

Severe Heatwave J&K Faces 27% Rainfall Deficit

Agencies

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir has seen a drastic decline in the precipitation this year so far with figures revealing that since January 01 2024 to July 25, the Union Territory has recorded a deficient rainfall of 27 per cent.

However, as the precipitation this month is still less, the people of Kashmir have been witnessing severe heat wave conditions with Srinagar recording a maximum temperature of 34.5 degree Celsius on Thursday.

The heat wave has tightened its grip in some parts of Kashmir where the mercury has settled above nearly 6 degree Celsius today.

In Srinagar, the mercury has settled at 34.5 degree Celsius, which was 1.1 degree less than yesterday while Kokernag has also recorded 5.4 degree Celsius above normal temperature as the mercury settled at 32.8 degree Celsius.

Qazigund, a gateway of Kashmir and | More on P6

India Dismisses US Travel Advisory As 'Routine Matter'

Observer News Service

Srinagar: India on Thursday said that the revised travel advisory issued by the US State department for its citizens not to visit Jammu and Kashmir, among other areas, is a 'routine matter'.

In an updated travel advisory, the US State Department, has urged Americans in India to 'avoid' travelling to some parts of the country including Jammu and Kashmir, and 're-consider' visiting the north-eastern states.

Ministry of External



Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal in the weekly news briefing today stated that any nation can issue such advisory. "It is a routine matter. We look at it that way. We also issue travel advisories," he

said while playing down the travel advisory.

"Exercise increased caution in India due to crime and terrorism. Some areas have increased risk," the US State department said in its advisory.

According to the advisory, India has been ranked as Level 2. However, several parts of the country have been designated as Level 4, including Jammu and Kashmir, the India-Pakistan border, Manipur, and parts of central and eastern India.

"Do not travel to the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir (except | More on P6

'Do Not Travel To J&K, Manipur': US

The US has asked its nationals not to travel to Manipur, Jammu and Kashmir, the India-Pakistan border, and parts of central and eastern parts of the country where Naxalites are active. In a revised travel advisory for India, the State Department said it has updated to reflect information on the northeastern states. "Exercise increased caution in India due to crime and terrorism. Some areas have increased risk," it said. Overall India has been placed at Level 2. | More on P6

PM Modi To Visit Kargil Today



Observer News Service

Srinagar: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Kargil War Memorial today and carry out the first blast of Shinkun La Tunnel Project virtually.

An official spokesman in a statement said that on the occasion of the 25th Kargil Vijay Diwas Prime Minister Modi will visit the Kargil War Memorial at around 9:20 AM and pay homage to the bravehearts who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty.

"Prime Minister will also carry out the first blast of the Shinkun La Tunnel Project, virtually. Shinkun La Tunnel Project consists of a 4.1 km long Twin-Tube tunnel which will be constructed | More on P6

DO NOT TRAVEL TO THE UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR (EXCEPT THE EASTERN LADAKH REGION AND ITS CAPITAL, LEH) due to terrorism and civil unrest; within 10 km of the India-Pakistan border due to the potential for armed conflict; portions of Central and East India due to terrorism; and Manipur due to violence and crime."

Photo Electoral Rolls In J&K ECI Orders 2nd Special Summary Revision

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Election Commission of India (ECI) has ordered the second special summary revision of photo electoral rolls in all parliamentary and assembly constituencies in the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir with July 1, 2024, as the qualifying date.

According to a notice issued by Chief Electoral Officer P K Pole, the timeline for publication of the integrated draft electoral roll is July 25, 2024, while the timeline period for filing claims and objections is July 25, 2024 to August 9, 2024, an official spokesperson

said on Thursday.

The notice has fixed special campaign dates on July 27-28, 2024 and August 3-4, 2024.

"The Draft Photo Electoral Rolls 2024 will be available at District Headquarters, Tehsil offices of Srinagar and Jammu, Municipal Corporations/Booth Level Offices at polling station level, and on the website of the CEO, J&K (ceojk.nic.in) for information of all concerned," the notice said.

All individuals, who are 18 years of age or above on July 1, 2024, can get their names enrolled in the electoral rolls by filling Form 6 used for registration of new electors. | More on P6

Education Should Foster Independent Thinking: LG

Praises Achievements & Gender Equality At IUST Convocation

"Desire, Determination Will Guide Students To Contribute To Build Viksit Bharat

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Desire and determination will guide students to harness opportunities and steadily contribute to build 'Viksit Bharat', Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Thursday.

Sinha, who presided over the 3rd Convocation of the Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) in Awantipora in Pulwama district, said the prime objective of education is to develop independent thinking in students.

"Desire & Determination, the two key factors will guide students to harness opportunities & steadily contribute to build Viksit Bharat. We're witnessing



massive transformation in J&K's education sector," the office of J&K LG, quoting Sinha, said in a post on X.

He appreciated that of the 27 students who received gold medals on the occasion, 22 were female students.

"Addressed the convocation of Islamic University of Science & Technology. I was

delighted to note that 22 of the 27 students who received their gold medals today were girls. I acknowledge & appreciate commendable achievements of IUST in setting a shining example of gender equality," the post stated.

The LG also emphasised the need for students to continuously innovate. | More on P6

High Alert in Jammu Ahead of Independence Day Army Schools Shut Due to Terror Threats

Agencies

Jammu: A large number of educational institutions including Army's Public and Goodwill Schools besides Kendriya Vidyalayas operating from the military cantonments in Jammu province and on Jammu-Pathankot Highway have been shut as a precautionary measure in view of a high alert and ahead of Independence Day.

Sources said that the decision was taken after intelligence agencies issued specific alerts regarding possible terror attacks on schools.

The development came after security forces arrested two Over Ground Workers (OGWs) for supporting terror related activities.

Police said that in our ongoing efforts to counter terrorist activities, Kathua Police at PS Malhar nabbed | More on P6

Kathua Attack Breakthrough: 2 OGWs Held

Two alleged overground workers (OGWs) were arrested for their involvement in a terror attack on an army patrol party in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district, police said. | More on P6

- IS YOUR NAME IN THE ELECTORAL ROLL?
- DO YOU WISH TO CORRECT YOUR NAME AND DETAILS?

Do Not Miss The Opportunity!

A Drive for Registration of Voters

18 If Your Age Is **YEARS**
As On 1st July, 2024

REGISTER YOURSELF AS VOTER

2ND SPECIAL SUMMARY REVISION OF ELECTORAL ROLLS 2024

Visit Special Camps At Your Booth
27th, 28th July and 3rd, 4th August 2024

VOTER REGISTRATION

25th July - 9th August 2024

Forms To Be Used: **Form 6** For Fresh Registration
Form 8 For Corrections/Shifting

www.voters.eci.gov.in

CONTACT YOUR BLO

#AERO/TEHSILDAR/ERO

Visit: www.voters.eci.gov.in

CALL US ON 1950

ISSUED IN PUBLIC INTEREST BY **CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, UT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR**

CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICE UT OF J&K @ceo_utjk ceoutjk ceojammukashmir JK SWEEP

ElitePlus
DENTAL & DERMA CENTRE

BOOK APPOINTMENT

This cutting-edge technology effectively reduces dark spots, melasma, and sun damage, revealing a radiant complexion with minimal downtime

PICO LASER AT ELITE PLUS

Call +91 97977 03533
www.elitepluscentre.com

Vintage Mall, 2nd floor
Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar

MELASMA TREATMENT

MESOTHERAPY FOR FACE

MOLE REMOVAL

SCAR TREATMENT

SKIN CARE

EMAX-ZIROCONIA-CROWNS



To place an advertisement

CALL +91-194 2502327

Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)

No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

Novel Medication More Effective For Patients With Relapsed Blood Cancer

IANAS

The hematopoietic cell transplant team at Osaka Metropolitan University Graduate School of Medicine has developed a novel technique based on a new drug combination that has shown considerable anti-cancer activity with low toxicity for relapsed/refractory acute myeloid leukemia (AML) patients.

Furthermore, the precise immunological study demonstrated how a novel medicine increased anti-cancer activity via altering immune cells.

Relapsed/refractory acute myeloid leukemia, also known as blood cancer, has an extremely poor prognosis due to resistance to anticancer medicines and the patient's organ function. Allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantation is a method of anti-tumor immunotherapy that can have an anti-cancer impact but is associated with substantial toxicity.

It is frequently used for patients who are difficult to treat with chemotherapy but still relapse.

In research published in the Nature-affiliated Blood Cancer Journal, the researchers describe their clinical observational analysis of 12 patients with AML who relapsed following allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantation and were treated with venetoclax and azacitidine.

Venetoclax, an oral medication approved by the FDA in October 2020 for AML, shows promising results in older, untreated AML patients by inhibiting the BCL-2 protein to promote cancer cell death.

A study by OMU researchers demonstrated significantly better one-year survival rates for the venetoclax combination therapy group (66.7 per cent) compared to a control group (27.3 per cent). Immunological studies revealed that venetoclax-induced immune cell alterations enhanced anti-tumor activity.

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 Taziyat Program will be continue throughout day at our residence Syed Merak Shah Colony Habab Hazratbal. May Allah grant him eternal peace and solace in Jannat-ul-Firdaus.

Mohammad Shafi Sofi (Son) Ashiq Hussain Sofi (Son) Qazim Ali Sofi (Son) Mohammad Afzal Sofi (Son) Contact No. 9596881629 inf

CONDOLENCES

We are deeply saddened to hear about the death of our respected elder namely Zawar Ghulam Ahmad Sofi S/O Zawar Ghulam Hassan Sofi, a pillar of our community. He was a devout and dedicated follower of Imam Hussain (A.S.). His departure leaves a void in the hearts of all who knew him, for he was a shining example of piety, compassion, and devotion. As a loyal mourner of Imam Hussain (A.S.), Zawar Ghulam Ahmad Sofi embodied the spirit of sacrifice and resilience, inspiring countless others with his unwavering commitment to the cause of justice and truth. His selfless efforts to spread the message of Imam Hussain's martyrdom and legacy will be deeply missed, but his memory will live on in the hearts of all who were touched by his remarkable life. We on behalf of Intizamia committee Masjid Imam Mahdi A. S offer our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and pray that Allah grants them patience and solace during this difficult time. May Allah grant him eternal peace and solace in the shade of Imam Hussain's blessings, and may his soul be forgiven and granted a place in Jannat-ul-Firdaus. (Aameen)

From: Masjid Imam Mahdi A.S Syed Merak Shah Colony Habab Contact No. 7006603062 inf

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to change the name on electricity bill bearing consumer ID No: 0211010024157 from Manzoor Ahmad Wani S/O Gh Nabi Wani R/o Litter To I.T Hub Porp: Mir Sameer Yousuf R/o Litter. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office Concerned PDD office within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Manzoor Ahmad Wani S/O Gh Nabi Wani R/o Litter rs

University of Kashmir, Srinagar

Notice

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

Name: Zahida Majeed Paretnage:- Ab Majeed Khanday Residence:- Damjan Anantnag Registration No : 33919-W-2001 Certificate/s lost:- MA English 3rd 4th semester and MA English Degree Certificate Roll No/s:- 8304 /2007 Session/ Year June -July 2009 Before University will consider issuance of Duplicate Certificate/s in favour of the candidate, any person having any objection shall report to the undersigned within one week from the date of issuance of this notice. The original certificate/s issued to the candidate be treated as cancelled No: F(Duplicate/ MC-6th Sem/PA /KU/ Assistant Controller of Examinations (PG/UG/Prof) su



Subject: Grant of registration of the proposed Travel unit under the name, M/s Golden Journey Tour and Travels " situated at Ashai Bagh Nageen Road , Srinagar 190003

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas I Mr./Ms Aijaz Hussain Latoo S/o Mohammad Qasim Latoo R/o Malik Mohalla Kani kachi Dal Rainawari Srinagar 190003 intends to apply in the Department of tourism for registration of my proposed Travel unit under the name and style" M/ s Golden Journey Tour and Travels "situated at Ashai Bagh ,Nageen Road Srinagar 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 1000), site plan, Affidavit, Rent Deed duly attested sub-registrar, printing Material (Letter Head/Visiting), Photograph of the unit (indoor and Outdoor) and Two Passport size photograph to the department of tourism as prescribed checklist prior to registration of my unit as an Excursion Agency/Adventure tour operation.

Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12, before my case is processed for registration by the competent Authority the matter is hereby notified for information of general public/financial institutions/Ban/ Organisation, etc for objection, if any and the same should reach to the deputy director tourism Registration (e-mail ID: ddtreg123@gmail.com) within a period of 7 days from the publication of this notice in leading local newspaper/newspaper of the valley. No objection beyond a period of 7 days shall be entertained fko

Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Ltd.

Office of the Executive Engineer, ED-2nd, Rajbagh, Srinagar Near Silk Factory Rajbagh Srinagar e-mail: xened2nd@gmail.com Tel/Fax: 01942311374

Extension No. 1

Due to poor response, the last date for submission of e-bid in respect of this office's e-NIT No. ED-II/05 of 2024-25, Dated : 06/07/24 issued vide this office endorsement No. ED-II/2616-2620/TS; Dated : 06/07/24, having Tender ID : 2024_PDD_252371_2 for "Rate Contract for Rewinding/Reconditioning of Fully Carbonized/Heat Up LT Coils, Fabrication of New HT Coils etc alongwith Dismantling and Assembling of DTs of Various Capacities required for immediate restoration of power supply to affected areas within the jurisdiction of KPDC, ED 2nd Rajbagh for the period - w.e.f. July 2024 to June 2025" is hereby now extended with the details enumerated below :

Table with 2 columns: Last Date for receipt of e-Bids online (Extended), Bid Opening Date (Extended). Values: 01-08-2024, 04:30 PM and 02-08-2024, 11:00 AM

However, the rest of the terms and conditions as laid down in the e-NIT shall remain the same.

Sd/- Executive Engineer KPDC, ED-2nd, Rajbagh Srinagar

No.: ED-II/2897-2901/TS Dated: 25/07/24

PUBLIC NOTICE

The DOB of my daughter in her school records has been wrongly written as 03-06-2010 While her correct DOB is 15-04-2011 which needs to be corrected. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Principal Lucent International School Magam within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Azhar Ali Mir F/o Nahida Azhar R/o Chayera Gune Teh Magam bmg

THE JAMMU & KASHMIR BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have passed/appeared in SSE/HSE-I/HSE-II (Class 10) under Roll No: 139012074 Session: Annual Regular year 2024 through the Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education. The error has been committed by the School against my Father's name as MOHAMMAD AMN WANI instead of MOHAMMAD AMIN WANI. Now I have applied for correction in the Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education, New Campus, Bemina, Srinagar. If any person has any objection in this regard may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Certificates Kashmir Division within seven days from the date of publication of this notice, after their expiry of said period, no objection will be entertained. This is published for the information of the general public. The correct particulars be recorded as under:

Name: IGRA AMIN Father's Name: MOHAMMAD AMIN WANI Mother's Name: SHAMEEMA Date of Birth: 06/06/2008 Residence: 90 FEET ROAD ELLAHI BAGH Mobile No.: 7006472263 Media Line

The Jammu And Kashmir Board Of School Education New Campus Bemina Srinagar

Public Notice

I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination SSE/HSE-I/HSE-II (CLASS 10,11,12) under Roll No.: 121004037 Session: Annual Year 2024 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. Due to the error committed by the concerned School/parent/ Board against my cast as Sufi instead of Sofi Now, I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education, New Campus Bemina, Srinagar. If any person has any objection in this regard, may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Certificates-KD within seven days from the date of Publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period no objection will be entertained.

Name: Sabahat Ashraf F/N: Mohamamad Ashraf Sofi M/N Zamrooda Bano DOB : 26-04-2009 Residence: Zakir Mohalla Magam bmg



Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir Office of the Divisional Forest Officer Social Forestry Division Baramulla. e-NIT NO: - 05 OF 2024-25 DATED: -18-07-2024

For and on behalf of the Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, e-tenders are invited from approved and eligible contractors registered with Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir /Central Govt. Organizations for the following works: -

Table with 7 columns: S, NAME OF WORK with Location, ADV. COST (Rs. In Lacs), Bid Security (EMD) Rs., Class of Contractor, Cost of Tender Document (Rs.), Time of Completion, Receiving Committee. Includes items like A-Fencing, B-Planting, C-Planting, D-Planting, E-Planting, F-Planting, G-Planting, H-Planting, I-Planting, J-Planting, K-Planting, L-Planting, M-Planting, N-Planting, O-Planting, P-Planting, Q-Planting, R-Planting, S-Planting, T-Planting, U-Planting, V-Planting, W-Planting, X-Planting, Y-Planting, Z-Planting.

The e-NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bills of quantities, (B.O.Q) set of Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the Website: -www.jktenders.gov.in.

Table with 2 columns: Publishing Date, Download Start Date, Bid submission Start Date, Bid submission End Date, Date of Opening of Technical Bid Online, Date of Opening of Financial Bid Online.

- 1. The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website: https://jktenders.gov.in. 2. Bids uploaded must accompany Govt. Treasury Receipt (cost of tender document) in the shape of Treasury Challan for the amount shown against the work above to be deposited in Govt. Treasury under Account Head 0406- Forest and Bid Security in the shape of EMD for requisite amount and pledged to Divisional Forest Officer. 3. In case the cost of the lowest bidder is found below the advertised amount, the bidder has to deposit an additional security performance in the shape of CDR/FDR before issuance of award of contract to the tune as per below detail: i. Up to 10% below rate over advertised cost- Nil ii. 10% to 15% below rate over advertised cost- 5% of advertised cost in the CDR/FDR iii. 15% to 20% below rate over advertised cost- 10% of advertised cost in the CDR/FDR iv. 20% to 25% below rate over advertised cost- 15% of advertised cost in the CDR/FDR v. In case the offered bid is 25% below rate over the advertised cost the bid/offler should be outrightly rejected. 4. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids. 5. The bidders have to submit their Technical & Financial bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No Technical or financial bid will be accepted in physical/hard form. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above. 6. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents i.e BSD in shape of CDR/FDR, Valid Registration Card issued by PWD/CPWD/Forest Dept. duly renewed for the current year 2024-25, PAN, Valid GST Registration, Govt. Treasury receipt (Cost of Tender Document)&Annexure. 7. Since restocking of nurseries and plantation activity is time/ season specific activity and the idle season /time for raising of nursery stocks/plantation is 15th October to 13th March excluding 21st December to 31st January (Frost). As such the award of contract shall be executed on the ground from 15th October onwards ensuring period of completion as specified in award of contract. 8. The successful bidder has to produce Valid Labour Registration Certificate issued by Labour Department after issuance of award of contract. 9. As per rule 171 of GFR-2017, Performance Security shall have to be deposited by successful bidder to the order of 3% of the value of contract and if there are compelling circumstances, performance security in excess of three percent may also be demanded. 10. The Department will not be responsible for any delay in online submission of the bid due to any reason (technical or otherwise). 11. The Department shall not be held responsible for selection criteria/policy matter being adopted by the Directorate of Information regarding publishing the NIT, in any of the newspaper under circulation. 12. The Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason therefor. 13. The quality and quantity of planting stock/prickings/ cuttings/seed will be certified by the concerned Range officer after observing all standard operating procedure in vogue, this includes all the operations. 14. All other terms and conditions shall remain same as per PWD form 25 (double leaf) and as per the Detailed Tender document.

DIPK-3541/24 dated: 25-07-2024 NO: - Estt/SF/BLA/ 817-25 Divisional Forest Officer, Social Forestry Division, Baramulla sd/

All Machines Functional AT Radio Oncology Dept: GMC Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: To clear the air, Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar has said that each machine is fully functional in the Radiation Oncology Department of the medical institution.

A spokesperson of the GMC Srinagar in a statement said the hi-tech linear accelerator (TruBeam) machine installed in the Radiation Oncology department of GMC Srinagar is fully functional.

He said that Linear Accelerators, also known as linacs, are devices used to treat cancer, most commonly for external beam radiation treatments.

“The functioning of this vital machine depends on constant cooling, which is maintained by the air conditioners already installed.”

“Due to the unprecedented rise in temperatures and to ensure the optimum functioning of the machine, patient treatments are now being conducted from 5 am. This schedule accommodates the 50-55 patients receiving this treatment daily,” the spokesperson said.

He further added that the Government Medical College Srinagar is committed to providing the best treatment to its patients while ensuring uninterrupted patient care services.



Children splashing around in Dal Lake's refreshing waters to escape the sweltering heat on Thursday. KO photo, Abid Bhat

GMC Srinagar Mourns Demise Of Ex-Principal

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar has expressed deep shock over the sad demise of Prof (Dr) Qazi Masood (Ex-Principal/ Dean, GMC Srinagar), who left for heavenly abode today on 25th July 2024.

As the news of the demise of Prof (Dr) Qazi Masood poured in a pall of gloom encompassed Govt. Medical College, Srinagar.

Prof (Dr) Qazi Masood

served as Principal/ Dean, GMC Srinagar, in the year 2011 & 2012, prior to that he was Professor and Head, Department of Dermatology, GMC Srinagar.

He joined GMC Srinagar as a faculty in the year 1982 and during his tenure he served GMC Srinagar in different capacities. His contributions in the medical and academic fields are highly commendable and his leadership quality is widely acknowledged and respected everywhere.

Traffic Police Srinagar Intensify Drive Against Violators

Seizes 30-40 Two Wheelers, Cracks Down On Tipper Drivers

Agencies

Srinagar: Acting tough against rash driving vehicles, stunts and driving of vehicles by minors, city traffic police authorities have seized a large number of vehicles including two wheelers over the past few weeks.

A senior traffic police officer told news agency—KNO that they have intensified the drive over the past few weeks and that they have seized about 30-40 two wheelers in a day.

“The purpose of this drive is to instill a proper driving responsibility among people. The drive will intensify more in the coming days. Among the seizure of vehicles on a daily basis, almost 7-8 are driven by minors,” he said.

According to the official, they have not only intensified drive against two wheelers but have also started night inspection drives against the Heavy Motor Vehicles (HMs) entering the city, particularly tippers.

“HMs entering the city are being checked and many have been seized for multiple violations. These drives will intensify more in the coming days”, he added.

The traffic police authorities

in a tweet on X said that drives against two wheelers indulging in dangerous driving, without crash helmets, masked number plates were conducted at various locations in which a large number of vehicles were seized.

Another traffic police officer supervising the inspection drive against HMs told KNO that over 30 tippers were seized for different violations during the last few days.

The officer added following the seizure of the vehicles, drivers were sanitized about following the driving rules and regulations and maintaining all vehicle documents before plying on the roads.

Name Change

This is to notify all that my name has been wrongly mentioned as Nisar Ahmad S/O Gh ud Din R/O Aadina in driving license. Now I want to apply for a new driving license with the following corrections. My new name is Nisar Ahmad Ganai S/O Gulam UD Din Ganai R/O Adina Magam Badgam. If anybody has any objections in this regard he may kindly approach the concerned office FCwithin seven days. No objection will be entertained after the said time period.

inf

Public Notice

This is for the information of all general public that there are spelling mistakes in my name, father's name and residence address in the service records in which the details are given as Arshid Hussain Tiboo S/O Gh. Mohd Tiboo R/O Sadrabal which are incorrect, however the correct details are Arshed Hussain Tibu S/O Gh. Mohd Tibu R/O Check Sadrabal behind NIT, Hazratbal, Srinagar which are as per my Academic Records. Now, I want to correct the details on all documents related to service matters as per my academic records. If anybody have any objection, he/she may submit the compliant in the office of the Directorate of Information & PR, J&K within seven days from the date of publishing of this notice. Any representation /objection received after due date shall not be entertained.

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

inf

Prof. Mobin Assumes Charge As VC CUS

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Prof. Mohammad Mobin formally assumed the charge as Vice Chancellor of the Cluster University of Srinagar on Thursday. He took over the reins of leadership from Prof. Qayyum Husain who completed his three-year term.

On his arrival at the main campus, Prof. Mobin was accorded a warm reception by the staff with NCC cadets presenting the customary Guard of Honor.

In an interaction session attended by senior office bearers of the university, Prof. Mobin said, “I feel privileged



to have been given a chance to lead this young institution and help it achieve its full potential. I believe my administrative and academic experience will help me contribute meaningfully to further develop Cluster University and complete the projects initiated by my predecessor, Prof. Qayyum.”

He said the administrative responsibility in a higher education institution is broadly classified into academic and corporate life.

“I have been fortunate enough to be exposed to both types of responsibilities at Aligarh Muslim University. This has helped me to understand the complexities and challenges of governance in higher education institutions and also to judge what constitutes excellence in teaching and research. I therefore have a clear idea of what is expected of me as vice-chancellor of this university. However, I must state that I do not underestimate the responsibilities of this role,” said Prof. Mobin.

