

JHELUM STRIKES AGAIN

Two Missing After Boat Capsizes In Pulwama



KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Two persons went missing while seven others were rescued after a boat capsized in a river in Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama district on Wednesday, officials said. A boat carrying nine people capsized in river Jhelum in Hatiwara area of Awantipora in the south Kashmir district, the officials said. A rescue operation has been launched by SDRF teams, police and locals to rescue the two missing

persons, they added. Tehsildar Pampore, Asif Ali said that the two missing persons are residents of Uttar Pradesh. "9 people were crossing the river. They were doing some work on the other side of the river. Unfortunately, the boat capsized (/topic/boat-capsized)... Two people are missing, and both are residents of Uttar Pradesh. The State Disaster Response Force, police administration, paramilitary forces...are carrying out a rescue | [More on P6](#)

Locals Question Slow Progress On Gandbal Bridge

Following the tragedy after a boat capsized in Srinagar's Gandbal, Roads and Buildings department has resumed work on the footbridge with construction workers brought from Jammu's Udhampur. Locals from Gandbal and Batwara said that they are yet to see the work in full swing on the bridge | [More on P6](#)

4 Special Polling Booths For Kashmiri Migrants Set Up In Delhi

Observer News Service

New Delhi: To facilitate Kashmiri Migrants residing in Delhi, to cast their votes in person on the polling days during Lok Sabha elections on the seats across Jammu and Kashmir, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has established special polling booths for the community at different locations in the capital. These booths have been established at Kashmir Resident Commission, 5 PR Road New Delhi, Kashmir Kissan Ghar BR-2 Shalimar Bagh Delhi, Arwachin International Public School Pocket F Dilshad Garden, Delhi and GGSSS Paprawat Najafgarh, Delhi. "The Election Commission of India, in a first, has instructed for providing free of cost to and fro transportation facility for the Kashmiri Migrants



eligible to cast their ballot in these special booths," reads a communication received here today by the office of AERO/ARO, Migrants, New Delhi. The transport service will be provided to KMs from the camps to their respective polling stations and back to camps. With an aim to extend requisite support and help to the Kashmiri migrant voters, the office of | [More on P6](#)

HC Orders Reinstatement Of BSF Cook After 16 Yrs Of Dismissal

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has ordered reinstating of a person into services, more than sixteen years after he was dismissed from services of Border Security Forces. A bench of Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal while allowing a petition filed by Naseer Ahmad, who was dismissed from services on 4 February 2008, however left it open for the BSF to hold an inquiry against him in accordance with the provisions of the Border Security Force Act and Rules framed thereunder after giving an opportunity of being heard, "if they so desire." "What appears to this court is that the respondents (BSF authorities) have turned a blind eye to the

fact that it was obligatory upon the respondents to inform the petitioner (Naseer) together with all reports adverse to him and also providing an opportunity to him to submit, in writing, his explanation and defence, however the same has not been complied with by the respondents," the court said. The court also observed that the BSF authorities have flouted the principles of natural justice in addition to the mandate of the provisions contained in Act of 1968 and the Rules framed thereunder. "Thus, it becomes writ large on the face of record that there has been total non-compliance of constitutional and statutory safeguards available to the petitioner," the court said. The court | [More on P6](#)

Ensure 100% Aadhaar Seeding In Social Welfare Schemes: LG To Officials

Calls For Dedicated Efforts To Ensure Well-being Of Citizens & Empower Women



Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today chaired a meeting to review the functioning of the Social Welfare Department. The LG took appraisal of the saturation of social welfare schemes. He directed the officials to make dedicated efforts to ensure 100% Aadhaar seeding of the beneficiaries under various schemes. While reviewing the performance of Poshan Abhiyaan, the LG directed the officials to conduct a study to assess the impact of the scheme on the ground.

He also reviewed the performance of Anganwadi Centres and directed the officers to ensure that all Anganwadi Centres are fully functional with all the facilities in place. The LG emphasized the role of Anganwadi Centres as a hub for health, nutrition, early learning, responsive care, security and safety of children. He said the effective and efficient functioning of Anganwadi Centres is key to child development. He also observed that villages and cities should be made malnutrition and anaemia free and to also focus on aadhaar seeding on Poshan

tracker and widening the scope of corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Asserting that Poshan Maah and Poshan Pakhwada are two important components of Poshan Abhiyaan, the LG said that there is a need to further increase the IEC activities so that benefits reach all intended beneficiaries. He said the administration's focus should be on socially, educationally and economically marginalized sections of the society, empowerment of women and also discussed steps required to create an environment so they can realise their full potential. | [More on P6](#)

"EXTEND FACILITIES, DIGITIZE ARCHIVES"

LG Vows Enhanced Cultural Experiences

Observer News Service

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday chaired a meeting to review the functioning of the Department of Culture. The LG discussed the matters related to promotion of glorious culture and heritage of J&K UT and took stock of the measures taken for protection and preservation of cultural heritage. The LG emphasised on protection and promotion of diversity of architectural expressions and suggested improvement in existing policy framework. The LG also enquired about the response of the public towards the libraries established by the | [More on P6](#)

KULGAM ENCOUNTER

3rd Terrorist Killed, Search Operation On

Agencies

Srinagar: Third terrorist was killed in a gunfight that resumed after a lull of over 24 hours in the Redwani area of Kulgam, officials said on Wednesday. The 45-hour-long gun battle in the hamlet continues as the search operation at the site is still going on. A top police official said that a third militant, who was holed up at the site of the encounter, was killed this evening. He added that the gunfight resumed again after 24 hours today when the hiding terrorist fired upon the security forces, who were conducting a search operation after killing two terrorists including a top Lashkar-e-Toiba commander. Two LeT/TRF terrorists, including top commander Basit Dar who was carrying a bounty of Rs 10 lakh on his head, were killed in the encounter yesterday at the same spot. The encounter broke out on Monday evening and continued for nearly 45 hours. Earlier, the officials said that two bodies | [More on P6](#)

Sajad Lone's Election Affidavit

Rs 12 Cr Assets, 30-Year Dispute With MMTc Disclosed

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Separatist-turned-mainstream politician and People's Conference chairman Sajad Gani Lone has disclosed assets worth around Rs 12 crore and also mentioned a dispute spanning 30 years with the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation in his election affidavit. Sajad Lone, who joined mainstream politics and revived his father Abdul Gani Lone's People's Conference, has liability to the tune of Rs 6.9 crore, showed the affidavit, filed by the 57-year-old as part of his nomination papers



to contest the Lok Sabha polls from Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla constituency on May 20. He is contesting against National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah.

- Assets disclosed: Around Rs 12 crore
- Wife's assets: Rs 54.80 lakh
- Total immovable assets: Rs 11.20 crore
- Annual income growth (From 2019 To 2013): From Rs 37 lakh to Rs 81.79 lakh.
- Liabilities: Rs 6.9 crore

The movable assets of Sajad Lone's wife Asma Khan, the daughter of terrorist outfit Jammu and | [More on P6](#)

'Out Of Terror Shadow' Massive Turnout In Pulwama Poll Rally Signals Political Shift

Press Trust Of India

Pulwama: There was a gathering and a procession in Wasoora village here on Wednesday as people came out in large numbers to participate in a poll rally, unseen till a few years ago due to the threat of terrorism. They were attending PDP's Srinagar Lok Sabha seat candidate Waheed Para's campaigning in the village, around 50 kilometres from Srinagar. Villagers embarked on the procession from Tahab to Chandgam, around 4 kilometres apart and an area previously heavily monitored by security forces to counter local and foreign terrorist threats. Addressing the crowd from

a tipper truck, Para urged the people to exercise their voting rights in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections scheduled for May 13 and emphasized the importance of civic participation. "I am not here to criticise any political party, be it the National Conference, Congress or the BJP. Vote for me if you believe in my work, or choose a candidate who aligns with your values. "The key message remains the same — exercise your right to vote," Para, who faces legal challenges linked to alleged terror activities, said during his address. Ever since Para has been nominated by the PDP, he has been holding roadshows and Wednesday's event was a spontaneous one | [More on P6](#)

LAND SINKING AT RAMBAN NDMA Expert Team Starts Survey

Observer News Service

Ramban: A team of experts from the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), deputed by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India has started a comprehensive on site survey of Land Subsidence affected area Pernote in Ramban District. Led by Chief Scientist Prof. D.P. Kanungo from CBRI, the technical expert committee, comprising Dipali Jindal and Ranu Chauhan from NDMA, Vivek Coelho from UNDP and Dr. Ravinder Singh from NIDM commenced its assessment from May 7, 2024. The team is conducting a thorough examination of the reasons behind the land subsidence and the future | [More on P6](#)

Religion Cannot Be Basis For Providing Reservation: PM

Agencies

Srinagar: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has urged the Muslims to introspect what benefits Congress has given to them during their 70-year rule and reiterated that religion cannot be the basis for providing reservation. In an interview to Times Now, PM Modi asked the educated lot of the Muslim



community is lagging behind, what is the reason for that. "Why you people didn't get the benefit of government schemes during the Congress rule? Have you been the victim of predicament during the Congress rule, introspect and think," he said. He, however, reiterated that religion cannot be the basis for providing reservations as it goes | [More on P6](#)

'Minorities Have Equally Benefited From Welfare Schemes'

Union Minister Jitendra Singh on Wednesday said the minorities have equally benefited from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's welfare schemes. Addressing an election meeting at Uluberia Lok Sabha constituency, which has a considerable population of minority voters, he said that over the years a number of misgivings have been sought to be created by the Congress about the BJP. "These are all | [More on P6](#)

LAL SINGH'S BAIL HC Adjourns Hearing Till May 22

Press Trust Of India

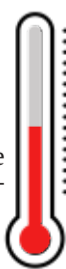
Jammu: The Jammu and Kashmir High Court on Wednesday heard a petition of the Enforcement Directorate seeking cancellation of bail to Congress Lok Sabha poll candidate Lal Singh and his wife and adjourned the matter till May 22 after the ED failed to submit its grounds for the same. The single judge bench of Justice Rajneesh Oswal also heard the petitions filed by Singh and his wife Kanta Andotra who sought quashing of cases filed by the ED and the CBI. Singh, the Congress nominee from J-K's Udhampur Lok Sabha seat, was arrested by the ED last year in connection | [More on P6](#)

Kashmir Records Season's Hottest Days

Rain Expected From May 11

Agencies

Srinagar: For the second straight day, almost all the stations across Kashmir recorded the hottest day of the season as the mercury continued to rise here amidst the forecast of hot and dry weather conditions for next few days. Srinagar, the summer capital of J&K, recorded the hottest day of the season at 30.4 degree Celsius. Jammu, the winter capital of the Union territory also recorded the hottest day of the season at 38.6



degree Celsius. The sudden rise in the maximum temperature was recorded yesterday after the frequent wet spells in Jammu and Kashmir, which simultaneously led to the increase in the water level in all the water bodies, causing a flood like situation. However, on the second straight day, Qazigund, Pahalgam, Kokernag, Kupwara and Gulmarg among other areas recorded the season's hottest day today. In Qazigund the mercury settled at 29.2 degree Celsius while in Pahalgam and Kokernag recorded the hottest day of the season at 25.7 degree Celsius and 27.4 | [More on P6](#)

'Allegations Suspicious' HC Grants Bail To Gang Rape Accused

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: The Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court at Jammu on Monday granted bail to two men accused of gang-raping their brother's wife. Court held that there appeared "a clear tendency of the woman to make allegations involving her in-laws in heinous offences in a bid to settle scores for her disturbed marital life." "The manner in which the respondent No.2 (the woman) has improvised at every stage brings the prosecution case of gang rape against the petitioners in the realm of suspicion," said a single judge bench of Justice Sanjeev Kumar. The woman got married in



October 2020 as per Muslim rites and rituals. One year later, she filed a complaint before the Inspector General of Police (IGP), Jammu alleging that her father-in-law, mother-in-law, and brother-in-law had been torturing, abusing, and harassing her from the very next day of her marriage for not bringing enough dowry.

