27 year OF PUBLICATION KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Thursday 25 July 2024 | Srinagar | Vol: 27 | Issue: 174 | Pages: 08 | Price: ₹3

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Sever Heatwave In J&K For Next 4 Days

Observer News Service

Srinagar: With the record breaking temperatures at multiple places across Kashmir, there is a forecast of severe heat wave in some parts of the

valley while some previous records may also get surpassed for the next four days Srinagar, the

summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, has recorded the second highest maximum temperature in the month of July in the last one de-

cade as the mercury continues to record an upward trend across the Union Territory. For the third time in the ongo-

ing month, Srinagar has recorded a maximum temperature of 35.6 degree Celsius, which was 5.7 degree Celsius above the normal temperature.

Interestingly, the maximum

World's **Hottest Day Record Broken** In 24 hours



THERE IS NO NEED TO PANIC as relief is expected after July 28 as there will be a drastic decline in the day temperature from July 28 onwards."

Soldier, Terrorist Killed In Kupwara Encounter

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: An unidentist and a soldier were killed in an overnight encounter in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district, officials said on Wednesday. The Army and police had launched an anti-terrorist operation in the Lolab area of Kupwara a few days ago

temperature in Srinagar and Jammu city was similar as both the places recorded a day temperature of 35.6 degree Celsius. Qazigund, a gateway of Kashmir, has recorded the third all-time

highest tem-Srinagar Records perature on 2nd Highest Temp Wednesday In July Month In at 34.2 de-One Decade gree Celsius while the all-

Qazigund Records time highest 3rd All-time temperature Highest Temp was recorded on

Iulv 11, 1988 at 34.5 degree Celsius. However, the second all-time highest was recorded this year on July 03 at 34.4 degree Celsius.

As per the details, the other parts of Kashmir also recorded a rise in the mercury with Pahalgam, a famous tourist destination recording a maximum temperature of 29.3 degree Celsius. Kupwara in north Kashmir has

recorded a maximum temperature of 35.0 degree Celsius. In Jammu's Katra, | More on P6

temperature reaching a record high of 17.15 degrees Celsius, according to

(the peaceful atmosphere here), a befitting response to them before also. The situation dea few months," Sinha said.



of terrorist strikes in Jammu province that resulted in the deaths of as many security forces personnel and civilians as well

The LG also welcomed the Inion Budget, describing it as

gives priority to the four vital communities of the society including the poor, women,

The LG extended his sincere thanks to the Prime Minister and the union Finance Minister for presenting an all-embracing budget in the parliament, which he claimed, will help lay a strong underpinning to the developed India and the devel-

Raising farmer incomes and providing employment opportunities for youth, according to the J&K LG, were the union

"The budget focuses on how people are attracted to organic farming so the environment is protected and the labor costs

1 Cr Tourists Visited J&K **This Year**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Centre on Wednesday said that over one crore tourists have visited Jammu and Kashmir till June this year while several measures have been taken that led to significant improvement in the tourism sector.

Replying to a question of MP Dinesh Sharma, Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai said that the tourism sector in J&K has witnessed unprecedented growth post abrogation of Article 370.

He said that 34,70,834 tourists visited J&K in 2020, 1,13,14,884 in 2021 followed by 1,88,64,332 in 2022, 2,11,24,874 in 2023 and 1.08.41.009 till June this year so far.

"Due to improved law and order, Jammu and Kashmir recorded a footfall of 2.11 crore tourists in 2023. Foreign tourist arrival has increased by 2.5 times. This harmonious law and order situation has helped the government to initiate and implement socioeconomic | More on P6

Situation Will Be Back To Normal Within Few Months: LG

Water levels in Jhelum River plummet by 30% as Kashmir battles severe heatwave. KO Pix Abid Bhat.

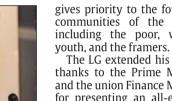
Says Those Opposing Peace In J&K Should Prepare For Their End

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Referring to the recent spate of terrorist attacks in Jammu region of the union territory, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said it will take a few months for the situation in J&K to return to normal, and those opposing the peace should prepare for their end.

"Those who cannot digest they should be (ready) for their end. People here have given mands so. I think the situation will be back to normal again in

The LC was apparently



oped J&K.

budget's key priorities.

crore, an increase of Rs 2,875

Budget Allocation For Higher Edu Up By Over 6%

Highest-ever For School Edu: MoE

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The budget allocation for the higher education department in 2024-25 has increased by more than six per cent from last year to over Rs 47,600 crore, the Union ministry of education said on Wednesday.

The clarification from the ministry came following reports that the budget allocation for higher education has decreased this year.

"The budget for Department of Higher Education for the Financial Year 2024-25 is Rs 47,619



crore (6.43 pc) over RE 2023-24," it said.

The ministry noted that the Statement of Budget Estimates (SBE) issued by the Union ministry | More on P6

lished contact with the hiding terrorists on Tuesday, leading to an encounter, they added.

following information about

possible terrorist move-

ments, the officials said.

The security forces est

"Based on specific input regarding presence of terrorists in general area Kowut. Kupwara, a | More on P6

ferring to the recent spate

historic and all-inclusive that are | More on P6

'Every Drop **Of Blood** Will Be Avenged'

akistan is trying to disturb peace in Jammu to hinder its progress but every drop of people's blood shed by terrorists will be avenged, Lieutenant Governor (LG) Manoj Sinha said here on Wednesday. The LG's remarks came in the backdrop of a series of terrorist attacks in the Jammu region over the last 45 days. At a function at Raj Bhavan here, Sinha said, "Today, once again, the terrorist country of Pakistan is making efforts to disturb peace in the Jammu | More on P6

Oppn Claims Budget Aimed At Pleasing Allies BJP Says Focus Is On Achieving 'Viksit Bharat' Dream

he Opposition on Wednesday claimed the Union Budget was "discriminatory" against non-NDA-ruled states and accused the prime minister of running a "shaky and vulnerable" coalition government. The ruling BJP rejected the charge and described the budgetary | More on P6

JKAS MAINS EXAM **CAT Seeks Result Of 38 Candidates In** 'Sealed Cover'

M Ahmad

The Srinagar: Central Administrative Tribunal on Wednesday directed Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission to produce in 'sealed cover' the result of 38 candidates who participated in J&K Combined Competitive (Mains) Examination, 2023 but their result is yet to be declared in view of the directions by the Tribunal.

The directions were passed by a bench of M. S. Latif (Member (J)) and Prasant Kumar (Member (A)) on an application filed by the candidates through their counsel Arif Sikander Mir. The counsel submitted that the JKPSC on July 9 this year declared the results of the J&K Combined Competitive (Mains) Examination, 2023. However, he said, the result of the 38 candidates | More on P6

Minister Spells Out Centre's Stance On Terrorists



Says 900 Terrorists Killed In J&K Since Art 370 Abrogation

Agencies

New Delhi: Terrorists active in Jammu and Kashmir will either land in jail or be sent to 'jahannum' (hell), Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand



Says USBRL Nearing Completion, Will Be Inaugurated By PM Soon

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Wednesday said this year, Rs 3,694 crore has been allocated for the ongoing railway projects in Jammu and Kashmir, while the "dream project" Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) is nearing completion and will be inaugurated soon.

Addressing the media in Delhi, the minister said that new projects are also being taken up and detailed project reports (DPRs) are being prepared.

He said work on Baramulla-Uri railway line, two other lines, developing four terminals from Budgam to Baramulla section, and four new stations.



including Budgam, Jammu Tawi, Mata Vaishno Devi Katra and Udhampur station is underway.

Regarding USBRL), he said the project is almost complete with only a 17 km section

(Tunnel T1) between Katra and Reasi under construction. The minister said that Chenab bridge and railway line up to Sangaldan section has already been made operational. "Sangaldan to | More on P6

J&K Govt Absorbs **Electricity Tariff Hike**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a major relief to power consumers, the J&K Power Development Department (PDD) Wednesday announced that the Jammu & Kashmir government has taken a significant decision to absorb any increase in electricity tariff in the current financial year (2024-25) by continuing its support in the form of subsidy on electricity bills.

The decision of the government will effectively offset any rise in tariff requirements as projected by the Distribution Companies (discoms) i.e. JPDCL for Jammu region and KPDCL for Kashmir region, for covering the rising power purchase cost, inflation and other factors and also to bridge the revenue gap.

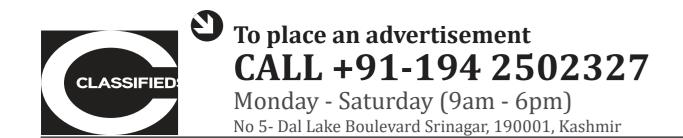
Providing details on the decision, the spokesperson of J&K Power Development Department (PDD) informed that a major portion of discoms | More on P6



Rai said in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday while asserting that the Modi government has zero tolerance for terrorism.

Nityanand Rai was replying to a supplementary question from

Congress MP Pramod Tiwari. Terrorist activities witnessed recently will soon end, the minister said. "They (terrorists) will | More on P6



KASHMIR OBSERVER® Srinagar | Thursday | 25-07-2024

Anxiety, Depression Found To Up Risk Of Serious Blood Clotting Condition

Press Trust Of India

Having anxiety or depression disorders could heighten the risk of a serious blood clotting condition by nearly 50 per cent, a new study has found.

Brain imaging showed that an increased stress-related activity in the brain, along with inflamma-tion - because of the mental illnesses - were driving up the risk of deep vein thrombosis, in which a blood clot forms in a deep vein. Researchers at the Massachusetts General Hospital, US, analysed their dataset of over 1.1 lakh participants to understand links between anxiety and depression, and the risk of deep vein thrombosis. A smaller group of 1,520 people underwent brain imaging. Over a follow-up period of over

three years, 1,781 participants (1.5 per cent) were found to develop the blood clotting condition. The researchers found that

while having either anxiety or depression disorder was associated with roughly a 50 per cent chance of developing deep vein throm-



bosis, having both the mental illper cent chance of developing the nesses was associated with a 70 clotting condition.

"The results, thus, identify anxiety disorders and depression as potent risk factors for deep vein thrombosis and identify modifiable mechanisms that mediate this association," the authors wrote in the study published in the American Journal of Hematology.

The participants were typically aged 58 years and 57 per cent were women. Of the whole group, 44 per cent had a history of cancer. However, adjusting for cancer

a risk factor for depression and blood clotting in veins - did not alter the results, the authors said.

Block Development Officer Khansahib

The particulars of my ward namely Hamiz Ajaz has been wrong-

ly written in his school records as: Father's Name: Dr Aijaz Shah while the correct name is of Dr Ajaz Ahmad Shah and Mother's name has been wrong written as Ruqaiya while the correct mother's name is Ruqaya Amin whcih needs to be corrected. if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/ her objection in the office of the Tyndall Biscoe School Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Dr Ajaz Ahmad Shah F/o Hamiz Ajaz

R/O Soura, Srinagar

PUBLIC NOTICE

SS

INF

I have lost my 9th pass discharge certificate issued by Govt Boys Higher Secondary Magam . 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 above mentioned office within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Sajjad Hussain Sofi S/o Ghulam Mohi -U-Din Sofi bmg

R/o Sofipora Magam Budgam

Irregular Sleep For A Week Can Lead To Increased **Diabetes Risk: Study**



Press Trust Of India

Weeklong irregular sleep can increase the risk of type 2 diabetes in middle-aged and older people by 34 per cent, a new study has found. Even as researchers acknowledged assessing sleep duration over seven days may not capture long-term sleep patterns, they said changing this lifestyle fac-tor can help lower the risk of developing type 2 diabetes.

According to the study published in the journal Diabetes Care, the link was "more pronounced" among those sleeping for lon-ger durations and having a lower genetic risk of diabetes.

"Our findings underscore the importance of consistent sleep patterns as a strategy to reduce type 2 diabetes," Sina Kianersi, a research fellow at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in the US and lead author of the study, said.

The researchers followed more than 84,000 participants from the UK Biobank dataset who were aged 62 years on aver-

age and did not have diabetes to begin with. Over seven years, they monitored the development of the metabolic disease through medical records.

The authors wanted to find out if irregular sleep lengths could promote diabetes by disrupting the body's biological clock. They also wanted to examine the effects of irregular sleep in people with a low genetic risk of the disease.

The team found that the individuals with a sleep duration changing by more than 60 minutes had a 34 per cent higher diabetes risk, compared to those whose sleep lengths changed by less than 60 minutes.

However, after adjusting for lifestyle, health conditions, environmental factors and body fat, the risk among these individuals was found to drop to 11 per cent.

The researchers said they were inter-ested in exploring the biological reasons why sleep irregularity increases the risk of diabetes. They also plan to study participants from younger age groups and with diverse racial backgrounds.

Office Of The Block Development Officer Khansahib EMAIL address: bdokhansahib5@gmail.com

NOTICE:-

Subject:- Invitation of Objections, if any against construction of Guest house at Gojathaji Checkshera Khansahib.

A Public Notice is hereby issued, that Mrs. Abina Parvaiz W/O Parvaiz Ahmad Shah R/o Bemina , is intending to construct a Guest House at Gojathaji Gram Panchayat Checkshera of Block Khansahib .

We hereby invite objections if any against the proposed construction which may be dropped at below mentioned address within a period of 7days from publication of this notice.

- Block Development Officer Khansahib
- Phone No.: 7006722385
- Email Id: Bdokhansahib5@gmail.com

DIPK-3474/24 dated: 24-07-2024

Government of Jammu and Kashmir Government Medical College, Srinagar.

