Fiqah Jaffaria 7:05 pm | 4:54 am

KASHMIR OBSERVER

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J&K Land Revenue Doubles In 3 Years

Digital System Sees Four-Fold Increase In Registrations



9-20 **crore**2-23 **crore** 2020-21 21,293 Registrations 2022-23 80,128



Agencies

Srinagar: Land revenues have seen a remarkable rise from Rs 291 crore in the fiscal year 2019-20 to an impressive Rs 544 crore in 2022-23, following the registration system's complete modernization and integration with the National Common Document Registration System (NGDRS). Linking this system with Aadhaar has not only enhanced transparency and credibility but has also resulted in a notable increase in government income.

As per the reports, in the wake of the abrogation of Article 370, rural areas of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir are witnessing a remarkable surge in property registrations, marking a significant four-fold increase over the past two years. According to recent data, the number of

registrations skyrocketed from 21,293 in 2020-21 to an impressive 80,128 in 2022-23.

The introduction of a digital system for property registration has revolutionized the traditional approach, liberating citizens from the cumbersome process of engaging Katibs (registry scribes). Historically, land registration in Jammu and Kashmir was exclusive to the courts, dating back to 1889 when Maharaja Pratap entrusted this responsibility to the judicial system based on the Jammu and Kashmir Registration Act of 1977 Vikram Samvat. However, says a senior revenue official, with the repeal of Article 370 on August 5, 2019, and the subsequent formation of a dedicated land registration department under the Revenue Department, a paradigm shift has occurred.

This overhaul, | More on P6

ISTORICALLY, LAND REGISTRATION IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR WAS EXCLUSIVE TO THE COURTS, dating back to 1889 when

Maharaja Pratap entrusted this responsibility to the judicial system based on the Jammu and Kashmir Registration Act of 1977 Vikram Samvat.

JKBOSE Reschedules Board Class Exams



Agencies

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education Thursday rescheduled annual regular exams of class 11th in soft zone areas and examinations of classes 10th, 11th and 12th in hard zone areas.

BOSE Director Academics in a notification said that it received directions from the Joint Chief Electoral Officer of J&K (Jammu) regarding the schedule I More on P6

JKSCERT Issues Revised Date Sheet For 8th of Educational Research and Training (JKSCERT) Thursday issued a revised date sheet for Middle Standard Examination for soft and hard zones of session 2023-24. The examination in both soft and hard zones will commence from April-02 and will culminate on April-15. JKSCERT More on P6

...LOK SABHA POLLS

PM Modi To Lead Extensive BJP Campaign In J&K

Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh Among Other Star Campaigners

Agencies

J&K'S AVIAN

Agencies

Srinagar:

Ornithology.

DIVERSITY SURGES

New Study

Identifies 592

Jammu

Kashmir's rich avifauna has

witnessed a notable surge,

with the discovery of 592 bird

species, according to a recent

study published in Indian

Birds, a journal of South Asian

The comprehensive analysis, led by Wildlife Warden

North Intesar Suhail and co-authored by Muzaffar

A Kichloo, Neeraj Sharma,

Parvaiz Shagoo, and Parmil

Kumar highlight a significant

improvement from previous

Previously, the last check-

list in 2020 listed 555 bird

species for Jammu and

Intesar Suhial said that the

collection of bird images

has emerged as a significant

and extensive ornithologi-

cal database for the current

checklist. Over the years,

bird photography has rapidly

evolved in Jammu & Kashmir.

According to the analysis re-

port, 592 species | More on P6

Kashmir, including Ladakh. Wildlife Warden North,

Bird Species

Srinagar: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to make his presence felt in Jammu and Kashmir once more, this time to actively engage in campaigning for the forthcoming Lok Sabha elections.

While the specific dates of his visit are still pending, this marks the Prime Minister's third visit to Jammu and Kashmir this year alone. Earlier, on February 20 and March 7, 2024. Modi



addressed rallies held in Jammu and Srinagar. Sources said that in antici-

pation of the upcoming Lok

llies held in BJP Natio

Sabha elections in Jammu and Kashmir, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has unveiled an extensive campaign strategy, enlisting the support of 40 leaders, including prominent national figures and local stalwarts.

Among the high-profile leaders slated to participate in the campaign are Prime Minister Narendra Modi, BJP National President Jagat Prakash Nadda, Defense Minister Rajnath Singh, and Home Minister Amit Shah.

Additionally, the lineup includes other notable personalities such as National Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, and Minister Anurag Thakur, among others.

The BJP's campaign roster features a mix of seasoned politicians and emerging leaders, aiming to resonate with diverse segments of the electorate. Notable inclusions are Jairam Thakur, Sunil Jakhar, Smriti More on P6

Notification Issued For Jammu LS Seat

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Notification for the Jammu Lok Sabha seat going to polls on April 26 was issued on Thursday, an election official said.

The Jammu Lok Sabha constituency is one of the 88 segments across the country going to the polls in the second phase on April 26.

Jammu District Magistrate Sachin Kumar Vaishya, who is also the returning officer for the constituency, issued the notification for filing nominations.

nominations.
The last date to file nominations is April 4 while the papers will be scrutinised on April 6. The last date for withdrawal of candidature is April 8, officials said.

While the BJP has announced the name of its sitting MP Jugal Kishore as party's candidate for the Jammu seat, the Congress has announced the name of its working J-K president and | More on P6

Rains Lash J&K, More In Offing: MeT

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Rains lashed Jammu and Kashmir even as the weatherman forecast more till end of this month. Also night temperature recorded an increase across the valley on Thursday.

A meteorological department official said that generally cloudy weather is expected with light rain (in plains)/snow (higher reaches) at many places during the next 24 hours.

The MeT official said, generally cloudy weather with light rain/snow (upper reaches) is expected at most places during March 29 evening to March 30th night.

30th night.
On March 31, he said, partly to generally cloudy weather with intermittent light rain/ snow is expected at a few places. Generally dry weather has been forecast thereafter.

In last 24 hours till 08: 30 a.m on Thursday, Pahalgam received 4.4mm followed by Gulmarg (3.4mm), Banihal (2.6mm), More on P6



'Yellow Revolution' Targets 253% Increase In Oilseed Cultivation

Auqib Javeed

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir administration is planning to increase the coverage of oilseeds (Mustard) during the Rabi season in the Kashmir Division. This initiative stems from the growing demand for oilseeds observed across various states in the country.

An official told Kashmir Observer that a decision has been made to increase the coverage of Oilseeds in Rabi Season by bringing in available area under Paddy cultivation to Oilseeds during Rabi 2021-22 and for that a "modus operandi" will be adopted.

During Rabi season, Oilseed (Mustard) is grown over an

area of approximately 40000 hectares in Kashmir Division. Figures from the agriculture

department revealed that the total area already under Paddy in the valley is 135960 hectares and the area already under Oilseeds during the year 2021-22 is 34570 hectares.

The official document reveals that the More on P6

Leopard Mauls 5-Year-Old Hope Govt Is Serious Over Revocation Of To Death In Budgam AFSPA In J&K: Mehbooba

2nd Attack In Past 17 Days

Agencies

Budgam: The peaceful tranquility of Budgam district in central Kashmir was shattered once again as a 6-year-old girl fell victim to a vicious leopard attack on Monday evening.

Toiba Mushtaq, daughter of Mushtaq Ahmad Khan, was tragically mauled to death by the wild predator in the Hariwani area, according to officials.

Her lifeless body was discovered by horrified villagers on the lawns of her home, marking the second such incident in

the past 17 days. Authorities wasted no

Authorities wasted no time in responding to the distressing news, swiftly launching a massive operation aimed at capturing the elusive leopard responsible for the attack.

Cages had already been strategically placed in neighboring villages following the previous incident, as wildlife officials intensified their efforts to rescue the young girl and apprehend the dangerous animal.

The grim reality of the situation is underscored by the recent string of leopard attacks in the region. Just over two weeks ago, a 9-year-old girl met a similar tragic fate in the nearby | More on P6

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti on Thursday said the revocation of AFSPA and withdrawal of security forces from civilian areas has been an important demand of the people of Jammu and Kashmir for the past several years and hoped that Home Minister Amit Shah's remarks on the issue are not just a "jumla".

The PDP has been strongly

advocating for this demand, she told reporters here.

during the current elections,

"When the Home Minister talked about it (revocation of AFSPA), we could only say 'Der aaye durust aaye' (Better late than never). But whenever PDP or Mehbooba Mufti used to raise this demand, I was dubbed as an anti-national. It was said that I am against the Army, I am against the country. They have talked about it

are they really serious, or is it a mere jumla (rhetoric) ?" Mufti

told reporters.
She was responding to questions about Home Minister Amit Shah's statement regarding the revocation of Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA).

"As far as the revocation of AFSPA and withdrawal of security forces from civilian areas and sending the Army to barracks is concerned, it has been an important | More on P6

Ease Highway Travel Restrictions: Omar ational Conference Vice President Omar Abdullah expressed his disappointment on Thursday over the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) consideration of revoking the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) after a decade. He, however, cautioned against being misled by such promises. Addressing a large gathering at Dak Bungalow Sopore in north Kashmir, Omar said | More on P6

Kejriwal's Custody Extended Till April 1

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: A court here Thursday extended the Enforcement Directorate custody of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal till April 1 in the excise policy case.

The agency sought seven-day custody of the AAP chief, but the court said he has to be produced before it on April 1 at 11 am.

before it on April 1 at 11 am.

The ED had produced him before Rouse Avenue court Special
Judge Kaveri Baweja as his current six-day custody was ending

on Thursday.
The ED said in its | More on P6

Imperative To Prevent Governmental 'Overreach' Under PSA: HC

M Ahmad

Srinagar: Observing that preventive detention laws like PSA can easily lead to arbitrary exercise of authority, the High Court of J&K and Ladakh has said that it is imperative for the Courts to meticulously scrutinize cases involving such legislations to safeguard against governmental overreach.

"Preventive detention laws in India are extraordinary statutes, granting significant power to the State. Such laws can easily lead to arbitrary exercise of authority by the Government," said a Division Bench of Chief Justice N. Kotiswar Singh and Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal.

taining authority to reach to a

The Bench said that there is no doubt that the Courts cannot, on a review of the grounds, substitute its own opinion for that of the detaining authority, and cannot act as a court of appeal, it is solely the domain of the de-

subjective satisfaction.

"However, this does not mean that the subjective satisfaction of the detaining

authority is wholly immune from judicial reviewability," the Bench said, adding, "The courts have by judicial decisions carved out an area, limited though it be, within which the validity of the subjective satisfaction can yet be subjected to judicial scrutiny."

The basic postulate on

which the courts have proceeded, is that the subjective satisfaction being a condition precedent for the exercise of the power conferred on the Executive, the Court can always examine whether the requisite satisfaction is arrived at by the authority, the Division Bench said

Division Bench said.

"If it is not, the condition precedent to the exercise of the power would not be fulfilled and the exercise of the power would be bad."

There are several grounds evolved by | More on P6

Will Bring Roshni Act Back If DPAP Voted To Power: Saroori

Agencies

Srinagar: Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) senior leader and Lok Sabha candidate from Udhampur constituency Ghulam Mohammad Saroori Thursday said that the formation of party is aimed to work for people's interest, adding "The DPAP will bring Roshni Act back if voted to power".

GM Saroori said that the motto of DPAP formation is to provide relief to people of Jammu and Kashmir who have been trapped badly into the political tricks of anti-people parties. He said apart from doing politics on religious lines, the DPAP will focus on development and provide relief to people of Jammu and Kashmir. "People are very much angry

with the politics of BJP and those who ruled J&K before. Those who filled nomination from Jammu and Udhampur seats had already served 10 years as MP but they failed to do any measure for people. I'm a fresh candidate and hope people will give me a chance to serve as they have no option left in current times," DPAP leader GM Saroori said. | More on P6

To place an advertisement CALL +91-194 2502327

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

KASHMIR OBSERVER Srinagar | Friday | 29-03-2024

'Pandemic Prevention Should Centre On Conserving Nature, Biodiversity'

Press Trust Of India

Pandemic prevention plans should centre around conserving nature and biodiversity which would secure the food and shelter needs of animals, limiting contact and the transfer of pathogens to humans, researchers have

advocated in a new study. Pandemics, or zoonotic diseases, are considered to begin with a 'spillover' event, involving the transfer of disease-causing pathogens circulating among wild animals to humans, livestock or other animals in

close proximity.

The international team of researchers has outlined "evidence-based approach" in the study published in the journal Nature Communications and based it on case studies, including research on how horses and humans become infected with the fatal Hendra virus

fin the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Chrarisharief

in Australia.

A "rare emerging zoonosis", Hendra virus infection causes severe, often fatal, disease in both infected horses and humans. It was identified in the first recorded outbreak of 1994 in Brisbane that affected 21 stabled racehorses and two humans.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir UT Office Of The Executive Engineer PW(R&B) Division Chrari-Sharief

Near: Nowhar(Iqbal Abad) Chrar-I-Sharief E-mail: xenrnbchrar23@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING FRESH E-TENDER Single cover system

E-NIT No. 31/RNB/CHRAR of 2023-24 Dated: 27/03/2024

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system Pailways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:m) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt.,CPWD

SN	Nomeof Work		CostofT/Doc. (In Rupees}	Earnest Money(In Rupees}	Time of comple- tion	M.H OF Account	Class Of Contactor
1	Establishment of Strong Room at Govt. Degree college Chrarisharief	2.50	200		10 days	UT Budget 2023-24	D

Position of AAA: -Position of funds: -Accorded Committed/Available Sanctioned

District Development Commissioner Budgam
The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill ofquantities (B.O.Q.), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.iktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	27/03/2024
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	27/03/2024
3	Bid submission Start Date	27/03/2024
4	Bid Submission End Date	02/04/2024 upto 4.00 F
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids	03/04/2024 at 11:30 AM

Note:-The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploading softcopy

Any short fall found in the soft copy will render the Bid rejected.