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

AIRPORTS
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 ✈️

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

HIJRI CALENDAR
19 Muharram
1446

PRAYERS

FAJR 3 : 59
ZUHR 12:37
ASR 5: 33
Magrib 7:40
ISHA 9:15

This Day In History

- 657- Battle of Siffin during the first Muslim civil war between Ali ibn Abi Talib and Muawiyah I beside Euphrates River
- 920- Rout of an alliance of Christian troops from Navarre and León against the Muslims at Pamplona.
- 1469- Wars of the Roses: Battle of Edgecote Moor - Pitting the forces of Richard Neville, 16th Earl of Warwick against those of King Edward IV.
- 1678- England & Netherlands signs treaty: sending ultimatum to France
- 1803- The Surrey Iron Railway, arguably the world's first public railway, opens in south London.
- 1847- The Liberian Declaration of Independence is signed making Liberia a sovereign nation, independent from the American Colonization Society
- 1891- France annexes Tahiti.
- 1936- The Axis Powers decide to intervene in the Spanish Civil War.
- 1941- US embargo on oil-export to Japan
- 1944- Japanese suicide attack on US lines in Guam
- 1944- Russian troops arrive in Weichsel
- 1944- The first German V-2 rocket hits Great Britain (nicknamed "gasometer").
- 1945- Declaration of Potsdam: US, Britain and China demand the Japanese surrender during WWII
- 1945- Japanese government disregards US ultimatum
- 1945- US cruiser Indianapolis reaches Tinian with atom bomb
- 1945- Physicist Raemer Schreiber and Lieutenant Colonel Peer de Silva depart Kirtland Army Air Field to transport the plutonium core for the Fat Man bomb (bombing of Nagasaki) to the island of Tinian where the bomb is assembled
- 1947- President Truman signs National Security Act (1947), establishing Department of Defense, CIA, National Security Council and Joint Chiefs of Staff

Government of Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir
Office Of The Executive Engineer Mechanical And Hospitals Division Srinagar
-----Telefax:- 0194-2496089, Email ID:- xenmhchdk@yahoo.in-----

GIST of e-tender
NIT No: M&HDS/TS/2024-25/56/e-tendering
Dated:-25.07.2024

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT, e-tenders in two (02) cover system, are invited on item rate basis from eligible authorized dealers of OEMs or registered/reputed and experienced firms for the following work:

Name of the Work	Cost of Tender Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money Deposit (In Rs)	Estimated Cost (In Lacs)	Time of completion (in days)	Position of funds
Repairs/restoration of mortuary freezer at (JK Police Hospital) Police Control Room Srinagar	100	2000/-	0.998	10 days	Available with the intending department

Position of AAA: Accorded vide No 102 of 2024; Dt: 09-05-2024 (Inspector General Of Police, Technical Services, Hqrs, J&K, Jammu)
Position of TS: M&HDS/TS/36, Dated 07/24.

- Downloading of Bids: The Tender document Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the Govt. website www.jktenders.gov.in from 25-07-2024 (18:00 hrs)
- Submission of Bids: The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above website from 25-07-2024 (18:00 Hrs) to 01-08-2024 (12.00Hrs) in two covers.
- Opening of Bids: The bid uploaded on the Web Site up to due date and time will be opened on 01-08-2024 (14:00 Hrs) or any subsequent date convenient to the TOC in the Office of the Executive Engineer, M&HD Srinagar.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
M&HD, Srinagar

No: M&HDS/ 2489-94
DIPK-3574/24 Dated: 25.07.2024

Office Of The Child Development Project Officer Poshan Qazigund

TENTATIVE SELECTION LIST OF SAHIKYAS (AWH'S) IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE NO:- 04 of 2024 Dated:- 28.02.2024 & 05 of 2024, Dated:- 29.02.2024

S.No	Application S.No	Name of the Candidate	Parentage/W/O	Residence	Qualification.	Panchayat / MC Ward No	Married /Unmarried	10th Marks		Addl. 02 Points as per HR Policy	Total Merit.	Tentative Selection made at AWC	
								Max	% of Marks				
1	117	Sabeena Mubark	W/O Talib Hussain Shah	Nussu	Matric	2	Married	500	297	59.4	0	59.4	Nussu-A
2	144	Rumee Jan	W/O Suhail Ahmad Dar	Nussu	Matric	9	Married	500	201	40.2	0	40.2	Nussu-E
3	38	Beauty Jan	W/O Zahoor Ahmad Shah	Sangran	Matric	1	Married	500	187	37.4	0	37.4	Sangran-F
4	48	Javida Akther	W/O Mohd Ayoub Bhat	Khoshipora	Matric	7	Married	600	389	64.83	2	66.83	Khoshipora-A
5	106	Shemoo Jan	W/O Irshad Ahmad Khanday	Panzath Wanpora	Matric	3	Married	500	267	53.4	0	53.4	Wanpora-B
6	61	Suifa Saidullah	W/O Mudasar Ahmad Rather	Panzath Wanpora	Matric	5	Married	500	271	54.2	0	54.2	Panzath-F
7	116	Hanifa Akther	W/O Mubashir Rasool Shah	Panzath Wanpora	Matric	6	Married	500	243	48.6	0	48.6	Panzath-B
8	83	Zamrooda Akther	W/o Faya Zahmad Malik	Malikabad Kewa	Matric	6	Married	700	386	55.14	0	55.14	Malikabad Kewa
9	33	Roohie Jan	W/o Manzoor Ahmad Wagay	Sransoo	Matric	4	Married	500	208	41.6	0	41.6	Sransoo-D
10	22	Aseefa Jan	W/o Subzar Ahmad Wani	Wanpora Cholimulla	Matric	7	Married	500	208	41.6	0	41.6	Qazigund-D
11	142	Zamrooda Akther	W/o Muzafer Ayoub	Qazi Mohalla Qazigund	Matric	6	Married	500	360	72	0	72	Qazigund-A
12	136	Tanzeela Akther	W/O Nadeem Ahmad Bhat	Nipora	Matric	4	Married	500	202	40.4	0	40.4	Nipora-B
13	95	Sabreena Akram	W/o Javeed Ahmad Najar	Sadoora	Matric	2	Married	500	229	45.8	0	45.8	Sadoora-F
14	57	Fareeda Akther	W/o Irshad Ahmad Chopan	Itrote Damjan	Matric	6	Married	500	238	47.6	0	47.6	Damjan-A
15	65	Maroofa Jhan	W/o Shahnawaz Ahmad Shah	Yarhole Babapora	Matric	3	Married	500	249	49.8	0	49.8	Babapora-A
16	130	Mysara Banoo	W/o Mukhtar Ahmad Dar	Berigam	Matric	3	Married	500	256	51.2	0	51.2	Berigam-D
17	356	Rifat Rehman	W/o Ashiq Hussain Sheikh	Checki Wazoo	Matric	1	Married	500	194	38.8	0	38.8	Wazoo-A
18	9	Irshada Jan	W/o Farooq Ahmad Sheikh	Nigeenpora Kund	Matric	4	Married	500	177	35.4	0	35.4	Nigeenpora-A
19	79	Niddo Shafi	W/o Ikhlaiq Rashid Lone	Churat	Matric	6	Married	500	256	51.2	0	51.2	Churat-A
20	63	Bismah Jan	W/o Towseef Shafi Parray	Chandain Pajan	Matric	4	Married	500	272	54.4	0	54.4	Chanderkoot
21	147	Shaista Amin	W/o Aijaz Ahmad Dar	Mandhole	Matric	4	Married	500	297	59.4	0	59.4	Mandhole-A

The tentative List of Sahikyias is hereby published in local dailies for objections if any within 10 days, after that no objection will be considered. The complete details of the merit position of all applicants can be had from the Child Development Project Office Qazigund during working hours.

Sd/-
Child Development Project Officer
Poshan Qazigund.

NO:- CDPPO/Poshan/Qz/2024/531
Dated:- 25.07.2024

DIPK-3571/24 dated: 25-07-2024

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Friday | 26-07-2024

Persisting Heatwave

Kashmir is in the grip of an unprecedented heatwave this July. On July 24, Srinagar recorded a temperature of 34.2°C, which was 5.7 degree Celsius above the normal temperature. Interestingly, the maximum temperature in Srinagar and Jammu cities was identical as both the places recorded a day temperature of 35.6 degree Celsius. The north Kashmir district of Kupwara recorded a maximum temperature of 35.0 degree Celsius.

The soaring temperatures have consequences for crops. It could lead to their premature ripening, disrupting their development cycle and adversely affecting both their quality and quantity. Apple growers are particularly concerned, as the excessive heat can hinder color and size development of the fruit, impacting the market value of their produce.

While the heatwave persists, there is little immediate relief in sight. The Meteorological Department has forecast severe heatwave for the next four days and from thereon there is possibility of some rain.

However, despite the heatwave, tourism remains by and large unaffected. With recent months seeing higher inflows compared to the previous year. The fresh data released by the Centre has pegged the tourist numbers visiting the Valley at one crore by June this year.

That said, it hardly detracts from the concern about the creeping climate change. Though global in scale, it affects every region of the world. And as the continuing erratic weather in Kashmir in recent years reveals, the region is increasingly feeling the impact. According to reports and some surveys, many natural streams in various parts of the Valley have run dry in recent years. And the reason for this is the steady depletion of the glaciers. This has not only reduced the discharge in the rivers and streams but also made many water bodies extinct, affecting the irrigation in the Valley. However, such disturbing changes aren't specific to Kashmir only. This is becoming a worldwide phenomenon. There is thus an urgent need for the world to come together and take remedial measures to pre-empt the catastrophe. But it may take decades before the world is able to sufficiently reign in the factors which are contributing to the disruption in the climate. And the places like Kashmir which have little hand in climate change are bearing the brunt of it. As continuing heatwaves show, the world needs to quickly get its act together before it is too late.



Did you know?

Why Gold Prices are Decreasing and What You Should Do

Irshaad Mushtaq

The recent Union Budget 2024 brought significant changes to gold trading by reducing customs duty on gold from 10% to 6%, leading to a decrease in gold prices. Now might be a good time to consider investing in gold through ETFs or SIPs via mutual funds (Gold funds).

The Union Budget 2024 introduced notable changes in gold trading, particularly by reducing customs duty on gold from 10% to 6%. This led to a significant decrease in gold prices. Now might be a good time to consider investing in gold through ETFs or SIPs via mutual funds (Gold funds).

On July 24, the Union Budget 2024-25 outlined various changes impacting gold trading, including adjustments to Short-Term Capital Gains (STCG) and Long-Term Capital Gains (LTCG). A key announcement was the reduction of customs duty on gold and silver from 10% to 6%, resulting in a substantial drop in gold prices.

Presently, gold is trading at around 67,834 on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX). Prior to the budget, gold futures hit a record high of 74,777, but following the announcement, prices fell to 67,800, reflecting a decrease of 6,977 (9%) from the peak. Similarly, silver futures on the MCX declined from an all-time high of 98,220 to 82,083, a drop of 16,137 points.

The customs duty reduction aims to enhance domestic value addition in precious metals and bolster the jewelry sector. The Finance Minister stressed that this measure would invigorate local industries and increase their competitiveness. Given that India is the world's second-largest gold consumer after China and imports most of its gold via official channels, this reduction is quite significant. In the fiscal year 2023-24, India imported gold valued at 45.5 billion, up from 35 billion in 2022-23, with major imports from Switzerland, the UAE, and South Africa.

The initial drop in gold prices is expected to be temporary, presenting a potentially good buying opportunity. This customs duty reduction could be a strategic time to invest in gold during price dips through gold ETFs (Exchange-Traded Funds), silver-gold funds, or digital investments via mutual fund gold funds. Investing in a staggered manner using SIPs (Systematic Investment Plans) offers a convenient and secure digital way to invest in gold.

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

Why is Bangladesh Protesting

Shahidul Alam

It has been more than 10 days now since the start of the protests against a government job quota system. Students and youth across the country have been demonstrating against what they see as an unfair policy favouring a certain group – children of “freedom fighters” in the Bangladesh war of independence. But after the government unleashed unprecedented violence, the protests have gone beyond the demand for cancellation of the quota system.

A list of demands by students has been circulated in an underground press release.

1) The prime minister must accept responsibility for the mass killings of students and publicly apologise.

2) The home minister and the road, transport and bridges minister [the latter is also the secretary general of the Awami League], must resign from their [cabinet] positions and the party.