The initial FIR was registered under Sections 354/342, 498, 498-A, 504/506 of the IPC. Subsequently, offences under Section 376, 376-D of IPC were added to it based on the woman's statement recorded under Section 164 of CrPC. She alleged that her husband's real brother and one cousin raped her twice. The accused persons went up to the top court for relief in the matter which redirected them to jurisdictional court. In March this year, Sessions Judge (Special Judge, Fast-track Court POCOS Cases), Jammu declined to grant regular bail to the accused brothers-in-law. Hence, they moved the high court by filing an | [More on P6](#)

Home Voting Continues In Srinagar For 2nd Straight Day

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Home voting for senior citizens and persons with disabilities (PwDs) continued for the second consecutive day in Srinagar, with polling teams facilitating 'Vote from Home' for eligible voters. According to reports, a 96-year-old woman cast her vote at Fateh Kadal, marking another instance of civic participation in the electoral process. Senior citizens in Srinagar have expressed gratitude to the Election Commission of India for

introducing the 'Vote from Home' facilitation, which has provided convenience and accessibility to voters aged 85 and above, as well as PwDs. In a video received by KNO, a 105-year-old man and an 85-year-old woman shared their appreciation for the initiative, highlighting the comfort and freedom from long queues experienced through home voting. "We feel comfortable voting at home. We are thankful to the government for such an initiative," they said.



CEO For Ramping Up SVEEP Activities To Ensure Maximum Voter Turnout In Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Jammu and Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole, today chaired a meeting here to oversee the readiness for smooth conduct of Lok Sabha Election-2024 in Srinagar district.

District Election Officer (DEO), Dr Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, who is also the Returning Officer (RO) for 02-Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency, was present in the meeting among other participants.

The CEO stressed on ensuring highest voter turnout in the upcoming Lok Sabha Elections in Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency (PC). He called for ramping up SVEEP activities in public places and at schools of the district to educate the public about the significance and essence of casting their ballot. He laid stress on sending across message among women through Pink Polling Stations regarding the fact that they can efficiently manage any job.

He emphasized on enhancing awareness among the masses with respect to special polling stations viz. Pink, PwD, Green and Urban, and directed the concerned to give wide publicity regarding facilities being provided at these polling stations for encouragement of the general public to vote and register larger voter turnout in the district.

The CEO also directed for effective conduct of Election Commission of India's path-breaking home voting facility for citizens who are 85+ and Person with Disabilities (PwD) to send clear mes-

sage to citizens about the decisive step towards facilitating a more equitable and representative democracy, where every citizen's voice matters, regardless of physical limitations or age.

K Pole directed for wide publicity of all election related activities including SVEEP awareness activities for encouragement of the general public to vote and register highest voter turnout in the district.

He underscored unwavering dedication towards fostering inclusivity and sustainability in the electoral process. He said that

MCMC, Single Window System and Shadow register of Candidates, Assured Minimum Facilities and Distribution and Collection Centers.

He assessed the Transportation plan for EVMs, and instructed that the same may be transported in container vehicles fitted with GPS. He instructed the concerned to ensure complete distribution of Voter Information Slips among the voters.

Earlier, District Election Officer, Dr Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, through a PowerPoint Presenta-

CEO directed for wide publicity of all election related activities including SVEEP awareness activities for encouragement of the general public to vote and register highest voter turnout in the district.

the ECI believes that every citizen should have equal access to exercise their democratic right, and these polling stations represent a significant step towards achieving that goal.

Reviewing the status of commissioning of EVMs and training of designated staff, Pole stressed on ensuring comprehensive hands-on training aimed at familiarizing the poll staff with the operation and maintenance of EVMs. He also asked the AROs to ensure proper uploading of data on EMS.

The CEO also reviewed the status of complaints received on C-Vigil App, MCC violations,

tion, presented the district profile and overall arrangements in place for free, fair and smooth conduct of elections in the district.

He said that all ECI guidelines are being implemented in letter and spirit in the district and efforts are being made to ensure maximum participation of voters. He also briefed about the functioning of MCMC, deployment of SST, FST, VVT and teams, arrangements for senior citizens and PwDs voters in the district.

Among others, the meeting was attended by AROs, Nodal Officers, Deputy District Election Officer, AEROs and others concerned.

Allegations On EVMs Sans Merit: RO

Says Judicial Validation Confirms Integrity

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Returning Officer (RO) 02-Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency has strongly refuted the allegation on the functioning of EVMs leveled by a senior Political functionary while addressing a public meeting in Srinagar recently.

In a statement issued here, the RO said that use of EVMs and VVPATs in all the elections conducted by ECI including 2024 has been testified and verified by not only the ECI, general public but also the Supreme Court India.

He said that the literature available in the public domain on EVM including the latest updated FAQs (85 Questions) issued by ECI answers all reasonable and legitimate aspects of the use of EVMs adequately and comprehensively.

He said the technical security features along with administrative safeguards defined by ECI, together make EVMs non temperable, leaving nothing to chance, whether in manufacturing, storage, transportation or during use in elections.

The RO said that various High Courts and the Supreme Court of India have examined EVM - related matters threadbare and have concluded them by constantly reposing their faith on ECI EVMs.

Even recently the Apex Court on 26th April, 2024 in its verdict have dismissed all the pleas seeking complete verification of the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) with the Voter-Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) slips and has instead strengthened the integrity of the election process with two additional directions which are being adhered to.

The Apex Court, he asserted, has held that the microcontrollers separately programmed by manufacturers in EVMs are "agnostic," for they do not recognize political parties or candidates but only the buttons pressed by voters and if any unauthorized attempt to access the microcontroller or memory of the EVM is made, the Unauthorized Access Detection Mechanism (UADM) disables it permanently.

Chairman DLSA Srinagar Flags-Off 'Run For Democracy' Marathon

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar in association with District Election Office, Srinagar today organized an awareness program as part of the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) campaign to educate the general masses about the importance of

casting their vote.

The program was held under the chairmanship and guidance of Jawad Ahmed, Chairman DLSA Srinagar.

The awareness program began with a marathon 'Run for Democracy' from ADR Centre, District Court Srinagar to Tengpora Batamaloo area, which was flagged-off by Jawad Ahmed, Chairman DLSA Srinagar.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Mohammad Shafi Dar R/O Zakura Shah-i-Hamdan Colony Srinagar, want to change the name of my son Mohammad Irtifa Shafi Dar to Mohammad Irtifa Dar. He is student of RP School Zakura Gulab Bagh Srinagar presently studying in Class 5th Blue under roll no. 28. If anybody has any objection regarding it, the person may file his objection within 7 days from the publication of this notice. After this period no objection would be entertained. inf

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the information of general public that I lost number plate of my two wheeler bearing registration number JK154449 somewhere. Now I am supposed to apply for the duplicate number plate. In this regard if anyone has any sort of objections he/she may file the same in written or verbally in the office of ARTO Bandipora within in seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After the lapse considered period of time no objections shall be entertained.

Name: Ashiq Hussain Dar
S/o: Mohd Assadullah Dar
R/o: Rakhi Asham Nowgam jm

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to disconnect permanently my Electricity smart meter bearing consumer ID No: 0204040024888. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file the same 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.

Irfan Rasool s/o Ghulam Rasool shah. inf
R/O : Lal Bazaar Bota Shah Mohalla Chinar Lane House No 11.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-AUCTION NOTICE

The Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Northern Railway, Firozpur and on behalf of President of India invites E-Auction from eligible and registered bidders for the following works over Firozpur Division:

Catalogue No.	Auction Start	Name of work
EAZR-0H24-3	20.05.2024 at 11:00 AM	1) Allotment of contract for Commercial Advertisement rights on exterior of Overhead of Water Tanks at Sujanpur, Sahnawal, Bari Brahmna, Jammu Tawi, Pathankot, Amritsar, Jalandhar City, Baramulla Sopur, Budgam, Srinagar, Anantnag, Qazigund & Banihal Railway Station. 2) Allotment of contract for Commercial publicity rights through static media at Railway Station Amritsar and Level crossings adjoining to Nawan Shehar, Banga, Chhina, Verka, Jaintipura, Batala, Bhagawala & Patti Railway Station. 3) Allotment of contract for Commercial publicity rights through static media & overhead of water tank at Makhu, Nakodar & Samba Railway Station.

For other details and registration, please visit Railway website www.ireps.gov.in

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 1381/24

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
1445

PRAYERS
FAJR 4 : 01
ZUHR 12:27
ASR 5: 19
Magrib 7:23
ISHA 8: 55

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/FS, Northern Railways, Firozpur and on behalf of President of India is inviting open Tender (Two Packet System) for Development of GCT at Baramulla and Awantipora Railway Station with details as under:

S. No.	Station and e-tender number	Code	EMD Required (In Rs.)	Tender form cost (In Rs.)	Period of contract	Date of closing
1.	Baramulla (3-AC-GCT-BRMLFZR-24)	BRML	3,39,32,900/-	11,800/-	35 years	31.05.2024
2.	Awantipora (3-AC-GCT-ATPAFZR-24)	ATPA	4,34,95,700/-	11,800/-	35 years	30.05.2024

For further details, please visit Railway's Website www.ireps.gov.in
No: 3-AC-GCT-BRMLFZR-24 Date: 08.05.2024 1399/24

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

J&K Bank
Serving To Empower

Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited
Information Security Department
Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road
Srinagar 190 001 J&K

Online Request for Proposal (e-RFP)
for
PCI DSS Audit and Compliance Services

RFP Notice along with Complete RFP document outlining the minimum requirements can be downloaded from and BIDs can be submitted on the Banks' e-Tendering Portal <https://jkbank.abcpocure.com> w.e.f. May 02, 2024, 16:00 Hrs. RFP Document can also be downloaded from Bank's Official Website www.jkbank.com. Last date for submission of Bids is May 16, 2024, 17:00 Hrs.

e-RFP Ref. No: JKB/CHO/ISO/PCI-DSS/2024-1068
Dated: 30-04-2024

Registered office: Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India
CIN: L6510JK1985SC000448 | T : +91 (0194) 2481 930-35 | F : +91 (0194) 2481 928 | E : info@jkbank.com | W : www.jkbank.com

DIPK-NB-142/24 DATED: 08-05-2024

Phone No:- 0191-2473245 (1)
0914-2472436 (2)
Website: JKSRCTC.NIC.IN

FAX 0191-2476290(J)
0194-2472389(S)
mail: jkstrc@gmail.com

Jammu and Kashmir

Road Transport Corporation Head Quarter
M.A. Road Srinagar/ Rhq Rail Head Jammu

Mr. Bashir Ahmad
Ex Driver
S/o Mohammad Akbar Sheikh
R/o Nalibal Pampore.