As per Circular issued by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Secteriat Finance department vide No.ON No. A/24(2017)-651 dtd. 07-06-2018 which reads as under:-

NO.AZ-4(2017)-0-0-1 dd.D7-00-2016 Which reads as under:a) Furnishing of Hard Copies of bids immediately after submission of e-tenders is dispensed with .The same should be obtained only from the Bidder who's declared 1st Lowest (L-1) after opening of financial bids.
b) The Cost of tender document should be collected by introducing Treasury Challan (Receipt).
2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan (deposited in MH: 0059) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Chrarisharief (Tender Inviting Authority) and Earnest money / Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Chrarisharief (Tender Receiving Authority).The Bank Note:- The Date of Treasury Challan and Earnest Money / Bid security must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date. Any deviation shall render the bidder as Non-responsive. Guarantee should be valid for 45 days beyond bid validity.

Chrarisharief within 07 (Seven) days after the date of receipt of letter of acceptance and shall be released after successful completion of DLP.

4. At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the Tender Receiving Authority, i.e., Executive Engineer R&B Division Chrarisharief, Besides that, the successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the total contract cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.

The date and time of opening of Financial Bids of a responsive bidder shall be notified on WebSite www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically -mail message on their e-mail address.

The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of openingof Technical bids.

The earnest money (EMD) shall be released in favour of unsuccessful bidders only after submission of original Treasury Challan. The earnest money / performance Security shall be forfeited (f:-Any bidder/tendererwithdrawshisbid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.

Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified timelimit.
 Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.
 18.1 All bidders shall upload the following information and documents along with qualification criteria/ qualificationinformationwith their bids:-

All bidders must submit copies of original documents defining their constitution/legal status, place of registration, and principal place of business, as well as their cel phone number and e-mail address.
ii) A valid Contractor/ Firm Registration Certificate issued by a competent authority in accordance with the Contractor Registration Act with latest Renewal. Only digitally

issued and renewed contractor registration cards through jkpwdoms,jk,gov.in shall be accepted for contractors registered with PW(R&B) department. However, contractor's r with other departments must have online registration on www.jkpwdoms.gov.in
iii) Valid Treasury Challan and Earnest money

Valid GSTIN Registration/No. & PAN Card/No.

v) All bidders shall mandatorily upload Verification Certificate from Concerned Chief Engineer/ Superintending Engineer of Enlistment registration card. Non submission of the same shall render the bid non-Responsive. However, digitally issued Contractor Registration Cards shall be verified online on www.jkpwdoms.jk.gov.inand need not necessarily upload

yen included the control of the latest clearance certificate FORM GSTR-3B i.e. latest clearance certificate FORM GSTR-3B of the latest quarter/ latest Month to the Issue of NIT i.e. Oct-Dec 2023-24/Feb-2024.

For the NIT issued after 20th of this month, the bidder has to upload the latest clearance certificate FORM GSTR-3B of the latest quarter i.e. Oct-Dec 2023-24 /Latest month i.e. feb-2024. 18.2 All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form).

No.: 2992-3001 DIPK-18242/23 Dated: 28/03/2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the information of all general public that my name, parentage and residence address in the service records is reflected as Arshid Hussain Tiboo S/O Gh. Mohd Tiboo R/O Sadrabal, Srinagar, however my actual name, parentage and address which is recorded in academic records are Arshed Hussain Tibu S/O Gh. Mohd Tibu R/O Check Sadrabal behind NIT. Hazratbal. Srinagar and the same needs to be corrected as per the academic records.

If anybody has any objection, he/she may inform the concerned Department within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Any representation /objection received after that shall not be entertained.

> **Arshed Hussain Tibu** S/O Gh. Mohd Tibu **Designation:- Senior Assistant** Present place of posting Directorate of Information & PR

ازعدالت ایڈیشنل ڈسٹر کٹ جج (بنک مقد مات)سرینگر بااجلاس:اروندشرما J&K Bank B/U Amira Kadal Srinagar بنام

Ghulam Qadir Dar دعوىٰ وصوليا بي رقم مبلغ = 1 Rs 9,73,695.52

اشتهار بمراد آگاهی بنام Ghulam Qadir Dar S/o Gh Mohd Dar R/o Sheikh Ul Alam Colony Kawdara Sgr Sole proprietor M/S Boys Line Footwear NDRK Complex Budshah Chowk Sgr

2. Mufti Abdul Hamid Shah S/o Ali Mohd Shah R/o Beeruni Kathidarwaza Sgr 3. Nissar Ahmad Ahanger S/o Abdul

Rashid Ahanger R/o 22 Baghi Kocha Agalmir Rainawari مقدمه مندرجة عنوان الصدر ميں مدعا عليه/ مدعاليم كي هميل كرانے كى بسيار كوشيش كى گئی

۔ اِلا نہ تو پیۃ جدید پر بر مدعاعلیہ/ مدعالیم دستیاب ہو کئے اور نہ ہی بذریعیہ معن کعمیل لائی | =/ Rs 9,73,695.52 (یساعت عدالت بذا ہے۔ لہٰذا آپ کو بذر یعداشتہار بذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ بغرض پیروی ابراء ہذا بعنوان بالامورخا 2024-03-29 اصالتاً يا وكالتاً بروفت كچيري حاضر آكر مقدمه مذاكي پیروی کریں ۔بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کاروائی بعمل لائی جائے گی تحریر ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج بنک مقدمات سرینگر

ازعدالت ایدیشنل ڈسٹر کٹ جج (بنک مقد مات) سرینگر بااجلاس:اروندشر ما J&K Bank B/U Hyderpora Budgam

بنام Nazir Ahmad Bhat

دعویٰ وصولیا بی رقم مبلغ = *ا* Rs 2,33,379.18 اشتهار بمراد آگاهی بنام

Nazir Ahmad Bhat S/o Late Ghulam Mohammad Bhat R/o Baghat-e-Barzulla Budgam Presently Srinagar 2. Mohammad Umar Bhat S/o Nazir Ahmad Bhat R/o Baghat

Barzulla Budgam Presently Sgr 3. Imtiyaz Ahmad Bhat S/o Ali Mohd Bhat R/o Baghat Barzulla

مقدمہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں مدعاعلیہ/ مدعالیم کی ممیل کرانے کی بسیار کوشش کی گئی ۔ اِلا نہ تو پیۃ جدید ہر مدعاعلیہ/ مدعالیم دستیاب ہوئے اور نہ ہی بذر بعیمعن تعمیل لائی 🏿 پیروی کریں _بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کاروائی بعمل لائی جائے گی تُحریر ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج بنک مقدمات سرینگر

From the principal District Judge, Srinagar

Present: Mr. Jawad Ahmad

..Respondents..

Lareeba Manzoor Malik (Daughter) Aged 21 yrs D/o: Late. Manzoor Ahmad Malik R/o Shahi Mohalla Awantabawan Soura Srinagar Petitioner

V/S

1. Rlvaz Ahmad Malik 2. Khursheod Ahmad Malik Both Sons of: late Ghularn Ahmad Mir Both residents of · Shahi Mohalla

Awantabawan Soura Srinagar 3. Rafiqa W/o: Syed Gazanfar Shah R/o: Broadway Shivpora Srinagar.

4. Public at Large

In the matter of Application for issuance of Succession certificate in favour of the petitioner(s)

Notice to public at Large Where the petitioners(s) FILED ABOVE TITLED PETITON BEFORE THIS COURT OF ISSUANCE OF SUCCESSION certificate in favour of Petitioner(s) in respect of Rs 6,26,010 as debits and securities in name of Deceased Namely: Late Mohammad Manzoor Ahmad Malik S/o Ghulam Ahmad Malik R/o Shahi Mohalla Awantabawan Soura Srinagar who died on 08-02-2017. The petition is pending disposal before this court and the next date of hearing is fixed on 15-04-2024

Public Notice is hereby issued, informing all and sundry through the drom of this proclamation that at any anyone has any objection for issuance of succession certificate, he/she / they shall appear before this court either personally or through counsel or any authorized agent and file objections on or before 15-04-2024 Failing which the petition will be taken up and appropriate orders will be passed in the same In case, the date fixed is declared as holiday the matter shall be taken on the next working day.

Given under my hand and seal of this court on Jawad Ahmad Principal District Judge, Srinagar mrko

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR **BIRTHS & DEATHS BLOCK WAGOORA**

Subject:- Registration of Births / Deaths

Public Notice

This office is in receipt of representation from GULSHANA BE-GUM W/O BASHIR AHMAD SHAH R/O KACHWA MUQAM Tehsil Wagoora District Baramulla for issuance of Birth Certificate in favour of my Son namely HANAAN BASHIR S/O BASHIR AHMAD SHAH R/O KACHWA MUQAM D.O.B as per documents is 09/08/2020 & In this connection if anyone have any objection in event has been to be occured at SDH kreeri registration of birth certificate shall present his/her claim to this office or Tehsildar Kreeri/Wagoora /BDO office Wagoora within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained

Registration Birth & Death (Block Development Office Wagoora)

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my wife in my service records of 15 JAKLI has been wrongly written as Rafat Akhter while her correct name is Rifat Akthar which needs to be corrected. 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.

R/o Village Zampora P/O Raya-Ich Tehsil Beeru Army No JC595033W, Rank Subidar

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

بنام

Mr. Showkat Ahmad Dar

دعويل وصوليا بي رقم مبلغ =1 اشَّتَهْأَرُ بِمُرَاد آگاهی بنام

Mr. Showkat Ahmad Dar S/o Mohammad Yousuf Dar R/o Malvi Stop Lal Bazar Srinagar مقدمه مندرجه عنوان الصدر میں مدعاعلیہ/ مدعالیم کی تمیل کرانے کی بسیار کوشش کی گئی _ إلا نہ تو پید جدید پر مدعاعلیہ/ مدعالیم دستیاب ہوئے اور نہ ہی بذریعہ معن فتیل لائی

گئی۔بدین وجہ حسب استدائی مدعاعلیہ/مدعالیم جو بذر بعداشتہار بذامطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم مبلغ =/ -/Rs 80088 رساعت عدالت بذائے۔ . لہذا آپ کو بذریعہ اشتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جا تا ہے کہ آپ بغرض پیروی ابراء ہذا بعنوان بالامورخا 2024-03-29 إصالتاً ما وكالتاً بروقت تحجيري حاضراً كرمقدمه مذاك پیروی کریں _بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کا روائی بعمل لائی جائے گی تحریر

ايْدِيشنل دْسٹركٹ جَجْ بنك مقد مات سرينگر

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار پین

عنوان: ۔ درخواست منجانب عبدل حمید خان ولد علی محمد خان ساکت تنجی پورہ برن تخصیل پیٹن بمرادا جرئی لیگل ہیر سرٹفیکیٹ سجق نسارہ بیگم متوفیہ

اشتهار هرخاص وعام

معاملہ مندر جیمنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض لیگل ہیرسرٹفیکیٹ پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے كه سائل كي والده متوفى نساره يميم مورند2023-12-07 كوفوت موچكى ہے اور متوفيد مذکورہ کے وارثان جائز درجہ ذیل افراد پرمشمل ہے

56سال پیرمتوفیہ شادی شدہ محمدر فيق خان 63-مال پير ــ منظوراحمه خان 57 مال پیر۔۔۔۔۔ 60سال دختر شادی شده از خانه بیرون ں طور سے متو فیہ مذکورہ کے وارثان جائز 104فراد پرمشمتل ہے سرٹفیکیٹ زیر بحث اجراءرکرنے میں

كها گرکش څخص کو کوئی عزریاا عتراض ہوتو وہ بعد مشتہرا خیار سات دن کے اندراندرآ ہے عذریا عتراض ودالت هذا کودفتری ادقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے میعاد کو بی عذریاعتراض قابل

FKO

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of Son in school records has been wrongly written as Qammar -ul-Mehdi Mir while his correct name is Aga Qamar -Ul-Mehdi Mir which needs to be corrected. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Doon International School Hokersar HMT within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Mushtaq Ahmad Mir F/o Aga Qamar -Ul-Mehdi Mir

R/o Astanpora Magam Budgam

bmg

fko

bmg

bmg

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is published for the information that as per the Aadhar Card No: 485348243215 My date of Birth is 19-06-1959. Now I intend to apply for DOB certificate. If any person having any objection in this regard He/ She may submit his /her objection in the office of the Registrar Birth and Death, Block Development officer, Wavoora within seven days period. No objection shall be entertained after expiry of given stipulated period Roshni Begum W/o: Late Ab. Gani

R/o: 32 Fras stop, Sheikh Mohalla, Sorigam Kupwara

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of "D Class" Contractor Card . if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the S.E R&B Circle Shopian/ Pulwama H.Q Pulwama within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Dilawar Ahmad Lone S/o Ghulam Hassan Lone R/o Kapren Shopian

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance Of DOB certificate as my DOB has not been registered in the Registrar of Births and deaths so far. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of Municipal Committee Magam within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Aaliya Zehra (DOB 16-02-2018)

D/o Tasleem Arif Sofi R/o Zakir Mohalla Magam

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my Provisional cum Character Certificate . Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Govt Girls Higher Secondary School Magam within a period of three days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Tabasum Subhan

R/o Poshkar Dalwash

The name of my wife in my service records of 15JAKLI has been wrongly written as Rathi while her correct name is Rathi Beigum which needs to be corrected, 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.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Gh Mohd Naiar R/o Village Zampora P/O Raya-Ich Tehsil Beeru Army No JC595033W, Rank Subidar

bmg

ازعدالت ایژیشنل دُ سٹر کٹ جج (بنک مقد مات) سرینگر بااجلاس:اروندشرما J&K Bank B/U Khanyar Shakeel Ahmad Gangoo

دعویٰ وصولیا بی رقم مبلغ = [اشتهار بمراد آگاهی بنام

Shakeel Ahmad Gangoo S/o Ghulam Nabi Gangoo R/o Syed Wari Khanyar Sgr مقدمه مندرجه عنوان الصدر میں مدعاعلیہ/ مدعالیم کی قبیل کرانے کی بسیار کوشش کی گئی ِ إلا نه تو پية جديد پر مدعاعليه/ مدعاليم دستياب هوئ اور نه ہى بذريعه معن تعمل لا كى