3) Police officers present in the sites where students were killed must be sacked.

4) Vice Chancellors of Dhaka, Jahangirnagar and Rajshahi universities must resign.

5) The police and goons who attacked the students and those who instigated the attacks must be arrested.

6) Families of the killed and injured must be compensated.

7) Bangladesh Chhatra League [BCL, the pro-government student wing, which is, effectively, the government's vigilante force] must be banned from student politics and a student union established.

8) All educational institutions and halls of residences must be reopened.

9) Guarantees must be provided that no academic or administrative harassment of protesters will take place.

That Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina publicly apologises for her disparaging comments about the protesters may seem a minor issue, but will surely be the sticking point.

This prime minister is not the apologising kind, regardless of what she does. Regardless of the allegations, regardless of the fact that corruption has been at an all-time high during her tenure, regardless of the fact that more than 100 students and other protesters have been murdered by her goons and the security forces, regardless of the fact that she has deemed all those who oppose her views to be “razakars” (collaborators of the Pakistani occupation army in 1971).

There is certainly not anyone in the negotiating camp who would have the temerity to even suggest such a course for the prime minister. There is a Bangla saying, “You only have one head on your neck.”

The ministers do the heavy lifting. They control the muscles in the streets and “manage” things when resistance brews. The ministers are high-ups in the party, and apart from the difficulty of finding suitable replacements, discarding them would send out the wrong



“Students and youth across the country have been demonstrating against what they see as an unfair policy favouring a certain group – children of “freedom fighters” in the Bangladesh war of independence. But after the government unleashed unprecedented violence, the protests have gone beyond the demand for cancellation of the quota system

message within the party.

Vice chancellors and proctors having to resign is an easy one. These are discardable minions. The perks are attractive and there are many to fill the ranks. The police being dumped is not as easy, as they provide some of the muscle, but “friendly fire” does take place.

Compensation is not an issue. State coffers are there to be pillaged and public funds being dispensed at party behest is a common enough practice.

The demand to ban BCL and associated student organisations in Dhaka, Jahangirnagar and Rajshahi universities is a sticking point, as they are the ones who keep the student body in check and are the party cadre called upon when there is any sign of rebellion. It is a vigilante group that can kill, kidnap or disappear at party command. For a government that lacks legitimacy, these are the foot soldiers who terrorise and are essential parts of the coercive machinery.

Educational institutions being reopened is an issue. Students have traditionally been the initiators of protests. With such simmering discontent, this would be dangerous, particularly if the local muscle power was clipped. The return of independent thinking is something all tyrants fear. The cessation of harassment is easy to implement on paper. It is difficult to prove and can be done at many levels. Removing the official charges will leave all unofficial modes intact.

Of all these demands, the apology is the least innocuous, but perhaps the most significant. It will dent the aura of invincibility the tyrant exudes. She has never apologised for anything.

Not for her father Sheikh Mujibur Rahman setting up the Rakkhi Bahini, the paramilitary force which rained terror on the country. Not his setting up of Baksal, the one-party system where all other parties and all newspapers, ex-

cept the four approved ones, were banned. Not the numerous extrajudicial killings and disappearances and the liturgy of corruption by people in her patronage during her own tenure.

An apology to protesting students, while simple, would be a chink in her armour she would be loathe to reveal.

Ironically, her father and the Awami League led the resistance against the Pakistani army during the genocide of 1971. The revolutionaries have now become our new occupiers. They insist Bangladesh is still a “democracy”.

By now, the body count is impossible to verify. I try to piece things together from as many firsthand reports as I can. Many of the bodies have a single, precisely targeted bullet hole. Pellets are aimed at the eyes.

International news, out of touch as the internet has been shut down and mobile connectivity severely throttled, say deaths are more than 100. Those monitoring feel that these numbers are a significant underestimate of the dead and missing. Government news report even fewer.

Staff at city hospitals are less tight-lipped and can give reasonably accurate figures, but not all bodies go to hospital morgues. An older hospital in Dhaka did report more than 200 bodies being brought in. The injured who die on the way to the hospital are not generally admitted. Families prefer to take the body home rather than hand them over to the police. Bodies are also being disappeared.

Police and postmortem reports, when available, fail to mention bullet wounds. The body of my former student Priyo was among the missing ones, but we were eventually able to locate him. A friend took him back to his home in Rangpur to be buried. Constant monitoring and checking by activists resulted in the bullet wound being mentioned in his case,

though a deliberate mistake in his name in the hospital's release order that was overseen by a police officer attempted to complicate things. Fortunately, it was rectified in the nick of time.

Getting the news out has become extremely difficult. This piece is going out through a complicated route. I have deleted all digital traces to protect the intermediaries.

The entire internet network has been brought down; a junior information technology minister has said that this is due to the “unstable situation”.

Helicopters fly low, beaming searchlights downwards. There have been reports of shots fired at people. Tear gas and stun grenade shells become lethal when dropped from a height.

A student talks of a body lying on the empty flyover being dragged off by the police. A friend talks of an unmarked car spraying bullets at the crowd as it speeds past. She was lucky. The shooter was firing from a window on the other side. A mother grieves over her three-year-old senselessly killed.

A gory report of a human brain congealed on a tarmac is a first for me. The curfew has resulted in rubbish being piled up on the streets. The brain will be there for people to see, perhaps deliberately.

The raid at 2:20 earlier this morning in the flat across the street was also in commando fashion. The video footage is blurry, but one can only see segments of the huge contingent of the Rapid Action Battalion (RAB), heavily armed police and others in plainclothes. They eventually walked out with one person, perhaps an opposition leader.

Armoured personnel carriers prowl the streets. Orders to shoot on sight have not quelled the anger and people are still coming onto the streets despite the curfew. There is the other side of the story. Reports of policemen being lynched and offices being set on fire are some of the violent responses to the government-led brutality.

Then there is the impact of the protests on the average person, as most working-class Bangladeshis live day-to-day. Their daily earnings feed their families. As a prime minister, who desperately clings on to a position she does not legitimately have the right to, and a public, who have been tormented enough, to battle it out, they are the ones who starve.

Private TV channels vie with the state-owned BTV and churn out government propaganda. As I watch members of the public complain on one, I am unable to forget all the average people I spoke to – the rickshaw drivers, and even fruit sellers with perishable goods – who expressed solidarity with the students. Their immediate suffering, though painful, is something they are willing to accept.

She has to go, they say.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. The article was originally published by Al Jazeera



OBSERVER
MAIL

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

MAIL YOUR LETTERS

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

Call for an Additional Short Summer Break Amid Extreme Temperatures in Kashmir

Iam writing to express a growing concern that I believe requires immediate attention: the extreme and unprecedented rise in temperatures currently being experienced in Kashmir. This summer has seen temperatures soar to levels that are not only uncomfortable but also pose significant health risks to the population. Moreover, forecasts indicate even higher temperatures in the coming week, exacerbating an already critical situation.

The residents of Kashmir are not accustomed to such intense heat, and our infrastructure, including homes and public spaces, is not designed to cope with these conditions. The health impacts, especially on vulnerable populations such as the elderly, children, and those with pre-existing medical conditions, can be severe. Heat-related illnesses, including heatstroke and dehydration, are real and present dangers. The prolonged exposure to such heat can also aggra-

vate chronic conditions, leading to more severe health crises.

In light of these challenges, I propose the introduction of an additional short summer break. This break would provide much-needed relief to students, teachers, and working professionals who are currently struggling to function effectively in this heat. A temporary suspension of activities would allow people to stay indoors, hydrate adequately, and avoid the worst of the heat during the peak

temperature periods.

An additional summer break is not just a measure of comfort but a necessary step to safeguard the health and well-being of the people of Kashmir. I urge the relevant authorities to consider this proposal seriously and act swiftly to provide the community with the respite it desperately needs.

Shazia Khan

Mindful Fridays

Disagreeing with Respect

Fostering Respect and Understanding in Communities for Better Community Mental Health

Wasim Kakroo

Differences in opinion, belief, and viewpoint are unavoidable in a world growing more varied and interconnected with every passing day. Conflicting ideas can frequently cause discord, misinterpretation and tension whether they arise in families, businesses, communities, or on social media. In this regard, learning the art of agreeing to disagree can act like a cohesive force for all members of the society. Not only does learning to agree to disagree with respect help to preserve social and communal peace, but it also helps to improve community mental health. The advantages of polite disagreement for both personal and group welfare are discussed in this article together with techniques for handling differences.

The significance of Respectful Disagreement

The capacity to recognize and embrace differences in viewpoints without resentment or animosity is known as respectful disagreement. There are various reasons that make it essential to practice respectful disagreement. Some of them are discussed as below:

1. Promotes compassion and comprehension: When we practice respectful disagreement, we handle opposing perspectives with respect and while doing so, we develop empathy and reduce bias by allowing ourselves to comprehend the viewpoints of others.

2. Reduces Conflict: When we practice respectful disagreement, it naturally reduces the chances of arguments to escalate into enmity or violence which eventually might lead the members of community to turn more harmonious towards each other.

3. Facilitates open discourse: Respectful disagreement helps to create a healthy atmosphere that has a capacity to accept varying perspectives and hence facilitates open discourse which is essential for drafting all-inclusive answers to multifaceted social issues.

4. Enhances Mental well-being:



ing: When we practice respectful disagreements in social settings, it leads to increased tolerance and respect for varied opinions that leads to alleviation of anxiety and hence helps to build a community whose members are mentally healthy.

How to agree to disagree with respect?

1. Practice Active Listening: It involves giving your full attention, trying to understand the other person's perspective and responding considerately to what the other person is intending to say. It requires:

a. Giving full attention: Listen to what the speaker is saying, while reducing any kind of disruption or distraction.

b. Showing that you are trying to understand what is being said: Use of head movements we call Nod or use of sentences such as, "I see" or "I understand" can help the other person feel that you are trying to understand the other person's perspective.

c. Reflecting Back: To ensure that we have understood correctly what we heard the other person saying, we can summarize the whole narrative.

In addition to showing that we respect the other person's perspective, active listening also helps to resolve the misunderstandings and builds trust.

2. Maintain a Calm and Respectful Tone: The end results of a disagreement will be highly influenced by the tone of one's voice and their body language. Following suggestions need to be kept in mind so that respect is upheld in such situations:

a. Try to maintain composure: Breathe deeply and slowly and try to regulate and handle your emotions especially the negative ones.

b. Use "I" Statements: Rather than using "You should" or "You are" to convey your opinions, use statements like "I feel" or "I think".

c. Avoid using confrontational Gestures: Refrain from

crossing your arms or pointing your fingers at the other person with whom you have a disagreement. Instead maintain a body language that is both inviting and calm.

When we maintain a composed and courteous attitude, it helps in diffusing potential conflicts and facilitating a more meaningful dialogue.

3. Seek Common Ground: In order to facilitate bridging of divides and promotion of mutual respect, it is imperative to find a common ground, even if the parties involved have strong disagreements with each other. This involves:

a. Finding values that are common between the parties: Figure out the fundamental values that can be agreed upon by all the parties involved.

b. Use agreements as foundation: In order to facilitate further discussions, parties involved can use agreements to build and strengthen the foundation.

c. Acknowledging Valid

Points: In order to bring genuineness in one's approach while trying to handle disagreements with the other party, it is important that the parties involved acknowledge and validate each other's viewpoints whenever and wherever possible.

Finding a common ground is a very important aspect of handling disagreements respectfully as it serves as a beginning point for positive communication and collaboration.

4. Agree to Disagree: At times, it happens that despite trying all the different means of finding a common ground and building bridges, it remains impossible to bring resolution to the disagreements and hence accepting that disagreements may still remain there is the only way forward. In such cases:

a. Acknowledge and accept the difference: Recognize that there can be disagreements despite trying all the means of bridging the gaps and that it's okay to vary in perspectives and

have different opinions.

b. Conclude on a Positive Note: Even when you couldn't find any means of building a common ground, try to end the conversation on a positive or neutral note, such as, "I understand and appreciate your point of view."

c. Keep moving ahead: Centre your attention around those dimensions of the relationship that can still be worked upon in order to keep flourishing regardless of the disagreement.

One of the major signs of being emotionally mature and handle disagreements is to accept that certain differences can never be resolved and that it is ok to agree to disagree while maintaining respect and harmony.

