaccination drive to immunize over 19 lac children between 0 and 5 years of age against polio at around 11,000 booths across the region on Sunday, said a senior official. Dr. Tabasum Jabeen, Director, Directorate of Family Welfare, while speaking to Kashmir Observer expressed readiness with a workforce



11,000 Booths In J&K **5,500** Booths In Valley Alone 45.000 Health Workers Door-to-door Surveys On March 4.5

of over 45,000 vaccinators and health workers. These professionals are primed to ensure the seamless administration of polio drops to children across Jammu and Kashmir. "An estimated target of around 19 lac children are to be vaccinated, with 11,000 booths set up throughout J&K, with 5,500 booths in the Kashmir province alone. These booths are strategically placed in locations such as bus stops, shopping bazaars, and even picnic spots," Dr. Jabeen said.

Highlighting the preparedness, she noted the extensive training provided to health workers, including Asha workers, Anganwadi workers, and vaccinators from the health department. The pulse polio day is set to be inaugurated on 3 March at the Children's Hospital in Bemina by the Secretary of Health, Jammu and Kashmir, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah with similar events planned across district headquarters by deputy commissioners.

"For this day-long vaccination

drive over 45,000 health workers including Asha workers, Angawari workers and vaccinators from the health department have been trained", she said.

Addressing concerns about adverse weather conditions, particularly heavy snowfall in higher reaches, Dr. Jabeen assured that measures have been taken to reach remote areas. "Vaccines have been dispatched to snow-affected regions like Gurez, Tulail, and higher reaches of district Kupwara | More on P10

Snow, Rains Disrupt Life In Kashmir Valley



Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Several areas in the higher reaches of Jammu and Kashmir received fresh snowfall while the plains were lashed by rain on Saturday, officials said.

During the past 24 hours, there has been moderate rain or snow in most parts of the Valley with heavy snow or rainfall over a few places, they said.

The officials said the famous ki-resort town of Gulmarg and

1,735 Cr Spent On Citizen Treatment Under Sehat Scheme: LG

Says Committed To Provide Quality, Accessible Healthcare Services In J&K

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday said his administration is committed to provide quality, affordable and accessible healthcare services to the people in the Union Territory. Under the Sehat Scheme,

the administration spent a total amount of Rs 1,735 crore on the treatment of the citizens till the first week of January this year, Sinha said, virtually addressing the closing ceremony of a health camp organised by Rotary

KP's Will Celebrate 'Herath' In

rime Minister Narendra Modi is taking Jammu and Kashmir and the country forward and soon the 'Herath' festival will be celebrated in the valley, Lt Governor Manoj Sinha said at a gathering of Kashmiri Pandits

'Strategic Significance and Security Of Nation' **HC Grants Permission For Army Constructions In Sonamarg**

M Ahmad



The LG lauded the contribution of the trained specialists from different parts of the country in providing a full range of surgical treatment



Digital interventions

Reforms in medical

Awareness about

Quick Ambulance

options and performing more

than 600 surgeries during the

week-long health camp in the

border districts, which ben-

efitted the people of the far-

flung areas. | More on P10

education

Tele-MANAS

Services

'370 Abrogation Led To Women **Empowerment'**

ieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday said his administration is focusing on womenled development with unwavering dedication and determination to support gender parity and gender equity. He said under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, the socioeconomic empowerment and equal opportunities to women has eliminated the barriers created under the guise | More on P10

BJP Gears Up for PM's Srinagar Rally

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: The BJP is finalising preparations for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Kashmir on March 7, with party leaders saying they expect around one lakh people at his first rally in the Valley since the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019.

Modi would address the rally at Bakshi Stadium here.

A meeting of theBJP was held here on Saturday to discuss the preparations and arrangements for the rally.

"Discussions took place over the preparations for Modi's rally. Different departments of the party were given different tasks and party leaders were asked to mobilise people," BJP's Jammu and Kashmir spokesman Altaf Thakur told PTI.

He said over one lakh people are expected to attend the rally.

"It will be a mega rally and people from various parts of Jammu and Kashmir will attend. People will come in droves and flood the venue to listen to More on P10

Kashmiri Students Assaulted In Punjab College



>> Health Camps

Club in Poonch and Rajouri.

Kashmir Soon: LG here. Mahashivratri is celebrated as 'Herath' by the | More on P10

tourist resort towns Sonamarg and Doodhpathri received moderate to heavy snow.

Gurez, Kupwara, Baltal and some other towns in the higher rain with the possibility of heavy rain over the Ramban, Udhampur and the Reasi districts.

reaches also received fresh

over the higher reaches of north Kashmir, central and south

Kashmir and the Pirpanjal

range of Jammu division -- may

experience heavy to very heavy

may receive moderate rain or

snow while the plains of Jammu

are likely to receive moderate

snow, the Met office said. It said the plains of Kashmir

A few places -- particularly

snow, they added.

A few places may experience thunder/lightning/hailstorm, accompanied by gusty winds. The inclement | More on P10

Free, Fair LS Polls Would **Be Ensured In J&K: CEO**

Savs ECI To Notify LS Poll Schedule Soon

Press Trust Of India

and Srinagar: Jammu Chief Electoral Kashmir's Officer P K Pole on Saturday said free and fair Lok Sabha polls would be ensured in the **Union Territory.**

Pole reviewed the prepa-

rations for the polls in the

"The notification for Lok Sabha polls would be issued in 10-12 days. Election is definitely a challenging task, but our officers are experienced. Our endeavour is to have a peaceful, transparent, free and fair election | More on P10

Anantnag Parliamentary con-

stituency in south Kashmir.

Srinagar: The high court of J&K and Ladakh has directed authorities to "expeditiously" pass appropriate orders regarding constructions of dilapidated and new structures by army in Sonamarg by "keeping in mind the strategic significance and security of

the nation.' Hearing a Public Interest Litigation, a division bench of Chief Justice N. Kotiswar Singh and Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal passed on the orders on an application filed on behalf of the Ministry of Defence, seeking permission to commence constructions in respect of the dilapidated structures and new construction which will be required for operation and training of the forces including providing



accommodation for own and foreign officers and troops along with the allied infrastructure at Sonamarg in phases.

"Considering the fact that this pertains to the defence and security of the nation, the matter is remitted to the BOCA (Building Operation Controlling Authority) for grant of necessary permission," the court said, adding, "The BOCA shall accordingly do the needful for grant of permission to the applicant-Îndian Army in order to

enable them to make necessary repair/fresh construction in accordance with the norms, as applicable."

At this stage, Counsel for the defence ministry submitted that they have al-ready approached the BOCA authorities.

"The authorities shall consider the same and pass appropriate orders keeping in mind the strategic significance and security of the nation, as expeditiously as possible, preferably within a period of one month," the court said.

In its application, the defence ministry said that with the turn of events on northern borders accentuated with increased deployment of troops in those heights and thereof, there is requirement for specialized high-altitude training required for | More on P10

Over 100 Students Sent Back To Valley, 14 Suspended Majid Nabi

Srinagar: In a shocking incident, several Kashmiri students were allegedly attacked in CT Institute of Engineering in Punjab's Jalandhar on Friday. According to sources, clashes broke out between two groups

of students and those from Kashmir, after a female Kashmiri student was subjected to the alleged harassment and heckling within the college campus. A tense atmosphere gripped the CT college in Jalandhar, as students rallied in protest against the alleged assault of Kashmiri students on campus.

The CT Institute administration has suspended 14 students in connection with this incident. | More on P10

From Surgery To Sanctuary: Kashmir's Lone Wildlife **Hospital Emerges As Lifeline For Wild Animals**

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: Amidst the heavy downpour on Saturday, a group of men in Nehru Park Srinagar, armed not with umbrellas but with tranquilizers and expertise, embarked on a mission. A team from the Dachigam Wildlife Sanctuary veterinary hospital, led by Dr. Mohsin Ali Gazi, waded through the weather, to rescue a distressed monkey.

"Precision is the key," Gazi, Veterinary Officer and Head of Rescue Operations, explained. "We work closely with the team to ensure smooth and efficient rescues, from administering tranquilizers safely to navigating the technical aspects of the situation," he said.

This is just another day at the office for the dedicated team, racing through congested localities of Kashmir to save wild



animals in need.

Highlighting the constant influx of cases they manage, Gazi said, "We receive many calls for rescues. A couple of days ago we received a barn owl from the city's Bemina locality."

"If the rescued animal has slight wounds, it is treated on the way or else it has to be admitted to the recently

established healthcare facility for the wild animals."

Pertinently, established less than a year ago, the Wildlife Healthcare Hospital at Dachigam is emerging as a beacon of hope for Kashmir's wildlife.

"Our center has become a lifeline for countless wild animals, offering vital medical care and treatment. From surgical emergencies to medical crises, we leave no stone unturned in restoring these creatures to health," Gazi said.

While the center didn't disclose the actual numbers, the veterinary officer said that they treated a significant number of animals, rehabilitating them back into their natural habitats.

"In the few months since its inception, we have treated animals including bears, leopards, civets, leopard cats, porcu-pines, wild herbivores like gorals and musk deer, and various

The healthcare facility boasts impressive capabilities, including ultrasound diagnostics crucial for identifying illnesses in wild animals. In addition, the facility conducts post-mortem examinations of dead and deceased animals to ascertain their actual cause of death. | More on P10

Pollution Threatens Nadroo Production In Dal, Nigeen Lakes

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: The production of Nadru (Lotus Stem), a quintessential part of Kashmiri cuisine, has gradually declined as a result of the direct disposal of garbage and human excreta from the surrounding locations into Dal Lake, one of the most popular and sought-after tourist attractions in Srinagar.

Likewise, Nigeen Lake, once renowned for its crystal clear waters and scenic beauty, has seen a drastic decline in Nadroo production, with its harvesters attributing the steep decline to the increasing pollution levels and rapid urbanization.

Growers said that each passing year sees a further decrease in production as the water quality is worsening due to heightened pollution levels. "Despite challenges and

severities I have been harvesting Nadru for three decades, but the production has undeniably declined as depth of Dal Lake has reduced to such an extent that I'm not sure we would be able to harvest Lotus Stem after ten years," Ashraf Ahmad, a Nadroo grower, told Kashmir Observer.

"Drains constantly discharge

into water bodies, contaminating the water," he added.

He claimed that because of the alteration in flavor brought on by pollution in Dal Lake. the market value of Nadur has also been impacted.

Environmental experts blamed both the authorities and the residents | More on P10

wild birds," he said.



To place an advertisement CALL +91-194 2502327

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

KASHMIR OBSERVER[™] | ∩ Srinagar | Sunday | 03-03-2024

Government Of Jammu And Kashmir

Office Of The Child Development Project Officer, Anantnag.

Advertisement Notice: No:-OI of 2024

Dated:-1.03.2024

Subject: Advertisement for Recruitment of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) and Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers) in Anganwadi Centres of POSHAN Project Anantnag.

Reference: 1. Government order No 222-JK(SWD) of 2022 Dated: 30.11.2022 2.Government Order No.l03-JK(SWD) of 2023 dated: 28.04.2023

Approval has been accorded, vide letter No: IO3-JK (SWD) of 2023 Dated: 28.04.2023 for filling up of various vacancies of Sangini (Anganwadi Worker) & Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers) in Anganwadi Centres of POSHAN Project -Anantnag as per the details given below:

Sr. No.	Name of Project	Name of Post	No. of Post
11	Anantnag	Sangini (Anganwadi Worker)	01
ż	Anantnag	Sahavikas (Anganwadi Helper)	01
Total	5	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	02

Applications are invited in the Prescribed Performa in Annexure "A" from the eligible candidates for engagement as Sangini (Anganwadi Worker) & Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helper) on Honorarium basis for aforementioned posts of Anganwadi Centres. The important dates/details with regard to the posts are as under:

- a) Date of commencement for submission of application 04.03.2024
- b) Last date for submission of applications is 18.03.2024
- c) Annexure B- Name of the Post, Location/Ward, Qualification and Criteria for selection

d).Annexure C-Affidavite

ANNEXURE 'B'

Detail of Vacant Posts Sangini (Anganwadi Worker)& sahayikas (Anganwadi Helper) along with name and location of Anganwadi Centre._

Sr. No.	NAME OF ANGANWADI	Name of Panch/	NAME OF POST	NO. OF POSTS
	CENTRE	WARD NO.		
01	lgbalabad B	Pehroo Ward No14	Sangini (Anganwadi Worker)	1
01 02			SahayikaS(Anganwadi Helper)	1
1		No. 10		

Eligibility

A. Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers)

1.The candidate must be domicile of the UT of J&K.

2.Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years shall be eligible.

3. The candidate should be a resident of the electoral ward where Anganwadi Centre is situated. Name in the voter list for the ward shall be considered as the proof of residence of the candidate. In case the name of the candidate appears in the voter list along with her parents, then she must provide certificate of being un-married issued by the concerned Tehsildar. Where ever, there is any dispute as to residence for any reason, then a residence proof certifying the ward of residence from the concerned SDM/ACR shall be considered.

4.Minimum qualification for Sanginis (Anganwadi Worker) shall be 10+ 2 and maximum graduation. In case no 10+2 pass candidate is available in the ward, 10+2 pass candidate from the adjoining ward shall be considered which would require prior approval of Mission Director, Mission POSH AN. 5. In case suitable candidate is not available for adjoining ward, candidate from the nearest ward within the ward can be considered subject to the approval of the MD, Mission POSHAN. 6.Weightage shall be given on the basis of marks obtained in 10+2 and selection shall be done

purely on merit basis and not other criteria to be considered. 7. In case of tie in merit of the eligible candidate, candidate with higher age will be preferred.

Candidate with qualification higher than graduation shall not be considered.

Document Verification

The candidate who is shortlisted for Document verification will be required to appear for Document Verification along-with the original documents as well as self-attested Photostat copy of each document as per the Advertisement Notification. The candidate must be in possession of the prescribed academic qualification and other document like Domicile Certificate, on or before the last date of submission of application form.

Marks sheet(s)/Diploma/Degree of the qualification prescribed for the post as per Advertisement Notification.

- a) Date of Birth/Matriculate Certificate.
- b) Domicile Certificate.
- c) Unmarried Certificate (where required)
- 1) Candidates have to bring two passport size recent color photographs and one original Photo ID proof. Photo ID Proof can be:
- Aadhaar Card
- ii) Voter ID card. 2)
 - The candidate who are supposed to furnish various certificate issued by or before the

Government of Jammu and Kashmir Office Of The Child Development Project Officer Poshan Project DH Pora

Advertisement Notice No: 36-CDPO(DHP)Of 2024 Dated: 01/03/2024

Subject: Advertisement for Recruitment of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) & Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers) in Anganwadi Centres of POSHAN Project DH Pora for Phase 3rdfor the year 2023-24.

References: I. Government Order No 222-JK (SWD) of 2022 Dated: 30.11.2022. 2. Government Order No.103-JK (SWD) of 2023 dated: 28.04.2023. 3. Approval Letter No. SMD/ICDS/Recruitment/2022-23/6846-52 dated:28.02.2024. 4. DPO/POSHAN/KUL/2024/1709-1713 Dated: 29-02-2024.

Application forms in offline mode are invited from the eligible candidates for theposts of Sanginis (Anganwadi workers) & Sahayikas (Anganwadi helpers) approved by the Mission Director, Mission Poshan J&K vide their approval letter No.SMD/ ICDS/Recruitment/2022-23/6846-52 dated:28.02.2024for filling up of Approved vacancies of Sanginis (Anganwadi work-ers) and Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers) for Phase 3rd for the year 2023-24on Honorarium basis in Anganwadi Centres of POSHAN Project DH Pora as per the details given below:

A per the norms, the unit of selection for Sanginis & Sahayikas shall be the electoral ward of the concerned Pan-chayat halqa. Candidates should carefully read the instructions regarding eligibility criteria available with this advertisement notice before applying for the posts.

S. No.	Name of Project	Name of Post	No. of Post
1.	Poshan DH Pora	AnganwadiWorkers (Sanginis)	02
2		Anganwadi Helpers (Sahayikas)	04
Total			

The important dates/details with regard to the posts are as under:

a)	Date of commencement for submission of application01.03.2024.
	Last date for submission of applications is 11.03.2024.
c)	Application form Annexure-B
	Annexure A- Name of the Post, Location/Ward, Oualification and Criteria for selection
	Annexure C- Affidavit.

Annexure A- Name of the Post, Location/Ward, Qualification and Criteria for selection	
Annexure C- Affidavit.	
	_

ANNEXURE 'A'

Details of Vacant Posts of Sanginis and Sahavaikasalong with name and location of AnganwadiCenter.

		ANGANWADI WOF	RKERS (Sanginis)		
S.No.	NAME OF PANCHAY- AT HALOA	NAME OF ANGAN- WADI CENTRE	PANCH WARD NÓ.	NAME OF POST	NO. OF POSTS
1.	Hariveth	Hariveth-B	04	Anganwadi- Workers	1
2.	Yarikhah-A	Herpora Dar Mohal- la Yarikhah	07	Anganwadi- Workers	1
		ANGANWADI HELI	PERS (Sahavikas)		
S.No.	NAME OF PANCHAY- AT HALOA	NAME OF ANGAN- WADI CENTRE	PANCH WARD NÓ.	NAME OF POST	NO. OF POSTS
1.	Ahmadabad-A	Shah Mohalla-A Ahmadabad	05	Anganwadi Helper	1
2.	Watoo-A	Watoo-A	04	Anganwadi Helper	1
3.	Ahmadabad-B	WagayMohalla Ahmadabad	01	Anganwadi Helper	1
4.	Adijen	Adijen-C	01	Anganwadi Helper	1

Eligibility:

2.

8.

2.

2. 3.

2. 3. 4. 5. 6.

8. 9. 10.

11. 12. 13.

For Anganwadi Workers

The candidate must be domicile of the UT of J&K.

Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years shall be eligible. The candidate should be a resident of the electoral ward where Anganwadi Centre is situated. Name in the

voter list for the ward shall be considered as the proof of residence of the candidate. In case the name of the candidate appears in the voter list along with her parents, then she must provide certificate of being un-married issued by the concerned Tehsildar. Where ever, there is any dispute as to residence for any reason, then a residence proof certifying of the ward of residence from the concerned SDM/ACR shall be considered.

Minimum qualification for Anganwadi Worker shall be 10+2 and maximum Graduation. In case no 10+2 pass candidate is available in the ward. 10+2 pass candidate from the adjoining ward shall be considered which would require prior approval of Mission Director, Mission POSHAN. In case suitable candidate is not available for adjoining ward, candidate from the nearest ward within the ward

- can be co dered subject to the approval of the MD, Mission POSHAN. Weightage shall be given on the basis of marks obtained in 10+2 and selection shall be done purely on merit
- basis and no other criteria to be considered. In case of tie in merit of the eligible candidate, candidate with higher age will be preferred.
 - Candidate with qualification higher than graduation shall not be considered
 - Anganwadi Helpers
 - The selection of Helper shall be restricted to the electoral ward where Anganwadi Centre is located. Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years shall be eligible. The candidate must be domicile of the UT of J&K.
 - Minimum qualification for Anganwadi Helper shall be matriculation.
- In case no matriculate candidate available in the ward, candidates with qualification not less than 8th standard shall be considered.

FATEH KHAWA

Losing a loved one is never easy, and Sabiya Yousuf Bhat's passing has undoubtedly left an indelible void in our hearts. Sabiya Yousuf Bhat, the beloved wife of Sameer Ashraf, was a cherished member of our family and community. Her departure leaves behind memories that will forever be etched in our hearts.

The Fateh Khawani will take place at our ancestral graveyard on Sunday at 11:00 AM, near the marriage hall at Gani Memorial Stadium. We humbly request everyone to join us in prayer for the peaceful repose of her soul.

Ladies are kindly requested not to bring any eatables as we come together to honor and remember Sabiya Yousuf Bhat.

PUBLIC NOTICE

UNDERTAKING I have applied for the issuance of DOB certificate in favour of my daughter , Sheikh Falak 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 Falak Zehra R/o Salman Abad Magam bmg i

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of DOB certificate in favour of my son Zameer Hussain. As per certificate issued by Lucent nternational School the DOB of my son is

21-03-202. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file hsi/her objection in the office of the Executive Officer Municipal Committee Magam within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained Mohammad Yaseen Sufi F/o Zameer Hussain

bmg

R/o Zakir Mohalla Magam

PUBLIC NOTICE

have applied for the issuance

of DOB certificate in favour of

my son , Inaayat Imtiyaz who

was born on 17-05-2019 . If

anybody has any objection in

this regard he/she may file his/

her objection in the office of the

Srinagar Municipal Corporation

within a period of seven days

from the date of publication

of this notice. After that no

objection shall be entertained.

PUBLIC NOTICE

have applied for the

issuance of DOB certificate

in favour of my son

Muazzam Imtivaz 204-

04-2022 who was born

on 17-05-2019 . If anybody

has any objection in this

regard he/she may file his/

her objection in the office

of the Srinagar Municipal

Corporation within a period

of seven days from the date

of publication of this notice.

After that no objection

shall be entertained.