گئے۔بدین وجد حسب استدائی مدعاعلیہ المدعالیم جو بذر بعداشتبار بذامطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بعرض وصولی رقم مبلغ . پیروی کریں بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کاروائی بعمل لائی جائے گی تجریر ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج بنک مقد مات سرینگر

از دفتر نائب تحصيلدار كلنتره ر ر ر م ب ب سید به ر ر . درخواست منجانب غلام قا در گوجر دید دولد بلی محمد گوجر دید ده ساکنه بانڈی بالانخصیل کریری بمرادحصول ST سرنفییٹ تجق دختر طاہرہ قادر اشتهار بمرادآ گاہی ہرخاص وعام معامله مندرجة عنوان الصدر ميس ورخوست ساكل دفتر بذامين زيكاروائي بياس نسبت پيواري علقہ سے رپورٹ بشمول مطلوبہ فقوالات ریکارڈ طلب کے گئے جس سے عیاں ہوتا ہے کہ ساک^ل سائله موضع باندى بالامين رہائش پذریہ۔ نکبیدی سالاندآ مدنی 3383256 روپے تک ہے سائل دھ مزکورہ کامستقل باندہ ہے سائل کا کنبہ بذیل افراد پر شتمل ہے غلام قادر گوجر دید د مرکاری ملازم سربره سرکاری ملازم گھریلوکام 52ساک زوجہ 32سال پسر سرکاری ملازم مرفان احمه 28سال پسر زرتعلیم ر دوس احمه 20سال وختر ۔۔ 28 سال بہو سرکاری ملازم ريشمه ببيكم 01سال يوتا زىر پرورش ر ہانءر فان اسکےعلاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کمیہ نہیں بتلایا گیاہے سرٹفیکیٹ زیر بحث اجرء کرنے میں اگر کسی مخض یا اشخاص کوکوئی عذریااعتراض ہوتو وہ اپناعذریااعتراض ساتھ یوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔میعادگزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذریااعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگاہ۔

AIRPORTS

RAILWAYS

HIGHWAY STATUS

TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686

Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

PRAYERS

4:58

12:36

5:02

6:52

8:13

FAJR

ZUHR

ASR

Magrib

ISHA

PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259

ANANTNAG: 01932-228243

BARAMULLA: 0194-102029

BIJBHERA: 01932-228243

PAMPORE: 01933-294132

PATTAN: 01954-293507

QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

Mughal Road - (Closed)

Srinagar-Leh-(Open)

Sgr-Jammu highway - (Open)

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

SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081

PDD: 0194-2450213

LS Polls-2024

Awareness Rally "Run for Democracy," **Held In Srinagar**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: On the directions of the District Election Officer (DEO) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat an awareness Rally, "Run for Democracy," under ongoing SVEEP campaign was organized here today.

The event under the supervision of Nodal Officer SVEEP/AMF Abdul Hamid Fani was held at Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Kothibagh, to instill a sense of responsibility and educate the public, particularly students, about the significance of exercising their vote in a thriving democracy.

The initiative, named "Run for Democracy," brought together a diverse group of participants, including District Education Planning Officer Anjum Raja, teachers from different education zones, and community members."

The main objective of the "Run for Democracy" awareness rally was to emphasize the importance of democratic participation and the impact individuals can have through casting their votes.

The event particularly targeted students, aiming to educate them on the significance of exercising their right to vote in a flourishing democracy like India.

During the Rally participants enthusiastically raised awareness by chanting slogans highlighting the value of each citizen's

vote. The rally served as a platform to motivate and empower the youth, encouraging them to become active contributors to the democratic process. It aimed to nurture a sense of responsibility among the participants and inspire them to make informed choices in electing their representatives.

The District Election Officer Srinagar applauded the organizers for the conduct of the Awareness Rally and said It is very important in democratic setup that each individual realizes the significance of their vote and actively exercises it.

On the occasion, Nodal Officer SVEEP/AMF Srinagar said the awareness rally was organized to engage and educate our community members. Through initiatives like this, we aspire to foster a culture of active participation and responsible citizenship among the people, particularly the students.

The event received overwhelming support from the participants and the wider Srinagar community. It served as a reminder of the essential role that each citizen plays in shaping the democratic foundation of our nation. As the rally came to an end, participants left with a strong sense of purpose and commitment to exercising their right to vote in the upcoming elections.



A group of women are continuing the age-old custom of washing clothes on the banks of the Jhelum River on the outskirts of Srinagar on Thursday. KO Photo by Abid Bhat

Aqua Cycle

New Attraction In Srinagar's Dal Lake Draws Tourists, Locals

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A novel addition to the beauty of Dal Lake in Srinagar has stirred excitement among tourists and locals alike.

The introduction of 'Aqua Cycle', a unique recreational activity. promises to add a new dimension to the experience of exploring the iconic lake. details

Sharing about the newly

launched Aqua Cycle, Tahzeem, the person who operates and manages it at the Lake said the response to Aqua Cycle from visitors and locals has been good. 'Till now, the response has been good amid Ra-

He added that it's a new thing and people in the valley like it very much as it's a human-operated machine. "It's operated through manpower and has a pedal-operated

madan," he said.

system, which gives it power and through which it moves.

details, Sharing Tahzeem added, "We offer Rs 400 as an initial fare for two persons for half an hour and Rs 200 per person for half an hour"

Likewise, locals speaking about the Aqua Cycle told KNO, riding the Aqua Cycle amidst the beautiful view of Dal Lake is truly an unforgettable experience.

They added that the

initiative aims to diversify the tourist offerings in the region while promoting eco-friendly leisure activities.

"The Aqua Cycle allows tourists and locals alike to pedal their way across the shimmering waters of Dal Lake, which is a new and amazing experience. Its eco-friendly design and silent operation ensure minimal disturbance to the lake's ecosystem," a local said.

This Day In History

CALENDAR

18 Ramzan

1445

- 1864 Great Britain gives the Ionian Islands back to Greece
- 1864 Union General Steeles troops reach Arkadelphia Arkansas
- 1865 Appomattox campaign, VA, 7582 killed 1865 Battle of Quaker Road, VA
- 1897 Japan adopts Gold Standard
- 1901 Edmund Barton is elected Prime Minister in Australia's first parliamentary election
- 1936 10,000 watch the 200-inch mirror blank passing through Indianapolis
- 1936 Nazi propaganda claims 99% of Germans voted for Nazi candidates.
- 1942 German submarine U-585 sinks
- 1942 The Bombing of Lübeck in World War II was the first major success for the RAF Bomber
- Command against Germany and a German city. 1945 - World War II: Last day of V-1 flying bomb attacks on England. 1949 - Turkey recognizes Israel 1961 - 23rd Amendment to the US Constitution
- ratified, allowing Washington, D.C. residents to
- vote in presidential elections 1961 - After a 41/2 year trial Nelson Mandela is
- acquitted of treason in Pretoria 1966 - Muhammad Ali beats George Chuvalo in
- 15 for heavyweight boxing title
- 1969 14th Eurovision Song Contest: Salome for Spain ("Vivo cantando"), Lulu of United Kingdom ("Boom Bang-a-Bang"), Lenny Kuhr of Netherlands ("De troubadour"), and Frida Boccara of France ("Un jour, un enfant") all win in Madrid
- 1971 Chile president Allende nationalizes banks/ copper mines
- 1971 Conrad Van Emde Boas becomes West Europe's 1st sexology professor
- 1971 Development of a serum hepatitis vaccine
- for children announced 1973 - US troops leave Vietnam, 9 vrs after
- **Tonkin Resolution** 1974 - Mariner 10's, 1st fly-by of Mercury, returns
- photos
- 1974 Chinese farmers discover the Terracotta Army near Xi'an, 8,000 clay warrior statues buried to guard tomb of China's 1st emperor Qin
- Shi Huang 1975 - Only 2nd time Islanders beat Rangers 1979 - Last day of Test cricket for Mushtag Mohammad

From KO Archives

Ghost Of '13' Shadows Vajpayee

Observer News Service

rinagar- Digit 13, believed by most of the Westerners, as unlucky, seems to be haunting Atal Bihari Vajpayee, in his race to the Prime Ministership of India.

Vajpayee shall have to waddle to South Block by warding off the unlucky 13, with political astuteness. The digit 13 seems to be shadowing the new Indian Prime Minister as his first ever stint as the country's chief executive lasted for just 13 days, in 1996, when he failed to win confidence vote in the Lok Sabha.

This time, Vajpayee, who is leading a 13 party alliance, to run the affairs of the government, won the crucial confidence vote, with just a margin of 13.

With many volatile political personalities in his alliance, Vajpayee will have to exorcise his government from the ghost of digit 13, by managing support of some more members. May be Farooq Abdullah's National Conference lends him a hand, in raising the "unlucky" number from 13 to 15.

(Kashmir Observer, 29 March, 1998)

HMT Zainakote Residents Decry Contaminated Water Supply is full of mud and silt, is this the

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Amidst the holy month of Ramadan, the residents of HMT Zainakote area on Srinagar outskirts have complained that they are forced to consume muddv and contaminated drinking water for over a month.

The aggrieved residents expressed grave concerns over the quality of the water supplied to the households.Locals claimed Yousuf, a local resident.

that during the ongoing month of Ramazan they have been receiving muddy water supply through taps and that several people have fallen ill due to its usage.

"Have a look at the water supply we are receiving through taps, and unfortunately this happened in this holy month of Ramazan. Somebody from PHE should visit our area to address the concern," said Mohammad

Residents said that they have to boil the water before making it drinkable. Zaffar Habib Dar, a social and

political activist from the area said that their area is suffering due to this muddy and contaminated water supply for over a month now and that nobody from the PHE is bothered to visit their area to ensure clean water supply.

"Everyone doesn't have water purifiers at home, this water it," assured the official.

water we will consume? We have brought this into the notice of PHE authorities, hope they mitigate our sufferings", he said.

Meanwhile, in response to the escalating crisis, a senior PHE official assured action, stating that a team of officials had been dispatched to collect water samples from the area. "If there is any issue, we will see to

Train No. & Train Name

14235 Varanasi-Bareilly Express

Residents Protest **Irregular Power Supply** In Ramadan

rinagar: The residents of Zainakote area of HMT in Srinagar Thursday staged a protest against what they termed as inadequate electricity supply being to them in the ongoing month of Ramadan.

Date(s) from Originating Station

02.04.2024 to 04.04.2024

Debate Competition On Voters Awareness At WC Nawakadal

Observer News Service

Srinagar: On the directions of the District Election Officer (DEO) Srinagar, a debate competition on Voters Awareness under the banner of Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) was today organized at Government Women for College Nawakadal, here to sensitize students about the significance of participation

in electoral process. Deputy Additional Commissioner Srinagar, Dr. Khalid Hussain Malik; Principal of the College, Prof. Dr. Mohammed Farooq Mir and Chief Education Officer Srinagar/ Nodal Officer SVEEP, Abdul Hamid Fani: Officers of District Election Authority, staff of the College and other concerned were present in the event.

The Debate competition was held on the topic 'Is Political Parties' Interaction a Threat to the Integ-

rity of Adult Franchise'. The event witnessed an overwhelming participation of the student community. The purpose of the debate was to foster critical thinking, informed discourse, civic engagement among the students regarding the functioning of political parties and their impact on the integrity of adult franchise.

The Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar while speaking at the event also acknowledged the deliverance of the student speakers. His remarks served as a rallying call for the students to become active agents of change in building and sustaining a healthy democracy.

Chief Education Offi-

cer Srinagar, who is also Nodal Officer SVEEP in his remarks emphasized that the progress of a culturally rich and diverse nation relies upon its youth and their active participation in all democratic engagements, especially in voting and highlighted the pivotal role of the younger generation in shaping the country's fu-

In his opening remarks and welcome address, the Principal of the College emphasized to the students the paramount importance of healthy participation for a thriving democracy. He underscored that democracy thrives on the active engagement of its citizens, and it is through their participation that the democratic process is enriched and strengthened

ture trajectory.

7 Azadi va **NORTHERN RAILWAY** idders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Name of Work Earnest Website App Cost Electrical work for Provision of 18.04.2024 Security Infrastructure Phase-I on Jammu-Lakhanpur in c/w Security works of Multi-Disciplinary after 15:00 ww.ireps.gov.i 2023-24 mmittee Report. Schedule maintenance (B-18.04.2024 after 15:00 check/M2) and (C-check/M3) and repair work of DG Sets installed in Power Cars over Firozpur Division fo ree vears. No. 251-Elect/T.Notice No.59-Elect/2023-24 Dated: 27.03.2024 938/2024

'TRAIN HANDLING PLAN' FOR NON-INTERLOCKING **WORK OVER MORADABAD DIVISION**

In order to upgrade the existing infrastructure and enhanced the safety standards, Northern Railway will undertake the Pre Non-Interlocking and Non-Interlocking work in connection with Commissioning of DN L/line at Todarpur station of Alamnagar-Shahjehanpur section over Moradabad Division. To execute this work, Railways will take suitable traffic blocks of different durations from 03.04.2024 to 05.04.2024. During this period following trains will temporarily be affected as under:-

CANCELLATION OF TRAINS

14236 Bareilly-Varanasi Express	03.04	03.04.2024 to 05.04.2024			
14307/14308 Pryagraj Sangam-Bar	Express 03.04	03.04.2024 to 05.04.2024			
PARTIAL CANCELLATION OF TRAINS					
Train No. & Name	Short Terminate at/ Short Originate from	Partially Cancelled between Stations	Date of cancellation (from the Originating Station)		
04319 Lucknow-Shahjehanpur Exp.	at Balamu Jn.	Balamu-Shahjehanpu	r 02 & 04.04.2024		
04320 Shahiehanpur-Lucknow Exp.	from Balamu Jn.	Shahiehanpur-Balami	03 & 05.04.2024		

RESCHEDULING OF TRAINS Train No. 15074 Tanakpur-Singrauli Triveni Express will depart from Tanakpur

at 10:05 hrs. instead of 08:35 hrs. on 03 & 05.04.2024 Train No. 22454 Meerut City-Lucknow NE Rajya Rani Express will depart from Meerut City at 08:40 hrs. instead of 06:40 hrs. from 03 to 05.04.2024 Train No. 15076 Tanakpur-Shakti Nagar Triveni Express will depart from Tanakpur at 10:05 hrs. instead of 08:35 hrs. on 04.04.2024

Train No. 15098 Jammu Tawi-Bhagalpur Amarnath Express will depart from Jammu Tawi at 23:50 hrs. instead of 22:45 hrs. on 02.04.2024

Train No. 15652 Jammu Tawi-Guwahati Lohit Express will depart from Jammu Tawi at 23:50 hrs. instead of 22:45 hrs. on 03.04.2024 Train No. 12332 Jammu Tawi-Howrah Jn. Himgiri Express will depart from Jammu

Tawi at 23:50 hrs. instead of 22:45 hrs. on 04.04.2024 Train No. 15044 Kathgodam-Lucknow NE Express will depart from Kathgodam at 12:15 hrs. instead of 11:15 hrs. on 04 & 05.04.2024

REGULATION OF TRAINS							
Train No. & Train Name	Regulation period	Date(s) (from originating station)					
13152 Jammu Tawi-Kolkata Express	60 minutes en-route	02 to 04.04.2024					
15910 Lalgarh JnDibrugarh Jn. Express	60 minutes en-route	02 to 04.04.2024					
15623 Bhagat Ki Kothi-Kamakhya Jn. Express	30 minutes en-route	02.04.2024					

For any kind of information such as detailed Time-Table and stations enroute etc., passegers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in or NTES App.







