

Entire Family Wiped Out In Daksum Accident

5 Children Among 8 Killed



Observer News Service

Srinagar: Eight members of a family, including five children, were killed when their vehicle skidded off the road and fell into a gorge in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag district on Saturday, officials said.

A policeman, two women and five children aged between six and 16 are among the dead, they said.

The victims were travelling from Kishtwar towards Marwah via the Sinthan Top when their

vehicle skidded off the road and fell into a gorge at Daksum, officials said.

The family of eight died on the spot, they said.

An official said that a Maruti Swift vehicle bearing registration number (JK03H9017) lost control and rolled down the road near Aarshan Hut, approximately 20 km from Daksum Naka.

"Due to a lack of network connectivity in the area, it took some time to inform the district administration in | More on P10



KO Photo | Abid Bhat

Srinagar Once Again Breaks 2 Decade-old Heat Record

Observer News Service

Srinagar: For the second time in the month of July, capital Srinagar has once again recorded the highest temperature

in the last 25 years as the mercury settled at 35.7 degree Celsius on Saturday.

Since 1999, Srinagar recorded the highest maximum temperature on July 04, 2024 and today again, it settled at

35.7 degree Celsius, the data reveals.

The temperature settled 5.8 degree Celsius above normal in Srinagar.

Besides, Kokernag, Qazigund, Kupwara also recorded the heat | More on P10

J&K Bank's Net Profit Up By 27% In 2024-25 Q1

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Announcing a significant increase in quarterly profits, J&K Bank Saturday posted Rs 415.49 Cr as profit-after-tax (PAT) for the April-June quarter of the current financial year, which is up by 27% YoY from Rs 326.45 Cr recorded for the first quarter of previous financial year.

The Bank announced its Q1 results today after the Bank's Board of Directors approved the quarterly numbers in a meeting held here at the Bank's Corporate Headquarters.

Performance Highlights

The Bank's Net interest income (NII) grew by 7% YoY to Rs 1369.22 Cr in the first quarter of current financial year, while as, the Net Interest Margin (NIM) has improved by 9 basis points QoQ to 3.86% from 3.77% registered in Q4 of FY 2023-24. Core operating profit of the Bank witnessed an increase of 13% YoY and reached Rs 594.67 Cr from Rs 528.05 Cr.

The Bank's Return on Assets (RoA) for the June quarter stood at 1.08% as against 0.94% recorded during the Q1 of the last financial year.

Commenting upon the results, MD & CEO | More on P10

LG, Politicians Express Grief

The Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, has expressed grief over the tragic road accident in Daksum, Anantnag. In a condolence message, the LG has said: "I am deeply saddened to learn about the loss of precious lives in an unfortunate road accident in Daksum, Anantnag today. My thoughts and prayers are with bereaved family members during this hour of grief. I have issued instructions to the District Administration to provide all necessary | More on P10

J&K Parties' August 7 Meeting Postponed

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: A meeting of Jammu and Kashmir's opposition parties next month to discuss several issues concerning the Union Territory, including the delegation of more powers to the lieutenant governor, was postponed on Saturday, senior CPI(M) leader MY Tarigami said.

No fresh date for the meeting, originally scheduled for

August 7, has been finalised.

Tarigami said the meeting was postponed after National Conference president Farooq Abdullah expressed his inability to attend the meeting.

"National Conference president Dr Farooq Abdullah expressed his inability to attend the meeting scheduled for August 7 in Jammu and suggested its postponement. As such, this meeting is postponed," Tarigami said. | More on P10

Soldier Killed, Captain Among 4 Injured In Kupwara Encounter



Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: A soldier was killed and four others, including a captain, were injured as the

Indian Army foiled an attack on Saturday by Pakistan's Border Action Team (BAT) in the Kamakari sector of Jammu and Kashmir's | More on P10

Doda Attack: Sketches Of 3 Terrorists Released, Reward Announced

Jammu and Kashmir Police on Saturday released sketches of the three terrorists responsible for the recent killing of four soldiers, including a captain in Doda district, and announced a cash reward of Rs 15 lakh on their heads. Doda in Jammu region has been rocked by several terror incidents since June, which is being seen by security agencies as | More on P10

2 BSF Battalions Shifted to Jammu

The government has ordered the extraction of two BSF battalions, comprising more than 2,000 personnel, from Odisha to beef up security in the terror-hit Jammu region along the

India-Pakistan border, official sources said on Saturday.

The decision to "immediately" move the two units from the anti-Naxal operations grid to Jammu was | More on P10

Heatwave Relaxation No Action For Students Missing School: SED

Observer News Service

Srinagar: School Education Department Saturday said that it won't be strict to those students having weak attendance due to the persistent hot weather conditions.

Principal Secretary School Education Department, Alok Kumar said, "We had already announced summer vacation even though we have changed the school timing keeping in view the hot weather conditions."

"However, if we continue to announce further vacations, we won't be able to complete the syllabus on time," he said.

Kumar further told reporters that it was not possible to announce more summer vacations. "However, if any student



is not doing well because of the weather, we won't be strict to them for the weak attendance."

"In government schools, we have facilities for the students like availability of drinking water facilities and shades," he said.

Kumar further said that as of now it was not possible for the school education department to install air | More on P10

From Kashmir To World Stage: Haak Gets a Global Boost

American University & Zareef Ahmad Zareef Join Forces To Promote Kashmir's Green Gold

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A unique collaboration between the University at Buffalo (UB) and renowned Kashmiri poet Zareef Ahmad Zareef is shining a spotlight on Haak, an essential indigenous green vegetable with a rich history in the region.

Despite its cultural significance and potential health benefits, haak faces stiff competition from readily available processed foods entering the region. Preliminary data has suggested a worrying trend: younger generations consume haak less frequently than their elders. To address this, the UB Food Lab and Zareef Ahmad Zareef are launching a public education campaign with a creative twist - poetry.

Interestingly, Zareef, a celebrated writer and

environmentalist with a large following, has composed "Haake Naame" (An Ode to Haak). Written and recited in Kashmiri, the poem celebrates the historical and cultural importance of haak, drawing attention to its value beyond just sustenance. The video of the poem, with English subtitles, is available on YouTube at https://youtu.be/AgG3ZVezq54.

Samina Raja, a member of the UB Food Lab team, expressed her gratitude to Zareef, stating, "His unmatched creativity and understanding of Kashmiri foodways will reach Kashmiris in a way that scientific papers cannot. Art and science must work together to promote health and food equity."

"Indigenous foods, like haak, nourish, protect, and sustain communities. My lab is honored to partner with notable Kashmiri poet Zareef Ahmad Zareef in a campaign to draw attention to haak," Raja posted on Instagram.

According to the University Of Buffalo, food systems are increasingly | More on P10



Jammu Man Jumps In Chenab: Dead Body Returned By Pakistan

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Pakistani authorities on Saturday handed over to their Indian counterparts the body of a man who allegedly ended his life by jumping into the Chenab river in Jammu, officials said.

Harash Nagotra's family expressed their gratitude to the Indian government, army and the Border Security Force for the successful repatriation, they said.

Nagotra, a resident of a border village in the Akhnour sector, went missing on June 11, and his motorcycle was recovered on the banks of the river following which his family lodged a missing report the next day, police said.

Preliminary investigation suggested that he allegedly committed suicide by jumping into the river after suffering a loss of over Rs 80,000 in

an online gaming application, the official said.

The family got the confirmation about Nagotra's death through a WhatsApp message from a Pakistani official after the parents reactivated their son's SIM card on July 13, who worked in a private telecommunication company.

Nagotra's father, Subash Sharma, said the WhatsApp message from the Pakistani official, who claimed to be posted in the post-mortem department, informed them that the body was recovered from a canal in Sialkot in Punjab province on June 13, officials said.

The official had informed Sharma that the body had been buried. He also sent Nagotra's identity card and a few pictures of the body to the grieving family through WhatsApp, | More on P10

HC Denies Bail To Chennai Resident In Rs 1.6 Cr Fraud Case

Accused Allegedly Duped Army Officer, Posed As Co-Producer Of Bahubali Movie

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has rejected bail plea of a man from Tamil Nadu accused of duping an army officer, posted in Khanabal area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district, of over one crore rupees on account of fake property deal by posing himself as a big businessman, financier and co-producer of Bahubali (Movie) besides claiming access to Parliament and President's House.

The 34-year-old accused person, Nagraj V, according to police has been found to be allegedly involved in financial scams in the state of Tamil

Nadu besides being an accused in grabbing rupees five crores from a film producer, music director and medical students in the name of medical seats and from others for clearing a project in which his father and sister were also involved.

"The allegations against the petitioner (Nagraj) are serious in nature that he not only showed the fake documents of the property that was not owned by him but also duped the complainant for an amount of Rs. 1.06 crores...." said a bench of Justice Rajesh Oswal, adding, "With the recovery of the sale deed on 10.07.2024, the investigation of the case has reached at a crucial stage, as such, this Court is not inclined to accept the | More on P10

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



INDIAN RAILWAYS
Government of India, Ministry of Railways
Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs)

CENTRALISED EMPLOYMENT NOTICE (CEN) No.03/2024

Recruitment of various posts of Junior Engineer (JE), Depot Material Superintendent (DMS), Chemical & Metallurgical Assistant (CMA), Chemical Supervisor (Research) and Metallurgical Supervisor (Research)

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for various categories of posts given in the table below. The last date of submission of application is 29.08.2024. Applications complete in all respects must be submitted ONLINE ONLY.

Opening date of Application: 30.07.2024 | Closing date for submission of Application: 29.08.2024

Name of the post	Pay level as per 7 th CPC	Initial pay (Rs.)	Medical standard	Age (as on 01.01.2025)	Total Vacancies (All RRBs)
Chemical Supervisor (Research) and Metallurgical Supervisor (Research)	Level-7	44,900	See Annexure A in the detailed CEN	18 - 36 years	17 (RRB Gorakhpur only)
Junior Engineer, Depot Material Superintendent and Chemical & Metallurgical Assistant	Level-6	35,400			7934

**This includes a relaxation of 3 years in age beyond the prescribed age limit as a one-time measure due to the Covid-19 pandemic. For further details, please refer to the detailed Centralized Employment Notice (CEN) No. 03/2024 available on the official websites of all participating Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) listed below.*

RRB	Website address	RRB	Website address
Ahmedabad	www.rrbahmedabad.gov.in	Kolkata	www.rrbkolkata.gov.in
Ajmer	www.rrbajmer.gov.in	Malda	www.rrbmalda.gov.in
Bangalore	www.rrbnc.gov.in	Mumbai	www.rrbmumbai.gov.in
Bhopal	www.rrbhopal.gov.in	Muzaffarpur	www.rrbmuzaffarpur.gov.in
Bhubaneswar	www.rrbbs.gov.in	Patna	www.rrbpatna.gov.in
Bilaspur	www.rrbilaspur.gov.in	Prayagraj	www.rrbprayagraj.gov.in
Chandigarh	www.rrbcdg.gov.in	Ranchi	www.rrbanchi.gov.in
Chennai	www.rrbchennai.gov.in	Secunderabad	www.rrbsecunderabad.gov.in
Gorakhpur	www.rrbgkp.gov.in	Siliguri	www.rrbiliguri.gov.in
Guwahati	www.rrbguwahati.gov.in	Thiruvananthapuram	www.rrbthiruvananthapuram.gov.in
Jammu-Srinagar	www.rrbjammu.nic.in	***	***

This notification is purely indicative in nature. Candidates are required to go through the Post Parameter Table and Vacancy Table of detailed CEN 03/2024 to ascertain their eligibility before applying through ONLINE mode. Any Corrigendum/addendum/Important Notice related to the aforesaid recruitment shall be issued time to time on the above websites of RRBs only.

No. RRB/BBS/Adv/CEN-03/2024. Date: 27.07.2024 Chairpersons, Railway Recruitment Boards
BE AWARE OF TOUTS, BROKERS AND JOB RACKETEERS 2289/24

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
Jammu And Kashmir Services Selection Board
CPO Chowk, Panjtirthi, Jammu/Zamzam Complex Rambagh, Srinagar
(www.jkssb.nic.in)

NOTICE
Subject: Instructions for submission of application forms for the advertised posts.