5. Educate and Be Educated: Promoting the idea of respectful disagreement requires one to educate oneself as well as others about this concept. This involves:

a. Be open to education: Keep learning and educating yourself as well as others about different cultures, beliefs, and perspectives.

b. Share your perspective: Share your perspective with others about what and how you understand the differences in a respectful and informative manner.

c. Promote the art of thinking critically: The art of critical thinking is not a very common occurrence among masses and this lack sometimes leads to quick judgments. Encourage yourself as well as others to evaluate every information you receive from multiple angles in order to reduce bias, prejudice and quick judgments.

Keeping ourselves as well as others updated and educated about varied opinions and perspectives is essential for the community members to engage meaningful conversations so that disagreements are handled respectfully.

The author is a licensed clinical psychologist (alumni of Govt. Medical College Srinagar) and works as a Child, Adolescent and Family therapist at Centre for Mental Health Services (CMHS) at Rambagh Srinagar. He can be reached at 8825067196

Was It Childhood Trauma if I Was Privileged?

Annie Wright

Over my last 13 years as a trauma therapist, there has been a question that's surfaced many times from my clients: Was it childhood trauma if I was privileged?

There's a bifurcated thought many of us hold that if we had food, a roof over our heads, toys, and clothes, our experiences—painful as they may have been—don't "count" as childhood trauma because, materially, we had what we needed.

I personally and professionally believe it's critical that we debunk this myth, unpack why and how many of us hold this belief, and understand why holding a more flexible view on childhood trauma existing against the landscape of a privileged past is important.

Moving beyond the historical view of childhood trauma

Historically, the recognition of childhood trauma has predominantly focused on physical abuse and violence.

This narrow perspective can be traced back to early research and societal understandings, which placed emphasis (understandably) on visible, tangible forms of harm and poor adult outcomes (mentally and socially) because of these experiences.

With physical abuse toward children centered in research and social studies—and, of course, it makes sense why it

would be—psychological and emotional aspects of trauma were, until relatively recently, often overlooked, in part due to the challenges in quantifying and assessing nonphysical forms of abuse, and also due to the relatively early stages of this second wave of traumatology work.

But, increasingly, studies have shown that exposure to childhood trauma beyond physical abuse is also associated with adult psychiatric disorders and poor biopsychosocial outcomes, highlighting the long-term consequences of such experiences and validating them.

The evolution of trauma-informed care reflects a growing—and, in my opinion, much-needed—understanding of the broad spectrum of childhood trauma, recognizing that trauma can stem from a variety of sources, not just limited to physical violence.

Recent understanding of and dialogue about childhood trauma now accept that emotional abuse, neglect, and exposure to household dysfunction all have profound effects on physical, emotional, developmental, and behavioral health across the lifespan.

But despite these advances in our conversations, research, and the way we deliver trauma-informed care, the previous emphasis on physical abuse has, for many of us, shaped societal attitudes toward childhood trauma, often marginalizing equally damag-



ing effects of emotional and psychological trauma.

Bottom line: Many people still consciously and unconsciously have an internalized, historical view of what "counts" as childhood trauma and fail to see themselves in the term "childhood trauma."

Material privilege can make it harder to see your childhood trauma

On top of internalized historical beliefs about what "counts" as childhood trauma, those who grew up with material comfort may find it even

more difficult to see themselves in the term "childhood trauma."

They might ask themselves questions like:

If I had all the food I needed, a roof over my head, clothes to wear, toys, and even went to private school, does my experience "count" as childhood trauma if I had so much privilege?

Mom and Dad were pillars of the community, and we had the biggest, best home in the neighborhood. I'm not sure what I experienced counts. I shouldn't complain: We

went on vacations, we had household help. I wasn't poor. Isn't childhood trauma when you don't have enough food and you were beaten?

The difficulty individuals face in recognizing their own experiences of emotional and mental trauma as "childhood trauma" is multifaceted.

As I mentioned earlier, societal narratives and internalized beliefs about what constitutes trauma often emphasize physical abuse, neglect, or severe economic hardship, overshadowing the impact of

emotional and psychological distress.

This can lead many to have a dismissive attitude toward their suffering, as they might feel that without visible scars or tangible hardships, their experiences do not "count" as trauma.

Material privilege adds an additional layer of foginess, as it can evoke guilt ("But we had so much!") or diminish the perceived legitimacy of their pain, feeding into a belief that their material advantages should somehow immunize them against psychological harm.

Childhood trauma and material privilege are not mutually exclusive

It is critical to remember that trauma is not defined by the external circumstances that cause it but by the individual's subjective experience of those events.

I cannot stress this enough: Trauma is what happens when an event or series of events subjectively overwhelms the brain and body's ability to cope effectively.

So, this means that one-time events, ongoing stress, and commonly overlooked causes such as deeply disappointing experiences or parental mental cruelty, can all leave lasting effects irrespective of one's socioeconomic status depending on the subjective experience of the person who endured these experiences.

To speak plainly, you can have grown up in a mansion

and had nannies, but if your father belittled you daily, telling you what a disappointment you were, rejecting you for failing to live up to his standards, failing to provide you with secure attachment, and causing you to internalize beliefs about your own unworthiness and defectiveness, do you think a closet full of designer kids' clothes would offset those negative impacts? Speaking as a licensed psychotherapist and childhood trauma recovery expert, I'm here to tell you that no, it would not.

What's the point of even asking this question?

When we see ourselves, our stories, and the impact of our past clearly, we're more equipped to legitimize our pain and begin to confront reality (both critical and crucial steps in trauma healing) and seek out the right kind of support and help to begin properly recovering from the impacts of our past.

It's never too late to have a beautiful adulthood, despite our adverse early beginnings. If you need support, find a therapist through the Psychology Today directory. The sooner we can accept and confront the reality of our painful past, the sooner we can get to work on giving ourselves that beautiful adulthood.

The article was originally published by Psychology Today

EESL's Initiatives Powering PM Modi's Vision for a Carbon-Neutral Ladakh

Srinagar: Under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Union Territory of Ladakh is taking significant strides towards becoming carbon neutral. Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), a joint venture of Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Power, is at the forefront of this transformation with a series of innovative and impactful initiatives aimed at reducing carbon footprints and promoting sustainable living in the region. Ladakh's rugged terrain and high altitude make traditional energy sources costly and hard to access, emphasizing the need for alternative, eco-friendly solutions.

One of the cornerstone

initiatives is the National Efficient Cooking Programme, under which EESL, in collaboration with Ladakh Power Development Department (LPDD), initiated provision of 2000 induction cookstoves to Anganwadi centers across Ladakh. This initiative addresses the health concerns associated with traditional cooking methods, which emit harmful pollutants, reducing their dependence on conventional sources of cooking. The induction cookstoves ensure a safer and healthier working environment for Anganwadi workers, also advocating sustainable and health-conscious cooking practices. As part of the NECP programme, Ladakh is

the first Union Territory to distribute induction cook stoves in Anganwadi Centers and promote electric cooking.

Furthering energy efficiency initiatives in the region, EESL signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with



the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh (LAHDC), which included crucial aspects of energy efficiency, including lighting, e-cooking, space heating and e-mobility. Another significant effort by EESL

is the deployment of 10W LED inverter bulbs under the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)'s action plan for Ladakh. As part of a large-scale inverter bulb camp, organized in coordination with LPDD, EESL enabled access of 40,000 LED inverter bulbs to beneficiaries of Ladakh in the region of Nubra, Zaskar and Changthang. These inverter bulbs, which have a power backup of 4 hours, not only reduce electricity bills but also enhance the quality of life for households and students by providing reliable lighting during power outages.

The beneficiaries are expected to save approximately 8.76 million units of electricity annually and reduce CO2 emissions by 7446 tons each year. Additionally, this switch to LED bulbs results in monetary savings of approximately Rs 3 crore

annually for the residents of Ladakh.

EESL's efforts are a crucial stepping-stone towards achieving Prime Minister Modi's vision of a carbon-neutral Ladakh by 2050, reflecting the company's commitment to promoting energy-efficient technologies and renewable energy solutions across the region. By working to identify and implement tailored energy efficiency and clean energy programs that address Ladakh's unique challenges and leverage its natural advantages, EESL is helping to reduce the region's carbon footprint, improve energy access, and create a cleaner, healthier environment for its residents, while also aligning with India's broader sustainability goals and building a more resilient and prosperous society.

Wildfires prompt California evacuations as crews battle Oregon, Idaho fires stoked by lightning

AGENCEIS

Wildfires prompted evacuations in Northern California amid a rapidly growing wildfire Thursday, a day after powerful winds and lightning strikes from thunderstorms rattled eastern Oregon and Idaho, cutting power and stoking fires, including one in Oregon that was the largest active blaze in the United States. Another fast-moving wildfire forced thousands to abandon a town in Canada.

Evacuations were ordered in California's Butte and Tehama counties as crews battled a fire

reported near Chico just before 3 p.m. Wednesday. The blaze, dubbed the Park Fire, quickly spread from about 10 square miles (26 square kilometers) to more than 70 square miles (180 square kilometers) and was only 3% contained early Thursday, according to CAL FIRE. The cause was under investigation.

Fire personnel were focusing on evacuations and defending structures while using bulldozers to build containment lines. No deaths or damage to structures had been reported, CAL FIRE/ Butte County Fire Department said in a late Wednesday update.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

J&K Faces 27%

Kupwara in north Kashmir too have recorded 5.1 degree Celsius and 4.0 degree Celsius above than normal temperature respectively as the mercury at the twin places settled at 33.0 degree Celsius and 35.1 degree Celsius respectively.

With this temperature, the heat wave has gripped these places today amidst the forecast of severe heatwave in the Valley for the next three days.

However, Jammu division too has recorded a similar hot and humid weather conditions according to the details, the mercury in Jammu city has settled at 35.6 degree Celsius while in Katra and Batote, it settled at 31.4 degree Celsius and 28.8 degree Celsius respectively.

However, Jammu and Kashmir overall has recorded deficient rainfall since the inception of this year.

According to the details available, the J&K has recorded a deficient rainfall of 27 per cent till July 25.

In January and February months, a deficient rainfall of 48 per cent was recorded; details shared by a private weather forecaster reveals, adding that against the normal precipitation of 225.5 mm during the period, 117.1 mm rainfall was recorded only.

However from March to May, the Union Territory has recorded a deficient rainfall of nine percent only. During the period, 300.6 mm rainfall was recorded in J&K against the normal precipitation of 330.0 mm.

However, since June to July 25, a deficient rainfall of 33 per cent has been recorded in Jammu & Kashmir. Overall, there has been a deficiency of 27 per cent rainfall in J&K from January 01 2024 to July 25, 2024.

An Independent Weather Forecaster, Faizan Arif Keng has stated that this year, Western Disturbances have largely avoided Jammu and Kashmir. After a significant deficit in January, some recovery was seen in February, and the region experienced near-normal rainfall from March to May. However, since June, monsoon conditions have been very weak, particularly over the past 20 days, leading to low water levels in streams and rivers, he said.

"The rainfall during this monsoon season in Kashmir has primarily been due to Western Disturbances. Despite much of India experiencing normal to excess rainfall, monsoon conditions in Jammu and Kashmir have remained weak. There appears to be an inverse relationship between monsoon rainfall in India and Jammu and Kashmir, especially evident in recent years," he added.

Moreover, Director Meteorological department (MeT), Dr Mukhtar Ahmad has predicted the possibility of rainfall from July 29, saying that the ongoing heat wave is expected to end by the end of this month.

Nonetheless, the weatherman has also informed that due to the prevailing heat conditions and the deficient rainfall, there has been an impact on the crops as well.(KNO)

India Dismisses

the eastern Ladakh region and its capital, Leh) due to terrorism and civil unrest; within 10 km of the India-Pakistan border due to the

potential for armed conflict; portions of Central and East India due to terrorism; and Manipur due to violence and crime," it said.

It said that terrorist attacks and violent civil unrest are possible in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

"Do not travel to this state (with the exception of visits to the eastern Ladakh region and its capital, Leh). Violence happens sporadically in this area and is common along the Line of Control (LoC) between India and Pakistan. It also occurs in tourist spots in the Kashmir Valley: Srinagar, Gulmarg, and Pahalgam. The Indian government does not allow foreign tourists to visit certain areas along the LoC," the advisory stated.

In addition, it recommended Americans reconsider travel to the northeastern states "due to terrorism and violence."

Meanwhile, India also advised its citizens on the issue of Bangladesh, stating that it is monitoring the situation and "hopefully" it will improve

'Do Not Travel To

But several parts of the country have been placed on Level 4: Jammu and Kashmir, India-Pak border, Manipur and parts of Central and East India.