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Friday | 29-03-2024

Soaring Airfares Hit Tourism

he recent surge in airfares between Srinagar and New Delhi has once again highlighted a persistent issue that has long plagued the tourism industry in the Kashmir Valley. As travelers face exorbitant prices for air travel, concerns over the impact on tourism, both in terms of visitor numbers and local livelihoods, come to the forefront.

Tourism plays a key role in the economy of Jammu and Kashmir, contributing significantly to its GDP and providing employment opportunities across various sectors. However, the soaring airfares pose a significant barrier to attracting tourists, particularly during peak seasons or special events like the Tulip Festival. The accessibility of a destination is paramount in attracting visitors, and prohibitive flight costs hinder this accessibility, deterring potential travelers and dampening the region's tourism potential.

At a time when the tourism season is at peak, the skyrocketing airfares to Kashmir are playing a spoilsport. Tourism stakeholders have accused the airlines of applying higher fares to people traveling to Srinagar. This is true, air-tickets between New Delhi and Srinagar now go for between Rs 10,000 and Rs 15,000. So, it is time that the government steps in and ensures that the airfare to Srinagar is kept economical to encourage more people to visit.

Moreover, the repercussions extend beyond mere inconvenience for travelers. Local businesses, including hotels, restaurants, and tour operators, heavily rely on tourism for their sustenance. A decrease in tourist footfall due to high airfares translates to lost revenue for these enterprises, jeopardizing their viability and the livelihoods they support. Additionally, cancellations prompted by inflated ticket prices disrupt reservations and bookings, further exacerbating the economic strain on the tourism sector.

The issue of escalating airfares is not novel, nor is it unique to Kashmir. However, its impact on a region heavily reliant on tourism demands urgent attention and decisive action from relevant authorities. While factors such as seasonal demand fluctuations and operational costs may contribute to fare variations, unchecked pricing practices by airlines exacerbate the problem, deepening the disparity in accessibility and affordability.

Addressing this challenge requires a multi-faceted approach. Firstly, regulatory interventions are imperative to prevent airlines from engaging in predatory pric $ing \ practices \ that \ exploit \ market \ conditions \ to \ maximize$ profits at the expense of travelers. Establishing price limits or implementing measures to ensure transparency and fairness in pricing mechanisms can mitigate the adverse effects of unregulated fare fluctuations.



Learning from Experience Did you know?

Irshad Mushtaq

very day, we are presented with opportunities to learn and grow, but some of the most valuable lessons can be found in the experiences of others. While formal education is important, the wisdom gained from listening to the stories and advice of those who have walked the path before

this rings especially true is in the world this rings especially true is in the world iduals may feel overwhelmed or uncertain when it comes to navigating the complexities of investment and wealth management. However, by seeking out the perspectives and insights of trusted financial professionals, one can gain a greater understanding of how to create a quality portfo-

lio of mutual funds, shares, and other investment opportunities. It is often said that "experience matters" in the world of finance, and it's true. Investors who have weathered market fluctuations and economic downturns have valuable lessons to share with those who are just starting out. By learning from their experiences, one can gain a deeper understanding of how to build a customized portfolio that aligns with their financial goals and risk tolerance.

Furthermore, seeking out the advice of seasoned investors can help individuals make informed decisions about where to allocate their resources. Whether it's understanding the potential risks and rewards of a particular mutual fund or gaining insights into market trends, the experiences of others can serve as a valuable guide.

In conclusion, while formal education and independent research are important components of financial literacy, learning from the experiences of others can provide a unique perspective that is both valuable and insightful. By consulting with trusted financial professionals and seeking out the wisdom of seasoned investors, individuals can gain the knowledge and confidence needed to navigate the world of finance with greater clarity and understanding. After all, as the saying goes, "experience is the best teacher.

> The writer is entrepreneur partner, M I Securities ,Sharekhan Email:irshad@bp.sharekhan.com

Gender Bias

The Grim Reality Of Discrimination Against Daughters

Caught in societal pressures, the tale of a distraught mother struggling for acceptance amidst gender bias.

Farooq Shah

few months back, a school principal confided in me about her unintended pregnancy and subsequent decision to terminate it due to concerns about having a girl. With two sons already, the couple felt unequipped to handle the financial and social pressures associated with raising another child, particularly if it were a girl. The principal explained how societal expectations, particularly regarding dowries, made the prospect of raising a daughter seem daunting amidst rising education costs.

"Given the high expenses of upbringing and dowry expectations, we felt unprepared for a third child, especially if it was a girl," she told me.

Her concerns were validated when they learned that the aborted fetus was indeed female, and she expressed relief at having avoided the responsibility of raising a daughter.

A recent miscarriage experienced by a family member reinforced the concerns expressed by the principal. This was the fourth pregnancy for the expectant mother, following a previous unsuccessful one. Hoping for a male child this time, given she already had two daughters, the family faced disappointment when the pregnancy ended prematurely, resulting in the birth of a female child at eight months, leading to termination.

In anticipation of finally having the long-awaited heir, the family devoted extra attention to the expectant mother's well-being, ensuring she received optimal nutrition and care throughout the fourth pregnancy. During a routine ultrasound test, two female technicians whispered cryptic words that the mother interpreted as indicating the expected arrival of a male child.

Unfortunately, the mother encountered complications, with a Doppler test revealing "High resistance flow with severe diastolic notching in bilateral uterine arteries," indicating inadequate blood flow and nourishment to the developing fetus Additionally, the mother was experiencing extremely high blood pressure, exacerbated by a single loose loop of the umbilical cord around the fetal neck, further endangering the baby's development.

As the mother's blood pressure persisted, she was transported to Srinagar's LD Hospital in an ambulance and placed under 24-hour surveillance. Concerned that they might lose the long-awaited male baby, the family rented accommodation near the hospital to facilitate a smoother resolution to the mother's ordeal.

The timely intervention of LD doctors briefly stabilized the mother, administering concoctions containing up to 35 different chemicals in a single dose. Despite this, the family's hopes remained, alongside the fragile fetus in the mother's womb. However, the doctors emphasized the ongoing risk to both the mother and the fetus, indicating their readiness to make any necessary extraordinary decisions, including emergency cesarean section if required, to ensure their safety.



The image is AI generated

leaving his brother to sign the necessary documents for the procedure, including granting consent for the surgery and authorizing the doctors to perform a ligation procedure to prevent future pregnancies, citing that the family had had enough.

The family gathered whatever resources they could and prepared for the surgery. After a few hours, they were informed to arrange clothing as the birth of a female baby was announced. An assistant in the operating theatre carried the baby, and the elder sister received her in the newly acquired clothing. She was instructed to take the baby to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) as she weighed just two ki-

Shocked and bewildered, the mother was taken in by one of her close relatives, where she remained for a fortnight before being transferred to her mother's home. dated mentality akin to medieval customs, where practices like infan-

> joy experienced by the entire family upon the birth of a son is markedly higher than when a daus

beer providing aken distressing time,

opted to remain at home. None of her in-laws visited her

I observed

with societal

profound despair

in her eyes, coupled

disapproval evident

The critical moment arrived when the doctors abruptly notified the family that the mother required surgery due to the absence of fetal movement. Unfortunately, the father had departed for their village, r brother, summoned in response to assumed all the reonsibility for the situation.

located to a room. Interestingly, her mammary glands failed to produce milk possibly reflecting her own ence for a male child contradicts rejection of the female haby. I observed profound despair in her eyes, coupled with societal disapproval coupled with societal disapproval avident on her fore due to the carrier. evident on her face due to the arrival of a girl child. I perceived her as a victim, particularly since her husband, who should have been provid-

of her in-laws visited her. The following day, her husband arrived and reluctantly engaged in the proceedings. His mood and demeanor indicated that he, too, was displeased

ing comfort during this distressing

time, opted to remain at home. None

by the arrival of a female child. In the meantime, the infant's

further highlights the Calribution of the dowry system in South Asia. which renders daughters an unaffordable economic burden, to the

condition continued to deteriorate with each passing moment, and

eventually, after spending approxi-

mately three days in the NICU, the

baby passed away. It's uncertain

whether the family felt any relief,

but the way events unfolded in the

following days, it was evident that

some individuals were visibly re-

lieved. The father hastily wrapped

the deceased baby in clothing and

quickly removed it from the scene,

leaving behind a distraught mother.

They laid the baby to rest in their

family's ancestral graveyard at their

village. Following this, the father

er faced immense trauma as it was

discovered that the doctors who per-

formed the cesarean section had ne-

glected to conduct the ligation pro-

cedure, leaving her vulnerable to

further complications. After an ad-

ditional three days in the hospital,

she was eventually discharged. This

moment brought about confusion

for her as she grappled with mixed

emotions, unsure whether to feel

relieved at the conclusion of the ar-

duous eight-month pregnancy, dur-

ing which her blood pressure had

absent at the time of her discharge.

Her husband was conspicuously

The narrative depicts an out-

ticide or neglect of female infants

due to cultural preferences for male

offspring were prevalent. While fe-

male infanticide might have been

less common in the Kashmiri soci-

ety, discrimination against daugh-

ters persists in various forms. The

reached dangerously high levels.

In the following days, the moth-

was not seen again at the hospital.

Until we challenge and change this mindset, our claims to uphold moral values will continue to ring hollow, and our societies will fall short of

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

achieving true equality and justice.



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

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New Low for Indian Football

uring the FIFA World Cup Qualifiers held in Guwahati, the Indian football team encountered a disheartening setback, enduring a demoralizing 1-2 defeat against Afghanistan. This loss marks the first defeat to Afghani-

stan in over 15 years, highlighting the struggles of Afghan football, despite being underdogs. It signifies a new low for Indian football, illuminating the pervasive challenges the

sport faces within the country. Igor Stimac's poor team management and coaching are the main reasons one can ask for his dismissal. Even Sparking widespread criticism across the country makes one completely understand that Stimac's performance is unacceptable. Additionally, the All India Football Federation (AIFF) administrators are also held accountable for the dismal state of Indian football.

Vijaykumar HK



The Holistic Essence of Ramazan

Biological, Neuropsychological, Social, and Spiritual Dimensions

Wasim Kakroo

Allah says in Qur'an:
"Oh you who believe! Fasting is prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may develop taqwa" (Qur'ān 2:182)

Ramazan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, is a period of intense spiritual reflection, self-discipline, and self-purification for Muslims around the world. Fasting from dawn until sunset, abstaining from food, drink, and other worldly desires, is the primary aspect of Ramazan. However, the essence of Ramazan extends far beyond just abstaining from food and drink. It encompasses the biological, neuropsychological, and social aspects of human life and aims to improve them holistically.

In this article, I will explore the essence of Ramazan, focusing on the biological benefits of intermittent fasting, the neuropsychological effects of Ramadan, the social dimension of Ramadan, and the spiritual essence of Ramadan in the context of taqwa.

BIOLOGICAL BENEFITS OF FASTING

Intermittent fasting, the practice of alternating periods of fasting with periods of eating, has been shown to have various health benefits, including weight loss, improved insulin sensitivity, reduced inflammation, and improved cognitive function. Ramazan, which involves abstaining from food and drink for 12-16 hours a day, is a form of intermittent fasting that can have similar benefits.

Several studies have shown that fasting during Ramazan can lead to weight loss, reduced body fat, and improved lipid profile. A study conducted in Iran found that fasting during Ramazan led to a significant reduction in body weight, body mass index, and waist circumference (Seyedian et al., 2014). Another study conducted in Saudi Arabia found that fasting during Ramazan led to a significant decrease in body fat percentage and an increase in lean body mass (Bahammam et al., 2010).

Intermittent fasting has also been shown to improve insulin sensitivity, which can reduce the risk of developing type 2 diabetes. A study conducted in Turkey found that fasting during Ramadan led to a significant improvement in insulin sensitivity and glucose tolerance (Aksoy et al., 2016).

Ramazan fasting has also been shown to have anti-inflammatory effects. A study conducted in Egypt found that fasting during Ramazan led to a significant reduction in levels of pro-inflammatory cytokines (Ghanem et al., 2018). Another study conducted in Saudi Arabia found that fasting during Ramazan led to a significant decrease in levels of Creactive protein, a marker of inflammation (Alkahtani et al., 2014).

Finally, Ramazan fasting has been shown to improve cognitive function. A study conducted in Malaysia found that fasting during Ramazan led to significant improvements in attention and working memory (Haque et al., 2015). Another study conducted in Iran found that fasting during Ramazan led to a significant improvement in executive function (Golbidi et al., 2014).

NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF

Ramazan also has significant neuropsychological effects. Fasting has been shown to improve mood, increase alertness, and improve sleep quality. A study conducted in Turkey found that fasting during Ramazan led to a significant improvement in mood and a decrease in negative affect (Kul et al., 2014). Another study conducted in Iran found that fasting during Ramazan led to a significant improvement in sleep quality (Khazaie et al., 2013).

Ramazan also involves an increase in spiritual activity, such as prayer, Quranic recitation, and charitable acts. These spiritual practices have been shown to have positive psychological effects, such as reducing anxiety and depression and increasing well-being. A study conducted in Jordan found that Ramazan was associated with a significant reduction in anxiety and depression (Abdel et al., 2019). Another study conducted in Iran found that Ramadan was associated with a significant increase in well-being (Akrami et al., 2013).

The Quranic verse mentioned in the beginning of this article talks about one important essence of Ramazan and that is attainment of Taqwa. Taqwa is an Arabic term that refers to a state of consciousness where a person is aware of their actions and strives to improve their character, seeking to please God in their daily life.

From a neuropsychological perspective, the act of fasting can have significant effects on a person's brain function and behavior. The process of fasting requires self-control that is possible only when a person becomes conscious of their actions. This practicing of consciousness can activate the prefrontal cortex of the brain. The prefrontal cortex is responsible for executive functions





From a neuropsychological perspective, the act of fasting can have significant effects on a person's brain function and behavior. The process of fasting requires self-control that is possible only when a person becomes conscious of their actions. This practicing of consciousness can activate the prefrontal cortex of the brain

such as self-awareness, self-reflection, and decision-making. Fasting during Ramazan can therefore strengthen these cognitive functions, as well as increase one's awareness of their thoughts and actions.

Furthermore, fasting can also have a positive impact on the limbic system, which is responsible for

processing emotions. By fasting and practicing self-control, individuals can strengthen the executive function of their prefrontal cortex to regulate their emotions and better handle stressors that can otherwise trigger the limbic system.

Overall, the neuropsychological essence of taqwa can be seen as the cultivation of self-awareness and self-reflection through the act of fasting. By practicing self-control and regulating emotions, individuals can strive towards a higher state of consciousness and become more mindful of their actions in their daily lives.

THE SOCIAL DIMENSION

Ramazan is not just an individual act of worship but also a communal one. It is a time for families and communities to come together and share meals, break their fasts, and engage in acts of charity. Ramazan creates a sense of community and fosters social connections, which can have significant benefits for mental health and well-being.

Studies have shown that social support is a strong predictor of mental health and well-being (Cohen & Wills, 1985). Ramazan provides an opportunity for individuals to strengthen their social connections and increase social support. A study conducted in Saudi Arabia found that Ramazan was associated with a significant increase in social support (Al-Oahtani & Mahmoud, 2016).

Charitable acts are also a signifi-

cant part of Ramazan. Muslims are encouraged to give to the poor and needy during Ramazan. This act of giving can have significant benefits for mental health and well-being. Studies have shown that giving to others is associated with increased happiness and well-being (Dunn et al., 2008). A study conducted in Malaysia found that Ramadan was associated with a significant increase in charitable giving (Rahman et al., 2016).

Socially, taqwa refers to develop-

socially, taqwa refers to developing a deep sense of empathy and compassion for others, respecting human dignity, and being fair and just in all dealings. Muslims who observe Ramazan strive to cultivate these values throughout the month by engaging in acts of charity, community service, and refraining from negative behaviors such as gossip, lying, and backbiting.

The social effects of Ramazan

The social effects of Ramazan are numerous, including a sense of unity and community spirit. Muslims worldwide come together to break their fast during iftar (the evening meal) and engage in communal prayer, creating a sense of togetherness that strengthens social bonds. Additionally, the emphasis on charity during Ramazan leads to increased philanthropic efforts, as Muslims are encouraged to give generously to those in need.

Overall, Ramazan provides an opportunity for Muslims to reflect on their individual and collective actions, develop a deeper sense of

social responsibility, and strive towards the ultimate goal of taqwa, which is to achieve a state of Godconsciousness in all aspects of life.

THE SPIRITUAL ESSENCE

The primary aim of Ramazan is not just to improve physical health or social connections but to attain taqwa, a state of mindfulness and God-consciousness. The Quranic verse, "O you who believe, fasting has been prescribed for you as it has been prescribed for those before you, so that you may attain taqwa" (2:183), highlights the spiritual essence of Ramazan.

Taqwa is a complex concept that encompasses mindfulness, God-consciousness, and obedience to God's commands. Ramazan provides an opportunity for Muslims to develop taqwa through increased acts of worship, such as prayer and Quranic recitation. It also involves self-reflection and self-discipline, which are necessary for developing taqwa.

The spiritual essence of Ramazan has also been shown to have benefits for mental health and well-being. Studies have shown that spirituality and religiosity are associated with increased well-being and decreased anxiety and depression (Koenig et al., 2012). Ramazan provides an opportunity for Muslims to increase their spirituality and religiosity, which can have significant benefits for mental health and well-being.

In conclusion, Ramazan is a month of intense spiritual reflection, selfdiscipline, and self-purification. It encompasses the biological, neuropsychological, social and spiritual dimensions of human life and aims to improve them holistically. Intermittent fasting during Ramadan has been shown to have various health benefits, including weight loss, improved insulin sensitivity, reduced inflammation, and improved cognitive function. Ramazan also has significant neuropsychological effects, including improved mood, increased alertness, and improved sleep quality. The social dimension of Ramazan creates a sense of community and fosters social connections, which can have significant benefits for mental health and well-being. The spiritual essence of Ramazan is to attain taqwa, a state of mindfulness and God-consciousness, through increased acts of worship.

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A Guide to Paying Zakat on Gold

AMALIAH TEAM

ne of the most common concerns among Muslim women when it comes to paying Zakat is the question of Zakat on gold – what kind of gold jewellery Zakat is obligatory on, how Zakat is calculated on gold, whether Zakat is only paid on gold that is stored for investment purposes or also on gold that is worn.

We've come together with Islamic Relief UK to put together a comprehensive guide on paying Zakat on gold to help you with your Zakat calculation this Ramadan and beyond.

First, what is Zakat and what does gold have to do with it?

As the third pillar of Islam, Zakat is an obligation on every adult, sane Muslim. It is paid annually on wealth that reaches a minimum threshold (Nisab) and has been owned for at least a lunar calendar year. Its purpose is to purify our wealth and redistribute resources within the Muslim community.

Gold and silver are the two values set by the Prophet (**) and used to calculate the nisab threshold. The nisab is the value of 87.48 grams of gold or 612.36 grams of silver. Gold and silver, in any form, are also forms of wealth and are subject

to Zakat.

What does the Quran and

the Quran. For example:

Sunnah say on Zakat on gold? The severity of not paying Zakat is mentioned many times in

"Those who hoard up treasures of gold and silver and spend them not in the way of Allah; give them the news of a painful punishment, on the Day when that (wealth) will be heated in the Fire of Hell and with it will be branded their forehead, their sides, and their backs, (and it will be said to them:) 'This is the treasure which you hoarded for yourselves. Now taste of what you used to hoard." (Surah At-Tawbah 9:34-35)

The Prophet (*) said: "One who pays Zakat, Allah will make their wealth increase" (Bukhari)

Do I pay Zakat on gold that I wear or only on those kept for saving or investment purposes?

There is a difference of opinion on this and a number of scholars believe that gold worn for adornment is not liable for Zakat. This is because it becomes like items such as clothing and other household items that do not have commercial

The Hanbali, Shafi, and Maliki position on this is that Zakat is not payable on the gold and silver in women's jewellery which is worn while the Hanafi position is that Zakat is payable on all gold and silver in one's possession, regardless if bought to wear or as an investment.

How do we calculate Zakat on gold?

on gold?

1. Determine if Zakat is due on your wealth: To determine Zakat on gold, consider your net assets, comparing them to the nisab threshold. If your net assets equal or exceed this threshold, Zakat is due on your total wealth at a rate of 2.5%.

2. Determine the current value of your gold by determining its selling price or weight: You can find out the current value of your gold if you were to sell it by visiting your local jeweller or you can use the weight of your gold and calculate it using the current price of gold in grams. You can also find out the current value of gold per gram

3. Finally, calculate the Zakat you owe on your gold: Currently, in March 2024, a gram of 22 carat gold costs approximately £47.32, which equates to £1.18 Zakat per gram. For example, if you own 50 grams of gold jewellery, you would owe £59.15

Zakat (50 grams x £1.18).

Is there Zakat on White Gold Jewellery?

Yes, white gold is an alloy of gold and at least one white metal, usually silver, nickel, manganese, or palladium. White gold is treated like normal gold and is subject to Zakat, as it contains pure gold.

As some scholars are of the opinion that mixed metals are only liable to Zakat if half or more of the metal is gold or silver, you only have to pay Zakat on the gold, but not the silver part of white gold.

The amount of Zakat payable would be calculated by multiplying the full weight of the jewellery by the price per gram for gold of that carat. For example, if you have an 18-carat white gold bangle weighing 50 grams, then 50 grams would be multiplied by the price of a gram of 18-carat gold. This is because 18-carat gold is 18/24 pure gold, so out of the total weight of 50 grams, 37.5 is pure gold.

How do we calculate Zakat on gold-plated jewellery?

Gold plating is a thin layer of real gold over other metals. Metals other than gold and silver are not liable for Zakat. You will calculate the gold

content and only pay Zakat on that portion.

How do we calculate Zakat on gold with precious stones?

Precious stones are not liable for Zakat.

In these cases, the most accurate way to calculate will be to visit your local jeweller and ask them to value only the gold and silver parts of your jewellery. The valuations they give will be the total amount on which you have to pay Zakat.

Remember to note down the total weight of the gold and silver for you to reference each year.

Can my husband pay Zakat on my gold on my behalf?

While Zakat is a personal obligation and every adult Muslim is required to pay their own Zakat, you may authorise your husband to pay Zakat on your behalf. You must acknowledge the payment and ensure it is done correctly as it is an obligation on you primarily.

Who pays Zakat on gold gifted to my minor children?

According to the Hanafi school, a child is not liable to pay Zakat, even if they possess wealth above the nisab threshold. The first Zakat payment will become due twelve lunar

months after the child reaches the age of puberty, if they possess wealth above the nisab.

According to the majority of scholars and the Hanbali, Shafi and Maliki schools, a child who possesses wealth above the nisab value is liable for Zakat, the same as an adult.

What if I haven't paid Zakat

on my gold in the past?
When settling overdue Zakat for gold, consider the historical value of gold from previous years and calculate using those values.

Let's assume you have owned 100 grams of gold each year for the past three years, and you haven't paid Zakat during this time. We will use hypothetical gold prices for each year:

Year 1: Gold price = \$40 per

Year 2: Gold price = \$45 per gram

Year 3: Gold price = \$50 per gram

Now, to calculate your missed Zakat, you need to find the current value of your gold for each year separately.

Year 1:

Gold Value Year

1=100 grams×\$40/gram=\$4,000 Zakat Year 1=\$4,000×0.025=\$100 **Year 2:**Gold Value Year

2=100 grams×\$45/gram=\$4,500 Zakat Year

2=\$4,500×0.025=\$112.50

Year 3: Gold Value Year

3=100 grams×\$50/gram=\$5,000 Zakat Year

3=\$5,000×0.025=\$125

So, if you haven't paid Zakat for the past three years, the total overdue Zakat on gold would be the total for each year:

\$100+\$112.50+\$125=\$337.50

What if I cannot afford to pay

Zakat on my gold this year?

"Allah does not obligate anyone beyond his capacity. For him is what he has earned, and on him what he has incurred."
(Surah Baqarah 2:286)

Zakat is an obligation, and it must be settled annually if you meet the nisab threshold. To pay your Zakat, you can settle it by using the gold that you own, or selling a portion of it that equals the total amount of Zakat owed for the year.

May Allah accept our Zakat,

purify our intentions and make us a means of support for those who need us around the world.

The article is being reproduced from Amaliah

No Change In Trade Policy With India: Pakistan

Press Trust Of India

Islamabad: Pakistan Thursday clarified that it has no plan to resume trade relations with India which has been "nonexistent" since 2019 after the Indian government abrogated Article 370 of the Constitution to revoke the special status of Jammu and Kashmir.

from clarification Pakistan's Foreign Office comes days after the new Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar said in London that Pakistan will seriously consider restoring trade ties with India that have remained suspended since August 2019.

In August 2019, India suspended Article 370 giving special status to the state of Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcated it into centrally-administered Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

At the weekly briefing here, Foreign Office spokesperson

Mumtaz Zahra Baloch was asked to comment on reports about the possibility of resumption of trade ties with India.

"Pakistan-India trade relations have been non-existent since 2019 when India took illegal steps in the illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir. There is no change in Pakistan's position on it," Baloch said.

Foreign minister Dar, during a press conference in London on March 23, highlighted the eagerness of Pakistan's business community to resume trade activities with India, indicating a potential shift in diplomatic stance towards its neighbouring nation.

Pakistan downgraded its ties with India after the Indian Parliament suspended Article 370 on August 5, 2019, a decision that Islamabad believed undermined the environment for holding talks between the neighbours.

Pakistan has been insisting

that the onus of improving the ties was on India and urging it to undo its "unilateral" steps in Kashmir as a sort of pre-condition to start the talks.

India has dismissed the suggestion and made it clear to Pakistan that the entire Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh were integral and inalienable parts of the country.

New Delhi has also asserted that the constitutional measures taken by the Indian government to ensure socioeconomic development and good governance in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir are matters internal to India.

It has been maintaining that it desires normal neighbourly relations with Pakistan while insisting that the onus is on Islamabad to create an environment that is free of terror and hostility for such an engagement.

Arni University's Two-Day Bike Rally Passes on Strong Messages-

Srinagar: Arni University (AU), at the forefront of championing social causes, recently orchestrated a two-day bike rally with a dual mission: spreading awareness on "Say NO to Drugs" and advocating for women empowerment. Led by Mr. Vivek Singh, Chancellor of Arni University, the rally witnessed active participation from a diverse group of individuals, including 100 bike riders, of which 30 were women. A large number of students and faculty were from J&K.