No: JKRTC/GM/P&S/Estates/IQ/94 Dated:08-05-2024.

Subject: SHOW CAUSE NOTICE.

Whereas, you are appointed in the corporation as Driver vide order No. JKSRCTC/G/ APS/ J/1430 dated 05.07.1985. Whereas after having availed sanctioned medical leave, you failed to attend your duties w.e.f 01.01.2005, despite of the order of the Corporation bearing No. JKSRCTC/OPS-1/4535 dated 31.12.2004 and accordingly you were issued another notice vide No. JKSRCTC/EQ/3172 dated 28.01.2006 and directed to attend your duties.

Whereas in view of your failure to resume the duties, the charge sheet was issued against you vide No: JKSRCTC/EQ/Sgr/109 dated 05.06.2006. Though you submitted your reply to the charge sheet yet you did not resume your duties and appear before the authorities in person inspite of repeated communications of the enquiry officer requiring you to participate in the enquiry.

Whereas, notwithstanding that you had voluntarily abandoned the services, the corporation shows and directed issuance of fresh charge sheet to you vide No: JKSRCTC/ GM/Admm/Lit/53 dated 22.11.2023, requiring you to submit your reply within a period of 15 days and also cause physical appearance in the Corporation. It was also mentioned that in the event of your failure, you will be liable to termination in accordance with the rules.

Whereas, in response to the charge sheet you submitted a reply, which was unsigned, and the same was received by the Corporation by post. In view of your reply not being satisfactory, General Manager (P&S/Estates) was appointed as enquiry officer who vide order No: JKRTC/GMA/Admn/Lit/1355 dated 21.02.2024.

Thus again issued a notice on your home address through speed post vide postal receipt No: EE923854086IN dated 11.03.2024, which however was received back with remarks that you are out of state. In terms of the said notice you were again asked to appear before the enquiry officer.

Whereas, in view of the above report the above communication for participating in the enquiry was again sought to be served upon you at your home through two officials of the corporation vide letter No: JKRTC/ GM/Estt/474 dated 26.03.2024. As per the report received from the said officials you refused to receive the notice. It was also reported that you are engaged in some private commercial activity for a long time.

Whereas, in view of above the enquiry officer has already submitted his enquiry report in ex-partE, wherein he has reported that you are absent from duty unauthorizedly without any reason or justification and that you have as a matter of fact abandoned the service being engaged in private commercial business. The competent authority has accordingly arrived at tentative conclusion of terminating your services ab-initio from 03-01-2005.

Whereas, however, you are hereby served this show cause notice to explain as to why the above position of termination from service be not imposed upon you. You are required to submit the reply within a period of 15 days from the publication of this notice.

Please note that in view of your refusal to receive the notices, this show cause notice besides being served by post on your home address is also published in local news paper Daily Aftab.

By order.
DIPK-NB-141/24 DATED: 08-05-2024

General Manager (Admn)
JKRTC.

KASHMIR OBSERVERTM

Thursday | 09-05-2024

Fresh Heatwave

As the scorching heatwave tightens its grip over several parts of India, the looming specter of soaring temperatures presents a daunting challenge. The Indian Meteorological Department's (IMD) latest predictions paint a worrying picture, with Western India, including Gujarat, Rajasthan, and western Madhya Pradesh, set to experience a fresh heatwave spell over the next five days.

In the face of this adversity, it is essential to highlight the particular vulnerabilities of regions like Kashmir, which often face unique challenges during such extreme weather events. While the rest of the country braces itself for soaring temperatures, the focus must also extend to Kashmir, otherwise one of the regions which experiences moderate temperature during spring and summer.

Kashmir, despite being a hilly region and known for its cold climate, is no longer immune to the impacts of heatwaves. The region in recent years has witnessed long spells of rising temperatures, an indication of creeping climate change. The IMD's predictions of a fresh heatwave spell sweeping across Northwest India should thus serve as a wake-up call about the changing weather patterns.

In fact, the global climate crisis is starkly mirrored in the fragile ecosystem of Kashmir. From erratic weather patterns to heatwaves, Kashmir has been experiencing the same changes as on the global level. The changes are not mere aberrations but harbingers of a dire future if immediate actions are not taken.

For example, one of the victims of climate change has been the Valley's apple and saffron production, which have suffered irreparable damage due to soaring temperatures, causing significant economic repercussions.

On a bigger scale and which has consequences beyond the boundaries of Jammu and Kashmir, the rising temperatures have led to a rapid retreat of glaciers. Over the past six decades, Jammu and Kashmir has seen a staggering 25 percent reduction in glacier size, a trend exacerbated by the looming threat of climate change. If left unchecked, 48 percent of these vital sources of water could vanish by the end of the century.

While the immediate focus is on dealing with the imminent heatwave, it is also essential to recognize the broader implications of such extreme weather events in the context of climate change. The increasing frequency and intensity of heatwaves are a stark reminder of the urgent need to take decisive global action to mitigate the effects of climate change. We also need to recognize its impact on the vulnerable regions like Kashmir. But it may take decades before the world is able to sufficiently reign in the factors which are contributing to the disruption in the climate. As continuing heatwaves show, the world needs to quickly get its act together before it is too late.

Breaking Barriers Women's Work, Love, And the Divorce Dilemma



Zahid Lone

“
Thus, addressing the rising divorce rates among working women requires a multifaceted approach that encompasses both systemic changes and individual-level interventions

The recognition of women's vital role in the workforce transcends mere acknowledgment; it necessitates a deep understanding of the invaluable contributions they bring. As women engage in employment, they introduce a diverse range of ideas, skills, and experiences, thereby enriching workplaces and fostering creativity. Furthermore, as women ascend to leadership positions, they often catalyze positive transformations, championing inclusivity and fairness, and cultivating environments where all individuals feel esteemed and appreciated.

The integration of women into the workforce over recent decades signifies a profound shift in societal dynamics, challenging entrenched gender norms and nurturing a culture of empowerment. This progression towards gender equality has been advanced by the growing presence of women across various professional spheres. Whether in corporate boardrooms or scientific laboratories, women are demonstrating their capabilities, propelling economic advancement, broadening perspectives, and enhancing societal dialogue.

By advocating for the professional and domestic advancement of women, we not only support individual women but also contribute to the construction of a more resilient and just society. In this framework, every individual, irrespective of gender, is afforded an equitable chance to thrive, fostering a community where success is determined by talent, commitment, and merit rather than gender. Historically, the relationship between women's employment and divorce rates has been subject to scrutiny and debate. Initially, concerns arose that increased workforce participation among women might strain marital relationships as traditional gender roles evolved. However,

studies have revealed a nuanced correlation, with various socio-economic factors influencing marital stability among employed women. While some studies indicate a slight uptick in divorce rates among working women compared to their non-working counterparts, others highlight a more intricate interplay of variables.

One key factor contributing to the rise in divorce rates among working women is the shifting dynamics of marriage and family life. As women pursue careers and strive for personal fulfillment outside the home, traditional marital expectations undergo renegotiation. The quest for individual autonomy and self-realization sometimes conflicts with traditional gender roles and expectations within marriage, leading to marital discord and, in some cases, divorce.

Challenges at the family level also play a significant role in the increased divorce rates among working women. Conflicting priorities, such as balancing career aspirations with caregiving responsibilities, can strain marital relationships. The lack of support and understanding from partners in sharing domestic duties and childcare responsibilities can create tension and resentment, contributing to marital dissatisfaction and eventual divorce.

To address these challenges at the family level, fostering open communication and equitable distribution of responsibilities within the household is paramount. Couples should engage in honest and constructive dialogues about their respective needs, aspirations, and concerns, fostering mutual understanding and support. By actively involving both partners in domestic duties and childcare responsibilities, couples can alleviate the strain on working women, promoting a more balanced and harmonious family life. Prioritizing quality time to

gether and nurturing emotional intimacy can strengthen marital bonds and resilience in the face of challenges. Couples can benefit from establishing regular routines for shared activities and meaningful conversations, fostering a sense of connection and partnership. Investing in relationship-building activities, such as couples' therapy or workshops, can also provide valuable tools and insights for navigating the complexities of modern marriage. Creating a supportive environment that values and respects each partner's individual aspirations and contributions is essential for fostering marital satisfaction and stability. Recognizing and celebrating each other's achievements, whether professional or personal, fosters a sense of mutual appreciation and validation within the relationship. By cultivating a culture of mutual respect and empowerment within the family, couples can navigate the evolving dynamics of marriage with resilience and solidarity.

Thus, addressing the rising divorce rates among working women requires a multifaceted approach that encompasses both systemic changes and individual-level interventions. By fostering open communication, equitable distribution of responsibilities, and a supportive family environment, couples can navigate the challenges of balancing career aspirations with family life, fostering healthy and resilient relationships. In doing so, we can empower working women to thrive both personally and professionally, ushering in a more equitable and inclusive society.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. The author is a PhD scholar.



Emotional Trading is Risky

Did you know?

Irshad Mushtaq

Emotional trading, aggressive trading, and screen-based trading are all common practices in the stock market. Leads to only huge loss. Many individuals spend hours on end staring at their screens, trying to catch fluctuations in the market in hopes of making a quick profit. However, this type of trading is not a sustainable or effective way to earn money in the stock market. Trading based on emotions can lead to impulsive decisions that are not based on sound analysis or research. This can result in substantial losses rather than gains. Similarly, aggressive trading strategies can be risky and often lead to a rollercoaster of ups and downs in one's portfolio. Spending countless hours on screen doing emotional trading can also take a toll on one's mental health. The stress and anxiety that come with trying to predict market movements can be overwhelming and detrimental in the long run. One of the key aspects of successful trading is to respect your money. It is important to recognize the value of your hard-earned money and to trade with caution and prudence. It is crucial to remember that earning money in the stock market is not easy and requires a certain level of skill and expertise. Developing learning skills is essential for anyone looking to succeed in the stock market. This is especially true for those who have experience in trading. Learning from experienced traders can provide valuable insights and help one avoid common pitfalls. Experience alone is not enough in the stock market. It is important to have trust, honesty, and ethical behavior in all dealings. Seeking sincere advice from trusted sources can make a significant difference in one's success as a trader. Ultimately, trading in the stock market is a matter of education, learning, and acceptance. It is important to continually strive to improve one's skills and knowledge in order to make informed and calculated decisions. Learning and acceptance may not always be easy or enjoyable, but they are crucial steps towards becoming a successful trader.

