



IN MODI 3.0 WHO GETS WHAT

Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Cooperation
Amit Shah

Ministry of Defence:
Rajnath Singh

Ministry of External Affairs:
S Jaishankar

Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Corporate Affairs:
Nirmala Sitharaman

Ministry of Road Transport & Highways:
Nitin Gadkari

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilisers:
JP Nadda

Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports:
Mansukh Mandaviya

Ministry of Labour & Employment:
Mansukh Mandaviya

Ministry of Food Processing Industries:
Chirag Paswan

Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Rural Development:
Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Ministry of Power, Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs:
Manohar Lal Khattar

Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture:
Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology:
Ashwini Vaishnaw

Ministry of Civil Aviation:
Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu

Ministry of Human Resource Development:
Dharmendra Pradhan

Ministry of Women & Child Development:
Annapurna Devi

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change:
Bhupendra Yadav

Ministry of Jal Shakti: **CR Paatil**

Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Ministry of Minority Affairs:
Kiren Rijju

Ministry of Heavy Industries, Ministry of Steel:
HD Kumaraswamy

Ministry of Telecommunication, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region:
Jyotiraditya Scindia

Ministry of Textiles:
Giriraj Singh

Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy:
Prahlad Joshi

Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas:
Hardeep Singh Puri

Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises:
Jitan Ram Manjhi

Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairy:
Lallan Singh

Ministry of Commerce & Industry:
Piyush Goyal

Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways:
Sarbananda Sonowal

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment:
Dr Virendra Kumar

Ministry of Tribal Affairs:
Jual Oram

Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Mines:
G Kishan Reddy

Cabinet Portfolios Announced: No Change In Big 4 In Modi 3.0

KO WEB DESK

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi took oath with 71 ministers yesterday to form the new coalition government. President Droupadi Murmu administered the oath to the incoming ministers. Of the 72 ministers, including the Prime Minister, 30 are Cabinet Ministers, five Ministers Of State with Independent charge, and 36 Ministers of State.

Modi's cabinet in his historic third term will retain the known faces in the big four ministries. Amit Shah will retain the Home portfolio, Rajnath Singh Defence, Foreign Ministry will be retained by S Jaishankar and the Finance ministry by Nirmala Sitharaman. The Prime Minister will handle the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and



Pensions, the Department of Atomic Energy and the Department of Space.

The Road Transport and Highways will be retained by Nitin Gadkari, with two juniors under him -- Ajay Tamta and Harsh Malhotra. Piyush Goyal has retained the Commerce portfolio.

JP Nadda, the health minister in PM Modi's first

cabinet, has been given the same portfolio. He has also been given charge of the Chemicals and Fertilisers department.

Manohar Lal Khattar will handle two key ministries -- Power and Housing and Urban Affairs. For the first, he would have the assistance of junior minister Shripad Naik, for the

second, Tokhan Sahu, the first-time minister from Chhattisgarh.

Shivraj Singh Chouhan, the four-time Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh who has been brought to the Centre, will handle the key ministry of Agriculture, and the related | [More on P6](#)

Dr Jitendra Singh Retains PMO

First From J&K To Serve 3 Consecutive Terms

Agencies

Senior BJP leader Jitendra Singh on Monday retained the all-powerful Prime Minister's Office (PMO) as the Union minister of state for the third time in a row.

He is also back in the Ministry of Earth Sciences as Union Minister of State (Independent Charge), a portfolio held by him for some time in the last government. The ministry's charge was assigned to Kiren Rijju in May last year. President Droupadi Murmu on Monday allocated portfolios to newly inducted ministers in the Narendra Modi-led government. Singh will be Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences, MoS in PMO as well as in the | [More on P6](#)

PM MODI'S NEW COUNCIL OF MINISTERS is 72-strong and comprises 11 ministers belonging to NDA partners such as TDP, JDU, LJP, Shiv Sena, and others."

Er Rashid's Oath As MP

Delhi Court Fixes June 18 To Hear Bail Plea

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: A Delhi court has fixed June 18 to hear arguments on an application filed by Engineer Rashid, arrested in a 2016 Jammu and Kashmir terror funding case, seeking interim bail to take oath as an MP after the recently concluded general elections.

Sheikh Abdul Rashid, popularly known as Engineer Rashid, defeated J-K former chief minister Omar Abdullah from the Baramulla constituency in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. Rashid contested as an Independent candidate to defeat the National Conference (NC) vice president.

He is also a former MLA of the Union Territory.

Additional Sessions Judge Chander Jit Singh fixed the matter for June 18 after the NIA sought time to file reply to Rashid's application.

The NIA further submitted on June 7 that the notification for the oath of newly elected members of Parliament of Lok Sabha was not published yet.

The judge | [More on P6](#)

'Facilitating Reservations To OBCs In Local Bodies'

J&K Govt Approves Dedicated Commission

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Administrative Council which met here under the Chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, J&K approved establishment of a dedicated Backward Classes Commission for facilitating reservations to OBCs in Local Bodies in view of enactment of the Jammu and Kashmir Local Bodies Laws (Amendment) Act, 2024.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor; Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor attended the meeting.

Approves Submission Of Draft JKSSB Bill 2024

The Administrative Council (AC) which met here under the Chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, J&K approved submission of draft The Jammu and Kashmir Service Selection Board (JKSSB) Bill, 2024 to | [More on P6](#)

Reasi Bus Attack

Nefarious Design To Spread Turmoil In Jammu: LG



Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said Monday the terror attack on a bus carrying pilgrims in Reasi district was part

of nefarious designs to spread turmoil in the Jammu region, and asserted that such an attempt would be thwarted.

Nine people were killed and 41 injured as terrorists opened fire at | [More on P6](#)

LG Announces 10 Lakh Ex-gratia Holds Security Review Meeting

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday met the pilgrims injured in the Reasi bus attack, undergoing treatment at Government Medical College (GMC), Jammu and Shri

Police Form 11 teams To Investigate Attack

The Jammu and Kashmir police have formed 11 teams to investigate the Reasi terror attack, which took place on Sunday evening, said the police. "Regarding the terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's | [More on P6](#)

Four Of Family Among 9 Killed

Mamta and Rajendra Saini's three children are waiting for their parents' return from a Vaishno Devi pilgrimage. They will never come back. Cloth merchant Rajendra Saini (42), his wife Mamta (40), their relative Pooja Saini (30) and her two-year-old son Titu are among the nine killed after terrorists opened fire at a bus carrying pilgrims in Jammu's Reasi district on Sunday evening. The couple's two sons, one of them a minor, and daughter have been told that their parents were | [More on P6](#)

Not Contesting Assembly Polls: Omar Says Won't Humiliate Myself By Entering UT Assembly

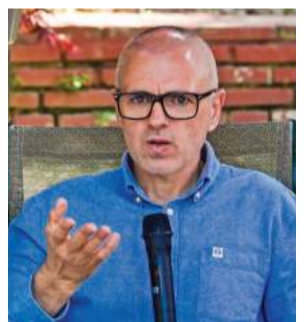
Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: National Conference (NC) leader Omar Abdullah on Monday ruled out the possibility of him contesting the forthcoming elections to the Jammu and Kashmir assembly but said he would be leading his party's campaign for the polls.

The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister also said he will not humiliate himself by entering the legislature of a Union Territory (UT).

On his defeat in the Lok Sabha election to jailed contestant Sheikh Abdul Rashid alias Engineer Rashid in Baramulla, Abdullah said in electoral politics, one has to be ready for a loss as well.

"If you set aside the fact that I lost, on the whole I think the NC has a lot to be satisfied for... as far as my own seat is concerned, how can I be anything but disappointed. But that is electoral politics for you. If you are not prepared to lose, you should



not file your papers. I cannot say the result was an expected lines. But it is what it is," he told PTI in an interview.

The NC leader said he will lead his party's campaign for the assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

"No. I am not contesting the assembly elections. I will not fight a UT election. I am absolutely clear on that. I will help my party. I will lead the campaign, I will do whatever I have to for the NC. But I will not enter an assembly of the UT of J-K," he said.

"I will fight for our statehood to be | [More on P6](#)

"Bumper Garlic Harvest" Kashmir Generates Rs 300 Cr

Agencies

Srinagar: The Kashmir Valley has achieved remarkable revenue generation of Rs 300 crores from this year's garlic production, with an increase in prices compared to previous years, official data reveals.

According to the data accessed, the 2023-2024 fiscal year saw the production of 67,500 metric tons of garlic, covering 4,500 hectares of land.

Out of the total production, 30,000 metric tons of garlic have been exported outside the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, which has resulted in a revenue of Rs 300 crores.

According to the data, the total garlic production for the fiscal year is expected to reach 70,000 metric tons. The average sale price of garlic this year has been Rs 100 per kilogram, higher than in previous years. This has further contributed to the increased revenue.

Farmers have expressed satisfaction with this year's garlic cultivation. | [More on P6](#)

Preventing 2014-like Flood Courts Prime Importance: HC

Seeks Detailed Affidavit About Steps Taken By Govt, Warns 'Coercive Steps' Over Failure

M Ahmad

Srinagar: Underlining that preventing the possibility of recurrence of devastating flood like 2014 remains its prime importance, the High Court of J&K and Ladakh has directed authorities to file a detailed affidavit, detailing steps taken in terms of various orders passed by the Court from time to time in this regard.

"What is of prime importance for this Court is to prevent the possibility of recurrence of such a devastating flood, which had occurred in September, 2014 for which a number of directions have been issued by this Court, including directions issued on 18.08.2017 and 11.09.2017," a division bench of Chief Justice N. Kotiswar Singh and Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal said while hearing clubbed Public Interest Litigations.



"This Court, vide order dated 9.10.2017 with regard to the directions issued from time to time particularly on 18.08.2017 and 11.09.2017 reminded the authorities that the Court is not powerless in matters involving public interest," the Division Bench underscored.

Subsequently, in view of the matter and keeping in mind the "impending monsoon season and likelihood of floods", the court issued a slew of directions to the authorities and among others | [More on P6](#)



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2

PUBLIC NOTICE

On the horizon for residents of Magam! A new tour and travel agency, aptly named "Blooming Gulmarg Tour and Travels, extend an invitation to all residents to voice any objections or concerns they may have regarding the establishment of the agency. Individuals are encouraged to reach out within a one-week period and approach to concern authority

bmj

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my passport somewhere. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Regional Passport Office Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

bmj

PUBLIC NOTICE:

(For change of name in Electric connection) This is to inform the public that the electric connection for my house, currently registered under the name of my late father, Abdul Gaffar Bhat, with Consumer ID No: 0204040012891, and Installation No: 5048 needs to be transferred to my name as the legal owner of the house.

mzko

'Awareness, Early Detection Key To Battling Brain Tumours'

Press Trust Of India

On the Brain Tumour Day, experts emphasised that awareness and early detection is crucial in the treatment of brain tumours. Early intervention not only increases the chances of successful treatment but also helps patients maintain a better quality of life, they said.

Dr Vaish said brain tumours can be sneaky and early signs often feel like everyday issues one might brush off. New or worsening headaches, especially those worse in the morning and accompanied by nausea, could be a red flag, he said.

Dr Yashpal Singh Bundela, senior consultant at Sushrut Brain and Spine, New Delhi, stated that a brain tumour diagnosis can be scary, but early detection is key to a brighter future. The sooner one identifies the tumour, more treatment options become available, he added.

Brain Tumour Day serves as a critical reminder of the importance of awareness, early detection and support for those affected by brain tumour.

Government Of Jammu And Kashmir Jammu And Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) CPO Chowk, Panjtirthi, Jammu / Zamzam Complex, Rambagh, Srinagar. www.jkssb.nic.in

Subject: Provisional Selection List for 15 posts of Deputy Inspector/ Equivalent, Animal/Sheep Husbandry & Fisheries Department, advertised vide Notification No. 04 of 2022 dated: 27.07.2022 under item No's 143 and 144.

NOTIFICATION

Whereas, the J&K Services Selection Board, vide Indent No. ASHF-CORD/92/2021-03 dated 04.04.2022, received the requisition for 15 posts of Deputy Inspector/ Equivalent, from Animal/Sheep Husbandry & Fisheries Department, which were advertised by the Board vide Notification No. 04 of 2022 dated: 27.07.2022 under item No's 143 and 144, as per the following category-wise break up:

Table with 10 columns: Item No., OM, SC, ST, OSC, ALC/IB, RBA, PSP, EWS, Total. Rows for items 143 and 144.

Whereas, the requisite qualification for selection against these posts, as per the Indent/ advertised, was mentioned as under:

"B.Sc. Medical (Zoology) or B.Sc. Industrial Fish & Fisheries from a recognized University/Institute."