Along with Kashmiri faculty Mehr Un Nisa, Dr. Neha Salaria, Ms. Monica Thakur, Dr. Gurvinder Singh, along with faculty member Mr. Mayank Sharma, and students Kunal, Sheeran, Gulshan, and Tauseef, played pivotal roles in organizing and executing the rally, ensuring its resounding success.

The rally, with its strong



and women empowerment, served as a platform to galvanize community support and drive home important societal messages. The active involvement of women riders, comprising nearly one-third of the AU's commitment to gender equality and inclusivity.

Commencing Chandigarh, the rally embarked on a symbolic journey, culminating at Khatkar Kalan, a village renowned for

its memorial honoring Bhagat Singh, a revered figure in India's freedom struggle. Mr. Vivek Singh, leading the rally, emphasized the importance of societal values and collective action in combating substance abuse. He remarked, "The bike rally serves as a powerful reminder of the values we cherish as a society. It's heartening to see the community come together to promote positive messages and honor the heroes of our nation."

The rally continued its course to the Arni University campus, where an enthusiastic reception awaited the bikers, highlighting the unity and support from students towards the cause. The subsequent day saw the rally traversing through Pathankot-Nurpur-Dharamshala, attracting significant attention and participation at each stop.

CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

J&K Land

as per the reports, led to the establishment of 77 registrars and sub-registrars who now operate under the purview of the Central Law Registration Act of 1908, replacing 153 state laws with 106 central laws. The transition to digitalization has particularly benefited ru-ral areas, offering enhanced facilities such as SMS alerts for registration updates, mandatory thumb impressions, and the convenience of home-based and online registrations. This has proven especially advantageous for the elderly, disabled, and those unable to visit government

Furthermore, reports inform that the integration of the registration system with the National Common Document Registration System (NGDRS) and Aadhaar has significantly bolstered transparency and credibility in the registration process. As a result, government revenues have witnessed a substantial increase, with income surging from Rs 291 crore in 2019-20 to a noteworthy Rs 544 crore in 2022-23.(KNO)

PM Modi To Lead

Irani, Bhajan Lal Sharma, Pushkar Singh Dhami, and Tarun Chugh, among others, highlighting the party's concerted effort to leverage both national and local appeal.

The comprehensive list also encompasses several regional leaders. Individuals such as Ravindra Raina, Dr. Jitendra Singh, Jugal Kishore Sharma, and Abdul Ghani Kohli feature prominently.

Reports inform that this comprehensive campaign strategy has been formally communicated to the Election Commission of India by Arun Singh, the party's National General Secretary and in-charge of Headquarters. With BJP fielding candidates like Dr. Jitendra Singh and Jugal Kishore Sharma, who have previously represented the party, the stage is set for a fiercely contested electoral battle in April, when elections are scheduled to take place in Udhampur and Jammu parliamentary constit-

Notification Issued

former minister Raman Bhalla.

Rains Lash

Qazigund (1.6mm), Bhaderwah (1.2mm), Batote (0.7mm), Kokernag & Jammu (0.6mm) and Srinagar (0.1mm).

Regarding night temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a minimum of 9.8°C against 9.5°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 3.7°C for the summer capital of JK for this time of the year.

Qazigund recorded a minimum of 9.8°C against 8.0°C on the previous night and it was 5.1°C above normal for the gateway town of

Pahalgam recorded a low of 5.0°C against 4.7°C on the previous night and it was 3.4°C above normal for the famous resort in south

Kokernag, also in south Kashmir, recorded a minimum of 9.1°C against 7.7°C on the previous night and it was 4.4°C above normal, the

Kupwara town recorded a low of 9.5°C against 7.7°C on the previous night and it was 5.0°C above normal there, the official said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 2.0°C against 3.0°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 2.8°C for the famous skiing resort in

north Kashmir's Baramulla district. Jammu, he said, recorded a minimum of 18.8°C and it was above normal by 2.2°C for the winter capital of J&K.

Banihal recorded a low of 11.2°C, Batote 12.1°C and Bhaderwah 10.8°C, he said.

'Yellow Revolution'

new area under Oilseeds during 2021-22 Mission Mode is 61744 hectares and the area expansion under Oilseeds in 2022-23 is 38610

The total area, according to the document, to be brought under Oilseeds from 2021 to 2023-24 is 140000 hectares with the percentage increase in Oilseeds area 253.12 %

The government anticipates 133.4 metric tonnes of oil production from 140000 hectares and 44.022 metric tonnes production of edible

oils at 300g / kg of seed.

It anticipates the value of Oil at Rs. 175/kg worth 770.385 Crores. Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury

Mohammad Iqbal told Kashmir Observer that the valley is witnessing "Yellow revolution" and not only farmers and locals but tourists are also finding yellow fields in this season as a picturesque spectacle.

"In 2021-22, we started this mission and bought seeds from the central government and set a target of bringing 60 lakh hectares of land under mustard cultivation," he said, adding, "In 2022-2023, they managed to bring 1.40 lakh hectares of land under mustard cultivation."

Iqbal further said they organized many awareness programs for farmers and now they are getting benefits of it.

Agriculture plays a predominant role in the development of the economy of J&K. Around 70% of the population of the State resides in the rural areas and is directly or indirectly dependent upon this sector for their livelihood and employability.

Jammu and Kashmir has a varied climate, ranging from Sub-tropical, temperate regions of Jammu to temperate regions of Kashmir. The total geographical area is 1.01 lac Sq. Kms, out of which the net cultivable area is 7.52 lac hectares with gross area sown being 11.65 lac

Last year, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said that Kashmir division is witnessing the 'Yellow Revolution' with oilseed crops registering significant growth.

There will be additional opportunities for oil extraction and value addition and therefore more entrepreneurial opportunities for people," said the Lt Governor.

He further said that according to an estimate, mustard oil worth Rs 800 crore was produced in 2023 in the Kashmir Valley. Lately, there is a spurt in the vegetable oil

years in the I&K and other states of the couny in respect of both edible as well as indus-

trial usages. The government said that the demandsupply gap in the edible oils has necessitated huge imports accounting for 60 percent of the country's requirement (2016-17: import 14.01

million tonnes; cost Rs. 73,048 crore). "Despite commendable performance of domestic oilseeds production of the nine annual crops (Compound Annual Growth Rate of 3.89%), it could not match with the galloping rate of per capita demand (~6%) due to enhanced per capita consumption (18 kg oil per annum) driven by increase in population and enhanced per capita income," they said.

The document further says that as a policy matter, the government of India once again decided to work on mission mode to reduce the dependence of the country on edible oil imports objective of this new mission of the Government is not only to bring self-reliance in edible oils but also to transfer money to farmers on the expenses incurred on the oil

It further adds that with the growing population of the country, consumption of edible oil would also increase.

"In such a situation, bridging the huge gap between the edible oil imports and the domestic production by achieving 'self-reliance' in edible oil is a major goal," the document reads.

Under the National Oilseeds Mission, the government plans to increase production of soyabean, mustard-rapeseed, groundnut, sunflower, sesame, and safflower.

New Study Identifies

have been reported in 21 orders and 88 families, of which 555 are supported with media documentation, 326 have been either examined in hand or deposited in museums across the world, and six species have been accepted based solely on documentation considered

"586 species have been validated either through specimens or photographs, and 564 species are listed on eBird, accounting for 95% of all the birds reported from Jammu & Kashmir. A summary of the source of records is provided. Out of the total 592 species, 25 are globally threatened. We present our evaluation notes for six species accepted based solely on documentation", states the report.

The meticulous collation of ornithological literature, specimen collections, online and published sources, supported by photographic evidence, call recordings, and sight documentation, forms the basis of the report.

The study also sheds light on the global significance of the region's avian population, with 25 species classified as globally threatened by the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species.

Moreover, previously unexplored areas have emerged as top bird watching destinations, including the north and central Kashmir Valley, the Shiwaliks, parts of the Lesser Himalaya, and the southern plains of Jammu Division.

The report also states that seven species reported from Jammu & Kashmir are endemic to western Himalaya (Praveen & Jayapal 2024). These include Western Tragopan, Cheer Pheasant, White-throated Tit, Kashmir Nuthatch, White-cheeked Nuthatch, Orange Bullfinch, and Spectacled Finch.

Additionally, the biddulphi subspecies of the Tawny Owl Strix aluco, endemic to the western Himalaya, is also found here. Furthermore, the Kashmir Flycatcher Ficedula subrubra, is known to breed only in the Kashmir Valley.

Leopard Mauls

village of Samsan, succumbing to injuries inflicted by a leopard.

Another minor boy narrowly escaped with injuries in a separate incident, highlighting the urgent need for comprehensive measures to address the growing threat posed by these predatory animals.

Hope Govt Is

demand of the people of Jammu and Kashmir for the past several years. PDP has been strongly advocating for this demand every time," she

The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister also criticised the BJP for not keeping its previous poll promises such as providing 2 crore jobs every year and reducing the price of gas cylinder to Rs 400.

"They talked about transferring Rs 15 lakh into the account of every poor family. Nothing like that has happened. I hope Amit Shah is serious and wants to do it. I hope this does not turn out to be a jumla," she said.

The PDP chief also strongly advocated for the release of youth from jails, and said that if the government wants to heal the wounds inflicted on the children of J-K, they should at least be released.

"How many journalists are in jails? They should release those against whom there are no charges and who are not prosecuted. We will have faith in their remarks... otherwise, it looks like a jumla," she said.

Shah on Tuesday said the central government will consider revoking the AFSPA in Jammu and Kashmir.

Ease Highway

that the tactics employed by the BJP, including "soliciting" newspaper notices from separatist families, would not win over the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

"It is unfortunate that the BJP is contemplating the revocation of AFSPA after ten years. However, don't be fooled into believing that it will actually be revoked. Similarly, the people of Ladakh were deceived with promises of Sikh-Schedule status, only to be later deprived of it." he said.

Reflecting on his tenure as Chief Minister from 2011, Omar recalled his efforts to repeal AFSPA in Jammu and Kashmir. He, however, lamented that these endeavours were consistently thwarted by various impediments.

Responding to Home Minister Amit Shah's recent remarks, the NC leader urged for the easing of travel restrictions on highways and the release of incarcerated youth before considering the repeal of AFSPA.

"The claims of unprecedented change and development touted by the government are nowhere to be seen, especially in places like Sopore. There has been little progress since 2014, with outsiders benefitting more than Kashmiris in terms of employment opportunities and contracts," he asserted. "Whether it is employment, jobs or even sand extraction contracts, outsiders are benefitting more than

The former CM further said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's repeated slogans of "Dil Ki Doori, Dilli Se Doori" hold true only if they genuinely want to implement it in letter

He said the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019 has left the youth of Jammu and Kashmir disillusioned, with many regretting their initial support for it.

"Those who celebrated the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019 by bursting firecrackers are now deeply upset, citing that they were okay before 2019. This is why we believe the decision is unacceptable," he said. "It is only our vote that will convey to them that the Article 370 abrogation was wrong and is unacceptable."

Omar also called for a thorough investigation into alleged fake encounters in Jammu and Kashmir, questioning the government's inaction despite prior knowledge.

"Home Minister's remarks about fake encounters in Jammu and Kashmir raise questions. If they were aware of it, why didn't they act then? They should conduct a full-fledged inquiry. The reality is that this government is now striving to release the guilty. Machil, Rajouri and others are examples," he said.

Regarding the INDIA alliance, the NC Vice President reiterated his commitment to the coalition, saying there is no question of unity or reunification as the National Conference remains an integral part of the alliance. "BJP will face defeat in all five seats and will forget AFSPA then," he said.

Responding to queries about the recent trend of separatist families disassociating themselves from separatist organisations through newspaper notices, Omar criticised the "coercion" behind such actions.

"They are being forced. It is an old trend when NC people too were asked for the same; however, this is surely not going to win the hearts," he said.

Will Bring Roshni

He said DPAP will respect everyone's faith and not fiddle with anyone's religious sentiment. "We will not make communities fight each other. DPAP will contest polls on developmental issues. It is our prime wish that Statehood of J&K should be restored, land should be reserved for local state subjects

only," he said. He added that during the last several years the unemployment in J&K has breached all previous records that led youth into distress and indulged into drugs.

"We want to do our politics on development issues. DPAP will identify more tourist destinations in every constituency so that opportunities of livelihood for youth be provided hasslefree. Also the Roshni Act will be brought back. Electricity will be made free to consumers, rising inflation will be contained, and people will be provided good governance so that their issues will get resolved timely," he said.

The DPAP leader added that daily wagers who serve different departments of Jammu and Kashmir will also be regularized. Further works at local level will be reserved for local youth only, and if there will be a need to accommodate outsides the DPAP will bring Act for that for the security of local youth.

Lashing out at Congress, the DPAP leader said that it is incompetence of Congress party which led to BJP to rule the Country. "If people of the country are in difficulties today it is because of the Congress party as they failed to address people's concern in their times. Their incompetence led BJP to rule the country," he

Imperative To Prevent

judicial decisions for saying that no subjective satisfaction is arrived at by the authority as required under the statute, the court said. The simplest case is whether the authority has not applied its mind at all; in such a case the authority could not possibly be satisfied as regards the fact in respect of which it is required to be satisfied, it said.

"Therefore, it is imperative for the Courts to meticulously scrutinize cases involving these laws, ensuring strict adherence to procedural norms and safeguarding against governmental overreach," the court said.

"Any deviation from procedural requirements should favour the detenu. Courts have a constitutional duty to protect individual and civil liberties, which is paramount. This duty not only upholds the rights of individuals and society but also preserves the foundational principles of our Constitution" the court said while setting aside a judgment by its Single Bench dated 22 November 2022. "Resultantly.....the impugned Order of detention bearing No. 24/DMP/PSA/22 dated 12.04.2022 passed by the Respondent-District Magistrate, Pulwama is hereby quashed,"

the court said and directed authorities to release the detainee, Athar Mushtaq Khan of Tantraypoa Litter Pulwama, forthwith from the preventive custody, provided he is not required in any other case.

