

2 Terrorists Killed In Kulgam Encounter

Agencies

Srinagar: Two terrorists, including a top "commander" of Lashkar-e-Taiba offshoot TRF who was involved in several cases of killing of policemen and civilians, were eliminated by security forces in an encounter in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district on Tuesday, officials said.

One of the slain terrorists has been identified as Basit Dar, an "A" category terrorist who belonged to The Resistance Front (TRF), according to Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir, V K Birdhi.

He said security forces got inputs about the movement of terrorists in Redwani village following which a cordon and search operation was launched there on Monday night.

"There was firing from the other side," he told reporters in Kulgam.

Birdhi said the terrorists were given an opportunity to surrender, but they continued their firing on the security personnel.

"Two terrorists have been killed in this operation and their bodies have | [More on P6](#)

Search Ops Intensified In Jammu

Security forces have intensified the search operations in the twin-border districts of Poonch and Rajouri in Jammu region to track down the terrorists responsible for attacking an IAF convoy that claimed the life of a corporal rank personnel, officials said on Tuesday. | [More on P6](#)

...Article 370 Abrogation Express Discontent Through Voting: Mehbooba

Agencies

Pulwama: Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) President and former chief minister of erst-while Jammu & Kashmir state, Mehbooba Mufti on Tuesday asked people to show their resentment against the abrogation of Article 370 by casting their ballots.

Addressing workers after a road show from Awantipora-Tral, Mehbooba said that nobody in J&K is happy with whatever was done in 2019 and this is the time for people to show their resentment against the move.

She said that this is not an assembly election where you can promise people about development works, but this is a parliament election and people need to choose their candidate wisely.

Mehbooba further asked the people to choose their candidate, who can be your true representative and become your voice in the parliament as people fear raising voice in



Kashmir in 2019.

"This election is about sending a message that the decisions taken in 2019 and after that are not acceptable to the people," she said, adding that the PDP has done a lot of developmental works in Awantipora-Tral area that includes the IUST, AIIMS and ADC office in Tral and the people here have always supported PDP and she is hopeful they will continue to support the party. | [More on P6](#)

Naib Tehsildar Held On Graft Charges

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday said to have trapped and arrested Naib Tehsildar Khrew, Pulwama while a Constable was also held for allegedly facilitating the offence.

As per a statement, the spokesman said J&K Anti Corruption Bureau received a complaint against Naib Tehsildar, Khrew, District Pulwama alleging therein that the said Naib-Tehsildar is demanding Rs 10,000 from complainant through his clerk namely Ajaz Ahmad for settlement of dispute of ancestral land at village Sathpokhran, Khrew Pulwama.

"The complainant approached the Tehsil Office Khrew several times for settlement of the dispute, but the Naib Tehsildar didn't budge. Moreover the complainant has been harassed through Notices by the said Naib Tehsildar," the statement said.

"The complainant approached ACB for taking | [More on P6](#)

LS POLLS PHASE 3

63.47% Voter Turnout Recorded Across 11 States, UTs

Agencies

New Delhi: The polling in the third phase of Lok Sabha elections, which commenced in the early morning hours of Tuesday simultaneously across 93 constituencies, recorded an approximate voter turnout of 63.47 per cent, according to the latest data issued by the Election Commission of India. As per ECI's latest data, the highest voter turnout was recorded in Assam at 76.91 per cent and Uttar Pradesh recorded the lowest voter turnout, which was recorded at 57.34 per cent.

The voter turnout in other states that voted on Tuesday in the third phase is: Bihar -58.02 per cent, Chhattisgarh -69.17 per cent, Goa -74.59 per cent, Gujarat-57.48 per cent, Karnataka-69.54 per cent, Madhya Pradesh -66.05 per cent, Maharashtra -61.05 per cent and West



Bengal -73.96 per cent, as per latest ECI data. Polling was scheduled till 6 pm, but voters were seen standing in the queue for longer hours after the scheduled time at many polling stations, the ECI said. The ECI further said that the third phase of polling was

held smoothly and peacefully in all States/UTs which covered the entire north-eastern part of the country, LWE affected and vulnerable areas in Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. The Commission led by CEC

Rajiv Kumar along with ECs Gyanesh Kumar and Sukhbir Singh Sandhu, kept a regular close watch on each and every aspect of the poll process. Stringent security measures were in place, creating a conducive environment for voters to | [More on P6](#)

Choose Between 'Vote Jihad' & 'Ram Raja': PM

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday asserted India has reached a turning point in history and people have to decide in the ongoing Lok Sabha elections if "vote jihad" or "Ram Raja" is the way forward for the country. Addressing an election rally in Madhya Pradesh's Khargone district, Modi hit out at the opposition Congress, saying its intent is very dangerous and alleged it calls for "vote jihad" were directed against him. "India is

at a turning point in history; you have to decide if 'vote jihad' will work or Ram Raja," the BJP's star campaigner told the gathering. Speaking at a poll rally a week ago, Samajwadi Party (SP) leader Maria Alam, the niece of Congress leader Salman Khurshid, called for "vote jihad" in favour of Naval Kishore Shukya, the INDIA bloc candidate from the Farrukhabad Lok Sabha seat of Uttar Pradesh. The SP is an ally of the Congress and a key | [More on P6](#)

at a turning point in history; you have to decide if 'vote jihad' will work or Ram Raja," the BJP's star campaigner told the gathering. Speaking at a poll rally a week ago, Samajwadi Party (SP) leader Maria Alam, the niece of Congress leader Salman Khurshid, called for "vote jihad" in favour of Naval Kishore Shukya, the INDIA bloc candidate from the Farrukhabad Lok Sabha seat of Uttar Pradesh. The SP is an ally of the Congress and a key | [More on P6](#)

at a turning point in history; you have to decide if 'vote jihad' will work or Ram Raja," the BJP's star campaigner told the gathering. Speaking at a poll rally a week ago, Samajwadi Party (SP) leader Maria Alam, the niece of Congress leader Salman Khurshid, called for "vote jihad" in favour of Naval Kishore Shukya, the INDIA bloc candidate from the Farrukhabad Lok Sabha seat of Uttar Pradesh. The SP is an ally of the Congress and a key | [More on P6](#)

Visually Impaired, 100-Yr-Old First To Cast 'Vote From Home' In Kashmir

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Ali Mohammad Rather, a visually impaired person, was the first to vote for the election to Srinagar Lok Sabha constituency on Tuesday under the new home voting facility.

The facility was started by the Election Commission for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections for those who are not able to visit polling stations to exercise their franchise.

Rather, 75, hailing from the Dara area of the Hazratbal assembly segment in Srinagar district became the first person in the Kashmir Valley to cast his vote through the home voting facility, an official of the District Election Office,



Srinagar, said.

"The first home vote has been cast and sealed in a ballot box at Dara for blind voter (People with Disability) Ali Mohd Rather in part 68 of

19-Hazratbal segment," the official said.

Voting for the seat will be held on May 13 in the fourth round of the seven-phase general elections. | [More on P6](#)

473 Postal Ballots For KP Voters Sent To RO Srinagar

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: With just six days left in formal polling for the Srinagar parliamentary constituency, the authorities today sent 473 postal ballots of Kashmiri Pandit voters to the Returning Officer (RO) in Srinagar. These postal ballots belong to Kashmiri Pandits living in different parts of the country and who had already registered as voters to exercise the franchise through postal ballots. | [More on P6](#)

With just six days left in formal polling for the Srinagar parliamentary constituency, the authorities today sent 473 postal ballots of Kashmiri Pandit voters to the Returning Officer (RO) in Srinagar. These postal ballots belong to Kashmiri Pandits living in different parts of the country and who had already registered as voters to exercise the franchise through postal ballots. | [More on P6](#)

Mehbooba Opposed AFSPA Withdrawal: Omar

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: National Conference leader Omar Abdullah on Tuesday accused PDP president Mehbooba Mufti of opposing the withdrawal of the controversial AFSPA from Jammu and Kashmir when he was the chief minister.

"I have not forgotten this thing. When I was talking about the removal of AFSPA (Armed Forces Special Powers Act) from here (in 2012-13), Mehbooba Mufti, who is PDP president, said Omar Abdullah is disrespecting the Army."

"She said the talk about the revocation of AFSPA is belittling the Army. That is where the opposition to revocation of AFSPA came from," Abdullah told reporters in north Kashmir Kupwara district after an election meeting.

He was reacting to a statement of Apni Party leader Altaf Bukhari that time had come for the armed forces in Jammu and Kashmir to go back to the barracks.

"I had tried to send them



back to the barracks in 2012 and 2013. That time the conspiracy was hatched by the party with which Bukhari was affiliated at that time. Today, they are talking about sending the army back to barracks. It is good. Better late than never," he said.

Asked about the crisis in the National Conference (NC) in Kargil on giving support to the INDIA bloc candidates for Ladakh Lok Sabha seat, Abdullah said he cannot do anything which is beyond his control.

"To stand by our commitment to the INDIA bloc, the National Conference party has disappeared | [More on P6](#)

HC Rules Against One-shot For Reservation Under Sports Quota

Says Every Sports Person With Mere Representation At National Or Int'l Level Not Entitled To Reservation

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh on Tuesday held that every sportsperson with mere representation at a National or International level is not entitled to reservation under the J&K Sports Policy, regardless of his performance, position, proficiency or talent.

Dismissing a petition, a bench of Justice Rajesh Sekhri observed that the legislative intent of the rule-making authority is evident from the use of words "Outstanding" and "Proficiency" in the J&K Certification of Outstanding Proficiency in Sports Rules, 2008. The rules specify that reservation is available only to the sportspersons, who have not only achieved an outstanding performance



but are proficient or have excelled in a particular sports or achieved or secured one of the first three positions or participated twice or more in the same discipline in the National championship to their credit.

"The 'Sports Quota' also known as 'Sports Representation' is a policy devised by the Government and used by the educational institutions to reserve a particular percentage of seats or positions for individuals, who have achieved excellence in sports," the court

said underlining that J&K Sports policy aims to promote "Outstanding" and "Proficient" sportspersons by providing them with opportunities for education, employment and/or other benefits.

"Petitioner, in the present case, with a single representation in Ball Badminton at the National level has been rightly declared ineligible by respondent-Sports Council and denied admission by respondent-University (IUST) as he fails to meet the criteria laid down in the J&K Sports Policy and Rules of 2008 read with Amended rules of 2008," the court said as it rejected a petition filed by one S. Sahil, challenging his exclusion for admission to Ph.D Programme (Full Time), issued by the | [More on P6](#)

Public Figures Liable For Misleading Ads: SC

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: It is imperative for celebrities and public figures to act responsibly while endorsing a consumer product as advertisers and endorsers are equally responsible for issuing misleading advertisements, the Supreme Court said on Tuesday.

Clamping down on misleading advertisements, the apex court directed that before an advertisement is permitted to be issued, a self-declaration be obtained from the advertisers on the line of the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994.

Rule 7 of the 1994 rules deals with advertisement code and stipulates that advertisements carried in the cable service shall be designed to be in conformity with the laws and should not

offend morality, decency and religious susceptibilities of the subscribers.

"We are of the opinion that advertisers, advertising agencies and endorsers are equally responsible for issuing false and misleading advertisements," a bench of Justices Hima Kohli and Ahsanuddin Amanullah said.

"Endorsements by celebrities, influencers and public figures go a long way in promoting products and it is imperative for them to act with responsibility while endorsing any product in the course of advertisement and taking responsibility for the same..." the bench observed.

The top court said the ministries concerned need to set up a specific procedure which will encourage consumers to lodge complaints | [More on P6](#)

DELHI EXCISE SCAM Kejriwal Fails To Get Immediate Relief From SC

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal failed to get any relief from the Supreme Court on Tuesday, with a two-judge bench rising without pronouncing an order on granting him interim bail to enable him to campaign in the Lok Sabha elections.

Kejriwal has been accused of money laundering in a case linked to the alleged Delhi excise scam.

A bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Dipankar Datta, which reserved its order on grant of interim bail earlier during the day and said it will be pronounced at 2 p.m., rose without delivering its verdict.

The bench reserved its decision after hearing the arguments put forth by senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi and Additional Solicitor General S V Raju, who appeared for Kejriwal and the Enforcement | [More on P6](#)



New All-In-One Vaccine May Prove Effective Against All Coronaviruses

Press Trust Of India

A team of scientists from the world's leading universities have developed a new all-in-one vaccine that they hope can protect humans against a broad range of coronaviruses, including ones that are yet to emerge.

The research published in Nature Nanotechnology on Monday is based on a new approach to vaccine development called proactive vaccinology, where scientists build a vaccine before the disease-causing pathogen even emerges, which has shown promising results in mice.

The study by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge in the UK and Caltech in the US says the vaccine works by training the body's immune system to recognise specific regions of eight different coronaviruses, including SARS-CoV-2 which caused the COVID-19 outbreak, and several that

are currently circulating in bats and have potential to jump to humans and cause a pandemic.

Our focus is to create a vaccine that will protect us against the next coronavirus pandemic, and have it ready before the pandemic has even started, said Rory Hills, a graduate researcher in the University of Cambridge's Department of Pharmacology and first author of the report.

For example, the new vaccine does not include the SARS-CoV-1 coronavirus, which caused the 2003 SARS outbreak, yet it still induces an immune response to that virus.

We've created a vaccine that provides protection against a broad range of different coronaviruses including ones we don't even know about yet, said Hills.

Key to its effectiveness is that the specific virus regions the vaccine targets also appear in many related coronaviruses. By train-



ing the immune system to attack these regions, it gives protection against other coronaviruses not represented in the vaccine, including ones that haven't even been identified yet.