R/o Budshah Nagar

C1 Srinagar

Natipora Lane C Near

Crescent School House No

Imtivaz Ahmad Bhat

F/o Muazzam Imtivaz

Imtivaz Ahmad Bhat

F/o Inaayat Imtiyaz

S.No

Photograph of

the applicant

duly attested

by Gazetted

Officer

Signature of Candidate

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of DOB certificate in favour of my son , Inaayat Imtiyaz who was born on 17-05-2019 . If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/ her objection in the office of the Srinagar Municipal Corporation within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Mohammad Sidig Sheikh R/o Umar Heir Buchpora Ahmad Nagar Srinagar do hereby solemnly declare and affirm on oath as under ; That out of my own free will and consent without any threat coercion. Threat influence from any quarter whatsoever am revoking

AFFIDAVIT/

Mohammad Maqbool

S/o

my Deed of will which i have executed on 08th day of June 201S and registered by Sub Registrar Srinagar on 12 h day of June 201 S.

2 That for the said purpose I the deponent/ executant with a proper deed of cancellation/ revocation of the said will deed has also approached concerned SDM and IGRflnspector

General of Registration) for such purposes. 3 That the deponent/ Executant has not concealed any material 'act and henceforth the said will deed referred herein above be treated as cancelled/ revoked for all practical purposes

NJ

inf 🖬

Late

prescribed cut-off date, shall be required to produce them at the time of Document Verification or as may be sought by the Committee; in case of failure, the committee shall take necessary decision which shall be final.

Eligibility:

A. Sahavikas (Anganwadi Helpers)

1. The selection of Helper shall be restricted to the electoral ward where Anganwadi Centre is located.

2. Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years shall be eligible.

The candidate must be domicile of the UT of J&K.

4. Minimum qualification for Sahayikas(Anganwadi Helper) shall be matriculation.

5. In case no matriculate candidate available in the ward, candidates with qualification not less than 8th standard shall be considered.

6. The committee shall select the most destitute/needy married woman of the ward as helper from amongst those who fulfil the qualification criteria. In case no married candidate is available, unmarried candidate may be considered.

B. In case eligible candidate is available within the family of retiring AWHs, the said candidate shall qualify for additional two percent points.

Document Verification

The candidate who is shortlisted for Document verification will be required to appear for Document Verification along-with the original documents as well as self-attested Photostat copy of each document as per the Advertisement Notification. The candidate must be in possession of the prescribed academic qualification and other document like Domicile Certificate, on or before the last date of submission of application form.

Marks sheet(s)/Diploma/Degree of the qualification prescribed for the post as per Advertisement Notification.

d) Date of Birth/Matriculate Certificate.

e) Domicile Certificate.

f) Unmarried Certificate (where required)

3) Candidates have to bring two passport size recent color photographs and one original Photo ID proof. Photo ID Proof can be:

Aadhaar Card iii)

Voter ID card. iv)

4) The candidate who are supposed to furnish various certificate issued byor before the prescribed cut-off date, shall be required to produce them at the time of Document Verification or as may be sought by the Committee; in case of failure, the committee shall take necessary decision which shall be final.

ANNEXURE C

All applicants to submit affidavit stating following facts:

1. All Documents submitted are correct, without any mismatch, scanning, duplicate or fallacious in nature. If found incorrect or in any of the above stated situation the candidature of deponent may be cancelled and liable to action under law.

2. Maximum qualification is Graduation for vacancy of Class X (10th) for Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helper) and this is as per facts and onus of proving it to be true lies with the deponent. 3. The deponent has read the HR policy no. 222-JK(SWD) of 2022 dated: 30.11.2022 and is well versed with all salient features of the policy and shall be applicable to the deponent in case of selection as Sangnis (Anganwadi worker)/Sahayikas(Anganwadi Helper).

No.:-CDPO/Poshan/Ang/2023-24855-65 DIPK-17366/23 Date: 02/03/2024

Child Dev. Project Officer,

Poshan, Anantnag.

The committeeshall select the married meritorious candidate of the panch ward as Anganwadi helper from amongst the candidates who fulfil the eligibility criteria. In rarest of the rare cases, if finds a widow headed household with no income source or a completely destitute lady with zero source of income, in such cases preference may be given if other things are equal.

In case eligible candidate is available within the family of retiring AWWs/AWHs, the said candidate shall qual-

ify for additional two percent points, subject to the production of document proof. 8. Non-Employment certificate from the competent authority. ANNEXURE "B"

	For	mat of Application
Name of POSHAN Project		
Name of Anganwadi Centre A	pplied for_	
Post applied for 1. AWW	2. AWH	(Tick the one)
Name of the Candidate		
Father's Name		
Husband's Name		
Residence		
Name of Panchayat Halga		Panch Ward No.
Address for correspondence		
Contact No. of Applicant		
Date of Birth		
Age as on 01.01.2023		
Academic Qualification:		

Examination Board/Uni- Year of Passing Marks Obtained Total Marks Percentage Sr. No. Passed versity 3.

Do the candidate belong to Retiring AWW/AWH (YES/NO). 14. 15. Documents Attached

UNDERTAKING

...do hereby certify that the contents of ..D/o,W/o. ..R/o the application given above are correct and true to the best of my knowledge. In case any of the above contents is found incorrect, the selection committee shall have the right to reject my application and similarly revoke my engagement order. Signature of Candidate

 The candidate who is shortlisted for Document verification will be required to appear for Document Verifica-tion along-with the original documents as well as self-attested Photostat copy of each document as per the Advertisement The candidate who is shortlisted for Document verification will be required to appear for Document Verifica-Notification. The candidate must be in possession of the prescribed academic gualification and other document like Domicile Certificate, on or before the last date of submission of application form. a) tion.

- Marks sheet(s)/Diploma/Degree of the qualification prescribed for the post as per Advertisement Notifica-
- Date of Birth/Matriculate Certificate
- b) c) d) 2) Domicile Certificate.
- Un-Employment Certificate
- Candidates have to bring two passport size recent colour photographs and one original Photo ID proof. Photo ID Proof can be:

Aadhar Card

Voter ID card.

ii) 3) The candidate, who is supposed to furnish various certificates issued by or before the prescribed cut-off date, shall be required to produce them at the time of Document Verification or as may be sought by the Committee; in case of failure, the committee shall take necessary decision which shall be final.

ANNEXURE C

All applicants to submit affidavit stating following facts:

- All Documents submitted are correct, without any mismatch, scanning, duplicate or fallacious in nature. If found incorrect or in any of the above stated situation the candidature of deponent may be cancelled and liable to action under law.
- Maximum qualification is Class X for (Sahavaika) Anganwadi Helper and this is as per facts and onus of proving it to be true lies with the deponent. 3. The deponent has read the HR policy no. 222-JK(SWD) of 2022 dated: 30.11.2022 and is well versed with all
- salient features of the policy and shall be applicable to the deponent in case of selection as Anganwadi Helper.

No:-CDPO/Poshan/NBD/Recruit./2023-24/1844-68 DIPK-17339/23 Date: 02/03/2024.

Sd/= Child Development Project Officer **Poshan Project DH Pora**

R/o Budshah Nagar Natipora Lane C Near **Crescent School House No C1 Srinagar**

Imtiyaz Ahmad Bhat F/o Inaayat Imtiyaz R/o Budshah Nagar Natinora Lane C Near Crescent School House No C1 Srinagar NJ

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of DOB certificate in favour of my son , Aariz Manzoor Parray who was born on 03-09-2021. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the Concerned office within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained

Manzoor Ahmad Parray F/o Aariz Manzoor Parray R/o Bon Makhama Magam Budgam nj

ازعدالت ایکریکیٹومجسٹریٹ درجہاول نارہ بل ضلع بڈگام عنوان: درخواست منجانب عبدالحميد ذوم ولد محد سلطان ذوم ساكنه كاوسه خالسه تتحصيل ناره بل ضلع بد گام بمراد عطائی اجرائی یوم پيدايش سند ياسر حميد دوم ولد عبدالحميد دوم DOB 09-10-2009 . اشتهار بمرادآگا ہی ہرخاص وعام معامله مندرجه عنوان الصدر ليس دفتر مذاكوايك درخوست بايت حصول تاريخ پيدائش 👘 سرڪفيکيٹ موصول ہوئی ہيں۔ سائل اسائلہ يوم پيدائش سندحاصل کرنے کی خواں ہے۔سائل/سائلہ دعویٰ کرتی/ کرتا ہے کہ گیا سرحمید ڈوم ولد عبدالحميد ڈوم ساکند کا دسہ خالسہ کا تاریخ پيدائش 2009-10-09 ہے' اس نسبت ہرخاص وعام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص پااشخاص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہوتو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض سات یوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذریا اعتراض قابل قبول نہں ہوگا ہ۔ نائب تحصيلدار bmg

DISCLAIMER: KASHMIR OBSERVER MAKES EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE THATTHE INFORMATION CARRIED IN DISPLAY/CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS, APPEARING IN THE NEWSPAPER IS CORRECT. HOWEVER THE NEWSPAPER TAKES NO RESPONSIBILITY NOR DOES IT NECESSARILY ENDORSE THE CONTENTS OF THESE ADVERTS. THE READERS ARE THEREFORE REQUESTED TO VERIFY THE CONTENTS BEFORE ACTING THEREUPON. MANAGEMENT



KASHMIR OBSERVER | Srinagar | Sunday | 03-03-2024 U

Jt. Directorate of Inf **Condoles Demise Of Editor, Subha Kashmir**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Joint Directorate of Information Kashmir Saturday expressed deep grief and sorrow over the demise of Editor- Subha Kashmir, Nazir Ahmad Wani, who breathed his last Saturday after battling a kidney ailment.

In this connection a condolence meeting was held under the chairmanship of Joint Director Information Kashmir. Mohammad Aslam. The chair expressed

deep sorrow and grief over the demise and ex-

tended condolences to the bereaved family, especially his son, Zubair Nazir, and prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul

The meeting remembered his services to the public and other philanthropic endeavours.

Deputy Director Information (PR), Ahsan ul Haq Chisti; Cultural Officer, Burhan Hussain, and other officers and officials also participated in the condolence meeting. They extended sympathies to the bereaved familv and prayed for peace to the departed soul.



Man drives a two-wheeler down the Boulevard Road in Srinagar on Saturday amidst pouring rain while carrying an umbrella inside his jacket. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

J&K To Host Annual Startup Competitions To Foster Entrepreneurship

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir administration will hold start-up competitions every year in order to boost entrepreneurship in the union territory.

According to the Jammu and Kashmir Start-up Policy 2024-27, the annual start-upcompetitions will be held within the union territory in which awards will be given to the successful start-ups for their contribution towards growth of the local start-up ecosystem.

"The competition will be held to encourage, motivate and recognize wellpotential performing, and promising start-ups of Jammu and Kashmir,' the policy document said.

The awards according to the policy will be given in six different categories. which include top three start-ups of the year, top three women start-ups of the year, top three emerging start-ups of the year, top social start-up of the year, top two start-up incubation centre of J&K and top two

start-up mentors of J&K. "Each category from

the schools, colleges and universities will also introduce the concept of Student Entrepreneurs in Residence (SER).

"Outstanding students who wish to pursue entrepreneurship can take a break of one year, any time after completing the first academic year, to pursue entrepreneur-

ship full year," it said. "An approved scheme by the college/ university would allow the parents to be comfortable and confident. The gap year facility may be given to ensure syllabus continuity at the time of joining back and after an appraisal process by an incubator where the stu-

policy document said. The policy document suggested the education institutes update their respective curriculums to include a compulsory course on 'Entrepreneur ship Development'.

dents are attached," the

"This should be an optional subject to inspire students with the aspiration, capacity and inclination towards entrepreneurship," it said. "Various nationally

Girl Dies Of Electrocution In Srinagar Observer News Service Srinagar: A 15-years old girl died of the electric shock in HMT area of Srinagar on Satur-

day, officials said. An official informed that a girl identified as Zeenat Nazir (15), daughter of Nazir Ahmad Sheikh a resident of Tangdhar Kupwara, presently residing at HMT Srinagar, fell unconscious after receiving an electric shock.

The deceased girl, he said. was taken to the hospital in an unconscious state, where doctors declared her as brought

Injured In Road Mishap, Elderly Man Succumbs At SKIMS

ago in the Wandhama area of Ganderbal district in central Kashmir suc-Cumbed at SKIMS Soura here this morning.

An official said that the man was injured after his bike collided with another vehicle in Wandhama on Wednesday afternoon.He said the injured was immediately shifted to SKIMS Soura and was undergoing treatment; however, he succumbed to his injuries this morning.

dead on arrival. Meanwhile, police have cog-

Crinagar: A 65-year-old man who was injured in a road accident three days

nizance of the incident and set the investigation into motion.



 TRAFFIC POLICE PCR: 0194-24520 PDD: 0194-24500 FIRE AND EMERG 2479488,245222 CAPD: 18001807 SMC HEALTH OF Ambulance: Kash 	092,2455883 213 5ENCY SERVICES 22,2452155 011 FICER: 9469409	5:
AIRPORTS SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPO	DRT: 019423033	n 🗙
RAILWAYS · SRINAGAR: 0194 · ANANTNAG: 019 · BARAMULLA: 019 · BIJBHERA: 01932 · PAMPORE: 01932 · PAMPORE: 01932 · PATTAN: 01954-2 · QAZIGUND: 0195 HIGHWAY STATUS · Sgr-Jammu hight Mughal Road - (0 Srinagar- Leh- (0)	32-228243 94-102029 2-228243 3-294132 293507 11-296153 way - (Closed) Closed)	
HIJRI CALENDAR 21 Shaban 1445	PRA FAJR ZUHR ASR Magrib ISHA	YERS 5:36 12:43 4:48 6:33 7:51

This Day In History

- 1969 Apollo 9 launched for 151 Earth orbits (10 days)
- 1974 Turkish Airlines Flight 981 crashes in the Ermenonville Forest outside Paris, killing all 346 people onboard
- 1977 Libyan Socialist Arabs People's Republic forms
- 1980 France performs nuclear test at Mururoa atoll
- 1980 1st nuclear submarine, USS Nautilus is decommissioned.
- 1980 Pierre Trudeau sworn in, for the second time, as the 17th Prime Minister of Canada
- 1989 Robert McFarlane gets \$20,000 fine, 2 yrs probation for Iran-Contra.
- 1991 Iraqi generals and US general "Stormin' Norman" Schwarzkopf meet to discuss Gulf War cease fire
- 1991 Latvia & Estonia vote to become independent of the USSR
- 1991 Switzerland votes on lowering voting age from 20 to 18
- 1991 United Airlines 737 crashes near Colorado Springs, kills 25
- 1992 Gas explodes in coal mine at Zonguldak Turkey, 263 die
- 1992 Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina established.
- 1997 The tallest free-standing structure in the

1 to 5th winners will be awarded a certificate of recognition and cash prize of Rs 50,000 for 1st position and Rs 15,000 for third position every year on National Stra-up day i,e January16," the document said. As per the policy,

and internationally accredited Massive Open Courses (MOOCs) focused on entrepreneurship and gamified entrepreneurship concepts. Courses can be included in the academic curriculum of schools/colleges/ university," it added.

SKUAST-K To Establish 'School Of One Health **Program' in India**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Sher-e-University Kashmir of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST) of Kashmir is hosting a mega 3-day Agri-Med Science Congress, bringing together medical and agricultural experts for the first time in the region.

The event according to the SKUAST- K officials aims to address the pressing health concerns stemming from environmental and climatic changes, particularly focusing on the impact of deteriorating water and soil quality on food safety.

Chancellor Vice SKUAST-K, Professor Nazir Ahmad Ganie highlighted the significance of the event, noting that SKUAST-K is pioneering efforts in this domain by establishing the first 'School of One Health Program' in India.

"The university has secured a substantial project worth approximately 25 crore from the Government of India for this initiative, with col-

laborative partnerships including IIT Kanpur, IMTech Chandigarh, and SKIMS", he said.

VC SKUAST-K said that additionally, a project focusing on Avian Influenza, valued at around 1.5 crore, underscores the institution's commitment to novel approaches in improving public health.

"The conference aims to gather insights from over 150 medical experts from prestigious institutions such as AIIMS, Max Hospital, SKIMS, and GMC Srinagar, with a total participation of over 700 attendees", he stated. Speaking about the

Agri-Med conference, VC SKUAST- K said that for the first time in Kashmir, they are bringing agricultural and medical experts on a single platform to address the health concerns arising due to the environmental and climatic changes, stating that the water, soil is getting deteriorated resulting in the mixing of toxic residues in the food we consume, subsequently getting mixed up in our food chain.

	Manzoor Anmad Bhat upto main road					2024		UF 2024 Dated:- 14-	2024	
	at Old FatehKadal Baba Kareem							02-2024		
3.	Construction of cement concrete lane	1.34	2680	202	2 Weeks	MPLADS 2023-	DEE	ORDER NO. 23-DDCS	606 27-02-	
	from h/o Mohamad Shafi Bhat uptoN-					2024		OF 2024 Dated:-14-	2024	
	azir Ahmad Bhat at BasantBagh							02-2024		

Position of AAA: Accorded, Technical Sanction: Accorded

The NIET consists of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q) set of terms and conditions of contract other details can be seen/ downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per the date schedule given below:-

S. No.	Particulars	Date from to
1.	Date of publication of e-portal	29.02.2024
2.	Date of Downloading of bid documents for said e-NIT	29.02.2024 from 06:00 PM
3.	Date of uploading of bid document / bid submission starts	29.02.2024 from 06:00 PM
4.	Date of uploading of bid document/ bid submission Ends	13.03.2024 at 06:00 PM
5.	Date of Bid opening	14.03.2024 at 11:00 AM
6.	Date of Submission of Uploaded documents (Hard Copies) by Successful Bidder including	15.03.2023 up to 04:00 PM
	Bid Security (CDR/FDR), Tender document fee.	

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

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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

Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in the shape of Bank Receipt / challan as a tender fee paid in the Municipal Account No 021601020000007 payable at J&K Bank Branch Dood Ganga Balgarden, Srinagar payable at Srinagar (with NIT No and Serial No of work mentioned and Division name Viz RRWD) and Earnest Money/ bid security in the shape of CDR/FDR (The date of Bank Receipt/ Challan and earned money/bid security should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date). The tender fees is non-refundable and can also be paid through online mode via NEFT/RTGS in favour of F./A/ Chief Accounts officer, Srinagar Municipal Corporation with Bank Details as given below:-

Name of the Bank: - Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd.
Branch: - Balgarden, Srinagar
Bank Account No: - 021601020000007
IFSC code: - JAKAOGARDEN
MICR CODE: 190051008
Any payment for Tenders fees through online mode shall necessarily mention the following information. (Sender Name, Account No of Sender/Beneficiary,
Transaction ID, Reference ID, Transaction date and time, The Remarks should necessarily mention NIT NO, SNO and RRWD viz. NIT 03, SNO. 10, RRWD)
For one particular work, only one bank Receipt / challan (not more than one) of the exact amount of tender fees (neither lesser nor greater) as shown against
that particular work must be paid and uploaded with the tenders. The same tender fees paid and uploaded for a particular work should not be again used/uploaded for any
other work in the NIeT (i.e. one Bank Receipt / Bank Challan for one work only)
Tender Fee and other relevant documents including Bid security (CDR/FDR) duly filled up, if found uploaded, with any ambiguity or un-attested correction/
over writing for any work such tender /bid shall be considered as invalid bid and shall be out rightly rejected and action under rules shall be initiated.
Further use of pencil in writing (NIT No and S. No) on tender fees and EMD must be avoided.
The participating agencies/ contractors are advised in their own interest not to resort to any cheating while submitting and uploading the tender document
Fees or any other document.
The bidders are requested to uploadfollowing documents:
o Tender fees.
o EMD in the shape of CDR and FDR.
o Registration card and its latest renewal.
o Verification of Registration Card from competent Authority
o Latest GST clearance.
o PAN Card.
o Correspondence Address of the Agency with active Mobile No.
o Bank Account details (16-digit Bank Account No, Branch office, IFSC code)
o Any other document required to be uploaded as per the NIeT.
3. The date and time of opening of bids shall be notified on website www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an E-mail message
on their email address. The bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on the same website in the office of the Executive Engineer, Right River Works Division, SMC
(Regal Lane, Lal Chowk, Srinagar) or in the office of the Informatics officer, SMC (Karan Nagar Srinagar). In case of holidays/ offices happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids, or there is any Net problem the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
4. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of technical bids.
 The blost of unit work state terman value of a period or 120 days into the date of opening or technical blos. The blost structers full bidder has to furnish 5% of the contract value/ allotted cost cost as performance security in the shape of CDR/FDR immediately after
opening of tenders. The performance security required as per NIT conditions shall be released after DLP is successfully over. Earnest money in the shape of CDX-PER shall be
opening of tereperformance security required as perior conductors and be released at the DEP is successful your. Earliest moties in the shape of CDR7 DK share be released after performance security is received. The earnest money in favour of the unsuccessful bidder shall be released only after submission of Bank Receivers/challans.
6. The earnest money shall be foreited if:

Any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any Modifications to the terms and conditions of the bid

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

Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process

No: SMC/EERRWD/ 3045-52 DIPK-NB-5895/23 Dated: - 02-03-2024 Southern Hemisphere, Sky Tower in downtown Auckland, New Zealand, opens after two-and-ahalf years of construction. 1998 - Bill Gates testifies at Senate Judiciary

Committee about Microsoft's dominant position in the software industry

- 2002 Citizens of Switzerland narrowly vote in favor of their country becoming a member of the United Nations.
- 2002 33rd NAACP Image Awards: "Ali" wins **Outstanding Motion Picture**
- 2005 Steve Fossett becomes the first person to fly an airplane around the world solo without any stops without refueling - a journey of 40,234 km/25,000 mi completed in 67 hours and 2 minutes.
- 2009 The Sri Lankan cricket team is attacked while on their way to the Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore for a Test match against Pakistan.
- 2013 45 people are killed by a bomb blast in Karachi, Pakistan
- 2015- "Under the Dome" a documentary on pollution in China by Chai Jing has been viewed over 150 million times in 3 days on Tencent
- 2017- Mass grave of 800 children and infants confirmed at a former Catholic care home in Tuam, Ireland

Executive Engineer

Right River Works Division

Srinagar Municipal Corporation

- 2018- Brian Ortega becomes the first man to finish Frankie Edgar in MMA at UFC 222, earning Performance of the Night
- 2019- Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika confirms he will run for president one last time, his 5th term, amid widespread demonstrations
- 2019- SpaceX's Dragon capsule successfully docks with the International Space Station during its demonstration run
- 2020- Iran releases 54,000 people from prison to avoid spread of COVID-19 as country reports 77 deaths and 2,300 cases including two dozen **MPs**
- 2020- Irishwomen Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamar, of Grafton Architecture, are the 1st women to share the Pritzker Architecture Prize
- 2020- Last Ebola patient discharged from hospital in Beni, DR Congo, raising hopes outbreak at an end in the country after 2,300 deaths
- 2020- Super Tuesday: Biggest voting day for Democrats selecting their presidential candidate revives Joe Biden's campaign, he wins nine states, while Bernie Sanders wins four including California
- 2020- UK had its wettest February since records began in 1862, according to the Met Office, 209.1mm of rainfall, 237% above average

NEWS

Delhi Police On High Alert After Blast In Bengaluru Cafe



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The Delhi Police has stepped up security after a low-intensity blast at a popular Bengaluru cafe left 10 people injured, an official said today.