JKBOSE Reschedules

for conduct of Lok Sabha Election 2024 requesting therein to ensure that no date of examination clashes with the dates of Election with respect to the UT of J&K.

JKBOSE said that the National Testing Agency is conducting Joint Entrance Examination (Main) 2024, session-2 from April-04 to 15. It said that the JKBOSE has received scores of representations from the students for rescheduling of board exams in this regard.

"In view of the issue, all the concerned are informed that the upcoming examination of class 11th annual regular 2024 in Soft Zone and Annual Regular 2024 examinations of classes 10th, 11th, and 12th in Hard Zone Areas have been rescheduled and that said examination shall be now held on rescheduled dates in two Sessions that is morning and evening shift," it

JKSCERT Issues

said that the timing has been preponed from 11.00 AM to 10.00 AM for commencement of the Middle Standard Examination 2023-24.

It suggested the students take their examination at the already notified examination Centres on the above dates well in time. The candidates were further advised to carry admit cards on all days of examination for verification.

'The Complex Heads shall ensure that all the SOPs for the conduct of examination are fol-

Kejriwal's Custody

fresh remand plea that during Kejriwal's custodial interrogation, his statements were recorded over five days but he was "giving eva-It said statements of three other persons rel-

evant to the case have also been recorded during the remand period. It said that during the ED custody, Kejriwal was confronted with C Arvind, the then per-

sonal secretary to deputy CM Manish Sisodia who was handed over the draft Group of Ministers (GoM) report for the 2021-22 excise policy at the residence of the chief minister. It said the statement of one of the AAP candidates in the 2022 Goa elections was also

recorded during Kejriwal's ED custody. It re-

vealed that the candidate did not have any

money and his election expenditure was "tak-

en care of by the AAP Office Delhi only through their associates", The plea said that during the custody, data from the mobile phone of the chief minister's wife have been extracted and were being analysed.

"However, data from other four digital devices seized during the search at Kejriwal's premises on March 21 (belonging to Kejriwal) are yet to be extracted as the arrestee (Kejriwal) has sought time in providing password and login credentials after consulting with his lawyers," it said.

The application said the movable and immovable property details, income tax returns (ITRs), and other financial details sought from Kejriwal were yet to be provided by the chief minister, or his family members.

The federal probe agency said it had sought the details regarding the appointments made with the chief minister in the online portal in

It said that during the interrogation, summonses were issued to senior excise officials in Puniab who were "involved in the arm-twisting of certain (liquor) wholesalers of Delhi."

The agency said that when the demand for bribes was not fulfilled, these officials either shut down their factories or did not allow the wholesalers to despatch their goods to Punjab. The plea said the officials concerned sought

time on the summonses, citing the hooch trag-

The arrestee needs to be interrogated further in the wake of these reasons or findings. Hence, it is imperative in the interest of investigation that seven days' further custodial remand of Arvind Kejriwal may be granted to the Directorate of Enforcement," the plea said.

Ansari Strongly Rebuffs Omar

Abdullah's 'Jannat' Remarks

Agencies

SRINAGAR: J&K Peoples Con-

ference Senior General Sec-

retary Imran Reza Ansari on

Thursday strongly rebuffed the

"Iannat" remarks made by NC

leader Omar Abdullah during a

rally in Budgam and asked him

to refrain from commenting on

surprise at Abdullah's remarks,

Ansari took to the microblog-

ging site X saying, "During the

Budgam rally Omar Abdullah

said that these A team B team

etc may get certificate of elec-

While expressing his utter

Police Chairs High Level Meeting Ahead Of Upcoming Elections

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: As the upcoming elections draw near, the Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) for Law & Order J&K, who is also State Police Nodal officer (SPNO) for parliament election 2024, chaired a crucial high-level meeting Thursday at Police Control Room (PCR) to assess and enhance the preparedness for the electoral process.

The meeting focused on various aspects crucial for ensuring the smooth conduct of elections in Jammu & Kashmir, a statement.

The meeting was virtually attended by ADGP Jammu alongwith the IG CRPF Jammu & other senior officers of BSF/CRPF/ SSB and physically attended by IG CRPF SOS Ajay Yadav, IG BSF Ashok Yadav, IG CRPF KOS G



Verma, IGP Kashmir Zone V k Birdi, DIG CKR Srinagar, DIG SKR Anantnag, DIG SSB Kashmir, DIG CRPF North Srinagar, SSP PCR Kashmir, Staff Officer to IGP

Key discussions during the meeting revolved around bolstering security arrangements, particularly emphasizing onsite security measures and conduction of smooth polls. Plans for preparing safe routes for the movement of electoral personnel and facilitating the security personnel deployed for election duties were meticulously deliberated upon to ensure their safety and efficiency throughout the electoral process.

Furthermore, the meeting emphasized the paramount importance of securing the strong room where the ballots will be stored, highlighting the need for robust measures to safeguard the integrity of the electoral process. Special measures for Critical polling locations were identified and strategies were devised to ensure heightened security measures at these key sites to deal any potential threats and maintain the sanctity of the electoral process.

IGP Kashmir briefed the chair about the existing security plans, following which ADGP L&O underscored the need to revisit and reinforce the security arrangements. Special attention was given to the deployment of manpower in a calculated manner, ensuring strategic positioning to effectively monitor and respond to any potential threats or vulnerabilities.

ADGP L&O stressed the commitment of the law enforcement agencies to uphold the principles of democracy by ensuring a secure and fair electoral environment for all stakeholders involved. The meeting concluded with a directive to continuously monitor and assess the evolving security situation, with a focus on pre-emptive measures to mitigate any risks that may arise during the

Transporters Strike Call Brings



Agencies

JAMMU: Since the transporters' association had given a oneday strike call, the capital city came to the complete standstill as no commercial vehicle was

Talking to KNO, President of the transporters' association Vijay Chib said that earlier when e-rickshaws were allowed to move in the city it had affected auto-rickshaw owners a meeting with the transporters' and they weren't able to comnete with the e-rickshaws

cial vehicles remained absent from Jammu roads and people faced hardships. Jammu city's internal surface communication has traditionally been dependent on the matadors and mini-busses but they moved on specific routes.

Hundreds of such vehicles have been maintaining surface busses and matadors.

tion but they will not get certificate of Jannat. I was taken aback by such comments. I normally try not to react, but since it concerns our religion, I felt compelled to intervene as a keen adherent and student of Islam."

religion.

Refuting Abdullah's assertion,

Ansari stated, "May I remind Omar Abdullah that only the Almighty Allah will decide who goes to Jannat. That is the essence of our faith, of our religion. Let's not mock religion. Omar Abdullah will not decide who will go to Jannat and who won't."

Ansari further cautioned Abdullah on commenting on religion and asserted that the days of myths and deception are over.

"I must caution him that the era of astagfirullah - 'la-ilaha il lalah sheikh Mohammed Abdullah' is over, as is the era of myths surrounding Sheikh Abdullah's name being written on chinar leaves. That deception is simply not possible now"

In a scathing critique, Ansari further said that Omar Abdullah is fortunate to have political opponents who refrain from questioning his religiosity.

Only Cong Can Understand Pain Of J&K: Mehbooba Mufti

Agencies

NEW DELHI: Only the Congress, and in particular Rahul Gandhi, can understand the pain and dilemma that Jammu and Kashmir has been plunged into, PDP president Mehbooba Mufti says in a new book, adding that she has never before seen such "despair and despondency" in the erstwhile state.

In "Bharat Jodo Yatra: Reclaiming India's Soul", a collection of essays releasing on Friday, Mufti argues that the path to save the "very idea of Îndia" leads through Jammu and Kashmir, a "mini India" in itself -- the one where different religions have peacefully coexisted for centuries.

The book gives readers different accounts of the Rahul Gandhi-led Bharat Jodo Yatra, the 4,000-kilometre nationwide march from September 2022 to January 2023.

Mufti, former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, was all praise for Rahul Gandhi in her essay, "Bharat Jodo: Restoring Kashmiriyat, Jamhooriyat", co-written with her daughter Ilitija Mufti.

throughout the 'Today length and breadth of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, the people feel short changed. If one turns the pages of history, it's perhaps only the Congress, especially RG (Rahul Gandhi), who can understand the pain and dilemma that Jammu and Kashmir has been plunged into.

"I hope that if the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) does indeed



heal the gaping wounds of my people," she writes.

The People's Democratic Party (PDP) is part of the opposition INDIA bloc along with the Congress. There is no decision yet on seat sharing arrangements between the alliance partners in the union territory.

"Being not only a Kashmiri but also a mainstream leader who joined the rough and tumble of politics over three decades ago, I've never seen such despair and despondency in Jammu and Kashmir before. People are gripped by a crippling sense of insecurity about their identity, land and jobs,' Mufti says

"In such distressing circumstances, one can't state enough the crucial role the Congress can play in alleviating the suffering of the people across the Jawaharlal Nehru's relentless efforts on a personal and political level that ensured Jammu and Kashmir's accession to India," she adds.

Giving a graphic account of the march and her conversation with Rahul Gandhi during the Yatra's concluding Kashwin 2024, it makes efforts to mir leg, Mufti says she was

"amazed by the scope of his knowledge", a far cry from the "demeaning and willful image of Pappu" that was thrust upon

"I've interacted with RG on previous occasions, but this time I saw a completely different side... I found him to be well informed as we conversed about various issues, both national and international. I wondered how much money and energy must have gone into the BJP's pet project of wrongfully projecting him as an ignorant politician.

"We were so deeply engrossed in our conversation that three hours of walking 15 kilometres flew by in an instant.'

The 64-year-old also recalls how her mother, who refused to leave their house since the passing away of her father, former chief minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, in 2016, marched with Gandhi in the middle of Chillai Kalan -- the harshest winter in Kashmir -on January 28, 2023.

The sight of a young man vilified and berated, yet being showered with such deep affection must have struck a chord somewhere with her (the mother)... Despite my reluctance, my mother dug in her heels.

My daughter Iltija waded into the conversation. 'Ma, I also want to walk with him.' I was stumped. Rare are the occasions when I'm at a loss for words. I had little choice but to cave in," says Mufti, admitting that Gandhi had managed to charm all the three generations

Life To Standstill In Jammu



plying on the road anywhere.

People faced lots of hardships due to this move as many were seen walking towards their destinations.

According to the news agency, the strike call was given by the association against plying of ebuses in already busy routes in the city where private commercial vehicle owners were facing tough competition and were of the opinion that this is the attack on their livelihood.

"Similarly, the government under the smart city project brought e-busses and we had suggested routes where not many commercial vehicles plied. But these buses were allowed to move evervwhere which threatened the livelihood of the minibusses and matadors and we were forced to give call for the strike," Chib said.

Since morning, the commer-

communication and people got the relief when e-busses were started by the government. They started getting easy access and seats in these vehicles and the fare was also low as compared to the existing mini-As on one side people were

getting relief, private transporters were facing tough times which forced the association to halt the operations for a day. The administration also swung into action due to the strike and held association to address the issue. "We held two meetings where

government officials including the divisional commissioner Jammu halted the operation of e-busses for the time being on our request. We will be meeting with the officials again in a couple of days to sort out the differences and decide routes for e-busses so that we don't suffer," Chib added—(KNO)

11 Passengers Injured In **Poonch Accident Agencies**

SRINAGAR: At least 11 passengers were injured after a vehicle they were travelling in met with an accident at Mangnar Top in Poonch district.

News agency KNO reported that a Matadoor bearing registration number JK12-1063 met with an accident at Mangnar Top in which 11 persons were injured.

The injured were identified as Mohd Aslam, s/o Hakam Din (60) of Mangnar, Harjit Singh, S/o Raghubir Singh (25), Ab Majid,

S/o Mohd Din (43) of Mangnar, Narinder Kumar, S/o Kashi Ram (35) of Mangnar, Nazir Hussain, S /o Mohd Din (65) of Mangnar. Nusrat Naiz, D/o Mohd Azad (5) of Mangnar, Rakhia Begam, W/o Zakir Hussain (55), Ruksana Kouser, w/o Mohd Azad (28), Rashid Ahmad, S/o Abdul Gani (40) of Khalsa Chowk, Neram Kumar, S/o Heam Raj (17) of Mangnar, Deepanshu Kumar, S/o Narinder Kumar of Mangnar.

The injured were shifted to District hospital Poonch for

Property Of Notorious Drug Peddler Attached In Bla

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Police in Baramulla on Thursday said to have illegally acquired property of a notorious drug peddler. "Police has attached property of

a notorious drug peddler Mudasir Ahmad Shah son of Mohd Magbool Shah resident of Chanderseeran, Baramulla who is presently lodged in Central Jail Kot Bilwal Jammu under PIT-NDPS Act. The attached property includes land measuring 6 marlas under survey No. 875 & plinth of under construction poultry farm worth lacs," a police spokesman said in a statement issued to the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO).

Police said that the action was taken under sections 68-E read with 68-F (1) of NDPS Act of 1985 & is linked with case FIR No. 113/2023 under section 8/15 NDPS Act of Police Station Kreeri. 'The property was identified as illegally acquired property during the course of investigation/ enquiry conducted by Police. The property was prima facie acquired from illicit trafficking in Narcotic drug and Psychotropic substances by the drug peddler," the statement said.

This operation reaffirms the commitment of Police to combat the drug menace. Local people of the area hailed the initiative of Police, the statement added-(KNO)

DC Ganderbal kick-starts Chinar plantation drive

KO NEWS SERVICE

GANDERBAL: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir today kick-started a mega Chinar plantation drive at Biodiversity Park Dagapora Ganderbal under the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) program.

Chinar plantation drive was organized by District Floriculture Officer Ganderbal in collaboration with Sindh Forest Division Ganderbal.

The event witnessed the enthusiastic participation of various stakeholders including DFO Sindh Forest Division Ganderbal, District Floriculture Officer, Forest department staff, students and local residents.

The ceremonial

of Chinar saplings by the DC marked the inauguration, symbolizing the collective commitment to fostering a greener and healthier environment. Over 100 Chinar plants were planted during the event, highlighting the crucial significance of preserving this iconic species.