We don't have to wait for new coronaviruses to emerge. We know enough about coronaviruses, and different immune

responses to them, that we can get going with building protective vaccines against unknown coronaviruses now, said Professor Mark Howarth in the University of Cambridge's Department of Pharmacology, senior author of the report.

Scientists did a great job in quickly producing an extremely

effective COVID vaccine during the last pandemic, but the world still had a massive crisis with a huge number of deaths. We need to work out how we can do even better than that in the future, and a powerful component of that is starting to build the vaccines in advance, he said.

The new Quartet Nanocage vaccine is based on a structure called a nanoparticle a ball of proteins held together by incredibly strong interactions. Chains of different viral antigens are attached to this nanoparticle using a novel "protein superglue". Multiple antigens are included in these chains, which trains the immune system to target specific regions shared across a broad range of coronaviruses.

The latest study demonstrated that the new vaccine raises a broad immune response, even in mice that were pre-immunised with SARS-CoV-2.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to change the name on electricity bill bearing consumer ID No: 0202050020587 From Irshad Ahmad Bhat To Shabeena W/O Mohamma Iqbal Wani Habbib colony baghat barzulla. 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.

Shabeena
 W/O Mohamma Iqbal Wani
 Habbib Colony Baghat Barzulla

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to change the name on electricity bill bearing consumer ID No: 0202050018990 From Mir Shariq Mustaq To Farooq Ahmad Ashai. 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.

Farooq Ahmad Ashai
 S/O Noor Udin Ashai
 Baghat Barzulla

NOTICE

I have purchased fr bike being Registration No:- JK01J4190, colour grey black CT-100 Bajaj from Rouf Jeelani Bhat S/o Mukhmoor Rouf R/o Grid Station Ellahi Bagh Srinagar-190020 on dated 5 May 2024. I will be responsible for the ownership of above mentioned vehicle from the date of its publication .

Mohd Yaseen Dar
Ghulam Ahmad Dar
Ellahi Bagh Grid Station

Subject. Grant of registration of the proposed Travel unit under the name, M/s Travel Temptation " situated at 3rd Floor , Rather Complex , Munwarabad Srinagar J&K 190001

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas I Mr./Ms Shahid Salam Khan S/o Abdul Salam Khan R/o Firdous Colony Bemina Srinagar, Kashmir intends to apply in the Department of tourism for registration of my proposed Travel unit under the name and style" M/ s Travel Temptation "situated at 3rd Floor , Rather Complex , Munwarabad Srinagar J&K 190001 Srinagar Kashmir under Tourist Trade Act1978/82/2011-12.

Whereas, I will submit state subject/Domicile certificate, Qualification Certificate, Pan card, Experience certificate (minimum 05 years), Character certificate (Police department), Bank statement (minimum balance 1000), site plan, Affidavit, Rent Deed duly attested sub-registrar, printing Material (Letter Head/Visiting), Photograph of the unit (indoor and Outdoor) and Two Passport size photograph to the department of tourism as prescribed checklist prior to registration of my unit as an Excursion Agency/Adventure tour operation. Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12, before my case is processed for registration by the competent Authority the matter is hereby notified for information of general public/financial institutions/Ban/ Organisation, etc for objection, if any and the same should reach to the deputy director tourism Registration (e-mail ID:- ddtreg123@gmail.com) within a period of 7 days from the publication of this notice in leading local newspaper/newspaper of the valley. No objection beyond a period of 7 days shall be entertained

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is informed to the General public that I have lost my 10th Class Qualification certificate whose particular are as under: JKBOSE Reg. No N16440700019 named on RUKAYA MAQBOOL D/O MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL THOKER, DOB:04-03-2002 and result date 09-01-2018 session 2017. Now I have applied for issuance of Duplicate Qualification certificate of my 10th class if anybody is having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in JKBOSE Bemina Srinagar within the period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice after that no objection shall be entertained.

RUKAYA MAQBOOL
 S/O MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL THOKER
 R/O KALANTRA BALA TEHSIL KREERI DISTT : BARAMULLA

University of Kashmir, Srinagar

Notice

The candidate whose particulars are given below has reported to the University that he / she has lost his/her University Certificate/s and has applied for issuance of duplicate certificate/s:

NAME: Raheela Farooq
 Parentage: Farooq Ahmad Shaikh
 Residence: Handwara
 Registration No: 11587- HD-2013
 Certificate Lost: BG 1st year Marks Card
 Roll No: 17703688
 Session/ Year: Dec- Jan 2017

Before University will consider issuance of Duplicate Certificate/s in favour of the candidate, any person having any objection shall report to the undersigned within one week from the date of issuance of this notice. The original certificate/s issued to the candidate be treated as cancelled

No: F(Duplicate/ KU)

sk **Assistant Controller of Examinations (PG/UG/Prof**

Genetic Defects Causes Cerebral Palsy In Children: Study

Press Trust Of India

Genetic defects underlie about a fourth of Chinese children affected by cerebral palsy, and not a lack of oxygen at birth as previously thought, new research has found.

Cerebral palsy is a disorder affecting one's ability to move. It is the most common motor disability in children, with symptoms emerging in infancy and early childhood.

The disability is sometimes also associated with

autism and intellectual deficiencies.

Birth asphyxia, or receiving insufficient oxygen at the time of being born, can cause physical harm, especially to the brain, and is considered one of the main causes of cerebral palsy.

The world's largest study of cerebral palsy genetics, involving more than 1,500 affected Chinese children, found that mutations were significantly higher in a fourth of these children receiving insufficient oxygen at birth.

Researchers said this indicated that birth asphyxia could be secondary to the underlying genetic defects.

The results, published in the journal Nature Medicine, are consistent with smaller studies globally, they said.

According to human geneticist Josef Geetz from the University of Adelaide, who co-led the Australian team, 24.5 per cent of Chinese children in the study had rare genetic variations linked to cerebral palsy.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost RC of my vehicle bearing regd no JK01AJ-6387 while travelling from Lalchowk to Rainawari. 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 RTO Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice after that no objection shall be entertained.

Mohd AMIN BABA
 S/o Gh Nabi Baba

ir

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Tilgam

Executive Magistrate 1st Class

Subject: Application of Mohammad Irfan Wani , Mohammad Faizan And Mohammad Adil Wani Ss/o Gh Mohd Wani R/o Malikpora Tehsil Pattan regarding obtaining RBA Certificate

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed through this notice that the applicant file is currently under process in the office of undersigned regarding obtaining RBA certificate. In this matter report of patwari halqa wanigam bala records that the applicant is a permanent resident of said village and is residing here from more than 15 years and has not migrated from the said village the annual family income of the applicant from all sources is Rs 611976/- . Family details of the applicant are give below.

S.No	Name of family Member	Parentage	Age	Occupation
1	Gh Mohd Wani	Khazir Mohd Wani	65	Retired Employee
2	Hanifa Begum	W/o Gh Mohd Wani	50	H/W
3	Mohammad Irfan Wani	S/o Gh Mohd Wani	30	Student
4	Mohd Adil Wani	--	27	--
5	Mohd Faizan Wani	--	19	--

In this connection If any person(s) has any objection(s) he/she can visit the undersigned's office within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection will be considered.

fko

Naib Tehsildar

J&K SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD (A J&K GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKING) O/O DIVISIONAL MANAGER, INDUSTRIAL ESTATE ZAINAKOTE

Mail Id: dmestastessicopzkt@gmail.com

NO: SICOP/DM/I.E-Zkt/24-25/ 279 Dated:- 07/05/2024

Notice inviting Objections from Financial Institution/Banks/General Public

Whereas, the land measuring 02 kanals were allotted to M/s Emm Lal Rolling Mills vide allotment number: SICOP/PEK/02-03/160-62 dated:-31/07/2002.

Whereas, lease deed was executed with the unit on 6th November 2003 duly registered in the court of law.

Whereas, M/s EMM LaL Rolling Mills is formally registered with DIC vide No:01/03/06648/PMT/SSI dated:08/09/2004 with the location of unit outside industrial Estate.

Whereas, M/s Emm Lal Rolling Mills established another unit in its premises at Industrial Estate Zakura namely M/s valley metal for carrying copper sheets etc for which lease deed was executed on 28th November 2006 duly registered in the court of law which is also formally registered with DIC under No:01/03/08064/PMT/MSME dated:25/03/2010 for the activity of manufacture of copper circles/sheets and aluminum circles and manufacture of Aluminum Utensils out scrap/ingots. However, No supplementary lease deed was executed with M/s Emm Lal Rolling Mills for the remaining area of 01.50 kanals.

Now the proprietor of M/s Emm Lal Rolling Mills has approached General Manager DIC for change of location of unit from outside industrial estate to industrial estate Zakura in the Formal Registration of the unit SICOP. General Manager DIC has sought NOC from SICOP for change of location and also requested execution of supplementary lease deed with the unit.

Before execution of supplementary lease deed and issuance of NOC in favour of M/s Emm Lal Rolling Mills objections if any, are invited from Financial Institutions/Banks/General Public regarding to above. Objections should reach the Office of the undersigned within the period of 7 days from the date of publication of this Notice.

DIPK-NB-135/24
 dated: 07-05-2024

Divisional Manager (Estates)
SICOP, I.E Zainakote

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR, OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PHE JAL SHAKTI SPL. (PHE) DIVISION KULGAM

TELE:019312, E-Mail:xenphekgm@gmail.com
 E-mail:xenphekgm@gmail.com. Phone/Fax:01931295109

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS FOR
 ENIT NO. 01/PHEK/2024-25 ISSUED UNDER NO:PHEK/631-36
 dated 06/05/2024

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

S. No	Name of work	Advt. Cost (Rs. in lacs)	Earnest Money	Class of Contract	Time for Compl.	Cost of tender Document	MH of Account
1	Carriage ,handling charges of pipe material, Store items and providing of various key items for financial year 2024-25 (under NRDWP,B2V,MNP, Distt. Sector, NABARD,M and R, JIM) for JSD KULGAM	15.00	30000.00	BEE/CEE/DEE	-	500	NRDWP/B2V3/MNP/DistSector/NABARD/M&R/JIM

1. The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings (if any), Bill of quantities (BOQ), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the website: WWW.jktenders.gov.in As per the Schedule of dates given below:

I	Publishing date of NIT	07/05/2024
II	Download start date	07/05/2024
III	Bid submission start date	07/05/2024
IV	Bid submission end date	14/05/2024
V	Bid opening date	15/05/2024

1. Bids must be accompanied by with cost of tender document in the shape of Treasury Challan shown against the each item advertised and credited to MH0215-PHE Government Account asper the devised format enclosed.

2. The bids shall be opened in the office of Executive Engineer Special PHE Division Kulgam on the above mentioned date in presence of the bidders who may wish to be present.

3. Bidders shall ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents like:

- Registration card duly renewed for the year 2024-25
- Treasury Challan (TR)
- Earnest money in the form of CDRFDR pledged to Ex Engineer
- PAN/GST with latest GST return
- Bidders Address format with full particulars.
- Latest ITR

6. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reason.

- The tenders shall remain valid for 90 days.
- As soon as the contract is fixed with the successful bidder, he/she has to draw necessary agreement with the department. However, non-draw of agreement will not prevent the contract from being enforced upon him.

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
PHE JAL SHAKTI SPL. (PHE)
DIVISION KULGAM

DIPK-397/24
 dated: 07-05-2024

POLICE TRANSPORT WORKSHOP SRINAGAR

Tel 0194-2506547

sspttssar@lkpolice.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING DASTI QUOTATIONS

Dasti quotations affixed with Rs. 05/- revenue stamp are invited from Kashmir based authorized / Govt. Approved dealers / suppliers to carry out the following machine Jobs through outsourcing for the current financial year 2024-2025:-

S.NO	SERVICE REQUIRED
01	Complete Engine Machine Job
02	(F.I) Pump overhauling / Repairing / Calibration / High pressure Pump repairing
03	Fuel Injector repairing.
04	Turbo Charger Repairing
05	Universal Yoke and Teeth Fitting

The quotations should reach in the office of Superintendent of Police PTWS Srinagar located at PCR Complex Batmaloo Srinagar within 07 days from the date of publishing of this Notice along with following documents.

- Authorization certificate of dealership.
- Experience criteria, Past performance certificate.
- Affidavit duly attested by 1st. Class Magistrate (from Successful bidder)

No: PTWS/2024/ 1780

DIPK-389/24
 dated: 07-05-2024

Superintendent of Police,
PTWS Srinagar.

CS Inaugurates 'SBI E-Corner' At Civil Secretariat

Observer News Service

Srinagar: J&K Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo Tuesday inaugurated the State Bank of India (SBI) developed e-Corner outside the legislative assembly complex inside the campus housing it along with the Civil Secretariat here.

The corner is a smart space housing the Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) of the bank besides having the facility to extend different products like credit cards, opening of bank accounts and others offered by this largest public sector

digital banking would get added to this point of contact in future.

This point of contact designated as 'SBI e-Corner' is a compact place where thousands of employees work in the twin complexes of the Civil Secretariat and Legislative Assembly besides visitors to these offices there.

On the occasion, the bank authorities present gave out that the facilities made available include an Automatic Deposit Withdrawal Machine (ADWM), ATM that would provide cash deposit and withdrawal facility round the clock.



bank in the country. Dulloo called it a very welcome step towards provisioning financial services under one roof by the country's largest and most trusted bank. He anticipated that many more features of

It was further detailed that these facilities are synchronized with SBI YONO features that would enable users to use both the facilities of cash deposit/withdrawal without using the Debit card at any hour of the day.