Districts police chiefs have been directed to increase vigil in crowded areas, especially in Delhi's markets, the official said.

A senior police officer said market associations have been asked to remain alert and approach their local police stations in case they find any suspicious activity.

The associations have also been directed to ensure that CCTV cameras installed on the premises are functional, he said. Another officer said the Delhi Police has asked its bomb disposal squads and bomb detec-

tion teams to stay on alert. Ten people, including staff members and customers, were injured after a low-intensity blast rocked Rameshwaram Cafe in Bengaluru's Brookefield

area on Saturday. The Bengaluru Police said the blast was caused by an improvised explosive device fitted with a timer in a bag left near the eatery's handwash area by a "customer".

The local police have registered a case under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and the Explosive Substances Act.

Indian Apps Make A Comeback On Google Play Store Amid Govt's Stern Warning

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Google has reinstated some popular Indian apps it had removed from its Play Store, including Naukri and 99acres, amid the government's clear signal that the delisting of Indian apps cannot be permitted.

Sources said reinstating some of the apps was not linked to the government's position but with the concerned apps complying with the Play Store Billing policies. Info Edge founder Sanjeev Bikhchandani, in a post on X. confirmed that many Info Edge apps are now back in the

app marketplace. "Many of the Info Edge apps are back on the Play Store. An effort very well led by (company MD and CEO) Hitesh and the entire Info Edge team. People were up all night for this. Great crisis management," he said.

Taking a strong view of Google pulling out some apps from its Play Store, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw told PTI that the delisting of Indian



apps cannot be permitted and up founders cried foul. that the tech company and

Taking a serious note of the issue, Vaishnaw said: "India is very clear, our policy is very clear, our startups will get the protection that they need". The minister said the government will meet Google and app developers, who have been delisted, next week to resolve the dispute.

"I have already called Google. I have already called the app developers, who have been delisted. We will be meeting them next week. This cannot be permitted. This kind of delisting cannot be permitted," Vaishnaw asserted

No Need to Show 'Greater Sensitivity' Towards 'Pardanashin' Women: Court

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Policing is not tailored to serve the interests of any specific religious or cultural community and there can't be any room for anonymity in investigations, the Delhi High Court said on Friday as it refused to pass any directions to law enforcement agencies to show "greater sensitivity" towards the needs of "pardanashin" (veiled) women.

Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma observed an investigating agency has to follow the principles of impartiality, fairness, and reasonability, and directing them to act in a particular way that may be against the interest of society would be unjust and may leave scope for misuse.

"The law enforcement agencies and their investigations cannot be driven by religious practices but have to be community and safety driven," the court said.

The court's order came on a petition by a 'purdahnashin' Muslim woman who sought directions for sensitising the Delhi Police about the sacrosanct religious, social customs and practices observed by women who observe 'purdah' either as a religious belief or as a matter

Agencies

The Syria Free Army (SFA), a US-backed militant group

being trained inside Washington's Al-Tanf base in eastern Syria, appointed a former ISIS

chief as their commander on

"Today, the Syrian Free Army

conducted a change of com-

mand and welcomed a new

commander of the SFA. We

thank COL Farid al-Qasim for 16

months of dedicated service to

the SFA, the local community,

and the 55-kilometer area,"

the SFA said on Thursday via its

"We are excited for the new

opportunities that [Colonel Sa-

lem Turki al-Antari] will bring to the SFA and the leadership

he will provide. This step con-

tinues the SFA mission in the

Region to secure and stabilize

the 55 and defeat Da'esh (ISIS),"

29 February.

Facebook page

Ex-ISIS Chief Appointed As

Commander Of US-Backed

of personal choice. The court said the funda-

mental rights, including those enshrined under Article 25 of the Constitution in relation to freedom of religion, are surrendered in favour of the safety of the country and community, irrespective of the gender of the accused.

"It is crucial to recognize that policing is not tailored to serve the interests of any specific religious or any cultural community alone. Rather, this Court holds that it has to be essentially guided by the principles of impartiality, fairness, and reasonability," said the court.

"Issuance of an additional direction to first inquire from a woman as to whether she is a pardanashin woman or she wears any form of veil according to her religious belief or customary practices, and then to grant additional time and notice to wear pardah or veil, in addition to following the safeguards already provided in law, on the ground of exhibiting awareness and sensitivity of the police will be inviting an accused to misuse the directions and utilise the time so gained, at times also on falsehood, to abscond or destroy evidence," the court observed.

Initial Results Show Iran Election Turnout Over 40%



Agencies

reliminary results from the Iranian parliamentary and Assembly of Experts elections show that the turnout has surpassed 40 percent.

Citing unofficial statistics, Iranian media reported on Saturday that the rate of participation in the nationwide vote for the 12th term of the Iranian Parliament (Majlis) and the 6th term of the Assembly of Experts was over 40%, with the results of the vote counting in a number of constituencies yet to he released

ple, comprising 30.94 million men and 30.22 million women, were eligible to vote in the two elections, with the Iranian Interior Ministry saying more than 25 million cast their ballots at the polls.

The voting was initially scheduled to end at 18:00 local time but was extended three times, with each extension lasting for two hours.

President Raeisi hails high election turnout

In a message on Saturday, President Ebrahim Raeisi expressed his gratitude to the Irahian people for their remark able turnout. Raeisi said the enthusiastic and conscious presence of Iranians in Friday's vote was a "big no" to the global arrogance after its historic defeat in last year's riots, which broke out following the death of a 22-year-old woman in the capital Tehran.

Ship From China To Pak Stopped At Mumbai Port Over Suspected Nuclear Cargo **Press Trust of India**

startups concerned have been

called for a meeting next week.

In an interview, IT and Tele-

com Minister Vaishnaw said

the startup ecosystem is key

to the Indian economy and

their fate cannot be left to any

The minister's comments

assume significance as Google

on Friday began removing

some apps, including popular

matrimony apps, from its Play

Store in India over a dispute

on service fee payments, even

as apps and well-known start-

big tech to decide.

MUMBAI: A Karachi-bound ship from China was stopped by Indian security agencies at Mumbai's Nhava Sheva port on suspicion that it contained a dual-use consignment that could be used for Pakistan's nuclear and ballistic missile programme, officials here said on Saturday.

The customs officials, based on an intelligence input, halted a Malta-flagged merchant ship -- CMA CGM Attila -- at the port en route to Karachi on January 23 and inspected the consignment, which included a Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machine, originally manufactured by an Italian company.

CNC machines are basically controlled by a computer and produce a scale of efficiency, consistency and accuracy not possible manually.

A team of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) also inspected the consignment and certified that it could be used by the neighbouring country for its



tary uses. India is among the 42 member countries that exchange information on transfers of conventional weapons and dual-use goods and technologies.

The CNC machine was used by North Korea in its nuclear programme

The port officials, with specific intelligence, had alerted the Indian defence authorities who inspected the heavy cargo and reported their suspicions, after which the consignment was seized, the officials said, adding that the seizure falls under the prevention of possible proliferation by Pakistan

Export Co Ltd and was meant for Cosmos Engineering in Pakistan, the officials said.

This is not the first instance when Indian port officials have seized such dual-use military-grade items being shipped from China to Pakistan.

Cosmos Engineering, Pakistani defence supplier, has been on a watchlist since March 12, 2022, when Indian authorities intercepted a shipment of Italian-made thermoelectric instruments, once again at the Nhava Sheva port. The officials said there have

the statement added. been concerns that Pakistan An SFA spokesman



Qasim's replacement, Salem Turki al-Antari, is from the ancient Syrian city of Palmyra. According to ASO Network, he joined ISIS in 2014, going by the nickname Abu Saddam al-Ansari. The extremist group appointed him as the Emir of the Badia desert region in Homs. Between 2015 and 2017, Antari took part in the ISIS takeover of Palmyra and the battles with the Syrian army that ensued. The ISIS assault on Palmyra destroyed some of Syria's most

cherished cultural heritage. He then became a par

The polls opened at 8 a.m. local time (0430) on Friday and the voting began at 59,000 polling stations across the country, with more than 15,000 candidates competing for 290 seats in the Iranian parliament, and 144 candidates vying for positions at the eight-yearterm Assembly of Experts, an 88-member body in charge of overseeing the activities of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution with a position of authority to either appoint or dismiss the Leader.

Voting for the two elections ended at midnight local time after 16 straight hours.

A total of 61.17 million peo-

"The ill-wishers of our beloved Iran had mobilized all their power so that the March 1 elections would be held without fervor," he said.

Raeisi also underlined that the remarkable turnout brought "honor and pride to the Islamic homeland and despair and frustration on the enemies."

nuclear programme. According to the experts, the equipment would be useful in manufacturing critical

parts for Pakistan's missile development programme. Since 1996, CNC machines have been included in the Wassenaar Arrangement -an international arms control

regime aimed at stopping the proliferation of equipment with both civilian and mili-

and China.

According to documents such as bills of loading and other details of the consignment, the consigner was mentioned as "Shanghai JXE Global Logistics Co Ltd" and consignee was "Pakistan Wings Pvt Ltd" of Sialkot.

However, a deeper investigation by the security agencies indicated that the consignment, weighing 22,180 kilogrammes, was shipped by Taiyuan Mining Import and might be utilising China as a conduit to acquire restricted items from Europe and the US, masking identities to evade detection.

Concerns have intensified over Chinese support for Pakistan's nuclear and missile programmes, exemplified by a 2020 case where an industrial autoclave, crucial for missile production, was concealed as industrial equipment on a Chinese vessel bound for Pakistan.

Syrian news outlet Enab Baladi that the change in leadership was routine and not the result of a dispute or problem.

He added that Washington did not interfere in the appointment, as it came as an internal decision within the faction. Muhammad al-Khalidi, the head of a local council in the US-occupied Al-Rukban area in eastern Syria, told the outlet otherwise, saying Qasim had been "provoking tribal divisions in the region.'

the Ahrar al-Sharqiyah faction of the Turkish-backed Syrian National Army (SNA) militant coalition in 2017.

After the fall of Raqqa to USbacked Kurds in 2017, the SNA helped many ISIS fighters and commanders escape into SNA territory and incorporate into their factions.

Antari took part in the Turkish-SNA assault on the northeastern city of Ras al-Ayn in 2019, which remains besieged to this day.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir **OFFICE OF THE ZONAL EDUCATION OFFICER KANGAN** Tel. No.:0194-2418237; Fax: 0194- 2418237: email: zeokangan@gmail.com ADDRESS: NEAR JAMIYA MASJID. KANGAN-191202

NOTIFICATION NO.:-05 ZEO/KGN OF 2024

DATED:-01-03-2024

- Provisional selection list of the candidates for the engagement of AAYA's/Helpers under ECCE for the year 2023-24 advertised vide this office notification No.04 of Subject:-2024 Dated:-31-01-2024 for 13 posts of AAYA's/Helpers in the selected schools.
- Reference:-Project Director Samagra Shiksha J&K Order No.07 of Chiraj-2023 Dated: -09-01-2023 and Chief Education Officer Ganderbal's endorsement No.CEO/Gbl/SS/285 Dated:-20-06-2023.

The provisional selection is prepared in accordance with the norms of Director SAMAGRA SHIKSHA J&K, and is hereby notified as per Annexure-A to this notification. It is further ordered that:-I)This is a provisional list only and mere figuring in it shall not confer any right to the candidates for final selection.

II) If any provisionally selected candidate is found ingenuine after receiving objection her selection shall not be considered in the final selection list.

In case any candidate who had applied for this notification is aggrieved by this provisional list then she may file/submit her objection in the Office of Chief Education Officer Ganderbal within seven (07) days from the date of publication of this notification.

No claim/objection shall be entertained after the expirey of the above mentioned period.

N:ZEO/Kgn/SmS/1674-76.

Dated:-01/03/2024.

Zonal Education Officer

Kangan

	Office Of the Zonal Education Officer,Kangan								
	ANNEXURE-A								
	Provisional Selection List of AAYAs/Helpers.								
5	S.No	Name of the Candidate	Parentage/W/o,D/o.	DOB	Qual.	Catergory	School where to be engaged	Revenue Village	
	1	Waheeda Akhter	D/o.Lt.Abdul Rahman Lone	13-Nov-2000	12Th	Orphan	PS Galkul	Arhama	
	2	Maqsooda Jan	D/o.Bashir Ahmad Chechi	1-Mar-2004	9Th	BPL	PS Panzindara Preng	Plang	
	3	Massuda	D/o.Lt.Gh. Rasool Shah	29-Apr-1987	9Th	Orphan	MS Nagradzoo	Haripora	
	4	Zareena Banoo	D/o.Lt.Ab. Rahman Lone	2-Feb-1995	12Th	Orphan	MS Bonizel	Haripora	
	5	Afroza Bano	W/o.Shabir Ahmad Shah	10-Mar-1979	10Th	BPL	MS Tangchatter	Tangchatter	
	6	Afroza Jan	D/o.Lt.Gh. Ahmad Mir	11-Nov-2000	12Th	Orphan	GMS Kanagn	Kangan	
	7	Mymoona Akhter	D/o.Showkat Ahmad Mir	1-Mar-1985	8Th	BPL	PS Barwalla	Barwalla	
	8	Aasiya Rasool	D/o.Lt.Gh. Rasool Rather	6-May-2004	10Th	Orphan	PS Najwan	Najwan Nilla	
	9	Fahmeeda Akhter	D/o.Ab. Ahad Mir	1-Jan-1995	9Th	BPL	PS Tangpathri Pahlinar	Wangath	
	10	Mumtaza Bano	W/o.Mohd. Anwar Khatana	3-May-1999	9Th	BPL	PS Dashadi	Wangath	
	11	Rizwana Mohamad	D/o.Lt.Gh. Mohd. Wani	10-0ct-1996	M.A	Orphan	MS Panzin	HarduPanzin	
	12	Yasmina Bano	D/o.Gh. Mohd. Sheikh	24-Jun-1985	8Th	Divorced	PS Margund B	Margund	
	13	Fahmeeda Bano	D/o.Lt.Ab. Rahman Najar	7-0ct-1995	M.A	Orphan	PS Chan Mohalla Margund	Margund	
DIPK-	17322	-23					ZONA	L EDUCATION OFFICE	
	2/03/2							KANGA	

MARKETING DIVISION SRINAGAR. **PUBLIC NOTICE**

GOVERNMENT OF KASHMIR DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

OFFICE OF THE SENIOR PROJECT OFFICER FISHERIES,

List of locations/ spots in Srinagar City where Trout Fish shall be available on 6th & 7th of March, 2024 on the upcoming eve of Maha Shivaratri on 8th March, 2024.

S.no	Area of Distribution	Sale spot	Sale timing	Limit	Kate per kg
01.	Sanat Nagar	Near marriage hall (mobile van)	9:30 AM to 11:00 AM	2 kg per need (Non commer- cial)	Rs 500 /-
02.	Hari Singh high Street Lal Chowk Srinagar	Sale centre adja- cent to Budshah flats Saraf Bazar	10:00AM to 4:30 PM	-do-	-do-
03.	Shivpora	Near Broadway Cin- ema (Mobile van)	11:30AM to 12:50 AM	-do-	-do-
04.	Habba Kadal	Ganpatyar (Mobile van)	12:30PM to 1:30 PM	-do-	-do-
05.	Karanagar	Mughal Darbar (Mobile van)	2:00 PM to 2:45 PM	-do-	-do-
06.	Rajbagh/ Jawaha Nagar	Near Police station (Mobile van)	3:00 PM to 5:00 PM	-do-	-do-
07.	Harwan	Harwan Fish Farm	10:AM to 6:00 PM	-do-	-do-
CONTACT NO'S: 7006464998/ 9622648242/9622661891					
DIPK-17357-23Sr. Project Officer FisheriesDT: 02/03/2024Marketing Division Srinagar					

STATE

BJP Renominates Jitendra Singh, Jugal Kishore for Udhampur, Jammu LS Seats

Agencies

JAMMU: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Saturday announced the names of incumbent MPs–Dr Jitendera Singh and Jugal Kishore as its candidates for Udhampur and Jammu parliamentary seats.

The 195 names in the list includes Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who will be contesting from Varanasi, in Uttar Pradesh, the constituency he currently represents.

Union Minister in PMO Dr Jitendera Singh and incumbent Member Parliament Jugal Kishore managed to win the confidence of party high command and get a mandate for the third time.

A senior BJP leader said that

despite deliberations on several new names for the mandate, the BIP couldn't afford to disturb the Brahmin-Rajput equation on Jammu and Udhampur seats, which is considered as a crucial factor on both the seats. "Jugal and Jitendera have also expressed desire to contest again and were repeatedly giving assurances to higher command about their support base," a BJP leader told a news agency. Addressing a press confer-ence in Delhi, BJP general secretary Vinod Tawde said that at

the BJP Parliamentary Meeting was held on 29 February and decisions were made regarding 195 candidates from 16 states and two Union Territories. "During the meeting, it was



decided that Prime Minister Modi will be the candidate from Varanasi seat in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections," he said.

The Lok Sabha elections will likely take place in April-May this year. Dr. Jitendra Singh, a medical practitioner by profession,

came in limelight with 2008 Shri Amarnath Land Row agitation, which helped the BJP to gain ground in Jammu, with the

party winning 11 seats in 2008 from just one in 2002.

After representing Shri Amarnath Sangarsh Smiti, which spearheaded agitation in Jammu, Singh quietly entered into BJP and was made the chief spokesperson. He made his electoral debut in 2014 and defeated former Chief Minister and then Congress bigwig Gulam Nabi Azad.

There was no looking back for Dr Singh, from 2014, as he was inducted in core team of Prime Minister on May , 26, 2014 with responsibilities of some key departments like Prime Minister's Office, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Department of Atomic Energy; and Department of Space, Science

and Technology, Earth Sciences, Development of North Eastern Region as junior minister.

Dr Singh again defended his seat in 2019 and won by 3.57 lakh votes defeating Congress' Vikramaditya Singh, the son of Jammu and Kashmir's last prince Karan Singh.

Jugal Kishore Sharma Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh worker and former president of J&K BJP. He was the lone BJP Member of Legislative Assembly in J&K assembly during 2002-2008. In 2014, Sharma contested first parliamentary polls from Jammu-Poonch constituency. He was re-elected as a member of Lower House of Parliament in the 2019 Indian general election in Jammu and Kashmir from Jammu constituency. KNO

Teenager Suffocates To Death In Ramban

Agencies

SRINAGAR: An 18-year-old boy died, while four others have been admitted to a hospital following suffocation during sleep inside a room in Dedha area of Gool in Ramban district, official ls said.

Quoting an official, news agency reported that the teenager suffocated to death due to smoke emitting from a generator in the room.