Whereas, Animal/ Sheep Husbandry and Fisheries Department, vide letter No. SHF-CORD/92/2021-03 Dated: 10.08.2022, conveyed that the prescribed qualification for the post of Deputy Inspector/ Equivalent as per Recruitment Rules of the J&K Fisheries (Subordinate) Service notified vide SRO No.296 dated 10.10.2008 is as under:

"B.F.Sc. or B.Sc. Medical (Zoology) or B.Sc. Industrial Fish & Fisheries from a recognized University/Institute".

Whereas, the Board issued a corrigendum vide Notification No. SSB/Secy/Adv. No. 04/2022/5903-20 dated 05.09.2022, regarding the prescribed qualification for the 15 posts of Deputy Inspector/ Equivalent advertised under Notification No. 04 of 2022 dated 27.07.2022, as under:

"B.F.Sc. or B.Sc. Medical Zoology or B.Sc. Industrial Fish & Fisheries from a recognized University/Institute".

Whereas, the cut-off/last date for applying for these posts, and for determining the eligibility of the candidates for purpose of educational/category and other benefits was 20.09.2022. The OMR based Written Examination for selection against these 15 posts of Deputy Inspector/ Equivalent, was conducted by the JKSSB on 03.03.2024; and

Whereas, the Board, vide Notification No. No. JKSSB-COEEXAM(UT)/3/2024-04 (7407286) dated 14.03.2024, notified the Result/Score-sheet of the OMR based Written Examination held for these posts. This was followed by the Document Verification of the

candidates falling in the consideration zone w.e.f. 26.03.2024, both at Jammu and Srinagar, which concluded with Supplementary DV on 02.04.2024; and

Whereas, vide Office Order No. 187-SSB of 2024 dated 14.05.2024, a Selection Committee was constituted for preparing the Selection List for these posts. The said Selection Committee, upon careful scrutiny of the Indent/ advertisement, prepared the Provisional Selection List for these posts in accordance with the merit and eligibility of the candidates as per the extant rules; and

Whereas, the Provisional Selection List, as prepared by the aforesaid Selection Committee for these posts of Deputy Inspector/ Equivalent, from Animal/Sheep Husbandry & Fisheries Department, was placed before the Board in its 274th meeting held on 05.06.2024, which, after due deliberations and consideration of the matter, approved its notification; and

Now, therefore, the Provisional Selection List of the candidates for 15 posts of Deputy Inspector/ Equivalent, from Animal/Sheep Husbandry & Fisheries Department, advertised vide Notification No. 04 of 2022 dated: 27.07.2022, under item No's 143 and 144, is hereby notified as per Annexure-A to this Notification. It is further notified that:

- i. This Provisional Selection List shall be subject to outcome of the OAs/Writ Petition(s), if any, pending in the competent court of law.
ii. This shall also be subject to the outcome of any pending enquiry, involving candidate(s), figuring in this Provisional Selection List.
iii. This is a Provisional List and shall be subject to the change(s) as per the objections as may be received against it and mere figuring in it shall not confer any right to selection, which shall be finalized after examination of the objections based on merit.

Signature

By Order.

No. JKSSB-Scry/13/2024-03(E-7479276)

Secretary J&K Services Selection Board Dated: 10.06.2024

ANNEXURE - A

Provisional Selection List for the post of Deputy Inspector/Equivalent, Animal/Sheep Husbandry & Fisheries Department, Divisional Cadre - Kashmir advertised vide Notification No.04 of 2022 dated 27.07.2022, Item No.143

Table with 13 columns: S. No, D.V. Sr. No., Roll No., Candidate's Name, Parentage, DoB, Category, Score, Selection Category, ADDRESS, Qualification Possessed, Year of Passing, Name of the Institute, REMARKS/DEFICIENCY. Includes Selection List under OPEN MERIT, SC Category, ST Category, OSC Category, ALC/IB Category, RBA Category, PSP Category, and EWS Category.

Provisional Selection List for the post of Deputy Inspector/Equivalent, Animal/Sheep Husbandry & Fisheries Department, Divisional Cadre - Jammu, advertised vide Notification No.04 of 2022 dated 27.07.2022, Item No.144

Table with 13 columns: S. No, D.V. Sr. No., Roll No., Candidate's Name, Parentage, DoB, Category, Score, Selection Category, ADDRESS, Qualification Possessed, Year of Passing, Name of the Institute, REMARKS/DEFICIENCY. Includes Selection List under OPEN MERIT, SC Category, RBA Category, and PSP Category.

DIPK-1112/24 dated: 10-06-2024

Signatures

Secretary J&K Services Selection Board

Office of the Naib-Tehsildar Pattan Executive Magistrate 1st Class

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

The registrar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/Block Development Officer Lolpora) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Haroon Rashid s/o Ab Rashid Sheikh R/o Mamooa Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla with verified date of event (birth) as 02-03-1997 occurred at Home

In this connection, if anybody having any objection to the issuance of said registration may contact this office within seven (07) days, after which no objections shall be entertained.

Executive Magistrate 1st Class Naib Tehsildar Pattan fko_r

Government of Jammu and Kashmir Office of the Executive Magistrate 1st Class Baramulla

Subject:- Delay in registration of Birth/Death Issuance of orders thereof

PUBLIC NOTICE

The registrar Births and deaths has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Mohammad Owais Kumar S/o Nazir Ahmad Kumar R/o Palhallan District Baramulla with verified date of event (birth) as 29-04-2022 occurred at Associated Hospital GMC

In this connection, if anybody having any objection to the issuance of said registration may contact this office within seven (07) days, after which no objections shall be entertained.

Executive Magistrate 1st Class Baramulla fko_

Government of Jammu and Kashmir Office of the Executive Magistrate 1st Class Baramulla

Subject:- Delay in registration of Birth/Death Issuance of orders thereof

Public Notice

The registrar Births and deaths has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Aafiya Jan D/o Nazir Ahmad Kumar R/o Palhallan District Baramulla with verified date of event (birth) as 29-04-2022 occurred at Dstt Bla

In this connection, if anybody having any objection to the issuance of said registration may contact this office within seven (07) days, after which no objections shall be entertained.

Executive Magistrate 1st Class Baramulla fko_

PUBLIC NOTICE:

(For change of name in Electric connection) This is to inform the public that the electric connection for my house, currently registered under the name of my late father, Abdul Gaffar Bhat, with Consumer ID No: 0204040012891, and Installation No: 5048 needs to be transferred to my name as the legal owner of the house.

I am in the process of applying for this transfer with the J&K PDD Sub Division Hawal. Should anyone have any objections, please contact the Department of Power within seven days from the date of this notice's publication.

Manzoor Ahmad Bhat S/O Late Abdul Gaffar Bhat Resident of Firdous Colony Buchpora, Srinagar-190020 Tele: +91-9596391895 mzko

Shopkeepers Offer 'Bumper Sale' Ahead Of Eid-ul-Azha In Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: As Eid-ul-Adha approaches, the festive spirit is palpable in Srinagar, with retailers launching exciting offers to attract shoppers. Among the anticipated offers is the "Eid Sale" provided by shopkeepers and retailers to attract people.

Various shops, according to news agency KNO, and stores in Srinagar city have rolled out an array of discounts on a variety of products, with special deals on shoes, kids' wear, and jeans among others.

With sales ready to draw visitors, shopkeepers are expecting the arrival of visitors. However, as of now, the market has been down, traders said.

"We are thrilled to announce our first Maha Eid Sale, offering unbeatable prices on some of our most popular items," said a representative from a store that has set up a sale.

"Our aim is to provide our customers with the best shopping experience and value for their money, especially

during this joyous occasion," he added.

Lastly, different stores in Srinagar have set up dedicated sections for different product categories, making it easier for customers to find what they need. From stylish shoes to trendy jeans and adorable kids' wear, there's something for everyone as the sale trend hits the valley.

"Every year, we see a surge in sales during Eid, so we are offering our customers the best deals to make the most of this festive season," said a shopkeeper in Lal Chowk. "We're expecting a huge rush ahead of Eid, and we want to ensure that our customers have a wonderful shopping experience."

In the last week ahead of Eid, shoppers usually flock to their favorite shops and those stores offering the best deals.

Deputy Commissioner Srinagar has already directed the authorities to constitute joint market checking teams to ensure availability of good quality of essentials and to curb malpractice of overcharging and overpricing in the market.

Traffic Police Seizes Vehicle After Man Performs Deadly Stunts

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Acting against the dangerous stunt by a mini load carrier driver during night hours, the authorities in Srinagar Traffic Police here have seized the vehicle and recommended the suspension of driving license of a driver.

"Traffic police seized the vehicle; the driver will be called for counseling sessions. We have recommended the suspension of his driving license," the senior official said.

Notably, a video went viral on social media where a mini load carrier driver was seen performing dangerous stunts, following which the traffic police tracked down the vehicle and the driver.

In a tweet, City Traffic Police on its official X account confirmed the action and wrote, "Traffic City Srinagar Seized One Mini Load Carrier Involved in Dangerous Stunt during Night

Hours. Action Under Relevant Sections Of Motor Vehicle Act Taken And License Of Driver Has Been Recommended For Suspension."

The senior officer said that the driver now faces legal action under the relevant sections of the Motor Vehicles Act.

He said the recommendation for the suspension of the driver's license underscores the City's commitment to enforcing road safety and deterring reckless driving practices. He added that there is zero-tolerance policy towards such actions and that the swift response to this incident serves as a reminder to all drivers about the importance of adhering to traffic regulations and the severe consequences of violating them.

Notably, several netizens raised alarms about road safety, prompting swift action from the traffic authorities.



Children taking a dip in Dal Lake's chilly waters on Monday to escape the scorching heat. KO photo, Abid Bhat

Bemina Terror Attack

SIT Files Chargesheet Against Four Accused Under UAPA

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Srinagar police on Monday filed a chargesheet before the Special Judge National Investigation Agency (NIA) Court under Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) against four accused in connection with a terror attack in Hamdaniya Colony Bemina last year.

The chargesheet was filed by the Special Investigation Team (SIT) of Srinagar police, six months after the attack, in which a cop suffered serious injuries. A formal case FIR No. 112 of 23 was registered at police station Bemina in this regard.

The three accused allegedly involved in the attack were arrested by the police, while another, an active terrorist of proscribed ter-

ror outfit Al-Badr, police said, is currently in Pakistan.

The accused were identified as Mehnan Khan, a resident of Syedpora Khawajapora, Rainawari, Imtiyaz Ahmad Khanday alias Raju, a resident of Hamdaniya Colony Bemina, Danish Ahmad Malla, a resident of Hamdaniya Colony Bemina and Arjumand Gulzar alias Hamza Burhan, a resident of Kharbatpora Ratnipora, Pulwama. "Police in Srinagar produced a chargesheet in case FIR No.112/2023 under Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act registered in Police Station Bemina before Court of Special Judge (NIA Court) in Srinagar," a police spokesman said in a statement.

The chargesheet, he said, was filed by the SIT of Srinagar Police before NIA Court against

four accused persons involved in the terrorist attack in Hamdaniya Colony Bemina during December 2023 in which one police constable of J&K Police suffered serious injuries.

"During investigation, it came to fore that the three accused persons were working as terrorist associates for the active terrorist namely Arjumand Gulzar @ Hamza and had obtained arms and ammunition through a well-thought out criminal conspiracy aimed at targeted attack on the cop," the spokesman added.

Srinagar Police, he claimed, have also initiated proceedings to attach properties and assets of the accused acquired through illegal means, under relevant provisions of UAPA.

CUS Inks MoU With HBSU Mumbai

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Cluster University Srinagar (CUS) has entered Memorandum of Understanding with Dr. Homi Baba State University (HBSU) Mumbai with the aim of fostering collaborative research, innovation and academic development.

The MOU was signed by Vice Chancellor, Cluster University Srinagar, Prof. Qayyum Husain and Vice Chancellor of Dr. Homi Baba State University, Prof. Rajanish K Kamat. The

MOU will remain in effect for a period of three years and covers a wide range of areas including promotion of research, information exchange, enhancement of practical education and faculty exchange program.

Senior officials of Cluster University were present on the occasion including Registrar, Dr. Syed Wilayat Hussain Rizvi; In-charge Dean Academics and Dean Humanities & Liberal Arts, Dr. Deeba Sarmad; Controller of Examinations, Dr. Khurshid Ahmad Mir; Dean Commerce & Management, Dr. G.M Lone;

Dean Sciences, Dr. Naseer Husain Shah; Dean Social Sciences, Dr. Nazir Ahmad Kotey, Dean Teacher Education, Dr. Mumir Ahmad Mir and Assistant Registrar, Mr. Gulzar Ahmad.

Referring to the MoU, Prof. Qayyum said, "Both universities aim to advance research initiatives and cultivate a strong research culture among students and faculty members. We also intend to share valuable information about our programs and activities to enrich the practical education experience for students."