NOTIFICATION

It is hereby notified for information of all those candidates, who have applied for engagement as Medical Officers on academic arrangement basis under S0.364 of 2020 dated: 27.11.2020 in response to this office Notification No: 1196-AH of 2024 dated: 05.03.2024, that their written test will be held on 30th July, 2024 (Tuesday) at the following venues as per timing shown against

Name of the post for which examination is being held	Date & timing of examination	Roll Numbers scheduled for examination	Examination venue
Medical Officer	30.07.2024 (Tuesday) Timing: 11.30 AM	10,001 to 10,150	Auditorium, Govt. Medical College, Sgr.
	to 12.30 PM	10,151 to 10,250	Anatomy Main Hall, Govt. Medical College, Srinagar
		10,251 to 10275	Anatomy, Small Room No: 01
		10, 276 to 10300	Anatomy, Small Room No: 02

In this context, the applicants are advised to strictly follow the instructions for participation in the examination:

Rasm e Chahrum

We profound grief and sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved father Zawar Ghulam Ahmad Sofi S/O Zawar Ghulam Hassan Sofi, who left this mortal world on (Wednesday) 24/07/2024 At 3AM. His Congregational Fatiya Khawani will be held on (Friday) 26/07/2024,5AM at our ancestral graveyard At Hassanabad, Rainawari Srinagar. Later of Taziyati Program will be continue throughout day at our residence Syed Merak Shah Colony Habak Hazratbal. May Allah grant him eternal peace and solace in Jannat-ul-Firdaus.

Mohammad Shafi Sofi (Son) Ashig Hussain Sofi (Son) Oazim Ali Sofi (Son) Mohammad Afzal Sofi (Son) Contact No. Contact: 9596881629

S/d

Office Of The Assistant Regional **Transport Officer Ganderbal**

NOTICE

Whereas, an application for Re-registration/Transfer of Ownership has received from Mr./Mrs/Miss Mohd Saleem Khan S/D/W Of Abdul A Had Khan Resident Of H.no 566 Kishan Mazdoor Colony Old Faridabad Hr 121002 in Respect of LMV/ Three wheeler /Motor Cycle/ MOTOR CAR Bearing Reg No. HR51BR8584 Chassis No ma3Bua61500B55693 _Engine No._ F8DN5912893 In favour of: ABDUL MAJEED NAJAR S/D/W of: ALI MOHD NAJAR Resident of: MOHALLA B MAR-GUND KANGAN Ganderbal KASHMIR (Transferee).

Now, therefore, it is notified for the information of the general public that the representation/objection, if any in connection with proposed Re-registration/Ti ans er will be received within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper Leading Papers to the address of undersigned. No, representation/objection shall be considered unless it is made in written and shall be submitted within the aforesaid period. No. JK/ARTOG/ 571/MVD/GBL Dated..23.07-2024 Sd/-Authorized Signatory Assistant Regional Transport officer Ganderbal fko

Government Of Ut Jammu And Kashmir Office Of The Executive Engineer PCD(PHQ) J&K Jammu/ Srinagar.

INVITING E-TENDER NOTICE

e-NIT No/EE-PCD/PHQ/34/2024-25 Dated: - 23-07-2024

Executive Engineer PCD PHQJ&K JAMMU/SRINAGAR on behalf of The President of Indiainvites tenders by e-tendering on Percentage rate basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Govt. / CPWD / Railways and other State / Central Governments for the following works.

S. No				Cost of	Earnest	Time Allowed		Class of
		Division					date of open-	Contractor
			lacs)	(In Rs)	(EMD)	tion	ing of tender	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Restoration of	PCD (PHQ)	5.39 lacs	500/-	10780/-	45working	01-08-2024	Electrical
	Non-Functional	J&K, Jammu/				days		
	Flood lights at Police	Srinagar				-		
	Public School Bemina	-						
	Srinagar.							

Date of Publishing 24-07-2024 at 1600 hours.

2. The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website http://jktenders.gov.infrom 1630 hours on 24-07-2024 The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website http://iktenders.gov.infrom

25-07-2024to 31-07-2024 upto1600 Hrs. The bids received will be opened at 1100 hours on 01-08-2024 on line.

The complete bidding process will be on line.

Technical bids of bidders shall be opened on line in the office of ExecutiveEngineer PCD PHO J&K Jammu/ Srinaga ron 01-08-2024 at 1100 Hrs.

The lowest bidder i.e. L1 shall be intimated to deposit the original copy of required earnest money in shape of CDR/ FDR and hard copies of all relevant documents as mentioned in clause 2 of general instructions to the bidders within five days from opening of financial bids.

In light of Govt. Notification issued by Finance Department Civil Secretariat Vide No. A/24(2017)-651 dated:-07-06-2018, the bidder must upload the copy of challan / receipt on account of cost of tender documents remitted in the treasury concerned for that the bidders must write an application to be addressed to treasury officer concerned requesting therein for remittance of amount as cost of tender documents towards M. H. 0055/ Revenue (others).

 The cost of tender documents should be submitted by the bidder in shape of treasury challan / receipt and upload the same.
Earnest Money:- The earnest money deposit (EMD @ 2% of advertised cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar shall be valid for minimum six months or more after the last date of receipt of bidsof the successful bidder (L1) shall be

released, only after defect liability period, the DLP shall be calculated from the date of successful

completion of the work to the satisfaction report of Engineer incharge.
Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website http://jktenders.gov.inBid documents contain qualifying criteria for bidder, specifications, bill of quantities, conditions and other details.

5. The site for the work is available. The intending bidders are strongly advised to inspect the site of work before bidding. Financial Bids will be opened on line in the office of the Executive Engineer. PCD PHO J&K Jammu/Srinagar. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

The bid for the work shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder / tenderer withdraws his bid/tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the said earnest money shall stand forfeited.

No Engineer of Gazetted rank or other Gazetted Officer employed in Engineering or Administrative duties in an Engineering Department of the Government is allowed to work as a Contractor for a period of two years after his retirement from Government service, without permission of the Government. This contract is liable to be cancelled if either the contractor or any of his employees is found any time to be such a person who had not obtained the permission of the Government as aforesaid before submission of the tender or engagement in the Contractor's Service.

Other details can be seen in the bidding documents.

DIPK-3487/24

(Er. Neeraj Gupta) Executive Engineer PCD (PHQ) J&K Jmu/Sgr. No:-e-NIT/EE-PCD/PHO/2024-25/3436-43 Dated: 24-07-2024

1. Download "Admit Card" from our official website www.gmcs.ac.in w.e.f 28.07.2024 (11.30 AM onwards).

- On the actual date of examination i.e 30.07.2024 the candidates shall report at the respective venues one hour before commencement of examination for verification of their identity and carry along the Admit Cards plus any one of the following documents as proof of their identity;
- a) Photo ID Card issued by the Competent Authority, or
- b) Driving License, or
- c) PAN Card/Aadhar Card
- 3. Any type of electronic device, mobile phones, Bluetooth device, earphones books, notebooks, calculators, watches are not allowed inside the venue. Violation, if any, shall be dealt with strictly under law.
- No vehicle shall be allowed inside the examination venue.
- Scrupulously follow the instructions given by Supervisory staff at all the stages of the examination.
- 6. Each question will have four probable answers/options, out of which only one will be correct. Candidates should mark the correct/most appropriate answer with a blue or black point pen. Use of pencil and Gel Pen is not allowed.
- 7. Scratching, overwriting, tick-marks and multiple answers will be considered wrong.
- 8. Do not make any unnecessary marks on the answer Sheet.
- 9. Use of whitener, eraser, nails, rubber, blade on the answer sheet is completely prohibited.
- 10. There will be no negative marking.
- 11. Any candidate who is found either copying or receiving or giving any kind of assistance during the examination will be disqualified.

12. The instructions on the booklet should be followed in letter & spirit.

As already notified vide aforementioned notification, the Selection shall be made purely on the basis of merit obtained by the candidates in the written examination. However, in case of tie in the merit obtained in the written test between two or more candidates, the following procedure shall be adopted to break the tie:-

- a) In case of tie between Postgraduate and Graduate candidates, the Postgraduate candidate(s) will be given preference.
- b) In case of tie between two or more Postgraduates the candidate having secured higher percentage of aggregate marks in MBBS will be given preference.
- c) In case of tie between two or more Graduate candidates, the candidate having secured higher percentage of aggregate marks in MBBS will be given preference.
- d) In case the tie remains unresolved after following the above three parameters, the candidate older in age will be given preference.

DIPK-3518/24 DATED: 24-07-2024

No: AH/2428 -2436

Sd/-

Administrator, Associated Hospitals, Govt. Medical College, Sgr.

Dated: 24-07-2024

Subject:-Grant of Registration of the Proposed Travel unit under the name and style M/S" Showkat Tour & Travels" Situated at Ichgam Budgam.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, I Mr/Ms Showkat Ahmad Sheikh S/O D/O W/O Mohammad Yousuf Sheikh R/O Ichgam Budgam, Kashmir intends to apply in the Department of Tourism for the Registration of my proposed Travel unit under the name and style "M/S Showkat Tour & Travels Situated at Ichgam Budgam, Kashmir under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12. Whereas, I will submit State Subject/Domicile Certificate, Qualification Certificate Pan Card, Experience Certificate (Minimum 05 Years), Character Certificate (Police Department), Bank Statement (Minimum Balance 10000), Site Plan, Affidavit, Rent Deed duly attested by Sub-Registrar, Printing Material (Letter Head/Visiting Card), Photograph of the Unit (Indoor and Outdoor) and Two Passport size photographs to the Department of Tourism as per prescribed checklist prior to Registration of my unit as un Excursion Agency/ Adventure tour operator. Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011/12, before my case is processed for registration by the Competent Authority, the matter is hereby notified for information of general Public/Financial Institutions/Bank/Organization, etc for objection, if any and the same should reach to the Deputy Director: Tourism Registration (e-mail Id-directortourismkmr@gmail.com) within a period of 15 days from the publication of this notice in leading local newspaper/newspapers of the valley. No objections beyond a period of 7 days shall be entertained. **Media Line**

ازنیابت تلهگام درخواست منجانب محمدايوب كمنائى ولدغلام محمد كنائى ساكنة يبله كام تخصيل يبثن بغرض حصول ليكل ہير سرٹفيكيٹ جق متوفى غلام محر گنائى اشتہار بمرادآگاہی ہرخاص وعام۔ معامله مندرجه عنوان الصدريين سأكل ان نے ايک درخواست بغرض حصول ليگل ہير سرفنگيٹ دفتر ندا میں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔اس بارے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے ریورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل کاوالد متوفی غلام محمد گنائی مورخہ 2024-06-15 کوفوت ہو چکا ہے متوفی کےوارثان جائز کی تفصیل درجہذیل ہے نمبرشار نام معهوولديت عمر ىپىشە بشيراحمه گنائی پسر 52 سال سركاري ملازم 46 سال محدایوب گنائی پسر د کا نداری ۳۔ منیراحد گنائی پسر 39 سال سركاري ملازم ا ظريفه بيكم دختر كهريلوكام 56 سال ۵۔ لطیفہ بیگم 48 سال اس طور پر سائل کا کہنہ 5 افراد پر شتمال ہے۔ لہذا سرفطیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کس شخص کوکوئی فتراض ہوگا وہ اپنااعتر اض ایک ہفتہ کے اندردوران دفتر ی اوقات میں اپنااعتر اض پیش کرے۔ معیادگز رنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتر اض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ نائب تحصيلدار fko

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KASHMIR OBSERVER® | Srinagar | Thursday | 25-07-2024 🔾

Master Plan-2035

V.C SDA Chairs Review Meeting, Scrutiny Of Suggestions & Objections

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Vice Chairman (V.C) Srinagar Development Authority (SDA). Dr. Owais Ahmed today chaired a review meeting focused on analyzing objections and suggestions received from the general public regarding the Master Plan-2035, at the SMC Headquarters, Karan Nagar.

The meeting was attended by the senior officers from SDA. Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Town Planning Organization



(K), and Lakes Conservation & Management Authority (LCMA), highlighting a collaborative and inclusive approach to shaping the future of Greater Srinagar.

Discussions revolved around ensuring that the Master Plan aligns with the evolving needs and aspirations of the residents of District Srinagar.

Vice Chairman The stressed the significance of incorporating diverse perspectives and public feed-

Observer News Service

tion more efficiently.

Roll No: 807502

inf

Advisor Bhatnagar Chairs

29th BoDs Meet Of JKWDC



Acknowledging the active participation of the general public, the Vice Chairman expressed gratitude for their valuable contributions in shaping the Master Plan-2035. The SDA reiterated its pledge to adhere to the highest standards of urban planning and development, with the goal of establishing the Master Plan-2035 as a sturdy framework for sustainable growth and progress.

Furthermore, the chair directed the organization to conduct stakeholder consultations and detailed field visits to validate the feasibility of public representations received in alignment with the Master Plan-2035. This proactive approach underscores SDA's commitment to robust

and ensures the plan resonates with the ground reality of Greater Srinagar. line officials to finalize the an earliest so that the same

urban development practices The chair directed all

draft recommendations at would be forwarded to the Government without any further delay.



As the scorching heat wave continues to grip Kashmir, the river Jhelum in Srinagar has witnessed sharp decrease in water level. KO photo, Abid Bhat

Gulab Arg Sales Witnesses Surge In Muharram

Agencies

Srinagar: In the month of Muharram, the markets across Kashmir are witnessing a significant surge in the sale for Gulab Arq or Arq-e-Gulab, a traditional perfume deeply rooted in the region's cultural heritage.