"Do not travel to: The union territory of Jammu and Kashmir (except the eastern Ladakh region and its capital, Leh) due to terrorism and civil unrest; within 10 km of the India-Pakistan border due to the potential for armed conflict; portions of Central and East India due to terrorism and Manipur due to violence and crime," said the State Department.

In addition, it recommended Americans to reconsider travel to the northeastern states due to terrorism and violence.

"Indian authorities report that rape is one of the fastest growing crimes in India. Violent crime, such as sexual assault, has happened at tourist sites and other locations. Terrorists may attack with little or no warning. They target tourist locations, transportation hubs, markets/shopping malls, and government facilities," the travel advisory said.

The US government has limited ability to provide emergency services to US citizens in rural areas. These areas stretch from eastern Maharashtra and northern Telangana through western West Bengal. The US government employees must get special authorization to travel to these areas, it said.

Placing Manipur at "Level 4: Do Not Travel", the State Department said: "Do not travel to Manipur due to the threat of violence and crime. Ongoing ethnic-based civil conflict has resulted in reports of extensive violence and community displacement. Attacks against Indian government targets occur on a regular basis. US government employees traveling in India require prior approval before visiting Manipur."

Similarly, terrorist attacks and violent civil unrest are possible in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir. "Do not travel to this state (with the exception of visits to the eastern Ladakh region and its capital, Leh). Violence happens sporadically in this area and is common along the Line of Control (LoC) between India and Pakistan. It also occurs in tourist

spots in the Kashmir Valley: Srinagar, Gulmarg, and Pahalgam. The Indian government does not allow foreign tourists to visit certain areas along the LoC," it said.

"India and Pakistan have a strong military presence on both sides of the border. The only official border crossing for non-citizens of India or Pakistan is in Punjab. It is between Attari, India, and Wagah, Pakistan. The border crossing is usually open, but check its current status before you travel. To enter Pakistan, you need a Pakistani visa. Only US citizens residing in India may apply for a Pakistani visa in India. Otherwise, apply for a Pakistani visa in your home country before traveling to India," it said.

Maoist extremist groups, or "Naxalites", are active in a large area of India that spans from eastern Maharashtra and northern Telangana through western West Bengal, the advisory said.

Attacks against officers of the Indian government continue to occur sporadically in the rural parts of Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand that border Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, and Odisha. Southwest areas of Odisha are also affected. The Naxalites have carried out many terrorist attacks, targeting local police, paramilitary forces, and government officials, it said.

"Due to the fluid nature of the threat, US government employees are required to obtain permission prior to traveling to most areas in the states of Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Meghalaya, and Odisha. Permission is not required if employees are traveling only to the capital cities of these states. US government employees also need approval to travel to the eastern region of Maharashtra and the eastern region of Madhya Pradesh," the advisory said.

In addition, Northeastern States has been given - Level 3: Reconsider Travel. "Ethnic insurgent groups occasionally commit acts of violence in parts of the northeast. These incidents include bombings of buses, trains, rail lines, and markets. There have been no recent reports of violence in Assam, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Sikkim, or Tripura," it said.

"US government employees traveling in India require prior approval before visiting the states of Sikkim, and Arunachal Pradesh, as well as when visiting any areas outside of the capital cities of Assam, Mizoram, Nagaland, Meghalaya, and Tripura," it said.

PM Modi To Visit

at an altitude of around 15,800 feet on the Nimu - Padum - Darcha Road to provide all weather connectivity to Leh," the statement read, adding that "Once completed, it will be the highest tunnel in the world. Shinkun La tunnel will not only ensure swift and efficient movement of our armed forces and equipment but also foster economic and social development in Ladakh."

ECI Orders

Further, Form 7 could be used for objections to proposed inclusion or deletion of name in the existing electoral roll, Form 8 for multiple

purposes like correction of any particulars in the roll, shifting of residence (within or outside constituency), replacement of EPIC and marking of person with disability and Form 6B could be used for capturing Aadhaar number of the existing electors.

The claims and objections could be filed in both online as well as offline mode, the notice said.

"For online filing of claims and objections, one can log on to Voter's Service Portal (www.voters.eci.gov.in) or download voter helpline app (VHA), and for offline mode, the concerned BLO, AERO or ERO could be contacted," it added.

The assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir are likely to be held later this year in view of the Supreme Court directions passed last year.

Education Should

"Students need to continuously innovate to meet the local challenges and work towards a bright and prosperous future of the country. I believe that the prime objective of education is to create higher values & independent thinking in students to shape the destiny of the nation," the post, quoting Sinha, added.

Army Schools

tow OGV's who were also found to have purposefully withheld crucial information by not disclosing it to police in time.

Defence officials said that following the terror threats, the security forces have advised school authorities of these schools to keep the institutions shut for the safety of children.

The decision came at the time when Jammu saw several encounters between terrorists and security personnel which raised security concerns in the region, while security forces beefed up its apparatus to ensure 'incident free' celebrations of Independence Day.

As per official sources, "Due to increasing terrorist activities in Jammu region, the local administration and security agencies have jointly decided that all Army and Kendriya Vidyalaya and other contentment schools till further order," said an official adding "The decision aimed to keep children, teachers and school staff safe from potential threats".

Officials said that the decision to close Army and Kendriya Vidyalaya schools is temporary and the schools will be reopened as soon as the situation becomes normal.

At present, the administration and security agencies are taking every possible step giving priority to the safety of children.

At least a dozen army schools, including in Sunjuwan and Domana besides those on the highway, were shut for the day as a precautionary measure," said defence officials privy to the development.

Moreover, following intelligence inputs of a terror strike, a high alert has been sounded in all defence installations along the Jammu-Pathankot national highway.

Some parents confirmed that school authorities send messages informing about holidays till further order, administrative reasons.

"We have received a message in the school's whatsapp group regarding holidays, due to

some administrative reasons," a parent, whose ward is studying in an army school, confirmed. He further added that authorities have said that during these days classes would be conducted in online mode.

Moreover, school authorities of KV from a military containment in Jammu city also confirmed that school has been shut and now classes would be held online for students.

"Dear Parents and Students, We are writing to inform you that due to Administrative Reasons, The School will shift to online classes starting tomorrow until further notice. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation," a message flashed in official groups from the Principal reads.

Last year, authorities shut all schools of the Jammu region, which was operating from inside the cantonment areas a week ahead of the G20 summit in Srinagar.

On July 23, a soldier lost his life in a gunfight with terrorists along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district. Lance Naik Subhash Chander sacrificed his life during a gunfight in the Battal area of Krishna Ghati sector as the Army scuttled an infiltration attempt by a group of terrorists from across the border.

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor (LG) Manoj Sinha on July 24 Pakistan is trying to disturb peace in Jammu to hinder its progress but every drop of people's blood shed by terrorists will be avenged. (KNO)

Kathua Attack

In a significant breakthrough in our ongoing efforts to counter terrorist activities, two OGVs were apprehended for their involvement in supporting terror-related actions, a police spokesperson said.

On July 8, five army personnel, including a junior commissioned officer, were killed and five others injured in the attack by heavily armed terrorists in the remote Machedi area of the district.

"These individuals were found to have deliberately withheld crucial information from the police," the spokesperson said, adding that those arrested have been identified as Layaqat Ali, alias Pawu of Kalna Dhanu Parole (Billawar) and Mool Raj alias Jenju from Bowli Mohalla (Malhar).

According to the spokesperson, the duo refused to disclose vital information to the police, thereby obstructing efforts to prevent terrorist actions.

Ali and Raj have been booked under 61(1) (Criminal conspiracy), 113 (Terrorist act), 147 (Waging, or attempting to wage war against Government of India), 150 (Concealing with intent to facilitate design to wage war) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and the EIMCO (Egress and Internal Movement Control) Act at Malhar Police Station, he said.

Over 100 individuals have been interrogated and preventive measures have been taken against over 40 others in connection with the case to mitigate risks and disrupt potential support systems for terrorist activities, the spokesperson said.

"The arrest of these OGVs underscores our commitment," the spokesperson added.

27th year OF PUBLICATION

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

The methods used to consume news have changed over time from newspapers, to television, to the Internet on our computers to carrying the news around with us 24/7 on smartphones in our pockets.

Kashmir Observer, with 25 years of experience in news gathering is now available 24x7 on all digital platforms like laptops, cell phones or via Bluetooth on your smart TV's across the world.

Kashmir Observer is a one stop information bank for you. Watch live debates, talk shows and documentaries on critical issues facing Kashmir on KO youtube channel.

VISIT

<https://www.youtube.com/c/kobserver>



OR SCAN

Kashmiri Doctor Wins Best Paper Award at ENDO 2024

Syed Mohammad Burhan

SRINAGAR: Dr. Hameed Raina, Gastroenterologist hailing from Hussipora, Chadoora in central Kashmir's Budgam district has



been honored with the Best Abstract Award at the prestigious 4th World Congress of GI Endoscopy (ENDO 2024), held in Seoul South Korea this month.

This accolade was given in recognition of his groundbreaking presentation on the technique of "EUS Guided Liver Biopsy."

Dr Raina is also a Hepatologist, and Advanced Therapeutic Endoscopist & Endosonographer (EUS specialist).

ENDO 2024, one of the largest gastroenterology conferences globally, attracted over 5,000 participants including leading experts and practitioners in the field from around the world. The event provided a platform for the exchange of innovative ideas, cutting-edge research, and advancements in gastrointestinal endoscopy.

Dr Raina presented his paper and technique of "EUS GUIDED LIVER BIOPSY. His presentation showcased his novel technique for EUS Guided Liver Biopsy, which has the potential to revolutionize liver biopsy procedures.

Speaking at the conference, Dr. Raina expressed his gratitude and dedication to continuing his research and

innovations in the field. "It is an honor to be recognized on such a prestigious platform. This award is a tribute to the hard work and commitment of my team and the support of my mentors and colleagues. I look forward to furthering our efforts in advancing gastroenterological and advanced endoscopic practices," he said.

Dr Raina told Kashmir Observer that this technique offers a safe, painless, comparable efficacy to other conventional methods with very high patient satisfaction for obtaining liver tissue samples, thus improving patient outcomes and enhancing diagnostic precision. Also, Both lobes of liver can be accessed for obtaining liver biopsies which is not possible with other methods.

"My journey in the field of gastroenterology is marked by numerous accolades, awards and contributions. I began my medical career with an MBBS from Government Medical College, Srinagar in 2005, followed by an MD in Internal Medicine from Sheri-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) between 2012 and 2015," he said.

"I then topped the DM Entry exam at the prestigious Tata Hospital, Mumbai, where I completed my DM in Gastroenterology and Hepatology in 2019. I also qualified for the MRCP-UK in 2020" and did many fellowships like in GI motility disorders, advanced therapeutic endoscopy like third place endoscopy EUS.

He is the first Gastroenterologist from J&K who performs POEM and other Advanced third space endoscopic procedures. He also has many other national and international awards and publications to his name.

CS Stresses For Timely Completion Of Road Projects Across J&K



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, chaired a meeting to take stock of ongoing works on various roads and bridges taken under PMGSY, CRIF, NABARD and UT Capex across Jammu and Kashmir.

Secretary, PWD; Secretary, Law; Engineer-in-Chief; Deputy Commissioners; Chief Engineers besides senior officers from the concerned department attended the meeting.

Outstation officers participated in the meeting through video conferencing.

The Chief Secretary, during this meeting, enquired about the starting dates of works on these Roads and Bridges taken under different phases of PM Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Central Road Infrastructure Fund (CRIF), NABARD funding and UT Capex.

He noted that the work on remaining 11 habitations under phase-I of PMGSY needs to be expedited under every circumstance besides strenuous efforts should be made to complete works on Long Span Bridges (LSBs) under progress in various districts of J&K.

Dulloo observed that since reorganization of the department, there is sufficient manpower including senior engi-

neers available in peripheral areas. He maintained that this should entail better supervision and quality outcomes for the department.

He exhorted upon the senior functionaries of PWD like Chief Engineers and SEs to take field visits on regular basis to remain updated of works being undertaken in their respective jurisdictions. He stressed on ensuring timely completion of projects by closely monitoring their pace on ground.

The Chief Secretary also advised the officers to take swift actions in resolution of bottlenecks like land compensation, seeking forest clearances or other contractor related concerns. He asked them to avail the assistance of divisional/district administrations for executing swift actions on ground.