He said that four others have been hospitalised and are undergoing treatment. "They were at a wedding ceremony when the incident happened," he said. The deceased has been identified as Mohammad Tariq of Dedha.

8th Standard Exams To Commence From 13 Mar **KO NEWS SERVICE**

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir State Council of Educational Research and Training (JKSCERT) Saturday rescheduled the annual examination dates for 8th standard.

JKSCERT said that the exams in the soft zones will commence from March-13 and will culminate on April-02.

Similarly, the JKSCERT said that the exams in hard zones for 8th standard will commence from March-26 and will culminate on April-10

respectively. Earlier the exam was supposed to be held from March-05.

Man Killed After Being Hit By

Train In Samba

Govt. to Establish Surveillance System to Curb Illegal Mining

JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo on Saturday stressed on taking strict measures as per law against those involved in illegal mining across J&K.

The Chief Secretary was speaking in a meeting called to assess the working of the Mining Department here. Those who were present included Commissioner Secretary, Mining; Director, Social Forestry, Director, Mining besides other concerned officers.

During this meeting the Chief Sec-retary took note of the availability of RBM (minor minerals) for construction of infrastructure projects in the UT. He also directed for ensuring availability of construction material to the public readily at government approved rates.

Dulloo impressed upon the concerned to go tough against the illegal miners. He told them to use the provisions of enforcement measures quite rigorously for putting total end to this illicit practice.

He even enjoined upon them to see the models adopted by other States/UTs in auctioning of their mineral blocks especially in Gujarat, Rajasthan and MP for realizing maximum revenue out of them. He also asked for completing the new



initiatives like establishment of Mining Surveillance System and Mineral Check posts for curbing this menace effectively.

In his presentation the Commissioner Secretary, Mining, Vikramjit Singh informed the meeting about estimates of different mineral blocks identified in various districts of the UT. He said that J&K has about 3400 MT of Limestone, 43 MT of Gypsum, 427 MT of Quartzsite, 3826 Cu Mtrs of Granite besides quantities of dozens of other minerals.

Regarding the enforcement measures taken by the Department it was said that more than 6000 vehicles involved in ferrying of illegal minerals have been seized by the Department realizing an amount of Rs1627 lakh as penalty from offenders.

The meeting was further informed that the Department had granted 205 minor mineral leases so far besides identifying 60 new blocks of RBM across districts. The department has realized Rs 130.58 Cr as bid amount/ royalty and penalty against these mineral blocks upto January this year, the meeting was apprised.

Moreover it was added that the Directorate of G&M has constituted provincial level flying squads to conduct surprise checks and monitor/prevent illegal mining and penalizing the vehicles/machineries involved in illegal extraction.

The Department has also launched e-Market Place/ e-challan web portal for ensuring transparency, accountability in Sale/Purchase and transportation of minerals on notified rates from source to destination in J&K. As on 01 March this year 2282391 echallans had been generated to facilitate mineral business in J&K, as was given out during this meeting.

RTO Urges Uniformity in Driving Test Tracks Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Regional Transport Officer (RTO) Kashmir on Saturday instructed all ARTOs in Kashmir to adopt uniformity in size and dimensions of tracks for conducting driving tests.

RTO Kashmir, Syed Shahnawaz Bukhari, speaking with the news agency, said there has to be uniformity in the driving test tracks.

Bukhari said during his visit to Budgam, he passed on instructions to all ARTOs of the Kashmir division to adhere to the uniform set standard size and dimensions of driving test tracks across all the districts of the valley.

The ARTOs have also been instructed to explore the possibilities of the construction of ramps to include the ramp test in the driving test.

According to the driving test format, motorcycles have to pass the "8" test, while for the LMVs "H" track test has to be cleared. For heavy vehicles, one has to clear through the pole test.

Speaking about the size dimensions for driving tests, RTO Kashmir said a committee was headed by him to fix the sizes and dimensions for several driving testing tracks.

JAMMU: A 40-year-old man was killed after being hit by a train in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district, an official said on Saturday. Efforts are on to identify the deceased, who was run over by the Shali-

Agencies

mar Express in Vijaypur area late Friday night, an official of the government railway police said. He said that the body of the deceased was found on the railway track and later shifted to the district hospital in Samba for postmortem and identification.

PDD officials assaulted during hooking inspection in Sopore Agencies

SOPORE: Officials from the Power Development Department (PDD) in north Kashmir were allegedly subjected to physical assault during an inspection in a Sopore locality, following which a First Information Report (FIR) was lodged by the police. An official from the PDD informed the that the altercation occurred when employees from Division II of Sopore PDD were carrying out their duties at Sher Colony.

He said that during an inspection following multiple complaints of hookings, an individual confronted the PDD officials, which resulted in a heated argument that escalated into physical violence.

	Governme	nt of Jamm	u & Kas	hmir			
OFFICE OF THE EXECUT	ive en	GINEEF	R (Re	RB) DIV	ISION G	ANDE	RBAL
NOTICE INVITING TENDER							
	(CIVIL WORK	(S				
	LE COVER S						
EE/R&B/Divn/Gbl/e-Tender FreshNIT- No.224 of 202							02-03-2024
For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD. Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-							
		in the renowing t	ions.				
Adv. Cost	Cost of T/	Earnest				T	01

S.No	Name of the Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Locs)	Cost of T/ Doc. (In Rupees}	Earnest Money (In Rupees}	Major Head	T/S no. & Date	Time of completion	Class Of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
01	Construction of Elemen- try Girls Toilet at MPS Pati Dursuma.	Rs.01.76 Lacs	Rs.200/=	Rs.3520/=	PAB	EE/R&B/Div n/Gbl/CS/01 of 2023-24 Dated: 24-02- 2024	20-Days	DEE
02	Construction Elementary Boys Toilet at MPS Pakh- toon Basti.	Rs.02.10 Lacs	Rs.200/=	Rs.4200/=	PAB	EE/R&B/Div n/Gbl/CS/02 of 2023-24 Dated: 24-02- 2024	20-Days	DEE
03	Construction of Elementary CWSN Toilet at MS Kurha- ma.	Rs.02.12 Lacs	Rs.200/=	Rs.4240/=	PAB	EE/R&B/Div n/Gbl/CS/03 of 2023-24 Dated: 24-02- 2024	20-Days	DEE
04	Construction of Elemen- try CWSN Toilet at MS Dardpora.	Rs.02.13 Lacs	Rs.200/=	Rs.4260/=	PAB	EE/R&B/Div n/Gbl/CS/04 of 2023-24 Dated: 24-02- 2024	20-Days	DEE
05	Construction of Sec- ondary CWSN at HS Pati Yarmuqam.	Rs.02.37 Lacs	Rs.200/=	Rs.4740/=	PAB	EE/R&B/Div n/Gbl/CS/05 of 2023-24 Dated: 24-02- 2024	20-Days	DEE
06	Construction of Sr. Second- ary Boundary wall at HSS Wakura.	Rs.09.50 Lacs	Rs.600/=	Rs.19000/=	PAB	EE/R&B/Div n/Gbl/CS/06 of 2023-24 Dated: 24-02- 2024	45-Days	DEE/CEE
07	Construction of Elementary ACR at PS Bussserbugh.	Rs.10.42 Lacs	Rs.600/=	Rs.20840/=	PAB	EE/R&B/Div n/Gbl/CS/07 of 2023-24 Dated: 24-02- 2024	60-Days	DEE/CEE/ BEE
08	Construction of Elementry ACR at BPS Kachan.	Rs.10.42 Lacs	Rs.600/=	Rs.20840/=	PAB	EE/R&B/Div n/Gbl/CS/08 of 2023-24 Dated: 24-02- 2024	60-Days	DEE/CEE/ BEE
09	Construction of Elementry ACR at MPS Pati Dursuma.	Rs.10.42 Lacs	Rs.600/=	Rs.20840/=	PAB	EE/R&B/Div n/Gbl/CS/09 of 2023-24 Dated :24-02- 2024	45-Days	DEE/CEE/ BEE
10	Construction of Elementry ACR at MPS Hyder Maidan Ganderbal.	Rs.20.84 Lacs	Rs.800/=	Rs.41680/=	PAB	EE/R&B/Div n/Gbl/CS/10 of 2023-24 Dated: 24-02- 2024	90-Days	CEE/BEE
11	Construction of Senior Secondary Strengthening at GHSS Nunner Ganderbal.	Rs.24.84 Lacs	Rs.800/=	Rs.49680/=	PAB	EE/R&B/Div n/Gbl/CS/11 of 2023-24 Dated: 24-02- 2024	90-Days	CEE/BEE
12	Construction of Secondary ACR at BHS Malshaiebagh.	Rs.36.00 Lacs	Rs.1100/=	Rs.72000/=	PAB	EE/R&B/Div n/Gbl/CS/12 of 2023-24 Dated: 24-02- 2024	90-Days	BEE/AAY
13	Construction of Sr Secondry Strengthening at GHSS Tulmulla.	Rs.36.00 Lacs	Rs.1100/=	Rs.72000/=	PAB	EE/R&B/Div n/Gbl/CS/13 of 2023-24 Dated: 24-02- 2024	90-Days	BEE/AAY

KO NEWS SERVICE



Chairperson NCW Stresses

Social Media Presence for

Women's Special Cells

KO NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Chairperson, National Commission for Women, Rekha Sharma, on Saturday chaired the fourth monitoring committee meeting of special cells for women within police system, supported by National Commission for Women and implemented by Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai, held at Udyog Bhawan, Jammu.

Pertinently, the Committee has been constituted under "Violence Free Home, a Woman's Right" project, demonstration of pilot Special Cells for Women in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh located in all districts of both the UTs.

Dr. Trupti Jhaveri Panchal, Member Secretary of the Committee and faculty at

TISS, Mumbai highlighted the achievements and activities of the Committee.

The work progress on Special Cells for Women of both UTs from 1st June 2023 to 31st January 2024 was presented by Balwant Singh, Coordinator, RCI-VAW, TISS. He highlighted the efforts initiated by the social workers on ground for effective functioning of these Special Cells. During this period, the Special Cells have reached out to 2317 women survivors of violence, he added.

Rekha Sharma appreciated the working of Special Cells and emphasised on further strengthening of coordination among all stakeholders. She further emphasized on increasing the outreach of special cells on social media by making pages on Instagram and Facebook.

day convened a meeting to review the arrange ments for the celebration of Maha Shivratri across the valley

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri on Satur-

Div Com Reviews Arrangements For

Maha Shivratri

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioners, SSPs, Officers of Health Services, Floriculture, PDD, PHE, SMC, R&B, Fire and Emergency, Transport, SRTC, Food Safety and other concerned departments. The meeting held threadbare discussion on the civil arrangements to facilitate the Pandit Community to observe the festival with religious fervor.

Addressing the Officers, Div Com instructed Director Floriculture to ensure availability of fresh flowers at Shankar Acharya Temple and Kheer Bhawani.

He asked officers of the Horticulture Department to ensure availability of walnuts and Lotus Stem (Nadru) at prominent religious places and localities of the Pandit Community.

Similarly, a concerned officer of the Fisheries Department was directed to ensure availability of fish in the market.

Meanwhile, Div Com directed SMC to conduct cleanliness and sanitation drives at the religious places of the community to create an atmosphere of festivity.

PDD was asked to ensure uninterrupted power supply on the occasion of Maha Shivratri while Jal Shakti was asked to provide water tankers in addition to regular water supply.

Govt Releases Rs 272 Cr Housing Assistance For Rural Families

KO NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: In line with the announcement of ensuring housing to rural poor in Jammu and Kashmir by Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, the Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj has released a significant amount of Rs 272.55 crore for disbursement among the beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) through Direct Benefit Transfer. This amount included the central share of Rs 245.30 crore released by the Ministry of Rural Development recently.

Secretary, Atal Chief Dulloo, consistently reviewed implementation of ment to 24388 beneficia-

the scheme for ensuring sustained efforts and targeted achievements on this account. The Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj has initiated a series of interventions ing for All. at ground level for effective implementation of the scheme aiming at prohere that the department viding housing support to of Rural Development & vulnerable families in rural Panchayati Raj ĥas been implementing the CSS

areas. According to an official communique recieved here today in this regard, the Rural Development Department and Panchayati Raj, has disbursed Rs. 200 crore among the PMAY-G beneficiaries in last 10 days, facilitating payment of 1st installment to 3450

beneficiaries, 2nd install-

ries and 3rd installment of construction and the to 9860 beneficiaries. This department is putting in strenuous efforts eyeproactive approach of the LG administration reflects ing completion of ongoing houses in ensuing a strong commitment towards fulfilling the Prime 06 months. The PMAY-G would fulfill beneficiaries' Minister's vision of Housdream of a 'Pucca House' Significant to mention with basic amenities.

boost their self-esteem, social status, and standard of living.

The welfare of the poor PMAY-G since April 1, 2016, and vulnerable sections has to provide monetary asalways been top priority of sistance to construct 3.37 the LG administration and Lakh pucca houses with in this endeavour, 138511 basic amenities. Nearly PMAY-G houses were sanc-187694 houses have been tioned in June 2023 in the completed till date, of block level camps against which, a record number of a special target allotted by 59982 houses have been the Union Ministry of Rural completed in 2023-24 only. Development, pursuant to Further, 149,282 houspersonal efforts of the Lieues are at various stages tenant Governor.

Project Authority: Project Dictor SAMAGRA SHIKSHA.

1. Project Director, Samagra Shiksha J&K vide Order No. 05-CHIRAG of 2024 Dated: 04-01-2024. AA Accorded by:

2. Deputy Director, Planning Samagra Shiksha, J&K vide No.: Edu/SPD/Plg/2023-24/NTUW/CW-1-C Dated: 21-12-2023. 3. Project Director, Samagra Shiksha J&K vide Order No. 79-CHIRAG of 2023 Dated: 10-05-2023.

ents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities(B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of The Bidding docu contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	04-03-2024
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	04-03-2024 from 10:00 AM.
3.	Bid submission Start Date	04-03-2024 from 10:00 AM.
4.	Bid Submission End Date	09-03-2024 upto 4.00 PM.
5.	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids(Online)	09-03-2024 at 04:05 P.M in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in shape of Treasury Receipt/e-Challan in favour of Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Ganderbal.

Note:- The Date of Treasury Challan and CDR must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date Any deviation shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.

- The Bidders shall upload earnest money equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the shape of CDR/FDR at the time of tendering pledged in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal and 5% of the allotted cost as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/ by the successful bidder pledged in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal successful completion of the Defect Liability Peroid (DLP) of the work. The EMD of 2% of successful bidders shall be released after receipt of 5% Performance Security/ after award of the contract for the Work is
- 1.1
- Note:-All bidders shall submit the uploaded Treasury Challan in Original before issuance allotment. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on WebSite www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail 2. message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Ganderbal(tender receiving authority).
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical
- 4. . The earnest money shall be forfeited If:-
- Any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid. a) b)
- Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified timelimit.
- C) Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

c) Failule of Successiul bludel to execu	te the agreement within 20 days after haadon of contract.	Sd/-
No:- 17485-90	DIPK-17376-23	Executive Engineer
Dated: 02-03-2024	DT: 02/03/2024	R&B Division Ganderbal

Think Opinion, Analysis, Essays

Send your write ups and feedback at editpage.ko@gmail.com





The Himalayas An Impending Threat to Earth and How We Can Act

Sheikh Yameen

G G The countries Himalayan habitat should collaborate in developing a shared path to environmental sustainability, disaster management, and climate resilience. By combining the efforts and skills of a number of countries, we will be able to jointly In the endless weaving of our world's beautiful scenery, nothing could be more marvellous and magnificent than the heights of the Himalayas. This colossal mountain range, spanning several countries, is not just an astonishing scenic phenomenon but also key to balancing the natural world. The Himalayas, infamously considered the 'roof of the world', are becoming a pot that triggers many environmental disasters that have dangerous effects spreading to the entire world if the current situation continues.

Scientists and experts in climate and environment have issued statements, like blaring sirens, regarding the rapidly increasing influence of climate change in the Himalayan region. The retreat of glaciers, unusual fluctuations in weather patterns, and frequent manifestations of destructive natural phenomena are only a few examples of the visible results of this catastrophe. The fast melting of the area's glaciers, which provide fresh water for millions of people, is severe. The overall impact of this melting is manifested not merely in the vicinity of the site but also by a gradual rise in part is that there is hope. Through the joint efforts of people, communities, and the government, various active measures can be taken in order to swing the tide on the current environmental crisis and continue to keep our planet alive at the same time.

However, one more priority in this process is to involve sustainable activities in our development projects in order to make sure economic growth does not come at the expense of environmental preservation. Thai authorities should enforce heavy regulations that punish deforestation, award renewable energy sources, and give tax incentives for sustainable tourism. By starting with investments in green technology and likewise creating environmental awareness in society, it would be feasible to manage the adverse effects of climate change in the Himalayan region.

The countries sharing the Himalayan habitat should collaborate in developing a shared path to environmental sustainability, disaster management, and climate resilience. By combining the efforts and skills of a number of countries, we will be able to jointly address the many-sided problems of climate change in the area. Obviously, individual endeavours, too, assume a central position in combating the Himalayan predicament. Through implementing small lifestyle changes, including conserving energy use, recycling, and waste reduction, and practicing ethical consumption, every individual can make a remarkable contribution to the overall movement of environmental conservation. We need to educate ourselves and others on the significance of protecting the Himalayas and taking serious initiatives to reduce our ecological footprint. Regardless of the small steps we take, it makes a huge difference.

Besides that, funding and giving chances for small-scale initiatives and community-based conservation projects will definitely have a positive impact on the environment of the Himalayas. From tree planting drives to ecologically sound agriculture practices, the idea is to make ordinary citizens the main stakeholder in their ecosystems, which in turn ensures longterm sustainability.

To sum up, the Himalayas are revered for their aesthetic value, but recent trends indicate that they are under serious threat due to changes in climate and human activity. Yet the main solution is to take preventive measures at both the individual, community, and legislative levels, since otherwise the problem of ecological crisis will continue to exist, putting the whole planet at risk. The time to act is right now, and we all have our part to play in ensuring that the Himalayas do not experience further pollution and environmental degra-

address the many-sided problems of climate change in the area

sea levels and landmass erosion worldwide.

Besides deforestation, unsustainable tourism and industries seriously threaten the fragility of the Himalayan ecosystems. Moreover, the disappearing fragility of the region is not only declining its natural look but also eroding the region's ability to control the climate and provide necessary ecosystem services.

The realisation and acceptance that nobody cares much about the problems of the Himalayas are uneasy and horrifying. However, the good dation. With the challenge upfront, let us start and collectively go on a journey towards a sustainable and resilient future for all.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer Sheikh Yameen is the CEO & Cofounder of Curve Electric, a startup working in the field of micromobility & can be reached at sheikhyameen3480@gmail.com

hat happens in the United States. does not stay in the United States. The global economy depends on America to act as a main engine of growth, and global financial markets depend on US investors' outsize appetite for risk. This became particularly evident in 2023 when major economies like Japan and the United Kingdom slipped into recession, Germany narrowly avoided one, and China grappled with obstacles to growth and pockets of high debt.But whether the US economy can drive global growth in 2024 depends on the answers to three key questions.

First, can the domestic economy maintain its current growth momentum and achieve the softest of soft landings? Second, can it remain resilient in the face of domestic political divisions and geopolitical uncertainties around the world? And lastly, will investors be able to secure sufficient liquidity to refinance debts accumulated during the era of artificially low interest rates and exceptionally high liquidity injections by central banks?

Based on current market prices, investors believe the answer to all three questions is a solid yes. Similarly, many economists are optimistic about the US economy, albeit with slightly less enthusiasm than that exhibited by capital markets.I find myself taking a more nuanced view. Consider the three key issues.

The US economy undoubtedly holds two significant advantages over other major economies: its current growth engines are more dynamic, and it has taken significant measures to foster and invest in future growth drivers. This

US Economy And Global Growth

Mohamed A El-Erian

helps to explain why the US exceeded expectations in 2023, with GDP growing by 4.9% and 3.3% in the third and fourth quarters, respectively. By contrast, the German, Japanese, and UK economies contracted, while China, grappling with cyclical issues, risked being pulled into the dreaded middle-income trap.

These huge advantages set the US apart from other developed economies. Moreover, its comparative advantages will continue to strengthen unless other countries shift swiftly and decisively toward policies that support growth and increase productivity.But the American economy also faces powerful headwinds. The US has entered 2024 with weaker household balance sheets, marked by lower savings and higher debt levels. This reduces the future effectiveness of consumer spending as a direct and indirect growth driver. Moreover, with inflation receding, there is a greater risk that the Federal Reserve's overreliance on historical data will lead to another monetary-policy mistake.

These challenges are compounded by domestic and geopolitical uncertainties that have not been adequately reflected in market risk premia and economic assessments. The possibility of escalation in the Middle East is considerable as the already distressing number of civilian deaths and human suffering in Gaza rise further. The war in Ukraine risks tilting in a manner that threatens wider conflict over time. Meanwhile, the ongoing tensions between China and the US show little sign of abating. Elections this year in dozens of developed and developing countries add another layer of uncertainty, as political shifts could trigger new supply shocks and further weaponization of trade and finance.