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- 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

04 Zil-Hajj
1445

PRAYERS	
FAJR	3: 32
ZUHR	12:30
ASR	5: 31
Magrib	7:45
ISHA	9: 26

This Day In History

- 1774 - Jews of Algiers escape attacking Spanish Army
- 1837 - The Broad Street Riot occurs in Boston, fueled by ethnic tensions between English-Americans and Irish-Americans
- 1864 - The Battle of Trevilian Station, the bloodiest and largest all-cavalry battle of the American Civil War, begins in Louisa County, Virginia
- 1864 - Battle at Cynthiaia Kentucky: General Hobsons unit caught
- 1894 - Battle of Laurel Hill, West Virginia
- 1898 - 1st US Marines (600) land at Guantanamo Cuba during Spanish-American War
- 1901 - Cook Islands annexed and proclaimed part of New Zealand
- 1913 - Grand Vizir Mahmud Shevket Pasha is assassinated, resulting in continuing Young Turk terrorism until WWI
- 1917 - King Alexander assumes the throne of Greece after his father Constantine I abdicates under pressure by allied armies occupying Athens
- 1920 - Republicans nominate Warren G. Harding for US president
- 1934 - Disarmament conference in Geneva fails
- 1935 - Inventor Edwin Armstrong gives the first public demonstration of FM broadcasting in the United States, at Alpine, New Jersey
- 1940 - World War II: British forces bomb Genoa and Turin in Italy
- 1940 - World War II: First attack of the Italian Air force on the island of Malta
- 1942 - German army defeated at El-Alamein, North Africa
- 1942 - US and USSR sign Lend-Lease agreement during WW II
- 1943 - British invades Pantelleria (a tiny island south of Sicily)
- 1944 - 15 US aircraft carriers attack Japanese bases on Marianas
- 1951 - Mozambique becomes an overseas province of Portugal
- 1958 - UN Security council sends observers to Lebanon
- 1971 - US & Japan sign accord to return Okinawa to Japan
- 1971 - US ends ban on China trade
- 1973 - Libya nationalizes Bunker Hunt concession; Nigeria
- 1975 - 1st oil pumped from North Sea oilfield
- 1975 - Greece adopts constitution
- 1975 - One-day international cricket debut of Javed Miandad aged 17 yrs 364 days

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

Office Of The District Sheep Husbandry Officer Bandipora

Telephone: 01957225511 email: dshobandipore@gmail.com

Technical Section

Subject:-Establishment of 10 Ewes /Does Unit under the Scheme "International Fund for Agriculture Development"- IFAD on Participatory Mode for the financial year 2024-25.
Reference No:-DSHK/Plan/2024-25/546-59 Dated:-16/04/2024

Advertisement Notice

Applications on prescribed formats are invited for the establishment of Income generating Sheep/Goat units under the scheme "International Fund for Agriculture Development"- IFAD on Participatory Mode for the financial year 2024-25 for support to vulnerable communities (SC/ST/Women/Chopans- Pastoralists) of District Bandipora.

Components of the Scheme:

- Establishment of 10 ewe/does unit on Participatory Mode as per the norms and guidelines of the Integrated Sheep Development Scheme-ISDS issued in 2023-24 by the Department of Sheep Husbandry or any new guideline issued by the Department.

Mode of Operations

- Vulnerable communities (SC/ST/Women/Chopans- Pastoralists) can avail the benefits of the Scheme.
- Selection of beneficiaries shall be done CD Block wise as per ISDS guidelines of the Scheme 2023-24.

Important Dates:-

- Date of commencement of the issuance of application forms: 10-06-2024
- Last date for receipt of applications: 16-06-2024

How to Apply

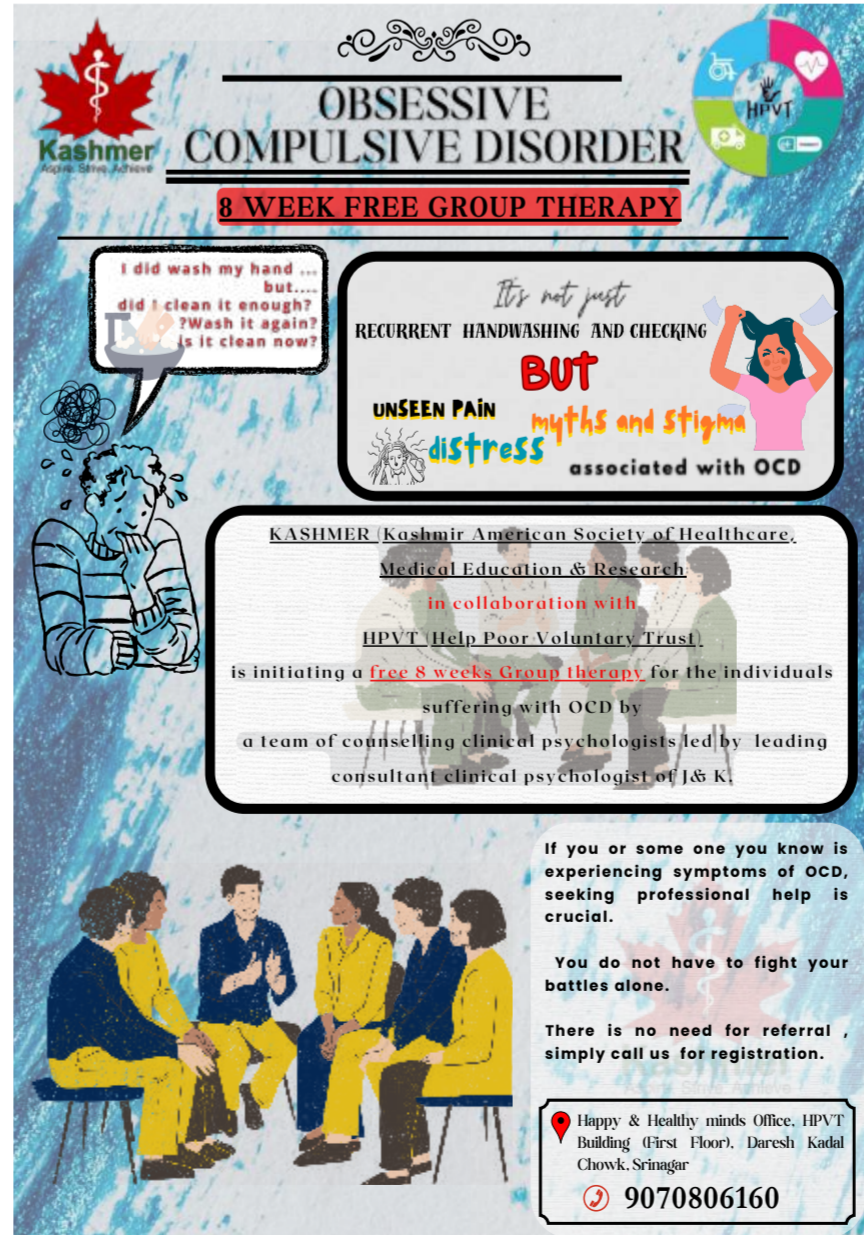
- The application forms can be received and submitted back completed in all respects along with the relevant documents on all working days during office hours at the following offices
- a) Office of the Sheep Development Officer Bandipora/Hajin/Gurez.
- b) Office of the Sheep Development Blocks:Aloosa/Mantrigam/Kunan/Garroo/ Ajas/Naidkhai/Sumbal/Hajin/Gurez/Badugam/Baduaab
- Documents to be submitted, Xerox Copies of Aadhaar Card, Ration Card, Category certificate(ST/SC/EWS), Un-employment certificate
- For further details kindly visit our departmental website www.jksheephusbandrykashmir.nic.in

General Terms and Conditions for All Schemes

- The age of applicant must be 18 years to 55 years.
- Beneficiaries/ Households who already availed benefit under any income generation scheme of Sheep Husbandry Department during last five (05) years aren't eligible.
- Applicants who have already applied vide this Office Advertisement No. DSHO/Bpr/Tech/2024-25/2623-43 Dated: 13-03-2024 need not to apply again.
- More than one application shall not be entertained from same household.

Sd/= District Sheep Husbandry Officer Bandipora

DIPK-1090/24 dated: 10-06-2024



OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE DISORDER

8 WEEK FREE GROUP THERAPY

I did wash my hand... but... did I clean it enough? Wash it again? Is it clean now?

It's not just RECURRENT HANDWASHING AND CHECKING BUT UNSEEN PAIN myths and stigma associated with OCD

KASHMIR Kashmir American Society of Healthcare, Medical Education & Research in collaboration with HPVT (Help Poor Voluntary Trust) is initiating a free 8 weeks Group therapy for the individuals suffering with OCD by a team of counselling clinical psychologists led by leading consultant clinical psychologist of J&K

If you or some one you know is experiencing symptoms of OCD, seeking professional help is crucial.

You do not have to fight your battles alone.

There is no need for referral, simply call us for registration.

Happy & Healthy minds Office, HPVT Building (First Floor), Darresh Kadal Chowk, Srinagar
9070806160

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

Invitation of Tenders through e-procurement system

Dy. Chief Materials Manager, NRI, Store Depot Mech Workshop, AMRITSAR for and on behalf of President of India, invited tenders through e-procurement system for the supply of the following items:-

S. No.	Tender No.	Description	Qty.	Due Date
01	62241027	SOLID MIG / MG WELDING FILLER WIRE CLASS VI, SIZE 1.2 MM, As per RDSO Specification No.-IRS-M-48-2020 (version 1.0) Class-VI, GRADE ER 308L as per AWS:A.5.9/5.9M:2017	30000.00 Kgs	03.07.24

NOTE- Above tenders with detailed description are uploaded on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in. The firm, who desires to participate against e-tenders, is advised to electronically register themselves on the above website for which they would require to have a class III digital certificate form certifying Agencies authorized under IT Act 2000 by Govt. of India. Manual offers against e-tenders will not be accepted.

Tender Notice No. 7/2024-2025 Date: 10.06.2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 1725/24

PUBLIC NOTICE

I purchased land including electric water pump from Javid Ahmad Fazli S/O Gh. Rasool Fazli R/o Faiz ul haq colony with Electric connection bearing Consumer ID '0204050007985 < & installation No.6272634299. Now I want to change the name on Electricity & Water Bill from Javid Ahmad Fazli S/O Gh. Rasool Fazli R/o Faiz ul haq colony to Showkat Ahmad Sheikh S/o Late Ghulam Ahmad Sheikh R/o Faiz ul haq colony Botapora. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the concerned office within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Showkat Ahmad Sheikh
S/o Late Ghulam Ahmad Sheikh R/o Faiz ul haq colony inf

KASHMIR OBSERVERTM

Tuesday | 11-06-2024

Assembly Polls, At Last?

The long-awaited Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly elections are expected to be announced this month, with the Election Commission planning to conduct the polls by mid-August. This development follows a record turnout of 58.58% in the recent Lok Sabha - 51.05% in the Kashmir Valley. The recent Lok Sabha elections were among the most peaceful in the region in decades, enhancing confidence in the electoral process.

The Election Commission is preparing for these elections despite the challenges posed by the monsoon season. To facilitate a smooth electoral process, the Commission has taken several steps, including inviting non-recognised but registered political parties to apply for their preferred election symbols. This move allows these parties to field candidates under a common symbol, promoting a more inclusive and representative electoral contest.

Previously, only candidates from national, state, or regionally recognised parties could use a common symbol, while registered parties competed with separate free symbols as independents. The new provision aims to level the playing field and enhance political diversity.

The Supreme Court has already directed the central government to hold the Legislative Assembly elections by September 30. The completion of delimitation and voter list revisions has set the stage for these elections, with the number of Assembly seats increased from 107 to 114, including 24 for Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. The Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly will now have 90 seats, with the new Vaishno Devi and Katra constituencies in Reasi district among them.

Of these 90 seats, 43 are in the Jammu region and 47 in the Kashmir Valley. Nine seats were reserved for Scheduled Castes and seven for Scheduled Tribes, ensuring representation for marginalized communities.

The people of Jammu and Kashmir are hopeful that the new government will soon restore statehood. It was on June 19, 2018, that the BJP withdrew support to the J&K coalition government headed by the then Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti, paving the way for Governor's rule in the then state. Later, former J&K Governor, Satya Pal Malik, dissolved the assembly in November. This was followed by the abrogation of Jammu and Kashmir's special status on August 5, 2019, and the downgrading of the state into a union territory. The position of the Governor was reduced to that of Lieutenant Governor. Over five years have passed since then without assembly elections and any sign of restoration of statehood. Now, there are hopeful signs that these elections will finally be held. The reestablishment of a local government will be a critical step towards self-governance and political stability.