Bemina Bypass Flyover To Be Completed By May End

Observer News Service

Srinagar: One of the three under-construction flyovers on the busiest Pantha Chowk-Parimpora highway in Srinagar is all set to be completed by May end, said an official from R&B department.

The work on the three flyovers which is expected to ease traffic congestion on the busy intersections of Bemina, Sanat Nagar and Nowgam is going on for the last few years.

The official told Kashmir News Observer the Bemina Bypass flyover will be the first to be completed by the end of May.

"Despite challenges including inclement weather and logistical hurdles,

progress on the bypass bridge has been steady, raising hopes for a timely inauguration that will alleviate congestion and streamline traffic flow in the area," he said.

"If weather remains favorable, the bridge is to be completed by May end, and the earth filling has been completed. If it rains, the earth filling has to be stopped and can be continued after three days," said an official.

He said the rains disrupted work in April and only three working shifts was carried out as earth filling was stopped. Subject to favorable weather, the bridge will be completed in due course of time," he added.



Teams For 'Vote From Home' Facilitation Of Senior Citizens, PwDs Flagged-Off

About 300 Eligible Voters Exercise Franchise At Their Native Places

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Ahead of Polling for Srinagar Lok Sabha Seat, the District Election Officer (DEO) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, who is also the Returning Officer (RO) for 02-Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency today flagged-off Polling Teams for 'Vote from Home' facilitation of senior citizens and PwDs of Srinagar District from the DC Office Complex, here.

Nodal Officer, SVEEP (J&K), Athar Hussain Qazi; Deputy District Election Officer, Srinagar, Mir Imtiaz ul Aziz; Nodal Officer SVEEP, A.H Fani and other Senior Officials of District Administration and District Election Authority were present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the DEO Srinagar briefed that the Polling teams will facilitate Vote from Home (VFH) for the eligible Elderly Voters and Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in connection with the upcoming Lok Sabha

Election-2024 in respect of all Eight (08) Assembly Segments in 02-Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency.

He added that altogether about 292 eligible willing voters of the District including 202 Senior Citizens who are above 85 years and 90 Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) will exercise their franchise using postal ballots at their respective homes/places.

The DEO further said that the Election Commission of India (ECI) has taken a historic initiative which is a major step towards promoting inclusive and accessible elections by extending the Vote from Home facility to senior citizens above 85 years and PwDs.

He underlined that Home Voting facility has provided an opportunity for several senior citizens and PwDs to exercise their right to vote through postal ballots in Lok Sabha Election-2024 minimizing their difficulties of travelling to the Polling Stations.

The DEO said that the facility has helped in promoting equal opportunities for all and ensuring that no one is left behind in the electoral process.

He further added that Eighteen (18) Polling teams each consisting of one Polling Officer, one polling official, a Micro-observer, a videographer and a team of security personnel began visiting the houses of the willing Voters (who have given consent to the District Election Office) since today morning and has been scheduled for 7th, 08th and 9th May, 2024.

He instructed the polling teams to take utmost care to ensure free and fair voting adhering strictly to the instructions and guidelines of the Election Commission of India.

Earlier, the DEO held a meeting cum interaction session with all the eighteen (18) Polling teams in the Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex and flagged-off the teams for Vote from Home facilitation in Srinagar District.

Home Voting facility has provided an opportunity for several senior citizens and PwDs to exercise their right to vote through postal ballots in Lok Sabha Election-2024 minimizing their difficulties of travelling to the Polling Stations.

Two-Day Workshop On 'Wetlands For Life' Begins At MERC

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Kashmir University's Media Education Research Centre (MERC) in collaboration with the Centre for Media Studies New Delhi Tuesday organized a two-day media engagement program on 'Wetlands for LIFE' for media students and scholars.

The workshop, according to a statement, aims to equip media academicians with comprehensive knowledge and practical skills in wetlands conservation and environmental journalism. Through a series of engaging sessions, expert presentations, and field visits, participants explored the ecological significance of wetlands, the role of the media in advocating for their conservation, and effective storytelling techniques for environmental reporting.

The inaugural session was attended by several dignitaries, including Professor Nilofer Khan, Vice Chancellor, Univer-

sity of Kashmir; Prof. Sabeha Mufti, HOD MERC, Kunal Bharat, Forestry and Biodiversity Advisor; Annu Anand, Director, CMS, programs; Professor Aliya Ahmad; Prof. Syeda Afshana; Prof. Malik Zahra; Dr. Afsana Rashid; Dr. Raashid Maqbool, Dr. Irfan Hashim; Dr. Adil Bakshi; and faculty of different departments.

"The workshop aims to hold a diverse range of sessions, interactive discussions, and hands-on activities led by esteemed experts and practitioners in the fields of environmental conservation and journalism," reads the statement.

Vice Chancellor, Professor Nilofer Khan, talked during her address about the Wetlands of Kashmir and their significance in terms of environmental conservation and said that it is high time to preserve the wetlands that are facing degradation threats and shrinking issues.

"As academics, we have to start the conser-

vation wetlands campaign on a large scale, from universities to schools, to educate the students about the preservation and conservation efforts of these wetlands," she added.

Commending MERC and CMS for organizing this workshop, she said that such initiatives should be continued in the future so that we can educate the students on how to save our environment, water bodies, and wetlands.

HOD MERC, Professor Sabeha Mufti, while welcoming the guests during the inaugural session, stated that the program was an opportunity to promote knowledge about the environment and wetlands preservation in Kashmir.

The wetlands in Kashmir, including Wular Lake, Hokersar Lake, and Khushal Sar Lake, have been facing the church for the last several years, while the government is doing a tremendous job of preserving and restoring these wetlands.

ذہنی صحت کی حفاظت کے لئے
مفت مشاورت
ہمارے کلینک پہ روزانہ میسر ہے۔
اور ساتھ ساتھ ہم آن لائن موز میں بھی
مشاورت کے لئے دستیاب ہیں

HAPPY AND HEALTHY MINDS
خوشحال اور صحت مند ذہن

ہمارے پاس پیشہ ور اور تربیت یافتہ ماہرین کی ٹیم تجربہ کار ماہر نفسیات کی سربراہی میں مختلف اقسام کے نفسیاتی اور منشیات امراض سے چھٹکارہ پانے کے لیے سماج کے متاثرہ افراد کی مدد کے لیے دستیاب ہیں۔

درج ذیل ذہنی صحت سے وابستہ مسائل پہ قابو پانے کے لیے رجوع فرمائیں:

- عصبانیت اور زہنی تنناؤ کا درمان
- بھینانگ حادثات اور واقعات کے بعد آنے والا ذہنی عارضات، مثلاً بدخواہی، شدید تشویش اور واقعات کے بارے میں قابو میں نہ ہونے والے خیالات - (PTSD)
- انفرادی ترقی اور مثبت تبدیلی کی خاطر اپنے فیصلوں پر عملدرآمد کرنے کا عمل
- اداسی کی کیفیت۔
- ذہنی پریشانی کے آثار
- منشیات کی لت پر قابو پانے کے لیے مشاورت
- خودکشی کے انتہائی اقدام سے روکنے کی مشاورت

مفت ذہنی مشاورت کے لیے پیر سے ہفتے، صبح 10 بجے سے شام 5 بجے تک رابطہ کریں۔

9070806160

HPVT فارمیسی بلڈنگ، دوسری منزل - دریش کدل چوک، سری نگر، جموں و کشمیر

NORTHERN RAILWAY						
E-Tender Notice						
Sr.DEE/G/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders (www.ireps.gov.in) against below titled Tenders. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only.						
Tender No.	Name of work	App. Cost (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Completion period	Opening of tender	Website Particulars
251-Elect-108-2024-25	Provision of New Pre-cooling Battery charging points with battery charger & allied work over Firozpur division.	1,68,90,298.73	2,34,500.00	06 Months	28.05.2024 after 15.00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.in
No. 251-Elect/T. Notice No. 06-Elect/2024-25 Dated: 07.05.2024						
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 1375/24						

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092, 2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488, 2452222, 2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
- Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 ✈

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

HIJRI CALENDAR
29 Shawal
1445

PRAYERS

FAJR	4:02
ZUHR	12:27
ASR	5:18
Magrib	7:22
ISHA	8:54

This Day In History

- 1360 - Treaty of Brétigny signed by English & French, ending the first phase of the Hundred Years' War
- 1541 - Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto discovers the Mississippi River
- 1741 - France & Bavaria sign Covenant of Nymphenburg
- 1846 - 1st major battle of Mexican War fought at Palo Alto, Texas
- 1871 - British-US treaty ends Alabama dispute
- 1895 - China cedes Taiwan to Japan under Treaty of Shimonoseki
- 1901 - A British appointed commission estimates today that some 1,250,000 Indians have died after a severe drought, lasting since 1899
- 1902 - Mount Pelée on the French overseas island of Martinique erupts, wiping out the city of Saint-Pierre, killing 30,000 and leaving only two survivors
- 1905 - Union of Unions organizes In Russia under the chairmanship of Paul Miliukov and joins liberal groups demanding parliamentary government and universal suffrage
- 1919 - 1st transatlantic flight take-off by a navy seaplane
- 1919 - Edward George Honey first proposes the idea of a moment of silence to commemorate The Armistice of World War I, leads to the creation of Remembrance Day
- 1925 - French colonial army beats Rifkabylen in Morocco
- 1933 - Mohandas Gandhi begins a 21-day fast in protest against British oppression in India
- 1945 - Canadian troops move into Amsterdam
- 1945 - Chinese counter attack at Tsjangte, supports by 14th air fleet

Minister Gheroad In Pulwama Town

Villagers Cry For Bijli, Sadak, Pani
Observer News Service

Srinagar- Hundreds of people protesting against the lack of basic facilities in the Litar area of Pulwama staged a sit-in before the deputy commissioner's office on Monday and held the local MLA and minister of state for works hostage for several hours.

A large number of people from a number of villages adjacent of the Litar area converged on the Pulwama township on Monday morning, and held angry protests before the deputy commissioner's office.

The demonstrators said that the local hospital was seriously short of staff, the ration depots were empty, and there was no sign of electricity for the past one month while the roads were in an extremely bad shape. The slogan-shouting crowd spotted the local MLA and minister of state for R&B, Khalil Muhammad Bandh, in the premises, and instantly gheroad him, denouncing him in their chants. They accused him of touring the area after being elected to the legislature, and showing no interest in the progress and development of the villages where, according to them, thousands of people were deprived of basic amenities.

When the minister got a chance to speak amid the barrage of accusations, he cited militancy as the reason for not having visited his home turf.

The reply infuriated his accusers who reminded him that every inch of Kashmir was affected by militancy, and asked whether that meant that developmental work was taking place nowhere.

Facing uncomfortable questions from his electorate for long embarrassing moments, the minister was finally rescued by the security personnel present on the scene and his personal guards who somehow managed to extricate him from the crush of the people.

(Kashmir Observer, 08 May, 2007)

KASHMIR OBSERVERTM

Wednesday | 08-05-2024

Surge In Violence

The attack on the Indian Air Force convoy in Poonch comes as a grim reminder of the persistent threat that militancy poses to the region's security. Despite concerted efforts by security forces, militants continue to find ways to infiltrate the region and carry out attacks on security personnel and civilians. The Poonch attack followed the killing of a Village Defense Guard in Udhampur.

On Tuesday, security forces killed two militants including Basit Dar, an active operative of the Resistance Front (TRF) in Kulgam's Redwani area. Dar was on the 'most wanted list' of security agencies with a bounty of Rs 10 lakh on his head.

The sudden surge in violence has taken place despite new data on militancy indicating a drastic reduction in the number of militants in the union territory. According to recent figures, 111 active militants are now operating in the region out of which just 40 are local youth. This is for the first time in years that the ratio of active militants in J&K has changed in favour of the foreigners. While the decline in the number of local militants will be regarded as a positive development by the security agencies, the rise in the influx of foreign militants is troubling. It once again points out the perennial challenge of fighting militancy in the Valley: when the local militancy is reigned in, foreign militants step in to fill up the shortfall. As a result, the militancy goes on.

The rise of militancy in twin districts of Rajouri and Poonch in Jammu division, and which is largely led by foreign militants attests to this fact. More than a decade ago, the twin districts were declared free of militancy by the government. However, since October 2021, the region has witnessed a surge in militant attacks. Although an uneasy calm prevailed in Jammu in 2022, this year the region has once again become a hotspot for militancy, with around ten security personnel being killed in two ambushes. The dense forests of the region have made it difficult for security forces to trace them. The situation has been made even more concerning by the fact that the forest area where the militants are hiding extends to the districts in South Kashmir, which have been a hotbed of militancy in recent years.

That said, the militancy may be down but it is not out. And it is likely to linger on as long as the fresh recruitment and the infiltration continue to replenish the depleted militant ranks. And to achieve this, the government needs to also work on a political outreach in addition to a security approach which may not deliver results beyond a point.



Perks of Financial Freedom

Did you know?

Irshad Mushtaq

Financial freedom is the key to living a fulfilling and stress-free life. It allows us to have control over our finances, rather than being controlled by them. Imagine being able to spend your days doing what you love, without the worry of how you will pay your bills or save for the future. This is the power of financial freedom.

At a young age, we are often taught to sell our time in exchange for money through jobs or business ventures. While this is necessary for survival, it is not sustainable in the long run. Financial freedom is about breaking free from this cycle and earning money passively, through wise investments and saving habits.

By learning how to spend and invest wisely from an early age, we can set ourselves up for a financially secure future. Imagine being able to save just Rs 20,000 a month and investing it wisely for 20 years. The power of compounding will work its magic, and you will soon be earning Rs 2 lakh per month without having to lift a finger after 20 years. Regular income, that's called planning, wise investment.