This fragrant essence, known for its captivating rose aroma, holds a special place in the hearts of Kashmiris. especially during this sacred month. As per the details available with the

news agency-KNO, Gulab Arq, derived from the Persian word for rose water, is not just a perfume but a symbol of tradition and spirituality in Kashmir.

Its significance heightens during Muharram, the first month of the Islamic calendar, marked by solemn

etern Its significance heightens during Muharram, the first month of the Islamic calendar, marked by solemn mourning and remembrance of the martyrdom of Imam Hussain and his companions at the Battle of Karbala.

mourning and remembrance of the martyrdom of Imam Hussain and his companions at the Battle of Karbala. Local sellers, who have been preserv-

ing the art of making Gulab Arq or the Arq-e-Gulab for generations, report a significant increase in demand as Muharram progresses. "We see a notable rise in sales during Muharram," said a perfume seller in Srinagar's downtown market.

He added that people use Gulab Arq to anoint themselves, spray in masjids, and even spray it during processions and gatherings. It adds a sense of purity and sanctity to the environment.

One of the local residents, Aazan, shared that it is a tradition to spray Gulab Arq in mosques and on mourners during Muharram processions. "The fragrance brings a sense of peace and reflection. It's a reminder of our cultural and religious roots," he added. Another local, Zahid, said, "Whenever I smell Gulab Arg, it brings back memories of my childhood.'

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,2452222,2452155 CAPD 18001807011 SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081 Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +919484100200 **AIRPORTS** SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 X RAILWAYS SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259 ANANTNAG: 01932-228243 BARAMULLA: 0194-102029 BIJBHERA: 01932-228243 PAMPORE: 01933-294132 PATTAN: 01954-293507 QAZIGUND: 01951-296153 **HIGHWAY STATUS** Sgr-Jammu highway - (Open) Mughal Road - (Open) Srinagar-Leh-(Open) **PRAYERS** FAJR 3:58 HIJRI **ZUHR** 12:37 CALENDAR ASR 5:33 Magrib 7:41 18 Muharram

TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686

PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883 PDD: 0194-2450213

This Day In History

1446

1261 - Constantinople recaptured by Nicaean forces under Alexios Strategopoulos for Emperor Michael VIII, re-establishing Byzantine Empire

ISHA

9:16

- 1570 Battle of Arnay-le-Duc, Burgundy: Huguenot victory forces Charles IX of France to agree to a peace treaty that ends the Third War of Religion
- 1652 Nikita Minin becomes patriarch of Russian Orthodox Church
- 1670 Austrian Emperor Leopold I expels 4,000 Jews from Vienna
- 1758 Seven Years' War: the island battery at Fortress Louisbourg in Nova Scotia is silenced and all French warships are destroyed or taken
- 1759 British capture Fort Niagara from French (7 Years' War)
- 1799 French-Egyptian forces under Napoleon I beat Turks at Battle of Abukir
- 1835 Ibrahim Pasha's army attacks Jewish settlers of Hebron Palestine
- 1837 The first commercial use of an electric telegraph successfully demonstrated by William Cooke and Charles Wheatstone between Euston and Camden Town in London
- 1848 1st battle at Custozza: Austrians under Radetzky beat Italian
- 1850 Gold discovered in Oregon (Rogue River) 1854 - Walter Hunt is awarded the first U.S.
- patent for a paper shirt collar

Srinagar: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar Wednesday emphasized the management of Jammu and Kashmir Women's Development Corporation (JKWDC) to enhance their reach and business as well as formulate a plan for increasing and actualizing the objectives of the corpora-The Advisor made these and Development Corporation comments while chairing (NBCFDC), National Divvangthe 29th Board of Directors

The meeting, among others, was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare department. Sheetal Nandar Director General, Development Expenditure Division-I, Finance Department, Sajad Hussain Ganai; Managing Director, JKWDC, Ulfat Jabeen; Addi tional Secretary PD&MD, representatives of National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC), National Backward Classes Finance

Chairperson NCRC Organizes ATAL EXPO AT KU

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Saba Bhat, Chairperson of the National Consumer Rights Commission for North India, successfully organized the ATAL EXPO | The Pink Revolution, in collaboration with Cen-

K.U, from July 22 to 24.

The Event was inaugurated by Vice Chancellor, University of Kashmir, Nilofer Khan & Registrar, University of Kashmir, Naseer Iqbal, This free exhibition provided a platform for more than 80 women entrepreneurs

is just the beginning. I am committed to continuing these initiatives, providing more opportunities for women entrepreneurs to thrive."

The event featured free stalls, networking opportunities, and workshops, setting a new standard for supporting

(BoDs) meeting of JKWDC at Corporation (NDFDC) Civil Secretariat Srinagar.

issued under as per below mentioned details:-

Father's Name: Farooq Ahmad Purra Mother's Name : Firdous Qurashi

Class 10th

Year & Session 1995 Sept Registration: 802795-IES-IX-93 Name : Saadat Farooq Purra

jan and Finance Development tre for Women Studies and Research,

Saba Bhat stated, "This exhibition women entrepreneurs in Kashmir.

Government of Jammu and Kashmir Directorate of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department Kashmir

AUCTION NOTICE.

Sealed Auction Notice is hereby called for auction of Walnut Fruit at Lavender Farm Sirhama as per the details mentioned below. Interested parties are informed to quote the rates in respect of material to be auctioned on following terms and conditions. The rates should reach the office of Manager Lavender Farm Sirhama on 29.07.2024 (Monday) till 1.00 PM in sealed envelop in prescribed format.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

That the offered rates must be accompanied with a CDR of 2% of the minimum reserve price pledged to Accounts Officer Directorate of Agriculture Kashmir or cash deposit as mentioned below at the time of auction before the Auction Committee.

2. That no tenderer is allowed to submit the terder below the minimum reserved rates, otherwise his cash deposit / CDR will be forfeited.

3. That the interested party can inspect the material at Lavender Farm Sirhama on any working day during the Office hours upto 27.07.2024.

That the offered rates shall be opened on 29th July 2024 at 1.30 PM in the office chambers of Manager Lavender Farm Sirhama in presence of bidders who wish to be present.

That the Auction Committee shall be at liberty to accept or reject the bids without 5. assigning any reasons thereof.

б. That the Successful bidder shall have to deposit 100% bid amount immediately after he/ she is declared successful bidder

7. In case the successful bidder fails to make the payment in full within stipulated time his/ her earnest money shall be forfeited and award of bid shall be given to second highest bidder on the rates offered by 1st highest bidder.

8. That the successful bidder should not damage any other crop or Govt. property while taking the delivery of the auctioned material.

9 That in case any dispute arise between the parties, the matter will be referred to Director Agriculture, Kashmir and his decision shall be binding on both the parties.

10. The CDR's in respect of unsuccessfull bidders will be released after three days duly applied by the bidder to Member Secretary Auction Committee (Accounts Officer)

The detail of the material to be auctioned is given here as under:

S. No	Particular	No. of walnut fruit bearing Trees	Initial Bid	2% of CDR	Cash deposit
01	Walnut Fruit	50 (Fifty)	Rs 0.81 Lacs	Rs 1000/-	Rs 2000/-

DIPK-3460/24 dated: 24-07-2024

Accounts Officer, (Member Secretary (A.C.), Directorate of Agriculture, Kashmir.

Sd/-

- 1898 1st US troops land & occupy Puerto Rico, at Guanica Bav
- 1907 Korea becomes a protectorate of Japan
- Benito Mussolini dismissed as Italian 1943 Premier and arrested on the authority of King Victor Emmanuel III
- 1944 World War II: Operation Spring one of Canada's bloodiest days, 18,444 casualties and 5.021 killed.
- 1956 Jordan attacks UN Palestine force
- 1957 Monarchy in Tunisia abolished in favor of a republic
- 1981 Voyager 2 encounters Saturn
- 1987 USSR launches Kosmos 1870, 15-ton Earthstudy satellite
- 1987 R. Venkataraman becomes the eighth President of India
- 1990 US Ambassador tells Iraq, US won't take sides in Iraq-Kuwait dispute
- 1994 Jordan and Israeli end 46 year state of war (Washington, D.C.)
- 1997 Scientists announce the first human stem cells to be cultured in a laboratory using tissue taken from aborted human embryos
- 2000 Air France Flight 4590, a Concorde supersonic passenger jet, F-BTSC, crashes just after takeoff from Paris killing all 109 aboard and 4 on the ground.
- 2001 Faced with declining oil prices, OPEC ministers agree to cut crude oil production quotas by about 4%, or 1 million barrels per day
- 2007- Pratibha Patil is sworn in as India's 1st female President
- 2012- Italy's credit rating is downgraded to CCC+ by Egan-Jones
- 2012- Ivica Dai is sworn in as Prime Minister of Serbia
- 2012- The 2012 Summer Olympics begin (Opening ceremony 27th)
- 2012- The double dip recession in the UK economy continues with a fall of 0.7% in GDP in the second quarter of 2012
- 2012 The UK economy returns to recession with a fall of 0.2% in GDP in the first guarter of 2012 following a fall of 0.3% in the last quarter of 2011
- 2014- Both Israel and Hamas review US Secretary of State John Kerry's proposal for an immediate ceasefire and meetings in Cairo
- 2016 England fast bowler Jimmy Anderson becomes first quick to take 50 wickets against all other 7 major Test cricket-playing nations during 2nd Test against Pakistan in Manchester
- 2016- Verizon announces \$4.83 billion purchase of Yahoo

Certificates, KD. Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd. Technology & Development, **J&K** Bank Ground Floor, Air India Building

Residency Road, Srinagar 190001

Online Request for Quotation (e-RFQ) For

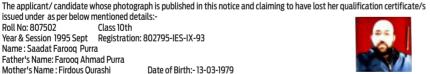
Supply, Installation and Maintenance of Electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG) Solution

RFQ Notice along with Complete RFQ document outlining the minimum requirements can be downloaded from and BIDs can be submitted on the Banks' e-Tendering Portal https://jkbank.abcprocure.com w.e.f. July 25, 2024, 16.00 Hrs. Tender Document can also be downloaded from Bank's Official Website www.jkbank.com. Last date for submission of Bids is August 08, 2024, 17.00 Hrs.

e- RFP Ref No. JKB/CHQ/ITA/e-BG-Solution/2024-1140 Dated: 23-07-2024

Registered office : Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India CIN: L65110JK1938SGC000048; T: +91 (0)194 2481 930-35; F: +91 (0)194 248 1928; E: info@jkbmail.com; W: www.jkbank.com

DIPK-NB-1040/24 dated: 24-07-2024



Residenc:- Bilal Coloney Soura Hear Masjid Salfia Srinagar According the candidate concerned has approach to this office for issuance of Duplicate Qualification /Marks Certificate/s, so before the same is processed and provided to the candidate, under rules, anybody having any objection in this regard, shall bring into the notice of Assistant Secretary of Certificate as well as Assistant Secretary Examination Unit I & III KD within the period of 10 & 7 days respectively, from the date of publication of this notice.

The Jammu and Kashmir

State Board Of School Education

New Campus Bemina Srinagar

Notice for General Public

(Besides the above referred "Qualification / Marks Certificate/s" bearing No: 2094 be treated as "CANCELLED") No: F(Cer is-I-DOC)B/KD/24 Dated Assistant Secretary

Date of Birth:-13-03-1979

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KASHMIR OBSERVER® Srinagar | Thursday | 25-07-2024



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Renewed Militancy

ieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha's statement on Wednesday that things will return to normal in Jammu and Kashmir within a few months is encouraging but to be interpreted with some caution. His remarks follow a renewed upsurge in militancy, especially in the Jammu region, which has threatened the relative peace that had been achieved in the past five years.

The recent attacks have shifted the focus from the Kashmir Valley, which has witnessed a decline in militant activities relative to Jammu. It shows a strategic move by militants to exploit perceived vulnerabilities in the region. The last five years have seen sporadic but major incidents of violence in Rajouri and Poonch, indicating a pattern of sudden spikes followed by periods of relative calm. This cyclical nature of violence poses a challenge to security forces.

Unlike the declining militant presence in the Kashmir Valley, Jammu has become the new hotspot for militancy. The dense forests have become a haven for militants, making it challenging for security forces to track them down. The reduced presence of security forces in Jammu, resulting from the ceasefire with Pakistan and redeployment to Ladakh, has created a void that militants seem to be exploiting.

While violence escalates in Jammu, the overall situation in Kashmir Valley remains relatively stable. The Valley has witnessed a drastic decline in the number of militants and the militant recruitment in recent years, primarily due to over 500 militant casualties, most of them local youth. However, despite this drop, militants continue to target off and on to make their presence felt.

The surge in violence in Jammu has sparked concerns that it could disrupt peace in the union territory, in the process potentially reviving a union territory that has mostly been pacified. While tourism in J&K is flourishing, the persistence of violence in Jammu could deter tourists and impact the overall tranquility in the UT.

The future remains uncertain as we ponder whether the violence in Jammu will escalate further or subside. The past five years have shown a pattern of sudden spikes followed by lulls in militancy activities. While some militants vanished into Pakistan after short-lived escalations in 2021, the situation in Jammu may be more complex, requiring a more comprehensive approach.

Recurrent search operations have been launched to track down militants in the region, but progress has been slow. If the violence continues, it suggests that the militants are determined to extend their separatist campaign to Jammu.