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IPL 2024 Ruminations

Just three wins out of 11 games and languishing at the bottom of the points table, is a clear case of complete failure of the Mumbai Indians as a unit in IPL 2024. On paper MI looks a strong outfit, but on the field they have looked disjointed and disoriented. The problem started for Mumbai Indians even before the start of the tournament when

the team's management had made a blunder by deciding to replace Rohit Sharma as captain and give the mantle to Hardik Pandya, which wasn't welcomed by many MI players and its fans. The new captain has been a total failure, both with the bat and with ball, and as well as a skipper. After every game's loss, Pandya has tried to fake a calm demeanour in post-

match interactions, and his frustration has been visible in his outbursts on the field. Also his open criticism of Tilak Varma after the team's loss against Delhi Capitals in the return game didn't go down well with experts and former players. If anything, it only raised further question marks over his ability as a leader. The best way for MI to retrieve its lost glory

is to trade back Hardik Pandya to GT for the next season and reappoint Rohit Sharma as captain, who, after all, has won as many as five titles for the franchise, and who is still good enough to play T20 at least for a couple of years more.

Ranganathan Sivakumar

NEET Isn't the End of the World

Aubaid Ahmad Akhoun

In life's journey, mistakes often serve as unexpected detours that lead us down uncharted paths. Yet, it is through these detours that we discover hidden treasures of wisdom and resilience. Just as milk transforms into yogurt and cheese, and grape juice evolves into wine, our mistakes have the potential to metamorphose into invaluable experiences that enrich our lives and shape our destinies.

Consider the tale of Vincent van Gogh, whose early artistic endeavors were met with indifference and rejection. Despite facing numerous setbacks and self-doubt, he persisted in his passion for painting, ultimately creating some of the most revered masterpieces in art history. Van Gogh's story serves as a poignant reminder that setbacks and failures are not roadblocks but rather stepping stones toward greatness.

Moreover, the world of science is replete with examples of groundbreaking discoveries that emerged from mistakes. In 1928, Alexander Fleming's accidental contamination of a petri dish with mold led to the discovery of penicillin—a serendipitous breakthrough that revolutionized modern medicine. Fleming's willingness to embrace the unexpected transformed his error into a catalyst for innovation and progress.

Similarly, the story of Percy Spencer, an engineer working on radar technology during World War II, highlights the transformative power of mistakes. While conducting experiments with a magnetron, Spencer noticed that a chocolate bar in his pocket had melted. This observation ultimately led to the invention of the microwave oven—a ubiquitous household appliance that has revolutionized cooking and food preparation.

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: It is the courage to continue that counts." - Winston



Churchill

Stephen Hawking, renowned physicist and cosmologist, faced tremendous challenges due to his amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) diagnosis. Despite his physical limitations, he persevered in his scientific pursuits, making groundbreaking contributions to our understanding of the universe. His resilience in the face of adversity serves as a powerful example of how embracing challenges can lead to extraordinary achievements.

Similarly, for students who didn't qualify in the NEET exam, it's important to recognize that setbacks are not indicative of one's abilities or potential. Instead, these setbacks can serve as motivation to work harder and smarter in preparation for the next opportunity. Like Alexander Fleming's accidental discovery of penicillin, success often arises from unexpected sources, and



For students who didn't qualify in the NEET exam, it's important to recognize that setbacks are not indicative of one's abilities or potential. Instead, these setbacks can serve as motivation to work harder and smarter in preparation for the next opportunity

each attempt provides valuable insights and growth opportunities.

Indeed, mistakes are not merely failures to be avoided but opportunities to learn, adapt, and grow. Each misstep serves as a valuable lesson, providing us with insights that guide us toward greater self-awareness and personal development. As American inventor Thomas Edi-

son once remarked, "I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work." Edison's perseverance and resilience in the face of adversity epitomize the transformative potential of embracing mistakes.

In the pursuit of excellence, it is essential to cultivate a mindset that embraces imperfection and values the lessons learned from setbacks. Rather than succumb-

ing to fear of failure, we must view mistakes as integral components of the learning process. After all, it is not the absence of mistakes that defines success but rather the ability to rise above them and emerge stronger and more enlightened.

The poetry of Allama Iqbal beautifully captures the essence of ambition and perseverance. His couplet "Tu Shaheen Hai,

Parwaz Hai Kaam Tera, Tere Aage Asmaan Aur Bhi Hain" (You are a falcon; flight is your vocation; You have other skies stretching out before you) symbolizes the boundless potential within each individual to transcend mediocrity and strive for greatness.

Similarly, in another verse, Iqbal contrasts the falcon's ambition with the vulture's complacency: "Parwaz Hai Dono Ki Issi Aik Fiza Mein, Kargas Ka Jahan Aur Hai, Shaheen Ka Jahan Aur" (The vulture and the falcon soar in the same air, but in worlds apart). This analogy emphasizes that while some may settle for a mundane existence, the Shaheen aspires for grandeur.

In the journey towards excellence, embracing mistakes as avenues for growth and learning is paramount. Majrooh Sultanpuri beautifully captured this sentiment: "Girte hain shahsawar hi maidan-e-jung mein. Woh tiff kya gire jo ghutno ke bal chale" (only the horseman falls on the battlefield; how will that child fall who crawls on his knees). While setbacks are inevitable, it's our perseverance and resilience that enable us to transcend them and carve our way to success.

Bottom line: Let us heed the wisdom of history and embrace our mistakes as opportunities for growth and self-discovery. Just as milk becomes yogurt and cheese, and grape juice transforms into wine, our mistakes have the potential to catalyze our evolution into beings of greater resilience, wisdom, and compassion. So, the next time you encounter a setback or stumble along the path of life, remember that within every mistake lies the seed of transformation and possibility.

The author is an Educational Columnist, Motivational Speaker, and Associate Editor of the weekly educational publication 'Education Quill.'

Why Some People Spend More Time Cleaning

Nigel Barber

Some members of a household spend a lot of time cleaning. Others take a more relaxed attitude to washing, cleaning, and tidying in the home. Why do we vary so much in our attitudes toward dust, dirt, and hygiene?

Sensation-Seeking

Some individuals and groups are more tolerant of dirt than others. For example, political conservatives are more fearful of dirt and contamination than liberals. This difference was amusingly demonstrated in the finding that more conservatives than liberals have mud rooms in their homes.

As far as personality traits are concerned, people who have a strong aversion to dirt would score low on sensation-seeking. In the old sitcom *The Odd Couple*, the fastidious neatnik Felix was contrasted with Oscar, who had a more relaxed attitude to cleaning and tidiness. Felix was obsessed with cleaning, implying that if a person finds dirtiness upsetting, they are motivated to devote more effort to cleaning and preventing contamination in the home.

A strange irony in this scenario is that people who hate dirt the most will spend more time cleaning. Unfortunately, a person cannot clean the house without coming into contact with dust and grime. This dynamic may play some part in gender differences in hygienic activities in the home.

The general finding is that women do most of the house cleaning despite having similar work responsibilities outside the home. There remains some division of labor by gender, with men doing more of the home maintenance and yard work, for example, and being considered less competent at laundry.

Why Cleaning Is a Thankless Task

People can be divided between those who have a strong aversion to dust and untidi-



ness and those who give little thought to these domestic matters. The more "hygienic" types inevitably do more of the cleaning because they find an unclean and untidy home unpleasant to the point of being distressing. Doing so gives them a righteous buzz. So, they may be shocked and saddened that their efforts do not meet with the appreciation they would expect.

Cleaning the house is often a thankless task for different reasons. The work frequently goes unnoticed and has to be done repeatedly to maintain the status quo. The selfless house cleaner is much like the Red Queen—running as fast as she can to stay in the same place.

Cleaning, like most other domestic work, is a low-status activity that is performed by people who earn low wages or are otherwise perceived to have low social status. The historical reason for both of these phenomena is related to the fact that women used to spend much of their time at home where the care of the home and the care of children were related activities, both of which

were unpaid and associated with lowly social status.

The Connection Between Care of the Home and Care of Children

Thankfully, Oscar and Felix did not have children to interfere with their domestic squabbles. Matters are very different in homes with children. Women still do the lion's share of caring for children in addition to caring for the home. These functions can be separated in theory, but there is a clear intersection for multiple reasons.

A clean and tidy house is a safer home for children. They are less likely to be injured when dangerous objects such as sharp knives are placed out of reach or electric sockets are fitted with covers to keep out tiny fingers. For that reason, caring for the home is an extension of caring for children.

Nurturing emotions connected to children can be extended to keeping a house clean in the interest of hygiene and health. Cleaning out the refrigerator and getting rid of food that has spoiled is necessary to prevent food poisoning, for instance. So, housework is an essential fea-

ture of protecting children in their homes. Cleaning is functionally valuable. Yet, it is not highly valued in the monetary economy compared to other skilled work, although professional cleaners are much better paid than domestic servants of an earlier time.

The Value of Cleaning

Many nonhuman animals engage in hygienic behavior. Worker bees toss out infected larvae, for instance. Birds discard egg shells at a distance from the nest that reduces visibility to predators in addition to keeping the nest clean after chicks hatch. Such activities are valuable because they help the young to prosper.

Yet, human hygienic behavior is not socially valued. We know this because it is poorly paid if it is paid at all. Moreover, doing the cleaning infers low status. Maybe it is time to recognize that we are, after all, a hygienic species, that cleaning makes us human, and that it deserves more respect.

The article was originally published by Psychology Today

Employment Despair



Fazil Mir

Unemployment is a very serious problem for the young people in Kashmir. There are thousands of people who do not have any work to do and are not even able to find work for themselves. Unemployment refers to the situation where a person wants to work but cannot find employment in the labour market, and that is a phenomenon which is widely common in Kashmir. There are so many young dynamic and talented people who deserve to hold good positions but are not being provided with the right opportunities. It is ironic how jobs and opportunities are still achievable only through sifarish even in the 21st century and it might sound surprising or people might argue that it is not the case anymore, but truly it is. Besides the lack of jobs, lockdowns to contain the coronavirus for two consecutive years forced many industries to shut down thus increasing unemployment, making the scenario even worse. Also, an unemployed person is more likely to do socially unacceptable work to earn bread.

Thus, very often in a society where there are a huge number of unemployed people, there will be a great proliferation of thieves, snatchers, bank-robbers and much more serious anti-social elements.