Financial freedom is about making smart choices with our money, rather than emotional buying and selling. It is about having the discipline to save and invest for the long term, rather than seeking short-term gains through aggressive trading. It is about having the patience to let our money grow, rather than constantly chasing the next big thing.

In a world where financial education is often lacking, it is up to us to take control of our financial futures. By starting early and making smart choices with our money, we can build a solid foundation for financial freedom. The power to live the life of our dreams lies in our hands - all we have to do is take the first step towards financial freedom.

Irshad Mushtaq is an entrepreneur, business partner at Sharekhan, and author. Email irshad@bp.sharekhan.com.

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

Due to population growth and urbanisation, Srinagar city is expanding day by day. The areas located in Srinagar outskirts including the rural areas which are located on the tail ends of Budgam, Baramulla, Pulwama or Ganderbal are getting urbanised. The property rates in these areas have gone very high. The land in Rangil, Nagbal areas of Ganderbal district or Mirgund in Baramulla is not less than Rs 50 lakhs per kanal as on date. Similarly, the land rates in Kralpora, Gopalpora or Wathoora in Chadoora area of Budgam are also too high since the last 5 to 10 years.

As per 2035 Srinagar Master Plan, the total area limits of Greater Srinagar have been extended from 416 sq. km to 766 sq. km i.e.; 84% increase from the 2021 Master Plan limits. The areas include Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Cantonment Board and four municipalities of Budgam, Ganderbal, Pampore, Khrew towns - notified as the Local Area Limits of Srinagar Development Authority -SDA. These areas and small towns and villages located between 10 to 15 kms from Srinagar city centre Lal Chowk have been designated as Srinagar Metropolitan Region or SMR.

In this connection, the J & K Government passed an act around 6 years back which is known as the Jammu and Kashmir Metropolitan Region Development Authorities Act, 2018. Under this act, two regional authorities are to be set up which will be known as Srinagar Metropolitan Region Development Authority-SMRDA and Jammu Metropolitan Region Development Authority -JMRDA. These authorities have been set up in Srinagar and Jammu but that is mostly paperwork only.

No full time CEOs?

There are no full time Chief Executive Officers-CEOs for both the metropolitan authorities and the charge is held by the Commissioner Secretary Housing and Urban Development Department -HUDD J&K Govt. The Srinagar office of SMRDA operates from the office of Divisional Commissioner Kashmir who is designated as Additional CEO. An Executive Engineer posted in Srinagar Municipal Corporation -SMC has been given additional charge of SMRA. There is one Chief Accounts Officer and few clerical staff. As per the preamble of Jammu and Kashmir Metropolitan Region Development Authorities Act, 2018 this law has been enacted to provide for the establishment of Metropolitan Region Development Authorities, for the Metropolitan Regions of Jammu and Kashmir for the purposes of coordinating and supervising the proper, orderly and rapid development of the areas in such Regions and executing plans, projects and schemes for such development, and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. These authorities are supposed to work for infrastructural development outside the municipal limits as per the master plan. The Infrastructure Development Work as per this act means development of infrastructure such as roads, water supply systems and water treatment, sewerage systems, sewerage treatment and disposal, drainage, electricity transmission and distribution systems, solid waste management facility, metro railway systems, piped natural gas, communications or such other urban infrastructure which connects two or more sectors, municipal colonies or villages or which provides for the infrastructure needs of the region. The Metropolitan Region Development Authority shall be deemed to be a local authority within the meaning of the term "Local Authority" as defined in General Clauses Act 1897.

Composition of the Authority

The Metropolitan Region Development Authority established under section (1) of section 3 shall consist of the Chief Minister, Minister for Housing and Urban

"Greater Srinagar"? Only On Papers



There are many areas in Srinagar outgrowths which neither come under SMC nor other local bodies and these areas are included under Srinagar Metropolitan Region Development Authority. This authority has to execute works in these areas through different executing agencies but that isn't happening

Development, Minister for Transport, Members of Parliament in the Metropolitan Region, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Development, Mayor of the Municipal Corporation concerned, Presidents of the Municipal Committees and Municipal Council within the Metropolitan Region. The Chairpersons of the District Planning and Development Boards in the Metropolitan Region are also members of this authority along with Four Members of the Legislative Assembly, representing constituencies falling wholly or partly within the limits of the Metropolitan Region, to be nominated by the Government.

The other members include Chief Secretary, Administrative Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Department, Chief Executive Officer-CEO, Divisional Commissioner and Inspector General of Police of the respective Region, Municipal Commissioner of the Municipal Corporation within the Capital City along with experts of eminence, not exceeding six, as the Government may from time to time nominate from the field of urban infrastructure, public administration, finance, management, urban forestry, environment, engineering, town planning, Vice-Chairperson(s)/ Chief Executive Officer(s) of the Development Authorities and Deputy Commissioner(s) of the District(s) falling in the Metropolitan Region. The Chief Minister of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir shall be the Chairperson and the Chief Executive Officer-CEO shall be the Member-Secretary of the Authority.

Executive Committee

The J&K Metropolitan Region Development Authorities Act, 2018 has a provision of constitution of an Executive Committee which consists of the following members, namely:

- Chief Secretary to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir;
- Administrative Secretaries of Housing and Urban Development, Finance, Planning, Monitoring and Development, Tourism, Transport, R&B and PHE and Flood Control Departments;
- Divisional Commissioner and the Inspector General of Police of the respective Region;
- Municipal Commissioner of the Corporation in Capital City;
- Vice-Chairperson(s)/Chief Executive Officer(s) of Development Authority(ies) in the Region;
- Chief Executive Officers of Jammu & Srinagar Smart Cities Ltd.;
- Chief Executive Officer Economic Reconstruction Agency;

- Chief Town Planner, Town Planning Organization of the Region;
- Managing Director J&K Housing Board;
- Three members who are experts in the field of urban planning and infrastructure development, to be appointed by the Government; and
- Financial Advisor/Chief Accounts Officer of the Authority.

The Chief Secretary is the Chairperson of the Executive Committee and the Chief Executive Officer-CEO is the Member-Secretary of the Executive Committee.

Residents Advisory Council

Under the provisions of this act, a Residents Advisory Council-RAC has to be constituted to aid and advise the Metropolitan Region Development Authority so as to discharge its duties smoothly. The Residents Advisory Council shall consist of the Chief Executive Officer, who shall preside over the meetings of the council. This council will have the following members

- Commissioner of the Municipal Corporation concerned
- Deputy Commissioners and Superintendents of Police of the Districts falling in the Metropolitan Region
- Director Urban Local Bodies of the respective division
- Director Tourism of the respective division
- Chief Engineers of Public Works Department, Public Health Engineering Department, Power Development Department and Urban Environment Engineering Department of the Region
- such officers of the Authority, not exceeding two, as the Chief Executive Officer may, from time to time, nominate and
- such persons, not less than six and not more than ten, being residents in the Metropolitan Region, to be nominated from amongst resident welfare associations, civil society, labour, industry, real estate developers, commerce and services by the

Authority or the Executive Committee, in such manner and for such term, as may be prescribed. The Residents Advisory Council is supposed to aid and advise the Authority on the implementation of the annual plan of action for infrastructure development, mobility management plan and the plan for sustainable management of the urban environment and make appropriate such recommendations, as it may decide.

CEO with Principal Secretary's Rank

The section 13 of the J&K Met-

ropolitan Region Development Authorities Act, 2018 says that the Government shall appoint a Chief Executive Officer-CEO for the Authority who shall be an officer not below the rank of Principal Secretary to the Government. The Government on a request being made by the Executive Committee, appoints one or more Additional/Deputy/Assistant Chief Executive Officers who shall be officer(s) not below the rank of Secretary/Special Secretary/Additional Secretary to the Government. As of now the charge of CEO is held by the Commissioner Secretary to Govt HUDD but the officer is not of the rank of Principal Secretary to Government.

Powers and Functions of the Authority

The main objective of this act as per section 14 is to secure the development of the Metropolitan Region according to the Development Plan and for that purpose, the functions of the Authority is as under:

- To review any physical, financial and economic plan any project or scheme for development which may be proposed or may be in the course of execution or may be completed in the Metropolitan Region
- To formulate Schemes for the development of the Metropolitan Region or any part thereof and to execute projects and schemes
- To recommend to the Government any matter or proposal requiring action by the Government or any other authority for the overall development of the Metropolitan Region and to participate with any other authority for inter-regional development
- To finance any project or scheme for the development of the Metropolitan Region and to coordinate execution of the projects or schemes for the development of the Metropolitan Region and to supervise or otherwise ensure adequate supervision over the planning and execution of any project or scheme, the expenses of which, in whole or in part, are to be met from the Metropolitan Region Development Fund.
- To prepare schemes and advise the concerned authorities in formulating and undertaking schemes for development of social, economic and industrial infrastructure in the Metropolitan Region.

Conclusion

There are many areas in Srinagar outgrowths which neither come under SMC nor other local bodies and these areas are included under Srinagar Metropolitan Region Development Authority. This authority has to execute works in these areas through different executing agencies but that isn't happening. If the J&K Metropolitan Region Development Authorities Act has been enacted in 2018 why hasn't this law been made operational on ground? The areas like Nagbal, Pandach, Narbal, Gopalpora, Kralpora, Balhama, Khrew and many areas are urbanised but they lack basic civic amenities. There is no institution that would cater to their needs like setting up drainage systems etc. The Urban Environment Engineering Department -UEED says they can't work outside Srinagar city and the Rural Development Department has no such facilities available to cater to such demands. Where shall these people go to seek help? The dream of Greater Srinagar cannot be realized unless the Govt doesn't make Srinagar Metropolitan Region Development Authority operational.

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

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat is an Acumen Fellow. He is Founder and Chairman J&K RTI Movement and Anant Fellow for Climate Action

Hallmarks of a Great Teacher



TEACHERS HAVE TO SHUN THE OBSOLETE NOTION OF BEING THE SOLE FIGURE IN THE CLASSROOM and have to equally accommodate the learners as pivotal and relevant stakeholders of teaching-learning transaction. To remain relevant in the eyes of modern day learner, teacher has to move away from 'Chalk and Talk method' to certainly a more inclusive approach

Dr. Mushtaq Rather



The prerequisite ingredients of a good teacher are:

- 1) Learners as co-creators of knowledge:** Teachers have to shun the obsolete notion of being the sole figure in the classroom and have to equally accommodate the learners as pivotal and relevant stakeholders of teaching-learning transaction. To remain relevant in the eyes of modern day learner, teacher has to move away from 'Chalk and Talk method' to certainly a more inclusive approach. Modern day learners are no more empty vessels to be filled with the content irrelevant to their lives. NEP 2020 and National Curricular Framework for school Education 2023 (NCFSE 2023) strongly emphasizes on shifting from behaviorist model of teaching-learning to constructivist model of teaching-learning. The constructivist model of teaching-learning vociferously advocates for considering students as co-creators of new knowledge rather than mere recipients of black and white information, where in the role of the teacher is to ignite the mind of the learner and create a conducive learning environment: The learner in the thriving and enabling environment will construct new knowledge based on prior knowledge. This will truly catalyze in finding solution to most daunting and burning issues both locally and globally: be it climate change, solid waste management, drug menace, cyber security, financial fraud etc.
- 2) Repository of knowledge:** The moment a teacher stops learning, he eventually ceases to be a teacher. Professional learning is not an event, it is a continuous

journey. Educators must engage in their own learning and then only they can visualize its replication among their learners. A modern era teacher is expected to have in depth understanding not only in his/her subject but in other subjects as well. NEP 2020 strongly denounces hard separation of subjects and prioritizes multi-disciplinary approach. Modern day educator is left with no choice but to read diverse literature to evolve himself/herself as real repository of knowledge. Great teachers are not born, but made. The process is long and herculean but the outcome is rewarding. While grounded in their own respective disciplines, the teachers need to be acutely conscious that knowledge is whole and therefore, undertake inter- and multidisciplinary projects

- 3) Experimenters and innovators of pedagogy:** Teachers are supposed to experiment with their pedagogical tools to render teaching-learning process fun-centric and desirable learning outcome based. Teachers need to take risks in the academic ventures and should not shy away from trying out different methodologies to teach a particular concept. Teacher should not shun innovation for the fear of failure. A versatile teacher is the one who is willing to 'take the road less travelled' despite potential threats and failures when it comes to designing and executing innovative teaching-learning strategies.
- 4) Case study and research oriented:** Versatile teacher actively engages learners in real life complex problems by giving them relevant case

studies and research problems. Case study is truly a dynamic learning methodology as it involves asking students to delve into complex real-world issues and encourages them to propose viable solutions. If executed in its real spirit, case studies can act as a potent tool for learning across diverse disciplines. Case studies act as a crucial link between theoretical knowledge and its practical application, fostering an engaging and stimulating learning experience. Practising teachers strive to find answers to classroom problems through action research projects needs to overwhelmingly welcomed.