What Do Coalitions Tell us About Politics?

Azher Ahmad Dar

The recent elections, with results having been declared on the 4th of June, are surprising for various reasons. The BJP was anticipating that it would win a 2/3rd majority without the support of the NDA, with politicians assiduously saying, 'Ab ki baar 400 paar'. It is a surprise for both the BJP and the India Alliance, with the India Alliance having taken a leap and the BJP recording a reduction in its tally.

At the meeting of the NDA in New Delhi on June 5, the NDA chose Narendra Modi as the leader of the NDA, with the social media calling Nitish Kumar and Chandrababu Naidu the 'Kingmakers'.

What do coalitions entail for politics, and how will they have an impact on the political situation of the country, is an interesting question.

Political parties have been important tools of interest articulation, and non-political associations have to pin their interests and issues through the political parties.

With the first general elections in 1952, the Indian National Congress clinched to power with a handsome majority because of the nationalist legacy of the party and the stalwarts that were in the party.

Many would say that the period between 1952 and 1967 was an era of single-party dominance.

But they are practically wrong; technically, it may have been so, but the great Indian political scientists like Rajni Kothari and C.P. Bhambari has a point as to how this period too marked the competition between parties.

The INC has been a catch-all party, drawing people from every segment of society, supported by the fact that in the very first Cabinet, Nehru had invited Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Shyama Prasad Mukherjee.

Juxtaposed to the present opposition, there were a number of factions within the Congress party who used to criticise or appraise the party for that matter. This mechanism had kept the party under strict regulation.

The factions had bargaining power, as do today's coalition partners. Rajni Kothari calls this 'competitive dominance'. The opposition parties too had bargaining power, which they got through the factions in Congress. There was always a tussle going on between the government wing and the organisational wing of the INC, with plans like the Kamraj Plan testifying to it, according to which those who had served for a considerable period of time now should work for the strengthening of the organisation.

Every decision taken was on the basis of consensus, and the PM had no penchant for interfering in it, as it would have negatively affected the party. This was the beauty of the Congress era in terms of its accommodating nature, which others could not.

Now we come straight to the Janata Party coalition in 1977, formed under the leadership of Morarji Desai, in opposition to the excesses that were committed during the emergency, as 676 opposition leaders were arrested. The revelation of the Shah commission confirms the atrocities that were committed during the emergency.

Luckily, the coalition clinched the top spot, and the government was formed. This marked the beginning of the coalition era in the country. Morarji Desai was chosen as PM of the country.

However, within a matter of two years, the coalition fell apart, the major reason being the struggle for power within the coalition, leaving the party in the doldrums. It revealed both the positives and negatives of a coalition. Then various other coalitions were formed, which proved short in duration.

This reveals several things about the coalition government.

A coalition is good, as totalizing power in a single party leads to power becoming arbitrary,



As long as they don't widen their social bases, how are others going to be included in the governance of the country with the faulty first-past-post system of representation?

'The End of History and the Last Man', reiterates this very fact that drawing on Plato's 'thymus' and Friedrich Nietzsche's calling people 'the beast with red cheeks', it can be said that people will only be in a web of cordial relations when they are recognized.

This seems to be missing in Indian politics.

The parties are seen as antagonists, which should not be the case. Seeing them as part of a developmental process is what is desirable for a country like India.

The asymmetrical devolution of funds among states is done on the basis of the fact that where the central government has a majority, it is favoured, and vice versa, which is at odds with the essence of cooperative federalism.

A coalition also means that the main party may not be able to take bold and good decisions because of a lack of majority.

There are various problems too in the India alliance; while group representation is the essence of Indian politics, the allies have a particular target group, leaving others at the mercy of God. SP is for Yadavs; BSP is for Dalits; AIM is for Muslims, etc.

As long as they don't widen their social bases, how are others going to be included in the governance of the country with the faulty first-past-post system of representation?

Pratap bhanu mehta says that the failure of the communal parties has partly been because of their small social base; as long as the social base is not widened, it is likely that in the long run they will suffer.

The BSP in this election has not been able to get even a single seat.

How are Hindus or Muslims going to vote for a party that has a particular orientation?

This gives room to appeasement politics and the politicisation of ascriptive values like religion and caste, which is dangerous for the well-being of people. The parties must contest on issues like employment, basic needs, etc. The immaturity of the country's political system explains this predicament.

Now, seeing the trend of the past five years, it is highly desirable for a democracy like India to go for a coalition. Now that we have a strong opposition, it is a win for democracy, which will keep the ruling government in perpetual check.

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

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Safeguarding Your Investments in the Stock Market: A Cautionary Guide

Did You Know?

Irshad Mushtaq

The allure of quick profits and high returns can often lead individuals to underestimate the risks associated with investing in the stock market. In India, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has implemented stringent guidelines to protect investors from fraudulent practices and misleading promises that guarantee assured income through stock market investments.

It is essential for investors to recognize that the stock market is inherently unpredictable, and no one can guarantee specific returns. Understanding the market, conducting thorough research, and being realistic about potential risks are vital components of successful investing.

SEBI's guidelines explicitly prohibit any false promises of assured high returns or quick profits in the Indian stock market. Investors must be vigilant and exercise caution when approached with schemes or individuals making unrealistic claims about investment outcomes.

When initiating the process of opening a trading account or a demat account, individuals must ensure that all details are registered in their name. This includes information such as email address, mobile number, and bank account details. Maintaining control over these accounts and refraining from engaging in cash transactions or issuing third-party cheques is crucial to safeguarding investments.

Emphasizing personal ownership and control over trading and demat accounts is paramount. By adhering to SEBI guidelines and refraining from relinquishing control of one's accounts to third parties, investors can mitigate the risk of falling victim to fraudulent practices in the stock market.

In conclusion, fostering a comprehensive understanding of the risks and challenges inherent in stock market investments is imperative for safeguarding one's financial interests. By prioritizing compliance with SEBI guidelines, conducting diligent research, and maintaining control over personal accounts, investors can navigate the complexities of the stock market with greater confidence and security. Remember, your financial well-being is paramount - stay informed, vigilant, and proactive in protecting your investments from potential risks.

Learn from the insights of writer and investor, Irshad Mushtaq, Founder of MI Securities and Business Partner at Sharekhan! Reach out to him at Irshad@bp.sharekhan.com for valuable knowledge on financial matters



OBSERVER
MAIL

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

MAIL YOUR LETTERS

P.O. Box # 337, GPO, Srinagar-190 001
email: editpage.ko@gmail.com

Change Your Life and Personality

There's no real "you". You're just a blueprint of the society in which you were born and one that made you. Your habits, hobbies, interests, religion, beliefs and actions are all mediated by society. What you are right now is not the actual you. However, there is a possibility to discover and rediscover yourself. You are the creator of your own story. However this change will hardly come overnight.

Consider this, in a village two children are born. One grows up in the village itself and another is raised in a developed country abroad. After twenty years, they both will have different personalities. The village boy will have his own set of hobbies

and dreams. On the other hand, the one raised abroad will have a different set of values mediated by a completely different society abroad. Therefore, it is obvious that you do not control your life, society does. One might mistake one's life as though luck directed it, however, things aren't that simple.

However, no matter what society has done, you can change it if you don't like your story that you are living. You can completely recreate it no matter how old and strong your story is. You have the power, because you are the author of your own life story. This is the highest power for a human being.

You have to first accept it deep

within by increasing your self understanding. Research on it, analyse your past. Listen and watch struggle stories of people who then become successful all over the world. One thought can change your life. Plant your thoughts deeply in your subconscious mind through gratitude affirmations. Do this until your belief in your abilities becomes stronger.

Then the next step is to destroy your fear of people. As they say, "sabse bada rogh, kya kahenge log". If you don't remove this fear then you can't unlock your true potential or inner voice. Listen to the inner voice not the outer voice. No matter how many failures you have faced, you become closer to success from every failure.

If you are so concerned about what people are thinking, then how can you make your decisions? You will act on their expectations of you and not on your inner voice.

Life is what you make it, it's your choice. Don't compromise in life, enjoy it to the fullest. Don't make excuses. Be patient, work hard. Keep a learning attitude, an open mind and do not see through the beliefs you hold but see things as they are.

Make a commitment that no matter what your boring story was in the past and that you will live life on your own terms and conditions.

Mohsin Nazir

Toycathon: Fostering Creativity and Innovation in Education

IRSHAD AHMAD WANI

Toycathon, a portmanteau of "toy" and "marathon," encapsulates the spirit of enthusiastic participation and collaborative problem-solving. In a bid to revolutionize the landscape of learning and play, the School Education Department of J & K Union Territory has embarked on an ambitious journey with the Toycathon initiative. This ground breaking event aims to leverage the power of toys to enhance learning experiences, foster creativity, and promote innovation among students and educators alike.

The project was launched on January 5, 2021 at National level and Jammu and Kashmir, making the history, was the first UT to initiate the project in 2023. The objective of the initiative is to establish Bharatas a toy manufacturing centre and reduce toy imports thereby contributing to the "Toyoconomy" and consequently oil the wheels of Atmanirbhar Bharat making it Viksit Bharat in real essence.

Toycathon 2023 had witnessed unprecedented success attracting approximately 1.25 lakh entries from 9500 schools and 115 student created toy designs were successfully patented with patent fees covered by sponsorship. The event had showcased the immense creativity and talent present among the students across the region. Toycathon 2024, building on the previous year's momentum, aims to further harness the creativity of the students by developing toys and games that reflect the innovative ideas, use of regional resources and revival of our local heritage. The Brochure for Toycathon 2024 envisages students from class 6 to 12 to create toys on the themes: *Regional Culture-Historical events, Heritage and regional freedom fighters; out of box creative, logical, and scientific thinking; Learning, Education and Schooling; Social and Human Values and Environment; Occupation and its specific fields; Digital Gaming; connecting folk to future;*



Rediscovering traditional local toys; Any toy/game applicable for specially abled child and fun based toys for joyful learning.

Getting students to participate in task-oriented work, such as the creation of simple models and toys may facilitate better conceptual understanding and make sure learning by doing. Through this event the students are made to develop/create toys under the guidance of their teachers and are aimed to: showcase their innovative ideas and turn them into reality, collaborate with fellow students and industry experts, win exciting prizes and bring recognition to their innovative ideas, enhance their creativity and problem-solving skills, develop essential skills like design thinking, proto-

GETTING STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN TASK-ORIENTED WORK, such as the creation of simple models and toys may facilitate better conceptual understanding and make sure learning by doing

typing, and teamwork.

Young children learn from first-hand experiences and working with actual objects. They try out and explore and learn. The classroom environment should cultivate this spirit of exploration through play with toys and manipulatives. Toys should be used as important resources for teaching and learning. Whether a toy is simple or complex, it has a lesson for the child to learn. When children hold toys and manipulate them, they are practicing their motor skills and strengthening their hand-eye coordination. The significance of play in childhood development cannot be overstated. Play is not merely a pastime; it is a powerful tool for cognitive, social, emotional, and physical

development. Through play, children explore, experiment, and make sense of the world around them. It fosters creativity, problem-solving skills, and resilience, essential attributes for success in the 21st century. Toy based pedagogy makes students engaged learners and ensures experiential learning.

Toycathon recognizes the transformative potential of toys in education. It challenges participants to design toys that transcend traditional notions of play and seamlessly integrate educational content. These toys are not merely instruments of entertainment but vehicles for learning, sparking curiosity, and igniting a passion for knowledge.

One of the key objectives of Toycathon is to promote indige-

nous toy manufacturing and design. India boasts a rich cultural heritage, and Toycathon seeks to tap into this wealth of tradition and innovation. By encouraging participants to draw inspiration from Indian folklore, mythology, art, and history, Toycathon aims to create toys that are not only educational but also culturally relevant and inclusive.

Moreover, Toycathon serves as a platform for nurturing entrepreneurial talent. Participants are encouraged to not only ideate but also prototype and develop market-ready products. Through mentorship, workshops, and networking opportunities, Toycathon equips aspiring entrepreneurs with the skills and knowledge to navigate the complexities of the toy industry and bring their ideas to fruition.

The Toycathon initiative exemplifies the Education Department's commitment to fostering a culture of innovation and creativity in education. By harnessing the power of play, Toycathon aims to transform learning from a passive experience to an engaging and interactive journey of exploration and discovery.

As the Toycathon unfolds, it is poised to unleash a wave of creativity and innovation that will shape the future of education and play. With participants collaborating across disciplines and pushing the boundaries of imagination, Toycathon promises to redefine the role of toys in education and inspire a new generation of learners, creators, and innovators. Toys can be made from readily available items such as fabric, bottles, clay, cardboard boxes, yarn, cooking pans, bangles, pipe cleaners, pinecones, sticks etc. Teachers as guides are expected to grab this opportunity and ensure their students are motivated to depict their creativity and take keen interest in taking part in the initiative.