However, it is essential to prioritize efforts to build trust between the security forces and the local population. Engaging with the people in the region and addressing their concerns can help foster a more secure and stable environment.



A Tale of Two Systems **British and Indian Schooling**

Aleeza Ahmed

ake a seat in a sixth-grade classroom with 25 students, arranged in groups of four, brainstorming methods to reduce energy consumption in homes. One student suggests 'glow-in-the-dark walls' that work similarly to glow-in-the-dark stars, to be used in the patio to eliminate the need for outdoor lighting. Another suggests installing a kitchen water filter that filters the 70 liters of weekly kitchen wastewater to irrigate plants in the garden. Students build on each other's ideas, problem-solve, and encourage one another to think outside the box. Their teachers mentor them and encourage them to keep a broad vision by thinking like architects or urban planners.

Now, consider a sixth-grade Indian classroom, where more than 50 students sit in orderly rows, facing the teacher. There are 15 questions to be completed in 30 minutes. The focus on 'energy' in Physics involves memorizing five new formulas with textbook examples. Here, the emphasis is on absorbing theoretical information and rote learning. Overloaded with syllabus content, the stressed teacher tells the students to focus on the conservation of energy formula as it often appears in exams: "It's also necessary for all JEE aspirants," emphasizes the teacher, creating somewhat of a tunnel vision for the students.

As a student of both classrooms, this stark contrast highlights the divergent approaches to education and raises important questions about the future of learning and schooling.

Both educational systems have their success stories, with teachers striving to promise bright futures for their students. In India, success in competitive college and civil service entrance exams often relies on memorization skills. While these exams are rigorous, they only partially prepare students for real-world challenges. Many candidates who pass the written exams struggle with interviews that test their practical knowledge and critical thinking. Students who don't succeed in the tight competition then have to pursue college degrees that often continue the rote learning approach, making it difficult to thrive in a world increasingly driven by innovation and entrepreneurship. Skills are rarely emphasized, highlighting the need for an educational shift to better equip students for the future.

The current state of the Indian education system often attributes its shortcomings to a lack of resources. While this excuse may be valid for rural areas, it is inadequate for the rapidly developing parts of the world's most populous country. In rural areas, the education system is arguably a social welfare project, with incentives like the 'midday meal' scheme, raising questions about the employability and quality of learning. Concerns have been raised about whether the education and support provided are suitable for first-generation literates. Though it can be argued that category reservations are a measure to address this, there is concern about whether oling to change for many people's futures. This raises the question of whether education is merely about memorization-heavy tests, implying that those with stronger memory skills are afforded greater educational opportunities. In metropolitan cities and developing towns, the system's strategy of rote learning and its exam-centered approach, regardless of whether it includes smart boards or not, comes across as outdated and inadequate. Viewing the educational landscape as dynamic is something numerous British institutions have done. Though on a different scale, the need for education to be customized is recognized; children are divided into different sets (sections) based on baseline assessments and then grouped by academic performance. This aims to provide extra support and targeted attention to students who may not have a strong foundation while allowing others to progress without being held back. This system, however, has received criticism for impacting students' self-esteem and future prospects. The lack of a holistic educational environment in the Indian system has been acknowledged by the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP), which is aimed at addressing these shortcomings but has faltered in execution. One of the changes is the shift of exams to regular and formative assessments, but without changes in the syllabus and teaching strategies, these efforts are futile. Additionally, the curriculum remains content-heavy and overly technical, not designed to match students' age, understanding, literacy background, access to resources, and exposure, leading to an overwhelming experience for learners. Many teachers, being products of the same flawed system, are not adequately trained to implement the necessary changes. The NEP hasn't provided teachers with intensive expert training, resulting in somewhat of a clash between the culture of the current teaching in schools and the culture the NEP aspires to set. The impact of the systems goes beyond the books and has social implications. The British system fosters an environment where students don't view their peers as competition, but as teammates. Students compete with themselves and their individual progress rather than against each other, as the concept of ranking is not brought to the forefront. Furthermore,



Students are often seated in rows or alone, creating an instant power dynamic. In fact, students seated at the back are often referred to as 'backbenchers' and are both literally and academically behind. Teachers are often unapproachable and do not entertain discourse. This contrasts with the mentor-like role of teachers in the British system, who build student confidence

because of teamwork, numerous opportunities and the availability of outputs for creativity and expression, assessments are not the only measure of a student's success and worth. Debates, for example, which showcase oratory skills, are not held annually but quite often, and the classroom's floor is always open, encouraging opinions, thoughts, and suggestions. The Indian system is known to hold large bi-annual and annual events. As great an environment as these events create, having these activities in class is more impactful as it involves all the students collectively instead of just a handful who always come forward during events.

Teacher qualifications between the two systems differ. Instead of sitting for and passing the Indian system's required Bachelor of Education (often done through distance education) or teacher eligibility exams, the British system requires training through different routes such as the PGCE (Postgraduate Certificate in Education) or QTS (Qualified Teacher Status). These are hands-on and practical, focusing on the practical application of implementing evidence-based techniques. The qualifications center around professional development and performance reviews. Fatima Rahman, currently pursuing the QTS route, states how her training dives deeply into different disciplines such as 'lesson planning, behavior, assessment, adaptive teaching, and differentiation in class,' equipping her to take on a classroom and empower students.

level Indian assessment paper would mainly be based on knowledge with some emphasis on understanding. Furthermore, having a 'personal response' AO that requires the student to express their 'independent opinion' with the same weightage indicates that developing individual perspectives and ideas is a key component of the system. In subjects like business studies and biology, 'knowledge and understanding' is one AO. 'Application,' 'evaluation,' 'analysis,' and 'synthesis' are also AOs that bear around 60% weightage. However, students may face difficulty in writing theoretical answers due to the flipped classroom's emphasis on understanding concepts rather than rote learning.

Marking schemes provide objective marking, and when preparing for exams, give students guidance on how much and how to prepare. As British system student Ubaid Mir states: 'There is only so much you can study.' There isn't a study-just-for-the-exam atmosphere like in the Indian classroom, which centers around what is going to be asked in the exam. These exams don't have a particular marking scheme; some subjects do have an answer key, which is often relatively rigid. 'Students unfortunately keep both quantity and quality in mind when answering exam questions. Our teacher says quantity reflects quality,' quotes an 11th-grade Indian school student. 'There is no room for personal opinion or reflection, as it is seen as a way of showing insufficiency and inadequacy in exam preparation,'

Did You Know?

Irshad Mushtaq

he new tax changes in the India Budget 2024-25 have impacted mutual funds and equity shares. The longterm capital gains tax rate has increased to 12.5%, while the short-term capital gains tax is now at 20%. In the union budget 2024-25, capital gains and STCG tax changes were announced. In the previous structure, the long-term capital gain tax rate was 10%, with a one lakh rupee profit exemption. Now, the profit exemption has increased to 1.25 lakhs.

Additionally, the tax rate has been raised to 12.5% from the previous 10%. (Long-term refers to selling equity shares and mutual funds after 1 year). The short-term capital gain tax on equity was previously 15% if shares were sold before 1 year of purchase, now it is 20%. For example, if shares were bought at 10 lakhs and sold after 1 year for 12 lakhs, the profit would be 2 lakhs. Previously, the tax on a 2 lakh profit at 10% would be around 10,000 rupees, after deduction of 1 lav profit exemption.

Now, at the new rate of 12.5%, after deducting the 1.25 lakh profit exemption, 2 lac -1.25 lav the tax on the remaining 75,000 profit would be calculated at 12.5%. This is due to the updated exemption limit of 1.25 lakh from the previous 1 lakh.

In the case of short-term capital gains, with a buying value of 10,00,000 and a selling value of 12 lakhs, the profit would be 2 lakhs, attracting a tax rate of 20% instead of the previous 15%, resulting in a 40k tax charge. The long-term capital gains tax is now at 12.50%, and the short-term capital gains tax is now at 20%.

Securities Transaction Tax (STT) on Futures and Options (F&O) has also been increased, from $0.0625\,\%$ to $0.10\,\%$ on options trading and from 0.0125% to 0.02% on futures trading. In addition, the Standard deduction was proposed to be increased to Rs 75,000 from Rs 50,000. The normal tax slab structure has been revised under the new Tax Regime as follows: Rs 0-3 Lakh: Nil, Rs 3-7 Lakh: 5%, Rs 7-10 Lakh: 10%, Rs 10-12 Lakh: 15%, Rs 12-15 Lakh: 20%, Above 15 Lakh: 30%.

Learn from the insights of writer, investor, entrepreneur, founder of MI Securities and Business Partner at Sharekhan Srinagar J&K. Reach out at misecurities@bp.sharekhan. com for valuable financial advice

The flipped classroom methodology is one of the methods that the British system has endorsed. In a traditional classroom, the instructor prepares material to be delivered in class, students listen to lectures, and take notes in a passive manner. In the flipped classroom, the instructor shares lectures and content to be covered outside the class. Class time is then devoted to applied learning and higher-order thinking tasks. Students engage in problem-solving and applying key concepts while receiving support from teachers and peers.

As advanced and complex as this approach may seem, it takes the 'remembering' and 'understanding' steps outside the classroom, which are traditionally done inside Indian classrooms. The main differentiator is the many levels of Bloom's taxonomy that are unlocked due to the new classroom time created, including 'applying,' 'analyzing,' 'evaluating,' and 'creating'. The final step, 'creating,' allows students to become active members of the community and individuals ready to innovate and enter the workforce.

The concept of collaboration or critical thinking is almost non-existent in the Indian classroom. The teaching process is very linear and mostly single-directed, with the students' only feedback being their marks and percentages. Pressured by a heavy curriculum, teachers prioritize content delivery over student engagement. Students are often seated in rows or alone, creating an instant power dynamic. In fact, students seated at the back are often referred to as 'backbenchers' and are both literally and academically behind. Teachers are often unapproachable and do not entertain discourse. This contrasts with the mentor-like role of teachers in the British system, who build student confidence through approachable interactions, prioritize students' well-being, and focus on individual progress.

The art of assessment varies. The British system's assessments have marking schemes with Assessment Objectives (areas that are graded) that carry equal weightage. For example, A-level literature's Assessment Objectives comprise: Knowledge and Understanding, Analysis, Personal Response, Communication, and Evaluation of Opinion. Having 'Knowledge and Understanding' as a single AO highlights the greater focus of the system; an equivalent they further added.

This comparison, however, stands hollow without acknowledging India's colonial past with the British. Dr. Anirban Ganguly, Director of the Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation, states that the disconnection between teachers, society, and students can be attributed to when 'education, initially conducted in the English language, began neglecting Indian languages and cultural educationand thus prepared individuals to serve them.' These sentiments were reiterated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who stated that the education system developed by the British was not a part of the Indian ethos and created a "service class."

Both systems should use their colonial history as a guide and navigate their objectives in a way that leverages their strengths. India's educational goals focus on nation-building, national history, and citizenship. On the other hand, the UK's education system, influenced by its colonial past, has historically aimed to instill a sense of British identity and produce a workforce that supports the interests of the colonial administration. It is now evolving to become a more culturally inclusive representation of today's Britain. This inclusivity must be implemented responsibly, as concerns have been raised about the 'compulsory' LGBTQ education for primary students, which parents and educators argue imposes ideas on impressionable minds. Similarly, the most recent revision of the Indian Grade 12 Political Science textbook does not mention the Babri Masjid by name, referring to it instead as a "three-domed structure." This mosque, which was demolished and replaced by a temple, is an important historic symbol. Such changes can result in students learning only part of their history, potentially shaping a biased narrative. Both systems must prioritize the genuine empowerment of students and ensure that education remains a tool for enlightenment and progress, rather than a means of perpetuating historical biases or agendas.

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

The author is a student

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



Case for Coaching Centres

While concerns regarding the commercialization of education are valid, it is important to recognize the invaluable role coaching centers play in the educational system

Aubaid Ahmad Akhoon

I recently had the opportunity to read an insightful article titled "Education as a Business: The Dark Side of Coaching Centers." While I appreciate the concerns raised by the author regarding the commercialization of education, I believe it is crucial to acknowledge the positive contributions that coaching centers make to the academic landscape. As such, I would like to present a well-rounded perspective that highlights the benefits of coaching centers in nurturing students' educational growth.

Specialized Guidance and Expertise

Coaching centers employ highly skilled and experienced teachers who possess in-depth knowledge of the subjects they teach. These educators, including professionals like myself who hold a Master's degree in Urdu and Education, bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the classroom. With my strong foundation in Urdu and education, combined with a good understanding of computer technology, I have been working in the coaching industry for the past eight years, helping students excel in their academic pursuits. By providing personalized guidance, we assist students in navigating complex concepts and expanding their understanding various of subjects.

Supplementing Traditional Education

Coaching centers serve as valuable supplements to traditional educational institutions. They offer additional resources, study materials, and practice sessions that may not be readily available in regular schools or colleges. Drawing on my own experience, I have witnessed the positive impact of these supplementary resources on students' learning outcomes. By incorporating my knowledge of Urdu, education, and computer technology, I have contributed to the development of comprehensive study materials and digital resources that cater to students' diverse needs and enhance their educational experience.



Skill Development and Exam Preparation

Coaching centers contribute significantly to the development of essential skills such as discipline, effective study habits, and time management. Through structured study plans, mock tests, and practice sessions, students acquire valuable examination strategies and enhance their problem-solving abilities. Having worked in the coaching industry for several years, I have witnessed firsthand how students benefit from this comprehensive approach. By leveraging my expertise in Urdu, education, and computer technology, I have helped students develop the necessary skills to excel in their examinations and achieve their academic goals.