- 5) Mastery over Technological tools:** The hallmark feature of the 21st century teacher is the in-depth know how of technological tools to be employed in classroom setting for effective teaching-learning transaction. To render himself as an effective teacher, he has to acquaint himself with all the digital interventions in the realm of education and has to continuously hone and update his technological skills. The teacher being the facilitator has to regulate a fine balance between the traditional pedagogical approach and technological in-built pedagogy. In the era of Artificial intelligence (AI), where Augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR) have literally disrupted the landscape of education and are setting the tone of new educational discourse, therefore a teacher can not merely rely on past traditional practices and has to find a way to make space for blended mode of learning (hybrid mode of learning).
- 6) Self reflection:** Self reflection on part of the teacher is truly a catalyzing tool in the hands of teacher to delve deep in introspecting the achievements and the grey areas where he further needs to improve. Versatile teachers regularly reflect on their professional and academic pursuits. They constantly need to ask themselves: did my students learn anything today? Is there any area I could have done better? Was pedagogic strategy appropriate and fruitful? Did I collect my students feedback and thoroughly analyzed it? This kind of introspection and self-reflection will definitely enable teachers to look back and forth and become better educators. A teacher on the other hand, who does not introspect on his/her everyday academic pursuits lacks the propulsion to move forward.
- 7) Socially well-connected:** The acceptability and versatility of teachers is driven by strong social commitment. A teacher needs to exhibit utmost cautiousness and diligence of their responsibility to safeguard the fragile ecosystem and reach out to the marginalized sections of the study through education. It is the responsibility of the teacher to instill in their students a concern for the environment and the weaker sections, and motivate them to get involved in transformative extension and outreach activities with the dream of creating an equitable world. Teachers need to keep in mind that schools do not exist in isolation and therefore have to establish cohesive bonds with the community to render their institutions as vibrant learning centers.

The author is an educator

Are You a Perfectionist?

Gregory Chasson

When a job interviewer asks, "What's your greatest weakness?" many job seekers think the most strategic answer is, "I'm a perfectionist."

Yes, workers who are perfectionistic tend to exhibit a variety of positive traits, like being honest, loyal, attentive to detail, and conscientious. But perfectionism comes with many negative effects that harm a workplace and cause an organization's productivity to slow to a grinding halt. In other words, it's not the savvy interview response interviewees think it is.

There are a variety of ways that perfectionism prevents workers from advancing in their careers. Below are three overarching categories of negative characteristics of perfectionism that disrupt the workplace and obstruct a worker's career progression.

1. Dysfunctional Emphasis Framework

The Emphasis Framework characterizes the ways in which we allocate effort and value to life's tasks. The framework is characterized by three types of effort/value allocation: Emphasis A, B, and C. Emphasis A refers to an "all

out" approach—we give the task everything we've got because it's important to us (consistent with our values). For example, if we are trying to get licensed as a Speech Language Therapist, we might opt to use an Emphasis A approach to study for the licensing exam because of its importance to our career.

Emphasis B, on the other hand, is the "git'er done" strategy. Effort needs to be sufficient to get the task completed but not necessarily with excellence. The finished product doesn't need to be superb, but it doesn't need to be awful, either. Most tasks in life necessitate an Emphasis B strategy.

Emphasis C is the "don't do it at all" strategy—the decision not to allocate any attention to a task. In a healthy emphasis framework, Emphasis C is strategic. We opt not to complete a task because it's not important to us and isn't worth our resources. For example, we might choose not to open our junk mail because we don't see the value in doing so.

There's an appropriate time and place for all three of these effort strategies; there is no inherent judgment to any of them. The approach we choose for a given task in a given circumstance is based on our val-

ues and needs.

Here's the problem with perfectionists—they try to use Emphasis A for everything. Non-perfectionists have a higher use of Emphasis B relative to Emphasis A, whereas the perfectionist exhibits the reverse. Trying to adopt Emphasis A for everything is impossible, as there just isn't enough time or resources.

Perfectionists have a difficult time discerning which emphasis strategy to use, default to Emphasis A as a result, and then have a hard time switching to a different strategy (because of cognitive rigidity—see the section below). When we try to use Emphasis A for everything, we inevitably fail and need to delay or avoid other tasks. That is, tasks from Emphasis A get forced to Emphasis C. When this happens, instead of our values and needs determining our Emphasis C selection, it's the perfectionism doing so.

A dysfunctional emphasis framework sabotages workplace well-being and functioning because of all this. Deadlines are chronically missed, and tasks don't get completed due to avoidance and procrastination. This pattern also saps worker productivity.

The dysfunction in emphasis selection also occurs in plan-

ning tasks, which is called process paralysis. Perfectionists want to identify the optimal strategy for completing tasks or the ideal order of operations for completing tasks. They get stuck landing on the "perfect" strategy and as a result never even get started on the required task in the first place.

In addition, others in the workplace get sucked into the pattern via safety behaviors. These refer to the coping techniques perfectionists use to calm their anxiety, such as seeking considerable reassurance from others (e.g., "Does this email sound okay?"), excessively creating overly detailed lists, checking their work for the gazillionth time, and seeking deadline extensions and other exceptions (read: special treatment). These types of behaviors rope in everyone around the perfectionist and cause exhaustion and resentment.

2. Cognitive Rigidity

Of all the features of perfectionism, this is probably its hallmark characteristic. Cognitive rigidity refers to difficulties with shifting mindsets. It's an inflexible approach to life. We might get stuck on a perspective or with using a behavior and have a difficult time pivoting to new ones, even in

the face of evidence suggesting that we do so. This can look like stubbornness or narrow-mindedness. Often this means that perfectionists get stuck in the details of a task and have a difficult time zooming out to see the big picture.

Sometimes this cognitive rigidity takes the form of getting overfocused on rules instead of prioritizing the underlying principles that undergird those rules. In fact, a perfectionist might even get stuck abiding by a rule, even at the expense of the underlying principle.

For example, they might get stuck making sure there are no errors in their work before submitting (the rule: "check your work for errors before turning it in"), even if this causes them to miss the deadline and not get the project completed on time (e.g., the principle: "produce quality work"). In this case, the perfectionist was so stuck on the rule of not turning in a product with errors that they undermined the underlying principle of producing quality work (i.e., the work never got produced because it was not submitted on time).

Cognitive rigidity can be devastating for a perfectionist's career. It's associated with less creativity and in-

novation. The perfectionist is hyper-focused on rules and tends to struggle with flexing rules as needed. Because of their inflexibility, perfectionists tend to be seen by others as stubborn and unaffected by evidence contradicting their viewpoints and behavior. They often struggle to change based on feedback. When workers with perfectionism get stuck in the details, they often miss big-picture concepts that drive important business needs.

3. Other-Oriented Moralism

Sometimes perfectionism presents in an other-oriented manner; perfectionistic expectations are projected outward and applied to others. This means holding other people in the workplace to excessive and rigid standards. This is especially problematic when holding others to rigid and excessive moral standards.

When this type of tendency shows up, it can look a lot like the perfectionist policing others in the workplace when it's not their job to do so. They can come across as self-righteous, and coworkers feel like they must walk on eggshells around them. Coworkers often try to avoid this type of perfectionistic peer and see it as a major source of job dissatisfaction. In other words, other-oriented

moralism can create a highly toxic work environment and result in tremendous damage to a team dynamic.

Conclusion

Perfectionism is a complex construct; it comes with good qualities (e.g., loyalty, conscientiousness) but also many characteristics that adversely affect the office environment. Three areas of perfectionism in particular drive much of the damage to a career trajectory: a dysfunctional emphasis framework, cognitive rigidity, and other-oriented moralism. These three not only impair a perfectionist's ability to progress in their career, but they also disrupt the entire workplace.

Luckily, there are strategies that can help perfectionists and those who work with them. A future post will delve into some of these strategies, or you can get a comprehensive overview in my new book, *Flawed*. In the meantime, please consider the pitfalls of perfectionism in the career advancement process and remember that "I'm a perfectionist" might be a more loaded job interview response than we realize.

The article was originally published by Psychology Today

2 Terrorists Killed

been retrieved, but the search operation is going on," he said.

Describing Dar's killing as a significant achievement, Birdhi said he was involved in 18 cases including in Srinagar city.

"He was involved in the killing of police personnel and innocent civilians. He was involved in planning and carrying out attacks including on minority community members," the IGP added.

In 2022, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) announced a bounty of Rs 10 lakh on Dar.

"He was an A category terrorist carrying a bounty of Rs 10 lakh on his head from the NIA with separate reward from the Police. Basit was active since 2021. He was involved in over 18 cases including attacks on security forces and minority members in Srinagar and South Kashmir," the IGP said.

The second terrorist was identified as Faheem, a hybrid terrorism cum Over Ground Worker (OGW) from Redwani, Payeen area of south Kashmir's Kulgam.

The IGP said that police will not allow anyone to disrupt the peaceful atmosphere and election festivity in Kashmir. "We are alert and ready to foil all nefarious attempts," he said.

Search Ops

The agencies have also expanded the scope of operation to various areas of Doda, Udhampur, and Kathua districts to track down two groups of terrorists involved in the killing of a village defence guard (VDG) in the Basanghar area on April 28.

Terrorists targeted an Indian Air Force (IAF) convoy in the Shaistar area of Poonch district, resulting in the killing of an IAF corporal and injuries to four others on Saturday.

Armed with surveillance equipment, including drones and sniffer dogs, the search operation, which entered the fourth day on Tuesday, has been intensified in Shahsitar, Gursai, Sanai, Lasana, and Sheendara top in the Surankote belt and adjoining areas in Poonch district, officials said.

While some dense forest areas have been scanned and routes towards Kashmir have been plugged, there has been no trace of the terrorists involved in the attacks so far, they added.

Twenty-two people have been detained for questioning and the authorities are reviewing some CCTV footage for leads, they said.

Posters offering a cash reward of Rs 20 lakh for any information leading to the arrest of the two individuals, believed to be the prime suspects, have been put up in Surankote, they said.

In Rajouri, security forces have launched a fresh search operation and put troops on alert following reports of suspected movement of two people in Sada and Kandi areas that have been cordoned off.

Security measures have been tightened with increased checking of vehicles on busy roads, especially on the Jammu Rajouri-Poonch national highway, which is vital for the twin districts of Rajouri and Poonch -- part of the Anantnag parliamentary constituency going to polls on May 25, they said.

On April 28, a village defence guard (VDG) was killed in a brief encounter with terrorists in the remote Panara village in Udhampur district.

Security agencies have expanded the scope of the search operation to various areas of Doda, Udhampur, and Kathua districts to track down the terrorists.

The ongoing search operation, which entered its 10th day on Tuesday, has been extended to the Bhalessa areas of Doda district, while operations continue in Basantgarh, Dudu, Bani, and Seoj areas of Udhampur and Kathua districts, officials said.

However, there has been no breakthrough in the search so far, they said.

Additional Director General of Police (Jammu zone) Anand Jain had earlier said that the two groups of terrorists are believed to be present in the area after recently infiltrating from across the border, with each group consisting of four and six members, respectively.

The twin districts have witnessed several major terrorist attacks in the past two years, indicating a resurgence of terror activities in the region, which was once declared terrorism-free and remained peaceful between

2003 and 2021.

63.47% Voter

cast their vote without fear or intimidation. With the conclusion of Phase-3, polling is now over in 20 States/UTs and 283 PCs for the 2024 general elections. A total of 1331 candidates, including around 120 women, were in the electoral fray in this phase.

A total of 17.24 crore voters are eligible to cast their franchise in this phase at 1.85 lakh polling stations. At least 75 international delegates from 23 countries visited many polling stations in six states to witness the polling process. The delegates also witnessed the process of dispatching polling materials and machines to the polling teams and were appreciative of the magnitude, transparency and, most importantly, the festive mood of voters, the ECI said.

The ECI also mentioned that the voters from across 11 States/UTs participated enthusiastically to cast their vote at their polling stations, braving hot weather conditions in some areas. Special arrangements were made to mitigate the effects of hot weather conditions, including the provision of shamiyana, drinking water, medical kits, and fans for the convenience of voters, it added. Several booths installed innovative bids to entice voters, urging them to come in large numbers to exercise their franchise. The Shimoga Zilla Panchayat in Karnataka unveiled a polling booth that has majestic thrones reserved for voters. Mooting the idea that in a democracy, citizens are the lords, the unique polling station has put up thrones for voters, depicting them as kings and queens. Also, the proprietors of an ice cream shop in the Hubballi city of Dharwad offered ice creams free of charge

as part of an awareness campaign to promote voting.

The awareness campaign with the initiative "Cast Vote and Eat Ice-Cream Free" was organised in Hubballi city. Food shops in Madhya Pradesh's Indore offered free poha, jalebis, and ice cream to those who cast their votes in the early hours of polling. Some other commercial establishments in the city also offered to serve delicacies like noodles and manchurian free of charge to people who vote in the morning hours. Likewise, food establishments in Maharashtra offered discounts to customers who simply showed an ink mark on their fingers, indicating they'd voted.

Prominent leaders contesting today's poll battle included Union Home Minister Amit Shah, former Madhya Pradesh chief ministers Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Digvijaya Singh, Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, Samajwadi Party leader Dimple Yadav, and NCP (SP) leader Supriya Sule, among others.

Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Assam, West Bengal, Bihar, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Goa and Chhattisgarh are the States /UTs where polling took place in this phase. Voting in the Anantnag-Rajouri PC in Jammu and Kashmir was rescheduled to Phase 6. Also, Surat PC in Gujarat did not go to the polls as the candidate was elected unopposed. The next phase (phase 4) polling is scheduled on May 13, 2024, in 96 constituencies in 10 States/UTs. In the 2019 general election, the BJP won 72 of the 93 seats that go to the polls today. The counting of votes will be held on June 4. (ANI)

PM Modi,

PM Modi said the conduct of elections in India and their management can be a learning process for other democracies, and added that leading universities in the world should carry out a case study on the country's polls.

He also underlined the importance of voting as he called it a special gift.

PM Modi, who arrived in Ahmedabad on Monday night, reached the polling booth at Nishan Public School in Ranip locality of Ahmedabad city soon after polling began at 7 am, and cast his vote. Shah accompanied the PM when he arrived there to cast his vote.