The J&K Services Selection Board, vide Advertisement Notification No. 01 of 2024 dated 16.07.2024, has advertised 4002 posts of Constables, Home Department for inviting application forms from the eligible candidates, who are in possession of a valid Domicile Certificate of the UT of J&K. The necessary instructions for submission of application forms for the aforementioned posts through the online portal of JKSSB are given as under:

Submission of Application Forms	Receipt of Fee Online
30.07.2024 (10.00 AM) to 29.08.2024 (05.00 PM)	30.07.2024 (10.00 AM) to 29.08.2024 (10.00 PM)

The necessary instructions for filling up of online applications in this regard are as under

- Candidates are required to apply through online mode only, by accessing the website of JKSSB www.jkssb.nic.in. No other means/mode of application will be accepted.
- Candidates shall be required to register on the Portal (if not already registered) by clicking on 'Log-in (Apply on Various Posts)' tab available on the Board website.
- Candidates are required to have a valid e-mail ID and Mobile Number for registering by clicking on "New User/Sign Up" and creating login credentials. The same shall be validated using OTP (One Time Password) based verification on e-mail and if the verification code is not working, the candidates are required to resend the verification code for account activation by clicking on "Get Activation Code".
- Candidates are advised to use their username only generated while registration of their application form or received with the account activation mail instead of their e-mail ID.
- After registering/creating login credentials, the candidates shall complete their OTR (One-Time Registration) form. After the completion of OTR form, the candidates shall click on 'Active Advertisement' tab and then click on 'Apply' tab for submitting the application form for the advertised posts.
- The candidates shall carefully fill in all correct information in various columns and click on 'SAVE & CONTINUE'.
- A recent and clear passport size Photograph with white background of the candidate shall be uploaded with following specifications:
> Size of Photograph (Max size-20 KB to 50 KB) (Ht.X Wd=4.5X3.5 cms).
- A clear Signature of the candidate shall be uploaded with following specifications:
> Size of Signature (Max size-10 KB to 20 KB) (Ht.X Wd=1.5X3.5 cms).
- The candidate shall ensure that all the required fields are filled up with correct information, before final submission of the application form. Candidates shall be personally responsible for filling the details in the online application form and the information/details furnished by the candidates shall be treated as final for the purpose of determining the eligibility/claims of the candidates. No claim on account of wrong/non-filling of information shall be entertained subsequently. Benefits related to category, weightage etc. shall be claimed only in case of possession of a valid, within the date certificate to this effect and no such claim shall be entertained at any subsequent stage.
- Once submitted, the Application Form cannot be edited by the candidates. However, a candidate can cancel his/her application if wrongly filled up at any time before the last date of submission of forms, but the fee of such cancelled application form will not be refunded. In such case, a candidate can apply afresh till the last date after paying new fee.
- Candidate's Application will not be considered if fee is not paid for that application. Fee shall be paid only by Net banking/Debit Card/UPI/Credit Card Options:
> After successful completion of the form, the candidates shall be shown "P\$y link for making the online application fee payment. Candidates are advised to check the status of the fee as Submitted' on their dashboard.
> The options will be available after clicking on Pay Now link. Candidate can pay using Net banking, Debit Card, UPI, Credit Card, as Online Payment options.
- No hard copy or print out of the application form is required to be submitted by the candidates, except at the stage of DV, only in respect of the shortlisted candidates, after the conclusion of the examination.
- Candidates are advised to give their preferences for the post having the same pay level (i.e. for Item Nos. 01,02,05,06) and that shall be considered if combined examination is conducted for these posts.
- CANDIDATES ARE ADVISED IN THEIR OWN INTEREST TO SUBMIT ONLINE APPLICATIONS MUCH BEFORE THE CLOSING DATE AND NOT TO WAIT TILL THE LAST DATE TO AVOID THE POSSIBILITY OF DISCONNECTION/ INABILITY OR FAILURE TO LOGIN TO THE ONLINE APPLICATION PORTAL ON ACCOUNT OF HEAVY LOAD ON THE WEBSITE DURING THE CLOSING DAYS.
- Any person who finds difficulty in submission of application form due to technical issue or for any other reasons, shall be required to send a self-explanatory mail at sbbkarivanceccbc@mail.com for seeking guidance, clarification etc. No other mode of grievance submission in this context would be taken into consideration. Moreover, only grievances pertaining to the active application will be replied through the mail.

No. JKSSB-PLAN/5/2024-03(E-7513847)
DIPK-3653/24
Dated: 27.07.2024

Riyaz Ahmad Wani (JKAS)
Additional Secretary
J&K Service Selection Board

Scholarships This Week

Kashmir Observer in association with Buddy4Study.com presents scholarships available for the meritorious students of Jammu and Kashmir.

Scholarship Name 1: Schaeffler India Social Innovator Fellowship Program 2024

Description: Schaeffler India is inviting applications from individuals between 18 and 35 years of age to recognize and reward those individuals who are developing unique sustainable solutions that have the potential to positively impact the society in India.

Eligibility: Applicants should belong to the age group of 18 to 35 years (as on 1st July 2024). They should be residents of India. Early-stage start-ups or NGOs with functioning prototypes can participate.

Prizes & Rewards: Inspirational Fellowship grant coupled with personalized mentorship at IIMA Ventures and access to extensive networking opportunities.

- Last Date to Apply: 15-08-2024
- Application mode: Online applications only

Scholarship Name 2: LeGrand Empowering Scholarship Program 2024-25

Description: LeGrand invites applications from meritorious girls, differently-abled girls, LGBTQ+ students, Covid-affected students and students with single parents or orphans pursuing B.Tech., B.E., B.Arch., or other undergraduate degrees in Finance or Science (such as B.Sc., B.Com., B.B.A., etc.) across India. The scholarship is meant to support meritorious students to pursue a career in Engineering, Architecture, Finance and Sciences.

Eligibility: The scholarship is open to meritorious girls, differently-abled girls, LGBTQ+ students, Covid-affected students and students with single parents or orphans across India. Applicants must have secured admission in B.Tech., B.E.,



B.Arch., B.B.A., B.Com., or B.Sc. degrees in India.

Applicants must have passed Class 12 in the year 2023-24.

Girl students must have secured a minimum of 70% and above marks in Classes 10 and 12 examinations.

Special category* students must have secured 60% marks in Classes 10 and 12 examinations. Exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

The annual family income of the applicant from all sources must be less than INR 5,00,000.

Preference will be given to special category* students.

*Special category: Differently-abled girl students, LGBTQ+ students, Covid-affected students, and students with single parents or orphans.

Prizes & Rewards: Girl students are awarded 60% course fees up to INR 60,000 per year till the completion of course based on academic performance.

Students in the special category* will be awarded 80% fees up to INR 1,00,000 per year till the completion of the course based on academic performance.

*Special category: Differently-abled girl students, LGBTQ+ students, Covid-affected students, and students with single parents or orphans.

- Last Date to Apply: 10-08-2024
- Application mode: Online applications only
- Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/LFLS9

Office of the Chief Horticulture Officer Srinagar

Tele Fax 0194-2311456, E-mail: hortisrinagar@gmail.com

Subject: Open Auction of Fruit Crop/Green Grass(except cherry crop) of departmental Nursery Harwar for the year 2024-25.

- Ref. DHK communication no. DHK/Prod/E-7464723/2024/6399-6415, dated:18/05/2024. Chief Horticulture Srinagar's letter no.CHO/Sgr/Estt/997-1001 dated:31-05-2024. DHK communication no. DHK/Prod/E-7464723/2024/7221-33, dated:01/06/2024. Chief Horticulture Srinagar's letter no.CHO/Sgr/Estt/1039-41 dated:03-06-2024. Chief Horticulture Srinagar's letter no.CHO/Sgr/Estt/1085-90 dated:05-06-2024. Chief Horticulture Srinagar's letter no.CHO/Sgr/Estt/1207-18 dated:12-06-2024. Chief Horticulture Srinagar's letter no.CHO/Sgr/Estt/1530-38 dated:10-07-2024

Open Auction Notice

In view of the poor response from bidders/interested persons during the process of tendering & open auction while pursuing above referred communications issued by Directorate of Horticulture Kashmir & this office. The open Auction of Fruit Crop of Departmental Nursery cum Orchard Harwar has been fixed on 29-07-2024 at 11.00am in the office chamber of Chief Horticulture Officer Lalmandi Srinagar. By virtue of this auction notice all the interested persons are informed & requested to participate in the scheduled Auction proceedings on given date & venue while adhering the following terms & conditions.

- The interested bidders will have to deposit the earnest money in cash before commencement of Auction proceedings. The amount so required shall be decided by the Committee on spot.
- The successful bidder will have to deposit the Auction Amount in one go/ installment in the Office of Chief Horticulture Officer Lalmandi Srinagar on spot in cash. No cheque shall/will be accepted. On depositing the Auction amount the successful bidder shall have to execute the agreement immediately with the department.
- The fruits plants reserved/ear marked for studies/ field trails are marked well in advance by concerned Horticulture Development Officer.
- If the successful bidder does not follow terms and conditions or failed to execute the contract the department will be at liberty to take necessary action or black list the bidder.
- For smooth implementation of the contract instructions as may be deemed necessary & issued by the Department from time to time will be binding on successful bidder & deemed to be the part of contract /agreement.

DIPK-3661/24
DATED: 27-07-2024

Sd/-
Chief Horticulture Officer
Srinagar

Office Of The Executive Engineer JSD (PHE) Rural Water Supply Division, Ganderbal/Sgr.

H.Q: Cheki-Duderhama Ganderbal.
e-mail: pherwsd@gmail.com, Phone/Fax: 0194 - 2416292,

NOTICE INVITING e - TENDERS:
GIST Of Fresh e - Nit No: - 13/JS-PHE/RWSD/Civil of 2024-25

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir U.T e - tenders as per the instructions on "Percentage basis" from Registered / Approved / Valid (A' Class - Reputed and resourceth contractors / Firms/companies/joint venture of repute in PWD or Equivalent in CPWD) Railways and other state Governments for the below mentioned work are invited from the office of the Executive Engineer Jai Shakti (PHE) RWS Division Ganderbal/Sgr. for below mentioned work. The bidding process shall be completed online on www.jktenders.gov.in in two covers viz. Cover 1 consisting of General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and Cover 2nd consisting of Financial Bid on overall percentage rate basis, in the prescribed B.O.Q.

S. No.	Name of work	Estt. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of tender doc. (In Rs.)	Amount of earnest money (In Rs.)	Time for completion	Class of contractor	Major Head of account	Tender Call
1.	Balance work for Construction, successful testing & commissioning of 0.06 MGD Slow Sand Filtration Plant, chain link fencing around various structures, Anchor/ Thrust block, chowkidar's quarter, laying and fitting of pipe network in mains, sub-mains and distribution system for WSS Naranga under JKIDFC.	74.46	1200.00	223400.00	60 DAYS	A' Class - Reputed and resourceth contractors / Firms/companies/joint venture of repute in PWD or Equivalent in CPWD/ Railways and other state Governments	JKIDFC	3 rd

Position of funds: Available

The tendering authority is Executive Engineer, Jai Shakti (PHE) RWS Division Ganderbal/Sgr

The awarding authority is Executive Engineer, Jai Shakti (PHE) RWS Division Ganderbal/Sgr

The Bidding Documents and other details can be downloaded from the website: <https://www.jktenders.gov.in>

From 27.07.2024 (05:00 P.M.) upto 03.08.2024 (12:00 P.M.)

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings (if any), Book 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 As per schedule of dates given below.

Critical Dates:	
01	Date of publishing of Tender Notice
02	Period of downloading of bidding documents
03	Bid Submission Start Date
04	Date of Pre-Bid Meeting
05	Last date of submission of bid queries
06	Bid submission End Date
07	Date and time of opening of Bids (Online) (Technical Cover)

Bids must be accompanied by bid security via: Earnest Money in shape of CDR/DRR and (The date of CDR/DRR etc. must not be prior to 1st Jan 2020) and Treasury Receipt (mentioning therein the Nit No, S.No. of work and Advertised Cost as per the Nit) as cost of Tender Document under M.H.0215 to be placed in favour of the Executive Engineer, RWS Division Ganderbal (as specified in the table (1) (Page 1st) & all other requisite documents mentioned in the Detailed Nit/Tender document of the work. Bids will be opened in the Office of the Executive Engineer PHE RWS Division Ganderbal / Sgr (H.Q. Cheki-Duderhama Ganderbal) on 03.08.2024 at 03:00 pm. At the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

No. JS-PHE/RWSD/Cons./3563-87,
DIPK-3707/24 DATED: 27-07-2024

Sd/-
Er. Samiullah Beigh
Executive Engineer, JS (PHE) Deptt.
RWS Division Ganderbal/Sgr.