The author is a Teacher, GMS Khag. Email: abuaalim@gmail.com

New Database Features 250 AI Tools That Can Enhance Social Science Research

Megan Stubbs-Richardson
Devon Brenner
Lauren Etheredge
MacKenzie Paul

AI or artificial intelligence – is often used as a way to summarize data and improve writing. But AI tools also represent a powerful and efficient way to analyze large amounts of text to search for patterns. In addition, AI tools can assist with developing research products that can be shared widely.

It's with that in mind that we, as researchers in social science, developed a new database of AI tools for the field. In the database, we compiled information about each tool and documented whether it was useful for literature reviews, data collection and analyses, or research dissemination. We also provided information on the costs, logins and plug-in extensions available for each tool.

When asked about their perceptions of AI, many social scientists express caution or apprehension. In a sample of faculty and students from over 600 institutions, only 22% of university faculty reported that they regularly used AI tools.

From combing through lengthy transcripts or text-based data to writing literature reviews and sharing results, we believe AI can help social science researchers – such as those in psychology, sociology and communication – as well as others get the most out of their data and present it to a wider audience.

Analyze text using AI

Qualitative research often involves poring over transcripts or written language to identify themes and patterns. While this kind of research is powerful, it is also labor-intensive. The power of AI platforms to sift through large

couldn't have been analyzed previously because of the size of the dataset.

Specifically, AI can assist social scientists by identifying potential themes or common topics in large, text-based data that scientists can interrogate using qualitative research

in how people coped with COVID-19. These themes can then give researchers insight into larger trends in the data, allowing us to refine criteria for a more in-depth, qualitative analysis.

AI tools can also be used to adapt language and scien-

the wording of questions in surveys or refining keywords used in social media data collection.

Identify gaps in knowledge

Another key task in research is to scan the field for previous work to identify gaps in

literature reviews – the section of a research paper that summarizes other research on the same topic – and writing processes more efficient.

Research shows that human feedback to AI, such as providing examples of simple logic, can significantly improve the tools' ability to perform complex reasoning. With this in mind, we can continually revise our instructions to AI and refine its ability to pull relevant literature.

However, social scientists must be wary of fake sources – a big concern with generative AI. It is essential to verify any sources AI tools provide to ensure they come from peer-reviewed journals.

Share research findings

AI tools can quickly summarize research findings in a reader-friendly way by assisting with writing blogs, creating infographics and producing presentation slides and even images.

Our database contains AI tools that can also help scientists present their findings on social media. One tool worth highlighting is BlogTweet. This free AI tool allows users to copy and paste text from an article like this one to generate tweet threads and start conversations.

Be aware of the cost of AI tools

Two-thirds of the tools in the database cost money. While our primary objective was to identify the most useful tools for social scientists, we also sought to identify open-source tools and curated a list

of 85 free tools that can support literature reviews, writing, data collection, analysis and visualization efforts.

In our analysis of the cost of AI tools, we also found that many offer "freemium" access to tools. This means you can explore a free version of the product. More advanced versions of the tool are available through the purchase of tokens or subscription plans.

For some tools, costs can be somewhat hidden or unexpected. For instance, a tool that seems open source on the surface may actually have rate limits, and users may find that they've run out of free questions to ask the AI.

The future of the database

Since the release of the Artificial Intelligence Applications for Social Science Research Database on Oct. 5, 2023, it has been downloaded over 400 times across 49 countries. In the database, we found 131 AI tools useful for literature reviews, summaries or writing. As many as 146 AI tools are useful for data collection or analysis, and 108 are useful for research dissemination.

We continue to update the database and hope that it can aid academic communities in their exploration of AI and generate new conversations. The more that social scientists use the database, the more they can work toward consensus of adopting ethical approaches to using AI in research and analysis.

By arrangements with The Conversation



datasets not only saves researchers time, but it can also help them analyze data that

methods. For example, AI can analyze 15 million social media posts to identify themes

tists' word choice in research designs. In particular, AI can reduce bias by improving

knowledge. AI applications are built on systems that can synthesize text. This makes

Rahul Dravid, Jasprit Bumrah & Surya Kumar Yadav Unveil YiPPee!'s latest campaign 'YiPPee! Toss'

With cricket fervor in the air, the internet was abuzz with curiosity to know about the cryptic posts shared by Jasprit Bumrah & Surya Kumar Yadav on their Instagram handles about 'The Toss'. Interest piqued as the players' respective wives also posted about it soon after.

Multitude of accounts took to social media and shared their desire to know "What is the Toss all about?". With widespread speculations by people, the conversation grabbed eyeballs garnering millions of views across social media making it viral.

While the internet kept wondering about what the cricketers were 'tossing' about, the brand Sunfeast YiPPee! took to Instagram and did the grand reveal of its latest campaign 'YiPPee Toss', thus, putting all speculations to rest.

Sunfeast YiPPee!, a leading instant Noodle & Pasta brand from ITC Ltd is back with a brand-new campaign featuring the country's most-loved cricketers – Rahul Dravid, Jasprit Bumrah and Surya Kumar Yadav. This fun-filled campaign leverages the popularity of top cricketers in a playful fashion highlighting the unique qualities of YiPPee! Noodles which

are: Long & Non-Sticky.

The recently launched TVCs show-case Dravid, Bumrah and 'SKY' in light-hearted scenarios where they use the 'YiPPeeToss' to settle day to day friendly banter in a playful manner using YiPPee! Noodles. It's an innovative play on the brand's core USPs of Long & Non-Sticky Noodles. The campaign positions YiPPee! as 'India's Choice'.

Speaking about the campaign, Kavita Chaturvedi, Chief Operating Officer, Snacks, Noodles & Pasta, Food Business, ITC Ltd., said, "Cricket is an emotion in India and what better way to connect with our consumers than by bringing together the sport and the deliciousness of YiPPee! Noodles. This campaign celebrates the playful energy of our brand and the joy of relishing a bowl of YiPPee! with friends and family."

Popular Cricketer Jasprit Bumrah remarked "It's a very playful campaign and we had a lot of fun. If there is one way to settle a banter, it is through YiPPee!"

Much loved batsman Surya Kumar Yadav said "I am thrilled to be part of this campaign as it perfectly mirrors our camaraderie both on and off the field. With YiPPee! settling our playful banter just got a whole lot easier"

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Cabinet Portfolios

Farmers Welfare and Rural Development ministries.

Kiren Rijiju has been put in charge of Parliamentary Affairs, previously handled by Pralhad Joshi. Mr Joshi has been moved to the Food, Consumer Affairs and Renewable Energy department.

CR Paatil will be in charge of Jal Shakti ministry and Bhupendra Yadav, Environment. Giriraj Singh has been shifted to Textiles -- a department handled by Smriti Irani. Annapurna Devi will be in charge of the other portfolio handled by Ms Irani -- Women & Child Development. Mansukh Mandavia has been put in charge of Labour and Employment and Sports and Youth Affairs.

Former Bihar Chief Minister and HAM chief Jitan Ram Manjhi will have charge of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises with Shobha Karandlaje as the Minister of State.

The plum portfolios of I&B and railways will be handled by Ashwini Vaishnav. The Civil Aviation Ministry has changed hands from Jyotiraditya Scindia to TDP's Ram Mohan Naidu, the youngest minister in the cabinet. Mr Scindia has been put in charge of the Telecom ministry.

South ally and Janata Dal Secular chief HD Kumaraswamy has been put in charge of the Heavy Industries and Steel portfolios.

Key Bihar ally and LJP chief Chirag Paswan has been given charge of the Food Processing department.

Among the Ministers of State with Independent Charge, Dr Jitendra Singh is expected to be the busiest. A third-time Union minister from Jammu and Kashmir, he has been put in charge of multiple portfolios -- Science and Technology, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space and the Prime Minister's Office.

Arjun Ram Meghwal will have Independent charge of Law and Justice and will also be the junior minister for Parliamentary Affairs.

Dr Jitendra Singh

Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Atomic Energy and the Department of Space, according to a communique issued by the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is in charge of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space, it said.

Singh served as the MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Atomic Energy and Space until the dissolution of the 17th Lok Sabha recently. The doctor-turned-politician was also the Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Born in Jammu, 67-year-old Singh was inducted as the MoS in the PMO in 2014 as a first-time Lok Sabha member from the Udhampur constituency in Jammu and Kashmir. He was part of the Union Council of Ministers in Modi's first and second term as prime minister.

He won the Udhampur Lok Sabha seat for the third time, defeating Congress candidate Choudhary Lal Singh by a margin of 1.24 lakh votes. His victory is particularly noteworthy as he is the first leader from Jammu and Kashmir to serve in the central government for three terms in a row.

Jitendra Singh wears many hats -- a medical practitioner, author, professor and newspaper columnist. He has a flair for writing and has authored at least six books and chapters in about a dozen textbooks for postgraduate

even if the BJP was not reduced to a minority government or the coalition government at the Centre. The elections are happening not because the BJP wants the elections, but because the Supreme Court has ordered them," he said.

In the general elections, the BJP on its own won 240 seats and formed government along with its National Democratic Alliance (NDA) partners. Abdullah said while he was satisfied with the NC's performance in the Lok Sabha polls, it was hard for him not to take the loss in Baramulla personally.

"The biggest challenge for us right now as a party is to get a bit of morale back. The truth is that this election loss has hit us all hard, some harder than others. It is difficult for me not to take this loss personally. But it is what it is. The NC did really well. I want my party cadre to realise that we may have lost one Parliament seat, but as a party, we did a phenomenal job against the tsunami in north Kashmir, nobody could have done better," he said.

"So, I think we need to focus on the positives. The positive is that we are by far the single largest party in J-K, we have the largest vote share and we will carry this momentum to the assembly. Now, the unknown factors will be what Engineer Rashid will do, how that will translate on the ground. It is alright, we will see," he said.

Abdullah dismissed the suggestion that the outcome of the polls in Kashmir was personality driven than party agenda driven, saying nobody wins a parliamentary election on their personality.

"You win it because of the organisation. You win it because of the campaign that you run. I think Aga Ruhullah (NC winner from Srinagar Lok Sabha seat) and Mian Altaf Ahmad (NC winner from Anantnag-Rajouri seat) would be the first people to tell you that of course they were strong candidates, but they also had a strong party behind them," he said.

Abdullah said they were able to get votes from the areas that they did not expect, and in numbers that they did not expect. "So, their personalities definitely helped us, how could they not, but, it is not just the personality," he added.

Nefarious Design

The 53-seater bus, on its way from the Shiv Khori temple to the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine in Katra, causing it to veer off the road and fall into a deep gorge near the Teryath village of the Poni area on Sunday.

"An unfortunate incident happened yesterday evening when terrorists targeted the driver of a bus as a result of which he lost control and the vehicle plunged into a gorge, resulting in the death of nine people. A joint operation by police, CRPF and the Army is underway to punish those responsible," Sinha told reporters at the Government Medical College here after meeting with 18 of those injured admitted to the facility.

He said Director General of Police R Swain and his team are on the spot, supervising the anti-terror operation.

"Our immediate priority is saving the lives of those injured. We know there is no compensation for the loss of life but to help the families, the administration has approved an ex gratia of Rs 10 lakh each for the next of kin of those killed and Rs 50,000 each for the injured," Sinha said.

The LG said Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union minister Amit Shah were keeping a close watch on the situation and spoke to him immediately after the attack.

"Those responsible will not be spared. The attack is part of a nefarious design to somehow spread turmoil to the Jammu region but we are determined to thwart such an attempt," Sinha said.

The lieutenant governor also visited the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana Superspecialty Hospital in the Katra area of Reasi to enquire after 14 injured passengers admitted there.

"Met the injured pilgrims at Government Medical College, Jammu & Narayana Hospital, Katra and wished them a speedy recovery. The entire nation stands firmly with the families of martyred pilgrims in this hour of grief," Saxena wrote on 'X'.

An official spokesperson said Sinha was closely monitoring the situation and has directed the district and hospital administration to ensure the best possible medical care and all necessary assistance to the affected families.

The bus was ferrying pilgrims from Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi.

LG Announces 10

Mata Vaishno Devi (SMVD) Narayana Superspecialty Hospital, Katra. The LG in a post on X said, "Met the injured pilgrims at Government Medical College, Jammu & Narayana Hospital, Katra and wished them a speedy recovery. The entire nation stands firmly with the families of martyred pilgrims in this hour of grief."

The team of doctors briefed the LG on the health condition of the injured and the medical facilities being extended to them.

The LG directed the District and Hospital Administration for ensuring the best possible medical care and all necessary assistance to the affected families.