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary, PWD, gave an overview of the works in progress under these programs. He highlighted the achievements made by the department in the past few years regarding completion of roads, bridges and blacktopping of thousands of kilometers of riding surfaces all across the UT.

He informed the meeting that under PMGSY I & II 18, 205 Kms of road length and 217

LSBs stands were completed connecting 2129 habitations in J&K. Under PMGSY-III, 1207 kms of road length, 66 LSBs are currently at different stages of completion, he added.

It was further given out that the department is making all efforts to take up the 1820 unconnected habitations under PMGSY-IV having around 100-250 households as per 2011 census.

It was revealed that 294 projects had been taken under CRIF at a cumulative cost of Rs 4317 Cr of which 173 works stands completed till date.

Regarding the Bridge Program, it was revealed that 143 LSBs at a sanctioned cost of Rs 515.54 Cr were undertaken, out of which 36 have been completed and more 36 are slated to be finished by the end 9f this financial year.

Among the targets for 2024-25 it was given out that macadamization of 5000 Kms of road length under various central & UT sector schemes would be achieved, 100 bridges sanctioned under various schemes, 2338 works under UT Capex, 200 Roads/Bridges sanctioned under NABARD besides completion of 1100 Kms of road length under PMGSY would also be completed during this period.

Electricity & Water Supply Scenario Reviewed In J&K

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, reviewed the supply scenario of water and electricity in J&K.

The meeting was called in view of the ongoing heat wave besides assessing the response mechanism being adopted by the government to ensure uninterrupted supply of drinking water, irrigation and electricity to the consumers as per designated schedules.

Present in the meeting were Chairman, JKWRRA, Additional Chief Secretary, Jal Shakti Department, Principal Secretary, Power; Principal Secretary, Finance, Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD, Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir/Jammu, Deputy Commissioners, Commissioner, JMC/SMC, MD JPDC/JPDC/ JIM; Directors of IMD & Remote Sensing and Chief Engineers of Jal Shakti Jammu/Kashmir besides senior officers from Jal Shakti and PDD departments.

Outstation officers participated in the meeting through video conferencing.

The Chief Secretary enquired about the status of present water levels in main rivers of Jhelum and Chenab. He also

asked for a comparison about drop in levels from last year due to deficient rainfall which amounts to around 50% this year. He asked for measures to tackle the ongoing heat wave conditions in the UT especially putting an efficient response mechanism in place to address the public complaints.

The Chief Secretary directed the Jal Shakti and Housing & Urban Development departments to ensure an uninterrupted water supply, especially in areas facing drinking water shortages. He called for making assessment of both the machinery and infrastructure in view of the present climatic conditions. He advised for taking both the short and long term measures to augment supply of drinking and irrigation waters as per the requirements on ground.

He directed the Deputy Commissioners to submit regular reports on the status of power and water supply in their respective districts, ensuring continuous monitoring and swift action whenever needed. He asked for establishment of control rooms at the district level for instant resolution of complaints regarding these essential supplies in their areas.

JKB FSL Launches 'Quick Board' For Online Customer Onboarding



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: JKB Financial Services Limited (JKB FSL), which is a wholly owned subsidiary of J&K Bank, has today unveiled an innovative online solution for customer onboarding with a user-friendly interface.

Marking a significant step towards enhancing the customer experience in the financial sector, JKB Bank MD & CEO Baldev Prakash, who is also Chairman of JKB FSL, today launched 'Quick Board' here at the Bank's corporate headquarters in presence of the JKB FSL Board of Directors and Bank's Cross Selling Vertical. Other senior officials of the Bank and JKB FSL were also present at the launch event.

Speaking on the occasion, Bank's MD & CEO Baldev Prakash commended the JKB FSL team for augmenting the digital landscape of the company. He said, "As is case with J&K Bank, we want digital transformation in JKB FSL as well and Quick Board is a significant step towards achieving this goal. With India's financial markets

witnessing remarkable growth especially the mutual fund industry, this platform will make our services more convenient and accessible to our customers anywhere in the world."

"Importantly, our objective at JKB FSL is to onboard more and more individuals from this region, enabling them to participate in and benefit from the wealth creation opportunities in the flourishing financial markets of our country. The platform will also ensure greater compliance with all the KYC documents automatically verified through the concerned registration agencies", he added.

Expressing pleasure at the successful launch of the platform, MD JKB FSL Syed Adil Bashir said, "The introduction of 'Quick Board' is a testament to our commitment to leveraging technology for convenient and efficient customer service. With its launch, we aim to empower people especially in J&K and Ladakh by providing them with the tools and resources needed to engage with the dynamic financial markets, thereby contributing to the region's economic growth and development."

HC Bans Concrete Structures In Bangus Valley

M Ahmad

SRINAGAR: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has directed authorities not to permit any concrete structure in the Bangus Valley without its permission.

Lying at an altitude of around 10,000 ft. above sea level in north Kashmir's Kupwara district, Bangus Valley is known for its breath-taking natural beauty, including snow-capped mountains, lush green forests, and crystal clear streams.

Occupying an estimated area of 300 sq.km (20x15km), the principal valley locally known as Both Bangus (Big Bangus) consists of a linear elliptical bowl aligned along the east-west axis. The valley is surrounded by Rajwar and Mawar in the east, Shamasbury and Dajlung Mountains in the west and Chowkibal and Karnah Guli in the north. A smaller valley known as Lokut Bangus (Small Bangus) lies on the north-eastern side of the main valley. Both the valleys have level green meadows surrounded by low-lying mountains covered with dense Coniferous forests (budloo) and a crystal clear stream flowing through them.

Hearing a Public Interest Litigation, a division bench of acting Chief Justice Tashi Rabstan and Justice Rajnesh Oswal also issued notice for filing response to authorities including Commissioner Secretary Forest Department, Conservator of forests North Circle Sopore, Divisional

forest officer Kehmil Forest division Kralpora Kupwara, District Development Commissioner Kupwara and Chief Executive Officer Lolab Bangus Drangyadi Development Authority (LBDDA) Kupwara.

The notice was accepted on behalf of the authorities by the Deputy Advocate General who sought and was granted four weeks time for filing the response to the PIL which among others, seeks a direction to the authorities to prepare a Master Plan for sustainable development of Bangus valley before carrying on any developmental work.

The PIL also seeks a direction to the authorities to take steps for preservation of natural beauty of Bangus Valley including its forests, stream, meadows etc while preparing Master Plan by following the procedure as envisaged in Jammu and Kashmir Development Act 1970 and in such a way that no concrete constructions and buildings are allowed to be constructed there and "no allotment of land is made in haphazard manner and in excess for commercial activities."

"In the meantime, the respondents, particularly the respondent No. 3 (Divisional forest officer Kehmil Forest division Kralpora Kupwara), is directed not to allow raising any concrete structure in the Bangus Valley without leave of this Court," the division bench added and ordered the listing of the PIL for further consideration on September 11.

PIL In HC On Kargil-Ganderbal 'Boundary Dispute'

M Ahmad

SRINAGAR: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has treated a letter by Councillor of LA-HDC (Kargil) as Public Interest Litigation (PIL), seeking court's intervention to resolve "boundary dispute" between Kargil in Ladakh and Ganderbal in Kashmir.

Hearing the PIL which also seeks directions to "Save Ladakh's Environment, Ecology and Land from Encroachers", a division bench of acting Chief Justice Tashi Rabstan and Justice Rajnesh Oswal issued notice to Ladakh UT's Chief Secretary, its Principal Secretary to Forest Department and Additional Director General of Police besides Deputy Commissioner Kargil, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir and Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal.

Advocates representing officials accepted the notice and were granted time till August 28 by the court to file response to the PIL.

The letter dated July 1, 2024 under the subject "Save Ladakh's Environment, Ecology and Land from Encroachers and Resolve the Boundary Dispute between District Kargil of UT Ladakh and District Ganderbal of J&K" had been addressed to the Chief Justice by Abdul Wahid, Councillor 2-Bhimbet Constituency, Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Kargil.

The letter was placed before the Chief Justice (Acting) and same was directed to be treated as PIL and listed before the appropriate Bench.

In the letter, "deep" concern had been expressed over the safety of the environment

and ecology of Ladakh. It was averred in the letter that the residents of District Ganderbal have encroached upon the land of Ladakh under the garb that the Border Roads Organization (BRO) has divided the snow area land into equal proportions and this action on part of the inhabitants of Ganderbal has endangered the flora and fauna of the Ladakh region which being a threat to the environment and ecology of the said region.

Moreover, it has been pleaded that the traffic movement and allied rules governing the subject were being applied to impede only Ladakh people who were made to suffer from various aspects whereas the tourist vehicles as well as heavy vehicles without any restrictions were being allowed to move throughout the year.

Trekker Slips To Death, 2 Injured While Taking Picture Along Mughal road

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A trekker slipped to death and two others were injured while taking pictures along Mughal road in Dubjan area of south Kashmir's Shopian district on Thursday, officials said. An official said that three trekkers were injured after they slipped while taking pictures along the Mughal road. He said that one among them succumbed to his injuries, while the injured have been shifted to district hospital Shopian for treatment. The deceased has been identified as Murtaza Ahmad of Shopian—(KNO)

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir,

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION KUPWARA

NIT No.09-Kupwara/1977-86of 2024-25 e-tendering DATED:-24-07-2024

For & on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of J&K Union Territory, e-tenders (in single cover system) are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other state/Central Governments for the followings works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In rupees)	Earnest Money (In rupees)	Time of Completion In days	Time & Date of Opening of Bid	Class of Contractor	Major Head of Account
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
01	Construction of Common facilitation Centre at Sulkoot Kupwara	28.79	1100/-	58000/-	90 days	05-08-2024	"A&B"	HADP-2024

Position of AAA :-Accorded

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

01.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	24-07-2024
02.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 25-07-2024 to 05-08-2024 (4.00P.M)
03.	Bid submission start date	25-07-2024 from (10.00A.M)
04.	Bid submission end date	05-08-2024 upto (04.00P.M)
05.	Date & time of opening Bids (on line)	05-08-2024 at (6:00P.M) in the Office of the Executive Engineer RnB Division Kupwara

TERMS AND CONDITIONS :-

The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploading softcopy any short fall found in the soft copy the tender shall be rejected.

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape Treasury Challan (Under Account Head 0059) (Treasury Challan) must be written boldly the Name of Work, Name of Contractor alongwith NIT No. & Sr. No of NIT) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Kupwara (tender inviting authority) and Earnest money /Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Kupwara. The Issuance date of the Treasury Challan and CDR/FDR Must be in between the date of Downloading to Bid Submission end Date
- The Successful Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% additional performance security deposit of the allotted cost. The same shall be released after successful completion of the defect liability Period of the work. The EMD of 2% successful bidders shall be released after receipt of 5% Performance Security.
- The Additional Performance Security shall be released only after the 50 % Successful completion of the work.
- The key construction material shall have to be arranged by the contractor of his own as per the quality/specifications.
 - Cement = JKOPC Brand
 - Steel of all sorts = SAIL certified (The sail certificate shall have been produced /deposited in the division by the AEE concerned at the time submission of the work done bills). No extension in quantities/ Cost is allowed in any case.

No. 1977-86
DT: 24-07-2024

DIPK-3528-24
DT: 25/07/2024

Executive Engineer
R&B Division Kupwara.

GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE SRINAGAR

10-KARAN NAGAR, SRINAGAR KASHMIR, 190010 | PHONE NO. 0194-2504114 FAX NO 0194-2503115

NOTIFICATION

It is hereby notified for information of all the concerned candidates who have applied for tenure post of Junior Resident (House Surgeons) in response to this office advertisement Notice No: 02 of 2024 dated: 08-06-2024 that their written examination will be held on 30-07-2024 (Tuesday) at 02:00PM to 03:00PM in Government Medical College, Srinagar.

The concerned candidates are advised to report to Academic section, Govt. Medical College, Srinagar along-with two passport size photographs and any identity proof like Aadhaar, Driving License etc. between 25.07.2024 to 27.07.2024 upto 1.00 pm to collect admit card/Roll No. slips.

The selection shall be made purely on the basis of merit obtained by the candidates in the written examination. However, in case of the merit obtained in the written test between two or more candidates, the following procedure shall be adopted to break the tie:-

- In case of tie the candidate having secured higher percentage of aggregate marks in MBBS will be given preference.
 - In case the tie remains unresolved after following the above procedure, the candidate older in age will be given preference.
- On the actual day of examination i.e. 30.07.2024, the candidates shall report to the examination center one hour before commencement of the examination for verification of their identity cards and will carry alongwith their admit cards, anyone of the following documents as proof of their identity:-

- Photo identity card issued by the competent authority or
- Driving license or
- Pan card/Adhaar card.