Unemployment has aided to the deteriorating mental health condition of the youth, many young people nowadays are committing suicide owing to a spectrum of social deprivations including unemployment. The government needs to pay heed to the plea of qualified young people and find more ways to create jobs. Moreover, people should focus on becoming job creators and not job seekers and they should not lose hope on not finding a job but rather work towards building their own ways of income so that they overcome unemployment for themselves and for people who would eventually work for them and their venture. The deserving students of Kashmir have been deprived of the right opportunities for long enough, now it is time for the authorities to stand up and create a productive platform for the talented youth of the valley.

Workshop cum Awareness Camp Organized For Industrial Unit Holders In J&K

KO WEB DESK

Ganderbal: District Industries Centre (DIAC) Ganderbal, under the direction of Director Industries & Commerce, Kashmir, organized a Workshop cum Awareness Camp aimed at fortifying the business ecosystem in the region. The

camp, spearheaded by General Manager (GM), DIC Ganderbal, witnessed active participation from unit holders, including Presidents of Industrial Associations.

The primary objective of the camp was to disseminate knowledge about the incentive schemes offered by the

Government of Jammu and Kashmir, with a specific focus on the Department of Industry & Internal Trade's (DIIT's) New Central Sector Scheme (NCSS-2021) for industrial development of J&K. A resource person from DIIT PIU team Kashmir elucidated the benefits of the scheme, catering to new units,

existing units, and those undergoing expansion. These incentives encompass a range of benefits, including 30/50% Capital Investment Incentive (CII), 6% Capital Interest Subvention (CIS), 100% GST Linked Incentive (GSTLI), and 5% Working Capital Interest Subvention (WCIS). Furthermore, participants were

briefed on the requisite documents for registration and the application process for availing the incentives.

A detailed question and answer session fostered meaningful dialogue between DIC officials and unit holders, providing a platform for unit holders to voice their suggestions

and address issues at the apex level. The GM, attentively listening to the grievances of the unit holders, pledged unwavering support to ensure the efficient functioning of each unit. Unit holders were encouraged to view DIC as their one-stop solution for all business-related matters, fostering a conducive

business environment in Jammu and Kashmir.

The camp culminated with a vote of thanks, and on-the-spot registrations for NCSS were facilitated for units with prepared documents, streamlining the process and empowering industrial unit holders to avail the benefits of the scheme promptly.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Two Missing

operation," Ali said.

Notably, last month, a boat capsized in the river at the Gandbal area of the city here, killing eight persons, while one went missing.

Locals and survivors of Gandbal pointed out that the two banks were just 500-m apart, but that they were forced to make the treacherous trip across in the boats because the nearest bridge is 2 km away. They also added that a footbridge, along the accident spot, has been under construction for nearly a decade.

Ensure 100% Aadhaar

The meeting further reviewed the performance of Nanhe Kadam, women assisted under Sankalp, One Stop Centre. He also called for collective efforts in the fight against drug menace.

The meeting was attended by Santosh D Vaidya, Principal Secretary, Finance Department; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to LG; Sheetal Nanda, Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare; Administrative Secretaries, Heads of Departments and senior officials.

LG Vows Enhanced

department. He took note of the facilities extended to book lovers and called for broader outreach to younger generations through digital platforms.

The meeting discussed various other issues related to the promotion and popularization of Museums and the digitization of archival material in possession of the department. The LG called for extending all the necessary facilities to the visitors at museums and libraries for elevated intellectual and cultural experiences.

Santosh D Vaidya, Principal Secretary, Finance Department; Dr. Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Suresh Kumar Gupta, Principal Secretary, Culture department; HoDs and concerned senior officials attended the meeting.

3rd Terrorist Killed,

have been retrieved from the encounter site while the search operation was going in the area.

However, after the lull of over 24 hours, the gunfight resumed again after a hiding terrorist fired upon forces when the debris was being cleared. (KNO)

Locals Question

as promised by the government after the boat capsized on April 16. Eight persons died with one body yet to be retrieved from river Jehlum.

They insist the tragedy would not have fallen then should the work on the bridge be completed in time. The bridge has been under construction for several years now.

They added that officials from concerned departments visited the bridge soon after the tragedy but now none visits them.

"They have left some three to four non-locals labourers here on the bridge, and they too have not been seen for the past two to three days," said Umer resident of Batwara.

Chief Engineer Roads and Buildings department Kashmir Sajad Ahmad Naqeeb said that some technical issues delayed the project but it is expected to be completed by June this year.

Executive Engineer, R&B Project Division Shuja Ahmad said that the work is going on at Gandbal bridge.

He added that workers are coming from Udhampur as the non-locals who were present before the tragedy now feel unsafe here. (KNO)

Rs 12 Cr Assets

Kashmir Liberation Front's founder

Amanullah Khan, are worth Rs 54.80 lakh, according to the affidavit.

The wealth of his sons M Emmad Lone and M Adnan Lone, who are his partners in a commercial venture in Srinagar, is also in crores of rupees, the document showed.

Sajad Lone, a former minister in the previous PDP-led government, has also listed in the affidavit the disputed amount under arbitration with the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC), which dates back to his participation in the "Gold for Gold" scheme in the early 1990s.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Enforcement Directorate (ED) had registered a case in 1995 after which the MMTC began arbitration proceedings in 2001 against a firm of Sajad Lone and two of his associates in another company for the recovery of a loan in gold given for making ornaments for export.

Sajad Lone had allegedly taken gold from the MMTC under its "Gold for Gold" scheme in 1993-94. Under the scheme, parties registered within Customs-bound areas took gold from the MMTC and converted it into ornaments for export.

The parties that availed the loans were supposed to return the principal amount in gold to the corporation while the interest was payable in cash.

The MMTC had alleged that Sajad Lone left the country immediately after availing the loan, following which the corporation registered a complaint with the CBI in 1994 and the ED in 1995.

In his 2014 poll affidavit, Sajad Lone had put the value of movable assets of his wife at Rs 24.5 lakh and his two dependents (sons) at Rs 14,668 and Rs 8,996, respectively, with value of immovable assets, including a flat in Haryana, besides other properties worth Rs 6.5 crore each.

A graduate from the University of Wales, College of Cardiff, UK, Sajad Lone in his latest affidavit showed that his annual income, according to the Income Tax Returns, grew from more than Rs 37 lakh in 2018-19 to Rs 81.79 lakh in 2022-23.

The stark contrast in his financial position since the 2014 elections has been attributed to rental and business earnings, along with pension from his time as a former MLA.

Sajad Lone's financial portfolio includes a luxury car, multiple bank accounts and substantial investments in properties such as a commercial building in Srinagar and a residential building in Handwara. His total immovable assets, including those jointly owned with his dependents, amount to around Rs 11.20 crore.

Massive Turnout

without any preparations.

"I am amazed at the people's response and I am sure that democracy will live in this country," he said.

Pulwama has become a part of the Srinagar Lok Sabha constituency after the delimitation process was completed last year. Earlier, it was a part of the Anantnag Lok Sabha seat.

NDMA Expert

Chief Scientist Prof. D.P. Kanungo highlighted that the committee would submit a comprehensive report to the ministry suggesting measures for the sustainable development of the area.

The team will propose precautions to prevent future losses caused by mudflow slides. Additionally, the team is evaluating the feasibility of habitation and agricultural activities in the future.

The experts advised against entering the affected area for agricultural or habitation purposes until it is declared safe and stabilized.

Religion Cannot

against the Constitution.

PM Modi said that the poor in the country include all Hindus, Christians, and Parsis and all should get the benefits of reservations.

"I have never said that Muslims won't get reservations. All I'm saying is that religion cannot be the basis of providing reservation. Poor in the country include all Hindus, Christians, and Parsis; all should get the benefits of reservations. Dalits and tribals for long have faced injustice for thousands of years, and there is a special reason that the makers of our constitution have taken the right decision, and we are grateful for that. No political party opposes this," Modi said.

'Minorities Have Equally

motivated by the mischievous intention of the Congress leadership to keep the people away from the BJP and to manage their vote bank through divisive politics by provoking one religion against the other and by instigating the minority communities against the BJP by giving them the impression that BJP follows an anti-minority agenda, which was, however, far from truth," Singh said.

In the last 10 years, he said, Prime Minister Modi not only gave the country a decisive government but also brought in a series of reforms which were aimed at improving the lot of the minority communities.

"Common masses have now realised that Prime Minister Modi-led dispensation believes in providing justice to every needy person and to provide what is required regardless of any consideration of caste, creed or religion," said Singh, the minister of state for personnel.

He said there are a number of evidences to substantiate that while the Congress had always played the "minority card" but it did nothing to improve their lot, whereas it is the Modi government, which not only gave due attention to these communities but also provided equitable benefits of welfare schemes like Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana for pucca houses, Ujjawala scheme for providing gas cylinders and household toilets for all without any discrimination on the basis of religion.

Singh appealed to the BJP karyakartas to make a conscious outreach to the members of the minority community and engage them in dialogue on the basis of facts and figures, and at the same time, also call the bluff of the Congress' propaganda.

Voting in Uluberia is scheduled to be held under the fifth phase of the Lok Sabha elections on May 20.

HC Adjourns

with a money laundering case against an educational trust run by his wife and former legislator Andotra. A special court in December granted 'absolute' bail to Singh.

During hearing on Wednesday, lawyer R K Kotwal, appearing for Singh and his wife, raised concerns about the absence of charges against government officials.

CBI counsel and senior Additional Advocate General Monika Kohli informed the court that a supplementary charge sheet has been filed against the Kathua-based educational trust -- R B Educational Trust -- run by Singh's wife. Then the court called for the records.

Kohli also requested the court for expeditious hearing in the matter as the trial before a designated court was stayed.

The CBI had in 2020 registered a criminal breach of trust and corruption case against the educational trust.

Besides naming the trust, in which Singh's wife and son are the members, the others named in the charge sheet included the then patwari.

The court asked the ED counsel, who appeared through video conference, about the grounds for cancellation of bail.

The counsel argued that the ED had submitted its grounds in a sealed cover through the investigation officer, but the submission was not found in the court records.

The judge adjourned the matter till May 22 giving time to the ED for filing its reasons for cancellation of bail to Singh and his wife.

A special court in December granted 'absolute' bail to Singh.

Singh, who was then the chairman of the Dogra Swabhiman Sangathan Party, was granted the interim bail by the court on November 23 after his arrest in Jammu on November 7. His bail was confirmed on December 23.

"...since petitioner has complied with the conditions of the bail, so no further proceedings are required in the present application. Therefore, interim bail granted to the petitioner is made absolute, of course all conditions drawn shall remain alive pending proceedings, if any, by way of complaint by the ED," Principal Sessions Judge (special court designated under PMLA), Jammu, Sanjay Parihar, had said in a three-page order.