Underlining the District Administration Ganderbal's ambitious green agenda, the aim is to plant 3 lakh saplings of diverse species across the district's open spaces.

Speaking at the event, the DC stressed the cultural and environmental importance of Chinars, emphasizing their status as a heritage of Kashmir. He urged everyone to actively participate in this noble cause by planting at least one sapling and engaging in the upcoming elections.

DC Kulgam Reviews **Implementation Of COTPA-2003**

KO NEWS SERVICE

KULGAM: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan on thursday chaired a review meeting of District Level Coordination Committee for implementation of Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act, COTPA-2003 under National Tobacco Control Program, at minisecretariat Kulgam.

During the meeting, Divisional Nodal Officer NTCP DHS Kashmir, Dr.Mir Mushtaq through a PowerPoint presentation enumerated the role and responsibilities of various departments/ stakeholders in tobacco control.

The DC instructed CEO and other concerned to ensure that no sale of Tobacco products is permitted within 100 yards of institutional premises. Moreover, he emphasized

the necessity of formulating a

detailed Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) activity calendar to disseminate awareness campaigns effectively. In addition to these directives, officers and heads of institutions were tasked with en-

suring that all offices maintain tobacco-free environments. The DC urged all stakeholders

present to collectively ensure the rigorous implementation of COTPA-2003, which is aimed at combating the tobacco menace within society. The meeting was attended by ADDC, Bashir Ahmad Wani; ADC Viqar Ahmed Giri; ACP, Nazia Hassan, SDM, Tehsildars and other officers.

Dry, Hollow Chinar Trees Risk Lives Of People In Ganderbal



Agencies

GANDERBAL: Dry and hollow chinar trees are posing a threat to the Government Girls Middle School Saloora in

As per the news agency, the mighty Chinars located along the main road instil fear not only among students studying there but also in pedestrians and

The area's Chinars are fragile and pose a threat to anyone passing by. Local resident Niyaz Ahmad Bhat

mentioned that they have alerted the Naib Tehsildar about the issue and are expecting an action now. He said that if these dried Chinars are

not removed there could be untoward

incidents in the area. Highlighting a past incident, a major tragedy was avoided when a dry Chinar fell on the school premises during the night in December 2022. But the incident occurred when there were no students present, said a local resident Hilal Ahmad—(KNO)

Shopian, Pir Panjal residents demand reopening of Mughal Road

Srinagar: The historic Mughal Road remains closed for traffic due to ongoing snow clearance operations. Officials from the Mechanical depart-

ment informed the news agency that the snow clearance work, which began recently, is nearing completion. The Mughal Road, linking Kashmir via Shopian with the Pir Panjal region in Jammu, is annually closed during win-

ter due to heavy snowfall. This closure disrupts the routine life of residents and

businesses in the area. Residents of Shopian and the Poonch and Rajouri areas of Pir Panjal have been calling for the reopening of the road, saying they face inconvenience by longer alternative routes. The closure adversely affects local businesses and hampers travel for residents, particularly those with familial connections

across the region. The students traveling from Kashmir to Baba Ghulam Shah University in Rajouri are also impacted by the road closure.

Despite being granted national highway status in 2016, the proposed allweather tunnel to mitigate seasonal closures remains unrealised.

Residents on both sides of the road have urged authorities to expedite the snow clearance process and reopen the road for traffic at the earliest.

An official said the snow clearance operations are in their final stages. He said the decision regarding the road's reopening will be taken shortly—(KNO)

CS Reviews Development of Skilling Portal by BISAG

Agencies

tiatives to be made part of it.



Dulloo on Thursday had a detailed review of the development of the Skilling portal for the Skill Development Department (SDD) by Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG-N) in association with the NIC and IT Department of the UT.

Besides Secretary, SDD the meeting was attended by the Commissioner Secretary, IT; Secretary, Planning; DG, Planning; Director, SDD and other concerned officers of the Department.

During this meeting, the Chief Secretary held detailed deliberations with all the stakeholders about the extent and ingredients to be part of this portal. He enquired from the developers about the utility and significance of this portal for the people besides the novel iniing and the kind of alerts, information to be provided to applicants. He suggested for making it multilingual for ease of diverse population living here. He also asked for inclusion of motivational videos giving details of schemes offered in each sector of self employment besides adding those on Daksh Kisan portal. The Secretary, SDD, Kumar Rajeev

Ranjan threw light on different as-

pects and avenues to be onboarded

over it. He gave out that the portal under development is going to host a number of online courses beneficial for the people in need of skilling themselves under different sectors or areas of interest like Agriculture, automotive, BFSI, construction, beauty and wellness etc.

Sometimes I Wonder If IPL Is Even Cricket: Ravichandran Ashwin

NEW DELHI: Premier India spinner Ravichandran Ashwin reckons the IPL has grown so "huge" that at times cricket itself takes a backseat with players finding it hard to juggle between training and advertisement shoots.

Ashwin spoke about the meteoric rise of the IPL since its inception in 2008 and how tough life on the road for a player can be over the course of the twomonth long competition.

"As a youngster coming into the IPL, I was only looking to learn from the big stars, I did not think about how the IPL would look 10 years down the line. I can say that, having been



in the IPL for so many seasons, the IPL is huge," he said on Club

Prairie Fire podcast. "Sometimes I wonder if IPL

takes a backstage (during ÎPL). It's so huge. We do end up practising in advertisement shoots and sets! That's where the IPL has gotten to," said Ashwin, who is an important member of the Rajasthan Royals squad.

The 37-year-old, who recently completed 500 Test wickets, started his IPL career with Chennai Super Kings and that led to him wearing the coveted

India cap across formats.

Back in 2022, the IPL media rights were sold for a whopping Rs 48,390 crore for a five-year cycle, making it the second biggest league in the sporting world in terms of per match value after NFL, leavPremier League, NBA and Major League Baseball.

Ashwin spoke about his early days in the IPL and how the event exceeded all expectations.

"No one envisaged the kind of growth that the IPL has had. I still remember a conversation I had with Scott Styris when we were both at CSK. He told me that when he was playing for the Deccan Chargers in the initial seasons of IPL, he did not think the IPL would last for more than two-three years.'

"Initially, there was a big influx of money," Ashwin said on the podcast hosted by former England captain Michael Vaughan and Australian great Adam Gilchrist.

23rd Sub-Junior National Wushu C'ship Begins In Jammu



Observer News Service

JAMMU: The 23rd Sub-Junior National Wushu Championship for boys and girls took off Thursday in Jammu. The event, being organized by the Wushu Association of J&K in collaboration with the J&K Sports Council in the Gymnasium Hall of Jammu University, was declared open by Secretary J&K Sports Council, Nuzhat Gull.

More than 1500 boys and girls from different parts of the country are participating in the event

In her address, Nuzhat Gull congratulated the participants of the guest states and UTs for

making it to the grand event. The Secretary Sports Council thanked the Directorate of

in the conduct of this event. Pradeep Dutta, Bureau Chief of Times Now, was the guest of honour on the occasion.

Sports and Physical Education

for its cooperation and support

Earlier, the General Secretary Wushu Association of India Vijay Saraf presented a welcome speech and gave a brief gist of the event. While the presentation ceremony was folding, Kuldeep Handoo presented the vote

The six-day event will conclude on the 2nd of April.

RCB, KKR Eye Course Correction To Add Momentum To Campaign

Press Trust of India

BENGALURU: Victory in their respective previous games might have eased the initial nerves but imperfections remain, hence Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Kolkata Knight Riders will eye a quick course correction to add steam to their campaign in an IPL 2024 match here on Friday. The Royal Challengers de-

feated Punjab Kings by four wickets, while the Knight Riders elbowed out Sunrisers Hyderabad by four runs to garner some early points.

But entering the points table has not really eased some of the worries -- particularly pertaining to the top and middle-order batting.

The Bengaluru dugout might be a happy space after star batter Virat Kohli made



jab the other night, but that's only one part of the story. Skipper Faf du Plessis, Glenn

Maxwell, Cameroon Green and Rajat Patidar are yet to hit the overdrive, and for the win against PBKS they had to rely on the last-minute cameos of Dinesh Karthik and 'Impact Player' Mahipal Lomror.

The Kolkatans have a much

more capable bowling unit, at least on paper, and such a collectively underwhelming effort by frontline batters might push RCB into deep troubles against them.

Once they iron out that rough edges, RCB can look at their bowling unit that still needs to fill a couple of unticked boxes despite good outings by pacers Mohammed Siraj and Yash Dayal against Punjab.

The match starts at 7.30 PM.

Short TAKES

IPL 17's Opening Day Registers **Record-Breaking Viewership**

The 17th edition of the IPL registered record-breaking viewership on the opening day with 16.8 crore people witnessing the show, according to the host broadcaster. Disney Star, the official broadcaster, said the opening day also registered a watch-time of 1276 crore minutes -the highest-ever for the first day of any season.

The 17th season of IPL also witnessed the highest-ever peak TV concurrency for an opening day, with 6.1 crore viewers watching the broadcast simultaneously on the Disney Star network.

'Surya Might Take Few More Days To Get Match Fit'

orld's number one T20 batter Suryakumar Yadav will skip a few more IPL matches as he continues to recover from a sports hernia surgery with the National Cricket Academy (NCA) keeping a watch on his progress. Yadav, who plays for Mumbai Indians, has been missing in action in the league and his team has lost both its matches so far. While MI is missing Yadav, the BCCI doesn't want to take any chances with the big-hitter's fitness.

Warner, Stoinis, Agar Left Out Of CA's Central Contracts List

Veteran opener David Warner, who has retired from ODI and Test cricket, along with all-rounders Ashton Agar and Marcus Stoinis, was on Thursday dropped from Cricket Australia's list of centrally-contracted players for the 2024-25 season.

Besides, Victoria opener Marcus Harris and pacer Michael Neser have also missed out on contracts that were offered to 23 players, stated a report by 'cricket.com.au'. Warner's omission was expected as he intends to call it quits from the game after the T20 World Cup.

FA Charges Tonali Over Betting **Breaches After Newcastle Move**

Newcastle United midfielder Sandro Tonali was charged by England's FA on Thursday over alleged betting breaches following his move to the Premier League club as he continues to serve a ban for betting on matches in Italy.

The 23-year-old is serving a 10-month ban after being sanctioned by the Italian football federation (FIGC) last October over betting breaches committed when he was playing for Serie A side AC Milan.

DYSS Organizes Various Sports Activities Across Kashmir Division

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Department of Youth Services and Sports has kick started a fresh series of sports competitions and activities in different sports zones of ties aim to engage students and participants in various games and sports immediately following the completion of their annual examinations.

As part of the calendar, Srinagar's Sports Zone Idgah hosted a Tennis Ball Cricket Competition for Boys on Thursday at BHSS Nawakadal. The event witnessed an overwhelming participation of 70 participants from Zone Idgah.

Toiba Tabassum, Principal of BHSS Nawakadal, inaugurated the competition.

ZPEO Îdgah, Javed Ahmad Malik, awarded the winning team, BHS Badiwuder, and the runnerup team, BHS Goripora, in the



Meanwhile, YSS started the

sports season for the year 2024 at Kulgam as well. The inaugural activity of Volleyball Under-14 was launched from Zone Kulgam at Sports Stadium Kulgam. The event saw more than 100 students hailing from different educational institutions of Zone Kulgam (Boys) participate.

IUST Women's Badminton Team Lifts Winner's Trophy



Observer News Service

AWANTIPORA: In the ongoing badminton tournament, organised by J&K Police Awantipora for Girls under Civic Action Program 2023-24, the team of Islamic University of Science & Technology clinched the winner's trophy on Thursday.

Avesha and Ameesha were part of the winning team that beat its opponents by 2:0 sets.

Vice Chancellor and Registrar congratulated the team and Sports department. In the felicitation ceremony, Sameer Wazir, Finance Officer, and Dr. Hilal Ahmad Rather, Assistant Director Physical Educa-



tion and Sports, were present.

Man City Hosts Arsenal In Last Clash Of EPL Big Three

Agencies

MANCHESTER:

against Arsenal on Sunday and Manchester City's path to a record fourth straight English Premier League title becomes clearer. Lose, and Arsenal takes a

giant step towards becoming league champion for the first time in 20 years. Draw, and the big win-

ner this weekend could be Liverpool. With 10 rounds to go, the clash at Etihad Stadium is the last time any of the three title rivals will go head to head. Arsenal leads the league.

Liverpool is second on goal difference. City is a point behind both of them. Just five goals separate the top two.An element of risk and reward hangs over City and Arsenal.

History is clearly on City's side, having won its last eight home games against the Gunners. City's last home loss in this fixture was in 2015.

But Arsenal has been better this season after beating



City in a penalty shootout to win the Community Shield in August, followed by a 1-0 victory at Emirates Stadium in October.

City manager Pep Guardiola's preparations haven't been helped by injuries to key defenders Kyle Walker and John Stones during the international break.

MASTER AND APPRENTICE

Mikel Arteta was once Guardiola's trusted lieutenant at City. Arteta was spoken of as a future City manager but is working on creating his own legacv at Arsenal after trans-

tunes since taking charge

He has been backed

with money and time, and

that faith has paid off with

Arsenal leading the league

and advancing to the

Champions League quar-

terfinals. After falling away

badly at the end of last

season to allow City to take

the English title, it remains

to be seen if Arteta and his

players have learned from

Those two wins against

City this season suggest

Arsenal is more prepared

to go head to head against

that experience.

the champion.

Arsenal stands as the last major test for City. It has arguably the smoothest run of games to the end of the league. Arsenal and Liverpool both have to travel to Manchester United and face respective derbies against Tottenham and Everton. All three teams still have

to face Aston Villa and Spurs, who are competing for fourth spot and Champions League qualification. Liverpool plays Brighton

on Sunday with the chance to go to the top of the standings before City and Arsenal kick off.

FORM GUIDE There is little to choose

between the challengers.

City is on an ominous 22-game unbeaten run in all competitions, dating to the start of December.

Liverpool has lost two of its last 23 games and already has its first trophy of the season after winning the English League Cup in February.

Startup Kashmir