Earlier, LG Manoj Sinha approved

an ex-gratia of Rs 10 lakh each for the next of kin of those killed in the terror attack on a bus in Reasi district, an official spokesman said on Monday.

Sinha has also approved Rs 50,000 each for those injured, the spokesman said.

The spokesman said a control room has been created by the district administration to provide all necessary assistance to those affected.

Efforts are on to neutralise the perpetrators of the terror attack, the spokesman said.

Meanwhile, the LG also held a high-level security review meeting here, a day after a deadly terror attack on a bus carrying pilgrims in Reasi district.

"Chaired a security review meeting with the officials of J&K Police and Civil Administration. I assure the people that those behind attack on pilgrims in Reasi and those aiding and abetting them will be punished," the LG wrote on X.

The post was shared by the office of the LG on its official handle along with two pictures of the meeting.

Sources said the LG was briefed about the leads police have got post Reasi attack and the follow-up action plans of the police and other security agencies. "The LG directed the police officers that the perpetrators of the crime should be nabbed and searches should be intensified to track the killers," they said.

An official present at the meeting said that the LG expressed pain and grief over the killing of nine persons including the driver of the bus and the pilgrims who had come to Shiv Khori shrine to pay obeisance. "The LG directed the officers to go hard against the terrorists involved in the heinous act," he said, adding that the police officers present in the meeting assured the LG that all efforts are underway to reach out to the terrorists involved in the act that has pained every citizen of the country.

Nine people were killed and 41 injured as the terrorists opened fire at the 53-seater bus, which was on its way from the Shiv Khori temple to the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine in Katra, causing it to veer off the road and fall into a deep gorge near the Teryath village of the Poni area of Reasi on Sunday evening.

Police Form 11

Reasi, we have some leads which we are following. We have formed 11 teams to delve into the matter. However, it would be premature to tell how many terrorists were involved in the attack. We are continuously receiving leads and inputs, accordingly, we will take further action. Prima facie, two to three terrorists were involved in the attack," said Rayees Mohammad Bhat, Deputy Inspector General of Police (Udhampur range).

"Meanwhile, we are following the leads. Search in underway into the matter," he added.

The terror attack took place in J-K's Reasi district on Sunday after a vehicle fell into a deep gorge after terrorists opened fire killing at least nine people and leaving over 30 injured.

"As per eyewitnesses, two (terrorists) were there as of now. A combing operation is underway in the area. Five teams have been formed to search in the area," Reasi Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Mohita Sharma said.

The SSP further said that five teams have been formed to conduct the search operation in the dense forest area in and around the incident spot.

The Indian Army and State Disaster Response Force are also present at the site. Drones are also being used to search the forest area.

According to officials, the bus, en route from the Shiv Khori shrine to Katra, was targeted by terrorists at around 6.10 pm when it reached the Poni area of Reasi district, bordering Rajouri district.

A team from the National Investigation Agency (NIA) is assessing the situation in Reasi and the NIA's forensic team is working on collecting evidence.

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir (J-K) Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday announced an ex-gratia amounting to Rs 10 lakh each for the next of kin of deceased and Rs 50,000 each to the injured in Reasi terror attack. (ANI)

Four Of Family

injured in a road accident in Jammu and they were being brought to Jaipur for treatment, the relatives said.

The 53-seater bus, on its way from the Shiv Khori temple to Katra, veered off the road following the barrage of gunfire and fell into a deep gorge near the Teryath village of the Poni area.

Pooja Saini's husband Pavan (32) has been injured, a police officer said.

While Rajendra and Mamta were residents of Chomu town near Jaipur, Pavan and Pooja were from Ajmera ki Dhani in the Harmada area on Chomu Road.

Residents of the two areas were stunned into silence upon receiving the news of the deaths.

"We came to know last night that the bus had fallen into a ditch and it was an accident. But today we came to know that terrorists had attacked the bus and it fell into a gorge," said a relative of Rajendra Saini.

She said Rajendra's children do not know the truth yet.

"They only know that their parents

are injured and are being brought here. Rajendra was the sole earning member," she added.

In Ajmera ki Dhani, just a few kilometres from Chomu, family members are mourning the death of Pooja and her two-year-old kid. Pooja was married to Pawan, who runs an e-Mitra shop in the village, four years ago.

Chomu Tehsildar Vijaypal said post-mortem has been conducted in Jammu and Kashmir and the bodies will be brought to Jaipur. Efforts will be made to get the affected families the benefit of various state government schemes, he said.

Financial assistance to the family will be provided as per the Rajasthan government norms and donors will be motivated to support the orphaned children of Rajendra, the tehsildar said.

Two persons among the nine victims of the deadly terror attack are from Uttar Pradesh's Balrampur district, officials said on Monday.

Among the 41 injured in the Sunday evening attack, 10 are from Balrampur district, eight from Gonda district and four of a family from Gorakhpur, they said.

District Magistrate of Balrampur Arvind Singh said 12 devotees from the district had gone on a pilgrimage to the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine in Jammu.

Terrorists opened fire at a bus carrying pilgrims in Reasi district on Sunday, killing nine and injuring several. The 53-seater bus, on its way from the Shiv Khori temple to Katra, veered off the road following the barrage of gunfire and fell into a deep gorge near the Teryath village of the Poni area.

Ruby and Anurag Verma, both children, from Kandbhari village died while 10 were injured and have been admitted to hospitals in Jammu, the Balrampur district magistrate said, adding the sub-divisional magistrates of Utraraula and Balrampur have been instructed to contact the affected families and provide them help.

Gonda District Magistrate Neha Sharma said eight members of a family from the district were also injured in the terrorist attack. All of them have been evacuated by the relief and rescue team and admitted to hospitals, she added.

Sharma said she has spoken to the family members of the survivors and assured them of all possible help from the administration. "We are keeping an eye on the situation. Some of the devotees were injured after being shot at while many suffered serious injuries as the bus fell into the gorge," she said.

"Some of the injured devotees had to undergo surgery. A magistrate and a deputy SP-rank police officer from the district are being sent to Jammu to help the victims," the Gonda DM said.

Suryanath Gupta, a resident of Bhikharipur village, said eight members of his family had left for Jammu on June 4 to offer prayers at the Vaishno Devi shrine. While one of his family members has been admitted to the government hospital in Katra, the rest have been admitted to a hospital in Jammu, he said.

Those injured in the terrorist attack also included four pilgrims from a family from Gorakhpur.

Seventeen family members from Gorakhpur had embarked on the pilgrimage. Two of the injured are residents of Purdilpur Kali Mandir Gali, while the other two are from Bhairampur in the Kuraghat area.

Gautam Gupta (District Disaster Expert-District Disaster Management Authority, Gorakhpur) confirmed the incident.

He said the injured are receiving treatment in a local hospital and are reported to be in stable condition. The district administration is providing necessary assistance to the victims and their families, the official said.

Gupta added the family had split into two groups, with 13 members staying in Katra and four heading to the Shiv Khori pilgrimage site. It was during this journey that the terrorist attack took place.

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav, in a statement issued by the party, strongly condemned the attack on pilgrims in Jammu and Kashmir and said the incident occurred at a politically very sensitive time in the country.

The news of people getting killed in the terrorist attack due to the "negligence" of the security management is sad and highly condemnable, the SP statement said.

The government should wake up and send the bodies to the families and at the same time provide the best possible treatment to the injured as well as proper compensation to all the casualties, the Samajwadi Party chief said.

J&K Govt Approves

The tenure of the Commission shall be forty five days from the date of publication of notification to this effect. The proposal would facilitate implementing the reservation to OBCs in the forthcoming local body elections in due compliance with the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in this regard.

Approves Submission

Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Government of India for placing before

the Parliament of India.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor; Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor attended the meeting.

The Bill proposes appointment of Chairperson from IAS cadre (either serving or retired-Super time scale and above).

The Bill also proposes that there shall be five members (either serving or retired) from equivalent grade of special scale and above while as the Controller and Secretary shall be Special Secretary level or above.

It also suggests that the chairperson and member shall hold office for 5 years or till age of 65 years (whichever is earlier) and shall not be re-appointed.

Preventing 2014

asked them to file a detailed affidavit, detailing what steps they have taken in terms of the various orders passed by the Court from time to time.

"The respondent-UT of Jammu and Kashmir shall furnish utilization certificates in respect of the amount to the tune of Rs.4,1323.17 lakhs released by Union of India for various projects undertaken by UT of Jammu and Kashmir."

It also sought latest compliance report in terms of its order dated 10 June 2016 in which it, among others, had directed all the concerned Deputy Commissioners to ensure that no construction of any kind is raised near the water bodies within their territorial jurisdiction, which shall also include details in tabulated form regarding the encroachments removed on the River Jhelum.

"Respondent-UT of Jammu and Kashmir is further directed to state by way of filing an Action Taken Report detailing therein what preventive measures they have taken and are also envisaging in order to deal with the precarious issue of floods in Kashmir, in view of impending monsoon season."

The authorities have also been directed to file an affidavit by or before the next date of hearing regarding the steps taken for demarcation, as directed by this Court on 18.08.2017.

In its 18 August 2017 order, the court had directed demarcation be carried out using the latest GIS technology "so that we are clear as to what is supposed to be the area covered by each of the National, Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, conservation Reserves and Wetland Reserves and what exists in reality."

"Keeping in view the sensitivity attached to the issues discussed above, it is made clear that if the needful is not done within the stipulated time period (three weeks), this court, in that eventuality, would be constrained to take coercive steps against the respondents," the court said and posted matter on August 20.

Kashmir Generates

Glulam Rasool, a farmer from Wanpoh, Anantnag, said, "This year, we have grown garlic in good quantity as we saw good prices last year. I have sold my garlic for Rs 70,000. Garlic has proven to be a better option compared to other vegetables."

Another farmer from Qazigund said garlic cultivation has numerous benefits. "Garlic cultivation has become a livelihood for many people here. The cultivation takes less labour and is easier compared to other crops," he said.

Director Agriculture, Kashmir, Chowdhary Muhammad Iqbal said this year's garlic production is higher compared to last year. He said efforts to strengthen marketing strategies are underway.

"A large quantity of garlic is being exported outside the Union Territory," Iqbal said.

Chowdhary said the favourable climate in Kashmir contributes to the high quality of garlic produced in the valley. "The essential constituents are present in the valley's garlic. The size of garlic found in Kashmir is unique and not found anywhere else in India," he said, adding that five varieties of garlic are currently being cultivated in Kashmir. (KNO)

Delhi Court Fixes

adjourned the matter, adding that if the notification for the ceremony comes before the next date, the accused may move the court with a plea to expedite the matter.

Rashid had moved the court seeking interim bail, or custody parole in the alternative, to take oath and perform his parliamentary functions.

He has been in jail since 2019 after he was charged by the NIA under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention), 1967 Act (UAPA) in the alleged terror funding case. He is lodged in Tihar jail at present.

The former MLA's name cropped up during the investigation of Kashmiri businessman Zahoor Watali, who the NIA had arrested for allegedly funding terrorist groups and separatists in the valley.

The NIA had filed a charge sheet against several individuals, including Kashmiri separatist leader Yasin Malik, Lashkar-e-Taiba founder Hafiz Saeed and Hizbul Mujahideen chief Syed Salahuddin, in the case.

Malik was awarded life imprisonment by a trial court in 2022 after he pleaded guilty to the charges.

CS Terms Timely Credit Linkage Pivotal For Success Of HADP



KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, on Monday chaired a meeting to review implementation of flagship Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) here in the Union Territory.

Among others the meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, APD, VC SKUAST J/K, MD, HADP, Deputy Commissioners, HoDs in APD, representatives from J&K Bank besides other concerned officers while Jammu based officers participated online.

The meeting had detailed discussion on status of applications by the farmers in different districts, their skilling through Daksh Kisan portal, extension of credit to farmers by financial institutions and project-wise updates reflecting their progress over a period of time.

Regarding overall progress of this programme, the Chief Secretary expressed satisfaction while advising for infusing professional technical support and observing enhanced inter-departmental co-operation for smooth implementation of this ambitious project. He lauded the department for resolving most of the bottlenecks and maintained that it is now time to ensure expected outcomes are reaped on ground. He exhorted upon the Deputy Commissioners to lead the teams in their districts for creating ample awareness besides accomplishing the targets without any fail.

The Chief Secretary asked the officers to work for substantially raising the number of applications with corresponding increase in percentage of approvals. "It may not be impractical to aspire that at least 15-20% of farmers should register themselves in one of the dozens of attractive activities being offered under HADP", he maintained.

As far as the role of Agricultural Universities is concerned, the Chief Secretary enjoined upon them to come up with requisite solutions through research, timely advice,

technical expertise and extension for maximization of benefits out of this holistic programme.