The third issue is whether markets can navigate the refinancing legacy of excessive risk-taking fueled by years of artificially low interest rates, massive liquidity injections, and an unhealthy codependency between the Fed and financial markets. The commercial real-estate sector, where roughly \$1.5 trillion in debt is set to mature by the end of 2025, is a prime example. But there are other areas of concern, especially within the lightly regulated and insufficiently understood non-banking sector.

It is important to note that these refinancing issues tend to unfold gradually. This has both advantages and disadvantages: while the slow pace mitigates the risk of massive contagion and sudden stops, it also erodes resilience and agility.Together, all these factors challenge the automaticity of the consensus forecast of a very soft landing for the US economy and its ability to drive global growth. Indeed, looking ahead to the rest of the year, I would put the probability of a soft landing at 55%. There is also a 30% likelihood that the US will slip into a recession, and a 15% chance that continued transformational innovations-particularly in generative artificial intelligence, life sciences, and green technologies-will lead to surprise on the upside. While the consensus entered 2024 with a much more optimistic view than a year ago, it needs to be more nuanced than what is currently reflected in market prices and economic forecasts. Think of a "yes, but" outlook, which calls for paying timely attention to the two tails of the distribution of potential outcomes.

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

Printed & Published by Sajjad Haider on behalf of Kashmir Observer LLP | Printed at: K.T Press Pvt. Ltd 120-Electronic Complex, Industrial Estate, Rangreth-Budgam Published from: 5-Boulevard Srinagar J&K | Editor: Sajjad Haider | RNI Registration No: 69503/98 | Postal Registration No-L/159/KO/SK/2014-16 | Legal Counsel: Tasaduq Khwaja Switchboard: (0194) 2502327 | +91 1947969705 | Editorial: (0194) 2502327 | Email: editor@kashmirobserver.net



Is the Algorithm in Your Favor or Against You? The Truth Behind Online Gambling Apps

Ikkz Ikbal

is marred by a growing pandemonium among the youth, caught in the clutches of shortcuts, online businesses, scams, and the allure of online gambling games. This escalating issue demands a critical examination of accountability and a concerted effort to eliminate this societal menace.

In the digital age, smartphones have seamlessly integrated into our lives, offering convenience and comfort. However, there exists a darker side - the negative impact on the youth, manifested in unbridled use of mobile phones for online gambling. Apps like Dream11, BC Game, Teen Patti, and Rummy and hundreds such Apps have become the epicenter of a disturbing trend, leading to a surge in youth engaging in online gambling activities.

Unofficial statistics paint a grim picture, suggesting that approximately 2.5 lakh Kash-miri youth are directly involved in these online gambling ventures. Shockingly, this includes both unemployed and employed individuals, reflecting the pervasive nature of the issue.

The reasons behind this youth involvement are multi-faceted. The desire to attain overnight wealth with the shortcut. The second reason is the strategic promotion by the owners of these apps. They cleverly enlist the endorsement of well-known Bollywood and Sports Stars, as well as your favorite YouTubers, creating an il-lusion of credibility in the minds of the youth. This calculated association with celebrities fosters a misguided belief in the fairness of these platforms, further entangling the unsuspecting in the web of online gambling.

Additionally, a herd mentality prevails, with the current generation engaging in these activities simply because others are doing so, regardless of ethical considerations.

Compounding the problem is the lack of clear regulations from the government, leaving the majority of these games in a legal gray area. This regulatory void allows these apps to



operate with impunity, ensnaring unsuspecting youth in their web of deception.

The Insidious format of these gambling games unfolds a calculated sequence, luring unsuspecting players into a relentless cycle. The allure begins with enticingly huge winning amounts and a seemingly favorable algorithm during the Initial stages. A tantalizing demo, coupled with bonus amounts, creates an illusion of easy victories, setting the stage for addiction.

As users invest their own money, the algorithm initially plays in their favor, winning them a little amount that serves as a deceptive hook. However, as time progresses, the tide turns, and the losses begin to mount. It's at this critical juncture that users find themselves ensnared, becoming permanent customers on the app.

The trap tightens further as individuals, desperate to recover their losses, pour more money into the app. The initial promise of winning is replaced by a relentless cycle of losses, leading to a cascade of financial ruin. In this harrowing descent, users find themselves trapped in a net of addiction, unable to break free.

Adding to the predatory nature, these gambling apps read user's Gambling Behaviour . When users minimize or cease their engagement, the app swiftly detects the waning interest or depleted funds. Exploiting this

vulnerability, the apps shower users with attractive offers, a cunning strategy designed to keep them perpetually engaged – always to the benefit of the app creators.

The format of these games plays a pivotal role in their insidious nature. Offering tempting winnings and a gradual introduction through demos and bonus amounts, these apps employ algorithms that initially favor the player. However, as users invest their own money, the tide turns, leading to a pattern of consistent losses that solidify addiction.

The ramifications are severe, impacting not only individual finances but also mental and physical health, family dynamics, and overall societal well-being. The negative spiral has pushed many into depression and anxiety, with some even contemplating suicide as a way out of their financial ruins.

To combat this rising crisis, a multifaceted approach is imperative. Educating parents about the potential dangers of smartphones and implementing restrictions is a crucial first step. Family timings must be established, and vigilant monitoring of children's online activities is essential.

Addiction counseling sessions should be conducted for affected youth, emphasizing the importance of open communication. Policy makers, teachers, social influencers, and politicians share the responsibility of driving change. Stringent laws against online gambling apps must be implemented to deter potential users.

Religious and moral education, as advocated by Islam and Qur'an, can serve as a guiding light for the youth. Embracing halal means of earning is encouraged, steering individuals away from the pitfalls of shortcuts and gambling.

Remember, each decision we make weaves a unique thread into our story. The menace of online gambling, gripping the youth of Kashmir, serves as a stark reminder of the pitfalls that lurk in the digital shadows. As we reflect on the need for change and collective respon-sibility, let us remember that our actions today shape the narrative of tomorrow.

In the face of shortcuts and false promises, resilience and wisdom become our greatest allies. Embracing halal means to success not only aligns with the teachings of Islam but also steers us away from the treacherous allure of overnight riches. As we stand at the crossroads of choice, let us choose the path that leads to a brighter, more responsible future.

P.S. To those entangled in the web of online gambling, take heed. Quite Now. Learn from mistakes, delete the apps, and embrace a responsible, halal path to success - for there are no shortcuts in life.

> Ikkz Ikbal is an Administrator at Maryam Memorial Institute

Is "The Secret" a Hoax?

Peter Strelan

magine you really wanted something and all you had to do was ask the universe and you would get it. That'd be awesome, right?! I present this to my students in my first year Research Methods in Psychology course, in the first session of the semester. Then I ask them what they think. The first respondent is usually bright-eyed and bushy-tailed. They say something like: "Absolutely! You can achieve anything you want if you put your mind to it!" Emboldened, a handful of others express similar sentiments. Naturally, there are also sceptical students, but at this point it doesn't suit my agenda to give them much oxygen. Next, I tell the students I presume they'd all love to achieve High Distinctions in my course. I tell them it is, in fact, possible, and I'm going to share how it can be done. At this point, even the most sceptical students are intrigued.



On Amazon, more than 40,000 customers have taken the time to review the book. The average rating is 4.6/5. Perhaps this should not be surprising.

The Secret (superficially) taps into a spiritual ealm and research demonstrates that spiritu-

On the other hand, anyone who thinks critically about its claims presumably finds themselves arriving at the maxim that if it sounds too good to be true, it is.

Positive thinking plus effort

I tell them all they need to know is ... The Secret.

A self-help megaseller

The Secret is a 2006 feature-length film and then book created by Australian Rhonda Byrne, who was a television executive when she came up with it.

The book has sold more than 35 million copies and been translated into more than 50 languages. Byrne has gone on to produce several related books, including The Greatest Secret, and associated merchandise, like a card deck.

It was even adapted as a romantic drama film, The Secret: Dare to Dream, starring Katie Holmes and released in 2020. (The Guardian described it as "inoffensively middling [...] with nothing of note other than a few laughably dumb moments".)

Others have also got in on the act. For example, there's a DVD titled The Secret Behind The Secret, in which a self-help guru purports to channel a spiritual being called Benjamin.

The Secret's fundamental claim is that a law of attraction operates within the universe: we become or attract what we think about most. In effect, positive things happen to positive people and negative things happen to negative people. Importantly, we are not passive recipients of our outcomes. Rather, we manifest our outcomes by actively thinking about them.

Oprah Winfrey, who lavishly embraced The Secret, devoting two episodes of her talk show to it in 2006, said it embodied the message she'd been trying to share for 21 years: "you are responsible for your life".

As others have pointed out, these ideas are not a secret and they're not new.

The Secret is effectively a repackaging of the "power of positive thinking" pop psychology from recent decades - and, centuries earlier, the quackery of the metaphysical movement.

Victim blaming

Much empirical psychological research suggests thinking and feeling positively is likely to be associated with more positive outcomes.

But there's a stark gap between the blithe blanket statements of The Secret and the empirical studies that have tested the qualifications and nuances of the effects of positive expectations.

It's in that gap where The Secret becomes an easy target.

For instance, The Secret is good news for

anyone fortunate enough to be blessed with an eternally sunny disposition, but less so for anyone struggling with chronic depression. The Secret suggests depression and its consequences are the fault of the victim. If only they could think more positively!

Taken on face value, the principles espoused in The Secret should mean the end of poverty and war. Perhaps we're not wishing hard enough?

Elsewhere, The Secret has offended physicists with its misappropriation of quantum physics principles to explain the "law of attraction" (in itself a pseudoscientific idea). And yet ... people love this stuff.

An alluring fiction

ality nurtures and comforts many. The Secret speaks to a search for meaning and we know feeling a sense of purpose in life provides a measure of happiness. The Secret proposes the individual has the power to control their own destiny – and research demonstrates the role a sense of personal control has in people's lives.

And The Secret encourages magical thinking, which some people may be prone to more than they realise. The Secret promises the alluring fiction that – just for once – things in life might be easy.

Back in the classroom, in this Trumpian age where truth is in the eye of the beholder, The Secret reminds us the principles of the scientific method are still important when it comes to critically consuming information.

There are several ways of knowing about the world. We can defer to authority. We can rely on our intuition. We can employ logic. And we can make observations based on our experiences.

Pseudo 'experts'

To some extent, Rhonda Byrne and her devotees leverage these knowledge sources to help give credence to The Secret. For example, it has been endorsed by high-profile influencers (like Winfrey) and prominent US personal development gurus (like Bob Proctor, John Assaraf and Jack Canfield). Byrne claims eminent historical figures - including Plato, Shakespeare and Einstein - knew the secret and employed its principles.

All these people are experts, or at least present themselves as experts. So they must know what they're talking about. As they're authority figures, we intuit they can be trusted.

Unfortunately, it's the equivalent of toothpaste advertisers dressing an actor in a white coat to imply they're a scientist, who recommends a particular brand of toothpaste.

To persuade you, The Secret takes you down the peripheral route, the one where you don't put much effort into your research – "Einstein used it! There must be something to it!" rather than the central route, where you think critically about claims. "Just because she says Einstein used it doesn't make it valid. And how does she know he used it?"

The Secret appeals to intuition, by appropriating spiritual and scientific language. To the extent an individual believes in a spiritual dimension to this world, or that they can control their own destiny, The Secret speaks loudly.

Back in the lecture theatre, my students unpack the claims of The Secret. Quite reasonably, they suggest a whole bunch of important ingredients are needed in addition to "positive thinking", if someone really is going to manifest their deepest desires. Things like hard work, perseverance, motivation, skill and ability.

The Secret is less able to appeal to logic, though it attempts to by referring to the pseudoscientific "law of attraction". Again, the secret of The Secret's success lies in the suggestibility of association. Referring to a "law" implies there is a scientific basis to the principles - and we all know science is logical, right?

A key component of the scientific method is that theories must be testable. Testing theories requires making observations - that is, collecting data. If personal experience is one form of empirical evidence, then The Secret performs very impressively. There are thousands of testimonials on the internet from people around the world attesting to its ability to deliver results.

But dig a little deeper, and it's clear this anecdotal evidence ("it happened to me, therefore it's a thing") almost always reflects the problem of the illusory correlation. Two events occur in close proximity to the other and rather than putting it down to coincidence, for example, people presume the first event caused the second.

This is even more likely to occur when an individual is looking to confirm – rather than test – their beliefs.

So, individuals wanting to see evidence The Secret works will find it. They ask the universe for a pay increase and two weeks later they get it. The possibility the pay increase was always on its way, due to their previous hard work and diligence, does not seem to be relevant.

Before my students leave, I wish them all the best for the course and their other university studies. I tell them I hope they all achieve the outcomes they desire.

And I remind them some of the principles embraced by The Secret do have some merit and are supported by empirical psychological research. Particularly, the idea that having a positive attitude tends to produce positive outcomes - though not always, and not because some magical connection with the universe made it so.

By arrangements with The Conversation

LIFE & TIMES

KASHMIR OBSERVER Srinagar | Sunday| 03-03-2024

'Pulse Oximeters May Be Overestimating Oxygen Saturation In Dark Skin-Toned People'

Press Trust Of India

ulse oximeters, now common in many households for measuring oxygen saturation in blood, could be overestimating their readings in dark skin-toned people, new research analysing 44 studies over the last five decades has found.

Researchers in the UK assessed more than 733,000 oxygen saturation readings taken from over 222,000 people, including almost 70,000 people of non-white ethnicity.

The team said that most of the studies (30 out of 44) analysed revealed evidence of these medical devices being inclined to overestimate oxygen saturation in blood in participants with darker skin tones, even though they found it

challenging to determine "by how much", based on the current available data.

The researchers said that a major finding in these studies related to the incidence of occult hypoxaemia - medical condition of having abnormally little oxygen in the blood - with an incidence of up to 21.5 per cent in Black patients.

'Most studies reported an occult hypoxaemia incidence 25-75 per cent higher in Black compared with White patients, with other ethnic groups having a 25-50 per cent higher incidence," the researchers wrote in the study published in the British Journal of Anaesthesia.

They did insist, however, that the overestimation could create issues for both patients and medical professionals in that patients with actual



critical oxygen levels not receiving the treatments that they direly need. The overestimation could also prevent patients from seeing a doctor, as it might deem them "healthy", the team said.

"As clinicians, we rely on accurate data to make informed clinical decisions. But during the Covid pandemic, and to some extent since, it was necessary to put thresholds in place which meant that people were only admitted to hospital if their levels fell to a certain point," said lead author Daniel Martin, Professor of Perioperative and Intensive Care Medicine in the University of Plymouth, UK.

"If those levels are being overestimated - so, for example, if a device is telling someone their oxygen saturation is 98 per cent whereas it is in fact significantly lower - it could realistically mean people are missing out on treatments they need," said Martin.

He said that the concern arose out of the use of these devices in the community, where additional tests to ascertain unwell patients like blood

tests and physical assessments are not available as they are in hospital and other healthcare settings.

Acknowledging limitations to the study, the researchers said all the studies were conducted in high-income countries, where the majority of the population have light skin tones.

This they said was relevant as low- and middle-income countries often have a higher proportion of people with darker skin tones and funding for healthcare may be such that pulse oximetry is the only available monitor for unwell patients.

The study findings are currently being explored in more detail, the researchers said, with recruitment of 900 critically ill patients differing in skin tones underway in the UK.

Scholarships This Week

Kashmir Observer in association with Buddy4Study.com presents scholarships available for the meritorious students of Jammu and Kashmir

Scholarship Name India Fellow Social Leadership Program 2024-25

Description: India Fellow Social Leadership Program 2024-25 is an opportunity offered by the India Fellow for graduate students and young professionals between 20 and 30 years of age. It is an 18-month leadership program designed to help participants develop their skills and make a positive impact on communities.

Eligibility: Open for Indian citizens aged between 20 to 30 years. Applicants must be graduates in any discipline or about to complete graduation by the fellowship start date. Students must be ready for an 18-month full-time commitment to the fellowship and prepared to be placed in any part of the country and any thematic area.

- Prizes & Rewards: A monthly stipend of up to 22,000 and other benefits
- Last Date to Apply: 15-08-2024 Application mode: Online applications only
- www.b4s.in/ob-Short Url: server/IFSA2

Scholarship Name 2

ternship Programme 2024 is a joint initiative of the Indian Potash Limited (IPL) and the National Productivity Council (NPC) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India for Class 12 passed, final-year graduation students, graduates, and diploma holders.



Eligibility: Open for Indian nationals aged between 18-45 years. Applicants must be Class 12 passed, final-year graduation students. graduates, or diploma holders with a a valid Aadhaar card.

- Prizes & Rewards: A monthly
- stipend of 6,000 and a certificate of completion

server/ICRA1

Scholarship Name 3 K.C. Mahindra Scholarships for Post-Graduate Studies Abroad 2024

Description: K.C. Mahindra Scholarships for Post-Graduate Studies Abroad 2024 is an opportunity offered by the K. C. Mahindra Education Trust, a public charitable trust, for students graduate who are willing to pursue postgraduate

> Eligibility: Open for Indian citizens who have a first-class degree or equivalent diploma of similar standard from recognised universities. Applicants must have secured admis-

sion or have applied for admission in reputable foreign universities for courses commencing from August 2024 but not later than February 2025.

- Prizes & Rewards: Interestfree loan scholarship of up to 10 00 000
- Last Date to Apply: 31-03-2024 Applicati

Office of the principal IMAMIA PUBLIC SCHOOL ISKANDER PORA

> **Run by Educational Trust Kashmir (regd)** H.O:Alamgaribazar Zadibal Srinagar LIST OF THE MEMBERS OF MANAGING COMMITTEE

s.no.	Name	Parentage	Residence	Proffession	Qualification	status in committee	Remarks
1	Syed Mustafa Razvi	Syed Ahmad Razvi	Iskander pora	Business	phd	chairman	
2	Arshid Hussain Bhat	Mohd Yousuf Bhat	Iskander pora	private teacher	МА	principal	
3	Fayaz Ahmad Jan	Mohd Baqir Jan	Iskander pora	shopkeeper	Ma	Member/parent	
4	Fairoz Ahmad RatherG	າulam Mohammad Ratl e	r Iskander pora	Business	Ma	Member	
5	Muzzafar Ali Mir	Mohd Yousuf Mir	Iskander pora	Private teacher	Ma	Teacher	
6	Bashir Ahmad Magray N	1ohammad Bakir Magray	Iskander pora	Business	middle pass	Member	
7	Maqsood Hussain Mir	Ghulam Mohammad	Iskander pora	Business	12th	member	

President Imamia Public Iskanderpora

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR Tourism Development Authority, Sonamarg

Email:-sdaofficial@yahoo.com

E-Bid Document (Auction ID: 10744)

Outsourcing of Camping Site at Gagangeer with Cafeteria Cum Restaurant and Car Parking at Gagangeer Sonamarg for a period of 05-years, through GeM Portal.

No: CEO/SDA/2024/3880-88 dated: 29 /02/2024.

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K Union Territory, e - bids are invited online through GeM Portal for Outsourcing of Camping Site at Gagangeer with Cafeteria Cum Restaurant and Car Parking at Gagangeer Sonamarg for a period of 05-years, through GeM Portal. The details are as under:

S.No	Particulars	Date/Time	Remarks
1	PO (Pre-Oualification) Submission Start Date	02/03/2024 at 10.00 AM	-NIL-
2	PÒ (Pre-Òualification) Submission End Date	06/03/2024 at 10.00 AM	-NIL-
2	DO (Dro-Oualification) Accordment End Date &	00/03/202/ at / 00 DM	-NII -

studies abroad in various fields.

ICRO Amrit Internship Programme	•	Last Date to Apply:	01-10-2024	•	Application me	ode: Online
2024	•	Application mode:	Online		applications on	ıly
		Applications Only		•	Short Url:	www.b4s.in/ob-
Description: ICRO Amrit In-	•	Short Url: www	.b4s.in/ob-		server/KCMQ1	L

Government of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Pahalgam.

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS Fresh eNIT NO 670F R&B/Pahalgam/2023-24 DATED 02/03/2024

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K e-tenders are invited on percentage basis in single cover system from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works: -

S.N	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Cost of T/Doc. (in	Earnest Money	Time of Comple-	Class of
		(Rs in Lacs)	Rs)	(In Rs)	tion In days	Contractor
1.	Fencing/walling of PHC Salia,	23.50	800	47000	60	B&C
	Anantnag along with gate					

Project Authority:-DIRECTORATE OF Health Services, Kashmir

Position of AA/TS:- Accorded

Position of Funds: -Capex Budget 2023-24

The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms- and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

The time of completion of the works shall be dependent on the availability of funds. In case funds are made available in the current financial year the time of completion shall be defined accordingly as per the instructions of the Engineer In-charge.