4 Special Polling

AERO/ARO, Migrants, New Delhi, is efficiently functioning during the working hours at Pota Cabin 01 at JK House 5-Prithvi Raj Road, New Delhi. The office has also established a help desk which has supported numerous stakeholders to file offline/online Form-M, Form 12-C and other requisite documents.

Besides, a series of camps and meetings have been organized to raise mass awareness at various places to increase the percentage of Kashmiri migrant voters in the capital. The BLOs are also visiting door to door for educating and helping the migrant voters. These camps, organized at various locations in Delhi and NCR, received tremendous response resulting in notable increase in enrollment of voters through Form-M and Form 12-C, so far, as compared to last parliamentary Lok Sabha Election.

As per the data given by the AERO/ARO office, about 169 voters have been registered besides receiving 65 Form M and 4 Form 12 C for the Baramulla PC, 480 voters have been registered besides receiving 183 Form-M and 8 Form 12-C for the Srinagar PC while 95 voters have been registered besides receiving 40 Form M for the Anantnag PC, till date.

The Kashmiri migrants are evincing keen interest to participate in the upcoming elections and it is expected that there shall be a high voter turnout during these Lok Sabha elections.

HC Orders

in a 30-page judgment analysed the law on the subject in detail and also observed from the record that Naseer's order of dismissal had been issued by Second-in-Command, who as per rule 14A is of inferior rank officer to that of Commandant.

"As per the provisions of the Act and Rules thereunder, the competent authority who can dismiss the petitioner (Naseer) is Commandant and thus, the order which has been passed by the said Officer, is without jurisdiction," the court said and ordered reinstatement in service Naseer with all consequential benefits from 4 February 2008 minus monetary benefits.

In his plea, Naseer had stated that he being a patient of was under supervision of doctors adjacent to his native place i.e. Sub District Hospital, Tangdar, Karnah, and he was admitted in District Hospital, Tangdar, Karnah from 15th June, 2007 to 26th February, 2008.

Naseer, who was working as cook with the BSF, said he had filed representations to the authorities for his reinstatement which were

rejected, terming them "devoid of any merit".

Kashmir Records

degree Celsius respectively.

Kupwara has however, recorded the maximum temperature of 27.9 degree Celsius while in Gulmarg, the mercury also witnessed a sudden increase where a maximum temperature of 20.5 degree Celsius was recorded today.

Similarly, the other areas including Anantnag, Ganderbal, Bandipora, Baramulla and Sonamarg also recorded the hottest day of the season.

Bhaderwah station in Jammu division has also recorded the hottest day of the season at 31.6 degree Celsius.

Meanwhile, the officials in the Meteorological department informed KNO that the weather would remain hot and dry till May 10 in Jammu & Kashmir.

They added that the plains as well as the higher reaches of Jammu & Kashmir would record a temperature above normal 4-5 degree Celsius. In Jammu division, the temperature would settle in between 30-40 degrees Celsius everywhere, they said.

However, they said that a light to moderate widespread rain and thunderstorm is expected in between May 11-13 in Jammu & Kashmir, adding that the weather would improve from May 13 afternoon and there will be dry weather conditions till May 18.

The MeT officials also advised farmers to suspend the farm activities from May 11 to May 13 in wake of the fresh wet spell

HC Grants Bail

application under Section 439 CrPC seeking the relief.

The high court noted the absence of any mention of the alleged incidents of rape and gang rape by the two men in the woman's written complaint to the IGP, Jammu, which formed the basis of the FIR in the case.

Rather, the woman accused her brothers-in-law of rape for the first time in her statement under Section 164 of CrPC, without explaining why she didn't mention these incidents in her written complaint to the IGP, court noted.

It further emphasised that even in her statement under Section 164, CrPC, the woman did not give the exact date, time, and place of the alleged incidents of rape.

Furthermore, court stressed that in a petition under the Domestic Violence Act, the woman had even alleged rape by her father-in-law, which fact she neither stated in her complaint made to IGP, Jammu, nor deposed during her statement under Section 164 of CrPC in the present matter.

Though the court agreed with the argument put forth by the woman's counsel that "FIR is not an encyclopedia which must disclose all facts and details relating to the offence reported", it held that "the distinction needs to be drawn where the first informant is himself or herself a victim".

"It is equally significant to bear in mind the distinction between elaboration and improvisation. While elaboration of what is stated in the FIR by the first informant at the time of recording his or her statement is permissible, the same is not true of improvisation which has the result of creating a new offence against the person accused in the FIR," the high court said.

It held that in the matter at hand, there was no prima facie or reasonable ground to believe that the petitioners had committed the offence of gang rape. Therefore, considering the documents indicating cooperation with the police by the accused men and the absence of evidence suggesting they could influence the investigation upon release on bail, the court allowed their petition and granted them bail. (with inputs from Lawbeat)

KASHMIR OBSERVER

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OR SCAN

CS Reviews Progress On Vision Document For Employment

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, Wednesday inaugurated a day long workshop on 'Yuva Udhyaami Vikas Abhiyaan (YUVA)' aiming at accelerating employment of youth through entrepreneurship in convergence with several other schemes already under implementation here in the Union Territory.



The workshop was attended by Additional Chief Secretary, Forests, Principal Secretary, Finance, Secretary, L&E, Secretary, Planning, DG, Planning, Director, IIM Jammu, representatives from Banks, Bill Foundation besides other concerned officers.

Speaking on the occasion, Dulloo remarked that the vision document to be prepared would act as a bedrock of the initiatives to be taken in making useful interventions for providing gainful employment opportunities to our youth through entrepreneurship. He exhorted upon all the stakeholders to collaborate for preparation of version 1.0 of this document on the available date and their analysis. He maintained that once the document is ready, it would be easy to upgrade it with evolving situations and future

challenges.

The Chief Secretary asked for identifying the gaps in successful implementation of different employment generation schemes here. He also called for taking in consideration the unique opportunities and strengths available here in the UT.

ACS, Forests, Dheeraj Gupta, stressed on studying the design and architecture of different ongoing schemes so that the necessary tweaking is done to increase their traction among youth. He asked for giving clear recommendations and actionable points for each initiative referred to in the document.

Other stakeholders also gave their insights about making this document more effective and relevant. They also deliberated upon different policy matters mentioned

in the first draft of this document depicted during this workshop.

The document as explained by Secretary, Labour & Employment, Kumar Rajeev Ranjan, has been prepared with the aim to provide a conducive ecosystem for promoting business entrepreneurship across different sectors in J&K. He said that the document would be quite inclusive with identification of key sectors, skilling needs, resource gaps and future action plan for ushering in a feasible climate for entrepreneurship for our youth.

The factors limiting the culture of entrepreneurship here were also deliberated upon alongwith the current skilling and education profile of youth here. The critical analysis of gaps and resource mobilization from different

quarters was also made the point of discussion among the participants.

It was informed that over the years the service sector has emerged as a largest sector ahead of Industry and Agriculture here. It was further detailed in the document that overall the MSMEs are major focus areas as the employment potential identified here is more than that of in large enterprises. The document also enlisted current industrial set up and categories of units established in different districts, their annual turnover and employment generation by each of them here in J&K.

The other features of this vision document as explained included SWOT analysis of all the incumbent policies in Agriculture, IT, Tourism and Industry. It also envisions potential areas of investment here along with their allied sectors of entrepreneurship. Besides, the identified areas and emerging sectors discussed included Tourism, Healthcare, Agriculture & Food Processing, Textiles, Film Tourism, Skill Development, Handloom & Handicrafts, Information Technology along with others mentioned in the vision document.

Mehbooba Mufti Responsible For Breaking PAGD Alliance: Omar

Agencies

SRINAGAR: National Conference Vice President Omar Abdullah on Wednesday claimed that it was not him but the PDP President Mehbooba Mufti who broke away from the PAGD alliance and questioned why the BJP fielded its candidates during the parliamentary polls of 2019 and not at present.

According to the news agency, Omar while speaking to media during a campaign trail in Srinagar said that he was in no way responsible for breaking the alliance with the PDP and that the alliance had already decided that the winning party will field the candidates on three Lok Sabha seats of Kashmir. "How could you blame me for breaking the alliance? Farooq Abdullah decided on the candidature. Mehbooba Ji had given authority to NC President Dr Farooq Abdullah for choosing the candidates. I am witness to this. She said it during a meeting of INDIA Bloc in Mumbai that whatever Farooq Abdullah decides about the candidates, it will be acceptable to her. How can she say I am responsible," Omar said.

He added that those who are fighting as BJP's proxies in Kashmir valley at present will do no good to people. "How can we expect anything good from them. They are representatives of BJP in Kashmir. It is the BJP that has done everything wrong to us. How could they come as messi-

PDP Is Fighting To Safeguard Future Of Youth: Mehbooba

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti on Wednesday said her party is fighting to safeguard the future of the youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

The former chief minister also said she is pained when women talk about their sons and young relatives who are behind bars.

"We are fighting for the future of our younger generations and the rights of our people. The PDP has been targeted as it stood with the people of Jammu and Kashmir and voiced their aspirations," Mufti said while addressing an election rally in Char-e-Sharief area of Srinagar Lok Sabha constituency.

PDP youth president Waheed Para is the party candidate from Srinagar seat. Para is pitted against National Confer-

ence leader Aga Ruhullah.

"These mothers come and say 'our children are in a Haryana jail or a Punjab jail'. The case proceedings are not held and the youth continue to languish in jails. You (the BJP) are saying that stone pelting has ended. If that is the case, why are the youth in jails? Mufti said.

"You are claiming that militancy (in J-K) has ended. Then why are you arresting the youth? Why are employees being terminated from service merely on suspicion? Why are passports not being issued to (some of) us?" she asked.

The PDP supreme also alleged that NOC is not being issued in favour of youth for employment purposes just because their relative is a member of a banned organisation.

Srinagar constituency will go to polls on May 13 in the fourth phase of the ongoing Lok Sabha polls.

Will Not Let My People Down: Sajad Lone

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: In a remarkable display of support for J&K Peoples Conference, over the past two days, more than 1800 individuals formally joined the party ranks in over a dozen joining ceremonies presided over by PC President Sajad Gani Lone.

During this occasion, Lone extended his gratitude to all attendees, lauding their unity and steadfast dedication to the Peoples Conference in fostering positive

change in North Kashmir.

"The unwavering trust, hope and aspirations of our people, spanning diverse backgrounds beyond mere political affiliations, fuel my daily commitment to their welfare. This time, the public voice shall reverberate in the Parliament without fail or fear," he affirmed with conviction.

The influx of new members included hundreds of prominent workers from various political spheres across Kupwara. Besides over 60 families from Chowkibal,

Karnah also joined the party-fold in another joining. Noteworthy additions came from Amargarh and Shaharkoot areas of Handwara Constituency, with more than 25 families joining the fold.