The Jammu And Kashmir Board Of School Education

New Campus Bemina Srinagar

I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class- 10th) under Roll No. 107020069 Session: Annual Regular 2024 Year 2024 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. Due to the error committed by the concerned School/parent/Board, against my father's name as Abdul Ahmad Thoker instead of Abdul Ahad Thoker 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: Tabasum Akhad
D/o Abdul Ahad Thoker
R/o Kalantara Bala fko

NAME CORRECTION / CHANGE

This is for information to the general public that I have changed the name of my daughter from Safa Naveed Zargar to Safa Naveed. In future she will be known as Safa Naveed. If anybody has any objection he/she may contact Passport Office, Srinagar within 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

Naveed Masood Zargar
F/O Safa Naveed
R/O Sangeen Darwaza, Hawal, Srinagar, J&K

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR KREERI (Executive Magistrate 1st Class)

Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora)/ chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of HAJA BEGUM D/O ABDUL AHAD MIR R/O KREERI Tehsil KREERI Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth, as 07/07/1939 and event has been shown to be occurred at HOME for issuance of delay order. In this connection, if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertaine

fko Executive Magistrate 1st Class Kreeri

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my Provisional Cum Character Certificate of class 12th under roll no: 247406 Faculty Science. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Boys Higher Sec. School Magam within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Sajad Anwar
S/o Mohammad Anwar Parrey
R/o Palpora Khag Beerwah bmg

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my Bank Account bearing AC/NO: 0309040150000174 as Hajra Begum while my correct name as per aadhaar is Hajra Begum 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 Branch Manager J&K Bank Hyderabad within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Haja Begum JM

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my Bank Account bearing AC/NO: 0227040100012312 as Batoola Bano D/o Gh Rasool Bhat While my correct name is Batoola Bano W/o Younis Ali Parray R/o Jawahar Pora Narba 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 Branch Manager J&K Singhpora Pattan within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Batoola Bano
W/o Younis Ali Parray
R/o Jawahar Pora Narba bmg

2nd Special Summary Revision-2024 Special Camps Organized In Srinagar To Enroll New Eligible Voters

Observer News Service

Srinagar: As a part of 2nd Special Summary Revision-2024 notified by the Election Commission of India (ECI) and Chief Electoral Office J&K, Special Electoral Registration Camps were held across the Srinagar District to facilitate the new eligible electors having attained the age of 18 years or above as on July 01, 2024.

In this regard, the District Election Officer (DEO) Srinagar, Dr Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat said that Special camps were held by all Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) of the District their respective Assembly Constituencies as per the directions of the ECI and Chief Electoral Officer to facilitate individuals, who have age of 18 years or above as on July 1, 2024, so that they can get their names registered in the Electoral Rolls by filling Form 6 used for registration of new electors.

According to the ECI notification Revision period is from July 25, to August 09, 2024 and on every Saturday & Sunday

Special Camps will be organized by EROs in their respective Assembly Constituencies.

The Special Camps are being held as a part of the pre-revision activities and 2nd Special Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls as of July 1, 2024 as qualifying date in all 8 Assembly Segments of Srinagar District comprising 19-Hazratbal, 20-Khanyar, 21-Habakadal, 22-LalChowk, 23-Chanapora, 24-Zadibal, 25-Eidgah and 26-Central Shalteng to enroll left out eligible individuals to provide them right to exercise their franchise in upcoming Assembly Elections.

The Special Camps will also be held on July 28, 2024 in all 8 Assembly Segments for the convenience of the individuals to get enrolled in the voter list.

Meanwhile, a two-day Special Summer Revision (SSR) camp has been organized by ERO Zadibal Assembly Segment at Islamia College of Science and Commerce, Hawal here.

The camp, according to a statement, is being organized on Saturday and Sunday to enroll the citizens, who have turned 18.



Dead Bodies Of Woman, Two Minor Kids Found In Dal Lake

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Dead bodies of a woman and her two minor kids were recovered from Dal Lake at Fore-Shore Road near Eco Park, police said on Saturday.

The unidentified dead bodies of a woman in her mid 40's and her two minor kids including a girl aged about 4 years and a 6 years-old boy, were recovered around 6:30 in the evening, a police official told Kashmir Observer.

The dead bodies, he said,

were referred to the Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar for medico-legal procedures; however their identities could not be verified as of now.

To determine the potential cause of death, a formal case has been registered at the concerned police station in this regard and investigation set off.

The police, sources said, are looking into the case from two different perspectives including that of the drowning and the suicide.

Some passerby, they said,

spotted the dead bodies floating in the water, who then alerted the police, and the bodies were subsequently retrieved.

A police official said that it was too early to draw a conclusion because the investigation was still ongoing when asked if the three had drowned in Dal Lake or this was a case of suicide.

"Since there are no signs of a drowning, it appears this was a suicide. However, the matter is still being investigated; therefore it is too early to draw a conclusion," he added.

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
BUBHERA: 01932-228243
PAMPORE: 01933-294132
PATTAN: 01954-293507
QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

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

PRAYERS
FAJR 4: 01
ZUHR 12:37
ASR 5: 32
Magrib 7:39
ISHA 9:13

HIJRI CALENDAR
21 Muharram
1446

DLSA Srinagar Organizes Awareness Program On DV & POCSO Acts

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Srinagar on Saturday organized an awareness program on Domestic Violence Act and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012.

The program was held under the guidance of Jawad Ahmed, Chairman District Legal Services Authority Srinagar (PDJ, Srinagar).

Tasneem Kausar, Deputy Legal Aid Defense Counsel, DLSA Srinagar provided insightful information about Domestic Violence Act. She shed light on the various forms of domestic violence, legal recourse available to victims, and the importance of seeking support and protection.

Sehar Nazir, Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsel, DLSA Srinagar emphasized the significance of the POCSO Act 2012 in safeguarding children from sexual abuse. She discussed the various provisions of the Act, including the definition of sexual offences, reporting procedures, and the rights of the child victim.

SSM College Hold Review Meeting On Institutional Activities

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Governing Body of SSM College of Engineering had its 21st meeting on Saturday to review the working and other institutional activities.

The meeting was chaired by Prof. (Dr.) P.N. Razdan Former Vice-Chancellor Dr. D. Y. Patil University Pune/Principal Advisor Quality Assurance & Excellence Cell, GEF, Mohammad. Ashraf Fazli Former Chief Engineer, Er. Aamir Ali Superintending Engineer Rural Engineering Wing Kashmir Prof. (Dr.)

MRD Kundangar Former Director LAWDA, Prof. (Dr.) M. Ashraf Shah HOD Physics NIT Srinagar, Mrs. Roma Wani (KAS) Former Honorary General Secretary Indian Red Cross Society J&K, Dr. Qazi Shabir Ahmad Chairman, Dilafrose Qazi Vice-Chairperson, Dr. Sajad Hussain Din Principal/Member Secretary of the Governing Body, ,

Prof.(Dr.) N.A. Shah Registrar, Prof. (Dr.) N.A. Shah Former Principal SSM College of Engineering, Adil Rashid Naqash Former KAS Officer and HODs of the Institute were also present in the meeting.

The agenda of the meeting was put before the Governing Body which was discussed item-wise in detail and decisions were taken accordingly.

In his address Prof. (Dr.) P.N. Razdan who chaired the meeting appreciated the efforts of the College Management for Introduction of Short-Term Certificate Course in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning and in this behalf gave some valuable suggestions for making the course more effective in skill enhancement of students.

Besides many points Prof. Razdan stressed upon the need to have value talks/motivational speeches by reputed Alumni and strengthen their bond with the college for overall benefit of the students.

The agenda of the meeting was put before the Governing Body which was discussed item-wise in detail and decisions were taken accordingly.

Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir.
**Office of the Child Development Project Officer,
Poshan Project Boniyar.**
Email:-cdpoboniyar@gmail.com Office Address:- Near Army Good will school

SHORT TERM QUOTATION

Short-term Quotations affixed with Revenue stamp worth Rupees Five are hereby invited from Super Bazaars / Co-operative Stores/ Fixed Price shops / Registered local shop keepers for supply of below mentioned Nutrition items (Fortified/A-grade/FSSAI), under (SAG/ SNP-ICDS), for Anganwadi Centers falling within the jurisdiction of POSHAN Project Boniyar for the year 2024-2025.

S.No	Item	Specification	Rate to be quoted per
1	Moong	Green,Grade1	Kg
2	Channa	Black,Grade1	Kg
3	Green Peas	Grade1	Kg
4	Haldi	Grade-A, FSSAI certified	Kg
5	Salt	Tata Iodized.	Kg
6	Sugar	Grade1	Kg
7	Soibean Oil	Fortune	Ltr
8	Edible Oil	P. Mark	Ltr.
9	Sugi	Grade1	Kg
11	Biscuits	Parle G	60 Grm pack.

Terms and Conditions:-

- The quotations in sealed envelope accompanied with samples of the Nutrition items packed in transparent jars with seal & stamp of supplying agency should reach the office of the Child Development Officer Poshan, Boniyar (Chairperson- Procurement Committee-rural/urban) by or before 3rd, August, 2024 up to 02:00 pm.
- The Agency Should mention the Specification of the brand of item for which the rate is quoted and the item/ brand must be FSSAI approved.
- The rates should be quoted both in words and Figures and covered with transparent tape without over writings.
- The quoted rates by any intending supplier will not be considered if nutrition item samples not deposited.
- The quotations shall be opened on 3rd, August, 2024 at 2:30 pm in presence of the intending suppliers.
- The Rates should be quoted for destination to all Anganwadi Centers of POSHAN Project Block Boniyar and should be inclusive of freight charges and all taxes including SGST & CGST. The supplies shall be delivered at Anganwadi centers by the supplier.
- The office reserves the right to accept or reject any of the quotation with specific reason.
- The intending supplier should not be under liquidation, court receivership or similar proceedings, should not be bankrupt.

Sd/-

CDPO, POSHAN Boniyar.
(Chairperson-Procurement Committee-Rural/Urban)

No:-CDPO/Poshan/B/24/Nut/ 229-36
DIPK-3690/24 Dated:-27/07/2024

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
**Office Of The Divisional Forest Officer Awantipora
Forest Division Awantipora**
e-NIT NO:- 15of 2023-24DATED:-27-07-2024

Name of Work:- Supply of Soil, Humus and Sand and preparation of potting mixture in the ratio of 3:2:1 after sieving soil, humus and sand, separating pebbles and other undesirable material and mixing net quantities together in desired ratio & volume followed by filling up of bags, preparation of beds and placement of such bags in Nurseries of Awantipora Forest Division, Awantipora.

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, e-tenders are invited on Percentage basis from registered, reputed, and resourceful Contractors/Firms registered with Jammu & Kashmir Govt./Central Govt. Organizations for the following work:

S. No.	Particulars of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	CDR Amount Rs	Class of contractor	Cost of Tender Document	Time of completion
01	1. Supply of potting material consisting of Soil, Humus and Sand for filling up of nursery bags. Soil (3 Parts): Humus (2 Parts): Sand (1 Part) = 3609.22cft 2. Preparation of potting mixture by sieving soil, humus and sand and removing pebbles and other undesirable material and mixing net quantity in the ratio of 3:2:1 & followed by filling up of bags, preparation of beds and placement of such filled bags in suitable beds of nursery for raising of nursery stock 3. Collection, sowing and fungicides of seed. 4. Purchasing of poly bags of size 9"x6" No. of Polybags = 56500 No.'s Name of Forest Nursery: Awantipora Nursery Location of Nursery: Awantipora Range:Awantipora Division: Forest Division Awantipora	4.53 Lac	Rs 9060/-	"D" Class PWD Contractor/ Forest Contractor/ JKFDCC Contractor)	Rs. 200/=	One calendar month.
02	1. Supply of potting material consisting of Soil, Humus and Sand for filling up of nursery bags. Soil (3 Parts): Humus (2 Parts): Sand (1 Part) = 3194cft 2.Preparation of potting mixture by sieving soil, humus and sand and removing pebbles and other undesirable material and mixing net quantity in the ratio of 3:2:1 & followed by filling up of bags, preparation of beds and placement of such filled bags in suitable beds of nursery for raising of nursery stock 3.Collection, sowing and fungicides of seed. 4.Purchasing of poly bags of size 9"x6" No. of Polybags = 50000 No.'s Name of Forest Nursery: Awantipora Nursery Location of Nursery: Kanjinag Range:Awantipora Division: Forest Division Awantipora	4.015 Lac	Rs 8030/-	"D" Class PWD Contractor/ Forest Contractor/ JKFDCC Contractor)	Rs. 200/=	One calendar month.
03	1.Supply of potting material consisting of Soil, Humus and Sand for filling up of nursery bags. Soil (3 Parts): Humus (2 Parts): Sand (1 Part) = 766.56cft 2.Preparation of potting mixture by sieving soil, humus and sand and removing pebbles and other undesirable material and mixing net quantity in the ratio of 3:2:1 & followed by filling up of bags, preparation of beds and placement of such filled bags in suitable beds of nursery for raising of nursery stock 3.Collection, sowing and fungicides of seed. 4.Purchasing of poly bags of size 9"x6" No. of Polybags = 12000 No.'s Name of Forest Nursery:Tral Bajwani Nursery Location of Nursery: Bajwani Tral Range:Tral Division: Forest Division Awantipora	0.96 Lac	Rs 1920/-	"D" Class PWD Contractor/ Forest Contractor/ JKFDCC Contractor)	Rs. 200/=	One calendar month.
04	1. Supply of potting material consisting of Soil, Humus and Sand for filling up of nursery bags. Soil (3 Parts): Humus (2 Parts): Sand (1 Part) = 766cft 2. Preparation of potting mixture by sieving soil, humus and sand and removing pebbles and other undesirable material and mixing net quantity in the ratio of 3:2:1 & followed by filling up of bags, preparation of beds and placement of such filled bags in suitable beds of nursery for raising of nursery stock 3. Collection, sowing and fungicides of seed 4. Purchasing of poly bags of size 9"x6" No. of Poly bags = 12000 No.'s Name of Forest Nursery:Gulshanpora Nursery Location of Nursery: Gulshanpora Tral Range: Tral Division: Forest Division Awantipora	0.96 Lac	Rs 1920/-	"D" Class PWD Contractor/ Forest Contractor/ JKFDCC Contractor)	Rs. 200/=	One calendar month.
05	1. Supply of potting material consisting of Soil, Humus and Sand for filling up of nursery bags. Soil (3 Parts): Humus (2 Parts): Sand (1 Part) = 1597cft 2.Preparation of potting mixture by sieving soil, humus and sand and removing pebbles and other undesirable material and mixing net quantity in the ratio of 3:2:1 & followed by filling up of bags, preparation of beds and placement of such filled bags in suitable beds of nursery for raising of nursery stock 3.Collection, sowing and fungicides of seed 4.Purchasing of poly bags of size 9"x6" No. of Polybags = 25000 No.'s Name of Forest Nursery: Pampore Nursery Range: Pampore Range Division: Forest Division Awantipora Note:- Work will be executed at Awantipora Nursery	2.007 Lac	Rs 4140/-	"D" Class PWD Contractor/ Forest Contractor/ JKFDCC Contractor)	Rs. 200/=	One calendar month.