Modi greeted people, gave autographs to them on his way to the polling booth. He shook hands with many members of the public. He also lifted a baby girl who was being carried by her mother in the crowd and spent some light moments with the child. A woman from the crowd tied a 'rakhi' to him as a token of sisterly affection.

Before entering the polling booth, the prime minister bowed down to his elder brother Somabhai Modi. He cast his vote after getting his finger inked.

After coming out of the polling booth, Modi waved to the crowd and showed his inked finger.

Modi is a registered voter from Ranip area. Somabhai Modi lives near Nishan School, which falls under Sabarmati assembly segment of Gandhinagar Lok Sabha constituency.

Talking to reporters later, the PM appealed to people to come out in large numbers to vote.

"Matdaan samanya daan nahi. Hamare desh main daan ka mahatva hai (Voting is not a common gift. In our country, a lot of importance is attached to giving donations). People of the country should vote in large numbers keeping this feeling in their hearts," Modi said.

Today is the third phase of voting and campaigning will go on for almost three weeks and four more phases of voting will be held, he said.

"As a voter from Gujarat, I have been voting from here (Nishan School) for the last many years, and our Amitbhai (Shah) is the candidate of BJP from here," Modi said.

"Today is the day of celebrations of democracy. I will congratulate the Election Commission, security forces and officials involved in conducting the first two phases of polls almost violence-free. In the past, violence during elections was very common," he said.

"I would also like to congratulate the election commission for conducting the entire election in a voter-friendly manner. The conduct of our election, our election management is such that it can be a learning process for other democracies. Big universities of the world should carry out a case study on Indian elections," Modi said.

"This year, almost 64 countries of the world are going to polls. There should be a comparison of elections between India and other countries. This year, the festival of democracy is not only in India but around the world," Modi said.

He said he would congratulate the Election Commission for adopting good practices of the world in conducting elections in India.

Modi also praised the Election Commission for adopting modern technology the poll management.

Shah cast his vote at a polling station in Naranpura locality of Ahmedabad, and appealed to voters to participate enthusiastically to elect a stable government committed to make India prosperous.

Shah greeted, interacted and even offered autographs to his supporters as he approached his polling booth at a sub-station in Ahmedabad.

Shah accompanied his wife Sonal Shah, son Jay Shah and his wife to cast his vote. After casting his vote, the Union minister posed for photographs along with his wife as he flashed his inked finger and a victory sign.

Shah greeted people after emerging from the polling booth and proceeded to a nearby temple to offer prayers along with his family members as part of the tradition he has followed on every voting day.

"I would like to urge all the voters across the country and also the voters of Gujarat to participate enthusiastically in this festival of democracy. Choose a stable government which would make the country safe, prosperous, care about welfare of the poor, and is

India's pride," Shah told media persons after casting his votes.

"Choose a government that is against corruption, that wants to eradicate poverty, make a self-reliant, developed India, and wants to take India to number one in every field in the entire world," he said.

Choose Between

constituent of the opposition INDIA bloc. "INDI alliance partners are not bothered about the fate of masses...they are fighting elections to save their dynasty," Modi maintained, targeting the opposition.

He sought to know whether a concept like "vote jihad" was acceptable in a democracy.

"Terrorists in Pakistan are threatening jihad against India. And here, those in the Congress have also announced to do vote jihad against Modi...that means people of a particular religion are being asked to vote unitedly against Modi. Imagine what level the Congress has stooped to," he said.

The BJP stalwart asked the crowd, "Do you accept the concept of vote jihad? Can this thing work in a democracy? Does the Indian Constitution allow this?"

The PM alleged the Congress had terrible intentions and quoted statements made by party leaders.

"To understand this, you will have to listen to people who have been Congress workers and leaders for 20-25 years and are now leaving the party. A woman (leader) recently said after she went to the Ram temple, she was harassed so much that she had to leave the Congress," Modi said.

Another person who left the Congress said the party has been "captured by the Muslim League and Maoists," he stated.

"Another leader who left the Congress exposed another deep conspiracy, saying the shehzada (prince) of Congress intends to overturn the Supreme Court's decision on the Ram Temple like his father did in the Shah Bano case," he said.

In 1985, the Supreme Court ruled in favour of Shah Bano, a Muslim woman from Indore who had sought maintenance from her husband after divorce, but the then-Congress government under PM Rajiv Gandhi overturned the judgement through an Act.

The PM alleged the main opposition party's "love for Pakistan" is reaching its peak every phase of voting and added "There is a competition among Congress people over (making) anti-national statements."

"A former Congress CM said our Army carries out terrorist attacks, Pakistan is innocent. Look at the shamelessness of another big Congress leader, who said Pakistan had no role in the Mumbai terror attacks (26/11)," he noted.

A leader of another Congress ally threatens India, saying Pakistan is not wearing bangles, he further said.

"I ask the prince of Congress (a reference to Rahul Gandhi) what is the intention of your colleagues who are speaking (like that)? Why so much love for Pakistan and so much hatred for our Army? That's why people say - Congress ka haath (Congress' hand)...," he said to which members of the gathering added "Pakistan ke saath" (with Pakistan).

He said, "They think that by showing their love for Pakistan, they will consolidate their vote-bank but it will be hard for them to save their deposits".

The top BJP leader alleged the Congress wanted to plunder people's property and tinker with the reservation in jobs and education given by B R Ambedkar, the chief architect of the Constitution.

For appeasement and vote-bank politics, the Congress wanted to give reservation, which is meant for SCs/ STs/OBCs, to another community on the basis of religion, Modi noted.

"They have done this. They overnight issued government orders and brought a law to provide OBC status to all Muslims (referring to Karnataka). This means they become entitled to OBC reservation. They wanted to implement the same model in the entire country," he said.

Bringing up the issue of inheritance tax, the PM noted the Congress has said they will carry out an X-ray and survey of people's assets, but "I have done an X-ray of their minds. They will snatch and distribute the assets to their vote bank. Modi is exposing their hidden agenda."

Further targeting his political opponents, the BJP stalwart maintained they have emptied their entire "dictionary of abuses" against him.

"Your vote has made India the world's fifth largest economy, led to the abrogation of Article 370 (which granted special status to J&K) and made a tribal woman president of the country. Your vote has lifted 25 crore people out of poverty," Modi said.

"Your vote has ended the wait of 500 years to make a grand temple of Lord Ram in Ayodhya," he emphasised.

He said, "In this election, your one vote will turn the country into the third largest economy and make India strong."

Polling in Khargone will be held in the fourth phase on May 13.

Before reaching Khargone, Modi met 30 booth-level workers of the BJP at the Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Airport in Indore, a party spokesperson said. PTI

Dry, Hot Weather

Moreover, Director Meteorological department (MeT), Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said that the weather is expected to remain generally dry with the possibility of afternoon thunder-shower till May 10.

On May 11, the MeT Director stated that there is a forecast of partly to generally cloudy weather with the forecast of light rain, thunder at many places.

He added that on May 12, the weather would remain generally cloudy with light to moderate rain, snow (higher reaches) at many places with thunder activity at few places while on May 13, the weather is expected to remain partly to generally cloudy with light rain at few places.

Express Discontent

This election is not for roads, power and water; rather this is an opportunity to save your identity, land and resources, she added.

Visually Impaired

The other early voter was a 90-year-old woman from the Harwan area of the city.

The nonagenarian, who goes by the mononym "Fazi", was beaming with pride after casting her vote from her home at Harwan.

A team of officials from the district election office on Tuesday went to various places in Srinagar, including the Dal Lake area, to facilitate voters who had registered themselves under the home voting facility to exercise their franchise.

473 Postal Ballots

Casting votes through the postal ballots is exclusively for Kashmiri Pandit voters who have been living their life in exile and Election Commission of India (ECI) has kept a special provision for them to vote through postal ballots.

Giving details, an official associated with the electioneering process said that the postal ballot process was completed today and these ballots have been sent to the RO (Deputy Commissioner Srinagar).

"Apart from these postal ballots, more than 13000 Kashmiri Pandit voters are registered for Srinagar Parliamentary constituency who will be exercising their franchise in 23 polling stations established in different parts of Jammu," the official informed.

The ECI has established 21 polling stations for KP voters in Jammu but two auxiliary polling stations have been established by the local authorities as two polling stations have more than 1500 votes and as per the laid guidelines these auxiliary polling stations need to be established.

The Srinagar parliamentary constituency will be going for polls on May 13 during the fourth phase of elections and the main contest for this seat is between National Conference's Aga Ruhullah Mehdi, Peoples Democratic Party's Waheed-ur-Rehman Parra and J&K Apni Party's Muhammad Ashraf Mir. (KNO)

Mehbooba Opposed

there (Kargil) because we clearly told our colleagues in Kargil that if we have to support anyone and help anyone to win, it should be Congress candidate T Namgyal.

He said the NC's colleagues in Kargil unfortunately did not accept it and decided to leave the party en masse. Expressing regret over the development, he said he had repeatedly visited Kargil after 2019 and rebuilt the NC there with a lot of difficulty.

"We cannot do anything about something that is not in our control but still I will appeal to people with National Conference in Leh and Kargil, if there are any left, to vote for Namgyal," he added.

The entire Kargil unit of the NC on Monday resigned from the party saying the party high command was pressurising them to support Congress candidate Namgyal.

Qamar Ali Akhoun, who was the additional general secretary and party in-charge for Kargil, said the political and religious organisations in Kargil had decided to support independent candidate Haji Hanifa for the Lok Sabha election. He said it was not possible for him to go against the "local consensus".

Under the seat-sharing agreement between the Congress and the NC, the two parties had agreed to field three candidates each for the six Lok Sabha seats in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. While the NC has fielded candidates on three seats in the Kashmir valley, the Congress has fielded its candidates on two seats in Jammu and one in Ladakh.

A similar situation had arisen in the 2009 Lok Sabha elections, which were contested by the NC and the Congress in a pre-poll alliance.

NC leader Gulam Hassan Khan had rebelled against the party decision to concede the mandate for Ladakh Lok Sabha seat to Congress leader P Namgyal and contested, and won, as an independent candidate.

Khan, who defeated Namgyal by a margin of 3,000 votes, supported the Congress-led UPA-II government on the advice of Farooq Abdullah.

Naib Tehsildar

necessary action against the said Naib-Tehsildar and his clerk namely Aijaz Ahmed. On receipt of the complaint, a case under FIR number 02/2024 under section 7 PC Act 1988 was registered at PS ACB Anantnag and investigation taken up," the statement said.

During the course of investigation, a trap team was constituted. The team laid a successful trap and caught the accused Magbool Hussain Dar R/o Nooripor, Pattan presently posted as Naib Tehsildar, Khrew, District Pulwama red handed while demanding and accepting bribe amount of Rs 10,000 from the complainant and the Sg Constable Ajaz Ahmad, attached with the Naib Tehsildar was also arrested for facilitating the commission of offence, the statement said, adding that further investigation into the case is going on.

HC Rules Against

Islamic University of Science and Technology, Awantipora last year.

The petitioner had applied for admission in the discipline of Civil Engineering under Sports Category and later his sports certificates were sent by varsity's Assistant Registrar Academics for verification to the Secretary J&K Sports Council Srinagar. However, the Sports Council conveyed to the University that petitioner, having single participation at the National level, is not eligible for selection under the Sports Category.

Public Figures

regarding misleading advertisements and the complaints be taken to their logical conclusion.

It said self-declarations by advertisers shall be uploaded on the 'Broadcast Seva' portal which runs under the aegis of the Ministry of

Information and Broadcasting.

Regarding advertisements in the print media, the bench said the ministry shall create a portal within four weeks and advertisers shall file self-declaration before issuing any advertisements.

The bench said the proof of filing self-declaration has to be made available by the advertiser to the broadcaster or publisher.

It also asked the health ministry to file an affidavit regarding complaints received from 2018 onwards by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India on misleading advertisements concerning food products and also details of action taken or proposed to be taken on them.

The bench referred to the Central Consumer Protection Authority guidelines including those related to children-targeted advertisements and duties of the manufacturer, service provider, advertiser and advertising agency.

It also perused the affidavits filed by the ministries of Ayush, consumer affairs and information and broadcasting.

During the hearing, the bench questioned the Centre over an August 29, 2023 letter by the Ministry of Ayush asking the licensing authorities not to initiate or take any action under rule 170 of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945.

"How can you say that don't implement a law till it is a good law?" the bench asked, adding, "It is glaring".

The bench told Additional Solicitor General K M Nataraj that the ministry shall "forthwith" withdraw the August 29 last year letter.

Referring to the affidavit filed by the ministry of information and broadcasting, the bench said it has given data about the action taken on complaints received against TV channels since 2018 till May 3 this year.

"A summary of action taken against broadcasters for violation of advertising code since 2018 shows a dismal picture," it said.

During the hearing, the bench observed there should be a proper and effective procedure for consumers to lodge their complaints regarding misleading advertisements.

"When we say consumer is king.. what if the consumer becomes simply a complainant and does not know what is happening to his complaint?" the bench asked.

Observing that it is looking at the matter with a point of view of the consumer, the bench said if there is a system in place, it should work effectively.

The bench observed advertisement is a "paid commercial venture" and has nothing to do with the freedom of press.

"You can't mute the press. At the same time, there has to be a balance," it said.

The bench also asked the counsel for the states and Union Territories to file affidavits of the relevant licensing authority regarding action taken by them in respect of misleading advertisements published or displayed which run contrary to the Drug and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1954 and rules, the Drug and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

The Uttarakhand State Licensing Authority (SLA) had earlier told the top court that manufacturing licenses of 14 products of Patanjali Ayurved Ltd and Divya Pharmacy have been suspended with immediate effect.