Regarding skilling of registered farmers on Daksh Kisan Portal, Dulloo stressed on creation of quality video content by the concerned faculty members of our farm Universities. He also asked them to upload as many demonstration videos as required for all the newly identified courses under this development programme.

The Chief Secretary laid emphasis on import of materials like high density rootstock from Denmark, Bulls and Sheep from Australia and New Zealand for enhancing the quality of breeds in the UT. He called it a key towards revolutionising these sectors along with total replication of seeds in Agriculture.

Dulloo also took stock of progress on establishment of Spice Park at Kishtwar, acquiring of NMR technology for honey testing, handholding of FPOs, creation of baseline survey, promotion of organic farming, vermi-composting, coverage of Artificial Insemination, training of Maitris, capacity building of manpower and introduction of modern technology for large scale development of agriculture in J&K.

In his address, Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department, Shailendra Kumar, pointed out few of the issues faced in implementation of this programme. He also suggested certain measures to be taken for its smooth implementation and the roadmap for making the process more result-oriented for times to come.

Mission Director, HADP, Yasha Mudgal, in a presentation threw light on the overall performance of this holistic development programme along with activity wise progress registered during the previous and current financial years.

The presentation also highlighted the district wise, monthly trends followed in its implementation besides giving insights into the achievements and targets achieved under each of the activities separately.

AC Approves Construction Of District Court Complex Anantnag

SRINAGAR: The Administrative Council (AC) which met here under the Chairmanship of Shri Manoj Sinha, Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, J&K accorded approval to the construction of District Court Complex at Sarnal Anantnag at an estimated cost of Rs.106.69 crore under UT Capex Budget.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor; Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor attended the meeting.

The project includes construction of main Court Complex, residential accommodation for Principal District &

Sessions Judge, residential accommodation for Additional Session Judge, CJM & Munsiff, Lawyers Chambers and other infrastructure.

There are seven Courts functioning in the District Court Anantnag and increase in population has resulted into increase in litigation cases and judicial work load. The establishment of court complex will generate employment opportunities among youth by way of establishment of new business units like photo-state shops, food courts, stationery shops, commercial parking units, vendor shops, computer/typewriter Institutions etc.

300 Flood Affected Irrigation Canals Restored In Kupwara

KO NEWS SERVICE

KUPWARA: A much needed project of restoration, renovation and desilting of major irrigation canals and minor khuls has been initiated under MGNREGA convergence by Rural Development department (RDD) and I&FC department, on the directions of the District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan.

Execution of this project has shown the signs of success with farmers having a sigh of relief as they now have access to adequate irrigation water for their paddy fields.

This project has not only benefited thousands of farmers, but has also generated 49427 days of employment and labour wages amounting to Rs.2.95 crores under MGNREGA till date, besides irrigation facility to more than 10000 hectares of land.

It is in place to mention here that massive floods, triggered by heavy rains from April 27 to April 30, 2024 had wrecked a havoc in most parts of Kupwara district by damag-

ing the irrigation canals and other water bodies besides devastating the heads of these khuls and filling them with silt, soil and plastic wastes. This had badly hampered the smooth flow of irrigation water to the paddy fields and posed a threat to the paddy sowing season in the district.

For the immediate restoration and desilting of damaged canals, the DDC Kupwara had convened a review cum situation analysis meeting at here in which she directed officers of RDD and I&FC to utilize MGNREGA convergence for renovation, restoration and construction of irrigation canals.

A comprehensive project 'Har Khait ko Pani' was formulated in consultation with I&FC department with the vision of restoration, renovating and desilting of irrigation canals and minor khuls across the district, which was approved by district administration within no time, keeping in view the urgency of paddy sowing season and uninterrupted irrigation water supply to the paddy fields.

J&K STARTUP POLICY

JKEDI holds series of programs across Kashmir

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: As part of the mass awareness initiative, the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) on Monday organized a series of Entrepreneurship Awareness Programs (EAPs) under J&K Startup Policy.

The programs were conducted for the students of Government Degree College (women), Pulwama, Vishwa Bharti Women's College, Rainawari, Department of Tribal Affairs Poonch and Government Physical Education College, Ganderbal.

The programs were held in collaboration with these institutions and aimed to promote the J&K Startup Policy 2024-27 and give a boost to the overall entrepreneurship ecosystem by inculcating the entrepreneurial mindset among youth.

Through this program, we intend to help young minds overcome the challenges of launching a business venture, said Raiyees Manzoor, District Nodal Officer, JKEDI Pulwama while giving an overview of



how to start a new business. The program was attended by the students of these colleges who intend to take entrepreneurship as their career once they pass out of their respective colleges.

Faculty members from JKEDI Pulwama, Waseem Afzal Naik and Arbin Hassan, coordinated the program. Faculty of the Government Degree College for women (Pulwama), Aijaz Ashraf (Moderator), Dr Tanvir Bilal and Dr Zaffar were also present on the occasion. Faculty JKEDI, Srinagar, Aejaiz Mulla, Syed Miftah, Iqbal Ali,

faculty JKEDI Poonch, Shabir Ahmad Shah, Mohsin Hamid, Rashid Mehmood and faculty JKEDI Ganderbal, Sheikh Nowshin and Muhammad Rafiq conducted the EAPs in their respective districts.

J&K Startup Policy is expected to focus on setting up of 2000 startups by 2027. The new policy provides for providing entrepreneurship facilities to students, women and support to the entrepreneurs through government, private and high net worth individuals (HNIs) for setting up start-ups.

Govt. Reviews J&K Film Policy Implementation



KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Director Information J&K, Jatin Kishore, today chaired a meeting to ensure the seamless arrangements for the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2024 as well as review the implementation of J&K Film Policy 2024.

Joint Director Information (Hqs), Vivek Puri; Joint Director Information Jammu, Atul Gupta; Joint Director Information Kashmir, Mohammad Aslam Khan; Deputy Director (AV), Deepak Dubey; Deputy Director (PR) Jammu/Kashmir; Nodal Officer J&K Film Policy, Maheer Thakur; Accounts Officer Directorate, Hitesh Choudhary; along with all District Information Officers and other concerned at-

tended the meeting. Director Information Jatin Kishore sought feedback from all District Information Officers regarding the preparation for upcoming Yatra as well as availability of manpower, staff, machinery, and other essential equipments at various key locations along the Yatra route.

During the meeting, officers highlighted several critical issues, including concerns related to manpower shortages, the availability of Public Announcement Systems, and the procurement of suitable transportation services for men and machinery.

The Director emphasized on the installation of hoardings at strategic points along the route to welcome pilgrims, as well as the placement of infor-

mative signages to assist and guide the devotees throughout their journey.

Director Information also conducted a review of the J&K Film Policy 2024, aiming to streamline the process of issuing film permissions and provide support to filmmakers and producers.

During the meeting, Jatin Kishore emphasized the significance of the film policy, highlighting it as a top priority for the government. He stressed upon the officers to give special attention to smooth implementation of the policy including timely processing of shooting permissions, underscoring the government's commitment to the development of the film industry in Jammu and Kashmir.

Kabra Urges Public To Use Social Media For Feedback

KO NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Additional Chief Secretary, Jal Shakti and Financial Commissioner, Revenue, Shaheen Kabra, today encouraged the public to provide feedback on development initiatives through social media saying that their assessment will crucially help in ensuring quality and timely execution of vital works in their areas.

"Prioritize 'service to common masses' as your devoted motive while imbibing high values for larger interest of the under privileged segments of the society which is religiously a true service to Almighty", the ACS exhorted upon the officers while chairing a mega public outreach programme at Chowki Choura here.

District Development Council (DDC) Chairman, Bharat Bhushan, Vice Chairman, Suraj Singh, Deputy Commissioner, Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya and other district officers attended the public outreach programme.

The primary concerns raised by the public, during the camp, inter alia included upgradation of educational facilities, improvement of power supply

infrastructure, rejuvenation of water resources and enhancement of healthcare facilities with increased staff strength.

ACS highlighted the significance of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in revolutionizing the water supply scenario, said that it aims to ensure every household in Jammu & Kashmir receives 55 liters of clear, potable drinking water per capita per day. He emphasised the role of community involvement through Pani Samitis in maintaining the quality of water supply. He addressed issues regarding the safety and efficiency of HDPE pipes in the area while issuing necessary directions to the concerned officials on this account.

Responding to public issues, Shaheen Kabra acknowledged the need for a functional trauma centre in the area and asked the officers to initiate action in this regard. He directed the health department to conduct regular health checkups in the area besides asking them to further streamline their working culture to serve best towards patient care. He advocated for cluster based rationalisation of teaching and medical staff to maximise service delivery.

J&K Bank Inks MOU With JPDCL To Facilitate Ease Of Electricity Bill Collection

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Close on the heels of tying up with KPDC, J&K Bank today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDC) to improve and streamline the electricity bill payment for consumers in Jammu region.

As per the agreement all banking activities of JPDC related to electricity bill col-

lection will be conducted exclusively through J&K Bank. This collaboration will focus on promoting digital payment solutions and provide multiple channels for their customers to pay their electricity bills at their own convenience.

Managing Director Vikas Kundal (IAS) signed the agreement on behalf of JPDC, while General Manager & Divisional Head (Jammu) Sunit Kumar put



in his signatures for J&K Bank in presence of Chief Engineer (JPDC) Manhar Gupta and senior officials from JPDC and the Bank.

Commenting on the MOU, General Manager Sunit Kumar said, "We are delighted to partner with JPDC to enhance the bill payment experience for their customers. This MOU is a testament to our commitment to leveraging technology to provide convenient and ef-

ficient banking solutions. We believe this partnership will significantly contribute to the digital transformation of the region."

"Together, we look forward to a successful partnership that will benefit the people of Jammu by making electricity bill payments easy and accessible for people irrespective of their location and contribute to the region's progress.", he added.

Govt Resolves For Timely Redressal Of People's Issues: Gupta

KO NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA: Principal Secretary Culture, Suresh Kumar Gupta, today visited Pulwama and held a public darbar here under the ambitious public outreach cum grievances redressal programme of the government.

The participating delegations acknowledged the positive impact of these public outreach programmes on transforming lives of communities. The general public and various delegations projected several demands and grievances pertaining to the region covering both developmental and administrative concerns that necessitate attention.

The Principal Secretary had an exclusive interaction with the participants during the darbar, listening to their grievances and demands. He appreciated the public for actively engaging in the development process and being part to governance. He took notice of the issues and demands requiring intervention at department level.

He assured the participants that the administration is committed towards working in tandem with the public to implement better governance practices and ensure timely resolution of their issues. He emphasized the primary objective of holding public darbars, emphasizing its role in facilitating direct engagement between the administration and the people at their doorstep.

He asked the officers to prepare a comprehensive action taken format to record all grievances raised during the public darbar, along with the progress made towards their resolution. Earlier, Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, Dr Basharat Qayoom, elucidated the objectives of the program and provided an overview of district's developmental landscape.

The Principal Secretary also inspected stalls set up by various departments and assessed the progress made under different schemes, focusing on achieving the predetermined targets. These stalls showcased a wide range of government schemes and services aimed at benefiting the public.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

The Deputy Chief Engineer (BR/Workshop, Northern Railway, Jalandhar Cantt, for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open-tender under Single Packet System for the under noted work:-

S. No.	Tender Notice No.	Name of work	Approx Cost (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Date of opening	Bidding start date on IREPS	Cost of tender form Rs.	Completion period of work
1	OT-11-JRC-2024	Construction of thrust bed for casting of pre-tensioned 9.15m span PSC slabs in Bridge Workshop, Jalandhar Cantt.	61.94,703.83	1,23,900.00	01.07.2024	17.06.2024 to 01.07.2024	0	06 Months

Date & Time for submission of Tender and opening of tender Up to 15:00 hrs on dates shown against each and opening of tender thereafter at 15:00 hrs on same date.

Website Particulars where complete details of Tender can be seen & downloaded. The detailed e-tender notice is available on Northern Railway web site i.e. www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in and tender document is available on www.ireps.gov.in.

No. 80-W30/Bridges/Invitation Dated : 06.06.2024

1726/24

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION

(NEW CAMPUS BEMINA, SRINAGAR)

NOTIFICATION

It is notified for information of all the concerned candidates bearing the following Roll No's pertaining to Higher Secondary Part -I (Class 11th) Annual/ Regular- 2024 of Kashmir Division, who are alleged to have resorted to use of unfair means/Misconduct etc are afforded an opportunity to present themselves before the UFM committee for scrutiny/disposal of their cases on 12-06-2024 at 10.30 A.M in the Office Chamber of Joint Secretary / UFM Kashmir Division, New Campus, Bemina, Srinagar, along with their admit cards (i.e. Roll No slip). In case, any candidate fails to appear before the said committee on the scheduled date, his/her case/s shall be decided on the basis of the available records/evidence. No further claim on this account shall be entertained.