S. No.	Particulars		Dated	
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice		02/03/2024	
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From	04/03/2024	(10:00 AM)
	3	То	09/03/2024	(04:00PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From	04/03/2024	(10:00AM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	То	09/03/2024	(04:00PM)
5	Date and time of opening of bid (online)		11/03/2024	(12:00Noon)
		In the office of Execu	itive Engineer PWD(R&R) Di	ivision Pahalgam

Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / E-Challan(Under MH- 0059 PWD) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Pahalgam[Tender Inviting Authority] (NIT No. and Name of Work/Item No. to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt) (Refer Govt. order No. 0.M No. A/24 (2017)-651 Dt 07-06-2018 (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) and EMD (2% of advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Pahalgam (Tender receiving Authority).

All the Bidders have to submit Earnest Money/Bid Security (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/DD.Non submission of Earnest Money/Bid Security shall render the bidde as No-responsiv

The 1st lowest responsive (Successful) Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/DD in favour of Executive Engineer R&B DivisionPahalgam (Tender receiving authority) within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of Defect Liability Period(DLP) of the work. Failure to produce

Security shall render the L1 as non-responsive and case for debarring of the Contractorfor a period of O1 year be forwarded to Higher Authorities.

5. The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/DD of the successful Bidder shall be released after receiving Performance security @5% of the allottee cost in the shape of CDR/FDR/DD and same shall be released after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work.

6.1 the rates quoted in the BOQ are inclusive of allapplicable taxes with 18% GST 6. The date and time of opening of Bid shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Pahalgam.

In case the amount arrived after addition/deduction of quoted percentage to BOQ amount and quoted amount of BOQ vary, the minimum of the two shall be taken as the amount for awar of contract. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of Opening of Technical bids.

Bidders has to upload bid declaration form. Performance Security shall be released after DLP is over successfully

32. 33. Decision for selection of brand by the Executive Engineer will be binding on the contractor and no cost adjustment shall be allowed in any account and no claim on this account shall be entertained

34. The Bidder emerging as 1st Lowest (Successful Bidder) has to complete the work & if he failed incompletion of the work allotted to him, the bill deposit, unpaid work done and the EMD submitted by him shall be forfeited & the Agency shall be debarred to participate in the future tenders of this Division 35 All other terms and conditions are as same as laid in PWD Form 25.

EMD Start Date 11/03/2024 at 10.00 AM -NIL· 14/03/2024 at 4.00 PM Rs. 20000/- (Rupees Twenty EMD End Date -NIL-EMD (Bid Security) Amount in shape of CDR/FDR/DD 6 To be pledged in favour of Thousand only) Accounts Officer, Sonamarg Development Authority 15/03/2024 at 10.00 AM 16/03/2024 at 4.00 PM Bid Submission/Auction Start Date -NIL-Bid Submission/AuctionEnd Date & Time 8 -NIL-Rs. 2.20 lacs (Rupees Two Lac Reserve bid amount -NIL-Twenty Thousand only)

PRE-QUALIFICATION (PQ) CRITERIA (TO BE UPLOADED ON G EM PORTAL)

The bidder shall have to upload a Character Certificate from the concerned Police Station or alt The bidder shall have to upload self-attested PAN Card & Aadhar Card. atively copy of a valid Passport.

1. The interested parties should compulsorily visit & inspect the asset before participating in the e-bidding process and the physical position of the asset shall stand on "as is where is' basis. As such, no claim of any deficiency, addition, alteration, rectification in the asset would be entertained during/after bidding process.

The bidder participating in the e-bid process must apply in his name or the firm name duly registered in his name. There is no scope whatsoever of executing any partnership deed in the outsource deed

The minimum reserve bid has been fixed at Rs. 2.20 Lacs (Rupees Two Lac Ten Thousand Only) per year with escalation of 15% for each successive year thereafter to be deposited before the start of every year plus insurance amount of the asset.

4. The bid offers should be above the minimum reserve bid viz. Rs. 2.20 Lacs (Rupees Two Lac Ten Thousand Only) fixed for the job.

Eligible persons shall be allowed to participate in the e-bidding process only after uploading of relevant documents mentioned in the Eligibility Criteria and EMD (after qualifying Pre Qualification) in the shape of CDR, amounting to Rs. 20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand Only) pledged in favour of Accounts Officer, Sonamarg Development Authority.
 The period of outsourcing shall be on license basis for a period of 05-years which will commence from the date of issuance of the formal allotment letter.

The successful bidder has to take prior permission before start of the operation regarding the type of business he/she intends to undertake in the building and its premises. Without the explicit p

sion of CEO Sonamarg Development Authority, the successful bidder will not be issued allotment order. The successful bidder shall have to deposit 100% of the offered bid for the 1st year within a period of seven days after the culmination of bidding process

The licensee has to insure the property through any Nationalized Insurance Company in the name of the CEO. Sonamarg Development Authority for which a letter of authority shall be issued by this office. The premium on this account shall be borne by the licensee.

The contract shall be awarded for one year in the first instance and renewal of the same shall be subject to depositing of rentals for the each successive year in advance including 15% escalation of the maximum bid before the expiry of the 1st year contract.

In case the successful bidder fails to fulfill the term of contract, or leaves the contract half way or the contract is cancelled due to any disgualifications/non-payment of advance rent the CDR shall be forfeited.

The safety, security and upkeep and watch & ward of the asset shall be sole responsibility of outsourcee during the period of contract. The successful bidder shall ensure all safety ures like firefighting equipments, first aid kid etc. Sonamarg Development Authority shall not be responsible for any loss of life and property within the asset during the period of the contract The out-sourcing committee reserves the right to reject any or all the e-bids without assigning any reason thereof. 13.

The successful bidder shall have to charge rates for various allotted services as per approval of the SDA from time to time

The electric/water consumption charges shall be payable by the outsourcee. The bidder should not be employee in any Govt. Deptt. or a Public Sector undertaking.

14. 15. 16. 17. The successful bidder shall have to execute an agreement with CEO, Sonamarg Development Authority regarding adherence to the terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the

ring the course of the contract period. The bidder shall have to bear all the costs and expenses for executing this agreement/license deed. The successful bidder shall have to handover the property to the CEO, Sonamarg Development Authority after completion of contract period with the list of inventory, rece Dep ived by him at the time of allotment/taking over.

The license shall not make any alterations or additions to the space/unit allotted, without seeking written permission from the CEO, Sonamarg Development Authority. The successful bidder shall arrange on his own all necessary stationery, staff or any other requirements for providing efficient services to the clients.

20. 21. The Licensee shall provide necessary uniform & name plates to the staff working in the premises & shall be responsible for any unfair act of the staff member for which, he shall be beli al/civil action under rules/law if any required.

The Watch and ward of the property, maintenance of lawns and other subsidiaries and landscape, if any, shall be the sole responsibility of the licens 23.

The licensee shall not, in any case, sub-let the premises to any other party.

24 The successful bidder shall have to provide services to the best satisfaction of tourists/locals. The bidder shall have to ensure that there isn't any complaint of misbehavior with the visitors/locals or by any of the staff member employed by the bidder in this regard. In case any complaint is received, action as warranted under rules shall be initiated against the bidder and penalty shall be imposed upon the defaulters.

In case of any negligence in running the service or compliant pertaining to bad performance, the contract shall be terminated without any notice by the department. The allotted premises shall be inspected periodically by the departmentally authorized officers and in case the services of the licensee are not found satisfactory, the contract shall be 25 26 liable for cancellation without any notice

Any damage caused to the Government property at the site will invite penalty amounting to double the cost of damage or replacement of the same whatever the case may be, as per be made by the CEO, Sonamarg Development Authority. 27. assessi

The Department shall reserve the right for using the space for any purpose or function or event, as it may deem fit and no fee shall charged by the licensee in this regard 28.

29. The successful bidder will have to abide by all the orders/communications issued by Department from time to time during the period of contract as may necessitated in light of public unrest and law & order, security and in case of any other Administrative requirements.

During the contract period the maintenance of the asset/area, watch and ward as well as upkeep and daily cleaning/sweeping shall be the sole responsibility of the licensee. Any dispute arising out of or in connection with the contract, including any question regarding its existence, validity or termination, shall be referred Arbitration of Administrative Secr

tary incharge Tourism Department, Government of J&K, whose decision shall be final & binding upon the parties. The proceedings of the Arbitration shall be conducted under the provisions of the J&K, Arbitration & Concillation Act, 1997 & rules and its amendment if any, framed there under.
 If any minor repairs of the Departmental assets such as electrification, sanitary maintenance etc are to be done and these will be carried out by the licensee at his own cost, however, after

seeking sion from the competent authority as per the direction of the inspecting authority from time to time which will help in maintenance of the asset 34

- No extensions shall be granted. The asset shall be outsourced a fresh at the end of the license term. The successful bidder has to run the asset as per the norms and conditions as prescribed within Tourist Trade Act in vogue. The successful bidder shall follow the regulations of FSSAI and any other regulations framed in this regard.
- 35. 36. 37.
- The Authority shall not be responsible for any monitory loss due to any climate untowardness or due to any other reasor

		Sd/-	
		Chief Executive Officer	
		Sonamarg Development Authority	
DIPK-NB-5904/23	Dated. 02.03.2024.		

No, EE/R&B/PGm/_

- **Executive Engineer** No.CEO/SDA/2024/3880-88 DIPK-17353/23 Dated 02/03/2024 PWD (R&B) Division Pahalgam

30.

The successful bidder shall ensure arrangement of furniture, electricity back up and availability of standard crockery/cutlery in the unit, on his own.

BUSINESS

Sensex, Nifty End Special Live Trading Session At **Record Closing High Levels**



Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty ended at new closing high levels in the special trading session on Saturday, extending their previous day's sharp rally, amid impressive GDP data and foreign fund inflows.

Leading stock exchanges BSE and NSE conducted a special trading session in the equity and equity derivative segments on Saturday to check their preparedness to handle major disruption or failure at the primary site.

The special live trading session had an intra-day switch over from Primary Site (PR) to Disaster Recovery (DR) site.

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 60.80 points or 0.08 per cent to reach its all-time closing high of 73,806.15. During the trade, the benchmark reached

its record peak of 73,994.70, up 249.35 points or 0.33 per cent. The Nifty went up by 39.65 points or 0.18 per cent to settle at a new closing high of 22,378.40. During the day, it hit the lifetime peak of 22,419.55, up 80.8 points or 0.36 per cent. The market capitalisation of BSE-listed compa-

nies reached its all-time peak of Rs 394.06 lakh crore. There were two trading sessions -- the first from 9:15 am to 10 am on the PR, and the second from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm on the DR site, exchanges had announced earlier.

ed to note that the exchange will conduct a special live trading session with intra-day switch over from Primary Site (PR) to Disaster Recovery Site (DR) on Saturday, March 2, in equity and equity derivatives segments," BSE and NSE said in separate circulars.

Delhi HC Sets Aside Bank's Order Declaring Bizman Ratul Puri As Wilful Defaulter

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Delhi High Court has set aside Bank of Baroda's decision declaring businessman Ratul Puri as a wilful defaulter under Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines.

The court said the forensic audit report did not verify the source of funds invested in the subsidiaries of Moser Baer India Ltd (MBIL), with which Puri was earlier associated, and the bank could not have issued show cause notice to the petitioner for wilful default without verifying the source of funds.

"Unless the funds that were invested were found to be borrowed funds, the respondent- bank did not have jurisdiction to invoke the Master Circular. The very genesis of 'diversion' or 'siphoning of' funds is dependent on the funds being borrowed funds," Justice Purushaindra Kumar Kaurav said in a 92-page judgement passed "Trading members are request-

RBI Ombudsman Organizes Consumer Awareness Program At Sopore

Educates consumers about protection and grievance redress mechanism under "One Nation-One Ombudsman Scheme"

Observer News Service

BARAMULLA: With a view to enhance awareness about protection and consumer grievance redressal mechanism available under Reserve Bank - Integrated Ombudsman Scheme, 2021, Office of RBI Ombudsman (Jammu) organized a Consumer Awareness Programme on Saturday at Auditorium of J&K Bank's Zonal Office (Baramulla) at Sopore.

programme The was chaired by Ramesh Chand, RBI Ombudsman (RBIO) for Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. Besides J&K Bank Zonal Head (Baramulla) Imtiyaz Ahmad Bhat, AGM & in-charge RBI (Srinagar) Sanjeev Sharma, General Manager J&K Grameen bank, Cluster Head J&K Bank and other senior bankers, the programme witnessed extensive participation of around 250 customers of regulated entities of RBI. In his keynote address, Ra-

mesh Chand apprised the audience about various steps taken by RBI towards consumer education and protection including alternate grievance redress mechanism, the Charter of Customer Rights, Inter-



need to be taken while per-

forming digital transactions.

He cautioned the participants

about the use of different in-

novative methods of digital

frauds by the fraudsters and

appealed to the participants

to stay away from the lure of

While apprising the partici-

pants about various modus

operandi used by fraudsters

to lure and defraud the cus-

tomers by taking advantage

of their ignorance, he empha-

sized on the need of timely

reporting of instances of un-

authorized transactions to

the regulated entities so that

the liability of the customers

is limited in the event of any

unauthorized transaction tak-

ing place in their accounts.

such tricks/offers.

nal grievance redress mechanism of regulated entities, etc. in detail. Thereafter, he explained in detail the customer centric features of the Reserve Bank Integrated Ombudsman Scheme-2021 (RBIOS- 2021), Complaint Management System (CMS) Portal, role of Central Receipt and Processing Centers, Contact Centre of RBI, Toll Free number, etc.

On the occasion, he informed the participants about various ways of lodging complaints under RBIOS-2021 and encouraged them to use CMS portal, which is the most simple and convenient mechanism for lodging complaints. He highlighted the need of adopting safe digital practices while availing digital financial services and shared various

WTO Talks End Sans Decision On Key Issues; Duty Moratorium On E-Commerce Trade Extended Again

Press Trust of India

ABU DHABI: The talks at the WTO's ministerial conference ended with no decision on key issues such as finding a permanent solution to public food stockpile and on curbing fisheries subsidies, but the members agreed to further extend the moratorium on imposing import duties on e-commerce

trade for two more years. The 13th ministerial conference (MC13) also managed to get at least five more outcomes such as new disciplines on domestic regulation for services, formal joining of Comoros and Timor-Leste as members of the WTO, and least developing countries continuing to get the benefits of LDC even three years after graduation.

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said it is a "good outcome and we are completely satisfied". He said that a lot of issues continue to make progress in

terms of discussions. "Progress was made on several contentious issues which have not been closed for many years but forward movement is always a sign of possible closure going forward," he told reporters here. India successfully pushed the food security issue and the country did not yield any ground on protecting the interest of poor farmers and fishermen as well as on other issues.

Despite the four days of hectic parleys getting extended for a day, the 166-member World Trade Organisation (WTO) was not able to reach a common ground for resolving the food security issue. a demand raised prominently by India as it was crucial for the livelihood of 800 million people across the globe, and curbing subsidies that leads to overfishing and over capacity.

The Cairns group, comprising countries like Australia and Brazil, has claimed that public stockholding is market-distorting and that there should be no export restrictions. Food-importing countries like Japan and Singapore are pushing for predictability in farm policies.

Byju's Unable To Pay Salaries As Rights Issue Funds Locked In Separate A/C Amid Rift With Investors

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Byju's founder Byju Raveendran on Saturday said the edtech company will not be able to pay salaries to employees as the recent funds raised through a rights issue are inaccessible due to a legal dispute with certain investors. In a letter to staff, Raveendran said the rights issue,

launched a month ago, has been successfully closed. "This was supposed to be a happy correspondence. After all, we now have funds to meet our short-term needs and clear our liabilities. However, I regret to inform you that we will still be unable to process your salaries,"

he said. In the letter - seen by PTI -Raveendran said the company is still striving to ensure that salaries are paid by March 10.

"We shall make these payments the moment we are permitted to do so as per law," he added. Further, Raveendran said that last month, the company faced challenges due to a lack of capital, and "now we are experiencing a delay despite having funds".

"Unfortunately, a select few (4 out of our 150 plus investors) have stooped to a heartless level, ensuring that we are unable to utilise the funds raised to pay your hard-earned salaries," Raveendran said.

"At their behest, the amount raised through the rights issue is currently locked in a separate account," he added.

Raveendran accused these select investors of having a callous disregard for the lives and livelihoods of others even though they had reaped substantial profits from investment in Byju's.



"It is an agonising reality that some of these investors have already reaped substantial profits - in fact, one of them has made a staggering eight times their initial investment in BYJU'S. And yet, their actions convey a callous disregard for our lives and livelihoods," he said in the letter. Raveendran noted that he has fought fearlessly and tirelessly, "leaving no stone unturned" to find a way to honour the company's commitment to employees.

"Countless hours have been spent exploring every possible avenue, engaging our legal teams, and advocating for your rights. However, despite our best efforts, we are left with no option but to confront the heartwrenching reality that we are temporarily unable to provide vou with the financial support you deserve," he said.

Earlier this week, a company law court had asked the embattled edtech firm to consider extending the closing date of the USD 200 million rights issue, a request that the management had hinted it would not accept even as estranged investors flagged technicalities that prevented the closure of the issue on Wednesday.

In an interim order dated February 27, the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), Bengaluru Bench said the funds received by the company in respect to the rights issue should be kept in a separate escrow account, and it should not be withdrawn till the disposal of the matter.

Z

NOTICE

I have lost X Ray Diploma Certificate & 2nd Year Marks card. If any body found please return back. Other wise I am applying for the duplicate of the same. In this regard if any body have any objection may convey to Principal Govt. A.M.T School Srinagar within seven days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

Shahnawaz Amin Khan S/o :Mohd Amin Khan **R/o :Karihama Kupwara Kashmir** Contact :9596520438

on February 29. The court said the reliance

placed by the bank on the forensic audit report is clearly misconceived as the report does not record any conclusion regarding diversion or siphoning of funds qua Puri. The reliance placed by the bank on the forensic audit report to issue show cause notice of wilful default to the petitioner is clearly misplaced, it added.

It further said that the finding of the bank's identification committee, which was also confirmed by the review committee, on the allegation that MBIL has made substantial investment in subsidiaries and related entities amounting to Rs 1586.75 crore as on December 31, 2013, to the extent that it holds that the investments by MBIL in its subsidiaries amounted to 'diversion' and 'siphoning of' funds within the meaning of the RBI's Master Circular on Wilful Defaulters, 2015 is unsustainable

Sibling Rivalry Costs Indian Tycoon In Us **Rs 20,000 Crore. All About The Case**

John Gittelsohn, Bloom-

berg

NEW DELHI An obscure 21-year legal feud involving five brothers from India who have amassed a fortune in diamonds and Los Angeles real estate burst into public view this week with a multibillion-dollar US verdict that may be among the largest of the decade.

After a five-month trial, a jury ordered Haresh Jogani to pay his brothers Shashikant, Rajesh, Chetan and Shailesh Jogani more than \$2.5 billion (over ₹20,000 crore) in damages and to divide up shares of their Southern California property empire - about 17,000 apartments worth billions more.

The trial, over allegations that Haresh breached a longstanding partnership with his siblings, continues with a punitive damages hearing Monday that could add to the award.

Jogani v. Jogani

The 2003 lawsuit already has been through 18 appeals, generations of attorneys and five judges in Los Angeles Superior Court. It's drawing comparisons from some of the lawyers to the fictional Victorian-era probate case that Charles Dickens wrote about in his 1852 novel Bleak House. They're calling Jogani v. Jogani the new Jarndyce v. Jarndyce, but with a twist.

"At end of the book, there was no money, hence the name, Bleak House," said Peter Ross, an attorney who represents Chetan and



Rajesh Jogani. "That's not the case here. There's billions here that remain to be distributed."

Making the case more unusual is that most mullosses in the recession of tibillion-dollar verdicts in the early 1990s, which the US are against giant worsened after the 1994 corporations. How much each brother ultimately of his buildings, leading walks away with turns on Shashi to bring in his broththe ups and downs of the real estate market, with ers as partners. The firm apartment prices having then embarked on a buying fallen from their 2022 peak after higher interest rates raised borrowing costs and with the brothers collabocut into property values. rating until Haresh "forc-Apartment prices averaged \$329,000 a unit in January in the Los Angeles area, down 26% from a November 2022 high, according to MSCI Real Assets

Rick Richmond, the lawyer for defendant Haresh Jogani, declined to comment because the jury isn't finished vet.

Diamond Trade

The Jogani family, natives of Gujarat, India, built a fortune in the global diamond trade, establishing outposts in Europe, Africa, the Middle East and North America. Shashikant "Shashi" logani moved at age 22 in 1969 to California, where he began

a solo firm in the gem busi-

tracts," said Steve Friedman, an attorney for Shashi Jogani.

As the trial was coming to a close, Haresh Jogani moved to disqualify the judge, accusing her of "racial animus" toward his lawyer and other misconduct. In a filing last week, Judge Susan Bryant-Deason denied doing anything improper and rejected the claim that she's "biased or prejudiced for or against" any of the parties or law-

yers in the case. She referred the motion to the court's supervising judge, where it is pending.