During the hearing on Tuesday, the bench asked the counsel appearing for Patanjali as to what they have done to withdraw the advertisements of these products.

The bench said advertisements of these products were still available on the internet, websites and channels.

"By the next date of hearing, we will come with complete plan," the counsel said.

The bench has posted the matter for further hearing on May 14.

The apex court is hearing a plea filed in 2022 by the Indian Medical Association alleging a smear campaign by Patanjali and yoga guru Ramdev against the Covid vaccination drive and modern systems of medicine.

Kejriwal Fails

Directorate, respectively. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who also appeared for the probe agency, staunchly opposed showing any leniency to Kejriwal on account of the Lok Sabha polls and said granting interim bail to the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convenor would amount to creating a separate class for politicians.

The bench has divided the hearing on Kejriwal's petition against his arrest into two parts. His main petition challenges his arrest by the ED and seeks it to be declared as illegal, while the second aspect pertains to grant of interim bail keeping in mind the ongoing Lok Sabha polls. The court has reserved the order on the issue of grant of interim bail.

Before rising for the day, the bench indicated that tomorrow the judges will be sitting in different combinations, and if the hearing on matters listed for Wednesday gets completed and the judges have time in hand, they would resume hearing Kejriwal's plea against his arrest by the ED.

"If not tomorrow, then we may take up the matter on Thursday. If not on Thursday, then we will be taking up this matter next week," said Justice Khanna, without specifying any time frame for pronouncement of verdict on the issue of interim bail.

Meanwhile, a Delhi court extended Kejriwal's judicial custody in the money laundering case till May 20.

Special Judge for CBI and ED matters Kavari Baweja extended Kejriwal's custody after the AAP leader was produced before the court through a video conference on the expiry of his remand granted earlier.

Kejriwal was arrested on March 21 and is currently lodged in Tihar Jail under judicial custody.

On April 9, the Delhi High Court had upheld Kejriwal's arrest, saying there was no illegality and the ED was left with "little option" after he skipped repeated summonses and refused to join the investigation.

The matter relates to alleged corruption and money laundering in the formulation and execution of the Delhi government's now-scrapped excise policy for 2021-22.

LG Calls For Solarization Of All Govt Buildings In J&K



KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday chaired a review meeting of the Science and Technology Department.

The meeting was attended by Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Santosh D Vaidya, Principal Secretary, Finance Department; Dr. Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to the Lt Governor; Saurabh Bhagat, Commissioner/Secretary, Science & Technology Department and senior officers of NHPC, Central and UT Government.

The Lt Governor discussed important matters related to the functioning of Jammu Kashmir Energy Development Agency (JAKEDA) and Jammu Kashmir Science Technology & Innovation Council (JKST&IC).

He took stock of the key solar power projects and schemes including Rooftop Solarization of Government and Residential buildings, Solar Power Plants installed under Smart City Project and Floating Solar Power Plants.

The Lt Governor impressed upon NHPC to solarize all Government buildings within their mandate and

instructed the Science & Technology Department to collaborate with NHPC and identify buildings for solarization.

He further directed the officials to explore the installation of solar panels along canals, riverbanks, and other water bodies, besides proper maintenance and timely replacement of street lights.

The meeting also discussed various other issues related to development of solar energy, Sub Regional Science Centre-Srinagar, Industrial Bio-Technology Park and IEC Activities under the Science and Technology field.

Com Secretary I&C Meets Stakeholders, Discusses Revival Plans

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: In a significant move to revitalize the industrial landscape of Jammu and Kashmir, the Industries and Commerce Department convened a high level interactive session on Tuesday with representatives from prominent industrial associations under the chairmanship of Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce (I&C), Vikramjeet Singh.

The session witnessed active engagement with representatives from prominent industrial associations, underscoring the government's commitment to addressing the pressing challenges faced by industrial units in the region.

Prominent industrial bodies, including The Federation of Industries Kashmir (FICK), The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI), the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI),



The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) and The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), seized the opportunity to articulate their concerns and submit memoranda outlining critical issues.

These issues, ranging from the situation of sick units to the need for marketing support and financial assistance, were carefully listened to. Valuable suggestions were also put forth to enhance the industrial ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir by

the representatives of Industrial associations.

I&C Commissioner Secretary emphasized several key initiatives undertaken by the administration to support industrial growth and address the challenges faced by industrial units in the region. He highlighted The Raising and Accelerating MSME Productivity (RAMP) program, which is a World Bank supported initiative by the Government of India to help micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) improve their productivity

and competitiveness.

The Commissioner Secretary affirmed that the government is actively considering the importance of providing marketing assistance to industrial units, a matter currently under discussion with senior officials. This forthcoming support aims to empower businesses in promoting their products and services, thereby expanding their market reach and bolstering revenue streams, he added.

He underscored the necessity of forging partnerships with additional financial institutions, such as Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), to diversify the financial support available to industrial units. This strategic collaboration with NBFCs will offer industrial units access to a spectrum of financing solutions, including loans, lines of credit, and bespoke financial products tailored to their unique requirements.

Stakeholders Hopeful For Kashmir As India's Medical Tourism Hub

Agencies

SRINAGAR: As India's medical tourism industry gears up to surpass pre-pandemic levels, stakeholders in Kashmir are optimistic about the region's potential to emerge as a prominent destination in the sector.

With its serene landscapes and upcoming healthcare investments, Kashmir is poised to attract medical tourists seeking high-quality treatment coupled with a therapeutic environment.

As per news agency, medical tourism in India is set to get a boost with projections indicating that the number of medical tourists will exceed pre-pandemic levels.

According to data released by credit rating agency Crisil, the number of medical tourists visiting India is projected to be around 7.3 million in calendar year (CY) 2024, up from 6.1 million estimated in CY 2023.

The last time these figures touched 7 million was in CY2019, before crashing due to Covid-19 induced lockdowns.

Amid this resurgence, stakeholders in Kashmir believe Kashmir's significant role in the medical tourism landscape.

With its picturesque locales, temperate climate, and improving healthcare facilities, the stakeholders claimed that Kashmir possesses the necessary ingredients to emerge as a preferred destination for medical tourists.

"Kashmir has made significant strides in upgrading its healthcare infrastructure in recent years. Coupled with the region's natural beauty and cultural richness, it presents a compelling proposition for medical tourists seeking treatment combined with a rejuvenating experience," Rauf Tramboo, President Travel Agents Association of Kashmir (TAAK).

DLSA Budgam Promotes Voter Education During SVEEP Campaign

KO NEWS SERVICE

BUDGAM: In order to promote and encourage voter literacy & participation of voter in the electoral process, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Budgam, under the Aegis of JKLSA organized awareness programme at ADR Center Budgam under SVEEP (Systematic Voter's Education and Electoral Participation).

The programme was organized by District Legal Services Authority at ADR Center Budgam.

Secretary District Legal Services Authority Budgam while speaking on the occasion highlighted the importance of Right to vote in a democracy. He also explained precautions and necessary steps to be followed by the voters while casting his vote.

Shahrooq Ahmad Bhat while deliberating upon the topic said that the casting of the vote is a fundamental right after attaining the age of 18 years. He also praised the audience for taking part in the voting process in order to choose their representative and also elucidated the rights of the voters in light of the constitution.

Adv. Zafer Mehdi while speaking on the topic said that the reasons and fundamentals behind the system of voting. Adv. Feroz Ahmad further shed light on the rights of voters and promotion of voter literacy and voter participation.

Advocate Arizo also highlighted the importance of female participation in the electoral process of the country as 33% reservation is meant for the females to represent their voices.

Properties Of 7 Pak Based Terror Handlers Attached In Bla: Police

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Police in Baramulla on Tuesday said that properties of seven terror handlers based in Pakistan have been attached after obtaining attachment order passed by Additional Sessions Court Baramulla.

The properties attached include 13 Kanals of land worth lacs belonging to terror handlers based in Pakistan namely Shabir Ahmad Sofi son of Gul Sofi resident of Sheikhpora, Gh Nabi Alaie son of Mohd Sultan resident of Waripora Payeen, Gh Nabi Sheikh son of Ghulam Mohiuddin resident of Warpora Bala, Sharief ud din Chopan son of Satar Chopan, Gulla Sheikh son of Gh Mohd, both residents of Reshipora Aut-

hoora, Mohd Rafiq Khan son of Abdul Ahad resident of Saloosa & Ab Hameed Parray son of Mohd Akbar resident of Frasthar Tilgam, a police spokesman said in a statement issued to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) reads.

The action was taken under sections of 88 CRPC & are linked with case under FIR number 04/2008 under section 2/3 EIMCO Act, 121 RPC, 7/25 IA Act, 13 UA (P) Act of PS Kreeri, police said.

The property was identified belonging to terror handlers during the course of investigation/enquiry conducted by Police. The operation reaffirms the commitment of Police to combat the terror activities, police said—(KNO)

HAJJ 2024: 320 Pilgrims Departing From Sgr Intl Airport On May 9

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A total of 7008 Hajj pilgrims from Jammu and Kashmir will be embarking on a holy journey to Mecca and Madina this year, with the first flight scheduled to leave Srinagar International Airport on 9th May 2024, officials said.

Dr. Shujhat Quershi, Executive Officer (EO) of J&K Hajj Committee, while speaking to the news agency, reiterated the committee's dedication to ensuring a seamless experience for the pilgrims, affirming the exhaustive arrangements to facilitate the holy journey for pilgrims.

He said that a total of 7008 Hajj pilgrims were intending holy pilgrimage to Mecca and Madina, of which around 6800 are going through Srinagar embarkation and over 500 through Delhi embarkation.

"6,852 pilgrims will be embarking from Srinagar, inclusive of those from Ladakh, while 541 pilgrims will depart from other airports, primarily Delhi airport. The departure of Hajj pilgrims from Jammu and Kashmir will commence from 9 May 2024 and in the first batch there will be 320 Haj pilgrims," he said.

In response to the flight schedule status of pilgrims, he said that for 9 & 10 May they have already updated the flight status for pilgrims and that for the 11th May they will update it by today evening on the website of Hajj Committee of India.

"On 9 and 10 May, a total of



four flights will leave from Srinagar Airport with two flights each day comprising 320 pilgrims," he said.

He said that the pilgrims can check their flight status on the website of Hajj Committee of India under the enquiry section by entering their cover number.

Dr. Quershi said that 37 female pilgrims will also undertake the sacred journey without a Mahram, with the majority embarking from Srinagar, and that the boarding passes to custom clearance have been meticulously coordinated to ensure a hassle-free experience for the pilgrims and their families.

He said that the Haj House will serve as a focal point for all formalities, streamlining the process for the pilgrims' convenience.

Dr. Quershi said that collaborative efforts across various departments, including health, security, and emergency services, will be in place and that

the training sessions have also been conducted twice to equip pilgrims with essential information and guidance for their pilgrimage.

He revealed that this year's pilgrimage will commence with a visit to Madina, with all pilgrims accommodated in Markaziya. He said enhancements have been made in Minha, with tents now strategically positioned in zones 2, 3, and 4, elevating the overall experience for the pilgrims.

Notably, in a recent review meeting, chaired by Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, where he stressed upon the officers to ensure a smooth and efficient pilgrimage experience.

Directives were issued to concerned authorities to deploy adequate staff, install necessary machinery, and provide transportation services, aimed at facilitating the pilgrims' journey with utmost care and convenience—(KNO)

LG Reviews Functioning Of Cooperative Department



KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today chaired a meeting to review the functioning of the Cooperative Department.

The Lt Governor took appraisal of the interventions and Schemes in Cooperative Sector including the progress achieved in establishing Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS). He reviewed the functioning of Cooperative Banks, Cooperative Training & Educational Institutions, Societies and Cooperative Super Bazaars.

The Lt Governor appraised measures taken for modernization and upgradation of existing Super Bazaars, with a focus on devising a comprehensive roadmap to strengthen these essential retail hubs.

He called for exploring avenues for enhancing the infrastructure, services, and market reach of Super Bazaars to better serve the consumers and promote economic growth. He said the dedication, determination, faith and collective efforts of cooperatives will pave the way to prosperity.

The meeting also reviewed the functioning of Common Service Centers (CSCs). The Lt Governor directed for ensuring CSCs compliance with regulatory standards.

He emphasized the importance of enhancing transparency and accountability in the delivery of services through CSCs, reaffirming the administration's commitment to citizen-centric governance.

He directed the officials to take effective steps to address the issues pertaining to pesti-

cide distribution and underlined the need for stringent quality control measures to safeguard farmers' interests.

Collaborative efforts between the government, cooperatives, and other stakeholders are must to streamline processes, enhance service delivery, and promote inclusive growth in the cooperative sector, the Lt Governor said.

Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Sh. Santosh D Vaidya, Principal Secretary, Finance Department; B. Sridhar, CGM NABARD; Dr. Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Vijay Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Ms. Babila Rakwal, Secretary to Government, Cooperative Department, representatives of RBI and other senior officials attended the meeting.

MoE Urges JK Govt To Reevaluate Pre-Samagra Shiksha Education Labs

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Ministry of Education (MoE) has asked the Jammu and Kashmir School Education Department to reassess the 'previously approved education labs' that were permitted years before the Samagra Shiksha scheme here.

Besides, the ministry further directed to develop a list of proposed new roles that could be created in accordance with the requirements.

According to the official documents available with the news agency, MoE while reviewing the skill education said, "It was observed that a total of 1315 skill education labs were approved to the UT, out of which 553 are functional and 762 are pending in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir including the pre-Samagra Shiksha years."