The e-NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, scope of work, Bills of Quantities, (B.O.Q), Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website:- www.jktenders.gov.in

Position of Funds: Budgeted Position of AA: Accorded Position of TS: Accorded

Publishing Date:-	29-07-2024
Download Start Date:-	29-07-2024 from 6:00 PM
Bid submission Start Date:-	29-07-2024 from 6:00 PM
Bid submission End Date:-	05-08-2024 Up to 08:00 PM
Date of Opening of Technical Bid through online:-	06-08-2024 at 02:00 PM in the office of the office of Conservator of Forests Kashmir South Circle Bijnbehara.
Date of Opening of Financial bid through online:-	To be opened online at any convenient date & time after complete evaluation of technical bids

- TERMS & CONDITIONS
- The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website: https://jktenders.gov.in.
- 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, Awantipora Forest Division.
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 60 days from the date of opening of bids.
- 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.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents i.e. EMD (CDR/FDR), Valid Registration Card issued by PWD/CPWD/Forest Dept. duty renewed for the current year 2024-25, PAN, Valid GST Registration, Affidavit cum Undertaking (Notarised), Govt. Treasury receipt (Cost of Tender Document).
- The successful bidder has to produce Valid Labor Registration Certificate issued by Labor Department after issuance of award of contract.
- Successful Bidder has to deposit the 15% Performance Security of the advertisement cost of tender, in case he goes below minus (-) 20% of the advertisement cost.
- 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.
- The Department will not be responsible for any delay in online submission of the bid due to any reason (technical or otherwise).
- 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.
- Bidder is advised to visit and examine the site, its surroundings and familiarize himself with the existing facilities and environment, and collect all other information which he may require for preparing and submitting the bid and entering into the Contract. Claims and objections due to ignorance of existing conditions or inadequacy of information will not be considered after submission of the bid and during implementation.
- The Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
- All other terms and conditions shall remain same as per PWD form 25 (double leaf) and as per the Detailed Tender document.
- NO:-DFO/Awp/Plg/2024-25/73-79

DIPK-3681/24
dated: 27-07-2024

Divisional Forest Officer,
Awantipora Forest Division,
Awantipora



Why Isn't Technology Used to Curb Riverbed Mining ?

Let CCTVs and drones be used to check illegal riverbed mining in J&K

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

Prohibition of riverbed mining (RBM) in monsoon has been reiterated by the environment ministry through its guidelines, and also courts. As per the Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines, 2016 and the Enforcement and Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020, riverbed mining shouldn't be permitted in the rainy season between mid June to September. These guidelines are applicable to J&K as well but they are not enforced on the ground. Only official orders are passed which are hardly enforced on the ground.

On August 2nd 2022 the Director Geology and Mining Department issued a circular under office communication No: 59/MCC/DGM/CIRCULAR/15/3575-81.

All the District Mineral Officers (DMOs) were directed to ensure no riverbed mining (RBM) is undertaken from July 1st to September 15th in Jammu & Kashmir. Ideally this circular should have come up in the month of June, but it was issued after a delay of 1 month. I was happy to see this order as I have been personally much concerned about illegal mining, but it was not enforced on the ground until I had to go to the National Green Tribunal-NGT. As I write this article the illegal sand mining and riverbed mining is going on across J&K. On an average 100 massive truck loads of boulders are illegally extracted from Sukhnag river alone in Sail area of Beerwah in Central Kashmir's Budgam district. Same is the situation in Nallah Pohru in Kupwara, Vaishav in Kulgam and Romshi and Rambhara in Pulwama/Shopian districts.

Multi-Departmental Task Force Cell

The J&K Government in 2018 constituted a Multi Departmental task force to check illegal mining at district level. Vide Order No. 1569-GAD of 2018 dated: 22.10.2018 a district level Task force Cell in Geology & Mining Department was set up across J&K. The task force cell is headed by Deputy Commissioner concerned and District Mineral Officer as Member Secretary with the main mandate to check illegal mining activities in the respective districts and imposition of penalties/compounding against the violators, but I have been asking DMO & DC Budgam for last many months to curb illegal riverbed mining in Sukhnag river and there is no response at all. I went through the environmental clearance given by JK State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority -SEIAA with regard to Budgam district and this is granted for 3 mineral blocks, 10,11 and 12 in Shali Ganga and Doodh Ganga only that too the work is to be done manually.

This author had to fight a legal battle at NGT to make sure no machines were used in Shali Ganga and Doodh Ganga. The company which had plundered Shali Ganga earlier is looting Sukhnag now for the last 2 years and nobody is acting. Even in these monsoon months when this work is banned across the country. The river beds have turned barren and they look so shabby.

Vehicle tracking system & AI

The Geology & Mining Department invited Expression of Interest (EOI) for empanelment of vendors for installation of Vehicle Tracking devices with Load Sensors on the vehicles engaged in transportation of minor minerals and is in the process of finalization of empanelment of vendors. Till date this hasn't been implemented on the ground. This project would have been of great help in tracking the vehicles enroute, quantity of minerals being transported & would have ensured transparency in riverbed mining-RBM and checking the illegal extraction/transportation of minerals and controlling the loss to the Government exchequer. But nobody knows what has happened to this project? The Geology and Mining Department as per their Annual Sand Mining Report 2022 had plans for establishment of digital check-gates on strategic locations in J&K which is Artificial Intelligence (AI) based Smart Enforcement System, but this has also been not set up on the ground as the employees of this department are working in league with the mining mafia especially the class IV and casual employees.

Security based Transport Challans

As per the guidelines of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change through their official notification issued vide S.O No 141 (E) dated 15.01.2016 the Geology & Mining Department introduced the issuance of transportation permits/challans with security features like unique barcode, fugitive ink background, invisible ink mark and watermark. The National Green Tribunal had also issued orders in this direction earlier. As per the Govt order SO 430 dated: 22.12.2022, an amendment was made in the J&K Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2016 wherein the Mineral Concessionary requires transportation of minerals in different colour coded permits/challans in respect of Mining Lessees, Crusher Unit Holders and Principal Executing Agencies of various projects of National importance so that violators if any are identified and penalized/checked. But these things are also not enforced on the ground. Even there are no CCTVs installed at the mining sites so that illegal riverbed mining is checked.

The Geology and Mining Department J&K claims to have established an e-mar-

“ Leaving aside these guidelines, the Department isn't even implementing its own recommendations that were made in its 2022 Sand Mining Annual Report. In this age of technology, when we see CCTVs cameras installed in every nook and corner of J&K, why aren't these electronic gadgets installed around mining sites? ”

ket / e-challan web portal in the year 2022 wherein the consumers can purchase the minor minerals and processed minerals from the legal vendors/mineral concessionaires of the Govt. notified rates, but these rates are only restricted to papers. Sand truck / tipper which was sold @ Rs 6000 per truck in 2019 is now sold @ Rs 16000 per truck even in the areas located within 2 kms of mining area. As per the guidelines of JK State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority -SEIAA the riverbed material has to be sold @ 50 % discount within 2 kms of the mining areas. I wrote and agitated about it several times but the Geology & Mining Department never ever enforced these rules / rate list.

Drones & CCTVs

In a landmark judgement the Bombay High Court's Goa bench, in September 2021, slammed the state police for having failed to curb the illegal sand mining in Goa as the rivers in this tiny state have been plundered by the sand mafia. The high court directed the police to seize and destroy unregistered canoes and impound the trucks which illegally transport sand, and also directed to install closed circuit tv cameras - CCTVs

“The authorities, who were duty-bound to prevent this sand mining, do not appear to be seriously interested in implementing the orders made by us from time to time. According to us, the persons involved in illegal sand mining are out to hoodwink the authorities. Unfortunately, we find that in many cases even the authorities appear to be too eager to be hoodwinked.” Justices M.S. Sonak and M.S. Jawalkar said in their order, while hearing a petition filed by a local NGO Goa Foundation.

On the direction of Allahabad High Court's order issued in 2016 the Uttar Pradesh Govt has not only installed CCTV cameras around mining areas, particularly around rivers which are prone to illegal sand mining, but even drones have been procured by the Geology & Mining Department of UP to check the illegal sand mining in the state. The Madras High Court in its February 2018 order also directed for installation of CCTVs to control illegal sand mining in the state especially around Cauvery and Coleroon river beds in Trichy and Karur districts.

Conclusion

The specific condition No. 30 Environmental Clearance guidelines of J&K State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority -SEIAA calls upon the Geology and Mining Department to use technology like Bar Coding, IT, web-based services, SMS applications to account for weight of minerals being taken out of the mining block and the number of trucks moving out with the mineral. This condition is also violated. Leaving aside these guidelines, the Department isn't even implementing its own recommendations that were made in its 2022 Sand Mining Annual Report. In this age of technology, when we see CCTVs cameras installed in every nook and corner of J&K, why aren't these electronic gadgets installed around mining sites?

I would in fact suggest introducing drones for aerial surveillance to check illegal mining in Rivers and even in Karewas where illegal clay is excavated on a large scale. The drones are already used to check illegal coal, bauxite, copper mining in many states of India. The corrupt staff of the Geology and Mining Department who have amassed huge wealth illegally must be thrown out and declared dead wood & instead use of technology be introduced for more transparency. If there are drones and CCTVs why do we need these corrupt class IV and casual employees who have purchased their own trucks, cranes and other machinery used in mining activity. The J&K Anti Corruption Bureau -ACB & CBI must check the assets of all the employees of Geology & Mining Department as many of them are involved in large scale corruption and have caused huge loss to state exchequer in the last 5 to 10 years especially.

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

The author is an RTI activist and columnist



On The BUDGET

Did You Know?

A budget is the backbone of our financial stability, whether it's on a personal or national level. It sets the framework for our income and spending.

A budget fundamentally represents our income and spending. This concept applies to both personal finance and national finance. At the national level, a budget outlines the country's income sources and expenditures. It details how much money will be allocated to various sectors such as defense, agriculture, education, and infrastructure each year. Usually, budget announcements are made in February.

However, this year, an interim budget was introduced due to the upcoming election, and the full Union budget was announced on July 24th.

The government generates income through various means, including direct and indirect taxes, GST, excise duty, customs duty, and through gains such as Short-Term Capital Gains (STCG) and Long-Term Capital Gains (LTCG) and other taxes. The expenditures cover a wide array of sectors including education, roads, railways, energy, health, and salaries.

For the 2024-25 budget, over 11 lakh crores have been allocated towards capital expenditure, which accounts for 3.4% of the GDP. This allocation will particularly benefit the infrastructure sector along with the cement and steel industries. The battery sector will also gain as there is a full exemption on lithium import duties for corporations that manufacture batteries. Agriculture and fertilizer companies will benefit from a government allocation of 1.5 lakh crores.

Additionally, the railway sector has already seen budget announcements of 2.52 lakh crores. PLI schemes for the auto sector and In the renewable energy sector, import duty on spare parts for solar power has been reduced. Other industries, such as manufacturing, banking, financial services, and consumption-oriented sectors like the auto industry, will also experience positive impacts for that



investment in shining sectors quality shares is the best way to create wealth for skilled investors.

However, investing through Mutual Funds. For retail investors, mutual funds present the most tax-efficient investment option. Unlike individual shares, mutual funds require a deeper understanding and know-how to manage effectively. Mutual funds ensure that only quality portfolios are maintained, making them an ideal choice for risk-averse investors. In this context, the role of an advisor becomes crucial to navigate and select the best mutual funds aligned with individual investment goals, ensuring a balanced and diversified portfolio.

Conclusion, A budget fundamentally represents our income and spending, whether at a personal or national level. This year, the full Union budget was announced on July 24th, outlining the country's income sources and expenditures. Allocating over 11 lakh crores to capital expenditure will benefit sectors like infrastructure, cement, steel, and batteries. For retail investors, mutual funds offer tax-efficient investment options to participate in Indian growth stories.