The jury awarded \$165 million in damages to brothers Chetan and Rajesh over Haresh's breach of the diamond partnership, as well as \$1.8 billion to Shashi, \$234 million to Chetan and \$360 million to Raiesh for breach of the real estate partnership.

ibly removed" his sibling The jurors also confrom managing the firm cluded that Shashi, now 77 and refused to pay him, acyears old, owns 50% of the cording to Shashi Jogani's real estate partnership, followed by 24% for Haresh. Haresh Jogani contend-10% for Rajesh, 9.5% for ed that without a written Shailesh and 6.5% for Chetagreement, his brothers an, the youngest, who is couldn't prove they had a now 62, according to Ross. partnership with him. But The properties generated as much as \$137 million a the jury found that Haresh had broken an oral contract. year in net operating in-Jurors heard testimony come, according to Michael Friedman, 37, who with his that oral agreements are customary in both the father, Steve, has reprediamond trade and among sented Shashi since 2014, the year after he passed the bar to practice law. "There's "The law is you can have an enormous portfolio that oral contracts that are just Shashi built," he said. "And it sustains itself." as valuable as written con-

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR **DIRECTORATE OF ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS, J&K**

SDA COLONY BEMINA SRINAGAR/ASHOK VIHAR JANIPUR JAMMU Fax(K)2493376, (J) 2531731 .L-Line-2490092(K) 2538907(J) E-mail:jandk-des@jk.gov.in

Sub : Appointment of candidates for the post of Drivers advertised vide notification Mo: 04 of 2020 under item No. III.

1. J&K Services Selection Board, Jammu's teller No: JKSSB-Scry/ 7/2023-03(E-7259835) dated 11-01-2021 Ref:-

2. Planning, Development & Monitoring Department's letter No: PDMD-ADM/21/2024 dated 23-01-2021.

ORDER NO: 60-DES of 2024

DATED : 23- 02 - 2024

As recommended by the J&K Services Selection Board and approval conveyed by the Planning Development & Monitoring Department vide No. PDMD/Adm/21/2024 dated: 23-01-2024, followed by receipt of the satisfactory verification report from Criminal Investigation Department (CID) J&K in favour of the selected candidate, sanction is hereby accorded to the temporary appointment of Shaizad Ahmed (ST) S/o Mohd Aslam, Laroka Qila, Darhal Rajouri as Driver (Kashmir Division Cadre) in the J&K Economics & Statistics (Subordinate) Service, in the Pay Level-2 (19900-63200) with immediate effect.

Consequent upon the above, the appointee shall report in the office of Regional Director, Evaluation & Statistics, Kashmir within a period of twenty-one (21) days from the date of issuance of this order failing which he shall forego his right to appointment, and the same shall be deemed to have been cancelled ab-initio without any further notice.

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

- Academic/Qualification Certificate.
- Matriculation/Date of Birth Certificate. ii.
- Health Certificate from the concerned Chief Medical Officer of the District. iii.
- iv. Domicile Certificate issued by the Competent Authority
- ٧. Driving License issued by the competent authority.
- Valid relevant Category Certificate, if any applicable.

The appointment of the above candidate shall further be subject to the following conditions:-

- The appointee shall give an undertaking in the shape of an Affidavit to the effect that if on verification, his Qualification/ Date of Birth/ Reserved Category Certificates/ any other certificate from the concerned issuing authorities is found fake/ forged or the Institution/ Course itself is not recognized, his appointment as Driver in the J&K Economics and Statistics (Subordinate) service shall be deemed to have cancelled ab-initio without any further notice and the legal action as warranted under rules shall be initiated against him.
- ii. The appointee shall also give an undertaking in the shape of an Affidavit to the effect that he is not possessing the qualification higher than the maximum qualification prescribed for the post of Driver and if at any stage, it comes to the notice that he is in possession of qualification other than the required for the post, his appointment as Driver in the J&K Economics and Statistics (Subordinate!) service shall be deeriied to have cancelled ab-initio without any further notice and the legal action as warranted under rules shall be Initiated against him.
- III. That If (he candidate has token loan for self-employment from DIC/ Employment Department, to be' ascertained from the District Industries Centre (DIC) and District Employment a Counselling Centre of the domicile District, he shall relinquish the proprietorship of unit/enterprise and also stakes, If any, in such self-employment unit/ enterprise before Joining the Government service. He shall be required to repay the entire loan liability In suitable EMIs to be worked out by the 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.
- iv. The salary of the appointee shall not be drawn and disbursed to him unless the satisfactory reports In respect of genuineness of Qualification/ Date of Birth/Relevant Category Certificate/ Driving License Is received from the concerned Authorities/ Agency.
- The appointment of the candidate shall be cancelled ab-initio, if at any stage, the documents produced are found fake / forged, ٧. without any further notice.
- vi. The appointee shall be on probation for a period of two years.
- The appointment of the candidate shall be governed by the "New Pension Scheme "as notified vide SRO-4D0 of 2009 dated: 24-12vii. 2009.1
- vii. The Inter-se-senlority of the appointee in the J&K Economics & Statistics (Subordinate) Service shall be determined as per the J&K Civil Service (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956.
- ix. The appointment of the above appointee shall be subject to outcome of writ petition(s)/ If any, pending before Competent Court of Law which may not be presently within the knowledge of the Directorate.

No: DES-ESTTOADM/3/2024/8725-32		(Satvir Kour Sudan)
Dated:- 23-02-2024	DIPK-17360-23	Director General
	DT: 02/03/2024	Economics and Statistics,

ness and started to build a property portfolio, according to a complaint he filed in 2003. The properties suffered

Northridge

complaint.

Gujaratis.

'Just as Valuable'

Earthquake

killed 16 people in one

spree that eventually built

the portfolio to roughly

17,000 apartment units

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

Over 1.9 Million

and other areas via choppers," she affirmed. Following the pulse polio vaccination drive, health workers will conduct door-to-door surveys on March 4 and 5 to ensure comprehensive coverage. "These visit rounds aim to reach children who may have missed receiving the vaccine on March 3," Dr. Jabeen said.

Notably, the Pulse Polio Immunization Programme, initiated in India on 2 October 1994, played a crucial role towards eradicating polio. India received a 'Polio-free certification' from the World Health Organization on 27 March 2014.

Snow, Rains

weather has resulted in shooting stones at various places along the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway, leading to its closure for traffic.

National Highway Closed

Traffic was suspended on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway early on Saturday after heavy rainfall triggered multiple landslides and shooting stones in the Ramban district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

The 270-km highway, the only all-weather road linking Kashmir with the rest of the country, was blocked at over half a dozen places between Nashri and Banihal, they said.

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) have mobilised men and machines to clear the highway for one-way traffic, officials said

Traffic on the highway has been restricted to one-way since February 26 and was being used alternatively from Jammu and Srinagar after heavy rains and snowfall damaged the arterial road at several places last week.

According to the meteorological department, Banihal recorded the highest 74.4 mm of rainfall in the past 24 hours, ending around 8.30 am on Saturday.

It said snowfall in high-altitude areas and rains in the plains will continue at most places in the Union territory. The weather is likely to improve gradually on Saturday night.

Structures Damaged In South Kashmir

A strong windstorm swept south Kashmir. damaging several structures in the Verinag area of Anantnag district, the officials said. They said strong winds damaged the roof-

tops of houses and shops in Nowgam village. Signboards of several shops were also blown away but there have been no reports of any

loss of life or injury. 2 Dead, 6 Injured

Two people were killed and six others in-jured in separate incidents as incessant rains pounded several parts of Jammu region for the second day on Saturday, officials said.

Over three dozen houses and other structures suffered damages due to gusty winds in the province, they said.Suhunksha Devi. a resident of Batmas-Changa village of Bhalesa, died and her brother injured when the ceiling of their house collapsed due to a windstorm in Doda district, they said.At least 10 other houses suffered damages in Gandoh tehsil of Doda district, and 15 more houses and other structures were damaged by windstorm in Trigam, Palmar, Mughal Maidan and adjoining areas in nearby Kishtwar district, officials said.

A fuel tanker driver was killed when he lost control and crashed his vehicle into a hillside amid heavy rain in Moud Passi in Udhampur district, they said.Six people were injured when a boulder from a hillock hit a passenger bus at Manoor Gala in Rajouri district, officials said

Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday morning. Due to heavy rains, three residential houses were partially damaged in Mughalmaidan, while one house was also damaged in the Pathimhall area of Kishtwar district.

They however said that no loss of life or any other injury was reported in the incident.

A police officer said that soon after information was received about the incident, a team immediately rushed to the spot and were accessing the losses. The officer further added that all the people residing in the houses are being shifted to safer places amid this rainy weather.

Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) chairman and former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Ghulam Nabi Azad expressed concern over the widespread damage across several hamlets due to the inclement weather. Azad urged the Lt Governor-led administra-

tion to assess the damage and pay adequate compensation to victims. A snowfall up to two to three feet was re-

ported in high altitude areas including Pir Ki Gali in Poonch, Sinthan top in Kishtwar, Chatergala in Doda district over the past 24 hours, officials said.

A hail storm also hit various parts of Jammu during the day.

Avalanche Warning

Jammu and Kashmir Disaster Management Authority on Saturday issued a medium-danger level avalanche warning for multiple districts in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Avalanche with Medium Danger Level is likely to occur above 2200 metres over Doda, Kishtwar, Poonch, Ramban, Resai, Anantnag and Kulgam districts in next 24 hours," reads an advisory.

Further avalanche with higher danger lev-el is likely to occur above 2200 metres over Kupwara, Ganderbal, Bandipora and Baramulla districts in the next 24 hours.

"People living in these areas are advised to take precautions and avoid venturing in the avalanche prone areas till further orders," the advisory reads.

In case of any help, the authority can be reached at 112.

1,735 Cr Spent

"Under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we have achieved greater success in bridging the health gap in the Union Territory," he said, reiterating the commitment of his administration to provide "quality, af-fordable and accessible" healthcare services to

He said state-of-the-art health infrastructure, digital interventions and reforms introduced in the field of medical education and critical care have strengthened the healthcare ecosystem of Jammu and Kashmir.

"We have laid special focus on four important aspects - doctors, drugs, diagnostics and delivery mechanism," Sinha said.

The LG directed the secretary of health and senior officials to spread mass awareness on the facilities like Tele-MANAS (Tele Mental Health Assistance and Networking Across States) and availability of doctors in hospitals and health centres.

"Institutionalised mechanisms should be put in place to ensure quick response of the ambulance service, especially in far-flung areas." he said.

He saluted the doctors and Rotary Club members for their "dedicated and selfless service" to the people.

"The collaborative efforts have ensured that

ahead to become a world leader, Sinha said.

"We have such a government at the Centre which is speaking the same language in Delhi, Jammu and Srinagar. The time has passed when some people used to speak differently at these places.

"There are some things which if spoken creates problems. The prime minister is taking the country and J&K forward and the day is not far when you will celebrate Herath in Kashmir rather than in Jammu," he said.

The Lt Governor said 'Herath' is an integral part of our rich cultural and spiritual heritage. 'May the festival usher in the happiness, prosperity and well-being of all," he said.

"A new period of renaissance began sometime back. We will regain the lost reputation and emerge as the world leaders. The young generation has to prepare for themselves to fulfil their duties in the new India," Sinha said.

Extending his felicitations to the people, the Lt Governor appreciated the 'Youth All India Kashmiri Samaj' for working towards the welfare of the people of J&K for over two decades and reconnecting future generations of the community with their roots.

The J&K administration is working with the resolve of 'Vikas Bhi Virasat Bhi', he said.

'370 Abrogation Led

of now abrogated Article 370.

Sinha was speaking at the National Commission for Women's event themed on Celebrating Inspirational Women' titled 'Tu Bol' here.

Sinha commended the endeavour of the national commission for women to bring together women achievers to share their inspirational journey ahead of the International Women's Day on March 8.

Today 'nari shakti' (women power) is at the forefront of our developmental journey and taking the lead in nation building. The Jammu and Kashmir administration is focusing on women-led development with unwavering dedication and determination to support gender parity and gender equity," he said.

The Lt Governor lauded the remarkable achievements and invaluable contributions of the women across diverse domains.

"I am proud of our 'nari shakti'. From education to entrepreneurship, from information technology to agriculture sector, from sports to science, they are scripting their own success stories," Sinha said

National Commission for Women (NCW) chairperson Rekha Sharma in her address emphasised the importance of encouraging young women to speak fearlessly and to promote empowerment and equality.

On the occasion, the women achievers shared their stories of struggle and journey towards success and motivated others to pursue their dreams.

BJP Gears Up

the PM," he said.

Thakur said that at a meeting here on March 4 BJP general secretary and J-K incharge Tarun Chugh would review the party's preparations for the rally.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, senior BJP leader and Kashmir division in-charge Sunil Sharma said it would be a huge rally.

"Today we had called all the district presidents and senior leaders. Discussion was held regarding the numbers in this rally so that people can attend it from different places. There is a lot of excitement about the rally. There is a lot of enthusiasm about this rally in Kashmir as well as across the country," Sharma said.

He said there was enthusiasm among the people in Kashmir "where the BIP was rega

is on polling station duty or area domination or other duties. We will ensure free and fair, transparent and event-free elections," he said. Pole appealed to the people to come out to vote in large numbers when the elections take place.

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

SRINAGAR | SUNDAY | 03.03.2024

HC Grants Permission

troops deployed there.

'The military establishments at Sonamarg also act as the lifeline for the logistics and transient movement to the Ladakh Region which is huge in numbers and critically important for the Indian Army," the ministry said

More so, it said, the fact that the Ladakh region gets cut off during the winter season, all the logistic support is carried out from Sonamarg before the snowfall sets in.

"All these military establishments also handle the security aspects of the Amarnath yatra which takes place everywhere and has a huge footfall in this region which increases the requirements of accommodations in that area."

Kashmiri Students

Additionally, 110 Kashmiri students who were pursuing various professional courses have reportedly been sent back to the valley.

"A non-local student passed a vulgar comment against a female Kashmiri student, triggering angry reaction from her male counterparts from the valley," a student from Kashmir told Kashmir Observer.

"Instead of offering an apology to the victim, he hurled choicest abuses against Kashmiri students, which infuriated one of us, who slapped him for misbehaving with a female and abusing Kashmiris," he added.

The J&K Students Association informed via its official X handle (formally Twitter) that despite lodging a complaint with the college administration, the grievances were purportedly ignored, leading to heightened resentment among the Kashmiri student community.

The situation took an ugly turn as Kashmiri students claimed to have been ruthlessly beaten by non-local students, further intensifying the already charged atmosphere on the campus.

"The girl student, who was harassed, approached the college administration, requesting action against the student involved. However, the college management chose to overlook her ordeal," one of the expelled students said

The students alleged that local students enrolled in the same institution attacked Kashmiri students with stones, but fortunately nobody was hurt in the incident on either side.

"During the scuffle, one of the Sikh students' turban was unintentionally struck by a Kashmiri, yet they gave the incident a communal hue without taking into account the fact that it was an accident."

"A few hours later, as we were getting ready for supper in the mess, a group of goons, brandishing swords and other weapons, gathered outside the college and attempted to break in, but the college management forbade them from doing so," he added.

The J&K Students Association said that a committee has been formed in this regard, and to ensure the safety and security of Kashmiri students, they have been sent back to the valley with the support of the college management. Special transport was arranged for Kashmiri students to travel back to their hometown.

"Even though the victim girl's statement was recorded by the college administration, they did not take any action against the accused student and instead requested that we leave Punjab until the situation returns to normal" the aggrieved students said

"This is sheer hooliganism. Is this a way to treat a female? How could one student pass lewd comments against a female counterpart and then heckle her," Khuehami told Kashmir Observer.

From Surgery

"We treat animals with traumas and injuries, some from impacts and others in shock, stabilizing them promptly. We also oversee several zoos, including Pahalgam Mini Zoo, Dachigam Rescue Center, and Shikargah. Regular healthcare interventions for wild animals are part of our responsibilities, ensuring their well-being."

Just like a regular hospital OPD, the center meticulously documents every wild animal's case. Beyond immediate medical needs, the center also addresses long-term conservation efforts, overseeing zoos, rescue and rehabilitation, and captive breeding centres across Kashmir.

Gazi, however, highlights that insufficient manpower hampers timely intervention in rescue operations.

"We are not just treating animals, we are fostering a deeper understanding of their needs and behaviors and this office also conducts regular training of the frontline workers engaged in man animal conflicts operations across Kashmir valley.'

In addition to treating and curing animals, the department has control rooms strategically positioned across the Kashmir vallev to ensure swift coordination, with rescue teams operating in tandem to address urgent calls for assistance.

"However, some rescues are incredibly demanding and require sustained effort. For instance, we recently faced a challenging situation at Rawalpora, where an operation lasted for 21 days," Gazi said.

Pollution Threatens

for poisoning the twin lakes, asserting the outcome may have been different, had they paid careful attention to the deteriorating state of Dal and Nigeen Lakes.

Besides waste, siltation is a significant factor in lowering Dal Lake's depth, according to Dr Khurshid Ahmad, a microbiologist at the Shere-Kashmir University of Agricultural Science and Technology (SKUAST-K). He noted that siltation has been occurring in Dal Lake over time, and that this process will undoubtedly have an impact on its inner layer.

"In addition to plants of distinct varieties growing deep within the water, algal weeds are another factor reducing its depth," he told Kashmir Observer.

"These lakes–Dal and Nigeen–are in danger of going extinct, according to periodic studies, and that's before we even discuss the reduction in Nadur production." said Manzoor Ahmad Wangnoo, an expert on the changing patterns of Nigeen and Dal Lakes.

The direct disposal of thousands of metric tons of garbage and human excreta from the surrounding areas, he claimed, ruined Dal Lake, although Nigeen Lake's condition has not yet gotten to that of Dal.

The facts supporting the decline in Nadur output, he claimed, were that the build-up of huge garbage and solid waste had caused both lakes' depths to diminish, making Nadru taste differently.

"The situation of Dal and Nigeen Lakes would deteriorate with each passing day until we, as citizens, recognize the serious challenges they confront. Our valley's distinctive character stems from these water bodies. How on earth could we let them become extinct? Wangnoo told Kashmir Observer.

They said the bus was on its way from Mandir Gala to Rajouri and the injured passengers were rushed to a hospital.

Officials said strong winds also damaged rooftops of three school buildings and a public health centre in Trigam, Kudji, Tanka and Mangit in Khari tehsil, while rooftops of over a dozen houses were damaged in Sub-division Banihal, Ramsoo and Gool.

A religious school was also damaged when a tree fell on its building in the Batote area of the district, they said.

Four residential houses were partially damaged due to heavy rains in Kishtwar district of the people of Rajouri and Poonch can avail the benefits of special surgeries without any financial burden," he said, urging the Rotary Club to organise a similar special health camp for the people of Doda and Kishtwar districts.

KP's Will Celebrate

Kashmiri Pandit community.

Speaking at a 'Herath Milan Samaroh' organised by 'Youth All India Kashmiri Samaj' here, the Lt Governor informed the gathering that PM Modi would visit Srinagar on March 7 and requested all those present in the valley to attend his programme.

In the last eight to 10 years under the leadership of Modi, the country has witnessed a change in the political style and work culture, as a result of which the country is moving ed as untouchable before".

"Today, every poor, every person, woman and elderly have full faith in Prime Minister Narendra Modi. And you will get to see that yourself on March 7," Sharma added.

Free, Fair LS Polls

and improve the voter turnout compared to the last elections," Pole told reporters.

Asked about the security arrangements, the CEO said the security environment has become better over the last few years but there were some challenges.

"The challenges are still the same and so we have flagged the requirement for forces. The locally available forces and those who come from outside will be deployed according to the norms of the election commission whether it

When Kashmir Observer contacted one of the members of the college management, he stated that the students were sent back for a temporary period until the situation returns to normal. He mentioned that the step was taken as a precautionary measure to ensure peace is maintained.

"We have been asked by the police to hand over the CCTV footage, so that action against the accused can be initiated. As of now, no case has been lodged as the matter is still under investigation," he said.

Meanwhile Nasir Khuehami, a student activist and national convener of J&K Student Union, said the matter has been taken up with the Commissioner of Police Punjab, who assured that no FIR will be lodged against any Kashmiri student.

Notably, Nadroo harvesting entails a meticulous and labor-intensive process. It grows on the marshy bogs of the freshwater lakes in the area, such as Nigeen and Dal Lakes in Srinagar. Beneath the water, the Nadroo has a maximum height of four feet.

In the present times, Nadroo harvesting has become increasingly challenging and hazardous for the growers. The harvesters are exposed to polluted water, which poses significant health risks. Direct contact with contaminated water can lead to skin irritations, respiratory problems, and other illnesses.

"It's not everyone's cup of tea to dive deep into the lake and brave all weather conditions to get Nadroo from deep within Dal Lake's contaminated water," Ashraf said.

ICAP OF PUBLICATION **KASHMIR OBSERVER**

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 on your smart TV's across the world.

Kashmir Observer is a one stop information bank for you. Watch live debates, talk shows and documentaries on critical issues facing Kashmir on KO youtube channel. VISIT

https://www.youtube. com/c/kobserver

OR SCAN



SPORTS Did Big Three Ignore ICC's Study To Save Test Cricket?