Zaingeer area in Sopore Constituency also witnessed a surge in membership, with hundreds of socio-political workers stepping forward. Many notable socio-political figures from Rafiabud including Feroz Ahmad Khan, brought along a multitude of supporters. Additionally, scores of

influential socio-political activists from different political thoughts joined JKPC from Sopore.

In another significant joining ceremony, former Councilor Baramulla Nighat Mir along with dozens of supporters vowed their allegiance to PC. The party leadership also welcomed more than hundred new families from Kalaroo in Kupwara constituency into the party fold.

Moreover, contesting DDC candidate Farooq Ahmad who was accompanied by former Sarpanchs,

Panchs and Block Presidents along with scores of workers from Langate hailing from a different political ideological background pledged their allegiance and support to JKPC.

The areas like Potshahi, Lolab also saw a significant influx, with scores of new members, including businessman Mushtaq Ahmad and prominent workers led by Ex-Sarpanch Lateef Ahmad Dar from Cherkoot Lolab. Similarly, Tumina area of Handwara Constituency, also welcomed scores of political stalwarts.

Search Operation In Akhnoor Sector Along LoC



Agencies

JAMMU: A search operation has been launched in Akhnoor sector of Jammu district after information of suspected movement of terrorists along the Line of Control (LoC).

The operation is underway but so far nothing has been found.

Talking to the news agency, Jammu based defense spokesman Lt. Colonel Suneeel Bhattwal said, "Likely suspected at the moment, a routine search operation was launched."

After the killing of a Village Defence Guard (VDG) member in Panara village of Basantgarh in Udhampur district on April 27 followed by an attack on Indian Air Force (IAF) vehicle in Shah Sattar forest area of Surankote in Poonch district in which one IAF official was killed, Indian Army is not letting any information go unnoticed.

Security forces have also released satellite pictures of terrorists involved in the attack on IAF convoy in Surankote.

Meanwhile, search operations in Basantgarh and forest areas of adjoining Kathua and Doda districts, and Sanai forests of Surankote have entered 11th and fifth day, respectively, with no success to the security forces so far. Terrorists continue to remain at large and security forces have launched combing operations in both these areas.

Police and Army are manning the upper reaches of Kathua and Doda districts which are adjacent to Basantgarh area of Udhampur and till the time the operation is not called off by police and Army in Udhampur district, forces in Doda and Kathua will continue their operation.

Now, in Akhnoor another search operation has been launched following the suspected movement—(KNO)

SSP Jammu Calls For Controlling Crime, Stability In The District

Agencies

JAMMU: To control crime and ensure peace and stability, senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Jammu Vinod Kumar today held a security review meeting with all the sub-district police officers and station house officers.

The meeting was held at district police lines here.

In a statement issued to news agency, the Jammu police spokesman said that during the meeting in addition to crime review, various security measures were discussed for controlling crime & ensuring peace and stability in the district.

"Various aspects of policing including quality investigation of cases, crime disposal, verifications, disposal of NDPS, UAPA cases, inquest proceedings, absconded, missing persons and other issues related to accountable policing were also discussed," he said.

SSP Jammu emphasized upon the participating officers to ensure quantitative and qualitative disposal of under investigation cases of various nature and to take stringent action against those who are involved in various social crimes.

The spokesman informed that SSP Jammu advised the police officers posted in the district in various capacities to provide a good policing to the general public and give a tough time to anti-national and antisocial elements.

"SSP directed the officers that there is zero tolerance to corruption, burking of crime and indiscipline at any level and the efficiency of police can be gauged from the time it takes to respond to the day to day situations," he said.

SSP asserted that alongwith quickness in response, the polite behavior and sympathy at heart are required while dealing with the problems of general public—(KNO)

One Million OPD Visits, 18,888 Surgeries In Past Year At GMC Anantnag

Agencies

ANANTNAG: Government Medical College (GMC) Anantnag and its affiliated hospitals attended to nearly one million patients, while around 75,000 received treatment in the past fiscal year.

The GMC Anantnag and its associated hospitals have concluded a year marked by remarkable achievements, underscoring their steadfast dedication to delivering exceptional healthcare services to the community. Dr Owais H Dar, the spokesperson for the hospital said.

As per the details obtained by the news agency, in the past fiscal year, the Outpatient Department (OPD) of GMC Anantnag and its affiliated hospitals attended to 9,71,387 patients, while 74,569 patients received treatment in the Inpatient Department (IPD). Notably, a total of 18,888 surgeries were performed, including 4,325 Caesarean sections, catering to diverse medical needs.

Prof (Dr) Rukhsana Najeeb, Principal of GMC Anantnag, appreciated the diligent staff for

their outstanding contributions in upholding the highest standards of healthcare. She particularly highlighted the commendable achievements at MMABM Hospital Janglatmandi, where 595,222 patients were served in the OPD and 47,155 in the IPD.

The hospital conducted over 8,838 surgeries across various specialties and carried out 636,260 laboratory tests, 3,154 endoscopic procedures, and 2,958 echocardiograms. Additionally, 6,920 dialysis sessions were administered, showcasing the hospital's comprehensive care capabilities.

Similarly, MCH Hospital Sherbagh, under the management of GMC Anantnag, attended to 3,56,974 OPD visitors and treated over 27,414 inpatients. The hospital conducted 5,026 surgeries, including 4,324 Caesarean sections, and conducted 2,35,695 laboratory tests, underlining its vital role in meeting the healthcare needs of the community.

The Department of Radiology, serving both MMABM Hospital and MCH Hospital, conducted

45,497 ultrasounds, 89,874 X-rays, 12,635 CT scans, and 53,821 ECGs, providing crucial diagnostic services. Additionally, the Department of PSM at the Urban Health Centre Brakpora and Rural Health Centre Sagam offered comprehensive healthcare to 19,191 OPD patients, along with 9,010 laboratory tests and 2,041 dental procedures.

Moreover, GMC Anantnag organised more than 25 specialist and superspecialist health camps across Anantnag and Kulgam districts, benefiting numerous patients as part of the Ayushman Bhava Campaign.

Looking ahead, GMC Anantnag aims to bolster its healthcare infrastructure with the introduction of modular operating theatres, dedicated intensive care units (ICUs), and a new Cath Lab at MMABM Hospital. Plans are underway for the installation of digital radiography and MRI facilities. The institution is also expanding its service portfolio to include cancer surgeries, pacemaker implementations, Fibroscan services, and CT-guided biopsies.

MERC Hosts Tour To Wular Lake As Part Of Workshop On "Wetlands For Life"

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The Media Education Research Centre (MERC) at Kashmir University, in collaboration with the Centre for Media Studies New Delhi, orchestrated a two-day media engagement program titled 'Wetlands for LIFE.' As a pivotal component of this initiative, a cohort of media students and scholars embarked on a field trip to Wular Lake, celebrated as one of the largest freshwater bodies in South Asia.



and the pivotal role media plays in advocating for their conservation.

The workshop, designed to equip media academicians with comprehensive knowledge and practical skills in wetlands conservation and environmental journalism, featured a spectrum of engaging sessions, expert presentations, and immersive field visits. Participants delved into topics ranging from the ecological

importance of wetlands to effective storytelling techniques for environmental reporting.

At Wular Vintage Park, Owais Mir, Project Coordinator of the Wular Conservation and Management Authority, briefed students and scholars about Wular Lake's significance, eco-tourism potential, and on-going restoration plans. He also highlighted WUCMA's contributions to Wular Lake

since its formation.

"The government is undertaking large-scale restoration efforts for the lake and implementing initiatives to promote it as a premier tourist destination, creating livelihood opportunities for the surrounding community," Owais stated.

He also highlighted the various wetlands of the lake and their potential for migratory birds and aquatic ecosystems, stating that the restoration efforts for Wular Lake have led to a significant return of migratory birds.

He mentioned that a census is currently underway to gather data on this phenomenon, and the actual data will be shared once it is completed.

Subsequently, a question and answer session allowed

students to inquire about various aspects of the lake, with officials providing answers.

Dr. Mehreen Khaleel of the Wildlife Research and Conservation Foundation (WRCF) highlighted the ecotourism potential of Wular Lake, emphasising the importance of individual efforts to ensure its safety and security for future generations.

She also educated students on research techniques pertaining to the lake and its surrounding communities.

Subsequently, for research purposes, the students visited villages situated along the lake's shores and gathered insights from local residents regarding the lake's current status from their perspectives.

DIRECTORATE OF TOURISM, KASHMIR

Tel: 0194-2315378, Fax: 0194-2479548, e-mail: ddtreg@jktourism.or

Subject: Application for change of ownership and change of title of Guest House Eagle Resort at Brain Nishat Srinagar.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, Shri. Ab. Gani Sheikh S/o Shri. Ab. Ahad Sheikh R/o Gulberg Colony Hyderpora Srinagar and Sh. Tawheed Ahmad Sheikh S/o: Sh. Ab. Gani Sheikh R/o: Gulberg Colony Hyderpora Srinagar has applied in this office for change of ownership of Guest House M/s Eagle Resort situated at Brain Nishat Srinagar in their favour and have also requested for change of title from Eagle Resort to Dwell Inn.

Whereas said Guest House was registered with this office in the name of Shri. Ab. Gani Ratta S/o Late Haji Khalique Ratta R/o Brain Nishat Srinagar vide Reg. No. JKGH00000369 Dated: 01/04/2021.

Whereas Shri. Ab. Gani Sheikh S/o Shri. Ab. Ahad Sheikh R/o Gulberg Colony Hyderpora Srinagar and Sh. Tawheed Ahmad Sheikh S/o: Sh. Ab. Gani Sheikh R/o: Gulberg Colony Hyderpora Srinagar has submitted requisite documents viz., registered sale deeds, Character Certificates, State Subject/ Domicile Certificate and other related documents.

Whereas, change of title and transfer of registration certificate for the guest house is purely for the purpose of running operation management of the said guest house and does not confer any right of ownership of the guest house upon the transferee.

Now, therefore, in exercise of powers conferred on me under section 39 of J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978 before considering change of title from Eagle Resort to Dwell Inn and transfer of registration certificate in the name of Mr. Ab. Gani Sheikh S/o: Ab. Ahad Sheikh R/o: Gulberg Colony Hyderpora Srinagar and Mr. Tawheed Ahmad Sheikh S/o: Sh. Ab. Gani Sheikh R/o: Gulberg Colony Hyderpora Srinagar, the matter is hereby notified for information of General Public/ Financial Institutions/ Banks/ Development Authorities/ PHE Department/ Electric Department that in case of any objection, the same should reach the office of undersigned within a period of 07 days from the publication of this notice. No objection beyond a period of 07 days will be entertained and the request of the applicant will be considered under rules after submission of all requisite documents.