Collaborative Learning and Motivation

Coaching centers provide opportunities for students to interact with like-minded peers who share similar educational goals. These interactions foster a sense of healthy competition, collaborative learning, and personal growth. With my background in



These centers offer specialized guidance, supplementary resources, and a supportive learning environment that significantly contribute to students' academic success. Moreover, coaching centers provide employment opportunities for highly educated individuals to utilize their knowledge and expertise in serving students' educational needs

Urdu, education, and computer technology, I have facilitated

collaborative learning environments where students engage with motivated peers and benefit from group discussions and interactive activities. Through such experiences, students are encouraged to push their boundaries, strive for excellence, and continuously improve their aca-

Quality Education and Supportive Environment

demic performance.

Reputable coaching centers prioritize their students' success by investing in welltrained teachers and comprehensive study materials. They create a supportive learning environment that nurtures students' intellectual growth and instills a passion for knowledge. As someone who has dedicated several years to the coaching industry, I have consistently strived to provide quality education and create a supportive atmosphere for students. Drawing on my expertise in Urdu, education, and computer technology, I have developed innovative teaching methods, mentored students, and offered individualized attention to maximize their learning potential.

Job Opportunities for Educated Youth

It is worth mentioning that coaching centers also provide employment opportunities for highly educated individuals. Drawing from my own experience of working in coaching centers for the past eight years, I have witnessed how these institutes effectively utilize the knowledge and skills of professionals, including individuals with expertise like myself, to benefit students and contribute to their educational growth. By offering job opportunities to highly educated youth, coaching centers not only empower individuals but also tap into their expertise to enhance the overall quality of education provided. With my specialization in Urdu, education, and computer technology, I have been able to actively contribute to the development of comprehensive study materials, implement innovative teaching methods, and integrate technology into the learning process. This multifaceted approach

has played a vital role in enriching the educational experience for students.

In essence, while concerns regarding the commercialization of education are valid, it is important to recognize the invaluable role coaching cen-ters play in the educational system. These centers offer specialized guidance, supplementary resources, and a supportive learning environment that significantly contribute to students' academic success. Moreover, coaching centers provide employment opportunities for highly educated individuals to utilize their knowledge and expertise in serving students' educational needs. By acknowledging the positive aspects of coaching centers and addressing the concerns raised, we can work towards a balanced and effective education system that benefits all students.

The author is a Motivational Speaker and an Associate Editor of the weekly publication 'Education Quill.'Follow the author on Instagram at @ UBI9305

Is Mental Flexibility the Key to Mental Health?

Devon Frye

any of us have an inner monologue that talks to Lus throughout our day, commenting on what's going on around us, how we are doing and feeling, and what tasks we need to accomplish. Controlled by a set of brain areas called the default mode network(DMN), this inner monologue can feel either very easy to dismiss, such as when something exciting is happening that captures our attention, or downright impossible, such as when we are feeling down and the thoughts won't stop.

When we focus our attention on something, whether it is a work project or a beautiful sunset, it shuts down the DMN and employs the central executive network (CEN). A third network, the salience network, helps us switch back and forth between these two modes of attention.

When we get stuck thinking the same thoughts over and over again, and have the same response patterns over and over again, we can slide into mental health states like depression and anxiety. Brain imaging studies show that individuals with depression and/or anxiety exhibit increased structural and functional connectivity both within the DMN and between the DMN and the salience network. The inner monologue becomes a powerhouse that can feel impossible to shut down.

The ease with which we can move our attention away from our inner monologue is being researched as a critical component of mental health treatment viability and success. For example, hypnotizability represents how easily a person can enter a hypnotic state, and how strongly they respond to hypnotic cues. Like other characteristics in the human population, it follows a normal distribution, with 10 to 20 percent being highly hypnotizable, 10 to 20 percent being not very hypnotizable at all, and everyone else falling somewhere in between.

Those who are easily hypnotizable, and therefore more likely to experience benefits from hypnosis, exhibit more functional connectivity between the CEN and the salience network, meaning their DMN is less dominant in their brains.

Another treatment option that is growing in popularity is psychedelics. Leading psychedelic researcher Robin Carhart-Harris, who coined the concept of rigidity, showed that psychedelics reduce activity in the DMN. In studies, the more the DMN shut down during the trip, the more participants experienced "ego dissolution," or the loss of a sense of separateness. Instead, they reported a kind of "oneness" with all that is.

When psychedelics disrupt the DMN and take it offline, it can have profound effects on in-



dividuals' mental health symptoms and general well-being. In a small feasibility study, 12 people received psilocybin treatment for their persistent depression. These individuals had tried two or more depression treatments with no success.

3.

The results were startling. Everyone showed improvements in their symptoms. Two-thirds of participants were depressionfree after a week, and 7 out of 12 still showed improvement in their symptoms after three months.

Carhart-Harris theorizes that psychedelics disrupt those wellworn DMN pathways by creating a "hyper-plastic" state in the brain where rapid, profound changes can occur, creating new pathways and ways of being. Psychedelics may be a promising technique to dissolve the ironclad grip that the DMN has on so many of our lives.

While psychedelics represent a sledgehammer approach to brain change, you can strengthen your CEN and weaken your DMN in small, everyday ways. Here are three suggestions:

- . When you find yourself caught up in your thoughts, switch your attention away. Stare out at the sky, focus on your breath, or talk with a friend. Every time you disrupt your inner monologue, you weaken it.
- 2. Prioritize activities you find naturally interesting. What

activities easily capture your attention? The more you stay in an attentive, focused, CEN state, the stronger those networks become. If you have a consistent, negative thought or belief, pressure-test it. Look for examples that prove the belief wrong. You may need to do this exercise with a trusted friend or therapist, who may see things more objectively than you can. For example, if you beat yourself up for having a messy house, a friend may come in and say, "Yes, but look at all the things you are doing. You are doing great at work, taking care of the kids, checking on your parents, etc. The one thing to fall by the wayside is the cleanliness of your home. That is good prioritization-not an inherent fault in you." Whereas the DMN makes every last thing the end-all-and-be-all, this exercise can contextualize the thought and loosen its strength.

To protect your mental health, exercise your mental flexibility. As you make your thoughts and attention more flexible, it can protect you from depression, anxiety, and believing things that just aren't true.

The article was originally published by Psychology Today

News

KASHMIR OBSERVER[®] SRINAGAR | THURSDAY | 25.07.2024

J&K Bank Expands Its Reach With New Branch At Saket In Delhi

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In line with its policy to enhance brick-and-mortar presence in key metropolitan cities, J&K Bank has opened a new branch in Saket – a vibrant and economically bustling area in South Delhi.

MD & CEO Baldev Prakash inaugurated the Saket Branch today in the presence of Divisional Head (Rest of India) Rajesh Gupta, Zonal Head (Delhi) Suresh Kumar Choudhary and other officials of the Bank.

Speaking at the inauguration, MD & CEO Baldev Prakash highlighted the significance of this expansion, stating, "Opening a new branch in South Delhi's Saket is a significant step in our broader strategy to strengthen our presence in major urban centres across the country. Aligned with our strategic expansion across the country, the aim is to bring high-quality banking services closer to our growing customer base to ensure that they



have easy access to our products as well as expertise."

"Metropolitan cities like Delhi are pivotal to our growth strategy. By establishing a strong foothold in these areas, we are not only enhancing our service delivery but also contributing to the economic development of the people in these areas. We remain committed

to expanding our network and providing best banking experiences to our customers nationwide", he further added. Notably, the new branch is equipped with state-of-theart facilities and is designed

to offer a full range of banking services primarily personal finance and banking solutions for businesses.

Patiala: The Thapar Institute of Engineering & Technology's Learning Laboratory has been honored with the prestigious Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) International Awards for

Thapar University Learning Laboratory wins prestigious

RIBA International Award for Excellence 2024

Excellence 2024. Designed by McCullough Mulvin Architects in collaboration with Designplus Associates Services, the state-of-the-art facility was recognized for its compelling geometric architecture and innovative design. Located in Patiala, Punjab, the Learning Laboratory is a

Agenceis

dynamic ensemble of three prismatic red Agra stoneclad towers housing a Science Building, Library, and Lecture Theatres.

Rising from a 10-meter-high podium, these towers create a striking visual impact. The design features multi-story atriums with daylight filtered through a stone brise soleil.



construction, architectural shading, and natural ventilation. Pools cool the air beneath the canopy, ensuring a comfortable and sustainable environment.

Constructed using local stone and techniques, the red Agra sandstone transforms beautifully under sunlight, with the geometry of the forms suggesting movement and orientation within the campus. The podium at the first-floor

heavy

level provides a stark setting to the tower's formal structure, with the buildings resembling geological formations in scale and material.

RIBA International The Awards for Excellence celebrate innovative architectural projects worldwide, honoring those that push design boundaries regardless of style, complexity, or budget.

transforma-Only 22 including projects,

Thapar University's Learning Laboratory, were unveiled as winners this year. Selected by a jury led by Simon Henley and RÍBA Local Ambassadors, the winners were declared after on-site evaluations, exemplifying visionary thinking and craftsmanship.

"This award recognizes our commitment to providing state-of-the-art educational facilities," said Mr. Rajiv Vederah, Chairman of the Board at Thapar Institute of Engineering & Technology.

"The Learning Laboratory is more than just a complex of buildings; it's a beacon of innovation and learning, designed to inspire and facilitate intellectual growth."

The RIBA International Award for Excellence 2024 is a tribute to the University's pursuit of creating a world-class learning environment that inspires and empowers its students. (KNT)

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Sever Heatwave

a maximum temperature of 31.9 degree Celsius was recorded while in Banihal, it settled at 31.4 degree Celsius.

Moreover, there is a forecast of severe heat wave conditions in some parts of Kashmir for the next three to four days. As per an Independent Weather Forecaster,

Faizan Arif Keng, the weather models have further lowered the probability of rain in Kashmir region over the next 3-4 days, adding that the weather models have adjusted to forecasting only a severe heat wave in Kashmir region over the period

He said it is possible that some temperature records may break during the next four days, adding that dry weather is expected to continue for the next four days.

However, Director of Meteorological department (MeT), Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said that there was no red alert as the mercury will settle around 35 to 36 degree Celsius.

"There is no need to panic as relief is expected after July 28 as there will be a drastic decline in the day temperature from July 28 onwards," he said. (KNO)

World's Hottest Day

Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S). This exceeded the previous record of 17.09 degrees Celsius, set just a day before on July 21.

These unprecedented temperatures follow a series of monthly heat records -- June marked the 12th consecutive month of global temperatures reaching or exceeding the 1.5 degrees Celsius threshold. Every month since June last year has been the warmest on record.

Preliminary data from C3S showed that July 22 was the hottest day since at least 1940.

C3S said global temperatures are now the highest they have been for around 1,25,000 ears as a result of climate change caused by

peaks between late June and early August, sci-entists expect it to rise further on July 23, 2024, before decreasing.

The European climate agency said whether 2024 will be the warmest year ever depends largely on the development and intensity of La Nina. While 2024 has been warm enough to surpass 2023, the exceptional warmth of the last four months of 2023 makes it too early to predict with certainty which year will be warmer.

Climate science non-profit Berkeley Earth estimated last week that 2024 has a 92 per cent chance of setting a new annual heat record.

There is a 99 percent chance that 2024 will have an annual average temperature anomaly of more than 1.5 degrees Celsius above the 1850-1900 average, it said.

At the 2015 UN climate talks in Paris, world leaders committed to limiting the global average temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial period average to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. However, a permanent breach of the 1.5-degree Celsius limit specified in the Paris Agreement refers to long-term warming over a 20 or 30-year period.

The Earth's global surface temperature has already increased by around 1.2 degrees Celsius due to the rapidly increasing concentration of greenhouse gases, primarily carbon dioxide and methane, in the atmosphere. This warming is considered to be the reason behind record droughts, wildfires and floods worldwide.

1 Cr Tourists

development," he said.

"The government of Jammu and Kashmir has reported that several measures have been taken that led to significant improvement in the tourism including Tourism Policy 2020 and status of industry to the tourism sector for availing incentives under the Jammu and Kashmir Industrial Policy 2021," he said. (KNO) target groups of poor, women, farmers and youth were identified without a caste census.

"Rahul Gandhi has repeatedly demanded a caste census. How can you count the target group if you do not conduct and make the census public?" she wondered.

Participating in the discussion, BJP MP from Tripura Biplab Deb said the NDA will be in government till 2047 and will take India to newer heights, while making the country number one economy in the world.

He said the interests of all states and all sections have been taken care of. An additional Rs 4.82 lakh crore share has been allocated for the states, he added.

Trinamool Congress leader Abhishek Banerjee claimed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi was leading a "creaky, shaky and vulnerable" coalition government that looked after the interests of only two states in the budget, ignoring all other citizens in the country. He said the budget is "anti-people" and

aimed at "appeasing and compensating" coalition partners of the ruling NDA.

"The budget has no vision and agenda. There is no relief to the common people and it has neglected 140 crore people of the country," he said in a hard-hitting speech amid repeated disruption by a few BJP members from West Bengal

The TMC MP said he will expand the word 'BUDGET' as B for betrayal, U for unemployment, D for deprived, G for guarantees which were failed by the government and T for tragedies. His expansion of the letter E was expunged by the Chair later.

Hitting out at the TMC leader, Union minister G Kishan Reddy said what Banerjee has claimed applies to the West Bengal government and not the government of India.