Press Trust of India

ricket Australia CEO Nick Hockley on Saturday re--butted reports that India, England and his organisation had not paid attention to a draft presented to the International Cricket Council to save Test cricket.

A report in the Sydney Morning Herald said that the three powerful boards were dismissive of a document compiled by New Zealand Cricket chair Martin Snedden, who proposed an overhaul of the future tours program (FTP) to save the longest version of the game. "Categorically, I think there

was some misreporting around that. Certainly, the discussions I'm in at the moment are very much thinking about how we can optimise the calendar and how we can continue to grow cricket around the world.' Hockely told SEN Cricket.

The changes proposed in the blueprint document include additional windows for T20 leagues other than the Indian Premier League, alteration in the World Test Championship

points system, 40-over ODIs, apprehensions about T20Is and an effort towards pooling of broadcast rights revenue for bilateral series. Hockley, when asked about

the report, denied suggestions that the powerful nations were turning a blind eye to Test cricket, saying he had met Snedden during the New Zealand-Australia first Test in Wellington

and conveyed to him that Australia was very much committed to help ICC ensure all the three formats flourish.

Pointing out the growth of cricket across the world, Hockley said countries like the United States too had embraced the game and would be co-hosting the T20 World Cup with the West Indies later this year.

Hockley added that Australia had great respect for the World Test Championship and that its men's Test cricket was its prized property. "Practically, it is making sure that the World Test Championship is given greater prominence so each Test series has context.

"I think it's looking at the economic viability in different territories and how we make sure that it is economically viable for those countries where it isn't (currently). Still for Australia... men's Test cricket is the most valuable property. So, it's really working together."

AIFF President Chaubey Accused Of 'Corruption'

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: All India Foot-Federation's princiball pal legal advisor Nilanjan Bhattacharjee on Saturday made serious 'corruption allegations' against president Kalyan Chaubey, who termed them baseless and said he would take legal action.

In a letter written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Bhattacharjee said Chaubey worked out 'corruption avenue' through non transparent tender process and preferential allotment of tender.

Bhattacharjee also alleged that Chaubey made attempts to 'siphon off money from the federation's exchequer' and used AIFF fund for personal expenses.

...through coercion and at his own subservient interest, allotted numerous tenders such as broadcasting of I-League (last season), IWL, Santosh Trophy in favour of one (company name withheld) which happens to be close to the incumbent presi-

sional integrity. dent." Bhattachariee said in "Crores of



Home Minister Amit Shah Chaubey said he has gone through the allegations and and Sports Minister Anurag Thakur. He said even the tenhe will take legal action. der for the ongoing Santosh "All these (allegations) are Trophy was also given to the baseless. I will reply legally,"

he said. Bhattacharjee said he was claimed appointed after Chaubey took that when he suggested safecharge as AIFF head in Sepguards in subsequent tenders, Chaubey attempted to 'matember 2022 and his tenure lign' his image and profeswas extended recently.

"My first tenure ended in ctober last year. It got ex tended by another year after that. But I would not care if I am terminated from my job," he said. Bhattacharjee had earlier alleged that the AIFF did not pay him his retainership sum for a couple of months last year but later got it.

New Zealand Chase 258 In First Test Against Australia



Agencies

WELLINGTON: New Zealand were 111 for three at the close of play on the third day of the first Test against Australia at Wellington's Basin Reserve on Saturday, still 258 runs away from their daunting victory target of 369.

Spinner Glenn Phillips had earlier taken 5-45 - his first fivewicket haul in first-class cricket - as New Zealand took Australia's last six wickets for the addition of 37 runs to end the tourist's second innings on 164.

Rachin Ravindra, who reached the half century mark for the second time in his short test career and was 56 not out at stumps, will resume on day four alongside Daryl Mitchell, who was unbeaten on 12, in a partnership worth 52 runs.

serve was the 285 they scored to beat Sri Lanka last year.

Australia will be looking to off spinner Lyon to play a key role in putting the tourists 1-0 up in the two-match series that concludes with the second test in Christchurch starting on Friday.

As nightwatchman, Lyon had punished New Zealand for dropping him off the final ball of day two by hitting a bright 41 to push Australia from 13-2 at the start of the day to 53-3 when he was caught at square leg off Matt Henry.

Opener Usman Khawaja also departed before lunch for 28 to give Phillips his first wicket off a stumping, but Australia would have been happy at reaching the

Short TAKES

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Srinagar | Sunday | 03-03-2024

92.7 Big FM Knockout Football **Tournament Final Today**

&K Bank FC will take on Galaxy FC today, Sunday, March 3, in the grand finale of the 92.7 Big FM Knockout Football Tournament 2024 at Synthetic Turf TRC here. Both teams beat formidable opponents on their

way to the finals and will look to seal this year's first major football tournament. The game will kick off at 2:30 PM.

Various National Athletes From Kupwara Call On DC

National athletes of Growth Sports Academy Kupwara called upon Deputy Commissioner Kupwara Ayushi Sudan at her office on Saturday.

The meeting aimed to felicitate the exemplary athletes and engage in discussions regarding the future plans to augment sports infrastructure in Kupwara.

Led by the international medallist Aadil Manzoor Peer of Halmatpora Kupwara, the delegation included national athletes including Zubair Ahmad Sofi, Navaid Nabi, Mohammad Ibrahim, Maroof Ahmad Khan, Zakir Hussain Wani, Haroon Showkat, Munazirah Mushtag, Amaan Igbal and others.

With IPL In Sight, Gambhir **Ends Political Career**

Former India cricketer and BJP MP Gautam Gamb-hir, on Saturday announced that he has requested the BJP President to relieve him of his political duties.

'I have requested Hon'ble Party President @JPNaddaji to relieve me of my political duties so that I can focus on my upcoming cricket commitments. I sincerely thank Hon'ble PM @narendramodiji and Hon'ble HM @ AmitShahji for giving me the opportunity to serve the people. Jai Hind!.

A BJP MP from East Delhi, Gambhir returned to his former IPL franchise Kolkata Knight Riders as a mentor for the upcoming season, starting on March 22.

CSK Training Camp Ahead Of IPL 2024 Gets Underway

🗥 hennai Super Kings' pre-season camp got underway Lhere on Saturday in the presence of pacer Deepak Chahar, who will be eyeing a national comeback through a consistent run for his franchise in the IPL beginning March 22

"The first batch of local (Indian) players arrived on Friday and more are expected to arrive in the coming days," a Tamil Nadu Cricket Association (TNCA) official told PTI.

On Friday, CSK confirmed the arrival of the first batch of players in the city

Saudi Arabia Launch Bid To Host The 2034 World Cup

Saudi Arabia launched its campaign to host the 2034 Soccer World Cup on Friday, a bid that is all but certain o succeed due to the absence of any other expressions of interest before FIFA's deadline late last year. With Morocco, Portugal and Spain set to share the hosting of the 2030 tournament, global governing body FIFA limited the 2034 contest to bidders from the Asian and Oceania confederations. The Saudi Arabian Football Federation (SAFF) said its "Growing. Together." World Cup campaign would showcase the way the nation was strengthening bonds with other countries through sport.

his letter, which is in possession of PTI.

"Further tenders running into crores were allotted to the same service provider for broadcasting of futsal and other such tournaments," he wrote in the letter, a copy of which was also marked to

been spent by the current president for his personal trips, hotel stays. For his numerous Bangalore trip alone, a conservative estimation of more than Rs 40 lakhs has been spent to fund his business class travel, local conveyance and hotel stays.

same entity.

Bhattacharjee

New Zealand's highest successful fourth-innings run chase was the 324 they scored against Pakistan at Christchurch in 1994. Their highest at Basin Re-

break on 113-4 with their lead already past the 300 mark.

Green's 174 in a rearguard action in the first innings was largely responsible for Australia's lead, but there was to be no tailend heroics in the second as Henry (3-36) stepped up to take the last two wickets.

Manchester Derby Can Further Expose Gulf Between City & United Agencies

MANCHESTER: Jim Ratcliffe's de-

termination to bring down Manchester City is abundantly clear.

So is his admiration, it seems, for the team he calls "the enemy." Since becoming co-owner of Manchester United last week, Ratcliffe has spoken about the "driven and elite environment" that has been created at City in its Abu Dhabicontrolled regime.

He described City's 4-0 win over Real Madrid in last season's Champions League semifinals as "the best football I have ever seen.'

He was even behind United's recent appointment of one of City's former top executives, Omar Berrada, as the new chief executive in what United said was the first step on a journey "to put football and performance on the pitch back at the heart of everything we do."

Ratcliffe acknowledged United was a "long way behind" City. Just how far might be placed into sharp focus this weekend.

It's the 192nd Manchester derby on Sunday, pitting two rivals at opposite stages of their modern development: City, the English, European and world club champion, vs. United, a fallen giant looking to be kickstarted by the riches



and passion of a locally born billionaire.

Few are giving United a hope in the Premier League clash at Etihad Stadium – privately, maybe even Ratcliffe will not expect a win, either – but his recent investment in United, not forgetting his comments about knocking City and fellow local rival Liverpool "off

their perch" within three years, provides the narrative and backdrop to a fixture that, for the most part, has been one-sided in recent vears.

Take last season's match at the Etihad, for example, where Erling Haaland and Phil Foden scored hat tricks in City's 6-3 thrashing of United.

Or this season's match at Old Trafford, where United was overrun and ultimately humiliated in a 3-0 loss in October

City comes into the derby following a 6-2 win at Luton in the FA Cup highlighted by a five-goal performance by Haaland. United has actually won seven of its nine games in all competitions in 2024 but barely ever convinces, which leaves Ten Hag under permanent pressure. Tellingly, Ratcliffe, in his round of post-takeover interviews, never gave his complete backing to the Dutchman.

March will also see United take on its other big foe, Liverpool, in the FA Cup quarterfinals. It's a month of great opportunity for Ten Hag and his players but also one of potential danger, if United was to lose to City – and therefore further jeopardize its Champions League qualification ambitions and Liverpool.

Fifteen points separate secondplaced City and sixth-placed United, and that could be 18 by Sunday evening.

More important for City is the points gap to leader Liverpool, which stands at one heading into the weekend. Liverpool plays first, away to Nottingham Forest. Thirdplaced Arsenal, which is a point behind City in third place, visits Sheffield United on Monday.

FIFA Rules Panel Scraps Plan For Blue Cards

Agencies

LOCH LOMOND: There will be no blue cards shown in soccer, FIFA president Gianni Infantino said on Saturday ahead of the annual meeting of the sport's rulemaking panel.

The rules panel known as IFAB is due to look at extending trials of 'sin bins' at low-level games. But beyond that, the idea aired a month ago of adding blue cards to referees' pockets with their red and yellow to remove players from the field for several

minutes has been scrapped. "Let me be clear — it's a red card to the idea of blue cards," Infantino told reporters in a video clip posted overnight on his Instagram account. "There will not be any blue cards used at elite level.'

"This is a topic that is non-existent for us and FIFA is completely opposed to blue cards." Infantino said at a lakeside hotel that will host the meeting near Glasgow.

Sin bins were introduced in grassroots soccer in the 2019-20 season to try to reduce dissent and increase fair play.

The idea has been unpopular with English Premier League coaches who believe teams will use defensive and negative tactics if a player is removed for 10 minutes.

However, the new suggestion of using blue cards to send players to sin bins was met with widespread derision.

The IFAB panel is made up of officials from FIFA and the four British soccer federations. FIFA has four votes and the federations of England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales has one each. Six votes are



needed for a proposal to pass.

Sin bins are used in rugby for a variety of fouls.

Ice hockey similarly whistles penalties that send players to the 'penalty box'. Infractions such as tripping are two-minute penalties that give the other team an advantage called the 'power play' that creates more goal-scoring opportunities.

Asia's Richest Man

Launches Lavish

India To See Warmer Summer, More Heatwave Days This Year: IMD

Agenceis

ndia is likely to experience a warmer summer and more heatwave days this year with El Nino conditions predicted to continue at least until May, the India Meteorological Department said on Friday. The country is likely to record

above-normal rainfall in March (more than 117 per cent of the long-period average of 29.9 mm)

India is likely to see abovenormal maximum and minimum temperatures in most parts of the country in the March to May period, IMD Director General Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said at a press conference.

From March to May, the above-normal number of heatwave days is likely over most parts of the country except northeast India, the western Himalayan region, the southwest peninsula and the west coast.

More heatwave days than normal are predicted over northeast peninsular India - Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and north interior Karnataka - and many parts of

Maharashtra and Odisha, it said. Heatwave conditions are not expected over north and central India in March, he said.

Lok Sabha polls are likely to be held in April-May.

Mohapatra said the prevailing El Nino conditions - the periodic warming of waters in the central Pacific Ocean - will continue through the summer season and neutral conditions are likely to develop thereafter.

La Nina conditions - generally associated with good monsoon rainfall in India - are likely to set in by the second half of the monsoon season. The IMD chief also said that India recorded an average minimum temperature of 14.61 degrees Celsius in February, the second highest in the month since 1901.

A total of eight western disturbances - cyclonic storms originating in the Mediterranean region and beyond - affected the weather in western Himalayan states in February.

Of these, six were active western disturbances that led to rain and hailstorms over the plains in north and central India



Pre-Wedding Party In India

Agenceis

NEW DELHI: India's richest man has kicked off lavish pre-wedding parties for his son by feeding more than 50,000 people in his hometown, with celebrations in the coming days expected to include some of the world's most influential figures.

Global tech CEOs, industry titans, Bollywood stars, pop icons and politicians are expected to jet in Friday for the main three-day celebrations hosted by billionaire tycoon Mukesh Ambani, who is building a sprawling Hindu temple complex for the event. Ambani, 66, chairman of oil-

to-telecoms giant Reliance Industries, is Asia's richest person according to the Forbes real-time billionaires list, worth more than \$114 billion.

On Wednesday evening, Ambani and wife Nita – along with their son Anant and his fiancee Radhika Merchant – launched a three-day feast for villagers at the Reliance Township in his hometown of Jamnagar, in India's western state of Gujarat.

Anant, 28, who also serves as a director on the boards of several Reliance-owned firms, is expected to marry Merchant, 29, the daughter of an industrialist, later this year. Ambani held the most ex-

pensive wedding in India for his daughter in 2018, which reportedly cost \$100 million and saw US pop megastar Beyonce perform. This time. R&B star Rihanna. illusionist David Blaine and Bollywood's Diljit Dosanjh will perform for the guests, who are expected to include Microsoft founder Bill Gates, Meta head Mark Zuckerberg, and several current and former political leaders, according to a list released by Reliance.

Also among the invitees is Disney chief Robert Iger, following a deal agreed Wednesday between Reliance Industries and Walt Disney to merge their Indian media businesses. The merger will create a \$8.5 billion entertainment giant in the world's most populous nation and fifth-largest economy.

Other guests invited include Ivanka Trump, the former US president's daughter, as well as ex-Swedish prime minister Carl Bildt, former Canadian prime minister Stephen Harper and the King of Bhutan.

Bollywood stars Amitabh Bachchan and Shahrukh Khan, cricket icons Sachin Tendulkar and M. S. Dhoni, and industry titan Gautam Adani are also invited in a who's-who of India's super-rich elite.

The Ambanis are building a Hindu temple complex in Jamnagar, to keep "India's rich cultural and spiritual identity at the heart of the wedding festivities", the Reliance Foundation said on social media.

The main celebrations, running from March 1-3, will have different themes, events and dress codes including a "jungle fever" day with a visit to an animal rescue centre run by Ambani.

AI Shows Prostate Cancer Is Not Just One Disease: Study Agenceis

Scientists have used artificial intelligence (AI) to reveal a new form of aggressive prostate cancer which they said could help thousands of lives by revolutionising how the disease is diagnosed and treated in the future.

The study, published in the journal Cell Genomics, reveals that prostate cancer, which affects one in eight men in their lifetime, includes two different subtypes termed evotypes.

The findings, led by researchers at the University of Oxford, and the University of Manchester, UK, could help provide tailored treatments to each individual patient according to a genetic test which will also be delivered using AI, they said. Our research demonstrates

that prostate tumours evolve along multiple pathways, leading to two distinct disease types," said lead researcher Dan Woodcock, from the University of Oxford. This understanding is pivotal

as it allows us to classify tumours based on how the cancer evolves rather than solely on individual gene mutations or expression patterns, Woodcock said.

The researchers worked together as part of international consortium, called The Pan Prostate Cancer Group, set up by scientists at The Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) and The University of East Anglia, UK, to analyse genetic data from thousands of prostate cancer samples across nine countries. The team's collaboration with Cancer Research UK (CRUK) aims to develop a genetic test that, when combined with conventional staging and grading, can provide a more precise prognosis for each patient, allowing tailored treatment decisions. The researchers used AI to study changes in the DNA of prostate cancer samples, using whole genome sequencing, from 159 patients. They identi-



among these patients using an AI technique called neural networks. These two groups were confirmed by using two other mathematical approaches applied to different aspects of the data. This finding was validated in other independent datasets from Canada and Australia.

They went on to integrate all the information to generate an evolutionary tree showing how the two subtypes of prostate cancer develop, ultimately converging into two distinct disease types termed evotypes'.

This realisation is what enables us to distinguish the disease types. This hasn't been done before because it's more complicated than HER2+ in breast cancer, for instance," said Professor David Wedge of Manchester Cancer Research Centre, who led the study.

"This understanding is pivotal as it allows us to classify tumours based on their evolutionary trajectory rather than solely on individual gene mutations or expression patterns," Wedge said.

Professor Colin Cooper, from UEA's Norwich Medical School, highlighted that while prostate cancer is responsible for a large proportion of all male cancer deaths, it is more commonly a disease men die with rather than from.

This means that unnecessary treatment can often be avoided sparing men from side-effects such as incontinence and impotence.

This study is really important because until now, we thought that prostate cancer was just one type of disease. But it is only now, with advancements in artificial intelligence, that we have been able to show that there are actually two different subtypes at play," he added.

US Probes Security Risks Posed By Chinese Tech In Cars

Agenceis

WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden announced an investigation Thursday into the national security risks posed by Chinese tech in cars, warning they could be used to collect sensitive data.

He has ordered the Commerce Department to conduct the probe, focusing on connected vehicles containing technology from "countries of concern" such as China, and to respond to threats.

"China is determined to domihate the future of the auto market including by using unfair practices," Biden said in a statement. "China's policies could flood our market with its vehicles, posing risks to our national security." Washington has been working to lower the US auto sector's reliance on China, offering tax breaks for American-made electric vehicles and batteries, while trying to build up its domestic production capacity. The latest investigation concerns vehicles that constantly connect with personal devices,

other cars, US infrastructure and their manufacturers – including electric and self-driving cars. As part of the probe, Commerce will collect information with a 60-

day public comment period. Authorities could eventually mnose limits on some trans tions but officials did not commit to a timeline. The White House said connected vehicles collect vast amounts of data on drivers and passengers, log information on US infrastruc-



edgment by the Biden administration that critical and emerging technologies are set to shape both economic growth and national security," Thibault Denamiel of the Center for Strategic and International Studies told AFP.

It is noteworthy that the new measure considers "risks associated by technology transfers into the United States," he added.

Previous moves, such as outbound investment restrictions and semiconductor export controls, focused on transfers from the United ncluding in Europe States to foreign countrie In a January post-earnings con-"China imposes restrictions on American autos and other foreign ference call, Tesla CEO Elon Musk autos operating in China," said Biden. said Chinese car companies were "the most competitive" globally, "Why should connected veexpecting that they would likely hicles from China be allowed to be successful outside China. operate in our country without

safeguards?" he added.

While there are not many such vehicles containing China-made tech on US roads currently, Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo stressed the need to "understand the extent of the technology in

fied two distinct cancer groups

these cars. A senior US official told reporters on condition of anonymity it is important to act before there are large numbers of these vehicles in the country, with China's automobile export market growing rapidly and making strong inroads

"If there are not trade barriers established, they will pretty much demolish most other car companies in the world," he said.

The Alliance for American Manufacturing welcomed the investigation, calling for more to be done including higher tariffs and limiting EV tax credits.

In November, 14 members of Congress signed letters to 10 China-related companies involved in the auto sector – including Baidu, Didi Chuxing and AutoX – raising concerns over the handling of data collected when testing autonomous vehicles in the United States. Besides autos, the White House said this week that Biden was issuing an executive order aimed at limiting the flow of sensitive US personal data abroad.

KASHMIR OBSERVER \checkmark 12



ture through cameras and sensors, and can be piloted or disabled remotely. "New

data, it added. vulnerabilities" could

arise if a foreign government gained access to their systems or

"This is yet another acknowl-



scape to Paradise Are you ready for an unforgettable journey through the mesmerizing landscapes of Kashmir? **5 DAYS AND 4 NIGHTS** @5999 IN THE HEART OF KASHMIR Airport pick-up and drop-off for your convenience. **GROUP SIZE** Pahalgam, Gulmarg, Sonamarg & Local Sightseeing MINIMUM Duration: 5 days and 4 nights Contact us today to reserve your spot and embark on the adventure of a lifetime . HOTEL OCEAN 7006752598, 9419069770 WWW.HOTELOCEANSGR.COM