No. - Reg./442/DTK/111
Dated: - 07/05/2024

DPK-406-24
DT: 08/05/2024

SD/-
Assistant. Director Tourism,
Registration (Kmr)

Japan Bowl Out Mongolia For 12, Second Lowest Total In T20I History

Press Trust of India

SANO: Seven months after they made their international debut at the Asian Games, Mongolia capped an ignominious milestone when they were bowled out for 12, the second lowest score in T20 International history in a match against hosts Japan here on Wednesday.

In response to Japan's imposing 217 for 7 after the hosts elected to bat, Mongolia were folded in 8.2 overs, etching their name in the annals of infamy with the second lowest score in T20I history after Isle of Man's 10 all out against Spain in on February 26, 2023.

For Japan, 17-year-old left-arm seamer Kazuma Kato-Stafford returned with 5 for 7 from his 3.2 overs, while Abdul Samad (2/4) and Makoto Taniyama (2/0) bagged two each in the match held at the Sano International Cricket Ground.

Tur Sumaya (4 off 11) was the top-scorer for Mongolia, while opener Namsrai Bat-



yalalt faced a maximum 12 deliveries.

This was the second T20I of a seven-match series, while the third one, slated later in the day, did not yield any result.

In the first T20I, Mongolia were bowled out for 33 in reply

to Japan's 199 for 5, enduring a 166-run defeat.

This was Mongolia's fifth T20I appearance, having made international debut at the Hangzhou showpiece where they made a group stage exit after losing both their matches.

Nepal had amassed 314/3 against Mongolia on their international debut, a match they had lost by 273 runs after getting out for 41.

Mongolia had also lost to Maldives by nine wickets in the second match after posting

60 for 9.

According to the ICC, one Battulga Gombo was the 'man behind cricket' in the country.

"In 2014 he convinced the municipal park authorities to grant rights to develop an area of wasteland into a cricket ground, and in 2015, with his friend Chris Hurd, he launched the Mongolian Cricket Seed Appeal," according to the ICC.

Since then the schools' programme has grown, six provinces outside Ulaanbaatar are now playing the game, and indoor and outdoor tournaments are consistently being held throughout the year, it added.

Brief Scores:

Japan 217 for 7 in 20 overs (Sabaorish Ravichandran 69; Zoljavkhan Shurentsetseg 3/32, Luvsanzundui Erdenebulgan 2/61) beat Mongolia 12 all out in 8.2 overs (Kazuma Kato-Stafford 5/7, Abdul Samad 2/4, Makoto Taniyama 2/0) by 205 runs.

IPL 2024: Resurgent RCB Take On Erratic PBKS In Battle Of Survival



Press Trust of India

DHARAMSALA: A resurgent Royal Challengers Bengaluru will look for their fourth consecutive victory when they face an unpredictable Punjab Kings as the two sides fight for survival in the Indian Premier League, here on Thursday.

After a horrendous start to the season, RCB have managed to claw their way back into the tournament. They have the winning momentum on their side, having won their last three games comprehensively.

The wins have not only boosted their sagging morale but also taken them to the seventh spot in the points table.

With eight points from 11 games, RCB can still make the playoffs if they win all their remaining three fixtures although the chances are slim.

Punjab Kings too stare at a similar situation. They occupy the eighth spot, having collected eight points from 11 games.

However, between the two—only one team can reach the all-important 14 points mark.

Having beaten PBKS earlier in the season and heading to this clash with three wins on the trot, RCB will feel more confident than the hosts.

Virat Kohli remains consistent at the top, while skipper Faf du Plessis broke his string of poor scores with a belligerent knock in the last game.

Will Jacks also impressed with a match-winning century against GT, and Cameron Green showcased his all-round skills with crucial contributions in runs and wickets against Sunrisers Hyderabad.

Their bowling department has started clicking with Mohammed Siraj, who is in India's T20 World Cup squad, finally finding his rhythm.

Yash Dayal and Vijaykumar Vyshak also did well against GT and RCB will expect them to continue in the same vein.

PBKS, on the other hand, will be low on confidence having suffered an inexplicable batting collapse against Chennai Super Kings.

The Kings showcased their very best and worst against CSK. Their bowlers were all over the CSK batters but the batting unit choked.

Inter-School Cycle Race For Girls Held In Anantnag

Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: The Department of Youth Services and Sports Department Zone Anantnag on Wednesday held a cycle race for young female athletes of all age groups, who showcased their skills and passion in the competition.

A total of 183 girl students participated in the event. Earlier, chief guest Tehsildar Anantnag Sajad Hussain Wani and guest of honor Chief Education Officer Anantnag, Principal GHSS Nanil, ZEO Anantnag and ZEO Mattan flagged off cycle race from Sarnal to Mattan.

In age group of Under-14 girls, Mehak Raj from St. Pe-



ters got first position, Muntaba Showkat from CATS got second position and Hoorain Binte Nazir from Sidra got third position. In U-17 girls, Akila Fayaz from RPS got first position, Adeena Yousuf from Saint Peters got second position and Adleen Hamid from RPS got third position.

"These Inter-School Zonal Level competitions not only promote physical activity but also instill values of teamwork, discipline and sportsmanship among the young participants, contributing to their holistic development," the department's Anantnag office said in a statement.

Sports Activities In Full Bloom Across Jammu: DYSS

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Department of Youth Services and Sports on Wednesday said that it has been organising sports activities across Jammu division. The department organised an Inter School Zonal Level Tournament for Boys Under-14 and 17 years in Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Volleyball, Chess, Badminton, Yoga, and Wrestling at GHSS of Sports Zone Chowki Choura here.

About 400 students players from both government and private institutions participated in the competitions. All the field staff of Zone Chowki Choura were present during



the competitions.

Meanwhile, in the Bisnah Sports Zone of the district, an Inter-School Tournament for Boys under-14 and under-17 years was organised by the DYSS. More than six hundred boys participated in the tourney.

In another sports zone of Damsal, a tournament for under-14 and under-17 years age group was organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports under the guidance of zonal physical Education Officer Damsal.

Short TAKES

Kashmir Open International FIDE-Rated Chess Tournament Held

The third Kashmir International Chess Tournament is being held in the Indoor Stadium Polo Ground from May 4 to 9 with players from India, Bangladesh and Nepal participating, along with some players from J&K. The event brings together some of the best chess players from around the world.

Players showcased their strategic and tactical skills competing fiercely for the coveted title and cash prizes. The winner will receive a prize of Rs 2.31 lakh.

SRH Chase Down 166 In Just 9.4 Overs Against LSG

Sunrisers Hyderabad opens Travis Head and Abhishek Sharma smashed Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) bowlers to the pulp, registering a 10-wicket victory and chasing down the target of 166 runs in just 9.4 overs in their Indian Premier League game at Hyderabad's Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium, Hyderabad on Wednesday.

SRH is at number three in the table with seven wins, five losses and 14 points. LSG is at the sixth spot with six wins, six losses and 12 points.

Jaiswal Has Got Very Good Chance Of Breaking My Records: Lara

Yashasvi Jaiswal's Test career is just nine games old but the great Brian Lara feels if there is anyone who can get close to his lofty feats, including the record 400 not out, it is the 22-year-old southpaw from India.

Lara's high praise for Jaiswal doesn't come out of the blue. The two left-handers share a special bond, having spent a lot of time over the past year following their "4 am conversation" during the IPL.

Andy Murray To Return From Injury At Geneva Open



Briton Andy Murray will make his comeback from injury at this month's Geneva Open after the former world number one was handed a wildcard by the organisers of the French Open tune-up event on Wednesday.

Murray, who turns 37 later this month, rolled his ankle in the final set of his defeat by Czech Tomas Machac in the Miami Open in March and withdrew from the Monte Carlo Masters and Munich Open last month.

Malaysian Football Star, 2 Others Targeted in Series of Acid Attacks

Malaysian international footballer has been splashed by acid and two other top players were attacked within a week by unknown assailants, in a rare outbreak of violence targeting athletes in the country.

Police criminal investigation chief Mohamad Shuhaily Mohamad Zain said Wednesday that there were similarities in the three attacks and that the victims appeared to have been targeted. But investigators have not determined whether the cases were linked.

German Teams' Success In CL Disrupting Euro Preparations

Associated Press

BERLIN: Germany's European Championship preparations are being disrupted by German teams' success in the Champions League.

The Champions League final could see old rivals Borussia Dortmund and Bayern Munich meet for a repeat of the 2013 decider — if Bayern beats Real Madrid in the second leg of their semifinal on Wednesday.

Even a Bayern defeat would leave Germany coach Julian Nagelsmann without Madrid players Toni Kroos and Antonio Rudiger for his team's Euro 2024 training camp from May 26-31 in Blankenhain, central Germany.

The Champions League final takes place in London on June 1, meaning any Germany players involved will need to skip those Euro 2024 preparations.



Dortmund reached the final with a 1-0 win at Paris Saint-Germain on Tuesday.

Bayern's team includes Germany internationals Manuel Neuer, Joshua Kimmich, Jamal Musiala, Thomas Müller and Leroy Sané.

Of Dortmund's players, only Niclas Füllkrug was called up for the warmup wins over France and the Netherlands in March, but impressive performances

from Mats Hummels, Nico Schlotterbeck, Emre Can and Julian Brandt could tempt Nagelsmann into recalling them when he names his Euro 2024 squad on May 16.

Germany's Euro 2024 preparations will continue in Herzogenaurach, Bavaria from June 1. The team plays Ukraine in a friendly in Nuremberg on June 3, four days before it

faces Greece for its final tournament tune-up in Mönchengladbach.

Any Champions League final participants will only join the rest of the squad before the Greece game.

Tournament host Germany opens Euro 2024 against Scotland in Munich on June 14. It then plays Hungary in Stuttgart on June 19 and Switzerland in Frankfurt on June 23.

PSG Faces Difficult Rebuilding Task Without Mbappé

Associated Press

PARIS: Kylian Mbappé will become the latest expensive superstar to leave Paris Saint-Germain without a Champions League title.

The question now for the French club is how to rebuild without its record scorer: keep pouring money on big-name signings or find another way to compete with Europe's best?

When he leaves at the end of the season, Mbappé will join Zlatan Ibrahimovic, Edinson Cavani, Thiago Silva, Ángel Di María, Neymar and Lionel Messi in having failed to deliver the elusive Champions League trophy — despite the club's Qatari investors spending more than 2 billion euros (\$2.15 billion) in transfer fees since taking over in 2011.

Now that era of Galácticos could end when Mbappé plays his last game for PSG in the French Cup final against Lyon on May 25.

Replacing him will be difficult, no matter how much money the club spends. The France forward has scored 255 goals for PSG, and his prolific output helped deliver six league titles in seven years — but also often masked glaring deficiencies that were exposed at the highest level in the Champions League.

This season, PSG won just five of its 12 games in Europe, losing five and drawing two. So how can it possibly get more competitive without its best player?

Club president Nasser Al-Khelaifi has many key decisions to make as PSG kicks off its new era.