DMK's Dayanidhi Maran said Prime Minister Modi is not working for people who voted for his party but only for parties supporting him. as he criticised the Budget 2024-25 for failing to meet the aspirations of middle class people.

Situation Will

proportionately lowered," Sinha said, adding besides raising job opportunities for youth, the budget-2024 focuses on how women become self-reliant.

tive

He said the union finance minister has provided money with a freehand to J&K and that details will be shared accordingly, once the budget is enacted.

"To address our concerns and for the overall growth of J&K, the honorable union Finance Minister has provided money with a freehand. This budget, as I already said, is historic, and it will help boost J&K's economy," he added.

'Every Drop

division. It wants to stop its progress."

"From Poonch-Rajouri to Kathua-Reasi and Doda, the families of those who want to build a bright future for themselves are being targeted. All of you should always remember that every drop of (people's) blood shed by Pakistani terrorists will definitely be avenged," he said.

Sinha said the need of the hour is to stand together against terrorism.

Underlining that Gujjars and Bakarwals are considered the first line of defence on the border, he urged people from the two communities to share information with the security forces.

"Your help is also needed to destroy the drug network. Those who support terrorism and drug smuggling do not belong to any community or caste. If action is taken against such people, then I think it should be welcomed," the LG said.

There have been 15 terror incidents in the Jammu region in the last 45 days. Ten security personnel, including two officers, and nine pilgrims were killed in these attacks and 58 people were injured.

He further mentioned that, in addition to alleviating any additional financial burden on consumers, the department is on a war footing to bring about numerous reforms in the sector under Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) for ensuring better quality and reliable power supply to consumers. This will empower the consumers with better control over their budget through transparent and real time monitoring of their consumption patterns, facilitated by smart meters.

The smart consumer metering is being implemented at a rapid pace to eliminate unmetered consumers, which are significant contributors to high AT&C losses.

Notably, J&K, which had a metering percentage as low as 50% in 2019, now ranks among the top seven states in the country for smart metering implementation, having surpassed the six lakh mark. Despite the improvements observed in smart-metered areas, challenges remain with unmetered consumers, particularly in Kashmir.

To address losses in the unmetered (flat-rate) areas, discoms are conducting calibrated load rationalization based on actual electricity usage and connected loads, ensuring adherence to Electricity Supply Code regulations to prevent inflated bills. Additionally, other reforms such as the 100% segregation of agricultural feeders, High Voltage Distribution Systems (HVDS), AB cables in congested areas, and state-of-the-art SCADA and RT-DAS systems are also under implementation, which will not only automate the system but also fulfill consumer expectations of the today's modern era.

In this regard, the discoms have been directed to adopt best practices in accordance with Electricity (Rights of consumers Rules) 2020, notified by the MoP, with the aim to ensure that consumers receive reliable and high-quality electricity services.

With the aforementioned initiatives and an

burning coal, oil and gas, and deforestation.

"While scientists cannot be certain that Monday was the very hottest day throughout that period, average temperatures have not been this high since long before humans developed agriculture," it said.

C3S data showed that before July 2023, the Earth's daily average temperature record, set in August 2016, was 16.8 degrees Celsius. However, since July 3, 2023, there have been 57 days with temperatures exceeding that previous record.

Carlo Buontempo, director of C3S, said the difference between the temperatures over the past 13 months and previous records is staggering.

"We are now in truly uncharted territory and as the climate continues to warm, we are bound to see new records in the coming months and years," he said.

Christiana Figueres, the head of UN climate negotiations from 2010 to 2016, said: "The much-used term 'unprecedented' no longer describes the horrific temperatures we are experiencing.

"G20 nations are confronted with a dangerous reality they must address with policies to accelerate the deployment of renewables and prudent phaseout of fossil fuels. One third of global electricity can be produced by solar and wind alone, but targeted national policies have to enable that transformation. Or we all scorch and fry," she said.

Analysis shows that 2023 and 2024 have seen significantly higher annual maximum daily global temperatures compared to previous years. The 10 years with the highest daily average temperatures are from 2015 to 2024.

The global average temperature usually peaks between late June and early August, driven by the northern hemisphere's summer. The land masses in the northern hemisphere warm up faster than the southern hemisphere's oceans can cool down.

With global average temperatures already at near-record levels, a new daily average temperature record was not completely unexpected.

C3S scientists attributed the sudden rise in daily global temperatures to much higherthan-average temperatures over large parts of Antarctica. Such large anomalies are not uncommon during the Antarctic winter and also contributed to record global temperatures in early July 2023.

The Antarctic Sea ice extent is almost as low as it was last year, leading to above-average temperatures over parts of the Southern Ocean.

As the global average temperature typically

Budget Allocation

of finance stated that the Revised Estimate for the department in the last financial year was Rs 57,244 crore, which indicated a decrease in the Budget Estimate this year by over Rs 9,600 crore.

"The notes to the budget statement indicate that an additional amount of Rs 12,500 crore was transferred to Madhyamik and Uchhatar Shiksha Kosh (MUSK) during RE 2023-24," it said.

"Thus, an amount of Rs 12,500 Cr has been provided in RE 2023-24 which was not to be actually utilized during FY 2023-24. Therefore, the actual RE allocation in the FY 2023-24 for higher education was Rs 44.744 crore." the ministry added.

The budget allocation for school education is Rs 73,498 crore, the highest-ever for the Department of School Education and Literacy, registering an increase of more than 19 per cent over last year.

Oppn Claims

provisions as a tool to achieve the dream of a 'Vikisit Bharat'.

During the general discussion on the budget for 2024-25 in the Lok Sabha, various opposition members accused the government of doling out sops to key allies JD-U and TDP, which rule Bihar and Andhra Pradesh respectively, to ensure that the government faces no hurdles from its coalition partners.

Participating in the debate, BIP MP B Mahtab said barring a few sops for allies, the policy priorities of the budget suggest there is no change in its approach and has the long-term goal of achieving a 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047.

He also said the budget will empower the "neo-middle class" and asserted that the 2024 election results have not "ruffled" the government.

Initiating the debate, Congress MP Kumari Selja dubbed the budget a collection of "jumlas" (rhetorical promises) as she cautioned NDA members Nitish Kumar and N Chandrababu Naidu that they may celebrate today for getting a large share but it doesn't take long for time to change.

"Who is this budget for? Is it only for two states, or has some consideration been given to the entire country? It doesn't seem like anything beyond these two states or BJP-ruled states has been considered," Selja said.

She criticised the budget as "kursi bachao budget" and "vichlit budget", questioning how

He claimed nearly Rs 4 lakh crore had been promised as subsidy to Andhra Pradesh and Bihar to support Modi being prime minister. "I would like to ask, from where is the money going to come, at whose cost are you going to do this?'

Congress' Shashi Tharoor asserted that the Union Budget in many ways is emblematic of the government's "economic mismanagement and financial recklessness"

He also said the brakes of the Indian economy have fallen off but this government's horn keeps getting louder.

Tharoor also took a swipe at the BJP over the renaming of Ayushman wellness centres as Ayushman Arogya Mandirs, saying a certain constituency in Uttar Pradesh should have taught the BJP never again to "exploit a mandir for scoring political goals".

"This underwhelming budget is a woefully missed opportunity. After all, this was the government's chance to prove to the citizens that after the colossal setback the BIP suffered in the recently concluded general election, the finance minister (Nirmala Sitharaman) and the Prime Minister (Narendra Modi) have actually listened to the people of the country," he said.

TDP MP Sribharat Mathukumili hailed the budget as "visionary".

"After NDA government came to power in 2014 and our leader Chandrababu Naidu was chief minister, we systematically worked on developing the economy, we competed with Telangana in the development of our per capita income...on multiple metrics we were doing well," he said.

NCP-SCP leader Supriya Sule criticised the budget, saying it has failed to address various issues facing the country, including agrarian distress.

She also appealed to the government to hold assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

In the House, a remark by BJP MP Abhijit Gangopadhyay, a former judge of the Calcutta High Court, created uproar.

the discussion. Participating in Gangopadhyay made certain remarks against members of the Opposition.

Congress' Gaurav Gogoi registered his protest against the remark and requested the Speaker to expunge the said "unparliamentary word".

Later, the Speaker informed the House that the said remark has been expunged.

With the conclusion of Gangopadhyay's speech, the Lok Sabha proceeding was adjourned for Thursday.

Soldier, Terrorist

Joint Search Operation was launched by #IndianArmy and @JmuKmrPolice on days leading up to 23 July 24," the Srinagar-based Chinar Corps posted on X.

It said suspicious movements were noticed on Tuesday and the suspects were challenged by vigilant troops. In response, the terrorists opened indiscriminate fire, leading to a gunbattle.

"In the ensuing firefight one terrorist has been eliminated and a NCO injured. Operation is in progress," the Army added on the microblogging platform.

The officials said the injured soldier later succumbed to his injuries.

Rs 3694 Cr Allocated

Reasi section has also been completed, and commission of Railway safety certificate has also been received. The project is a dream come true and will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi very soon," he said.

J&K Govt Absorbs

expenditure consists of the power purchase cost, which is rising day by day due to rise in coal prices. Therefore, such escalations in power purchase costs demand an increase in power tariff too. Besides, the discoms incur other sizable expenditures also such as the O&M costs for its expanding infrastructure.

In absence of any intervention of the Government, the aforesaid expenses would have otherwise been passed on to consumers. He further informed that although a proposal for tariff increase for FY 2024-25 has been submitted by the discoms to the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (JERC) for approval, the government's decision indicates that there will effectively be no tariff increase for consumers, with the estimated loss on that account being borne by the government.

Speaking about the current tariff in Jammu & Kashmir, which is among the lowest in the country, the spokesperson provided an overview of the tariff revision history. It was highlighted that after a gap of six years without any tariff hike, there was an around 17% increase in electricity tariffs implemented in October 2022.

In the tariff revision for FY 2023-24, although metered consumers faced a 15% tariff hike, the government balanced this out by removing the 15% Electricity Duty on energy charges resulting in no net rise in consumer bills. Likewise, for the current financial year (2024-25), Jammu & Kashmir has again refrained from increasing electricity tariffs.

investment of Rs. 5.600 crore under RDSS over the next two years, the UT is poised to bring about a complete turnaround in the power sector, with the ultimate goal of providing 24×7 uninterrupted and affordable power supply for all consumers.

Minister Spells

not succeed in their design," he added. In the past few days, 28 terrorists have been killed in Jammu and Kashmir and some security personnel have also lost their lives. which is very unfortunate, Nityanand Rai said.

According to the minister, security forces have killed about 900 terrorists in the region after the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019.

"Modi government has zero tolerance for terrorism. We will end terrorism. They (terrorists) will be either in jail or jahannum... I want to assure the House," Nityanand Rai said.

Between 2004-2014 when the UPA was ruling at the Centre, there were 7,217 incidents of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. The number came down to 2,259 from 2014, when the BJP was voted to power, and July 21 this year, Nityanand Rai said.

'These should not have happened. It is unfortunate but they (opposition) should not do politics over it," the minister said.

In 2019, the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir was bifurcated into the union territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

Nityanand Rai told the House that 2,829 citizens and security personnel lost their lives between 2004 and 2014. This number has come down by 67 per cent since 2014. Besides. there is also a reduction of 69 per cent in terror incidents.

People in Jammu and Kashmir are now living in a peaceful environment and there is full guarantee of security, he said.

CAT Seeks Result

has not been declared in view of orders passed by the Tribunal on March 5 wherein it was made clear that the JKPSC would not declare the same unless otherwise directed.

Subsequently, the Tribunal issued notice to IKPSC. "In the meanwhile, respondents (JKPSC) shall produce the result of the applicants in a sealed cover before the Court on 29-07-2024," the CAT said, adding, "The result in sealed cover be produced before the Court through a Senior Officer of the PSC."

The Tribunal however made clear that mere declaration of result will not confer any preferential right upon these candidates and their rights shall remain subject to the final outcome of the original application.

STATE

Kashmir Plum Growers Say They Suffer Losses Due **To Low Demand**

Agencies

SRINAGAR: After facing significant losses due to low demand for apples, fruit growers in Kashmir are now experiencing similar challenges with plums. The plum growers have reported a marked decrease in demand in outside markets this season.

There was typically a good demand for plums at the beginning of the season. However, this year, demand has been low from the outset, which led to many growers opting to store a portion of their produce in cold storage units. They hope for a future increase in demand and better returns.

Javid Reshie, a fruit grower, said the demand for Kashmiri plums from markets across the country was minimal this year, which led to a drop in prices. "While expenses, such as labour rates, transportation charges, and the costs of packaging materials like cardboard and wooden boxes, continue to rise annually, the prices for the fruit have fallen," he said.

Another plum grower, Sameer

Ahmad, said the prices were down by around 50 percent compared to last year, which resulted in significant losses for the growers. "Hundreds of families rely on plum cultivation for their livelihood, and the low demand this year has adversely affected them," he said. Bashir Ahmad Basheer,

chairman of the Kashmir Valley Fruit Growers and Dealers Union, said, "Although there was a good crop yield this year, the rates were low due to decreased demand. The low prices are due to a bumper crop and the simultaneous ripening of crops in Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh."

Bashir expressed hope that the demand would increase once the produce stored in cold storage units is packed and sold.—(KNO)

Kashmir's Fish Face Crisis As Heatwave Hits Aquatic Life

harmful substances like phos-

phates, nitrates, and chlorides

Shabeena said that pollution

from agricultural pesticides

and industrial waste increases

the biological oxygen demand,

further decreasing oxygen

concentration in water bodies.