DATED:- 12-06-2024 (WEDNESDAY)

201000005	201000060	201001008	201001009	201001011	201001033
201054033	201054042	202003030	202003053	202009008	202009011
204012010	207001005	207001006	207001007	207001017	207001044
207018009	207018076	207023017	207023044	207023056	207023057
207023134	207030016	207030036	207030037	207030066	207033118
209009017	209009036	209009065	209011053	239068048	212003013
212003015	212003024	212003026	212003027	212003031	212004071
212009027	212010001	212011006	212010008	212010022	212010042
212011005	212011046	212011065	217002026	217002027	217002030
217002046	217002047	219003083	224003014	224003021	227006091
227014061	227032023	227032091	228005052	228005052	228005058
228005062	228005088	228005089	232012017	233008033	233008078
232006055	233011062	233011064	233011067	233011072	233011074
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No:- F(UFM-HSE-I/A/R)KD/24
Dated: 10-06-2024

DIPK-NB-401-24
DT: 10/06/2024

Assistant Secretary
UFM (KD)

Lahore Proposed As India's Home Base For ICC Champions Trophy

Press Trust of India

LAHORE: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has put forward Lahore as the proposed home base for the Indian cricket team during the ICC Champions Trophy next year, an initiative aimed at providing optimal security arrangements for the visiting side.

A reliable PCB source mentioned that this recommendation was included in the draft schedule submitted to the International Cricket Council (ICC) in late April. 'Yes, Lahore has been suggested as the home base for the Indian team to reduce their traveling and to provide them with the best security arrangements,' the source revealed.

The move follows India's decision last year to opt out of the Asia Cup games in Pakistan due to security issues, resulting in



their matches being relocated to Sri Lanka. Pakistan is slated to host the ICC 50-over event from February 19 to March 9 next year. While the ICC executive board has yet to approve the draft schedule, Karachi and Rawalpindi have also been earmarked as additional venues

for the tournament.

Ex-Players Criticize Pakistan's T20 Defeat To India

Former skipper Salim Malik has leveled serious accusations against Imad Wasim, claiming the player deliberately wasted balls during Pakistan's crucial

six-run loss to India in the T20 World Cup held in New York.

The Pakistan team, chasing a modest 120-run target, found themselves restricted to 113 for 7, consuming a staggering 59 dot balls. Wasim, who took 23 balls to score just 15 runs, came under intense scrutiny.

Adding to the chorus of criticism, former captain Shahid Afridi hinted at internal discord, mentioning some players' issues with current skipper Babar Azam.

Shoaib Akhtar was equally scathing, questioning if Pakistan deserved a place in the Super Eight stage at all.

Delhi Police's Witty Post On India-Pakistan T20 Clash Goes Viral

Awitty and humorous post by the Delhi Police on social media platform X soon went viral following India's thrilling victory over Pakistan in the T20 World Cup match held in New York.

The post humorously tagged the New York Police Department (NYPD), saying, 'Hey, @NYPDnews We heard two loud noises. One is 'Indiaaaa..India!' and another is probably of broken televisions. Can you please confirm?'

District Level Badminton Championship Begins In Srinagar



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: An Inter Zonal District Level Badminton Championship was declared open by Secretary to Government Department of Youth Services and Sports, Sarmad Hafeez, on Monday at Indoor Sports Stadium here.

The tournament's inaugural ceremony began with an oath-taking ceremony, where a girl student administered an oath against drug abuse to the dignitaries, participants, officials of the Department of YSS and spectators.

Welcoming the young gathering, Director Youth Services and Sports,

Subash Chander Chibber, congratulated District Youth Services and Sports Officer Srinagar Ghulam Hassan Lone and his team for organising the sporting event and expressed gratitude to the field staff of the department.

In his speech, Sarmad Hafeez said that the District Level Badminton Championship is set to witness enthusiastic competition and display the remarkable skills of the participating players.

"This event not only promotes the sport of badminton but also encourages a healthy and active lifestyle among the young population," he said.

Inter-School Sports Events Draw Thousands In Baramulla



Observer News Service

BARAMULLA: The district of Baramulla witnessed an impressive turnout as 2350 students took part in various Inter-School Zonal Level sports competitions organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports.

The events spanned multiple zones, including Sopore, Dangerpora, Singhpora, Pattan, Nehalpora and Kunzer,

featuring a range of sports such as volleyball, kabaddi and kho-kho.

Students from various age groups participated in these events, showcasing their skills and fostering a spirit of camaraderie and healthy competition. The competitions were held at prominent venues including Subhana Stadium Sopore, HS Khawajabagh, HSS Mirgund Pattan, DIET Ground Malmapanpora, HS Tujar and the Sports Stadium Kunzer.

Amar Singh College Organises Annual Road Race For Boys

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Department of Physical Education Amar Singh College Srinagar organised the Annual College Road Race for boys.

Prof. Sheikh Ajaz Bashir, Nodal Principal Kashmir Division Colleges and Principal Amar Singh College, flagged-off the eight kilometer-long road race in the presence of Prof. Gurdeep Singh Sodhi, Convenor Sports Committee, and Dr. Tanveer Ahmad Bhat, Physical Director of the college.

The teaching and non-teaching staff from the institute were also present at the occasion.

Around 136 students from different streams participated in the race, displaying a spirit of sportsmanship and resilience.

The college deployed the fac-



ulty at all the ghats along the racing track in addition to the men in uniform by the traffic department and the availability of moving ambulances by the Department of Health & Medical Education.

The racers were received by Prof. Sheikh Ajaz Bashir, Principal, Prof. Nayeem Ahmad Khan, Head Department of Zoology and Prof. Aijaz Fared, Head Department of Geography at the

finishing line at Nishat Gardens. Hazim Nabi of 2nd Semester, Wajahat Mukhtar of 2nd Semester and Tanveer Ahmad of 2nd Semester bagged 1st, 2nd and 3rd positions covering the distance in 22.25, 25.37 and 26.3 minutes, respectively.

Later in an impressive prize distribution ceremony at Nishat, the winners were awarded with trophies and consolation prizes.

JKKA Announces Summer Kabaddi Coaching Camp

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Jammu & Kashmir Amateur Kabaddi Association on Monday announced that a Summer Kabaddi Coaching Camp for Boys will be conducted at two locations in Jammu and Kashmir. The camps will be held in collaboration with J&K Sports Council. The Summer Kabaddi Coaching Camp will be conducted for 21 days from 22nd June to 13th July at Mendhar, Poonch in Jammu, and for Kashmir, at Bandipora, from 25th June to 16th July.

Per a press release, the eligibility criteria for age is under 23 years and weight must be below 80 kg. During the three weeks, the Summer Kabaddi Coaching Camp will

provide free boarding and lodging, as well as food and refreshment.

Per the association, 70 players each from Jammu and Kashmir will also be shortlisted for the camp.

The camp shall be com-



mence under the supervision of the General Secretary of the association on 9419108337, 9419143492.

Short TAKES

Mansukh Mandaviya Replaces Anurag Thakur As New Sports Minister

Mansukh Mandaviya, who served as the Union Health Minister at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021, was on Monday appointed India's new Sports Minister, replacing Anurag Thakur in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Cabinet.

The 52-year-old Mandaviya won the Porbandar Lok Sabha seat in Gujarat by defeating his nearest Congress rival Lalit Vasoya by a margin of 3.83 lakh votes. Mandaviya was also given charge of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers in the new Cabinet.

MCA President Amol Kale Passes Away After Attending T20 WC

Amol Kale, the esteemed President of Mumbai Cricket Association, tragically passed away due to a cardiac arrest in New York. The incident occurred after he attended the T20 World Cup match between India and Pakistan at Nassau County Cricket Stadium on Sunday.

Kale was present at the stadium along with other MCA officials, including secretary Ajinkya Naik and apex council member Suraj Samat. His sudden demise has left the cricket community in mourning, with tributes flowing in from notable personalities.

Pakistan Play Canada in Defining T20 World Cup Clash

In a do-or-die scenario, Pakistan faces Canada in their penultimate group match of the T20 World Cup, having little to gain but everything to lose. Reeling from two consecutive losses, Pakistan's Super Eight qualification rests on winning comprehensively against Canada and Ireland, alongside hoping for a significant defeat for the USA by India and Ireland.

Sitting on a dismal net run rate (NRR) of -0.150, Pakistan must not only secure victories but do so with substantial margins.

Max Verstappen Clinches 3rd Consecutive Canadian GP Victory

Max Verstappen claimed his third consecutive Canadian Grand Prix victory, adding to his impressive record with his 60th Formula 1 win. The Red Bull star, who commenced the race in second position, led for the majority of the contest, further solidifying his dominance this season.

Verstappen started alongside pole-sitter George Russell amid rainy conditions at Circuit Gilles Villeneuve on Ile Notre-Dame. Despite the weather shifts, the 26-year-old Dutchman showcased stellar driving skills, ultimately finishing 3.879 seconds ahead of McLaren's Lando Norris.

Historic Convictions Set Precedent In Spanish Football Racism



In a landmark decision for Spanish football, three Valencia fans have been sentenced to eight months in prison after pleading guilty to racially insulting Real Madrid forward Vinicius Junior. These are the first convictions for racism-related incidents in professional Spanish soccer.

Besides the prison sentences, the fans are banned from entering any soccer stadiums for two years. They will also be required to cover all the court costs associated with their case.

Palestine Players Continue Push For World Cup Qualification Amid War Back Home

Associated Press

PERTH: Mohammed Rashid once worked as a forklift driver in a Chicago warehouse.

Fast forward to these grim times and Rashid, along with his Palestine soccer teammates, carry a heavier weight knowing success on the field offers a little respite from the war raging in Gaza.

Amid the horrifying backdrop of the Israel-Hamas war, now in its eighth month, an inspired Palestine has produced a stirring run to reach the third round in Asia of World Cup qualifying for the first time.

"What doesn't kill you makes you stronger," Rashid said in Perth on Monday, a day before Palestine plays Australia. "We're here for one cause and one goal."

"Whoever is on the team has to perform. There is no other way to it."

Palestine, 93rd in the world rankings, has never come close to reaching the World Cup via

the Asian Football Confederation's qualifying route. With the 2026 tournament expanding to 48 teams, and Asia's automatic qualification allocation doubling to eight, Palestine has a legitimate chance to make history.

Palestine and Australia meet at HBF Park on Tuesday to complete the Asian second round. Both teams are safely through to September's next stage.

"Of course, it's (World Cup) a big dream," Rashid said. "Everything is possible. There's a lot of hard work that needs to be done before we get there."

Palestine team officials discourage politically charged questions at press conferences. But the players are willing to publicly engage in conversations about the devastation in Gaza. More than 36,700 Palestinians have been killed, according to the Gaza Health Ministry, which does not differentiate between civilians and combatants in its counts.



Hamas and other militants killed some 1,200 people in the Oct. 7 attack on Israel, mostly civilians, and took around 250 people hostage.

"It (playing) gives the chance to raise the name of Palestine

to the whole world, and the World Cup is the biggest platform for this," said Rashid, a defensive midfielder. "What's happening right now is affecting all of us. You can't help but be affected by it."

Rashid was on a college soccer scholarship in Illinois from 2013-17 before signing with the Palestinian Premier League one year later.

While most United Nations members do not recognize

Palestine as a country, including the U.S. and Australia, the Palestine Football Association became a full member of FIFA in 1998.

The team affectionately known as Al Fida'i (The Warriors) had only moderate success at the regional level until recently. Preaching a disciplined style of play, mirroring the resolve of its players, Palestine has conceded only one goal in five matches in this qualifying cycle.

It's been a remarkable effort given Palestine has not played on home soil since 2019, having been forced to host matches in Kuwait and Qatar. Players have had to flee for safety and seek overseas leagues.

"This is the hardest part (not playing at home)," said Rashid, who plays club soccer for Bali United in Indonesia. "The last time we played Saudi Arabia at home, it was a full house. People were climbing trees to watch the game. We've had 28 (straight)

games away, which is rough. But we're always playing for our people."

While the players try to avoid making inflammatory remarks, the team's mere existence is seen as a political statement with controversy inevitably not far away. PFA president Jibril Rajoub was denied a visa into Australia. Rajoub is also a politician and chair of the Palestine Olympic Committee.

"These decisions are made at arm's length by the bodies, by the immigration department," Australia Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said.

Rashid and his teammates are hoping to put that setback aside and continue to provide a rallying cry for Palestinians.

"When it comes to (soccer), you try to get your head out of it (the controversy)," he said. "This (Palestine matches) is the only thing they (Palestinians) are watching. The only thing giving them hope."

"For us this is a big motivation."