Further, the MoE emphasized that the National Education Policy 2020 underscores the importance of skill education for all students, especially

those in the secondary stage of schooling.

"States and UTs are urged to reassess these previous approvals in light of the changing job roles and develop a list of proposed new roles that could be created in accordance with the requirements," it reads.

In the meantime, MoE said that displaying photographs of teachers is one of the priority areas of the 3rd Chief Secretaries Conference for addressing the issue of proxy teachers and teacher absenteeism.

"It was underlined that this is a continuous process and the photographs of teachers should be displayed in a public area in the school premises. Moreover, provision should be there in the schools where the photographs are displayed for changing the photographs in case of transfer or retirement of a teacher," MoE said—(KNO)

A decade on, Zaffran colony-Pampore road continues to be in dilapidated condition, puts commuters safety at risk

Traffic To Hold Lok Adalat For Pending Violations On May 11

Agencies

SRINAGAR: As a concerted effort to tackle the mounting issue of pending traffic violations, the Special Mobile Magistrate Traffic Court Kashmir has announced Lok Adalat for May 11.

A closer examination of the challan data by the news agency, has shown thousands of individuals have been asked to address their pending challans. These infractions encompass a wide spectrum of offences with fines ranging from a nominal Rs. 100 to Rs 10,000 and beyond per person.

Further, the data showed some individuals find themselves with as many as 12, 10 or 9 outstanding challans, signifying recurrent violations of traffic laws. The cumulative sum of fines accrued by

these offenders is estimated to run into lakhs.

The Lok Adalat serves as the final recourse for individuals burdened with multiple pending traffic challans. "Failure to appear on the specified date could result in the drastic measure of recommending the cancellation of vehicle registration certificates (RCs) for the violators," reads an official public notice, issued by Traffic Police Rural Kashmir, as accessed by KNO.

"In emphasizing the paramount importance of adhering to traffic regulations, the court underscores the critical role of motorists in maintaining road safety. All summoned individuals are urged to ensure their presence on the designated date to resolve their pending challans," it reads further—(KNO)

Man Killed Over Land Dispute In Jammu

Agencies

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir police has stepped up their efforts in the ongoing investigation into the murder of a person over a land dispute here and have conducted multiple raids at the residences of suspects, officials said on Wednesday.

The incident occurred on May 1, when Avtar Singh (40), son of Balbir Singh, was hit on his head with an iron rod and died because of excessive bleeding during a scuffle between two groups, who staked their claim over the piece of land in Greater Kailash locality.

An angry mob, including the family and relatives of the deceased, blocked Kalu-Chak road on Jammu-Pathankot national highway and demanded a CBI

probe into the killing, police said. "Continuing crackdown on suspects and accused involved in the Greater Kailash murder case, police seized two vehicles involved in the commission of crime along with raids at houses of suspects to affect their arrest," a police spokesman said.

He said that the police examined the CCTV footage of the area around the crime spot and digitally picked up relevant evidence, he said.

Police remain committed to solving the crime and attacking its root causes, he said.

Eight people have been detained in connection with the case so far, he said. Two police officers were suspended in connection with the murder and a departmental inquiry was ordered.



Rohit Sharma Advised To Consider Sabbatical Ahead Of T20I World Cup

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: Former Australia captain Michael Clarke does not read much into Rohit Sharma's string of poor scores, but suggests that the "fatigued" Indian skipper take a break to freshen up ahead of the T20I World Cup. Rohit, who will lead India in the next month's 20-team global showpiece, has four single-digit scores in his last five outings for his franchise Mumbai Indians in the ongoing IPL.

The 37-year-old has had a busy season this year with an intense five-Test series preceding the IPL for Mumbai Indians, who are all but eliminated from the race to the playoffs this year. "Rohit, being the wise judge of his own performances, will undoubtedly be disappointed,

especially considering his strong start. In my view, he might be feeling a bit fatigued as well," Clarke told Star Sports.

"A break to freshen up could do wonders for him, but as the Indian captain and a key player for Mumbai Indians, you're not getting a break. He's going to have to find form," Clarke continued.

Rohit played as an impact substitute in their match against Kolkata Knight Riders last week, raising some concerns for the Indian camp. However, he played a full game against Sunrisers Hyderabad three days later.

Clarke said it is only a matter of time before Rohit gets back to his usual elements as a batter. "He was in a great mood. He's happy, which is a really good sign. He doesn't seem to be struggling with

his timing; it's just a matter of getting out," he said. "With someone like Rohit, it's only a matter of time before he finds his form again. Hopefully, he stresses less and focuses on his game because he's too talented to keep missing out. He's at his best when he's timing the ball, rather than trying to force it," he added.

Clarke, meanwhile, also had praise in store for Rohit's deputy for the World Cup and MI skipper Hardik Pandya, who returned with 4-0-31-3 in their seven-wicket win over SRH on Monday.

"In the last couple of games, he's been taking wickets with his bowling, making some adjustments along the way. For an all-rounder, success in one department boosts confidence across the board," Clarke said.

Gandhi College Holds Annual Cross Country Run For Girls



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Gandhi College hosted its Annual Cross Country Run for female students on Tuesday.

The five-kilometer race was flagged off by the Principal of the College, Prof A. Wahid Makhdoomi, at 7:07AM from Duck Park Fore-shore Road.

Over 60 girl students lined up at the starting line, ready to test their endurance and skills. The course took runners through the foreshore road, winding along the edge of the Dal Lake.

Second-Semester student Umaira Jan finished in first place, completing the course in an impressive time of 25 minutes and 22 seconds.

Umaira, an accomplished long-distance runner, pulled ahead of the pack early on and maintained a steady pace to secure the victory.

"I'm thrilled to have won the cross country run," said Umaira. "The training has really paid off, and I am proud to represent Gandhi College. This is just the start - I'm looking forward to more competitions in the future," she added.

Second and third place went to Muskaan Rehman and Huriya Nazir of 2nd and 4th Semesters respectively. The top finishers received trophies and certificates in recognition of their achievements. Two consolation prizes were bagged by Soliha Tariq and Mewish Showla respectively.

Inter-School Chess Competitions Organised In Baramulla



Observer News Service

BARAMULLA: The Department of Youth Services and Sports District Baramulla organized Inter-School Zonal Level competitions across various zones, in accordance with the Annual Sports Calendar 2024.

In this connection, Zone Dangi-wacha successfully organized an Inter-School Zonal Level chess competition for under-14 and under-17 girls at HSS Dangi-wacha. The event witnessed participation of 36 students in the under-14 category and 10 students in the under-17 category, representing various schools of Zone Dangi-wacha.

Nazir Ahmad Bhat, the District Youth Services and Sports Officer Baramulla, emphasized the significance of organizing sports events as they offer students a platform for holistic development.

Through sports, students learn valuable life skills such as teamwork, discipline and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Such initiatives not only promote physical well-being but also contribute to the overall growth and character building of the youth in the community, he added.

Certificates were awarded to the position holders, recognizing their exemplary performance and sportsmanship.

Inter-School Sports Events Continues Across Ganderbal

Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: DYSS Ganderbal organised several Inter-School Zonal Level sports competitions across the district in which talented young athletes showcased their skills and passion on the field.

Zone Ganderbal took the lead by organizing a dynamic zonal level Football competition for boys under-14 category.

The event, which took place for the second consecutive day, witnessed 91 students from Zone Ganderbal exhibit their prowess and dedication in the game.

Meanwhile, in Zone Kangan, another exhilarating Inter-School Zonal Level football competition unfolded, attracting approximately 176 young athletes from across the zone.

In parallel, Zone Tullamulla played host to an enthralling



inter school Zonal level Handball competition at GHSS Tullamulla and Football competition at MS Guzama and GMS Kurag.

The events garnered a significant turnout of student participants. District Youth

Services and Sports Officer (DYSSO) Ganderbal expressed his appreciation for all stakeholders involved, acknowledging their relentless efforts and unwavering commitment to fostering a culture of sports among the youth.

YSS Anantnag Holds Cycling Event To Promote Voter Awareness



Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: To foster voter awareness and active civic participation, the Department of Youth Services and Sports, in collaboration with the Nodal Officer SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation) Anantnag, orchestrated a cycle race in Anantnag on Tuesday.

The event, held under the auspices of the SVEEP, exem-

plifies a unique convergence of sportsmanship and civic duty.

Against the backdrop of the breath-taking scenery of Anantnag, enthusiastic participants from across the region fervently pedaled through the verdant landscapes.

"The collaborative effort between the Youth Services and Sports and the Nodal Officer SVEEP Anantnag underscores the importance of synergizing diverse sectors in the pursuit

of a more engaged and participative electorate," the department said in a press release.

"By leveraging the universal appeal of sports, we endeavor to catalyze meaningful dialogues and inspire collective action towards building a stronger, more inclusive democracy.

"Together, let us continue to pedal towards a future where every voice is heard, and every vote counts."

Ancelotti Demands Pace & Intensity From Real Madrid Against Bayern

Reuters

MADRID: Manager Carlo Ancelotti urged Real Madrid to play with more pace and intensity if they want to keep alive their hopes of securing the LaLiga-European Cup double by beating Bayern Munich in the return leg of their Champions League semi-final on Wednesday.

Real wrapped up the LaLiga title over the weekend with four matches to spare but that has not stopped Ancelotti from being extremely critical of his team's performance in their 2-2 draw in the first-leg of the Champions League semi in Germany. He has warned his players



that they cannot afford another sub par performance if they want to contest the June 1 final at Wembley Stadium.

"We need a match with intensity, with pace... Looking at the

first leg, defensively we could have done a lot more," Ancelotti told a press conference on Tuesday, insisting that his side cannot afford to underestimate the challenge posed by Bayern

despite the German side's disappointing domestic campaign.

Bayer Leverkusen ended Bayern's 11-year Bundesliga reign by securing the league crown last month but Ancelotti said the six-times European Cup winners will have extra motivation to win the only trophy they can still fight for this season.

"(Bayern and Real) are similar clubs because they have a great history and a lot of success. We have to respect our opponents because they did very well and better than us in the first leg," Ancelotti said.

"We are very excited because it could be another magical night for us, but there is no optimism.

We are aware of the difficulties that we are going to face."

Defender Dani Carvajal, one of most experienced players in Real's changing room and winner of five Champions League titles with the Spanish giants, admitted that they feel the fans remain confident about their chances of reaching the final due to their unbeaten run in the competition this season.

He joked that Ancelotti was "getting more and more fearful" over the years, but praised his coach's role in keeping the changing room focused on winning a record-extending 15th title in Europe's premier club competition.

Short TAKES

Lara Backs India-West Indies T20WC Final, Wants Surya At No. 3



Suryakumar Yadav has to bat at number three, said the legendary Brian Lara as he rooted for an India-West Indies final at the T20 World Cup next month to fix the "wrong" of 2007 when India's early exit "killed us in the Caribbean".

"My one advice, and I don't know if you're going to like it or not, but Sky has to bat at three. He just has to bat at three," Lara said.

Bangladesh Overcome Zimbabwe, Clinch Series With 9-Run Win

Bangladesh clinched the five-match T20I series with a nail-biting defence over Zimbabwe following their 9-run run triumph in the third match at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium on Tuesday. A late surge from Faraz Akram 34*(19) rattled Bangladesh's nerves but they held on to their nerves to take an unassailable 3-0 lead in the series.

Unlike the previous two games, Zimbabwe won the toss and put Bangladesh to bat and they managed to crawl to 165/5.

Lunin To Start In Goal For Madrid In Second Leg CL SF v Bayern

Real Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti is not taking any chances in goal for the second leg of the Champions League semifinal against Bayern Munich on Wednesday, keeping Andriy Lunin as the goalkeeper despite Thibaut Courtois' return from injury last weekend.

Ancelotti said Tuesday he will stick to the plan of starting Lunin at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium even though Courtois had an assured performance in the 3-0 win over Cadiz on Saturday, which allowed Madrid to clinch the Spanish league title.

Chelsea's Silva Returning To Hometown Club Fluminense

Chelsea centre back Thiago Silva will return to his hometown club Fluminense in the close season, the Brazilian Serie A side said on Tuesday.

Silva, who announced last month he would leave Chelsea after a four-year stay at the club, began his youth career at Rio de Janeiro-based Fluminense in 1998. He returned to Fluminense for another three-year spell before joining AC Milan in 2009. "I'm coming home," Silva said in an Instagram post

England Fans Told To Use 'Common Sense' At Euro 2024

Agencies

LONDON: English police said soccer fans travelling to the Euro 2024 tournament in Germany later this year should use their common sense about culturally sensitive behaviour to avoid falling foul of German public order laws.

Britain will send its largest ever deployment of officers to work with their German counterparts to help



police the tournament with more than 300,000 fans expected to travel, many without tickets. The exact size of the police deployment was not disclosed. British police, the foreign office and supporter groups will offer guidance to fans to help them avoid them breaking German law, warning that local police could issue on-the-spot fines and escort offenders to the nearest bank to ensure payment.

But, the majority of fans knew what was right and wrong, said Mark Roberts, the National Police Chiefs' Council's Lead for Football Policing

"Let's be realistic, some of this stuff you really don't need telling that's its going to be a criminal offence in any normal Western democracy, so there is an element of common sense here," Roberts said at a briefing alongside German police in London.

"You don't really have to get your almanac out to check the finer points of German legislation, just go and be a good guest and have a good time."

When England played against Germany in a 2017 friendly in Dortmund, it resulted in the English Football Association condemning the behaviour of some fans, who were seen making Nazi salutes.