"During high heatwaves, the

convection process is weak,

resulting in anoxic conditions

in water bodies and leading

to the death of fish and other

Jan,

increasing significantly.

Shabeena

aquatic life.

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A severe heatwave, accompanied by rising temperatures, is threatening the aquatic life in Kashmir's lakes and streams, experts warned on Wednesday. They said the increasing temperatures are disrupting the delicate balance of the region's aquatic ecosystems.

"Fish are highly sensitive to changes in water temperature; even slight increases can affect their metabolism, growth, and reproductive cycles," experts said, adding that the heatwave is causing water levels to drop and oxygen levels to decrease, creating a hos-tile environment for fish and other aquatic species. They said if these conditions

persist, we could see a decline in fish populations, which will have a ripple effect on the entire ecosystem.

The Kashmir Valley has experienced several mass fish mortality incidents in recent years. For instance, in August 2012, numerous fish died in Srinagar's Nigeen Lake due to low oxygen levels and changes in water temperature. In October 2017, thousands of fish were found dead in the Jhelum River, again due to low oxygen levels. More recently, in July 2024, thousands of fish died in the Tsoont Koel stream near Barbar Shah, Srinagar, due to oxygen depletion and pollution.

According to the research titled "The Changing Water Quality of Lakes-A Case Study of Dal Lake, Kashmir Valley" the rate of dissolved oxygen in and sediments from sur-



River due to various factors. The study highlights that "Water temperature up to Dal Lake has suffered extreme 25°C is manageable. Beyond water quality degradation over the past four decades due to anthropogenic pressures, with

this, fish start to struggle, although they can tolerate up to 30°C. As temperature increases, oxygen consumption also increases. A water oxygen concentration of 10-15 mg/L is ideal," he said.

researcher, said that fish, being Dr Mehraj said that polluectothermic (cold-blooded) tion-induced weed growth inspecies, have body temperacreases oxygen demand, leadtures and metabolic rates diing to lower oxygen levels that affect fish and other aquatic rectly influenced by their environment's temperature. "As life. He further said that heat waves cause thermal stratifithe water temperature rises, the metabolic rate of fish incation in lakes and streams, creases, leading to a higher resulting in different temperademand for oxygen," she said. tures at various depths, which "However, warm water holds can be fatal for small fish (finless dissolved oxygen, creatgerlings) and, to some extent, ing a deadly combination for larger fish.

"As temperatures rise, water holds less oxygen. Trout, which prefer 10-15°C, cannot survive higher temperatures. Other fish species in Kashmir, such as Schizothorax and carp, have varying tolerances. Schizothorax, native to Kashmir, is more delicate compared to carp, which can manage higher pollution and temperature levels. That is why Schizothorax fish numbers in Dal Lake have declined," he said.

In this heatwave season, Schizothorax are found in upper hill streams due to the availability of fresh oxygen and water, Dr Mehraj added-(KNO)

HEAT WAVE No Change In School Timing In Doda, Kishtwar So Far

Agencies

JAMMU: Since the heat wave has gripped whole Jammu and Kashmir and all the three districts of Chenab valley, Doda, Ramban and Kishtwar, are the worst hit in this union territory, the education department has shown least interest in giving some relief to students.

Not a single order regarding change of school timing anywhere in Doda and Kishtwar districts has come so far where-

members have to be present in

But in two districts of Doda

and Kishtwar, the education de-

partment, be it the chief educa-

tion officers or the head of the

institutions, who were autho-

rized to a call regarding change

the school from 8 am to 2 pm.

in timings, is in silent mode and not even on vibration mode.

"We haven't received any representation from parents from anywhere to change the school timings in this head wave. Not even the HUIs have put forth any such demand in changing the school timing. I have been receiving dozens of calls from principals on a daily basis but none of them raised the issue with me," Prakash Lal Thapa, Chief Education Officer (CEO) Doda told the KNO.



as the education department Some time ago, the is waiting for representations Doda, after consultation with from parents in this regard. Deputy Commissioner Doda, had changed the school tim-Both in Jammu plains (summer zone) and in Kashmir valings in Doda town from 8 am ley, the education department to 2 pm, in soft zones of rural has given relief to students by areas of Doda Tehsil from 9 am changing the school timing from to 3 pm and in hard zones the 8 am to 1 pm whereas the staff

timing was kept unchanged. The DC had authorized the CEO and HUIs to take the call on changing the timing according to the head wave and their areas but the education department seems to be waiting for a bad thing to happen to wake up from the deep slumber–(KNO)

Jewellers Expect Boost In **Gold Sales After Custom** Duty Slashed

SRINAGAR: With the slash in custom duty on gold and other metals, the investors and jewellers on Wednesday reacted positively with jewellers anticipating a potential boost in sales.

Many jewelers said that with the announcement of slashing custom duty on Gold, silver and other metals, they are now hopeful of witnessing a boost in gold sales.

"Such level of scale down of rates for gold has happened after years. This is good for both consumers as well as for us. We now expect a rise in the gold sales," said a jeweller in Srinagar.

Reacting to the announcement, a lady from Srinagar said that she did not know about the slashing of gold rates, but she was happy to know that the



demand, and today we are happy that an announcement has been made in this regard. If people were earlier purchasing gold for Rs 10 now they will make a

purchase for Rs 15," he said. Notably, the ongoing season in Kashmir witnesses too many marriages with the majority of the purchases happening for gold. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had on Tuesday proposed a reduction in basic customs duty on gold and silver to 6% and platinum to 6.4%.

The reduction in the basic

Agri-Businesses SRINAGAR: Farmers in Jammu

KCC A Game Changer, Farmers

Avail Loans To Expand Their

and Kashmir have availed loans worth Rs. 7,55,605 under the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme over the past five years.

Agencies

This financial support aims to enhance the livelihood of farmers, promote agricultural productivity, and facilitate easy access to credit.

Kisan Credit Card The scheme, introduced by the Government of India, provides short-term loans to farmers at low interest rates, enabling them to cover the costs of cultivation, purchase of equipment, and other agricultural activities. The scheme has been pivotal in alleviating the financial burden on farmers and empowering them to invest in modern farming techniques and equipment.

As per the figures accessed, farmers availed loans worth Rs 2,21,151 last year. Prior to it, loans worth Rs 44,231 were availed by farmers in the year 2022-23. In the years, 2021-22, 2020-21 and 2019-20, loans worth Rs 73,246, Rs 49,151 and Rs 3,67,826 were availed by the farmers in Jammu and Kashmir, respectively.

In order to ensure economic security for farmer families, a total of 10.90 lakh Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) have been distributed so far.

Officials said a substantial number of farmers in the region have benefited from the KCC scheme, utilizing the loans for various purposes, including crop production, purchase of fertilizers, seeds, pesticides, and other essential inputs. The scheme also covers allied activities such as dairy farming, poultry, and fisheries, broadening the scope of financial assistance to encompass diverse agricultural pursuits.

"KCC has been a game changer for farmers. Farmers who were in need of loans to expand their agriculture business availed it and succeeded in setting up their business. This year as well scores of the farmers availed the benefits of KCC,' they said. –(KNO)

General Manager Reviews Performance Of Northern Railway

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Shobhan Chaudhuri, General Manager Northern Railways held a performance review meeting with the departmental heads of Northern Railway and DRMs. The meeting, which took place at Baroda House focused on enhancing safety

protocol



aquatic life," she added. the lake has fallen drastically Dr Mehraj Bashir, a wellover the last 40 years, while known ichthyologist and Asthe presence of phosphates sistant Professor of the Zooland nitrates has increased due ogy Department at SP College, to the discharge of untreated Srinagar, said that in the past, sewage, agricultural runoff, fish have died in water bodies like Dal Lake and the Jhelum

WATER SCARCITY PROTESTS:

Police Appeals Public To Avoid Blocking NH

Agencies

BARAMULLA: Following protests over water scarcity across Baramulla district, especially within Pattan jurisdiction, police on Wednesday urged residents not to block highways or take the law into their own hands.

Notably, the appeal has been made days after a violent demonstration at Chainabal took place, where people blocked the Srinagar-Baramulla National Highway to protest against water scarcity.

A joint meeting was held at the SDPO office in Pattan, attended by the officials from various civil line departments, where residents voiced their concerns over the severe water shortages.

Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Pattan, Dr. Gulzar Ahmed, who chaired the meeting, assured the public that their grievances would be addressed promptly and water tankers would be deployed on a roaster basis to mitigate the crisis.

"Grievances that fall within our domain will be addressed promptly," said the SDM.

He said the administration is committed to resolving the issues especially the water scarcity issue and no laxity will be tolerated in ensuring timely redressal. Similarly, SDPO Pattan, Shah Jahan urged people to avoid blocking highways and taking the law into their own hands, asking them to knock their doors for any issues instead of taking steps that can escalate the problem.

"Blocking the highway is not a solution. If people have any grievances, our doors are open for them. Highway blockades lead to significant inconvenience, especially for emergency services, which can prove fatal," Jahan said. –(KNO)

and ensuring the highest standards of safety for both employees and passengers.

Apart from performance review the General Manager also presented Safety Awards to 5 vigilant employees for their contribution towards maintaining high standards for safety and security of passengers and railway property. During the meeting, Sh. Chaudhuri emphasized on improving the maintenance standards of tracks, level crossings and construction of boundary

walls along the track in high speed sections. Heavy rains during the monsoon pose difficulty in train operations. He advised all divisions to take remedial actions against water logging and silt accumulation on tracks. He also instructed to expedite approvals for tree cutting wherever needed from the Forest Department so that these do not pose a threat to the tracks or OHE wires.

Further, the GM instructed that visual examination and

lubrication of rail joints and welds should also be completed on priority. Status of maintenance of track, welds of joints and signaling systems discussed in detail. He also reviewed the status of various important construction projects of Doubling and New lines and directed officials to expedite the work.

Northern Railway is committed to provide safe, smooth and efficient services to its customers.

ACB Arrests Senior Accountant For Accepting Bribe

Observer News Service SRINAGAR: Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Wednesday said to have trapped and arrested Senior Accountant, SID-CO, Khunmoh, Srinagar for demanding and accepting a bribe of Rs 15,000.

Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau received a written complaint alleging therein that a public servant namely Mo-

hammad Yaseen Sheikh, Senior Accountant, SIDCO, Khunmoh, Srinagar is demanding Rs 20.000 as bribe for processing case of complainant of supplementary partnership deed, a spokesman said in a statement issued said. However, after negotiation the amount was settled as Rs 15,000, the spokesman said, adding that the complainant

chose not to pay a bribe and in-

stead approached Anti-Corrup-

tion Bureau for taking legal action against the accused public servant as provided under law. "On receipt of the complaint the discreet verification was conducted, which confirms the demand by the public servant concerned and accordingly a case under FIR number 18/2024 under section 7 PC Act 1988 was registered in Police Station ACB Srinagar and investigation taken up," the statement reads.

OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER POSHAN KHOVRIPORA

rates of gold had gone down.

"I don't know exactly how much the price has been slashed on gold, but if it is so, it is very good. Maybe I can plan to buy more gold now," she said.

Bashir Ahmad, President of gold dealers association Kashmir told KNO that the announcement is a welcome step that can pave ways for both investors and jewellers. "It has been the long pending customs duty on gold, silver, and platinum has been a longpending demand of the gems and jewellery industry.

On Tuesday, the government reduced customs duties on various products, including gold, silver, and critical minerals, to lower input costs, enhance value addition, boost export competitiveness, cut smuggling, and stimulate domestic manufacturing–(KNO)

SKIMS MEDICAL COLLEGE-HOSPITAL Bemina, Srinagar, J&K - 190017 **DEPARTMENT OF MATERIALS MANAGEMENT** Ph: 0194-2493226. email: mmo@skimsmc.edu.in Sub: Extension in eNIT No. SKIMS-MCH-MMD 0 5 OF 2024 dated 05.07.2024. E-tenders invited for supply of accessories for Edan Modular Monitors (Elite V8) is hereby extended by a further period of five (05) days as per following schedule: 27/07/2024 (04:00 P.M) Last date for submission of online bids Date & time for opening of technical bids 29/07/2024 (02:00 P.M) Rest of the terms & conditions of eNIT shall remain unchanged. No: SKIMS/MCH/MMD/eNIT-05/22-23/2358-64 Material Management Officer Dated: 23/07/2024 (SKIMS MCH Bemina)

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

DIPK-NB-1038-24 DT: 24/07/2024

CEO, Dy CEO, 16 Principals Among 170 Posts Lying Vacant In Kulgam

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The education sector in South Kashmir's Kulgam district is struggling due to numerous vacant key positions, including the Chief Education Officer (CEO), Deputy CEO, and 16 principals, among 170 posts, thereby impacting the quality of education in the district severely.

Figures accessed reveal that one position each of Chief Education Officer, Deputy CEO, 16 Principals, 124 Lecturers, 3 ZEOs, 4 ZPEOs, and 21 Headmasters are lying vacant in Kulgam district.

Kulgam.

321

"In Kulgam district, there "The Chief Education Ofare 26 higher secondary ficer retired in May this schools (HSSs), but only year, and the CEO of Anant-10 have principals, leaving 16 HSSs, including GHSS nag has been assigned the Kulgam, GHSS Yaripora, additional charge of CEO and HSS Qaimoh, without The position of Dy CEO heads," officials said.

124 lecturer posts vacant.