Learn from the insights of writer, investor, entrepreneur and Founder of M I Securities & business partner of sharekhan Srinagar. Reach out at misecurities@bp.sharekhan.com for valuable financial advice!

Are You Considering Buying an Award?

Peer Mohammad Amir Qureshi

It was during one of my routine walks to procure milk from the nearby village when my phone chimed as I neared home. As I fished it out of my pocket, there was a message from one of Delhi's well-known authors, suggesting that one has to pay for features in return for awards and to get featured on very reputed national and international websites and magazines. Not the first time—I must have received hundreds of such messages—spam, simply put—offering me some sort of recognition in lieu of a fat payment. Curiosity got the better of me, and I checked out their Instagram page which they deem which was of international repute, to my surprise, they had less than a hundred followers. I wouldn't say that the followers of any page have a defining role in its legitimacy, but it was created recently. Each time that I found one such mail in my inbox, I would check on Google to see if it was valid. Every single time it turned out to be a scam. So who pays for these awards? It's nothing but a racket operating on gullible people. They apparently think that Kashmiris are more susceptible to being duped than others and, therefore engage in this sort of exploitation. There are thousands of social media pages on Facebook and Instagram. They target different individuals. Every public figure, author, model, artist—anybody who has an online presence—is approached by them. They get their email and phone number and try to benefit from it. This racket now extends to people from outside India to give the impression of international legitimacy. The fact, however bitter it may be, is that all these entities have no credibility at all. They are not any legitimate literary organizations but email spammers who look forward to deceive people.

The Illusion of Prestige

Unfortunately, they get away with it most of the time. You must have come across some people posting on social media, excited to share that they had been awarded by these organizations, often oblivious that they have simply bought an award. Such awards are pur-

chased, rather than earned; no element of merit therein lies. The persons who fall prey are mostly ignorant who become victims of such schemes, often out of ignorance and insatiable succumbing to the whims of fame. Their yearning for ac-

human rights organizations dispensing awards in literature, to say the least. It reminds me of an anecdote: once, so called Kashmiri Journalist was awarded by a readymade garments shopkeeper as if it were some sort of a reputed media centre

Aage Jahan Aur Bhi Hain," Iqbal dwelt on the petty nature of worldly celebrity and exhorted man to strive for higher spiritual and intellectual attainment. He emphasizes that true satisfaction ensues from pursuing one's ideals proficiently

passion towards one's goals. Who bestows these accolades and upon what grounds are they conferred? What laudable feats underpin the recipients' recognition, and how profoundly have they shaped society's trajectory? Might their contributions indeed

immensely forward to learning from all of the many perspectives that encompass such a vast, sweeping spectrum of opinion. We also need to follow this line of thinking in our lives. These are paid awards and result in just a boosting one's ego and nothing else; it definitely means nothing more. True success ultimately lies in dedication, hard work, and genuine achievements. The most interesting, or rather farcical, thing is that the awards are given in entirely unrelated fields—human rights organizations dispensing awards in literature, to say the least. It reminds me of an anecdote: once, so called Kashmiri Journalist was awarded by a readymade garments shopkeeper as if it were some sort of a reputed media centre or research institute.



How to Combat This Menace

The first step to overcoming fake awards and recognition scams is through awareness and education about them. People must, therefore, be oriented with the common tell-tale signs of a scam and the need to verify whether the award or recognition is legitimate before they invest their money. This includes research into the credibility of organizations that extend an award, checking their official website, and consulting other reputable sources. It may further be reported to consumer protection agencies and social media platforms so that legal action against such scammers and prevention of further preying on others is taken. Encouragement and support of the merited awarding organizations, coupled with celebration of genuine achievements, will give less recognition to paid recognitions. Stricter regulation and control over the process of award giving can further help in being transparent and, accordingly, averting its proliferation into fraudulent activities. It is through collective effort that we must strive to reduce the adverse effects of scams as well as try to develop a culture where real merit and hard work are honestly appreciated.

The author is a Ganderbal based columnist and holds master's degree. He X's @peermohdamir

colades and recognition only succeeds in massaging their ego and increasing their status within their circles. Be that as it may, everything is observed; nothing goes unnoticed, but it is hard to believe that they don't feel deep down that real award are not bought. They are simply feeding their large egos by putting such purchased accolades on the walls and shelves as if it is worth something. The most interesting, or rather farcical, thing is that the awards are given in entirely unrelated fields—

or research institute.

Insights From Allama Iqbal R.A and Virat Kohli

Allama Iqbal wrote about Renaissance fame, the pursuit of loftier ideals. In his poetical collection "Bang-e-Dra" (The Call of the Marching Bell), he turns to the question of fame as something external and unreal. He feels it is in purposeful life lies the creating of greatness and earning of recognition, not in the chasing after fleeting, vain fame. In the poetics of "Sitaron Se

for the larger welfare of humanity than in merely gaining fame and appreciation.

I remember an interview of the legendary cricketer Virat Kohli in which he said that hard work, patience, and perseverance mean everything to him. According to Kohli, only long-lasting continuous effort and dedication may result in real successes, instead of some overnight formulas or shortcuts. He believes there is no substitute for hard work, and the real achievement is a long-term consequence of struggle,

be deemed meritorious, or are these honors merely secured through pecuniary means?

The self – Adulation Trap

Amusingly enough, certain individuals have been audacious enough to establish their own establishments and, almost whimsically, bestow themselves with Awards, promoting an air of supremacy and such. One wonders, how do they quench the thirst of their souls by self-adulation? A profound contemplation, indeed! I look

Tourist-friendly Departmental Stores In Srinagar



Ayiesha Gauher

Kashmir is renowned for its tourism across the world and witnesses a huge influx of tourists throughout the year. Visitors to the valley look forward to enjoying Kashmir's beauty and buying souvenirs such as the Pashmina shawl, handicrafts etc.

However, all travel stories are incomplete unless we forget to bring something crucial with us. It might also happen with you when you visit Kashmir. We need a variety of products on a daily bases

which might be difficult for us during our vacation or we may forget it due to the excitement of experiencing something new. You might need the most often forgotten yet essential tool - the toothbrush, as a parent you might urgently require some essentials for your child or as a female you may urgently require sanitary products.

So, you need not worry as we have got you covered!

Here is the list of some easily accessible departmental stores in Srinagar that you can visit in

case of a product emergency:

► Pick n Choose:

Located in Lal Chowk, this departmental store is at a prime location. It is closer to almost all tourist places and popular hotel locations. If you are a tourist visiting from abroad, you'd find that the departmental store has a huge array of imported snacks, toiletries, skin care and other essentials as well.

3RF9+5FX, Residency Road, Opp. ICICI Bank, Regal Chowk, Munshi Bagh, Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir 190001. Location here - Pick n Choose

► Cash N Carry:

This departmental store is also close to hotels especially in Jawahar Nagar or Raj Bagh. You'll find that everything you need is available here.

59 Main Road Jawahar Nagar, 300, Government Polytechnic Rd, near DAV School, Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar. Location here - Cash N Carry Departmental Store

► 7/11 Departmental Store:

Just like Pick and Choose, 7/11 is also one of the largest departmental stores in Srinagar. From cosmetics, to skin care, to

snacks and just about anything, you'll find it here. The departmental store also has imported items, kids food, crockery and much more.

By-Pass, opp. JK Bank, Sanat Nagar, Rawalpora, Srinagar. Location here - 7/11 Departmental Store

► The Basket:

This departmental store is located close to all major tourist locations in Srinagar. If you are out and about around Dal Lake, Nishat Garden, Chashma Shahi, Shalimar Bagh, chances are that you can do a quick run to this

store to get anything you need. Nishat, near Boulevard road, Srinagar. Location here: The Basket

These places consist of a wide range of products ranging from eatables to personal hygiene and will save you from the constant trouble of visiting plenty of stores to find a few products. They are spread across Srinagar and are easily accessible for visitor's convenience.

The Author is an intern at Kashmir Observer and is pursuing her master's from Jamia Millia Islamia.



Entire Family

Anantnag," he said, adding, "Upon receiving the information, medical, police, and CRPF teams, along with local residents, rushed to the scene. Unfortunately, all occupants of the vehicle were found dead, and their bodies were recovered and transported to SDH Kokernag."

Sub District Magistrate (SDM) Kokernag, Suheel Ahmad Lone, confirmed that eight members of a single family, including five children, died in the fatal accident.

He said that postmortem examinations were conducted at SDH Kokernag, and the deceased, identified as residents of Kishtwar, were transported to their native village for last rites.

The deceased were identified as Policeman Imtiyaz Rather (45), son of Ghulam Rasool Rather, Afroza Begum (40), wife of Imtiyaz Rather, Reshma (40), wife of Majid Ahmad, Areeba Imtiyaz (12), daughter of Imtiyaz Rather, Aniya Jan (10), daughter of Imtiyaz Rather, Abaan Imtiyaz (6), daughter of Imtiyaz Rather, Musab Majid (16), son of Majid Ahmad and Mushail Majid (8), son of Majid Ahmad.

A police official said that a case has been registered and further investigation is underway.

This tragic accident adds to a worrying trend of road fatalities in Jammu and Kashmir.

Official figures reveal that from January to the end of July this year, 2,864 accidents occurred in the union territory, including 324 fatal and 2,540 non-fatal accidents. In these incidents, 417 people lost their lives, and 3,894 were injured.

LG, Politicians

assistance to the affected family". Political leaders also expressed grief over the tragic accident.

Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad expressed shock over the tragic accident. He sought compensation for the families of the deceased.

"Shocked by the tragic accident on the Sinthan-Daksum road, where 8 people, including 5 children, 2 women, and a cop lost their lives. The Kishtwar-Kashmir road is tough and hilly. We must exercise caution and avoid rash driving. I urge the government to compensate the families of the deceased," Azad posted on the social media site X.

The National Conference also expressed grief over the tragedy. "Jammu and Kashmir National Conference President Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Vice President Omar Abdullah have expressed profound shock and grief over the fatal road accident at Daksum, where 8 people, including 5 children, tragically lost their lives. They extended their heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved families and prayed for peace for the departed souls and strength for those who have suffered this immense loss," read the party's post on X.

The People's Democratic Party (PDP) wrote: "Party President Ms. Mehbooba Mufti has expressed deep shock over the tragic loss of eight family members in the Daksum Sinthan Top accident that included five children. My heartfelt condolences to the grieving families. In these trying times, I urge the authorities to provide immediate compensation and support to the affected families. May the departed souls rest in peace."

"Deeply saddened by the tragic accident in Kokernag that claimed the lives of 8 people including 5 children and a policeman," said Jammu and Kashmir People's Conference (JKPC). "Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the deceased. May they find strength in this difficult time," the party added.

Srinagar Once Again

wave again today with mercury settling at 32.5 degree Celsius, 32.6 degree Celsius and 35.6 degree Celsius respectively. Pahalgam, a famous tourist destination, has recorded 30.1 degree Celsius.

Kokernag has recorded a 7.1 degree temperature above normal.

Jammu City has, however, recorded a day temperature of 35.1 degree Celsius, which shows that Srinagar was warmer than Jammu today.

Banihal has recorded a maximum temperature of 30.6 degree Celsius. Batote, Katra and Bhandarwah recorded a maximum temperature of 28.2 degree Celsius, 32.0 degree Celsius and 31.2 degree Celsius.

However, the weatherman has predicted a significant fall in the temperature from 29th July onwards.

Director Meteorological department, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said that brief spell of rain, thundershower is expected at isolated places of Kashmir division & light to moderate rain and thundershower at many places of Jammu division.

From July 29 to July 31, generally cloudy with intermittent spells of light to moderate rain and thundershower at scattered to fairly widespread places of Kashmir division & widespread places of Jammu division.

He added that from August 01 to August 04, the weather would remain generally cloudy with spells of intermittent light to moderate rain and thundershower at many places of Kashmir division & most places of Jammu division.

Meanwhile, the MeT has issued an advisory, saying that significant fall is expected in day temperature from 29th July onwards.

"Intense showers for a brief period with possibility of Landslides/Mudslides and shooting stones over few vulnerable places with possibility of heavy Rainfall at few places of Jammu division," the advisory reads. (KNO)

J&K Bank's Net

of J&K Bank, said, "With improved bottom line, our performance in the first quarter reflects the resilience and strength of the Bank. The key financial metrics have shown notable improvements, reflecting healthy progress. And with our Return on Assets above 1%, we have also maintained the NIM in the upper band of our market guidance, i.e. near 4 percent at 3.86% despite pressure on margins."

Business Growth Advances of the bank grew over 13% YoY and stood at Rs 95449.77 Cr as against Rs 84475.63 Cr in the corresponding quarter a year ago. The deposits also increased by 9% to Rs 132573.13 Cr from Rs 121297.49 Cr recorded last year. During the quarter, the Bank's CASA Ratio stood at 49.77%.

Commenting on the business growth, MD said, "There is a healthy growth in our advances and deposits, demonstrating the trust and loyalty of our customer base especially in our core operational geography."

He further said, "However, on account of the increased outflows of Govt. funds witnessed usually during our first quarter, there is a temporary dip in CASA ratio this time but we are confident to maintain it above 50% annually. And we have already sharpened our focus to augment our strong liability franchise."