NB:

- Admit card shall be issued only to those candidates who possess Permanent Registration certificate.

Mobile phones, Electronic Gadgets, Smart watches are not allowed in the examination Center.

NO: GMCS/HJ/2389-96

Dated: 24-07-2024

DIPK-3528-24
DT: 25/07/2024

Principal/Dean
Govt. Medical College
Srinagar

Indians Eye Double-Digit Medal Haul As Paris Olympics Set For Grand Start

Press Trust of India

PARIS: Some would be carrying a huge burden of expectations, some others would look to spring a surprise and a few more would be eyeing the perfect closure to their glittering careers as the 117-strong Indian contingent aims for a better-than-before performance in the Olympic Games, starting here on Friday.

India returned from Tokyo with seven medals, and it is only natural that a double-digit performance is now desired in Paris. Except for wrestlers, who have waded through a highly controversial build-up, athletes in all disciplines have had no complaints about their preparations.

Whether it was training abroad or getting the best of facilities to sharpen their skills, there was planning in place. But will the hard work, the strategies and the unbridled support translate into medals?

THE BIG PICTURE:

It will be a Herculean task to match the Tokyo figures of seven medals, given that except for reigning Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra, not many are top contend-



ers in their respective disciplines.

More than half of the 117-member contingent is from three sports -- athletics (29), shooting (21) and hockey (19). Of these 69 athletes, 40 are debutants.

In other sports too, there are debu-

tants like tennis player N Sriram Balaji and wrestler Reetika Hooda.

They are not exactly inexperienced, but largely, India's campaign will be driven by the athletes, who will be competing on a stage this grand for the first time.

Then there are the seasoned ones who would be expected to raise their game suitably.

Two-time medallist shuttler PV Sindhu, tennis player Rohan Bopanna, legendary table tennis player Sharath Kamal and hockey goalkeeper PR Sreejesh are certainly playing their last Olympics.

The hockey team has endured patchy form in the build-up to the Games, the boxers and wrestlers are lacking in real competition time.

The shooters too have notched up mixed results heading into the Olympics.

The track and field athletes, especially Avinash Sable, have done well of late, but compared to their global rivals, their performances don't seem enough to put them in the bracket of medal hopefuls.

BEST CHANCE

India's hopes for podium finishes largely hinge on Neeraj, despite concerns around his adductor niggle, and the in-form badminton duo of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy.

It's time to turn aspirations into achievements.

Let the Games begin.

Gambhir's First Headache: Pant Or Samson For Sri Lanka T20I Series



Press Trust of India

COLOMBO: New India head coach Gautam Gambhir will have the onerous task of choosing between Rishabh Pant and Sanju Samson during the three-match T20I series against Sri Lanka starting from Saturday.

While most of the key stars of the T20 World Cup winning side sans the retiring duo of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli are in the island nation, the choice between two flamboyant wicketkeeper batters Pant and Samson won't be an easy one.

Worse, even with two slots vacant, one can't fit in both the hard-hitting batters. Pant with 171 runs was the third highest run-getter for India in the T20 World Cup in the Americas but Samson, though was part of the team, didn't get a game.

A bilateral series against Sri Lanka, of late, has become a low-stakes affair with the two countries often engaged in inconsequential series, some of which India plays to help other international cricket boards stay afloat.

One such series was supposed to be the upcoming one against Sri Lanka but it has assumed greater significance after Gambhir took over as the coach and Hardik Pandya, a sure-shot candidate for captaincy, was surpassed by Suryakumar Yadav.

In this backdrop, the presence of Gambhir, a fiercely opinionated

former India opener and a successful franchise-level mentor, will certainly have a broader say in the team composition, something that will be built over two years in the run-up to the next T20 World Cup.

The choice of a keeper-batter in T20Is hasn't exactly been a straight forward one for India, especially during the time Pant was out of action due to a horrific car accident in December 2022.

Ishan Kishan was around for some time before he fell out of favour after leaving the tour of South Africa midway. Samson has featured in some games, so have Jitesh Sharma and Dhruv Jurel in the interim.

Samson, one of Pant's contemporaries, has so far played 28 T20I games with a couple of fifties and strike rate of 133 plus. But it will be fair to say that 27 of those matches have come in the period between 2020 to present, having made his debut back in 2015. So in three and a half years, 27 matches sporadically isn't a lot of games to build on confidence.

While average is a slightly less important aspect in the shortest format, the Kerala star would himself admit that 21.14 doesn't do justice to his immense potential. On the other hand, Pant from his 74 T20I games has three fifties and a strike-rate of a shade below 127. Samson's average is thus pretty similar to that of the Delhi Capitals skipper, who scored at 22.70 per game.

U-14, 17 Inter-School Girls Competitions End At Rainawari

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The enthusiasm and sporting spirit of young athletes were on full display at Government Higher Secondary School Rainawari, as the Under-14 and Under-17 girls tournaments in Kho-Kho and Volleyball came to a thrilling conclusion on Thursday.

GHSS Rainawari showcased stellar sportsmanship and skill as they clinched victories in both the finals of Under-17 Volleyball and Kho-Kho tournament. The finals were held against GHSS Khanyar and Legends School, respectively.

Over 250 participants representing various government and private institutions showcased their skills and determination throughout the competitions.



The tournaments were organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports, Zone Rainawari. Muzamil Dar, Zone Incharge Rainawari, along with dedicated field staff, played a pivotal role in ensuring the smooth conduct of these events.

Zonal Under-14 Cricket Tournament Begins In Qazigund

Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: The Department of Youth Services and Sports Zone Qazigund organised an exciting cricket competition for boys under the age of 14 on Thursday. The tournament was held at four different venues, including Sports Stadium Wanpora Kewa, Sports Stadium Nipora, Sports Stadium YK Pora and Sports Stadium Panzath.

Several standout performances were witnessed throughout the competition.

Izhan from GMS Panzath, who delivered an exceptional all-round performance, scoring 19 runs off just 9 balls and taking 2 wickets in his 2 overs, conceding only 9 runs. Muhiin



from GMS Nipora showcased his batting prowess with a remarkable knock of 44 runs. Basit Reyaz from BMS YK Pora played a brilliant innings, scoring 18 runs off just 6 balls. At Sports Stadium Wanpora Kewa, Bazil Nazir from MS Tanjoo exhibited an impressive all-round performance, scoring 22 runs and taking 2 wickets.

Short TAKES

ZPEO Hardu Panzo & Narbal Holds Inter School Activities



Inter School Zonal Volleyball, Kabaddi and Kho Kho for Girls Under-14 began Thursday at Sports Ground Batpora. The competitions were organised by Department of Youth Services and Sports Zone Narbal.

The function was inaugurated by the in-charge zonal officer in the presence of other officials. In this event, the students of Zone Narbal participated with great enthusiasm.

Speaking on the occasion, Sheikh Bashir, in-charge activities, encouraged the participation of girls and urged them to participate in sports activities.

Paris 2024 Olympics Shatter Ticket Sales Records

The Paris 2024 Olympics have set a new benchmark in ticket sales, with organizers announcing that 9.7 million tickets have been sold or allocated. This figure surpasses the previous record held by Atlanta in 1996, which sold 8.3 million tickets.

Of the total tickets sold, 8.7 million were for the Olympic events, while one million were for the Paralympic Games. A total of 10 million tickets were made available for the Paris Olympics.

England Unveils Final XI For Edgbaston Test Against West Indies

England has announced their playing XI for the final Test in the three-match series against the West Indies at Edgbaston. With a commanding 2-0 lead, England aims to complete a whitewash.

Meanwhile, the West Indies are in pursuit of their first Test win on English soil since 1988.

England XI: Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Ollie Pope, Joe Root, Harry Brook, Ben Stokes (captain), Jamie Smith, Chris Woakes, Gus Atkinson, Mark Wood, Shoaib Bashir.

Canada Football Staff Sent Home Over Olympic Drone Scandal

An assistant coach and an analyst with the Canadian women's football team were sent home from the Olympics Wednesday for their part in a spying scandal.

The analyst, 43-year-old Joey Lombardi, was also given a suspended eight-month prison sentence for flying a drone over a New Zealand training session this week in Saint-Etienne.

Lombardi pleaded guilty when he appeared in court in Saint-Etienne on Wednesday. The assistant coach was Jasmine Mander, to whom Lombardi reported.

Djokovic, Nadal In Potential Second-Round Clash At Olympics

Grand Slam record-breakers Novak Djokovic and Rafael Nadal were placed on an Olympics second-round collision course in the draw for the Paris Games on Thursday.

Nadal, a singles gold medallist at the 2008 Olympics, is playing in his final Games having also won doubles gold in Rio in 2016 while Djokovic was a bronze medallist in singles in 2008.

Djokovic begins his campaign against Australia's Matthew Ebden. Nadal faces Hungary's Marton Fucsovics in his opener.

As Paris Olympics Kick Off, Gazans Seek Refuge In Football

Reuters

GAZA: Inspired by the Olympics worlds away in Paris, some Palestinian youths played football against each other at a school sheltering the displaced in the war-torn Gaza Strip -- a rare distraction from devastating Israeli bombardment.

With the world's gaze on competitions in France, there is no glory or prize for the winning team in the tiny enclave that has been decimated by an Israeli offensive launched after the Hamas militants who rule it staged a cross-border raid on Oct. 7.

The players found a trophy they were looking for -- something to give them even a small sense of accomplishment in the chaos of war -- under the rubble. It was a painful reminder that Gaza could take years to recover from the bloodshed.

"The whole world is watching it (the Olympics) and excited about it. And I wish for the world to look at us, in the Gaza Strip," said Abu Seif, one of the organisers of the

Gaza football games where players in red or black compete.

"Nothing is left but (it) was bombed by the Israeli occupation," read a banner held by children standing nearby.

"All our stadiums were destroyed; all our clubs were destroyed. You see the football that we are playing with, a very old ball in the shelter," Abu Seif said.

HEAVY TOLL ON SPORTS

Impoverished Gaza has always had to contend with poor sports facilities and the war has demolished everything from boxing rings to rough, dusty football pitches.

But the spirit of athletes has not been broken even as the death toll of Palestinians hammered by the Israel military campaign has exceeded 39,000, according to Gaza authorities.

"We are trying to hold sports activities in this school. We are trying to change the reality of life that we are in and entertain people and children as



much as possible," said Mustafa Abu Hashish, who is taking part in the tournament.

The world has been focused on the fighting in Gaza since Hamas attacked southern Israel, killing 1,200 people and

taking over 250 hostage, according to Israeli tallies.

Aside from trying to find a safe place to hide from the bombing, Palestinians also face a humanitarian crisis with shortages of food, fuel, water

and medicine inflicting suffering every day.

Gaza's 2.3 million people live in one of the world's most densely populated places. Palestinians who have moved up and down Gaza in fear say

there is nowhere to hide from Israeli airstrikes.

For now, the Gaza football players may be distracted from the airstrikes, shelling and ground invasion. This brief respite may not last if Egyptian, U.S. and Qatari mediators fail to secure a ceasefire after many attempts.

On July 10, an Israeli missile slammed into a tent encampment in southern Gaza just as displaced people had gathered there to watch a football match at a school, eyewitnesses said.

Israel says it goes out of its way to avoid killing civilians.

GAZA DEATH TOLL: HOW MANY PALESTINIANS HAS ISRAEL'S CAMPAIGN KILLED?

Palestinian health authorities say Israel's ground and air campaign in Gaza has killed more than 39,000 people, mostly civilians, and driven most of the enclave's 2.3 million people from their homes. The war began on Oct. 7 when Hamas militants

stormed across the border into Israeli communities. Israel says the militants killed more than 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and took 253 into captivity in Gaza.

The official Health Ministry count as of Thursday, July 25, was 39,175 Palestinian dead.

The numbers do not necessarily reflect all victims as many are still missing under the rubble, the Palestinian Health Ministry says. In May it estimated that some 10,000 bodies were uncounted in this way.

The Lancet medical journal published a letter from three academics, opens new tab on July 5 estimating that indirect deaths, caused by factors like disease, might mean the death toll is several times higher than official estimates and possibly above 186,000.

The United Nations regularly cites the ministry's death toll figures, while naming the ministry as the source, and the World Health Organization has voiced full confidence in them.