Kulgam has been vacant for To address the crisis, the many years, with the DDO School Education Departpowers of Dy CEO Kulgam ment has begun the process currently assigned to a seof hiring 58 allocated 'Clusnior HSS Principal," officials ter Resource Coordinators' said. They said that out of to provide temporary teachsanctioned lecturer ing support in high and posts in the 26 higher sechigher secondary schools, ondary schools, only 197 but these positions have not are currently filled, leaving yet been filled. –(KNO)

Be it known to all concerned and General Public that this office has invited applications for the post of Sanginis (Anganwadi Worker) for some AW Centres vide Advertisement Notice No.02 of 2024 Dated: -29.02.2024. Several applications have been received from candidates. Subsequently the Block Level Selection Committee approved tentative Selection list for the same. Through this public notice the Tentative merit list is notified and accordingly impressed upon all to report objections if any within a period of 10 days.

PUBLIC NOTICE

S.No	Name of the applicant	Parentage	Husband's Name	Residence / Ward	Name of AWC where Tenta-	Date of Birth	Qualification 10 th /8 th		-	Additional weightage as		Remarks
					tively selected		Max. Marks	Marks Secured	%age of Marks	per HR policy	Merit	
1	SAKEENA NAZIR	NAZIR AHMAD Boked	NOORANI BOKAD	GOWASS/06	Gowass B	05-08-2002	500	211	42.2	0	42.2	Selected
2	HEENA MANZOOR	MANZOOR AHMAD Raina	JAVID AHMAD Lone	WAJOORA/7	Wajoora A	01-03-1993	500	289	57.8	0	57.8	Selected/ Married
3	SHAISTA MUSHTAQ	MUSHTAQ AHMAD Khanday	AADIL HUSSAIN BANDROO	HUGAM/5	Hugam A	15-01-1996	500	261	52.2	0	52.2	Selected
4	SAMIRA AKHTER	GH HASSAN DAR	BILAL AHMAD Lone	Pahalgam/1	Pahalgam A	04-12-1987	500	191	38.2	0	38.2	Selected
		Note: (Child Development	Proiect Officer wi	ll publish the ten	tative selectio	n list in his/ he	office, concerned	Panch wards/MC			
			rds and also publish									
	Sd/	Sd/	9	Sd/		Sd/		Sd/				Sd/
ZEO A	ISHMUQAM	ZEO Srigufwara	CDF	PO KHOVRIPOR	A EC) MC Pahalga	am	BDO Khovripora	DIPK-347 DT: 24/07,		BDO	Pahalgam

SPORTS

Kashmir Marathon: LG Unveils Logo, **Website & Teaser For Inaugural Edition**

Srinagar to host Kashmir Marathon on October 20 - LG invites runners from all corners of the globe

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday unveiled the logo, website and teaser of the inaugural edition of the Kashmir Marathon, to be held on October 20 in Srinagar.

In his address, the LG congratulated the J&K Tourism department and all the stakeholders associated with the running event. He invited the runners from all corners of the globe to participate in Kashmir Marathon and experience the unique charm of J&K.

"We aspire to make this event a beacon of peace and harmony. I am confident the Kashmir Marathon will place J&K firmly on the global running map and it will enhance global recognition of the UT, highlighting our potential as a premier tourist destination," the LG said.

He said the Kashmir Mara-



thon is the next addition to the series of world class events being organized in J&K following the successful F4 racing event in Srinagar, Sunburn Music Fes-

Development Conclave held recently in Srinagar. Highlighting the socio-economic impact of the Kashmir

will boost local businesses, including hotels, restaurants, and souvenir shops. On the occasion, the LG highlighted the efforts of the UT Administration, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to revolutionise the sports sector of J&K.

The Kashmir Marathon will have two categories- full marathon for 42 kms and half marathon for 21 kms. The proposed route for the Kashmir Marathon will take runners through some of the most picturesque landscapes, featuring Chinar trees, Mughal gardens, and the serene Dal Lake.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to LG; Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; RR Swain, DGP; Ya-sha Mudgal, Commissioner Secretary, Tourism and senior officers of civil and police administration were present.

Padma Shri Chewang Motup Goba, Founder & Race Director Ladakh Marathon, prominent sports personalities and youth in large number were also present on the occasion

District Level Kabaddi Competitions End In Srinagar

2024

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Inter Zonal District Level Kabaddi Tournament organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports concluded at Boys HSS Jawahar Nagar on Wednesday. Competitions were conducted for Boys of U-19, U-14 and U-17 age group categories.

All the eight sports zones of district Srinagar participated in this tournament.

Zone Nishat emerged the winner in these competitions while Zone Amirakadal got the second place. Principal BHSS Jawaharnagar Shafiqa Ahmad distributed trophies among the winner and runner up teams at a prize distribution function. Sports Wing of HSS Jawaharnagar and the officials of the YSS were also present on this occasion. DYSSO Srinagar felicitated the Prin-

RSGC Concludes FourBall

Green Some Golf Tournament



cipal with a memento.

Meanwhile Zone Zaldagar is engaging a good number of boys in Inter School Zonal Level Cricket. The tourney is being organised for Boys of U-17 age group at MPML HSS Srinagar. Twelve teams of the zone comprising government and private schools are participating in this tournament.

Provincial Level U-19 Handball **Competition Begins In B'la**

Observer News Service

BARAMULLA: The Department of Youth Services and Sports inaugurated the Inter-District Provincial Level Under-19 Boys Handball Competition at the Indoor Stadium Baramulla on Wednesday.

The event was graced by Syed Qamar Sajad, Additional District Development Com-missioner (ADDC) Baramulla, who officially opened the competition.

This competition, held under the expert supervi-sion of Rashid Kohli, Joint Director Youth Services and Sports Kashmir Province, is hosted by the Department of Youth Services and Sports District Baramulla. The event has attracted participation from almost 10 districts of the Kash-



mir province, showcasing the remarkable talent and sportsmanship of young athletes from the region.

The competition will run until August 5 at the Indoor Stadium. It features various age categories for both boys and girls, providing a compre-

U-19 Inter School Kabbadi **Tournament Held In Anantnag**

hensive platform for young athletes.

During his inaugural address, ADDC Baramulla expressed his admiration for the Department of Youth Services and Sports for organizing such a significant event for young athletes.

Short TAKES 2024 PARIS OLYMPICS

Arrest Of Russian 'Chef' Underscores French Olympics Fears



The arrest of a Russian man in Paris, reportedly a The arrest of a Russian man marking reported former reality-TV chef, over a suspected "destabilisation" plot targeting the Paris Olympics underscores French concerns that Moscow is looking to undermine the event from afar.

The man, born in 1984, was detained at his home in Paris this week and is suspected of "passing intelligence to a foreign power in order to arouse hostilities in France," a statement from prosecutors said on Tuesday.

1,000 French Police To Secure Israel-Mali Football Game

A round 1,000 French police officers will be on duty A on Wednesday to protect Israel's football match against Mali at the Paris Olympics where protests are also expected, Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin said.

The game involving the Israeli team at the Parc des Princes stadium in Paris, as well as the Ukraine-Iraq match in the southeastern city of Lyon, have been identified by French security forces as high risk.

Nita Ambani Re-Elected **Unanimously As IOC Member**

ndian sports administrator Nita Ambani was on Wednesday re-elected unanimously as member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), ahead of the Paris Olympics.

Ambani won unanimously with 100 per cent of vote at the 142nd IOC session here.

Ambani was first appointed to join the prestigious body in 2016 at the Rio Olympic Games. Since then, as India's first woman to join the IOC, Ambani has already made great strives for the association.

Five Australian Water Polo Players Test Positive For COVID

rive Australian women's water polo players have tested positive for COVID ahead of the Paris Games, the country's Olympic team chief Anna Meares said on Wednesday.

Two players had tested positive on Tuesday. Meares added that the cases were confined to the water polo team.

Paris 2024 is meant to be the first post-pandemic immer Olympics, after the 2020 T postponed by a year due to COVID, were held largely without spectators.

concluded the RSGC FourBall Greet Some Golf Tournament.

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Royal Springs Golf

Course at Cheshmashahi, Srinagar

The tournament was played over five days on a knockout basis and witnessed enthusiastic participation from 36 players in a total of 16 matches.

In the finals that were played on Tuesday, Shabir Ahmad Bhat and Raja Danish Amaan succeeded in winning the RSGC FourBall Green Some Golf Tournament with their determination and outstanding skills.

The competition was tough, with many talented golfers participating. Shabir Ahmad Bhat and Raja Danish Amaan stood out with their excellent performance and strong focus, earning a well-deserved win.

Dr. Mohammad Inam Zaroo and Ashiq Hussain Masoodi stood as



runners-up with their impressive performance.

"We are thrilled to congratulate Shabir and Danish on their amazing win," said Mufti M. Farid Ud Din, Secretary of RSGC. "Their hard work, dedication, and sportsmanship have been impressive, and they have made us all proud," he added.

ANANTNAG: District Youth Service and Sports Officer Anantnag concluded its Under-19 Inter School Kabbadi Tournament on Wednesday at BHSS Bijbehara here.

The title of the tournament was clinched by HSS Brakpora by defeating BHSS Bijbehara in the final match. Earlier BHSS Bijbehara defeated HSS Dailgam and HSS Brakpora defeated HSS Mattan in the semi-final matches. Third place was secured by HSS Mattan.

On the final day of the tournament, a total of three matches were played in **MANNA**A

which almost 72 players participated. On the final award ceremony, Principal BHSS Bijbehara Nasreena Akhter was the chief guest.

In the tournament best performing players were Muzamil Sheeraz of HSS Brakpora, Shan Qaramat of HSS Brak-

pora, Sahil Riyaz of Mattan and Salman Ramzan of BHSS Bijbehara. On the culmination of the tournament, District Level Kabbadi team was selected, which will represent YSS Anantnag in the upcoming Inter District Provincial Level Kabbadi Tournament.

Coco Gauff To Be Female Flag Bearer For US At Olympic Ceremony

Tennis star Coco Gauff will join LeBron James as a flag bearer for the US Olympic team at Friday's opening ceremony.

Gauff, the reigning US Open champion, is set to make her Olympic debut at the Paris Games and will be the first tennis athlete to carry the US flag. She and James were chosen by Team USA athletes.

Gauff and James both compete in sports that are outside the traditional Olympic world.

IOC, Macron Reject Israel Boycott Call At Paris Olympics

Agencies

PARIS: The head of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and French President Emmanuel Macron rejected Tuesday a Palestinian demand that Israel be barred from the Paris Games over the war in Gaza.

As the Israeli team settled into the Athletes' Village, the IOC studied a letter from the Palestine Olympic Committee asking for a ban on Israel, citing the bombings of the besieged Gaza Strip as a breach of the Olympic truce.

The letter, sent days before Friday's opening ceremony, "emphasised that Palestinian athletes, particularly those in Gaza, are denied safe passage and have suffered significantly due to the ongoing conflict".

It said "approximately 400 Palestinian athletes have been killed and the destruction of sports facilities exacerbates the plight of athletes who are already under severe restrictions".

But IOC president Thomas Bach indicated that he would not be drawn into "political business"

He added: "The position of the IOC is very clear. We have two National Olympic Committees, that is the difference with the world of politics, and in this respect both have been living in peaceful co-existence," he told a press conference in Paris.

"The Palestinian NOC has greatly benefitted. Palestine is not a recognised member state of the UN but the NOC is a recognised National Olympic Committee enjoying the equal rights and opportunities like all the other NOCs."

The Palestinian call highlights how the rising death toll in Gaza -- 39,090, according to the latest estimate from the Hamasrun health ministry -- and the growing humanitarian crisis is impacting the Paris Games.

Some left-wing French politicians have also called for Israel athletes to be barred in



the same way as Russian and Belarussian athletes have been stripped of the right to compete under their national colours over the 2022 invasion of

Ukraine. "Israeli athletes are welcome in our country," French President Emmanuel Macron said on Tuesday.

"They must be able to compete under their colours because the Olympic movement has decided it," he told France 2 television in an interview,

adding that it was "France's responsibility to provide them with security'

"I condemn in the strongest possible way all those who create risks for these athletes and implicitly threaten them," he said.

Argentina Snatch Morocco Draw, Spain Win Olympic Men's Football Opener

Cristian Medina scored the equaliser in the 16th added minute as Argentina came from two down to draw 2-2 with Morocco on the opening day of men's Olympic football action on Wednesday, while Spain edged Uzbekistan 2-1.

Argentina are looking to win men's football gold in Paris for the third time after previous successes in 2004 and 2008, but Javier Mascherano's side looked set to get off to a losing start in Saint-Etienne. They trailed 2-0 in the Group B game to a Soufiane Rahimi brace for Morocco but did pull one back through Giuliano Simeone be-

fore Medina finished off a crazy move right at the death.

Morocco captain Achraf Hakimi, the Paris Saint-Germain fullback who is one of the biggest names featuring in the tournament, set up forward Rahimi for the opener at the end of a fine move in first-half stoppage time.

The reigning African Under-23 champions doubled their lead six minutes into the second half from the penalty spot, UAEbased forward Rahimi stroking in the spot-kick after Ilias Akhomach was brought down.

Argentina coach Mascherano, who starred in the teams that won gold in Athens and Beijing, had at one point hoped to persuade Lionel Messi to feature among the three permitted overage players in his squad otherwise limited to those under 23.

Messi opted not to come to the Games, and the biggest names in their side here were Manchester City striker Julian Alvarez and captain Nicolas Otamendi, the Benfica defender. (AFP)