"We also foresee growth in business, coming from the developmental drive of massive infrastructure being put into place to meet the growing requirements of the increasing tourist inflow into J&K," he added.

Asset Quality In sequential terms, the Bank's gross non-performing assets (GNPA) have reduced by 17 basis points to 3.91% from 4.08% registered in March quarter of FY 2023-24. The net NPA for the Q1 has also improved further to 0.76% QoQ as against 0.79% recorded during Q4 of previous financial year. NPA Coverage Ratio for Q1 stood at 91.57% when compared to 87.55% recorded for the Q1 last year.

Regarding asset quality, the MD & CEO asserted, "We have brought our GNPA to below 4% this quarter and trend will continue to be healthy in our asset quality, which continues to be our star metric", adding "Besides, as per our market guidance, we have maintained our NPA Coverage Ratio above 90% level at 91.57%", he added.

Operational Excellence MD & CEO also spoke about the steady transformation of the Bank, "In terms of operational excellence, we are steadily emerging as a lean, agile and digitally driven financial institution."

"During the last many quarters, we have transformed the digital interface of the Bank and are on track to accomplish the goal of becoming 100 percent digital not only in our services framework but also in our internal work processes. By the end of current financial year, we are planning to digitally on-board our remaining products, thereby, opening up infinite possibilities for online journeys within the country's banking sector. The strategic objective is to become 'Bank for all generations'."

"Our commitment to innovation and customer-centric growth shall continue while delivering value to our customers, stakeholders and maintaining the Bank's position as the leading financial institution in the region and the country", the MD said. Capital Position During the quarter, the Bank's Capital Adequacy Ratio (BASEL III) has improved to

15.07% as against 14.83% recorded last year. On capital position of the Bank, the MD & CEO remarked, "With CRAR at above 15% level, I think we are adequately capitalized to fund our future growth plans."

J&K Parties' August

The meeting was called to discuss issues concerning Jammu and Kashmir, including the amendments to the Transaction of Business of the Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir Rules, 2019.

The amendments delegate more powers to the lieutenant governor on matters related to decisions on police, officers of all-India services such as the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) and the Indian Police Service (IPS), and sanctioning prosecution in various cases.

All political parties, except the BJP, have criticised the amendments.

Soldier Killed

Kupwara district, military sources said. They said a Pakistani intruder was also killed in the exchange of fire, while two more managed to return to Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) amid the intense gunfight that lasted for hours.

The BAT generally comprises special forces personnel of the Pakistan Army and terrorists.

"Action by Border Action Team has been foiled by alert Indian Army troops on Saturday morning in Kamakari sector," one of the sources said.

Security in the Union territory has been tightened following a recent uptick in terror attacks there. In the Jammu region alone, attacks in Rajouri, Poonch, Reasi, Udhampur, Kathua and Doda districts have claimed 22 lives, including that of 11 security personnel and a village defence guard member, this year.

As part of its attempt to beef up security in Jammu, the government is sending two BSF battalions, comprising more than 2,000 personnel, from Odisha, according to sources.

The decision to "immediately" move the two units from the anti-Naxal operations grid was taken in the wake of the recent spate of terror attacks in the Jammu region, they told PTI.

In the attack on Saturday morning in Kupwara, a Srinagar-based defence spokesperson said, the intruders crossed the LoC taking advantage of the bad weather and poor visibility in the area and fired on a forward Army post from proximity.

According to the sources, the group of three intruders hurled a grenade and opened fire on a forward post near the Kumkadi post in the Trehgam sector of the north Kashmir district.

The troops retaliated, triggering a gunfight between the two sides, the sources said, adding that five soldiers were injured in the encounter and one of them later succumbed to injuries.

They said the injured Army personnel, including the captain, were evacuated to the Base Hospital in Srinagar.

In a statement, the defence spokesperson said the identification and affiliation of the slain Pakistani intruder was being ascertained. One of the soldiers who suffered severe injuries in the gunfight is responding well to treatment and is stable at present, he added. The soldier who died was identified as rifleman Mohit Rathour.

The official said that in the past too, similar attempts by infiltrators, actively aided and abetted by the Pakistani Army, have exploited thick foliage and poor visibility conditions, but have always been successfully thwarted and disrupted.

The Indian Army is firm in its resolve and commitment to maintain the sanctity of the LoC and defeat the nefarious and inimical designs of the Pakistani side, he added.

Doda Attack: Sketches

an attempt by Pakistan-based terror handlers to revive terrorism in the hilly district.

Releasing the sketches of three terrorists, a police spokesman in Doda said they are moving in the upper reaches of the district especially in Dessa forest where an army captain and three soldiers were killed in a gunfight during an anti-terror operation on July 16.

J&K Police announced a cash reward of Rs 5 lakh on each of these three terrorists, the spokesperson said, appealing to the general public to provide information about them and assured that the identity of the informer will be kept a secret.

Police shared over a dozen phone and mobile numbers, including that of senior police officers and a control room for people to reach out. Besides the deadly encounter in Dessa forest, at least 10 security personnel have been injured in separate terror attacks at Chattergalla pass, Gandoh, Kastigarh, Ghadi Bagwah forest between June 12 and July 18. Three terrorists were killed in a day-long operation in the Gandoh area of the district on June 26.

2 BSF Battalions

taken in the wake of the recent spate of terror attacks in the region, the sources told PTI. Officials in the security establishment said the two Border Security Force (BSF) units were meant to be deployed as the "second line" of defence behind the first tier of its units deployed along the international border in the Jammu area to check infiltration of terrorists from across the frontier, apart from attacks by these elements in the hinterland.

The troops of these two units are expected to be based in Samba and near the Jammu-Punjab border, the sources said.

"Two recent meetings, one in Delhi and one in Jammu, of the top security brass necessitated bolstering BSF deployment in Jammu," said a senior officer, requesting anonymity.

"There was a proposal to move two BSF battalions from Odisha to Chhattisgarh to intensify anti-Naxal operations there but these units are now being sent to Jammu, given the current situation," the officer added.

The BSF guards more than 2,289 kilometres of the international boundary that runs along Jammu, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat in India's western flank.

The Jammu region accounts for 485 kilometres of this border, interspersed with dense forests and mountainous terrain. About a dozen BSF battalions are deployed along the international border region in Jammu.

Security in the Jammu area has come into focus following a series of terror attacks in Rajouri, Poonch, Reasi, Udhampur, Kathua and Doda districts this year that have led to the killings of 22 people, including 11 security personnel and a village defence guard member.

Five terrorists were killed in two encounters in Kathua and Doda districts last month.

One BSF battalion, the sources said, was being withdrawn from Malkangiri district and the other from Koraput district of Odisha on the directions of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

Prior to the extraction of the two units, both the districts had four battalions each, deployed as part of anti-Naxal operations duty.

The officials said deploying replacements for these two battalions was a decision that would be taken later.

The deployment of BSF troops in the "second line and depth" areas along Jammu and other parts of the international border has been a long proposed plan after officers of the force and experts pointed out that such a backup would help check infiltration and terrorist activities in the hinterland.

The Jammu area is vulnerable to cross-border tunnels and its dense forests and mountainous terrain make it an ideal ground for terrorists to launch attacks against civilians and security forces.

The infrastructure for the "second line" deployment will have to be created over the next few months and years and, till that time, the new two units will man the Jammu international border, a senior officer in Jammu and Kashmir said.

No Action For

conditioners. "But we are working on upgrading the infrastructure in public schools."

HC Denies Bail

prayer of the petitioner (Nagraj) for grant of bail at this stage."

The court also directed the SSP concerned to supervise and monitor the investigation himself to ensure fair investigation. Further, the court directed the Investigating Officer to conclude the investigation as expeditiously as possible.

According to the police, Nagraj came into contact with the complainant in the month of August 2023 and by posing himself as a big businessman, financier, co-producer of Bahubali (Movie), expressed his desire to invest in Kashmir. He also asked the

complainant that if he was interested in buying a house in Delhi, he could get him the same at reasonable rates. On 8 September 2023, Nagraj requested him to transfer Rs. 12 lacs in his father's account as he was going to the President's house. The complainant transferred Rs. 11 lacs from his account and Rs. 1 lac from his wife's account. On 12 September, 2023, Nagraj called the complainant to Delhi for discussing the property matter and the complainant went to his house in Defence Colony, New Delhi.

Nagraj showed the property papers of his house to him and claimed that he and his father were its owners, and they wanted to sell it. As the complainant was looking for a property, so he agreed to buy and asked him to prepare a written agreement, the police said.

Nagraj, the police said, told the complainant that he would send the same by post as the documents were lying in Chennai, but he never did so. In October 2023, Nagraj, police said, called the complainant to Chennai, where he showed some apartment, where renovation work was going on, as his production house. The complainant on asking of Nagraj deposited Rs. 32 lacs in the account of K. Vishnu Sagar, Nagraj's father, Rs. 30 lacs in the account of Ranjeet Surya Ganesan (Nagraj's Chennai friend) and Rs. 44 lacs in his own account. The sum of Rs. 1.06 crores was paid by the complainant through his own and wife's account. When the suspicion arose in the mind of the complainant, he enquired and came to know that the property did not belong to Nagraj, and he had shown him false papers pertaining to property. When the complainant asked him to return his money, he kept on delaying the same and finally issued cheques for an amount of Rs. 1 crore and due to insufficient funds, the cheques were bounced.

Jammu Man Jumps

confirming that the body recovered in Sialkot is that of their missing son.

The grieved family made a fervent appeal to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and sought the return of the body to perform the last rites, they said.

"The body of my son was handed over to us this evening, and we will perform his last rites in accordance with our religious beliefs. We are thankful to the Prime Minister, external affairs ministry, army and BSF for their efforts in ensuring repatriation of the body of the deceased," Sharma said.

The officials said the army's Jammu-based White Knight Corps and BSF coordinated with their Pakistani counterparts, and Harash's body was handed over to the Indian side at Octroi post near Suchetgarh on Saturday evening after completion of legal formalities on both sides.

The body was taken to a government medical hospital for post-mortem, and last rites will be performed on Sunday, the officer said.

From Kashmir

recognized for their impact on public health. However, the importance of indigenous and community-based food systems often goes unnoticed.

Researchers at UB's Food Systems Planning and Healthy Communities Lab (UB Food Lab) are collaborating with Sher-i-Kashmir Agricultural University of Science and Technology (SKUAST-Kashmir) to document, preserve, and strengthen these local food traditions.

Early studies by SKUAST-K suggest that haak may offer health benefits due to its high content of antioxidants and vitamins. Led by Khalid Masoodi, SKUAST-Kashmir's research team has conducted preliminary in-vitro studies suggesting that haak may offer protective health benefits. The vegetable contains polyphenols, carotenoids, glucosinolates, and vitamins C and E, all of which are known for their antioxidant properties. These findings highlight haak's potential role in enhancing public health.

Additionally, the UB Food Lab team, including Samina Raja and Alex Judelsohn, documented haak's role as a "nutritional safety net" during times of conflict in Kashmir.

This collaborative effort, employing both scientific research and artistic expression, aims to ensure haak doesn't become a forgotten chapter in Kashmir's rich culinary story, but rather thrives as a cornerstone of a healthy and sustainable future for the region.

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

GASTROENTERITIS OUTBREAK:

Over 200 Cases Reported In Anantnag In Last Few Days

Agencies

Srinagar: After South Kashmir's Anantnag and Kulgam districts, cases of gastroenteritis have been reported at Hari Parigam area of Awantipora in Pulwama district where over 200 people have got infected in the last few days.

An official from the Health department said that over 200 cases of gastroenteritis have been reported in Hari Parigam village in the last few days, adding that people have been complaining about vomiting, loose motion, and cramps following which they are hospitalized.

The official said that most of them are being treated in OPD while a few have been admitted at NTPHC Hari Parigam for the treatment.

He further added that the severity of disease has started going down and most of the people are recovering.

"The situation is very much under control, adding that they are working on chlorination of water. Besides, the door to door survey has been started," he said.

Dr Paramjeet Singh, Sectoral Medical Officer Dadsara told KNO that they have treated around 200 patients while a few were treated at SDH Tral.

He said that they have been educating people on how they can get rid of this disease, adding that the people need to follow SoPs issued by DSHK so as to get rid of this disease.

The SoPs include use of boiled water for drinking and cooking. Proper hand hygiene practices, using of Soap and other disinfectants for the hand wash. Avoiding close contact with affected individuals, Quick Reporting to nearest health facility in case of symptoms, Special focus on children, Ensure children wash their hands frequently, Keep children, elderly people & Persons with comorbidities away from affected individuals, Monitor children's health closely for early detection of symptoms, avoid using raw vegetables and salads, Fruits should be used only after properly washing them, void Street Foods & Junk Foods and remain Hydrated, avoid direct contact with sunlight during peak hours in day—(KNO)

Horticulture Department Kashmir issues Dry Weather Advisory for Orchardists

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The continuous dry and hot weather conditions have left the orchardists of the valley a little anxious and worried as the fruit crops particularly Apple and pear have/ may show(n) some adverse effect in respect of quality and quantity.

And, if there are no rains or moisture is not conserved, the orchards in Karewas and the new plantations are more susceptible to the dry climatic conditions.

To mitigate the ill effects of dry and hot weather conditions, the orchardists are advised to adhere to the following management practices.

Irrigation: At the first-hand orchardists should immediately irrigate their orchards wherever irrigation facility is available. Irrigation should be applied preferably in cooler hours of the day like morning or evening.



Mulching: Mulching is known to conserve soil moisture, be it mulching with organic or inorganic material. Grass, other crop residues or plastic mulch may be used under the canopy area to conserve the moisture.

Spraying of anti-transpirants: spraying of antitranspirants such as Kolin @ 2grms/ltr of water is advisable to minimize the transpiration loss, this will help conserve moisture.

Spraying of nutrients: orchardists are advised to spray multi-nutrients particularly containing Calcium and Boron to prevent sunburn, deficiency symptoms and other disorders.

Climate Change Behind Heatwave In Kashmir, Say Experts

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Climate change, characterised by long-term shifts in temperature and weather patterns, is intensifying the heat wave in Kashmir and threatening the livelihoods of its people, experts say.

They said the farmers, whose sustenance depends on the horticulture and agriculture sectors, are particularly distressed due to the shortage of irrigation water and the heightened risk of diseases like leaf miners.

Experts warn that the impacts of climate change are likely to increase in the future, which necessitates adaptability measures to mitigate its effects.

Dr Aamir Hussain Bhat, an environmental expert, said that climate change, which has resulted in global warming, is the primary driver of the extreme heatwave, with higher temperatures being reported globally.

He said that other contributing factors include deforestation, urbanisation, pollution and reduced snow cover. "The lack of green spaces due to urbanisation generates heat, while the reduction of forest cover disrupts climate regulation. Emissions from vehicles



and industries contribute to the greenhouse effect, raising temperatures and reduced snow cover affects overall temperature regulation," he explained.

Another environmental expert Dr Muhammad Sultan said that climate change leads to extreme events. "This means that areas with extreme cold temperatures in winter may get warmer, and areas with warm temperatures in summer may get hotter," he said.

He said while heat waves have occurred in the past, climate change will likely increase their frequency. "For instance, if heat waves previously occurred twice in a decade, they might happen five to six times in a decade in the future, alongside droughts, storms, and uneven rainfall distribution," he explained.

Dr Sultan said that climate

Overloaded Vehicles On Anantnag-Kishtwar Road Go Unchecked

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Anantnag-Kishtwar road, a vital road connecting the regions of South Kashmir with the Chenab Valley, is witnessing an alarming trend of overloading in the passenger vehicles.

This practice has raised serious concerns about road safety and the well-being of travellers amidst the occurrences of deadly accidents.

People from both these areas said that overloaded vehicles are a common sight, adding that besides public vehicles, the personal vehicles have been carrying people beyond their capacity that sometimes proves fatal.

Mudasir Ahmad, a resident of Srinagar, who recently visited Kishtwar in a bus from Srinagar, said that he witnessed almost all vehicles carrying passengers beyond their capacity with hardly any checking.

He said that overloaded ve-



hicles are more prone to accidents, as the excessive weight can compromise the vehicle's handling and braking capabilities, adding that in the event of an accident, the chances of serious injury or fatalities are significantly higher for passengers, who are not seated properly or restrained by seat belts.

Ahmad said that given the tough terrains, chances of the accident remain more and there is a need to take care of it properly.

The local populace have urged the concerned authorities to look into the matter at an earliest so that accidents can be averted.

They said that authorities have repeatedly issued warnings and conducted occasional crackdowns, but these measures have done little to curb the practice.

The lack of regular and strict enforcement allows cab drivers to continue flouting regulations, often under the pressure of meeting high passenger demand, they said and suggested increasing the number of public buses on the route, implementing stricter penalties for overloading, and conducting regular inspections.

Meanwhile, an official said that they are going to deploy more traffic policemen near Daksum and will act tough against the norm violators.

He urged drivers to avoid taking more passengers than capacity and don't come under any pressure. He said that the increasing number of buses on the route will be looked into, however, he assured that the strict action will be taken against the violators—(KNO)

NBBC To Develop Srinagar Satellite Township

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Administrative Council approved the Land Pooling Policy and Transferable Development Rights Policy aimed at giving fillip to the Real Estate sector in J&K.

The AC meeting was chaired by Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha and attended by Advisor R.R Bhat-



nagar, Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo and Principal Secretary to LG, Mandeep Bhandari.

Under the land pooling policy, developers or private land owners shall come together to pool their land and obtain authorization for development. While authorizing development, the concerned urban governance agencies shall keep sufficient land for development of infrastructure, wide roads, parks, open spaces and other amenities and the remaining land would be returned to the landowners which they would share proportionately among themselves. The benefits of land pooling for various stakeholders would be that the value of land increases for the landowners and

better infrastructure gets created as compared to the irregular land plots pooled by the landowners developing that land parcel. The proposed policy would be applicable to notified land parcels of 50 hectare or more.

In another development, AC approved policy regarding Grant & Utilization of Transferable Development Rights. Under this scheme,

In Assembly Elections, Bukhari Says No Support To Other Parties

Agencies

URI: After an unexpected defeat in the recent Lok Sabha elections, Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party Chief Altaf Bukhari said on Saturday that his party is addressing gaps through door-to-door campaigns and is preparing for the upcoming Assembly elections.

"We are holding door-to-door campaigns, which are proving fruitful in building a stronger party. The unexpected defeat in the Lok Sabha elections has compelled us to address the gaps between the party and the people, and we are successfully doing so," Bukhari said in an interview.

Regarding the Assembly elections, he stated that the party will not form alliances with anyone, nor will it seek support from others or provide support to any party in the up-

coming elections.

On Jamaat-i-Islami, he stated that religious parties should be allowed to carry out their activities, and he respects them, including Mirwaiz Kashmir. He added that if they choose to contest elections in Jammu and Kashmir, it is acceptable, as everyone has the right to participate in a democratic process.

Bukhari further stated that he will contest elections from both Uri and Chanpora in Srinagar. "I have strong support in both areas, so I will contest from these two constituencies," he said.

Like others, Bukhari said his party is preparing for the elections in Jammu and Kashmir and is focusing on door-to-door campaigns rather than large rallies. "Door-to-door campaigns are more effective than massive gatherings, as seen in the Lok Sabha elections," he added.(KNS)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, FLOOD CONTROL DIVISION ANANTNAG.

Invitation for Bids (Notice Inviting Tenders) E-NIT No.05 of 2024-25 Dated:27/07/2024.

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K State, e-tenders (In Two cover system Part A Techno-commercial Bid & Part B: Price Bid) valid for a period of 90 days accompanied with earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR/Bank Guarantee @ 2% of the estimated cost (as specified in para 4 of tender notice) amounting to ₹.4.80 Lacs pledged to superintending Engineer Hydraulic Circle Anantnag/Kulgam HQ at Anantnag are invited on Percentage basis from approved civil contractors/firms of appropriate class having sufficient experience (as per CVC guidelines) as defined in the SBD for the following works:-

S No	Name of work	Estt. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	AAA	Cost of T/Doc. (in Rs.)	Earnest money (in Lacs)	Tech. Sanction	Time of Completion	Class of contract	M.H of Account
1	Construction of Office building complex of Flood Control Division Anantnag	239.97	Govt order No. 149-JK (JSD) of 2022 dated:- 14-07-2022 issued under endorsement No. PHE-PS02/3/2020-PLG-PHE-Part I dated:- 14-07-2022.	5000/=	Rs.4.80 Lacs	Order No. 35DB of 2023-24 dated:- 28-11-2023 issued under endorsement No. CE/DB/TS/10559-60 dated:- 28-11-2023	09 months	AAY & Above	4711-FMP Phase II (PMDP)

Position of Funds: Budgetary Provision in action plan 2024-25. Funds to be met from allocation during Financial 2024-25 and 2025-26

- The complete bidding documents can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.iktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

01	Date of issue of Tender Notice	27-07-2024 1500 Hrs
02	Date of downloading of bidding documents	27.07.2024 1600 Hrs
03	Bid submission start date	27.07.2024 1600 Hrs
04	Bid Submission end date	10.08.2024 1800 Hrs
05	Date & time of opening Technical Bids (online)	12.08.2024 1100 Hrs
06	Date & time of opening Financial Bids (online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation

- Prospective Bidders outside UT of J&K:- Bids must be accompanied with tender document fee (non-transferable / non-refundable) in the shape of demand draft drawn in favour of Executive Engineer Flood Control Division Anantnag (Tender Inviting Authority/Bid Inviting Officer)
 - Prospective Bidders with UT of J&K:- Bids must be accompanied with tender document fee (non-transferable / non-refundable) in the shape of e-Challan/treasury Challan/receipt in favour of Executive Engineer Flood Control Division Anantnag (Tender Inviting Authority/Bid Inviting Officer) deposited in Head of Account Rev-0702
- Earnest money/Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Superintending Engineer Hydraulic Circle Anantnag/Kulgam HQ. Anantnag Payable at Anantnag. The Bank Guarantee should be valid for 45 days beyond bid validity.
- Furnishing of hard copies of bids immediately after submission of e-tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial bids as per Finance Department O. M. No. A/24(2017)-651 Dt:07-06-2018.
- The constructional material for the work/works has to be arranged by the successful bidder as per the estimated quantity as mentioned in the BOQ. However, the material cement, steel (ISI Mark) etc. whatsoever may be the part of estimate, should be of standard quality supported with test check certificate of the concerned authorities. The in-charge site engineer shall ensure the standard quality as well as the specification as specified and shall record a certificate in respect of criteria of the quality of materials, while submitting the work done claim.
- Further details can be seen in bidding document available on website www.iktenders.gov.in
- Subsequent Corrigendum/Addendum if any shall be published on above website.
- The authority reserves the right to cancel any or all bids without assigning any reason.

NO: FCD/Ang/24/1180-1202
Dated:- 27-07-2024
DIPK-3684-24
DT: 27/07/2024

Sd/-(Er Salim Jhangir Bandy) Executive Engineer, Flood Control Division, Anantnag

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER REW DIVISION PULWAMA

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
e-NIT No. 25/2024-25 Dated 27-07-2024

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Of Union Territory of J&K, e-tenders (In Single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with UT of J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:- Call 1st

S. No.	Name of the Work	Block	Estimated /Adv. Cost (In lacs)	Cost of tender documents (In Rupees)	EMD (in %)	Class of Contractor	Time of completion	Major head
1.	C/O CSC at Govt. Primary School Wuyan Bala	Pampore	2.989	200/=	2%	DEE	30 Days	SBM-II
2.	C/O CSC near Bazmi Tawheed School at Wuyan payeen	Pampore	2.989	200/=	2%	DEE	30 Days	SBM-II
3.	C/O CSC near Masjid-e-Fatimah New Colony at Wuyan Payeen on Shalwani road	Pampore	2.989	200/=	2%	DEE	30 Days	SBM-II
4.	C/O CSC at MFI Sambora (Plash CCI)	Pampore	2.989	200/=	2%	DEE	30 Days	SBM-II
5.	Const of 2 No. of community soakage Pit at Panjran	Litter	1.61	200/=	2%	DEE	30 Days	SBM-II
6.	Const of community soakage Pit at R Litter	Litter	0.805	200/=	2%	DEE	30 Days	SBM-II
7.	construction /Development of lane with tiles from the house of abdul rashid rather to the house of gh nabi rather tengwanimohalla panchayat chandhara block pampore	Pampore	1.048	200/=	2%	DEE	30 Days	SBM-II
8.	construction/Development of lane with tiles from house of farooq ah rather to the hosue of jabar rather, tengwani mohalla pyt chandhara block pampore	Pampore	1.446	200/=	2%	DEE	30 Days	SBM-II
9.	construction of borewell at Batagund Sonasamil Near Hosue of Haji Gh Gabi Wani Block Pulwama	Pulwama	2.061	200/=	2%	DEE	30 Days	SBM-II
10.	construction of R/wall on both sides of Bonlikol near House of Gh Rasool Mir at Banzoo Block Pulwama	Pulwama	3.10	200/=	2%	DEE	30 Days	SBM-II
11.	construction of protection wall/bund and draingage adjoining houses of mohd shafi dar farooq ah mir gh nabi dar bilal ah dar at sumbal mohalla pyt hatiwara block pampore	Pampore	2.228	200/=	2%	DEE	30 Days	SBM-II
12.	development of park near ziyarat Lassa Sahab astan mohalla pyt at meej block pampore	Pampore	5.088	300/=	2%	DEE/CEE	30 Days	SBM-II

Position of A/A: - Accorded Position of T/S: - 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.iktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates:-

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	27-07-2024
2.	Online Bid submission Start Date	27-07-2024 from 06:00 PM
3.	Online Bid Submission End Date	07-08-2024 up to 04:00 PM
4.	Date & time of opening of Online Bids	08-08-2024 at 10:30 AM or any convenient day in the office of the Executive Engineer REW Pulwama

Note: Fee Receipt and EMD shall be deposited after the financial bids opened. In case The original Tender Document Fee Receipt and EMD is not Deposited within 5 days after the Financial Bids Opened for all responsive bidders Who have participated online, the Department shall take action as per Rules.

Special Condition
01: Only the eligible contractors of respective Panchayat Halqa shall take part in the tendering process for works under District Capex with Advertised Cost 3.0 Lacs or below for District Capex works only. Bidders must upload any document viz residential certificate/ Adhar Card/ Ration Card/Electricity Bill showing panchayat name, as residence proof that he/she is residing the respective Panchayat Halqa (Applicable for DEE Class contractors in call list only).
SC02: - Contractors Strictly not eligible
The Bidders who had participated in 2023-24 and has not completed the works within stipulated time frame/who had left the work midway/who had not started/taken up the works are strictly not eligible. Any such participation may lead to cancellation of their bid and No claim shall be entertained in this regard.
Xen/REW/Pul/7810-16
Dated:-27/07/2024

DIPK-3691-24
DT: 27/07/2024

Sd/= Executive Engineer REW Division Pulwama

Dravid Offers Heartfelt Advice To Gautam Gambhir As New Indian Team Coach

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: In a heartfelt message, former India coach Rahul Dravid extended his best wishes to his successor, Gautam Gambhir, as he embarks on his new role leading the Indian cricket team. Dravid, who stepped down after India's triumph in the T20 World Cup in the Americas last month, shared his wisdom with Gambhir, emphasizing the importance of composure and perspective in the high-pressure world of international cricket.

"Even if it's difficult for you, crack a smile. Whatever else happens, that will shock people."

This elicited a wide smile from Gambhir, highlighting the camaraderie and respect between the two former teammates.

In his video message, Dravid reflected on Gambhir's qualities as a player and his potential as a coach. "As your teammate, I saw you giving it your



all on the field. As your batting partner and fellow fielder, I saw your resilience and refusal to surrender. Across many IPL seasons, I noted your desire to win, your assistance to younger

players, and your drive to extract the best out of your team on the field," Dravid remarked.

"As you know, the expectations will be high and the scrutiny will be intense. But even

in the worst of times, you will never be alone. You will have the support of the players, your support staff, the leaders of the past, the management, and never forget for whom you

play – for fans who are very demanding but will always be behind the team."

"I hope you will have the availability of fully fit players in every squad. Good luck with that. I also wish you a little bit of luck, as you know that all of us coaches need to make us look that little bit wiser and smarter than we actually are," Dravid noted.

Dravid concluded his message by reflecting on his own time with the team and wishing Gambhir similar success and fulfillment. "Hello Gautam, and welcome to the most exciting job in our world, as coach of the Indian cricket team. It's been three weeks since I ended my stint with the Indian team in a manner that was beyond my dreams. More than anything else, I will cherish the memories and friendships I made in my time with the squad. As you take over the role of India coach, it's what I wish for you as well."

Short TAKES

Suhail Bhat Of Mohun Bagan Drowns Downtown Heroes 1-0 In Durand Cup Opener



Kashmir teenage striker Suhail Bhat scored the lone goal for Mohun Bagan Super Giant as they overcame a gritty Downtown Heroes FC in the 2024 Durand Cup opener on Saturday at Vivekananda Yuba Bharti Krirangan in Kolkata.

The 73rd-minute strike was also 19-year-old Suhail's first senior goal for the defending champions and was named player of the match. The Sports Council Football Academy product joined Mohun Bagan B in 2023 from Indian Arrows and scored 17 goals in 16 games, earning a senior call up.

On Saturday, the Heroes dominated the first half of the game and the coach Hilal Parry-led team will rue their missed chances. Despite the defeat, the overall performance would give hope to Downtown that they can compete with the big dogs of Indian football.

Downtown Heroes will play their next Group A game against Indian Air Force FC on Saturday, August 2. The game kicks off at 7:00 PM. They then play their final group game when they take on East Bengal on August 7. (Observer News Service)

Women's Asia Cup Final: Dominant India Face Sri Lanka

Defending champions India will look to translate their overwhelming dominance in the Women's Asia Cup to a record-extending eighth title while facing a feisty Sri Lanka in the final here on Sunday.

India have lorded over their opponents in this continental showpiece – hammering Pakistan by seven wickets and followed it up with facile wins over UAE (78 runs), Nepal (82 runs), and Bangladesh (10 wickets).

India's top-order batters and bowlers fired in tandem, not giving their rivals much chance.

China's Huang & Sheng Win First Gold Of 2024 Paris Olympics

China's Huang Yuting and Sheng Lihao won the first gold medal of the Paris Games on Saturday in the 10 metres air rifle mixed team event.

Keum Ji-hyeon and Park Ha-jun of South Korea claimed silver and Alexandra Le and Islam Satpayev of Kazakhstan were awarded bronze.

Three years after Yang Qian and Yang Haoran won the gold in Tokyo, compatriots Huang and Sheng made sure China retained it.

Olympics: Medal Hope For India As Manu Bhaker Enters Final

A supremely confident Manu Bhaker was at the top of her game as she entered the 10m women's air pistol final, salvaging the day for Indian shooting after an underwhelming start by her compatriots in the Olympic Games here on Saturday.

The 22-year-old Bhaker shot 580 to finish third in the qualifications in which Hungarian ace Veronika Major claimed the top spot with a score of 582. The other Indian representative, Rhythm Sangwan, ended 15th with a score of 573. The final will be held on Sunday.

GHSS Rainawari Wins Inter-School Girls U-19 Volleyball & Kho-Kho Titles



Observer News Service

RAINAWARI: Zone Rainawari Inter-School Zonal Level Girls Under-19 Volleyball and Kho-Kho Tournament 2024 concluded at GHSS Rainawari on Saturday. Over 100 athletes from various government and private institutions participated in the competitions.

GHSS Rainawari emerged victorious in both the Volleyball and Kho-Kho tournaments, securing the titles against Greenland School and Legends School, respectively.

Muzamil Dar, Zone Incharge Rainawari, presented mementos to the winner and runner-up teams in the presence of all Field Staff of Zone Rainawari. He congratulated all participants and commended the dedication shown by the field staff for conducting the tournaments despite the hot and humid weather.

He also extended his gratitude to the principal of GHSS Rainawari and its Physical Education staff for their unwavering support and co-operation, which played a crucial role in the success of these events.

Inter School Kho-Kho, Volleyball Tournaments End In Bijbehara



Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: Zonal Physical Education Officer Bijbehara concluded its Inter School Zonal Level Tournaments of Kho-Kho and Volleyball on Saturday at BHSS Bijbehara here.

The tournaments were meant for Under-14 boys. In the Kho-Kho Tournament, 177 students, and in Volleyball Tournament, 117 students, participated.

In the U-14 Kho-Kho, MS NB Veeri clinched the title of the tournament

and Oxford High School Bijbehara secured runner up place. Best performers of Kho Kho were, Kifayat Rashid of MS NB Veeri, Wasim Shafi of MS NB Veeri, Saheem Manzoor of Oxford and Suzain Javaid of Oxford Bijbehara

In U-14 Volleyball, MS Darigund clinched the title and HS Semthan emerged as runner up. Best performers of the Volleyball were, Salman Khurshid of GMS Darigund, Farhan Manzoor NB Veeri and Kifayat Manzoor of HSS HP Bagh.

Baramulla Wins Provincial Level U-17 Football Tournament

Observer News Service

BUDGAM: The Department of Youth Services and Sports Budgam hosted an Inter-District Provincial Level Football Tournament for boys Under-17 at Charar-i-Sharief Sports Stadium.

The tournament was held under the supervision of Joint Director DYSS Mohd Rashid Kohli. The matches were fiercely contested as footballers displayed exceptional talent with Baramulla district emerging victorious in the final.

In the first semifinal match, Kupwara narrowly defeated hosts Budgam 1-0. In the second semifinal, Baramulla dominated Ganderbal with a resounding 4-0 scoreline.

In the final, Baramulla players showed their full potential



and defeated Kupwara with a resounding score of 8-0.

In-charge DYSSO Sports Activities said in his speech that this event highlighted the sports skills of the young players.

Senior Physical Master Manjit Singh Gill, Muhammad Aslam, Muhammad Yasin Shah and Sports Office Activity Incharge Shakeel Rehman Lone distributed the prizes among successful teams.

Provincial Level Kabaddi: Anantnag U-14 Boys Shine Despite Final Loss

Observer News Service

PULWAMA: The Under-14 boys Kabaddi team from Anantnag showcased an impressive performance in the recent Inter-District Kabaddi Tournament, demonstrating skill, determination and sportsmanship throughout the event.

The Anantnag team commenced their campaign with a commanding victory over Kulgam, winning by a remarkable 30 points. Their momentum continued as they outplayed Kupwara, securing a win by 20 points. In the semifinal match against Budgam, Anantnag faced a tougher challenge but emerged victo-



rious with a narrow 5-point lead, securing their place in the final.

The highly anticipated final match was played against the host team, Pulwama. In a closely contested battle, Anantnag fought valiantly but ultimately fell short by just 3 points, resulting in Pulwama clinching the title.

Notable players who contributed significantly to Anantnag's impressive performance include Ifham Fayaz from KV International School, Towseef Kumar from MS Tailwani and Zeeshan Bashir from MS Hassanpora.

The presentation ceremony was hosted by District Youth Services & Sports Office Pulwama.

Kashmir's Atiq Mir Becomes First Female Racer To Win Race At Max Challenge International Trophy

Agencies

Atiq Mir, the nine-year-old racing sensation from Kashmir created history at the famous and prestigious Le Mans Kart International circuit, by becoming the first female racer in the world to win a race in the Rotax Challenge International Trophy.

She achieved this by winning Race 2 in the Heats of the Micro Max Category. Atiq, driving for the championship-winning Dan Holland Racing Team in the Lando Norris kart, was in good form throughout the week.

Despite it being her first visit to the legendary Le Mans circuit with no prior practice, Atiq adapted quickly to the new brand of kart and set the pace in the practice sessions, consistently topping the grid.

However in times Qualifying she only managed 10th place as she didn't get a clear lap.

In the Qualifying Heat 1 Race, Atiq gained 4 places upto 6th till a racing incident



with another driver made her drop to 9th position.

In race 2, Atiq demonstrated top pace and maturity in the race, setting a series of fast, consistent lap times and made some great passes to secure first place to create history in the famous Le Mans Circuit. A

total of 36 drivers competed in the MicroMax category in the series and a total of 318 drivers representing 40 nations across all categories participated.

This win places Atiq among an elite list of drivers, including the current F1 champion Max Verstappen, George Rus-

sell, and Lando Norris, who have previously tasted success in the Max series en route to their careers in Formula 1.

"I'm so excited and happy to win the race. My first win in Europe, and we have all worked so hard for it. My team, DHR, has integrated me

so well, my family has always been by my side, and all my supporters in India and other countries. Hopefully, I will keep this momentum and raise India's flag even higher," said Mir after making history.

In the final race, Atiq unfortunately was involved in many racing incidents slowing her down and eventually finishing on 12th place, 9.497 seconds behind the leader Joshua Cooke of KR Sport who finished first. Alfie Mair finished second while Austin Oman of Sam Politt Racing secured third.

A win at the Le Mans has further cemented Atiq's position as the best female karting driver in the world in her age group. Next month, Atiq will be driving at the world-famous Kartmasters in the UK. She is also a nominee at the Iron Dames Young Talent event in Italy later in the month, one of only 11 girls worldwide, only Asian, and the youngest amongst the shortlisted candidates. (IANS)

MYMP: Sports Activities Conclude Across Central Kashmir



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Sports activities organised under the J&K Sports Council's "My Youth My Pride" for July wrapped up with outstanding performances in various sports disciplines across multiple venues of central Kashmir.

In Srinagar, Indoor Sports Complex hosted Taekwondo events, while Polo Ground's Hockey Astro Turf witnessed hockey competitions, with a total of 300 players participating. The badminton competition concluded at SKISC, and the basketball finals took place at the Gindun Sports Complex in Rajbagh.

In Budgam, sports activities included handball, Pencak Silat and cycling at Playfield Magam, Indoor Sports Hall and Narbal Gulmarg road, respectively. These events

attracted hundreds of athletes from various schools and Khelo India Centers.

In Ganderbal, the finals for judo, Thang Ta and volleyball were held, with winners being celebrated by a large number of spectators.

Selection trials for the special summer Kabaddi coaching camp Phase 2 were also completed at SKISC Srinagar, with 27 players selected. The trials were conducted by the J&K Amateur Kabaddi Association in collaboration with the J&K Sports Council.

J&K Sports Council Secretary Nuzhat Gull, expressed her commitment to making sports accessible to every child in J&K. She encouraged the youth to take advantage of the sports infrastructure and training opportunities provided by qualified JKSC coaches.